



# Atlanta Technical College

## Dental Hygiene Degree Program Requirements

Important: The dental hygiene program is not responsible for information printed on out-of-date requirement packages. Program admission requirements and updates are at the discretion of the program director. All updated changes will be revised in a timely manner reflected in program documents and website. Be sure to obtain all updated program information packages by emailing

[dental-hygieneclinic@atlantatech.edu](mailto:dental-hygieneclinic@atlantatech.edu)

Updated September 2022

Welcome all prospective students! Atlanta Technical College is excited and pleased to have you interested in the dental healthcare profession. We strive to demonstrate the greatest core value of **EXCELLENCE!** The dental hygiene program prepares students for the role of an auxiliary dental professional. The dental hygiene program of Atlanta Technical College is committed to student excellence with lifelong learning. The CODA accredited Dental hygiene graduates are well equipped with the skills to successfully embark in their professional career!

The dental hygiene program is a limited enrollment-competitive admission process. Being admitted into ATC does *not* guarantee admittance into the dental hygiene program.

- **Candidates must be 18-year-old**
- **Accepted student of ATC, in good academic standing**
- **Calculated GPA 3.0 or higher**
- **Complete each required pre-requisite course with 80% (B) or higher**
- **Each applicant is required to take TEAS test. A score must be above 65% to be considered for program.**
- **After acceptance, each applicant will be required to complete a background check, drug test, updated immunization, medical evaluation, and American Heart CPR certification.**

Program is a full time program with some semesters with part time credit hour. Students enrolled are expected to adhere to program set schedule. Hours may extend from 8:00 am-5:30pm. Online dental hygiene occupational courses are not available. Post COVID, courses are still in person with safety regulations in place.

Program applications are only awarded to those candidates who meets the requirements. Applicants must submit all required documentation to the dental hygiene program coordinator by application due date to be considered in the final selection.

Graduates earn a degree, Associates of Applied Science in Dental Hygiene, prior to state licensing with Georgia Board of Dentistry. The GA Board of Dentistry constitutes requirements for licensure. The board will request information regarding conviction of a felony and/or misdemeanor and/or current charges on the application for licensure. The Board may not issue a license to an individual based on the results of an investigation or those particular charges. For additional information please see OCGA 43-11-71 of the Georgia State law codes.

# ATLANTA TECHNICAL COLLEGE



## Dental Hygiene Associate's Degree

6 Semesters  
36 Classes

Careers: Dental Hygienists

Estimated Starting Salaries at \$68,000/year



## Dental Hygiene Pathways

The Dental Hygiene program is a sequence of courses that prepares students for positions in the dental profession. Learning opportunities develop academic, technical, and professional knowledge and skills required to perform dental hygiene services. Registered dental hygienists work in a variety of professional settings. The public is most familiar with dental hygienists in the private dental office. In this capacity, they perform numerous services in the promotion and prevention of oral diseases. These include oral prophylaxis; examining the head, neck, and oral areas for signs of disease; patient education; taking or developing radiographs; and applying fluoride or sealants. In this setting, registered dental hygienists play a vital role in protecting the oral health of the American public. The number of jobs in this field are projected to increase by 16.5% nationally and 25.6% in the State of Georgia over the next 10 years.

The program in Dental Hygiene at Atlanta Technical College is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. The Commission on Dental Accreditation can be contacted at 312.440.4653 or at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611. The Commission's address is: [ada.org](http://ada.org).

### For more information contact:

**Marisha Singleton**  
Program Coordinator  
404.225.4495

[msingleton@atlantatech.edu](mailto:msingleton@atlantatech.edu)  
[atlantatech.edu](http://atlantatech.edu)

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Atlanta, GA 30310-4446



ATLANTA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

\*All job growth projections and estimated salaries are based on data from Emsi (Economic Modeling Specialists Inc) and are updated annually.

*Note: Satisfying the required criteria for application into the Dental Hygiene program is the students responsibility. Students should use their resources, plan accordingly, and be cognitive of meeting the requirements.*

## Pre-Requisite Courses

- Student's major prior to applying for the program will be "interdisciplinary studies."
- Must have a minimum grade of **(B)** in ALL of the required, pre-requisite general education courses. If a grade is earned lower than a (B), the course needs to be retaken. Grades of (C) and lower are not acceptable for dental hygiene pre-requisite courses.



- English 1101 Composition and Rhetoric
  - Comp 1000 Introduction to Computers
  - Speech 1101 Public Speaking
  - Psychology 1101 Introduction to Psychology
  - Sociology 1101 Introduction to Sociology
  - Humanities 1101 Introduction to Humanities, ENGL 2130 American Literature, Art, or Music Appreciation
  - Math 1111 College Algebra OR Math 1101 Math Modeling
  - **Biology 2113/ 2113L Anatomy and Physiology I and lab component \***
  - **Biology 2114/2114L Anatomy and Physiology II and lab component \***
  - **Chemistry 1151/1151L OR Chemistry 1211/1211L course and lab component \***
  - **Biology 2117 Introductory Microbiology and lab component \***
- **Science courses indicated with asterisk (\*) must have been completed within the last (5) years.**
  - Courses related to healthcare and/or sciences such as ALHS1090 Medical Terminology, Introduction to Healthcare are not required, but highly recommended for program preparation.

## Transferring Students



- All students are required to satisfy the ATC College admission guidelines.
- All prior earned degrees, college course credit, international, or in country students must submit their transcript with the **Office of Enrollment Services**. The Office of Enrollment Services will verify or deny transferring courses.
- *Please request for transcript transfer credit.* This may not be an automatic process.
- Dental hygiene curriculum occupational courses (DHYG) completed at other colleges will not be considered for transfer credit.

[ATC Enrollment Services Link](#)

[ATC Transfer-of-credit-request-form link](#)

## GPA Requirements



- Dental Hygiene requires a GPA 3.0 or higher.
- GPA will be calculated using DH required courses and healthcare and /or science related electives only. Retaken courses will be calculated in GPA.
- GPA Calculation: (course grade credit X course credit hours) ÷ total credit hours

*Example: Refer to websites on how to calculate college GPA*

letter grade in ENGL 1101 **A** (4 credits) X course credit hours for ENGL 1101 (3hrs) = 12

letter grade in BIOL 2113 **B** (3 credits) X course credit hours for BIOL 2113 (3 hrs.) = 9

letter grade in BIOL 2113L **C** (1 credits) X course credit hours for BIOL 2113L (1 hr.) = 1

Total graded credit hours = 12 + 9 + 1 = 22

Total credit hours = 7

$$\text{GPA} = \text{Total graded credit hours (22)} \div \text{Total credit hours (7)} = \text{GPA} = 3.14$$

## Program Entrance Exam



- The TEAS exam is required for all applicants. A minimum score of a 65 is required.
- The TEAS test is offered by ATC Campus Testing Center. The exam will evaluate for reading, comprehension, math, and problem-solving skills.
- TEAS testing scores will be submitted on the electronic application during a dental hygiene program application cycle. Scores will be valid for up to (12) months from application submission.
- All previous exams will no longer be valid.

## Program Requirements



- Satisfactory clearance of criminal background check and negative drug testing. Drug screenings will be required at various intervals through the program designated by faculty.
- Current American Heart CPR Certification
- Physical examination.
- Medically cleared to participate in both classroom and clinical settings, negative Tuberculosis skin test or chest X-ray within (5) years, updated immunizations (MMR, varicella, three series Hepatitis B vaccinations with titer).
- COVID and influenza vaccinations are required for clinical rotations.
- Dental Hygiene is considered potential hazardous due to exposure to bloodborne pathogens and other potentially infection materials. Students must possess manual dexterity necessary for handling small objects for self and patient safety. Students must be able to have visual acuity, respond in emergency situations, understand, and apply directions, effective communication skills, sit for long periods of time, and use repetitive muscular skeletal movements.

*Note: Satisfying the required criteria for application into the Dental Hygiene program is the students responsibility. Students should use their resources, plan accordingly, and be cognitive of meeting the requirements.*

## **How to Apply?**



- Dental program competitive applications are released February 1st to May 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.
- Applications are available to all who are accepted in ATC College.
- The online application will be posted on the campus smart catalog dental hygiene webpage.
- Submit an application during the last semester of completed pre-requisite courses.
- Students will be notified of acceptance or denial approximately at mid of May. Program introductory courses may begin term 3 summer semester. Full time program begins Fall semester. It is upon discretion of the program coordinator for scheduling.

## **Program Information Sessions**

- Program information sessions are mandatory for applicants.
- A pre-recorded session posted on the dental hygiene smart catalog webpage.
- View the information session recording prior to emailing specific questions.

Email: [dental-hygieneclinic@atlantatech.edu](mailto:dental-hygieneclinic@atlantatech.edu) or [msingleton@atlantatech.edu](mailto:msingleton@atlantatech.edu)

Webpage: [Dental Hygiene Webpage Link](#)

Location: 1560 Metropolitan Parkway, Atlanta, Ga 30310, Brenda W  
atts Jones Allied Health Building Suite 106

## Frequently Asked Dental Hygiene Program Questions and Answers



**Q: *Are the pre-requisite classes required before I apply to the dental hygiene program?***

A: All the courses for pre-requisite are required. Courses are listed on ATC website [www.atlantatech.edu](http://www.atlantatech.edu). Type in search “dental hygiene”. All general pre-requisite education courses are listed in areas I, II, III, IV, and the addition of COMP 1000 Introduction to Computers.

**Q: *Am I allowed to take any dental hygiene occupational courses (as listed on website) prior to entry into the program?***

A: All DHYG courses strictly available to current accepted dental hygiene program students.

**Q: *Is there certain grade requirements in pre-requisite courses?***

A: Yes, all dental hygiene pre-requisite courses are required to have a “B” 80% and/or higher grade earned. If a grade less than “B” 80 % was earned, the course must be retaken prior to program entry.

**Q: *How long is the dental hygiene program? Can I choose my own DHYG courses?***

A: The dental hygiene program will be (6) semesters in length. This length does not include pre-requisite courses. Introductory classes are in summer, full-time fall, full-time spring, part time summer, full time Fall, and full-time with graduation in the spring. The program is on a track meaning students cannot preselect certain courses.

**Q: *What degree will be earned upon graduating ATC dental hygiene program?***

A: Associates degree will be earned.

**Q: *I am a transfer student. Will the ATC accept my other college courses or degree?***

A: Enrollment Service Office (Registrars’) is responsible for determining which transferring credits correspond with TCSG (Technical College System of Georgia) policies. The dental hygiene program will not determine. Requirements for transferring courses from another approved institution includes ensuring BIOL 2113, BIOL (Lab)2113, BIOL 2114, BIOL (Lab)2114, BIOL 2117, BIOL (Lab)2117, are less than five years old. There is no expiration date of all other courses.

**Q: *Does the program offer evening courses? Or program courses online?***

A: The dental hygiene program is a daytime to evening hour program only. The program requires a full-time commitment from the student as classes are scheduled daily from 8:00am-5:30pm. Monday- Friday. Courses mandate in person attendance.

**Q: Is there GPA criteria?**

A: For eligibility for the Dental Hygiene Program, the student must achieve a **minimum, GPA of 3.0. GPA will be calculated based.** GPA will be calculated using DH required courses; healthcare and /or science related electives only. If a course is taken more than once, all grades are incorporated into the GPA calculations.

GPA Calculation: (course grade credit X course credit hours) ÷ total credit hours

**Q: What can disqualify me from being selected?**

A: The program admission is a competitive process. The evaluation of the student's GPA, academic performance, and program testing are included in the selected process. Low or repeated performance in these areas could possibly disqualify a student.

**Q: Once I apply to the DH program, am I guaranteed acceptance?**

A: Admission into the program is not guaranteed. Applicants will participate in a competitive admission process.

**Q: Once I apply to the DH program, how am I selected?**

A: For all competitive admission health programs, annual applications begin Feb 1<sup>st</sup>-May 1<sup>st</sup>. Each program has a point system. GPA, course grades and Teas scores will each award points. For example, each A earned will be 15 points, each B 10 points, 3.8-4.0GPA 35 points. Most points with qualifying criteria, will receive an acceptance letter into the program.

**Q: I made all A and B's; will I be guaranteed a seat in the program?**

A: There is no guarantee. If a student has more A's or a higher entrance exam score, or overall earned more application points, that student will be given a seat in the program.

**Q: How do I register for my general education pre-requisite classes?**

A: ATC college campus will hold registration times for new and current students. To add, drop, or change a class schedule is managed from banner web. Students are self-responsible to register themselves. We advise you to choose courses as listed on this advisement sheet. Each ATC student should receive a 900 number. This number is used during registration and course activities. All learning support courses (L.S. reading/math) must be satisfied before taking other college course. College Math must be satisfied before registering for Chemistry courses.

**Q: Is the program accredited?**

A: Yes. The Commission on Dental Accreditation CODA.

**Q: What is your current passage rate?**

A: 100% Clinical Board rate, 91.6% National Board rate, 100% Employment Rate for students who obtained licensure.

**Q: Are there any other requirements?**

A: The approximate cost is \$13,400. This includes tuition, program associated costs, board examination fees, etc. This breakdown will be discussed in detail at information sessions. Medical examination, immunizations, clear drug test, and back grounds checks are required. We encourage interested ones to save \$2500-3,000 direct out of pocket fees. Financial aid and WIOA program are established to help with cost.



### Sample Program Cost

Semester	Supplies	Approx. Cost
<b>Application</b>		
	Application Test	\$100
<b>Introductory Summer Entry</b>		
	Course Credit Hours + Student semester fees	$(3) \times 100 + 342 = \$642$
	Certified Background with Drug Test	\$90
	Medical Examination*	\$30-\$300 Dependent on carrier, deductible, and/ or lack of insurance
	Immunizations *	\$250*
	CPR	\$50
<b>Semester #1 Fall</b>		
	Course Credit Hours + Student semester fees	$(8) \times 100 + 342 = \$1,142$
	Uniforms/Shoes	\$160
	Supply Kit	\$ 499
	Dental Instruments	\$ 250
	Kilgore Dental Typodont	\$ 400
	SADHA membership fee	\$70
	GDHA membership fee	\$10
	Textbooks	\$400
<b>Semester #2 Spring</b>		
	Course Credit Hours+ Student semester fees	$(11) \times 100 + 342 = \$1,442$
	Dental Instruments #2	\$250
	Radiology and Dental Materials Kit	\$500
	Textbooks	\$200
<b>Semester #3 Summer</b>		
	Course Credit Hours + Student semester fees	$(7) \times 100 + 342 = \$1,042$
	CPR if expired	\$50
	Drug Test	\$35
	Textbooks	\$100

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<b>Semester #4 Fall</b>		
	Course Credit Hours	(11) x 100 +342= \$1,442
	Annual TB test*	\$65-\$100
	CPR if expired	\$50
	Background test update	\$90
	Drug Test	\$35
	Uniforms/Shoes if needed	\$100
	Textbooks	\$100
<b>Semester #5 Spring</b>		
	Course Credit Hours	(9) x 100 +342= \$1,242
	National Review Course/Testing	\$350-500
	Textbooks	\$50
	National Board Exam	\$445
	Clinical Board Exam	\$1050 + \$275
	Graduation Application	\$40
	Cap and Gown	\$100
	Ga Licensure Application	\$75
<b>Total Estimated Amount \$ 13,401</b>		

As set forth in its student catalog, Atlanta Technical College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national or ethnic origin, gender, religion, disability, age, political affiliation or belief, veteran status, or citizenship status (except in those special circumstances permitted or mandated by law). For further information regarding these laws (Title VI and IX) **contact Mattie Goss**, special needs and equity coordinator, Atlanta Technical College, Cleveland Dennard Center, Suite B164, 404.225.4434. Email: [mgoss@atlantatech.edu](mailto:mgoss@atlantatech.edu) To request reasonable accommodations upon enrollment (Section 504/ADA), contact Mattie Goss, special needs and equity coordinator, Student Affairs Division, Cleveland Dennard Building, Suite B168, 404.225.4434.

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