

Frequently Asked Questions - Dental Hygiene Program

What are the course requirements I need to complete before applying?

The following requirements need to be fulfilled by the end of the fall semester, prior to the December 31st DH application deadline. Applications must be most marked December 31st.

1. MATH 0700 or its equivalent with a grade "C" or above, or take Normandale's course readiness exam and **place** into Math 1100.
2. ENGC 1101 or equivalent with a grade "C" or above
3. CHEM 1050 or equivalent with a grade of "C" or above
4. BIOL 1141 human anatomy or equivalent with a grade "C" or above
5. BIOL 1142 human physiology or equivalent with a grade "C" or above or Spring semester registration.
6. You must also have a cumulative **grade point average of 2.75 or higher**

Students are strongly encouraged to complete microbiology with a lab (BIOL 2204) prior to program application or during the first year of the Dental Hygiene program.

When do I apply?

When you have fulfilled the requirements listed above, you may apply for the dental hygiene program during fall semester. The application deadline is December 31st each year.

What will improve my chances of being admitted?

The majority of the students who are offered seats in the DH program have completed all their science and liberal requirements prior to applying. PRIMARY ADMISSION FACTORS into the DH program are your grades and all required science courses completed and overall cumulative grade point average. SECONDARY ADMISSION FACTORS are your grades in liberal arts portion of the general education requirements and any other chemistry or biology courses completed before the December 31st application deadline date.

How many applicants are admitted who fulfill the requirements?

Normandale accepts 24 applicants. The remaining qualified applicants who fulfill the requirements will be considered as alternates. If your alternate status does not change to a fulltime DH student, you must reapply to the DH Program for the following year.

Is there a waiting list?

NO, there is no waiting list but an alternate list. Normandale accepts 30 applicants, based on the applicants PRIMARY AND SECONDARY ADMISSION FACTORS. If you are not accepted into the program on the alternate status, you must **reapply** for the following year and meet the next December 31st deadline.

What is the length of the dental hygiene program?

The degree program is four semesters (two years) starting each fall semester. Most students complete their liberal education and science courses prior to applying.

May I file an academic petition for my dental assisting courses?

Yes, only if you are awarded a seat. The Dental Hygiene Department Chair and Dean of Health Sciences will review your Normandale academic petition.

When are official transcript(s) due?

All official transcripts from accredited institutions must be mailed to Normandale by January 15th after the December 31st application deadline.

Do I need to be a registered or certified dental assistant?

No. This has no bearing on acceptance into the DH Program.

Should I include recommendations letters and resume?

No, they are not considered at all. Your admission is based on the primary and secondary admission factors listed above.

What will my schedule be like once I am in the dental hygiene program?

The Dental Hygiene curriculum includes lecture, laboratory, and clinical requirements. In your second year of the program, there are some late afternoon and evening clinics. Refer to a current class schedule. Some students may need to take microbiology or an elective along with the dental hygiene schedule. All other general education courses should have been completed prior to admission to the program.

I have a disability. Whom do I contact?

Refer to Normandale catalog Student Services Office for Students with Disabilities 952-487-7305.

Information Sessions

Contact Normandale Office of Admissions for Information Session schedules at 952-487-8201 or visit our website at www.normandale.edu/visit/.

Where can I find out career information about Dental Hygiene?

For an overview on this career regarding skills, abilities, knowledge, wages and benefits go to <http://www.iseek.org/> Minnesota's gateway to career, education, employment and business information.

Are there opportunities to further my education beyond the Associate of Science level?

Normandale Community College in collaboration with Metropolitan State University offers a Baccalaureate Degree completion program in dental hygiene (BSDH), and a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate for dental hygienists. Approval of a Master's Degree Program is pending. For more information, please go to: www.metrostate.edu/cnhs/.