



FALL 2025

DENTAL HYGIENE AAS

Application Period

Jan 30, 2025 – April 9, 2025



Minimum requirements are subject to change each academic year.

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE in DENTAL HYGIENE

Selective Admission Process: this program requires a separate, program specific application in addition to admission to the college; all application deadlines are firm

Application Period: January 30, 2025 –April 9, 2025

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE EACH ACADEMIC YEAR

The fall 2025 selection process is subject to change when extenuating circumstances arise. If any changes arise involving CFCC's ability to adhere to the information below, CFCC will reserve the right to make adjustments and will make every effort to communicate these changes to the applicants in a timely manner.

The Registered Dental Hygienist

The Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) is a member of the dental team who provides preventive oral health care. In North Carolina, the RDH works under the direct supervision of the dentist to perform oral health assessments, oral cancer screenings, expose and mount radiographs, provide oral health education, provide therapeutic treatment including prophylaxis (cleaning), apply sealants and fluoride to prevent decay, and provide nutritional counseling to prevent and minimize dental disease.

The Dental Hygienist Scope of Practice

The dental hygienist can work in a variety of employment settings including general and specialty dental practices, community health clinics, federal government programs, education, research, hospital and long-term care facilities, and oral health companies.

Each state has its own regulations regarding the dental hygienist's scope of practice. Upon graduation from Cape Fear Community College, the student will be able to perform the following services in North Carolina:

- Perform periodontal screenings
- Prophylaxis and Scaling and Root Planing (cleanings)
- Expose, process, and mount radiographs
- Apply dental sealants
- Apply fluoride
- Administer local anesthesia
- Provide oral health education
- Provide nutritional counseling in regards to oral health and diseases
- Other duties as delegated by the supervising dentist

Dental Hygiene continues to be a growing job market. According to the U.S. Labor Statistics, the average median hourly wage for a dental hygienist is \$42.08. Salary will vary by practice setting and location.

CFCC Dental Hygiene Program Goals and Competencies

Goal #1: Graduates of the dental hygiene program will be able to apply professional values and ethics in all endeavors.

1.1 Integrate the ADHA code of ethics in all interactions.

1.2 Demonstrate professional behavior in all interactions.

- 1.3 Demonstrate interpersonal skills to effectively communicate and collaborate with professionals and patients across socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds.
- 1.4 Adhere to local, state, and federal laws, recommendations, and regulations in the provision of dental hygiene care.
- 1.5 Promote an equitable patient care and practice environment by demonstrating inclusion of diverse beliefs and values.
- 1.6 Apply quality assurance and risk management practices based on accepted standards of care.
- 1.7 Commit to lifelong learning for professional and career opportunities in a variety of roles and settings.
- 1.8 Demonstrate self-awareness through reflective assessment for continued improvement.

Goal #2: Graduates of the dental hygiene program will be able to demonstrate the basic knowledge and skills needed for entry into the dental hygiene profession.

2.1 Assessment: Systematically collect and analyze data on the general, medical, dental, psychological, and social health status of patients.

2.2 Diagnosis: Utilize critical-thinking skills to formulate a dental hygiene diagnosis based on all available data that relates to and is harmonious with the diagnosis of the dentist and other health professionals.

2.3 Planning: Use the patient's assessment and dental hygiene diagnosis to establish an optimal and realistic, person-centered dental hygiene care plan through mutual communication with the patient and other health professionals.

2.4 Implementation: Provide comprehensive and individualized care that includes educational, preventive, and therapeutic services designed to assist the patient in achieving and maintaining oral health.

2.5 Evaluation: Evaluate the effectiveness of completed services and modify care plans as needed.

2.6 Education: Provide health education and oral self-care to diverse populations.

2.7 Documentation: Create and maintain comprehensive and accurate records.

2.8 Community Involvement: Promote oral health and the prevention of oral disease through organized community-based activities.

Goal #3: Graduates of the dental hygiene program will be able to effectively utilize problem-solving and critical thinking skills.

3.1. Acquire and analyze information in a scientific manner.

3.2 Integrate accepted scientific theories and research into educational, preventive, and therapeutic oral health services.

3.3 Use evidence-based decision-making to evaluate and implement health care strategies aligned with emerging trends to achieve high-quality, cost-effective, and humanistic care.

The Commission on Dental Accreditation Accredits the Dental Hygiene Program

“The Commission on Dental Accreditation will review complaints that relate to a program's compliance with the accreditation standards. The Commission is interested in the sustained quality and continued improvement of dental and dental-related education programs but does not intervene on behalf of individuals or act as a court of appeal for individuals in matters of admission, appointment, promotion, or dismissal of faculty, staff, or students.”

A copy of the appropriate accreditation standards and/or the Commission's policy and procedures for submission of complaints may be obtained by contacting the Commission at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611 or by calling 312-440-4653.

APPLICATION PROCESS

It is the Dental Hygiene applicant's responsibility to ensure that all requirements are met by the established deadlines. Dental Hygiene deadlines, guidelines, and policies apply equally to all students; therefore, there can be no exceptions.

Information sessions that provide more details about the Dental Hygiene program are offered throughout the year. Please refer to the Dental Hygiene website for dates and times. Attendance is not required to apply to the program; however, if proper documentation is provided, can award extra points on a student's point count sheet AND provides helpful information about the application process & the delivery of the program.

Admission to all educational programs offered by Cape Fear Community College is made without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, or other irrelevant factors.

The Dental Hygiene program at CFCC requires a separate program-specific application since it is a selective admissions program. Students must meet minimum requirements and complete an "Intent to Apply" during the application period. This is done electronically and can be accessed at the program website: <https://cfcc.edu/dental-hygiene>.

Prior to completing the "Intent to Apply," prospective students must first complete the steps to be accepted for general admission to Cape Fear Community College and meet all minimum requirements. Below are the steps for acceptance to CFCC.

Note: if you are interested in this program but are not sure about meeting all requirements, you are encouraged to contact the staff of the HSEC: healthsciences@cfcc.edu or complete the form on the [application website](#) for further support.

To participate in the application process (file an "Intent to Apply") students must:

1. Complete the CFCC General Admissions Application, which includes the Residency Determination Application. For students that have applied to or have taken classes at CFCC previously, the application has to be active. If the prospective student has not attended classes at CFCC for one year (12 months) or longer, they must reapply and be accepted prior to filing an "Intent".
2. Request official transcripts from a regionally accredited High School/High School Equivalency agency. High School/High School Equivalency transcripts must indicate the date of graduation. Official transcripts are those received either electronically, by mail, or by hand delivery to CFCC in the original, sealed envelope from the awarding institution or agency. If the prospective student graduated from a North Carolina public high school within the past three years, they may request that an official high school transcript be sent electronically to the Admissions Office via the

College Foundation of North Carolina (CFNC) website at www.cfnc.org. The official school administrator for homeschooled students must submit a copy of the home school's approved registration from the state in which they are registered (if applicable), and a homeschool transcript with graduation date. All students selected for the program must have graduated from high school at the start of the program or have earned the equivalent credentials.

3. Request official transcripts from all colleges and/or universities attended (if applicable; must come from institution where classes were taken) be mailed or electronically sent to the Admissions and/or Records Office. These will be reviewed for possible transfer credit. Note: transcripts from Masters or Ph.D. programs are not required. Transcripts from colleges that are not regionally accredited may be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Once accepted to CFCC, students must meet the minimum requirements listed below and complete/file an "Intent to Apply" electronically during the application period:

1. **Applicants must meet minimum English and Math requirements (i.e. be math and English "college-ready").** Any parts of the criteria below can be used/combined to meet the requirements. *Official transcripts and/or test scores are required.*
 - An Associate's Degree or higher **OR**
 - An unweighted U.S. High School GPA of 2.8 or higher regardless of graduation year or NC Community College Adult High School (AHS) unweighted GPA of 2.8 or higher **OR**
 - High School Career and College Ready Graduate (CCRG) Enhanced English IV score of 80 or higher on Tiers I and II AND
 - High School CCRG Math score of 80 or higher on Tiers I and II OR Math 3 End of Course (EOC) score of 4 or higher **OR**
 - Completion of **English Composition I or higher** (or its equivalent; i.e., ENG-111 in the North Carolina Community College common course library) **and Quantitative Literacy or higher** (or its equivalent; i.e., MAT-143 in the North Carolina Community College common course library) with a grade of "C" or better at a regionally accredited college (Note: if both requirements are met via CFCC transfer credit, then skip to No. 2) **OR**
 - Successful completion of developmental or transitional English and Math classes at a North Carolina Community College (only) that would allow direct placement into ENG-111 and MAT-143 **without pre- OR co-requisites** (see specifics about math course requirement below; if taken at a four-year college/university or out of state, please contact the CFCC Health Science Enrollment Center at healthsciences@cfcc.edu if you have questions) **OR**
 - Completion of an NCDAP, Accuplacer (Classic, not Next Gen.), RISE, or COMPASS Placement Test with English and Math placement into ENG-111 and MAT 143 **without pre- or co-requisites**, regardless of completion date. Please contact the CFCC Health Science Enrollment Center at healthsciences@cfcc.edu if you have questions about the use of test scores to meet Math and English requirements.

2. **Students must have an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher in all post-secondary coursework completed at Cape Fear Community College** (if the applicant has never attended CFCC this requirement may be disregarded). However, after an “Intent to Apply” has been filed, the student must consistently maintain a minimum GPA of 2.0 for each semester enrolled at CFCC to enter the program in the fall. If the student’s CFCC cumulative GPA is below 2.5 at the time of filing an “Intent to Apply” and they have not been enrolled in CFCC for one year (12 months) or longer, they may be eligible for *Academic Forgiveness* (see 2024 – 2025 catalog for more information).
3. **Complete BIOLOGY with a Grade of “C” or Higher.** All students who wish to apply for the Dental Hygiene Program must have completed a Biology course in high school or college and achieved a grade of “C” or higher prior to the application deadline AND within three (3) years of the start date of the Dental Hygiene Program. Applicants who have taken a High School Equivalency exam may also meet this requirement if they achieved a standard score on the Science Exam on the following High School Equivalency tests: a 145 on the 2014-present GED, or an 8 on the 2014-present HiSet. If an applicant received a High School Equivalency more than three years ago, they will be required to complete Biology. **Interested applicants who need to meet the Biology requirement should complete Anatomy and Physiology I: BIO 168*** (BIO 106, 110, 111, or 163 only meet the minimum requirements to file an “Intent to Apply”; they do not award points).

*If a student completes **BIO 168** (Anatomy and Physiology I), or its equivalent with a “C” or better, the course will meet the program eligibility and graduation requirement if taken prior to the application deadline AND within **five (5) years** of the start date of the Dental Hygiene program.

4. **Complete CHEMISTRY with a Grade of “C” or Higher.** All students who wish to apply for the Dental Hygiene Program must have completed a Chemistry course in high school or college and achieved a grade of “C” or higher prior to the application deadline AND within five (5) years of the start date of the Dental Hygiene Program. Interested applicants who need to meet the Chemistry requirements should take General, Organic, & Biochemistry: CHM 130 and CHM 130A* (CHM 131 & 131A, CHM 151 or CHM 152 will only meet minimum requirements to file an “Intent to Apply”). These courses do not award points and may have higher math minimum requirements).

*Only credit for CHM 130 or CHM 130 & 130A with a grade of “C” or better will be awarded points on the point count. CFCC only offers CHM 130 & CHM 130A: General, Organic, & Biochemistry with the lab. Students may transfer in CHM 130 without the lab.

5. **Completion of the TEAS Test (by ATI; versions 6 and 7 only) and meet the cut-off score requirement (have scored a minimum of 59 on EACH of the four sections).**
6. **Applicants are required to observe a dental hygienist for at least four hours within two years of the application deadline (for submission instructions and CFCC Observation Form see page 19)**
7. **Filing an “Intent to Apply”**

An “Intent to Apply” for the Dental Hygiene Program may be completed **ONLINE** during the application period of January 30, 2025 through April 9, 2025. Students must visit the program’s website (www.cfcc.edu/dental-hygiene), click on the “File My Intent” button, and study the instructions to proceed. Students must make sure to complete all required fields/areas all the way to

the end and then submit the form. If the “Intent” is approved, i.e., all eligibility requirements are met, the student will receive information in their CFCC email account explaining the next steps. Students who file an “Intent to Apply” and do not meet the minimum requirements will receive an email addressing the missing items. Once eligible, they may re-file their “Intent” as long as it is prior to the end of the application period. Note: If technical difficulties are encountered, students may contact the CFCC Helpdesk at 910-362-4357. All interested applicants must file the “Intent to Apply” prior to the end of the application period.

“Intent to Apply” Checklist for the Dental Hygiene Program:

- Acceptance to CFCC (via general college admission) or that application status is active
- Official high school transcript on file at CFCC
- Official college/university transcripts (if applicable) on file at CFCC
- Meet English and Math eligibility (see page 4)
- Overall GPA at CFCC of 2.5 or higher (criteria waived if students do not have an established GPA at CFCC)
- Completion of a Biology class with a grade of “C” or better within the last three (3) years
- Completion of a Chemistry class with a grade of “C” or better within the last five (5) years
- Observation hours (minimum of four hours required)
- Completion of the TEAS exam and have scored a minimum of 59 on EACH section PRIOR to filing an “Intent to Apply”

Note I: Completion of general education courses that are part of the Dental Hygiene program is not required to complete the selective admissions application to the program.

Note II: Completion of general education courses prior to the start of the program does not decrease the number of semesters required to graduate. The program duration is five semesters.

TESTING INFORMATION

Students who wish to be considered for admission to CFCC’s Dental Hygiene program must first ensure they meet the minimum application requirements. They should schedule and complete the TEAS exam (by ATI; choose “*Nursing*”) prior to filing an “Intent to Apply.” This is done independently from the CFCC Dental Hygiene application process. There is no set limit to the number of times an applicant may take the TEAS test, however, if using CFCC as a testing site, a student may test only two times per academic year; additional tests may be taken offsite. Those who have taken the TEAS test in previous years should be aware that tests are only valid for five years from the time they file an “Intent to Apply.” Once the TEAS test is taken, and **only if the cut-off score requirement is met (see below)**, the applicant should request that an official score report be made available to CFCC. If the TEAS test was taken at CFCC, the staff of the HSEC will have access to the results. Applicants who tested should include the date the test was taken on the “Intent to Apply” form.

Note: **Applicants who test more than once are responsible for selecting the TEAS test with the highest scores in all four areas.** In addition, we will not create a new score using the highest points in each test category among different tests (i.e., we do not “super score”).

THE “INTENT TO APPLY”, AS WELL AS ALL TESTING, MUST BE COMPLETED ON OR BEFORE APRIL 9, 2025 and must be on file in the Health Science Enrollment Center at CFCC in order to be considered for the Dental Hygiene program. “Intents to Apply” and results from tests completed after April 9, 2025 will not be accepted.

Flexible Testing Options: Applicants may take the TEAS exam at any available PSI Test Center (see ATI website for a list of locations: <https://www.atitesting.com/TEAS>), remotely with ATI, **or on campus with limited availability at the CFCC Union Station Testing Center (maximum of two times at CFCC per academic year). There are no limits if testing off campus.**

Testing Locations: All available on campus test sessions for the Dental Hygiene application period will be scheduled using the ATI Testing company. More information is available at <https://cfcc.edu/testingservices>. An option to test at any available PSI Test Center is also a choice. It may provide a greater number of testing dates, times, and locations. Applicants who meet minimum requirements to apply to the Dental Hygiene program may use this option, but must be aware of the testing/”Intent” deadline of April 9, 2025.

Testing with Accommodations: Students who need accommodations for the TEAS test should contact Student Accessibility Services (SAS) at sas@cfcc.edu. The scheduling of the accommodated test must be coordinated by the staff of SAS and CFCC Testing Services, who will guide the student through the process. Note: Testing at a PSI Test Center may not guarantee appropriate accommodations.

Cost: The cost of the TEAS test may vary by each provider. If testing at CFCC, the cost will be approximately \$90.00 per test. For cost information on remote testing via ATI, as well as testing at a PSI Testing Center, please refer to the ATI website. Also, if applicants do not select CFCC as the receiving college upon testing, an additional fee will be charged to make the test accessible to CFCC (please refer to ATI website for details).

Test Preparation: It is recommended that students utilize TEAS study guides which are available for purchase online and in some bookstores. In addition, the staff in the CFCC Learning Lab (910-362-7496) may be able to provide resource materials to help prepare for the TEAS exam, including the following: <https://libguides.cfcc.edu/TEAS>.

After the Test: Students will have access to test results shortly after they complete the TEAS exam. **In order to be considered for the Dental Hygiene program, a student must meet the minimum score requirements on the TEAS of 59 in each of the four areas of the test: Reading, Math, Science, and English and Language Usage.** Students may file an “Intent to Apply” during the application period once test scores meet the minimum score requirement and are on file at the HSEC by the testing deadline. No additional application forms are required.

For further details regarding the TEAS test, students are encouraged to visit the Health Science Admissions page and refer to the link to TEAS-related information: <https://cfcc.edu/admissions/health-sciences-enrollment/>

Note: Depending of the Health Science program, neither federal law, nor North Carolina law permits undocumented individuals or those with DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) classification to receive professional licenses. See 8 U.S.C. § 1621(a) and (c)(1)(A). This does not prevent a DACA student from enrolling in a Health Science program but may prohibit the student from receiving a professional license. If students have any questions about eligibility for professional licensure, please contact the professional organization’s website.

DENTAL HYGIENE SELECTION PROCESS

The point system was implemented as an objective means for evaluating applicants to the Dental Hygiene program. **All documents needed for points must be on file at CFCC on or prior to the application deadline (April 9, 2025). Eligible courses need to be completed prior to the application deadline to receive points. No points will be awarded for documentation received after the application deadline.** If students are currently or were previously enrolled in another college, it is their responsibility to ensure that the final transcript is received by CFCC prior to the application deadline.

Dental Hygiene applicants are ranked based on points earned, and the students with the highest number of points will be selected. If two or more students have an identical point count total, the date and time that the “Intent to Apply” form was submitted successfully (i.e., eligibility criteria were met) will be the determining factor.

Section A: Non-Coursework (Note: not a minimum requirement- only used for point count)

Points for Information Session

The Dental Hygiene faculty will conduct detailed virtual and in-person information sessions during the fall of 2024 and spring of 2025 (see Dental Hygiene website for specifics). **Proof of attendance must be on file at the HSEC prior to the end of the application period.** Ten points will be awarded for attending one of the information sessions listed below. No points will be awarded for sessions attended in previous years.

- Friday, October 25, 2024, 12:00 pm – 1:30 pm (virtual session)
- Thursday, January 23, 2025, 4:00 pm – 5:30 pm (in-person session)
- Tuesday, February 11, 2025, 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm (in-person session)

Points for Current or Prior CFCC Dental Assisting Students

A graduate, or currently enrolled student, in the CFCC Dental Assisting program with a minimum program GPA of 3.5 will earn five (5) points.

Points for Work Experience

Applicants may earn five (5) points for employment as a Dental Assistant. Applicants who have one year or more of experience as a Dental Assistant are required to present documentation verifying their employment. The letter must be on the Dentist’s letterhead and should state the name of applicant, date(s) of employment, and bear the signature of the dental practitioner. **ALL work experience documentation needed for points MUST be on file at the HSEC prior to the**

application deadline of the program. No points will be awarded for documentation received after the application deadline.

Section B: Coursework (Note: not a minimum requirement – used for point count and to satisfy program General Education coursework)

Points for High School GPA

If the applicant is currently a high school senior with a 3.5 or higher GPA (unweighted), they will be eligible for 65 points.

Note: A student will not get points for both a 3.5 (unweighted) high school GPA and college courses. Points will be awarded for one category or the other, whichever is higher.

Points for College Courses

College courses completed prior to the application deadline with a grade of “C” or better will earn the applicant points. Points will also be awarded for credit earned based on AP (Advanced Placement) and/or CLEP examinations. (For point distribution, refer to the attached point count worksheet).

Note: Courses completed in the Spring semester (after the application deadline) will not earn points.

SPECIAL NOTES:

- BIO 168, BIO 169, BIO 175, and CHM 130 or CHM 130/130A must have been completed with a grade of “C” or higher within the last five (5) years of the start date of the Dental Hygiene Program to receive curriculum credit and meet graduation requirements. **Only the first attempt with a grade of “C” or higher will be considered in the point count.**
- Applicants will receive 30 points if BIO 168, BIO 169, BIO 175, and CHM130 or CHM 130/130A have all been completed within the allotted time frame with a grade of “B” or higher in each course.
- Humanities/Fine Arts Elective: This requirement may be met by taking an approved Humanities or Fine Arts course. For approved courses, please refer to the program evaluation (course substitutions may be an option).

Note: Students who have questions or concerns regarding transfer credits from other colleges and/or universities must address and resolve their concerns prior to the end of the application period (please contact a staff member at the CFCC Health Science Enrollment Center).

Section C: TEAS Scores (to be taken prior to filing “Intent to Apply”; cut-off score requirements must be met)

Points are awarded for scores on the TEAS exam in the following four areas: Math, Science, Reading, and English and Language Usage for a maximum of 400 points. TEAS tests are valid for five years from the date the “Intent to Apply” is filed. Applicants may test more than one time as there are no set limits. **Note: Applicants are only permitted to take the test twice on campus at the CFCC Testing Center per academic year. Attempting to take the test more than twice at the CFCC Testing Center is not permitted.** If an applicant wants to take the test additional times, then that can be done using the ATI remote option, the PSI Testing Center option, or by testing at another college testing

center other than CFCC. If the applicant indicates that they are testing for Cape Fear Community College as their primary school when scheduling the test, then the test results will be automatically available for CFCC staff to access. **Applicants should select the test with the highest score when filing their “Intent to Apply” during the application period.** Applicants should file an “Intent to Apply” after completing the TEAS test and meet cut-off score requirements during the application period. If they choose to retest, they need to be certain that official score reports of all tests are on file at CFCC (please contact the staff of the HSEC: healthsciences@cfcc.edu).

Calculation of Total Points

The applicant’s total points are calculated using attendance at information sessions, approved work experience, academics, (including but not limited to completed course work) and the total of the TEAS (see point count sheet). Qualified applicants will be invited to review their point count electronically **after the application deadline and after all point counts are completed.** A copy of their point count will be emailed in April 2025 including instructions on how to agree or recheck the total point count. **APPLICANTS WHO FAIL TO RESPOND TO THE REQUEST TO REVIEW THEIR POINT COUNT WILL WAIVE THEIR RIGHT TO CONTEST THEIR POINT TOTAL.** *Applicant’s point counts are confidential; to protect the student’s privacy, point count totals can only be discussed with the applicant.*

Acceptance into the program is only for the academic year of 2025/2026. Students who decline their seat will need to reapply for future admission.

Applying to Multiple Programs: If accepted into multiple health science programs at CFCC, students are required to commit to the program of choice by the deadline stated in their program decision email sent by the Health Science Enrollment Center. Failure to do so in writing (i.e., via response form) will result in the loss of the seat. Once a student attends the orientation, they finalize their commitment to the Surgical Technology program and will no longer be considered for seats in other programs. Exceptions may be granted by the staff of the HSEC. Please direct any questions or concerns to the staff members of the HSEC: healthsciences@cfcc.edu.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE

Twelve (12) new students may be conditionally admitted to the Dental Hygiene Program each fall semester pending the submission and review of a health assessment form, vaccination requirements, drug screening, and criminal background check. Alternates are admitted to the program **only** if someone who was originally accepted declines the offer of admission or if someone who was accepted becomes disqualified (refer to disqualifying factors).

The 12 selected students will be notified when to complete the following information:

1. Physical Exam and Immunizations

All completed health/medical reports must be received by the date noted in the acceptance email. Required immunizations include Tdap, MMR, and Varicella. Optional, yet strongly encouraged immunizations include COVID-19, Hepatitis B, and influenza immunizations. The COVID-19 immunization may be required based on external rotation sites. If a student chooses not to receive the COVID-19, Hepatitis B, or Influenza immunization, they must sign a declination form.

2. CPR

Students must also submit documentation of current American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR certification. **Certification must be current two-year** CPR certification for health care providers (must include infant, child, and adult). Online courses must be accompanied by a face-to-face, hands-on component. **Information regarding the CPR certification will be provided in the acceptance email.**

3. Drug Screening

Students admitted to the program will be required to have a drug screening. Any associated fees will be the student's responsibility. A positive drug screen will forfeit a student's acceptance into the Dental Hygiene Program. **Use of CBD (cannabidiol) or CBN (cannabinol) products may produce a positive drug screen due to the lack of product regulation. Information on obtaining a drug screening and a due date for completion of the screening will be provided in the acceptance email.**

4. Criminal Background Check

Clinical sites require a drug screening and a criminal background check prior to allowing students into the clinical setting (any associated fees will be the responsibility of the student). In addition, certain criminal activity, as evidenced by a criminal background check may also disqualify a student from clinical participation as determined by the clinical setting. **Information on obtaining a criminal background check will be provided in the acceptance email.**

Note: Failure to participate in a clinical assignment based on either the drug screening or criminal background check will result in dismissal from the Dental Hygiene Program.

PROGRESSION POLICY

Starting in the fall of 2024, CFCC will use a ten-point grading scale. However, all health science programs may use a grading scale that ensures success in the profession for future graduates and abides by accreditation guidelines. For the Associates Degree in Dental Hygiene, an eight-point grading scale remains in place for the program courses. **For general education courses, however, the CFCC ten-point scale will apply (A 90-100; B 80-89; C 70-79; D and below are not acceptable).**

Grading Policy for Dental Hygiene Program Courses (prefix DEN)

A	Excellent	92-100
B	Good	84-91
C	Average	76-83
D	Poor	68-75

Students admitted to the Dental Hygiene Program must achieve a "C" in each course as noted above in the DH program courses in order to progress semester by semester.

Credits in the DH Program are determined as follows:

Class	1-hour credit for each hour of class
Lab	1-hour credit for two or three-hour lab
Clinical	1-hour credit for three hours of clinical

A semester credit hour is equal to 16 hours of classroom instruction or 48 hours of laboratory or clinical instruction.

The dental hygiene faculty emphasizes that attitudes and actions demonstrate a student's ethics and professionalism. The policy for academic-related violations is that any student who violates the policy in any course in the Dental Hygiene curriculum will be given a zero on the assignment or an "F" in the course. If the faculty issues an "F" in a didactic, lab, or clinical course the student will be dismissed from the dental hygiene program. An "F" in the course will be decided in consultation with the instructor and the program director, or the program director and the department chair.

PHYSICAL AND COGNITIVE EXPECTATIONS OF A STUDENT DENTAL HYGIENIST

Dental Hygiene is a practice discipline with cognitive, sensory, affective, and psychomotor performance requirements. For the dental hygiene program compliance with the Americans with Disability Act, amended in 2008 (ADAAA) a qualified individual with a disability is one who, with or without reasonable accommodation or modification, meets the essential eligibility requirements for participation in the dental hygiene program.

If a student cannot meet dental hygiene program requirements without accommodations, the staff of the Student Accessibility Services office will determine, on an individual basis, whether the necessary accommodations or modifications can be reasonably made.

CFCC provides reasonable accommodations to otherwise qualified students with disabilities, as long as such disabilities, determined on a case-by-case basis, do not preclude the student from meeting the qualifications considered essential to the program. The essential functions (Required Technical Standards) are listed on the next page.

REQUIRED TECHNICAL STANDARDS

CRITERION	STANDARD	EXAMPLES OF NECESSARY ACTIVITIES (Not all Inclusive)
Critical Thinking	Critical Thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment & time management.	Identify cause and effect relationship in clinical situations. Effectively assess patient needs and plan patient treatment based on these assessments. Assimilate knowledge from lecture, laboratory, and clinical arenas. Assess and respond to patient medical emergencies in a timely manner. Complete lab and clinical competencies and patient care within a set time schedule. Utilize basic mathematical skills
Interpersonal	Interpersonal abilities to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds	Establish a professional rapport with patients, families, and colleagues. Provide safe care to the public.
Communication	Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form	Collect assessment data. Explain treatment procedures. Initiate health teaching based on evidence-based research. Document and interpret dental hygiene actions and patient and family responses. Document assessment findings and treatment rendered.
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small places	Move around clinical operatories, dark room, sterilization room, supply areas, and other treatment areas. Position chairside in close proximity to patient. Administer CPR and BLS procedures. Reach radiographic equipment, which is approximately 5' off floor. Transfer patients from wheelchairs to dental chairs and back. Provide safe care to the public.
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective dental hygiene care	Move, calibrate, and use equipment and supplies including sharp instruments. Use ancillary aids chairside – mannequins, small equipment, etc.
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs	Hears patients, cries of distress, and sounds of instruments being properly utilized, sound of slow speed handpiece and ultrasonic scaler, and monitor vital signs.
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in dental hygiene care	Observes patient responses such as skin color and facial expression. Notes gingival description and pocket depths (read small markings on instrument) – healthy vs. disease state including color changes. Monitors vital signs. Evaluates radiographs for technical quality including density, contrast and distortion. Reads records. Note color changes in dental materials, which indicates reactions occurring.
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	Perform palpation techniques (EO/IO exam), functions of a dental hygiene exam and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g., scaling, root planing, and deposit assessment.

Students who feel they need accommodations should contact the staff of the Student Accessibility Services (SAS) office in the Union Station Building (Room U-218) on the Downtown Campus or email at sas@cfcc.edu or call 910-362-7017.

DISQUALIFYING FACTORS

Students may be denied admission to the Dental Hygiene Program for any of the following reasons:

1. Physical or emotional health, which indicates impairment in the ability to provide safe care to the public.
2. Conduct not in accordance with the standards of a Registered Dental Hygienist:
 - a. Has given false information or has withheld material information.
 - b. Has been convicted of or pleaded guilty or *nolo contendere* to any crime which indicated the individual is unfit or incompetent to practice, or the individual has deceived or defrauded the public.
 - c. Has used any drug to a degree that interferes with his or her fitness to practice Dental Hygiene.
 - d. Has engaged in conduct that endangers the public's health.
3. Positive Drug Screen – (see page 11, #3)
4. Results of Criminal Background Check – (see page 11, #4)

LEGAL LIMITATIONS OF LICENSURE

Students who enroll in the Dental Hygiene Program should be aware that their application for licensure at the completion of the program may be denied or restricted by the NC Board of Dental Examiners for the following reasons:

- The student practiced fraud or deceit in attempting to procure a license to practice Dental Hygiene.
- The student has been convicted of a misdemeanor/felony (excluding minor traffic violation). *Applicants for dental hygiene licensure will submit to a thorough criminal background check, to include the submission of fingerprints.*
- The student is addicted to alcohol or other drugs to such a degree as to render them unfit or unworthy to practice Dental Hygiene.
- The student is mentally or physically incompetent to practice Dental Hygiene.

Licensure to practice Dental Hygiene is at the sole discretion of the NC Board of Dental Examiners. Link to NC Board of Dental Examiner's web page for further information - <https://www.ncdentalboard.org/>

INFECTIOUS DISEASE POLICY

Although there are **no documented cases** of occupational spread of HIV to dental workers, students enrolled in the Dental Hygiene Program are at a **slight** risk for exposure to blood and body fluids and the potential does exist for the transmission of blood-borne and other infectious diseases during patient care activities. The risk of HIV disease transmission from dental patients to members of the dental team is **extremely low**. Nevertheless, there is some small potential for this to occur. The Americans with Disabilities Act forbids discrimination against patients with HIV and other infectious diseases; therefore, students are required to treat all patients assigned, regardless of the disease state of the patient.

Generally, individuals with a serious contagious disease would most likely be considered individuals with disabilities. However, this does not mean that an individual with a serious contagious disease (such as tuberculosis, influenza, and COVID-19) would have to be given access to a place of public accommodation if such an action would place other individuals at a significant risk. Such determinations are highly fact-specific and the differences between the contagious diseases may give rise to differing conclusions since each contagious disease has specific patterns of transmission that affect the magnitude and duration of a potential threat to others.

Applicants/students who are HIV/AIDS or HBV (Hepatitis B) positive will not be barred from working, teaching, attending classes, or participating in college-sponsored activities, unless the applicant/student is unable to follow standard precautions. All decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis. Standard Precautions are defined as considering all patients as being infected with pathogens and therefore applying infection control procedures to the care of all patients.

RESOURCES/ASSISTANCE

If you have questions or concerns regarding the selective admissions process and other available resources, please contact a staff member of the Health Science Enrollment Center at the Wilmington Campus in the Union Station Building (second floor); healthsciences@cfcc.edu; 910-362-7139.

FINANCIAL AID

The Financial Aid office monitors a policy that is based on federal regulations that establishes a maximum time frame for completion of a program of 150 percent of the published length of an educational program. This means that as a student majoring in a Pre-Nursing or Pre-Health Science program, the student will need to pay careful attention to the number of hours attempted prior to actual admission into the program of choice. Depending on the number of hours attempted prior to admission into Nursing or a Health Science program, a student may not be eligible for enough financial aid to complete the program after they have been admitted.

To make sure students understand this policy and plan ahead in order to use their financial benefits in a wise and timely manner, students are encouraged to consult with the Financial Aid office located in the Union Station Building (Room U-138) on the Wilmington Campus or in the McKeithan Center (Room NA-100) on the North Campus.

The Cape Fear Community College Foundation supports student education opportunities through program support and scholarships. All students are encouraged to apply to scholarships if eligible. For more information, please visit the Foundation website: <https://cfcc.edu/foundation/>.

CAPE FEAR COMMUNITY COLLEGE TUITION & FEES

Payment methods: cash, check, money order, VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, financial aid, payment plan, or third (3rd) party sponsorship. All forms of payment must be received by the Business Office to be officially registered.

Tuition is established by the North Carolina State Legislature and is subject to change without prior notification.

Credit Hours	In-State Tuition	Out-of-State Tuition	Student Activity Fees	Parking & Security Fee	Technology Fees
1	76.00	268.00	35.00	40.00	3.00
2	152.00	536.00	35.00	40.00	6.00
3	228.00	804.00	35.00	40.00	9.00
4	304.00	1072.00	35.00	40.00	12.00
5	380.00	1340.00	35.00	40.00	15.00
6	456.00	1608.00	35.00	40.00	18.00
7	532.00	1876.00	35.00	75.00	21.00
8	608.00	2144.00	35.00	75.00	24.00
9	684.00	2412.00	35.00	75.00	27.00
10	760.00	2680.00	35.00	75.00	30.00
11	836.00	2948.00	35.00	75.00	33.00
12	912.00	3216.00	35.00	75.00	36.00
13	988.00	3484.00	35.00	75.00	39.00
14	1064.00	3752.00	35.00	75.00	42.00
15	1140.00	4020.00	35.00	75.00	45.00
16 or more	1216.00	4288.00	35.00	75.00	48.00

Professional liability insurance: \$15.00 per school year (nursing and health science students)

Full time: 12 credit hours

3/4 time: 9 credit hours

1/2 time: 6 credit hours

DENTAL HYGIENE ESTIMATED EXPENSES

Summer Semester Prior to 1st Semester

CPR	\$82.00*
Drug Screen, Criminal Background Check, & Immunization Tracker	\$110.00*
Physical Exam and Required Immunizations	\$100.00*
Total	\$292.00

1st Semester - Fall

Dental Hygiene Association Dues	\$85.00
Uniforms	\$369.00*
Shoes	\$75.00*
Liability Insurance	\$15.00
Books	\$575.00*
Instruments	\$1149.00
Stethoscope/BP Cuff/Safety Glasses	\$130.00
Clinic/Class Fee	\$150.00
Typodont	\$550.00
Course Notes	\$30.00
Tuition/Fees – In-state	\$1374.00
Tuition/Fees – Out-of-state	\$4446.00
Total In-State	\$4502.00
Total Out-of-state	\$7574.00

2nd Semester - Spring

Books	\$225.00*
Course Notes	\$30.00
Instruments	\$480.00
Tuition/Fees – In-state	\$1374.00
Tuition Fees – Out-of-state	\$4446.00
Total In-State	\$2109.00
Total Out-of-state	\$5181.00

3rd Semester - Summer

Books	\$265.00*
Course Notes	\$20.00
Tuition/Fees – In-state	\$821.00
Tuition Fees – Out-of-state	\$2549.00
Total In-State	\$1106.00
Total Out-of-state	\$2834.00

4th Semester - Fall

Dental Hygiene Association Dues	\$85.00
Liability Insurance	\$15.00
Books	\$170.00*
Course Notes	\$30.00
Mock Board Exam	\$160.00
Tuition/Fees – In-state	\$1374.00
Tuition/Fees – Out-of-state	\$4446.00
Total In-State	\$1834.00
Total Out-of-state	\$4906.00

5th Semester - Spring

Books	\$155.00*
Course Notes	\$20.00
Board Review Registration	\$380.00*
National Board DH Exam	\$565.00
ADEX Clinical Exam	\$1350.00
NC License Application	\$75.00
Graduation Cap and Gown	\$50.00
Tuition/Fees – In-state	\$1374.00
Tuition/Fees – Out-of-state	\$4446.00
Total In-State	\$3969.00
Total Out-of-state	\$7041.00

TOTAL PROGRAM COST

In-State	\$13,812.00
Out-of-State	\$27,828.00

*Costs may vary

DENTAL HYGIENE CREDITS

First Semester – Fall		
BIO 168*	Anatomy & Physiology I	4
DEN 110	Orofacial Anatomy	3
DEN 111	Infection/Hazard Control	2
DEN 112	Dental Radiography	3
DEN 120	Dental Hygiene Preclinic Theory	2
DEN 121	Dental Hygiene Preclinic Lab	2
Second Semester – Spring		
BIO 169*	Anatomy & Physiology II	4
DEN 124	Periodontology	2
DEN 130	Dental Hygiene Theory I	2
DEN 131	Dental Hygiene Clinic I	3
DEN 222	General & Oral Pathology	2
ENG 111*	Writing & Inquiry	3
Third Semester – Summer		
BIO 175*	General Microbiology	3
DEN 125	Dental Office Emergencies	1
DEN 140	Dental Hygiene Theory II	2
DEN 141	Dental Hygiene Clinic II	2
DEN 223	Dental Pharmacology	2
Fourth Semester – Fall		
CHM 130*	General, Organic & Biochemistry	3
CHM 130A*	General, Organic & Biochemistry Lab	1
DEN 123	Nutrition/Dental Health	2
DEN 220	Dental Hygiene Theory III	2
DEN 221	Dental Hygiene Clinic III	4
DEN 224	Materials and Procedures	2
SOC 240*	Social Psychology	3
Fifth Semester – Spring		
DEN 230	Dental Hygiene Theory IV	1
DEN 231	Dental Hygiene Clinic IV	4
DEN 232	Community Dental Health	3
DEN 233	Professional Development	2
ENG 114*	Prof. Research & Reporting	3
Elective*	Humanities/Fine Arts Elective	3
*College Transfer Credit	Total Credits	75

*May be taken prior to the acceptance to the program; only BIO-168, 169, 175 and CHM 130/130A expire after five years (for 2025: only valid for points and towards graduation if taken fall 2020 or after). The other General Education classes do not expire. If General Education courses are completed prior to acceptance in the program, this will not reduce the length of the five (5) semester program.

Not all General Education courses will transfer to a four-year institution. The Dental Hygiene program at Cape Fear Community College does not currently have articulation agreements with other colleges. Dental Hygiene courses may transfer to a Dental Hygiene program located at a NC Community College. Course transferability is dependent on the specific dental hygiene program.

STUDENT: A copy of this completed form should be submitted to the Health Science Enrollment Center in Union Station (second floor) on the Downtown Wilmington campus. You may drop it off or email it to healthsciences@cfcc.edu for credit.

Cape Fear Community College

Confidentiality Statement

As a student applying to the Dental Hygiene program at Cape Fear Community College, I agree to keep all client records, treatment, and conversations confidential. If client confidentiality is breached in any manner, I understand that I will not be considered for admission into the Dental Hygiene program.

Date

(Signature of Student-Applicant)

CONFIRMATION OF OBSERVATION

As verification that the observation has been performed and for recommendation for admission to Cape Fear Community College's Dental Hygiene program, the dental hygienist under whom the student observed must complete this form. Cape Fear Community College expresses its sincerest gratitude to the dentist, dental hygienist, and staff for their support in allowing prospective students to observe in the dental office, and for taking the time to complete this form.

Print name of student

Student ID Number

Hours Observed (4 minimum)

Print name of Dental Hygienist

Telephone No.

Date

Signature of Dental Hygienist

Date

Please return this form to the address listed above as soon as the observation has been completed. Questions may be directed to staff at the Health Science Enrollment Center at 910-362-7139 or the Director of Dental Hygiene, Michelle Ezzell, 910-362-7309. Thank you again for your time and support.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS (must be completed in order to apply to the program)

- Interested applicants must study information packet (see website)
- Admission to CFCC (by Admissions) or active application status
- Official high school transcript on file at CFCC
- Official college/university transcripts (if applicable) on file at CFCC
- English and Math eligibility
- Overall GPA at CFCC of 2.5 or higher (criteria waived if students do not have an established GPA at CFCC)
- Completion of a Biology course with a grade of “C” or better within the last three years
- Completion of a Chemistry class with a grade of “C” or better within the last five years
- Observation hours (minimum of 4 hrs required)
- Completion of TEAS exam (minimum of 59 in all 4 areas). Should submit highest scoring test with intent if testing multiple times

POINT COUNT WORKSHEET | System used for selective admission ranking

SECTION A: NON-COURSEWORK

Attended Program Information Session (10pts) _____
(must attend during current application period to be awarded points.)

Graduate/currently enrolled CFCC Dental Assisting with 3.5 program GPA (5pts) _____

Related Experience - experience as a chairside dental assistant (all verified by employing dentist) (5pts) _____
All official documentation must be received prior to the application deadline of the program. Minimum of 1 year experience.

SECTION B: REQUIRED COURSEWORK

Current high school senior with an unweighted GPA of 3.5 or higher (Will not get points for both High School GPA and college courses) (65pts) _____

Courses required prior to or during the program as outlined in the college catalog and using the CFCC 10-point grading scale. Points apply if taken prior to the application deadline.

*BIO 168 Anatomy/Physiology I (4 sem hrs) A (65pts) _____
B (45pts) _____
C (5pts) _____

*BIO 169 Anatomy/Physiology II (4 sem hrs) A (65pts) _____
B (45pts) _____
C (5pts) _____

*BIO 175 General Microbiology (3 sem hrs) A (65pts) _____
B (45pts) _____
C (5pts) _____

*CHM 130 OR CHM 130/130A General, Organic & Biochemistry (4 sem hrs) (Average of Lecture & Lab) A (65pts) _____
B (45pts) _____
C (5pts) _____

Note for all four science courses above:

*Only the first attempt with a letter grade of “C” or better in A&P and BIO/Chem classes **within the last five years** will be considered for the point count. Courses expire if older than five years prior to the start of the program (i.e. must have been taken the fall of 2020); therefore, points will not be awarded AND cannot be used towards graduation.

BIO 168, 169, 175 & CHM 130 OR CHM 130/130A (30pts) _____
Completed (“B” or higher)

SOC 240 Social Psychology (3 sem hrs) A (15pts) _____
OR B (10pts) _____
SOC 210 AND PSY 150 C (5pts) _____

ENG 111 Writing & Inquiry (Expository Writing) (3 sem hrs) A (15pts) _____
B (10pts) _____
C (5pts) _____

ENG 114 Professional Research/Reporting (3 sem hrs) A (15pts) _____
B (10pts) _____
C (5pts) _____

Humanities Elective (3 sem hrs) A (15pts) _____
(Suggested HUM 115) B (10pts) _____
C (5pts) _____

Total Points _____
(Maximum total for sections A and B = 370)

SECTION C: TEAS (VERSIONS 6 AND 7)

	Score
Reading	_____
Math	_____
Science	_____
English and Language Usage	_____

Score Total _____
(Maximum total for section C is 400)

The minimum cutoff score is 59% in each section on the TEAS.

SUMMATION OF POINT TOTALS

Section A	_____
Section B	_____
Section C	_____
Grand Total	_____

NOTE 1: If students have the same point count total, the date and time that the Intent to Apply was submitted will be the deciding factor.

NOTE 2: In order to receive points in any of the areas above, all documentation must be on file at CFCC as outlined in the information packet (by the deadline and in the required format).

