

Associate of Applied Science Degree in Dental Hygiene (VWCC)

AREA: Dental Hygiene

DEGREE: Associate of Applied Science Degree in Dental Hygiene (VWCC)

This Program is offered at Lord Fairfax Community College as a satellite site for Virginia Western Community College. The students are required to come to the Middletown Campus for the dental hygiene courses and the lecture courses are distanced to LFCC. The clinical rotations are housed on the Middletown campus of LFCC. Virginia Western Community College is the college that awards the degree.

LENGTH: Five semesters program

PURPOSE: The curriculum is designed to prepare students as primary preventive oral health professionals licensed to practice dental hygiene. Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will be eligible to take national, regional, and state board examinations leading to licensure as a registered dental hygienist (RDH).

Note: Individuals who have a felony or misdemeanor conviction may not be allowed to take the licensing exam. This decision is made by the Virginia Board of Dentistry. For questions regarding this issue, call Virginia Board of Dentistry (804) 367-4538.

Accreditation status: The program has been accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education.

Occupational objectives: A dental hygienist may practice in any of the following settings:

- Dental offices and dental clinics
- Federal, state, and local health departments
- Hospitals and nursing homes/home health organizations
- School districts or departments of education
- Educational programs for dental, dental hygiene, and dental assisting students
- Correctional facilities
- Private and public facilities for pediatric, geriatric, and other individuals/groups with special needs
- Health maintenance organization/managed care organizations.

Admission Requirements: Applicants must meet the general admission requirements for admission to both VWCC and LFCC. For application materials and additional program information, please see the Health Technology Web site at:

<http://www.viriniawestern.edu/academics/health/dental/>

When enrollments must be limited for any curriculum (because the number of applicants exceeds available space), priority will be given to qualified applicants who are residents of the LFCC service region as designated by the Virginia Community College System. This includes Clarke, Fauquier, Frederick, Page, and Rappahannock, Shenandoah and Warren counties and the city of Winchester.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AFTER ACCEPTANCE INTO THE PROGRAM:

1. Admission is contingent upon a satisfactory medical examination indicating good general health. The medical examination must include evidence of a PPD skin test (or chest x-ray, and serology for the Hepatitis B surface antigen and antibody). The Heptavax vaccine is required. All documentation must be submitted to the head of the Dental Hygiene Program no later than August 1 in order for the student to continue in the program.
2. Current certification in health care provider cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) is required for both years of the program. No substitutions are accepted. Students are responsible for providing their own malpractice insurance coverage during the two years of the program. Insurance is available for purchase after admission to the program. This policy is nonrefundable. All documentation must be submitted to the head of the Dental Hygiene Program no later than August 1 in order for the student to continue in the program.
3. All students admitted to the Dental Hygiene Program must attend dental hygiene orientation, register for all classes and pay their tuition prior to August 1. All students are required to purchase the instrument and supply kit, pay a lab usage fee and are expected to order uniforms at orientation. If a student withdraws from the program, the kit is nonrefundable.
4. Students admitted to the program with academic contingencies in biology, chemistry or algebra must provide documentation of satisfactory completion of the contingency prior to the beginning of fall classes. Failure to meet a stated contingency will result in admission being rescinded.
5. All students admitted to the program without prior experience in the dental field (chair-side dental assisting) are required to observe dental and dental

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hygiene procedures in the dental office of their choice. The observation experience must be completed by August 1. Assistance in locating practitioners willing to provide observation experience may be provided by the Dental Hygiene Program upon admission.

6. Students in the program are responsible for transportation to and from agencies utilized for clinical and community health rotation experiences.
7. Acceptance into the Program is contingent upon a satisfactory annual criminal background check and annual negative drug screening test. Satisfactory completion of this is required for license eligibility. Costs of the tests are the responsibility of the student.
8. Consideration will be given to qualified LFCC applicants from the LFCC Service region for admission into the Virginia Western-Lord Fairfax Community College dental hygiene program.

CURRICULUM AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS GENERAL EDUCATION CORE COURSES

BIO 141-142*	Human Anatomy & Physiology I-II	8
ENG 111*	College Composition I	3
BIO 150	Microbiology	4
PSY 230	Developmental Psychology	3
SDV 100/101	College Success Skills	1
E ³	Humanities/Fine Arts Elective	3

DENTAL HYGIENE COURSES

DNH 111	Oral Anatomy	2
DNH 115	Histology/Head & Neck Anatomy	3
DNH 120	Management of Emergencies	2
DNH 130	Oral Radiography for Dental Hygienist	3
DNH 141-142*	Dental Hygiene I-II	10
DNH 145*	General and Oral Pathology	2
DNH 146	Periodontics for the Dental Hygiene	2
DNH 1501	Nutrition	2
DHN 190*	Coordinated Practice	3
DNH 2142	Practical Materials for Dental Hygienist	2
DNH 216	Pharmacology	2
DNH 226-227 ²	Public Health Dental Hygiene I-II	3
DNH 230	Office Practice and Ethics	1
DNH 235*	Manage of Dental Pain & Anxiety	2
DNH 244-245*	Dental Hygiene IV-V	10
Total Minimum Credits for Degree		71

¹Health and wellness are emphasized throughout the dental hygiene program, but specifically in DNH 150 Nutrition.

²Includes instruction in fundamental mathematical skills.

³Humanities/Fine Arts elective must be chosen from the "Approved List of Humanities Transfer Courses." If planning on transfer, contact the four-year institution for requirements.

*This course has a prerequisite. Prerequisites for all courses are listed in the course description section of the catalog.

NOTE: BIO 141 and BIO 142 must be completed by the spring semester prior to program entry.

Course#	Title	Credits
First Semester		
DHN 111	Oral Anatomy	2
DNH 115	Histology/Head and Neck Anatomy	3
DNH 120	Management of Emergencies	2
DNH 130	Oral Radiography for Dental Hygienist	3
DNH 141	Dental Hygiene I	5
SDV 100	College Success Skills (or SDV 108)	1
Total		16

Second Semester

DNH 142	Dental Hygiene II	5
DNH 145	General and Oral Pathology	2
DNH 146	Periodontics for the Dental Hygienist	2
DNH 216	Pharmacology	2
NAS/ 185/ BIO 150	Human Biology or Introductory Microbiology	4
Total		15

Third Semester

DNH 150	Nutrition ¹	2
DNH 143	Dental Hygiene III	3
ENG 111	College Composition I	3
DNH 235	Management of Dental Pain and Anxiety in the Dental Office	2
Total		10

Fourth Semester

DNH 214	Practical Materials for Dental Hygiene ²	2
DNH 226	Public Health Dental Hygiene I	2
DNH 244	Dental Hygiene IV	5
PSY 230	Developmental Psychology ³	3
Total		12

Fifth Semester

DNH 227	Public Health Dental Hygiene II	1
DNH 245	Dental Hygiene V Humanities/Fine Arts Elective ⁴	5 3
DNH 230	Office Practice and Ethics	1
Total		10

Program Total 71*

*Includes BIO 141 and BIO 142 which must be completed prior to program entry.

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Associate of Applied Science Degree in Dental Hygiene (VWCC)

²Includes instruction in fundamental mathematical skills.

³Humanities/Fine Arts elective must be chosen from the "list of approved electives on page 39.

*Support courses (non-DNH courses) may be taken prior to entry

Note: BIO 141, BIO 142, and NAS 185 or BIO 150 must be repeated if they were completed more than five years prior to the date of admission into the program.