

**PRE-DENTAL HYGIENE ADVISEMENT WORKSHEET 2020-2021**  
**OU Health Science Center**

University of Central Oklahoma  
Health Professions Advisor  
Department of Biology  
200 Howell Hall  
(405) 974-5733

While pursuing a degree at UCO, the following courses must be completed with a “C” or better to qualify for admission to the Dental Hygiene Program:

**Required Courses (Check Prerequisites):**

ENG 1113	English Composition
ENG 1213	English Composition and Research
MCOM 1113	Fundamentals of Speech
PSY 1103	General Psychology
POL 1113	American Federal Government
HIST 1483	U.S. History to 1877 <u>OR</u> HIST 1493 U.S. History since 1877
SOC 2103	Sociology
NTRN 1513	Introduction to Nutrition
CHEM 1103	General Chemistry I. Concurrent enrollment in CHEM 1112 is required.
CHEM 1112	General Chemistry I Recitation/ Laboratory
BIO 2314	Introduction to Microbiology and Laboratory
STAT 2103	Intro Statistics for Sciences
BIO 2504	Human Anatomy and Laboratory
BIO 2604	Human Physiology and Laboratory, Concurrent enrollment in BIO 2604L is required.
BIO 2604L	Human Physiology Laboratory

**\*General Education Requirements:**

Artistic Form (3 hours)	Western Culture (3 hours)	Non-Western Culture (3 hours)
Foreign Language (2 HS Years or 2 College Semesters)	Upper Division General Course (One 3 hour 3000 or 4000 Level)	

**\*These courses are waived for applicants who have earned a Bachelor’s Degree. However, elective credits are needed to equal 60 total prerequisite hours.** *The best way to find a course that satisfies the OU Artistic Form, Western Culture, and Non-Western Culture requirement at UCO is by using the Equivalency Tool. Please visit: <https://www.ou.edu/admissions/apply/transfer-credits/transfer-equivalencies>*

**Admissions Requirements:**

Admission to the Dental Hygiene Program is competitive. Selection is based on the applicant’s post-secondary academic record, life experiences, and the potential for success in a baccalaureate program of study in dental hygiene. Oklahoma residents are given preference, but well-qualified non-residents are also considered for admission. New students are admitted for the **fall semester only**. To be considered for admission, students must meet the following requirements:

1. All application requirements must be submitted by **January 15<sup>th</sup>** of the year in which admission is sought.
2. Applicants must be in good standing with the last institution attended.
3. ACT or SAT individual component scores and composite scores are required.
4. Minimum average GPA is 2.5 of a 4.0 scale with a grade of “C” or better on all specifically required courses.
5. A minimum of 60 semester hours of transferable course work from an accredited college/university is required.
6. A foundational GPA is computed and used in the selection process from the following courses:
  - a. English II, Human Physiology, Human Anatomy, Microbiology, Statistics, Psychology, Nutrition, and General Chemistry

All FOUNDATIONAL coursework must be completed or in progress during the spring semester of the year in which admission is sought, and prerequisite courses must be completed by the end of the spring semester.

7. A typed Personal Statement is required.
8. Submit a completed University of Oklahoma Health Sciences center application with application fee, a Dental Hygiene Supplemental Application form, and official transcripts from all colleges or universities attended or currently enrolled. A fall transcript is required with application

## Admissions Requirements Cont'd:

9. Applicants must investigate dental hygiene as a career prior to application by documenting a minimum of **40 hours** observing a dental hygienist. Observation of a dentist/dental assistant does **NOT** meet this requirement.
10. Complete and submit both the ADEA (American Dental Education Association) DHCAS (Dental Hygiene Centralized Application Service) online application, **AND** the supplemental online University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center (OUHSC) application that includes the prioritized site(s) for which the applicant wishes to be considered. Applications must be completed for each site requested: Ardmore, Bartlesville, OKC, and/or Weatherford. There is no additional application fee for additional sites.
11. Applications submitted through DHCAS must reach a “Verified” status in order to be released to our program. It is the applicant’s responsibility to monitor the application status to make certain the DHCAS has received all necessary information. **Applications not reaching a “Verified” status are not forwarded to our program for consideration.**
12. Two letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with the applicant’s success or potential for successful completion of the program are required.
13. If English is the student’s second language, a national standardized TOEFL examination is required.
14. Interviews are conducted on an individual basis. Selected individuals will be notified and arrangements made for personal interview. Interview does not indicate acceptance into the program. All expenses incurred in the interview process will be the responsibility of the applicant.

*A recently admitted class had the following academic averages: 140 Applied / 46 Admitted / Avg. Overall GPA- 3.36 / Avg. ACT: 23.*

## **Pre-Dental Hygiene Program**

The registered dental hygienist (RDH) is a licensed primary health-care professional, oral health educator, and clinician. Responsibilities of the dental hygienist include preventive services that promote or maintain oral health and clinical treatments designed to arrest or control oral disease. Quality dental hygiene care requires critical thinking to assess the patient’s needs, determine a dental hygiene diagnosis, develop individualized patient care, implement dental hygiene treatment, and evaluate outcomes of dental hygiene treatment. The dental hygienist works closely with and under supervision of a dentist.

Most dental hygienists are employed in a dental office; however, they can be found in long-term care facilities, hospitals, corporate health facilities, school systems, research centers, state and federal agencies, and public health clinics. The baccalaureate RDH may also be employed as an educator, a researcher who conducts clinical studies and analyzes scientific data, a corporate representative, and as a provider of continuing education seminars. Dental hygienists may provide care in dental clinics for the underprivileged, participate in mission trips, or provide education and preventive services to schoolchildren as allowed by state laws.

**Opportunities:** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Bureau of Labor Statistics has projected employment prospects for dental hygiene to remain excellent, with the dental hygiene profession expected to be one of the fastest growing occupations through the year 2024. There is considerable freedom for dental hygienists to select employment days and hours.

**Starting Salaries:** According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the national median salary for Dental Hygienists is approximately **\$75,000**

*Contents of this publication are subject to revision without notice. The provisions of this publication do not constitute a contract, expressed or implied between any applicant, students, or faculty member of the Dental Hygiene Program at OU or UCO.*

**For more information about Dental Hygienists and Dental Hygiene programs:** <http://www.adha.org/>  
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**For additional information, please visit:** <http://dentistry.ouhsc.edu>  
**To apply, OU College of Dentistry, Dental Hygiene:** <https://dentistry.ouhsc.edu/Prospective-Students/Programs-Offered/Dental-Hygiene>