

## Prerequisites

In addition to completion of a high school diploma or equivalent, and a grade-point average of 2.5 or higher in all college-level coursework, you must earn a grade of C or better in the following prerequisite courses, all of which must be completed before you may apply for selective admission to the program. Prerequisite courses include:

- AHS 200
- BIO 40A, 40B and 40C or equivalent
- BIO 41, 45 and 58 or equivalent
- CHEM 30A and 30B or equivalent
- COMM 1 or equivalent
- D H 200L
- ENGL 1A or 1AH or 1S/1T or ESLL 26
- ENGL 1B or 1BH
- HLTH 21 or equivalent
- MATH 10, PSYC 7 or SOC 7 or equivalent
- PSYC 1 or equivalent
- SOC 1 or equivalent
- A multicultural or ethnic studies course
- Additionally, you must complete the CSU General Education Breadth Requirements Pattern or the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC) Pattern.



This is a demanding and academically challenging program. The college strongly recommends that you meet with a Foothill counselor to create an education plan so that you can monitor progress toward completion of your educational goals.

## Selective Admission Process

There is a selective, competitive admissions process for this program. Students are admitted to the program once a year. Selections are made by April 30, and applicants are notified of acceptance or non-acceptance by letter.

To be considered for program admission, you must submit a separate application packet by the deadline indicated on the program website. All academic prerequisites must be completed before starting the dental hygiene program. The application packet and admission criteria are available at [foothill.edu/dentalhygiene](http://foothill.edu/dentalhygiene).

Admission to the program is based on criteria approved by Foothill College, state and federal law, and guidelines established by the American Dental Association. Completion of prerequisite courses and general education requirements does not guarantee admission to the program.

**For more information, contact:**

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BIO 160307 Entry Level •  
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# Dental Hygiene

## Baccalaureate Degree Entry Level



## Rewarding Career Opportunities

According to government labor statistics, employment of dental hygienists is expected to grow 33 percent through 2022. As a registered dental hygienist, you may work in a variety of settings, including dental specialties such as pediatrics and periodontics. Additional job opportunities may include public health, sales representative, dental hygiene educator, consultant, patient advocate, researcher or manager. Salaries for registered dental hygiene professionals vary widely. Often, annual entry-level salaries range from \$70,000 to \$100,000 or more.

“The dental hygiene program has literally changed my life and given me many opportunities! I’m forever thankful. I can’t stop thinking about the great team of dental hygiene instructors and their emphasis on the importance of education and prevention.”

*-Malvina P., Foothill College Dental Hygiene graduate*



## Program Profile

Founded in 1964 and accredited by the American Dental Association, the Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program is one of the top-ranked dental hygiene career-training programs in the U.S. This academically rigorous program features an intensive curriculum that includes courses in basic sciences, oral anatomy, public health, nutrition, clinical dental hygiene, periodontics, pathology, radiology and many other subjects.

You should think of the program as having two parts. It will take you two years to complete prerequisite courses such as general education, required sciences and social sciences for dental hygiene. Then, following application and acceptance to the program, you will complete two years of dental hygiene core courses and upper-division general education requirements. In addition to the per-unit and basic fees for lower-division courses, you will pay an additional \$56 per unit for upper-division courses.

Throughout the upper-division portion of the program, you will learn clinical techniques and dental hygiene theory, using leading-edge technology and equipment in the

on-campus Dental Hygiene Clinic. The dental hygiene curriculum will prepare you to assess the medical and dental status of patients, develop and implement dental hygiene care plans, and evaluate patient outcomes. You’ll also learn to design and conduct effective research methodologies, and present research findings in academic lectures and at professional conferences.

Upon successful completion of the program, you will earn the Foothill College Bachelor of Science Degree in Dental Hygiene and will be qualified to take the National Board Dental Hygiene and clinical licensing examinations in the U.S.

## Program Award

Effective Fall 2016, the program will award a bachelor of science degree. Completion of a minimum of 194-quarter units is required to earn the bachelor’s degree, and must include successful completion of the core and support courses, required electives, and general education and graduation requirements.