

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE AS TO BS-DH PROGRAM INFORMATION

THE PROGRAM

The Foothill College Dental Hygiene Program has been in existence since 1964 and is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). The AS to BS-DH Program broadens the educational experiences of **licensed dental hygienists** who have graduated from an accredited dental hygiene program by providing liberal arts and broad-based general education components, including critical thinking, analysis, writing, researching, and reporting. The program will prepare dental hygienists to interact effectively with other health professionals in a competent, collaborative, and ethical manner.

The program spans one to two academic years and will award the Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene upon successful completion of all courses and program requirements. The students in the AS to BS-DH Program have graduated with an associate degree from an accredited dental hygiene program and are licensed dental hygienists (RDH). Students will take upper-division coursework focused on developing communications and critical thinking skills necessary for the Bachelor of Science degree in Dental Hygiene. Successful completion of a capstone project is also required for the degree.

[AS to BS-DH Completion Program Website <<-Click here](#)

EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK

According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics (<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/Healthcare/Dental-hygienists.htm>), employment of dental hygienists is expected to grow by 11% between 2020-2030, much faster than the average for all occupations. This projected growth ranks dental hygienists among the fastest-growing occupations, in response to the increasing demand for dental care, and the greater use of dental hygienists. The degree completion course will open up job opportunities to dental hygienists in education, research, public health, sales/marketing/business, and clinical practice.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- Graduation from an accredited dental hygiene program
- Cumulative college GPA 2.75
- Licensed as a Registered Dental Hygienist

PROGRAM COSTS

Enrollment Fees and Tuition: Course fees are \$87 per unit for CA residents (\$31 regular course fee, plus \$56 upper-division course fee) and \$218 for non-residents. Upper Division Coursework Fee (California Education Code (CEC), 78042(g)(5); CCR, title 5, section 58520 – additional upper-division course fee of \$56/unit for quarter system colleges charged on all upper-division courses that are part of an approved Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program. An estimated cost of the program is about \$4000 for CA residents and \$9700 for non-residents (excluding costs for course materials).

PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES

I. Professionalism

The Foothill College Bachelor of Science degree graduate will appreciate their role as health professionals at the local, state, and national levels. The graduate will possess the ethics, values, skills, and knowledge integral to all aspects of the profession.

II. Health Promotion and Disease Prevention

The Foothill College Bachelor of Science degree graduate will be competent in the performance and delivery of oral health promotion and disease prevention services in public health, private practice, and alternative settings. The graduate will be able to exercise evidence-based practice, critical thinking and communicate effectively in all professional employment settings.

COURSE CREDIT PRIOR TO LEARNING

Foothill College gives credit for prior learning to meet 24 upper-division quarter units toward the BS-DH degree:

- Active and in good standing Registered Dental Hygiene license- passing of three exams: Discipline-Based Component of the National Board of Dental Hygiene Examination, State or Regional Dental Hygiene Clinical Licensing Examination, and State Law & Ethics Examination-20 units
- BIOL 300 Human Pathophysiology & Pharmacology (upper-division GE): passing the Comprehensive Case-Based Component of the National Board of Dental Hygiene Examination-4 units.

BS-DH DEGREE COURSES

All courses are **offered fully online**. Students are admitted into the program in the **Fall and Spring quarters only**.

Two Upper Division GE Courses

- IDS 300: Research Methods, Statistics & Critical Thinking for Health Professions
- HLTH 300: Healthcare across the lifespan

Note: *Statistic is highly recommended before taking IDS 300.*

IDS300 is a pre-requisite for the Research & Capstone courses. (DH350A, DH350B, and DH350C)

Six Core Courses

- DH 350A: Dental Hygiene Research & Capstone course I
- DH 350B: Dental Hygiene Research & Capstone course II
- DH 350C: Dental Hygiene Research & Capstone course III
- DH 352: Health Communication & Multicultural Issues
- DH 354: Dental Hygiene Healthcare Management
- DH 356: Education Theory, Practice & Administration

You have the option to complete this coursework in an **accelerated one-year track, taking two classes per**

quarter, or a two-year track, with a more spread-out schedule.

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

The BS-DH degree requires completion of one of the following general education patterns: CSU General Education Breadth Requirements or the Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (IGETC). **Completion of the Associate Degree GE pattern does not complete the GE requirements for the Bachelor of Sciences degree.** Students with AS in Dental Hygiene will need to take a few additional GE courses for the Bachelor of Science degree.

In general, students who have completed an AS degree in Dental Hygiene still need to take some Humanities courses and Statistics to complete either the CSU or IGETC pattern of general education. Please refer to the Foothill College counseling department website under General Education for more details about [CSU or IGETC GE](#). General education may be transferred from accredited colleges but must be equivalent to Foothill College courses and transferrable to CSU or UC.

We recommend [meeting with a counselor](#) to help you determine if you have completed all the required general education. **All required general education must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher before the bachelor’s degree can be granted.** The list of counselors appointed to the AS to BSDH Program is as follows: Jue Thao, Isaac Escoto, and Leticia Serna.

Please read the [Application Instructions](#) for the application process.