

About This Program

Students in the Dental Hygiene program gain the skills and knowledge to provide comprehensive dental hygiene care. Instruction helps students develop professional communication skills with patients, colleagues and the public, as well as knowledge of ethical standards and professional behavior. Graduates of the program are prepared to take the Dental Hygiene National Board and state or regional clinical licensing examinations¹. Licensure qualifications may vary by state and are available from the campus program director or published in the clinical manual.

Careers in Dental Hygiene²

Dental hygienists are licensed health specialists who provide patients with preventative, educational and therapeutic services, promoting oral health and control of oral disease. They observe and record abnormalities, take oral X- rays and apply fluoride and fissure sealants. They also provide periodical therapies such as root planning, as well as plaque, calculus and stain removal. The framework for this type of oral care is known as the Dental Hygiene, or DH, process of care.

Dental hygienists' career path can lead to employment in a variety of health care environments such as:³

- Dental offices
- Physician's offices
- Government

Knowledge and Skills


Upon completion of the Dental Hygiene program, graduates will be able to:

- Deliver comprehensive dental hygiene care to a diverse population of patients according to the Dental Hygiene process of care.
- Practice in a safe and ethical manner in accordance with the Dental Hygiene Standard of Care, infection control standards, state and national governance, and the Core Values of the ADHA Code of Ethics.
- Justify the use of evidence-based treatment modalities in relation to the delivery of oral health care.

General Education Coursework

Students enrolled in the Dental Hygiene degree program at the Mesa campus take general education course offerings focusing on:

- Communication skills
- Science
- Social sciences



The program culminates in an Associate of Science degree.

¹ Carrington College prepares students to take appropriate certification and licensure exams related to their individual majors. The College does not guarantee students will successfully pass these exams or be certified or licensed as a result of completing the program. Credential preparation varies by location.

² Individuals seeking to enter this career field may be subject to screenings such as, but not limited to, criminal background checks and drug/alcohol testing prior to externship, to attain occupational licensure/certification or employment, and throughout their careers.

³ Source: bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/dental-hygienists.htm#tab-3

DENTAL HYGIENE - MESA



Campus Based: Mesa

Dental Hygiene Campus-Based Degree Requirements

TECHNICAL COURSES		LECTURE HOURS	LAB HOURS	CLINICAL HOURS	SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
DHM32	General and Oral Pathology	15	30	0	3
DHM33	Periodontology	45	0	0	3
DH37	Local Anesthesia	30	30	0	3
DH41	Pharmacology	45	0	0	3
DH68	Dental Hygiene National Board Preparation	30	0	0	2
DH100	Introduction to Clinical Dental Hygiene	15	30	90	4
DH150	Clinical Dental Hygiene I	15	30	90	4
DH230	Dental Materials with Lab	15	30	0	2
DH270	Nutritional and Biochemical Foundations for Dental Hygienists	30	0	0	2
DH275	Advanced Clinical Dental Hygiene	0	30	225	6
DHM21	Oral Biology	30	30	0	3
DHM54	Ethics, Jurisprudence, and Dental Hygiene Practice	15	0	0	1
DHM61	Community Oral Health	30	0	0	2
DHM62	Community Dental Services	0	30	0	1
DHM110	Oral Radiology with Lab	30	30	0	3
DHM120	Head and Neck Anatomy	30	0	0	2
DHM200	Intermediate Clinical Dental Hygiene I	15	30	135	5
DHM250	Intermediate Clinical Dental Hygiene II	15	30	180	6
BIO105 ²	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	45	30	0	4
BIO206 ²	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	45	30	0	4
BIO305 ²	Microbiology with Lab	45	30	0	4
C120 ²	Chemistry with Lab	45	30	0	4
SPH205 ¹	Interpersonal Communications	45	0	0	3
ENG101 ¹	English Writing and Composition	45	0	0	3
PSY101 ¹	Introduction to Psychology	45	0	0	3
SOC101 ¹	Introduction to Sociology	45	0	0	3
TOTAL FOR DEGREE		765	450	720	83

¹Online general education course

²Science-based general education course

Approximate time to complete degree program: 80 weeks (not including breaks)

Technical Coursework

Carrington College's Dental Hygiene program helps students develop the skills to give comprehensive dental hygiene care along with professional communication skills and a knowledge of ethical standards and behavior. They learn to analyze and apply advances in research to dental hygiene care and are encouraged to participate in and provide leadership in community activities that promote optimal oral health.

Students may also need to meet additional requirements, including drug screening and background checks, prior to starting the program or prior to entering direct patient care.

Carrington's academic catalog, available at carrington.edu/catalog, provides the most current and detailed program information, including admission and graduation requirements.

Accreditation and Disclosures

Carrington College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, Western Association of Schools and Colleges (ACCJC/WASC), 428 J Street, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95814, (415) 506-0234, an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education.

Additional information about accreditation, including the filing of complaints against member institutions, can be found at accjc.org.

For comprehensive information on Carrington's accreditation and approvals, visit carrington.edu/accreditation. Visit carrington.edu/sci for important information on program outcomes. Program availability varies by location. Carrington College reserves the right to update information as it becomes available. For the most updated information, visit carrington.edu.