

Are there any additional costs associated with the program?

Expenses for the two-year dental hygiene program are estimated at \$16,000. Half of these costs are incurred during the first year. These costs are spread-out over the 4 semester program.

How do I apply for the program?

There are prerequisite courses that must be completed with a GPA of 3.0 or higher before you can apply to the program. Enrollment is limited due to space availability. Visit our website for more information on application deadlines and requirements.



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MISSION STATEMENT Diablo Valley College is passionately committed to student learning through the intellectual, scientific, artistic, psychological, and ethical development of its diverse student body. Diablo Valley College prepares students for transfer to four-year universities; provides career and technical education; supports the economic development of the region; offers pre-collegiate programs; and promotes personal growth and lifelong learning.

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Contact the Dental Division Office:
Nicolette Moultrie, RDHAP, CDA, MS
Coordinator of Dental Programs
925-969-2692

or visit www.dvc.edu/programs

www.dvc.edu

ADMISSIONS OFFICE: 925-685-1310

COUNSELING OFFICE: 925-969-2140

FINANCIAL AID OFFICE: 925-969-2009

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PLEASANT HILL CAMPUS
321 Golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

SAN RAMON CAMPUS
1690 Watermill Road, San Ramon, CA 94582

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT The district shall not discriminate based on ethnic group identification, race, color, age, citizenship, ancestry, religion, marital status, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability, medical condition, veteran status, parental status, or because a student is perceived to have one or more of these characteristics

DENTAL HYGIENE

ASSOCIATES DEGREE PROGRAM



DVC
DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE

Dental hygiene is a very fast growing profession. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that this field will grow 19 percent by 2024.



What is the dental hygiene program?

Diablo Valley College is home to one of the most respected and affordable Dental Hygiene Programs in the Bay Area. This two-year program includes the classes needed to gain an associate degree in dental hygiene and valuable hands-on experience in our Community Dental Clinic.

Hygienists not only have the respect of their peers in this highly skilled field, but also work with people on a day-to-day basis to help them live healthier lives.

Students will learn:

- patient screening procedures,
- how to take and develop dental radiographs (x-rays), including digital radiographs,
- how to remove calculus and plaque (hard and soft deposits) from all surfaces of the teeth,
- how to apply preventive materials to the teeth,
- how to teach patients appropriate oral hygiene strategies to maintain oral health,
- how to counsel patients regarding good nutrition and its impact on oral health,
- how to make impressions of patients' teeth for study casts and whitening trays,
- how to perform documentation and office management activities,



- pharmacology and pathology for the dental hygienist,
- local anesthesia and nitrous oxide sedation,
- coronal polishing,
- how to assess and evaluate periodontal conditions,
- how to plan and implement appropriate treatment.

Students who complete the Dental Hygiene Program will be fully prepared to take the required written and clinical licensing exams. DVC proudly has a 100 percent pass rate on the National and Regional Dental Hygiene Board examinations.

This program is highly competitive as only 20 students, chosen by lottery, are admitted each academic year. It is required that students complete their course work in two years, which includes two summer sessions.

We recommend anyone interested in the Dental Hygiene Program contact the counseling department to get a better understanding of requirements and the application process.

The DVC Dental Hygiene Program is accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation and by the United States Department of Education. This program has also been approved by the Dental Hygiene Committee of California.

What can I do with a dental hygiene certificate/degree?

Although there are many career options and paths available with a dental hygiene degree, most students go on to work in a general dental practice. Many dentists employ more than one hygienist and offer flexible work

hours. Hygienists in general dental practices can expect a salary that ranges from \$55,000-\$90,000 a year.

Many university-based dental hygiene programs offer baccalaureate and master's degrees. DVC's courses are transferable to most of these programs.

Career options:

- General dental practices
- Specialty practices
- Hospitals
- Nursing homes
- Public health clinics

Career options with additional education:

- Teaching in dental education programs
- Research
- Sales representative for oral healthcare
- Public advocacy
- Business administration

When are classes offered?

The required dental hygiene program courses are taught only in the day and in sequence, however, some of the prerequisites and general education courses may be taken in the evening or at an alternate location.

"I cannot begin to express my appreciation of the hard work and support the incredible instructors provided during my time in the Dental Hygiene Program."

Evangeline Ward - dental hygiene graduate