



Dental Hygiene

Think PCC First
2019 Application Cycle

A GUIDE TO THE PCC DENTAL HYGIENE APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 15, 2019 at 8:59 p.m. PST

PCC's Dental Hygiene application is only available online through the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Dental Hygiene Centralized Application Service (DHCAS). Applicants must create a DHCAS account at www.adea.org/dhcas and upload/submit all application materials through DHCAS. Please visit www.pcc.edu/dh for detailed application instructions

Minimum application requirements for the program beginning Fall 2019

Course completion deadline:

- All required prerequisite courses must be complete by the end of the winter term prior to the application deadline.

Grade requirements:

- Prerequisite courses must be taken for a letter grade and must be completed with a grade of "C" or higher.

Prerequisite Courses with a 7-year expiration: The last year accepted for the 2019 application is 2012

BI 234 Microbiology:

Microbiology must be complete by the end of the winter term prior to the application deadline. Completion of BI 112 is a prerequisite for BI 234.

*Prerequisite Courses with no expiration date

Organic Chemistry: CH 102 or CH 106

At PCC applicants can take CH 102 Organic Chemistry Principles or CH 106 Allied Health Chemistry III, the last course in the CH 104-106 Allied Health Chemistry series, to fulfill the organic chemistry prerequisite. MTH 95 is a corequisite/prerequisite to start the Allied Health Chemistry sequence. **Due to course number variations from transfer institutions, applicants taking Organic Chemistry from other institutions are required to upload the course syllabus with their DHCAS application or the application is ineligible.**

Anatomy & Physiology I and II: BI 231 and BI 232

PCC dental hygiene program prerequisites *do not* require Anatomy & Physiology III (BI 233).

English Composition: WR 121

Remedial English, such as sentence structure and punctuation, will not be accepted as sufficient to meet the prerequisite.

Introductory Algebra, Second Term: MTH 65

Applicants may also use MTH 70, 95, 105 or higher to fulfill this requirement.

Prerequisite Electives in Psychology, Sociology and Communications:

PSY 101, SOC 204 and COMM 111 are recommended. However, other college level electives from each subject category are accepted.

*Students with transfer courses are encouraged to meet with a health admissions advisor. Each transfer course is subject to review by the PCC Student Records Office, the Dental Science Department as well as Health Admissions Office to determine transfer equivalency.

Dental Hygiene degree requirements that must be taken prior to acceptance

Students must complete the general education requirements for the Associate of Applied Science Degree: www.pcc.edu/admissions/health/general-ed.html

Gaining healthcare experience

Applicants are encouraged to earn additional points and increase their competitiveness by **ONE** of the following ways:

- Job shadow a registered dental hygienist for at least 20 hours
- Gain work experience in a dental setting for a minimum of one year
- Attend a CODA accredited dental assisting program
- Obtain a CODA accredited certification in dental assisting
- Please see the FAQ section for more information regarding gaining healthcare experience.

2019-2021 DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM POINT DISTRIBUTION

Information is subject to change. Visit www.pcc.edu/dh for updated program information. PCC will not consider degrees, work experience, certifications, or courses earned for points after Winter term.

Program selection for PCC's Dental Hygiene program is a three-tier process. Tier I is based on a point system worth up to 102 points as detailed below. Based on the 102 points, we select the top 40 applicants to participate in Tier II of selection, a timed, proctored essay worth 25 points. Based on the combined score of Tier I and Tier II points, the Dental Science Department selects **20 applicants** for admission to the program that complete Tier III requirements (see page 6).

Tier I

Prerequisite Course Points Courses must be completed with a C grade or higher	Points (A = 15, B = 10, C = 5)										
Organic Chemistry (CH 102 <u>or</u> CH 106)											
Anatomy & Physiology I (BI 231)											
Anatomy & Physiology II (BI 232)											
Microbiology* (BI 234) *(7 year expiration)											
Total Prerequisite Points	/60										
Optional Course Points											
Nutrition (FN 225)	/2										
OVERALL COLLEGE GPA Points Applicants are awarded up to 20 points based on their overall college GPA. The overall GPA is calculated using the cumulative GPA's from any and all institutions where a prerequisite course/requirement is completed. <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">4.00 – 3.80 = 20 points</td> <td style="width: 50%;">2.99 – 2.80 = 10 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.79 – 3.60 = 18 points</td> <td>2.79 – 2.60 = 8 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.59 – 3.40 = 16 points</td> <td>2.59 – 2.40 = 6 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.39 – 3.20 = 14 points</td> <td>2.39 – 2.20 = 4 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3.19 – 3.00 = 12 points</td> <td>2.19 – 2.00 = 2 points</td> </tr> </table>	4.00 – 3.80 = 20 points	2.99 – 2.80 = 10 points	3.79 – 3.60 = 18 points	2.79 – 2.60 = 8 points	3.59 – 3.40 = 16 points	2.59 – 2.40 = 6 points	3.39 – 3.20 = 14 points	2.39 – 2.20 = 4 points	3.19 – 3.00 = 12 points	2.19 – 2.00 = 2 points	/20
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3.19 – 3.00 = 12 points	2.19 – 2.00 = 2 points										
PRIOR DEGREE: Students with a bachelor's degree or higher at time of application. Official transcripts documenting degree must be provided.	/5										
US MILITARY VETERAN: DD214 Member 4 Copy required documenting service and honorable discharge. See FAQs for more information and follow up with the Health Admissions Office for further questions.	/2										
REAPPLICANT ALTERNATES 1 point for each year selected as an Alternate; must be within 3 years of current application.	/3										
EXPERIENCE POINTS: 5 to 10 points possible (Documentation required: see page 7). Applicants will only receive points for ONE of the following options.											
A minimum of 20 hours job shadowing a practicing dental hygienist	/5										
Dental Assistant Certification (CDA) or at least one year work experience in a dental office (Up to 10 points possible, based on evaluation filled out by employer or instructor: see page 7)	/10										
TOTAL TIER I POINTS	/102										

Tier II Selection: PROCTORED ESSAY – Worth 25 points.

Approximately 40 students with the highest points in Tier I are invited to the proctored essay. The essay evaluates written communication skills, transferrable skills, motivational fitness, and other criteria. **Tier I and Tier II points are combined and the 20 applicants with the highest points are offered admission. Once offered admission students must complete Tier III requirements (see page 6 for details).**

2019 – 2021 Dental Hygiene Program Prerequisite Planning Sheet

The following courses must be completed with a letter grade of C or higher by the end of the WINTER TERM of the application year. ALL prerequisite transfer courses are subject to review by PCC Student Records Office, the Dental Sciences Department and the Health Admissions Office to determine transfer equivalency. Students with transfer courses are encouraged to meet with a Health Admissions Advisor to discuss equivalency.

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY –Choose ONE Lecture and lab required	Institution	Term/Year	Grade	Credits
<input type="checkbox"/> CH 102 Organic Chemistry Principles Prerequisite: CH100				
OR				
<input type="checkbox"/> CH 106 Allied Health Chemistry III Prerequisite: CH 104, 105 & MTH 95 co/prerequisite				
BIOLOGY (Lecture and lab required) Prerequisite for BI231 & BI234: BI 112 Cell Biology				
<input type="checkbox"/> BI 231 Anatomy and Physiology I				
<input type="checkbox"/> BI 232 Anatomy and Physiology II				
<input type="checkbox"/> BI 234 Microbiology <u>WITHIN 7 YEARS</u>				
ADDITIONAL REQUIRED COURSES				
<input type="checkbox"/> Psychology elective (recommended PSY 101)				
<input type="checkbox"/> COMM elective (recommended COMM 111)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Sociology elective (recommended SOC 204)				
<input type="checkbox"/> WR 121 English Composition				
<input type="checkbox"/> MTH 65 Introductory Algebra (A math class of MTH 65 or higher is required for graduation.)				
OPTIONAL COURSE (Not a prerequisite: OPTIONAL for additional points)				
<input type="checkbox"/> FN 225 Nutrition				

Please note that it is recommended to complete the full Anatomy & Physiology series (BI231-BI233) and the full Chemistry series (CH104 – CH106) if you are planning to apply and/or transfer to a 4 year program.

PCC Dental Hygiene students have had the option of having all of their credits from general education and Dental Hygiene program electives transfer to various institutions for Bachelor degree completion programs, such as: Portland State University (Public Health or Business), Pacific University (Health Management), Oregon Institute of Technology (OIT), University of Idaho/Idaho State University, Eastern Washington University. Students are advised to speak with an advisor at the institution they plan to transfer to, as they will have the final decision in determining which of the PCC credits are transferable and accepted.

Notes:

Educational Planning for Prerequisites							
Term _____		Term _____		Term _____		Term _____	
Course	Cr.	Course	Cr.	Course	Cr.	Course	Cr.
Term _____		Term _____		Term _____		Term _____	
Course	Cr.	Course	Cr.	Course	Cr.	Course	Cr.

Before you apply

- Admission to PCC's Dental Hygiene program is highly competitive with 20 students chosen each year from a pool of approximately 100 applicants. Competitive applicants have high grades in their science prerequisites, a strong overall college GPA, and some job shadowing or work experience. **Completion of the prerequisites and program requirements does not guarantee admission into the program.**
- Applicants can gain extra points and increase their competitiveness by either obtaining work experience in a dental setting for at least one year, attending a CODA accredited dental assisting program, obtaining their certification in dental assisting from a CODA accredited program, or job shadowing a registered dental hygienist for at least 20 hours.

Tier I: Application Evaluation

- Applications are evaluated on a 102 point scale based on academic achievement in science prerequisites, overall college GPA and health care experience (see page 3).
- Applicants must meet minimum eligibility requirements.
- Only complete applications submitted by the application deadline (April 15) and transcript deadline (April 29) will be considered.

Tier II: Proctored Essay

- 40 students who score the highest in Tier I of selection will be invited to participate in a mandatory, timed proctored essay at the Sylvania campus. The proctored essay is worth up to 25 points.
- The proctored essay evaluates written communication skills, transferrable skills, motivational fitness, and other criteria.
- Applicants will be notified of invitation to the proctored essay **via their PCC email address**. This is the only method of notification. Applicants who do not check their PCC email address regularly should forward their PCC email address to one they check more frequently.
- After the proctored essay, points from Tier I and Tier II will be combined and the 20 students with the highest combined scores will be offered a seat in the program.

Tier III: Post-Selection Requirements

Applicants offered a seat in the program must meet the following requirements prior to beginning the Dental Hygiene Program in the Fall:

- Attend the summer orientation for the Dental Hygiene Program.
- Pass a criminal background check and drug screening prior to practicum and/or field training as a condition of acceptance into a medical, dental or community facility.
- Submit proof of current immunizations.
- Submit proof of current CPR for Health Care Providers certification

Applicants should **NOT** pursue Tier III requirements prior to being admitted to the Dental Hygiene Program. Admitted students will receive specific directions from PCC's Dental Hygiene department on how to meet these requirements. For more information on required immunizations please visit www.pcc.edu/dh

While in the program students must follow all OSHA and State regulations regarding blood borne and infectious diseases. Refer to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Table 1) for related policies: <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/rr5217a.htm> Specific PCC Infection Control Policies and Procedures are also available upon request.

Application Timeline

- **November 1, 2018:** DHCAS open to build application www.adea.org/dhcas. Applicants are encouraged to begin ASAP.
- **January 1, 2019:** PCC's Application is available online at www.adea.org/dhcas.
- **January 1st - April 15, 2019 - 8:59pm Pacific Standard Time (PST) 11:59pm Eastern Standard Time (EST):** Applications accepted.
- **April 15, 2019 8:59pm Pacific Standard Time (PST), 11:59pm Eastern Standard Time (EST):** APPLICATION DEADLINE
- **April 29, 2019 8:59pm Pacific Standard Time (PST), 11:59pm (EST):** Official Transcripts Must Be Received by DHCAS DEADLINE
- **Mid-May:** Applicants notified **by PCC email** of invitation to proctored essay.
- **Early June:** Proctored essay takes place at Sylvania campus.
- **Mid-June:** Applicants informed of their admission status via **PCC email address**.
- **Late June:** Admitted and Alternate applicants attend Orientation. Students offered placement in the program must meet the post-selection requirements before final admission status is complete.
- **Fall Term:** Dental Hygiene Program begins. The Dental Hygiene Program consists of 7 consecutive quarters.

How to apply

- **Apply to PCC as a credit seeking student.** Students can apply to Portland Community College online at www.pcc.edu/admissions
- **Pay a required, Dental Hygiene. non-refundable supplemental application fee to PCC for \$25.**
 - Payment link can be found online during the open application period under the application instruction page.
- **Create a DHCAS account at www.adea.org/dhcas and submit all application materials for your DHCAS application.**
 - **Mail official transcripts, including PCC transcripts directly to DHCAS** (Transcripts can take 4-6 weeks to show receipt)
 - **Upload a copy of your payment receipt from the non-refundable \$25 PCC supplemental application fee, AND submit the DHCAS \$50 application fee; healthcare work experience forms; and supporting licensure/certification documentation by April 15th, 2019 at 8:59pm PST/11:59pm EST deadline.**
- **PCC Application Opens through DHCAS: January, 2019**
- **Application Deadline: April 15, 2019, 8:59pm (PST) 11:59pm (EST) APPLICATION DEADLINE**
- **Official Transcripts Received by DHCAS DEADLINE: April 29, 2019, 8:59pm Pacific Standard Time (PST) 11:59pm (EST)**

PCC DENTAL HYGIENE FAQ's

How many spaces do you have in your program?

PCC's Dental Hygiene program selects **20 students** to begin the program each fall.

How competitive is PCC Dental Hygiene program?

Admission to PCC Dental Hygiene program is competitive with approximately 100 students applying each year for 20 spots. Points are awarded for several criteria and it is difficult to predict the chances of acceptance in advance. It is important to be as successful as possible in your prerequisite coursework and gain experience in the dental setting. Selection is based primarily on grades in the prerequisite science courses, overall GPA, healthcare experience and essay scores.

How do I get dental setting experience points?

There are several ways students can acquire dental setting experience points:

- Contact your personal Dental Hygienist and request a 20 hours shadowing opportunity. Up to 7 hours may be obtained in PCC's Dental Clinic subject to availability. Call 971-722-4909 to schedule.
- Obtain a Dental Assisting certification.
- Obtain a minimum of one year of full time employment in any position in a dental office or clinic.

How do I get dental setting experience points?

- For job shadowing points, students must upload/submit the Documentation Form, on the application instructions webpage, with a list of dates and times shadowing took place on the, signed by the dentist or dental hygienist, with the application materials.
- For Dental Assisting students and those employed in a dental setting, the evaluation form included on the application instructions webpage must be filled out completely and signed by the dental instructor or dentist and uploaded with the application materials.

Is there other documentation I can submit for Veteran points?

Documentation from formal discharge papers or a commanding officer on letterhead from the respective military branch must be uploaded with the application materials..

Once I complete the program will I be licensed or certified?

Once you complete the program you will be eligible to take the national board written examination and regional licensure examinations.

What skills and abilities are required of dental hygiene students?

Students are required to meet technical standards for the dental hygiene program. These are "non-academic" criteria which include physical capabilities required of dental hygiene students and professionals. Students should be aware that they must be able to meet these standards in order to successfully complete the program. Students are encouraged to carefully review these technical standards to ensure they can meet each requirement. For list of technical standard please refer to page 8 of this guide.

How many PCC graduates pass the licensure exam?

Graduates of the Dental Hygiene program have maintained a 100% pass rate of the Dental Hygiene licensure examinations.

What if I have a criminal record? Can I still be accepted to the PCC Dental Hygiene program?

Please go to www.oregon.gov/dhs/chc/docs/crimelist.xls for information that explains the crimes that disqualify students from admission.

For more frequently asked questions about the Dental Hygiene Program, please visit the Dental Hygiene homepage www.pcc.edu/dh
For PCC general questions, visit www.pcc.edu/askthepanther

Additional Resources

- American Dental Education Association DHCAS www.adea.org/dhcasapp/
- American Dental Hygienists Association: www.adha.org
- Oregon Board of Dentistry: www.oregon.gov/dentistry

DENTAL HYGIENE TECHNICAL STANDARDS

The following standards are capabilities related to successful practice in the Dental Hygiene profession. They are “non-academic” criteria and include physical capabilities required of dental hygiene students and professionals.

Students should be aware that they **must be able to meet these standards** in order to successfully complete the program. Please read each item carefully to determine if you are able to meet each requirement.

- **Critical Thinking** ability for clinical judgment
- **Interpersonal Abilities** sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds
- **Communication Abilities** sufficient for effective interaction with others in spoken and written English
- **Physical Endurance** to remain continuously on task for several hours while sitting, standing or moving
- **Physical Abilities** sufficient to move from clinic area to clinic area and maneuver in small space with full range of motion; manual and finger dexterity, and hand-eye coordination
- **Motor Skills**, gross and fine abilities, sufficient to provide safe and effective patient care and operate equipment
- **Hearing Ability** sufficient to monitor and assess health needs
- **Visual Ability**, normal or corrected, sufficient for observation of oral conditions, patient observation and assessment; ability to discriminate between subtle changes in oral conditions and density in radiographs; see in darkroom conditions
- **Tactile Ability** sufficient for the use of small instruments with control, sufficient with light touch when using instruments in the mouth to perform and detect swellings in tissues by palpitation
- **Olfactory Senses** (smell) sufficient for maintaining environment and patient safety; as diagnostic tool for oral diseases
- **Professional Attitude and Demeanor** ability to present professional appearance and implement measures to maintain own physical and mental health and emotional stability; ability to demonstrate emotional health required for the utilization of intellectual abilities and exercise good judgment

If you need reasonable accommodations, please contact PCC’s [Disability Services department](#) for assistance. If you are accepted into the program and your functional abilities change please meet with the Dental Hygiene Program Director for assistance.

Health Admissions Office
Portland Community College
Sylvania Campus – CC 208
Phone: 971-722-4795, Fax: 971-722-4837
www.pcc.edu/hao
www.pcc.edu/dh