PROGRAM OF STUDY

Dental Hygiene (Associate in Arts)

Degree: AA- Dental Hygienists are preventive oral health professionals who have graduated from an accredited dental hygiene program in an institution of higher education, licensed in dental hygiene to provide educational, clinical, research, administrative and therapeutic services supporting total health through the promotion of optimum oral health. (ADEA, 2012) The Dental Hygiene Program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) which is nationally recognized by the United States Department of Education for programs at the post-secondary level. "CODA's mission is to serve the oral health care needs of the public through the development and administration of standards that foster continuous quality improvement of dental and dental related educational programs." The Dental Hygiene Program admits 20 students per year. Students interested in dental hygiene need a background in the basic sciences, English, Psychology, and Speech. This is a special admission program. Successful completion of the two year program qualifies the student to take the National Board Dental Hygiene Exam and the regional board exams for licensure as a Registered Dental Hygienist. The program includes courses such as Clinical Dental Hygiene, Dental Radiology, General and Oral Pathology, Expanded Functions for the Dental Hygienist, Educational Theories in Dental Hygiene, and Community Dental Health. SPECIAL APPLICATION REQUIRED. go to http://www.chabotcollege.edu/dhyg/ for details.

Career Opportunities in Dental Hygiene

Dental hygienists rank #2 in "Best Health Care Support Jobs" according to the US News Best Jobs Rankings. The Chabot College Dental Hygiene Program offers students a wonderful opportunity to receive a high quality education. Graduates are workforce ready and employable after passing the National Board Dental Hygiene Exam, Regional Board Exam and the Law and Ethics Exam for California.

Program Learning Outcomes

1. develop and implement a comprehensive dental hygiene care plan;
2. communicate effectively with diverse populations for the prevention of disease and the promotion of health;
3. implement and perform infection control policies and protocols;
4. comply with the laws, regulations and ethical standards for dental hygiene care.

YEAR ONE

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YEAR TWO

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**General Education Courses**

For specific General Education courses refer to catalog section on A.A. Graduation Requirements.

The Dental Hygiene Program units combined with the Associate in Arts Degree (G.E.) requirements will be in excess of the minimum 60 units.

*Note: To progress in the Dental Hygiene Program and to graduate from the program, students must earn a minimum grade of "C" in each course.*

**Total Units**  60.7

*A student who presents a current Responding to Emergencies Card may request a waiver of Health 60*

**A student who presents a current Professional Rescuer Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Card may request a waiver of Health 70B**

***Completion of Nutrition 1 is strongly recommended prior to entrance into the Dental Hygiene Program.***