



Dental Hygiene Admissions Guide

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2026 Application Cycle

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Dental Hygiene at PCC

PCC's two-year Dental Hygiene program, located at the Vanport Building (pictured above) in Downtown Portland, prepares students for a rewarding career as a Dental Hygienist. Graduates earn an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) and are eligible for national, state, and regional licensure exams, including the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination NBDHE and CDCA-WTEB-CTIA Regional Board Examinations.

This highly competitive program admits 20 students each fall term. The selection process involves a three-phase evaluation and point system. Competitive applicants typically have a 3.6 GPA, and some experience in a dental setting. **Important: All dates and information in this guide are subject to change on a yearly basis.** Changes are typically posted in September of each year. It is the applicant's responsibility to visit the Dental Hygiene program page (pcc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene/) to ensure you have the most up-to-date program information.

Application Requirements

Completion of the prerequisites and program requirements does not guarantee admission into the program.

- All applicants need to be active, credit seeking students at PCC at the time of the application
 - Apply online at pcc.edu/admissions by March 18, 2026
- Prerequisite course completion deadline:
 - All prerequisite courses must be completed by the end of PCC's Winter term prior to the application deadline
- Grade requirements
 - Prerequisite courses must be completed with a letter grade of "C" or higher
 - Courses taken Pass/No Pass will not be accepted

Prerequisite Courses

All courses must be completed with a C grade or higher by the end of PCC's Winter Term prior to the application deadline. See the [Prerequisite Course FAQs](#) section for details.

Course with a 7-year Expiration Date

(2019 is the last year accepted for the 2026 application cycle)

□ **BI 234 Microbiology**

- BI 112 or BI 211 and BI 212 are prerequisite for BI 234 at PCC

Courses with No Expiration Date

□ **College Level Chemistry, CH 102 or Higher**

- To fulfill the college level chemistry prerequisite at PCC, applicants can take CH 102 Organic Chemistry Principles or a higher-level chemistry course

□ **Anatomy & Physiology I, BI 231**

- BI 112, or BI 211 and BI 212, or BI 221Z are the prerequisites for BI 231

□ **Anatomy & Physiology II, BI 232**

- BI 231 is the prerequisite for BI 232

□ **Nutrition, FN 225**

- PCC requires that BI 112, WR 121Z and MTH 60 be complete prior to registering for FN 225

□ **Introductory Algebra, Second Term, MTH 65 or Higher**

- Applicants may also use MTH 70, 95, 98, 111Z or STAT 243Z or higher to fulfill this requirement

□ **English Composition I, WR 121Z or Higher**

- Completion of WR 121Z, previously numbered WR 121
 - See the FAQ section for more details on common course numbering
- Completion of a U.S. bachelor's degree or higher from a U.S. regionally accredited institution can be used to meet the WR 121Z competency

□ **One Prerequisite Elective Course from Psychology, Sociology and Communications**

- Applicants must successfully complete one course from each of the following categories with a grade of C or higher: PSY, SOC, and COMM
- A comprehensive list of Associate of Applied Science (AAS) approved courses can be found by viewing the [general education list](#)

Selection Process

Phase I: Application Evaluation

- Applications are evaluated on a 93-point scale, which considers academic achievement in specified prerequisite courses, dental experience, and other factors
- Applicants must meet minimum eligibility requirements
- Only complete DHCAS applications submitted by the 8:59 pm (PST) application deadline (April 17, 2026) will be eligible. Application deadline appeal requests will not be considered

Phase II: Health Science Reasoning Test (HSRT)

- The 40 applicants with the highest points in Phase I of the selection process will be invited to take the Health Sciences Reasoning Test (HSRT)
- After the HSRT is evaluated, the 20 of the highest-scoring applicants from Phase II of the selection process will be offered a seat in the program

Phase III: Post-Selection Requirements

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

- Attend the two mandatory in-person summer orientations for the Dental Hygiene program
- Pass a criminal background check and ten-panel drug screening from an agency and lab designated by PCC (this is a condition of acceptance into a medical, dental or community facility)
- Submit proof of current immunizations
- Submit proof of current CPR for Healthcare Providers certification (American Heart Association)

For details on how to confirm admissions status, admitted students should review and must meet the [requirements for clinical and field education](#) prior to starting the program in the fall. Failure to successfully complete the post-selection requirements will result in a rescinded seat offer.

Applicants should **NOT** pursue post-selection 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 during the first orientation.

While in the program students must follow all OSHA and State regulations regarding bloodborne and infectious diseases. Refer to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (Table 1) for related policies: [osha.gov/bloodborne-pathogens/standards](https://www.osha.gov/bloodborne-pathogens/standards). Specific PCC Infection Control Policies and Procedures are also available upon request.

2026 Phase I Point Distribution

The PCC Admissions team will evaluate your application in Phase I using the criteria on this page. To be competitive, ensure your application is complete and all supporting documents are submitted by the deadline, as points are awarded for completeness.

Category	Evaluation Criteria	Points Possible
Prerequisite Course Points	<p>Applicants will be awarded 10pts for an “A” grade and 5pts for a “B” grade in the following courses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nutrition (FN 225) • Introductory Algebra – 2nd Term (MTH 65 or Higher) • College Level Chemistry or Higher (CH 102 or Higher) • Anatomy & Physiology I (BI 231) • Anatomy & Physiology II (BI 232) • Microbiology (BI 234) 7- year Expiration 	/60
Prior Degree	1 pt: Applicants with a U.S. or equivalent associate’s degree or higher at time of application will qualify. Official transcripts documenting degree must be provided.	/1
PCC Students	<p>2 pts: Completion of a degree or certificate at PCC</p> <p>4 pts: Enrollment in credit or non-credit courses at PCC in the last 2 years</p>	/6
US Military Active Duty or Veteran	2 pts: DD214 Member 4 Copy required documenting service and honorable discharge. See the Phase I FAQs section for more information and follow up with admissions@pcc.edu with any additional questions.	/2
Re-applicant Alternatives	1 pt: For each year selected as an Alternate; must be within 3 years of current application.	/3
Job Shadowing	2 pts: A minimum of 20 hours of job shadowing a practicing Dental Hygienist	/2
Experience Points	<p>Applicants will receive points for completing one or both of the following options (see FAQ section for additional details):</p> <p>6 pts: 1000+ hours of work experience in a dental office or setting</p> <p>10 pts: Dental Assisting Certification (DANB CDA or in-progress)</p>	/16
PCC Dental Clinic Experience Points	<p>Applicants will be awarded points for participating in a clinical experience at the PCC Dental Clinic and completing one or both of the following options (see FAQ section for additional details):</p> <p>1 pt: Shadow a Dental Hygiene student for a minimum of 3.5 hours</p> <p>2 pts: Complete treatment at the PCC Clinic</p>	/3
Total Phase I Points		/93

Application Timeline & Details

November 1, 2025: Start Building ADEA DHCAS Application

- ADEA DHCAS application cycle opens adea.org/dhcas
- Applicants are encouraged to begin building their common application sections prior to the PCC open application period

January 2, 2026: PCC's ADEA DHCAS Application Opens

- ADEA DHCAS will be visible/available for selection online at adea.org/dhcas

March 18, 2026: PCC General Admissions Deadline

- Applicants must be admitted to PCC as an active credit-seeking student before applying to the Dental Hygiene program

March 22, 2026: End of Winter Term

- Deadline for prerequisite completion, degree completion, and job shadowing/work experience
- If courses are completed during the Winter Term, we recommend sending your official transcripts which reflect winter term grades after April 1, 2026

April 17, 2026 8:59pm (PST): Dental Hygiene Application Deadline

- Appeals for missing the deadline will not be considered
- Applicants are responsible for ensuring ADEA DHCAS has all updated transcripts

Mid-May: Phase II Notifications

- Up to 40 of the top scoring applicants will be invited to participate in Phase II
 - Applicants will be notified of their invitation to Phase II via the email account associated with their DHCAS account
- Applicants must RSVP for Phase II in order to secure their spot

Late May/Early June: Health Science Reasoning Test (HSRT) Scheduled

- Applicants are invited to take part in the HSRT online

Mid-June: Program Acceptance Notification

- Up to 20 of the top scoring applicants will be notified of their seat offer
 - Applicants are informed of their admission status via the email account associated with their DHCAS account
- To confirm admissions status, admitted students must meet the Phase III requirements prior to starting the program in the fall

June 11, 2026 from 8:00am-4:00pm: First Mandatory In-Person Orientation

- Admitted and alternate applicants attend the first mandatory in-person orientation
 - Details regarding Phase III requirements will be addressed during this orientation

September 10 & 11, 2026 from 8:00am-4:00pm: Second Mandatory In-Person Orientations

- Admitted and alternate applicants attend the second mandatory in-person orientation

September 21, 2026: Fall Term Begins/Start of the Program

- The Dental Hygiene program is delivered across two academic years

Preapplication Checklist

Once admitted to PCC as a credit-seeking student, ensure minimum application requirements are on track to be met by the end of PCC's Winter term prior to the application deadline.

- ☐ Attend a live admissions information session or watch the recorded session by going to pcc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene/info-sessions/
- ☐ Get admitted to PCC as an active credit-seeking student by going to pcc.edu/enroll/#first-time
- ☐ Meet with an academic advisor for prerequisite planning. Submit official transcripts first if applicable
- ☐ Begin building your ADEA DHCAS general application by going to dhcas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login
- ☐ Add the PCC Dental Hygiene program in ADEA DHCAS when the application goes live at the beginning of the year
- ☐ Ensure all documents, transcripts, and supporting information are attached to your application
 - Review a list of supporting documents, application information, and transcript ordering details by going to pcc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene/apply/
- ☐ Request official transcripts be sent to ADEA DHCAS from all colleges attended (including PCC)
 - If you are in progress with classes during the Winter Term (prior to the application deadline) wait until final grades post to your academic record before ordering transcripts to be sent to ADEA DHCAS. This will ensure your winter grades are reflected on the official transcript
 - For additional support, visit help.liaisonedu.com/ADEA_DHCAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Sending_Your_Official_Transcripts_and_Test_Scores_to_ADEA_DHCAS
- ☐ Once all application materials have been uploaded and transcripts are verified, pay the ADEA DHCAS application fee to submit your application
- ☐ Ensure your application and all supporting documents are submitted by the April 17, 2026 8:59pm (PST) application deadline and your application status in ADEA DHCAS reads as “**Verified**”
 - Information on how to check your application status can be found by going to help.liaisonedu.com/ADEA_DHCAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Submitting_and_Monitoring_Your_ADEA_DHCAS_Application/Verification_and_GPA_Calculations_for_ADEA_DHCAS
- ☐ Frequently check the PCC Dental Hygiene website and your email used to create your ADEA DHCAS account

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

General FAQs

I have questions about the admissions process, what should I do?

First, thoroughly review the admissions guide and watch the recorded admissions information session or attend a live session, if you haven't done so already. If you still have questions, please email admissions@pcc.edu and one of our admissions specialists will reach out to you.

Will more live admissions information session dates be posted?

Four live admissions information sessions are offered each academic year. If you are unable to attend a live session, a prerecorded session, which contains the same information, is available for you to view at your convenience. To view live session dates and the prerecorded session, visit: pcc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene/info-sessions/.

How do I make sure I am an active, credit-seeking student?

Applicants need to be an active-credit seeking student prior to applying to the Nursing program. If you haven't taken a credit course at PCC in the last year, please **update your application** by going to pcc.edu/apply. To confirm your status as a **credit-seeking student** email enroll@pcc.edu. This step is likely necessary to ensure your application is valid.

Is Dental Hygiene a competitive program to apply to?

Admission to PCC's Dental Hygiene program is highly competitive with 20 students chosen each year from a pool of approximately 150 applicants. 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 dental setting experience.

Where does the Dental Hygiene program take place?

All Dental Hygiene courses and mandatory orientations will be held at the [Vanport building](#), located in downtown Portland at 1810 SW 5th Ave. Once enrolled in the program, students will be required to participate in in-person learning five days a week.

How does parking work at the Vanport Building?

Dental Hygiene students and clinic patients can utilize the PCC shuttle system, with a stop conveniently located near the Vanport Building. The Orange Line also offers a drop-off a few blocks west of the Vanport Building on the Portland State University Campus. All shuttles connect at the PCC Sylvania campus, where transfers to the Orange Line are available.

Important: The PCC shuttle service does not operate during the summer term. A valid parking permit must be displayed for those who park at a main PCC campus and use the shuttle.

Parking a vehicle downtown can be tricky, but students and patients have a few options. You can buy daily street parking passes or passes at nearby parking garages around the Vanport Building. If you're a PCC student taking classes at Vanport, you're also eligible for a PSU parking permit at a reduced student rate. To get one, just fill out the [Vanport Intake Form](#), and your request will be processed within 1-2 business days.

What is the estimated program cost of the Dental Hygiene program?

The estimated cost, excluding prerequisites, is \$38,566.00. This amount covers tuition and fees, as well as estimated expenses for certifications, exams, uniforms, textbooks, materials, and other miscellaneous costs. Remember to also factor in additional expenses like housing, transportation, insurance, and the cost of not working.

I have an international degree in dentistry and I am interested in applying to the PCC Dental Hygiene program, what are my next steps?

International applicants should begin by contacting the [Office of International Student Services](#) (OISS) to gain general admission to PCC. While waiting to get admitted to PCC, begin the evaluation of foreign transcripts process by going to: pcc.edu/student-records/evaluation-of-foreign-transcripts/. Once admitted to PCC as an active credit-seeking student and your transcripts have been evaluated, meet with an academic advisor to review your transfer courses and see which outstanding prerequisites you may need to complete (see below for how to meet with an academic advisor). International dental experience can be used to gain Phase I experience points.

Can I work while in the program?

The Dental Hygiene program requires a 40-hour per week commitment. Due to its academically rigorous and intense academic and clinical schedule, students have reported that they do not have time to work in the program. To help you prepare financially, we strongly encourage all applicants to seek scholarship support as soon as they identify the Dental Hygiene program as a program of interest. You can find connections to PCC's scholarship support services in the [PCC Support Resources section](#).

What skills and abilities are required of Dental Hygiene students?

Students are required to meet "non-academic" technical standards for the Dental Hygiene program. Students should be aware that they must be able to meet these standards in order to successfully complete the program. Carefully review these technical standards (page 17) to ensure each requirement is met.

Prerequisite Course FAQs

I need help with planning my prerequisites, where should I start?

If you are new to PCC, please go to pcc.edu/advising/ for next steps on how to connect with an advisor or fill out the New Student Question Form by visiting pcc.edu/visit/new-student-questions/. If you are already taking classes at PCC, please follow this link: pcc.navigate.eab.com/app/#/ to set up an appointment with your assigned academic advisor.

What if I take a prerequisite course pass/no pass?

Individual prerequisite courses must be successfully completed with a letter grade of "C" or higher. Pass/no pass grading options are not accepted as proof of successful course completion.

My completed prerequisite course now has the letter Z attached to it; do I need to retake it?

No. Applicants will not need to repeat their prerequisite courses. For example, prerequisite courses such as MTH 111Z used to be numbered as MTH 111 and would not need to be retaken. Courses such as WR 121Z, WR 122Z, STAT 243Z, and many others are part of the new Oregon Common Course Numbering system. Visit pcc.edu/common-course-numbering/ for more information on Common Course Numbering.

Which chemistry course is right for me?

To apply for PCC's Dental Hygiene program, you'll need CH 102 (or a higher-level) Chemistry. Keep in mind, PCC chemistry courses have specific prerequisites for reading/writing and math. If you completed chemistry at another institution, send your official transcripts for review—a CH 1XX evaluation won't meet our requirement. For personalized guidance on selecting the right chemistry course, be sure to connect with an academic advisor.

Will my transfer courses be accepted at PCC?

Applicants with transfer courses are strongly encouraged to submit their official transcripts to Student Records for evaluation by visiting pcc.edu/student-records/transfer/. Student Records will evaluate lower division collegiate (LDC) coursework.

Upper division coursework (UDC) is evaluated upon request. We do not recommend you request all UDC to be evaluated by Student Records, instead, please request they evaluate only the courses you intend to use as prerequisites for the Dental Hygiene program. Each transfer course is subject to review by the PCC Student Records Office, Dental Department, and/or the Admissions Team to determine transfer equivalency.

Can I use Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) courses from an unaccredited institution to meet a prerequisite course requirement?

CPL courses are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. All prerequisite courses, including transfer work, must be completed with a C grade or higher from a regionally accredited institution to meet prerequisite course requirements.

If you are planning on using a CPL course to satisfy a prerequisite course requirement, email your academic advisor and copy admissions@pcc.edu on the email prior to submitting your program application.

I have a Bachelor's degree; can I waive the writing requirement?

The writing requirement is waived with completion of a previous U.S. bachelor's degree or higher from a U.S. regionally accredited institution.

Can I complete degree requirements prior to being accepted to the program?

All students must complete the general education requirements for the AAS degree. To view degree requirements, please visit: catalog.pcc.edu/generaleducationdisciplinestudies/.

Preapplication FAQs

Are exceptions made for applicants that miss the application deadline?

At PCC, there is a commitment to maintaining a fair admissions process by adhering to firm deadlines for application submissions and supporting documentation. Due to the high volume of applications, appeals for missed deadlines cannot be accepted. All applicants are encouraged to plan accordingly and submit required materials well in advance of the program deadlines.

What was your 2025 applicant profile?

The 2025 application cycle had:

- **202** applicants applied
- **40** applicants were invited to Phase II

Applicants who were invited to Phase II had the following:

- **3.61** prerequisite GPA
- **45%** of the applicants had a prior degree
- **98%** of the applicants had healthcare experience
- **100%** of the applicants had PCC Clinic experience

Note: These numbers change on a yearly basis. Point totals or average scores are not released.

How will I be notified of my DHCAS application status?

All communication regarding your program application will go to the email address linked to your ADEA DHCAS account. Make sure to check this email often. After you're admitted to the Dental Hygiene Program, all official program-related information (like financial aid and post-selection steps) will be sent to your MyPCC student email address, which you can find in the top right of your MyPCC account.

You are responsible for regularly checking both the email you used for ADEA DHCAS and your MyPCC email throughout the admissions process.

How do I submit official transcripts as part of my DHCAS application?

Submit official transcripts from all colleges attended, including PCC. **It is recommended to send transcripts as early as possible. Transcripts should be sent no later than two weeks before the application deadline.** DHCAS takes 7-10 business days to post transcripts. Transcripts must be posted prior to the application deadline. If you are currently enrolled in prerequisite courses, you must wait until Winter term grades have posted on your official transcript before requesting your transcripts to be sent to DHCAS.

Applicants who have transcripts from previous colleges (where they are no longer enrolled) should send those transcripts immediately. Do not wait to send your transcripts until you submit your DHCAS application. This may extend the time it takes DHCAS to process your application and may cause your application to be incomplete. Visit help.liaisonedu.com/ADEA_DHCAS_Applicant_Help_Center for details on viewing transcripts' status.

Phase I FAQs

Will my Phase I score be shared with me?

Our admissions team does not share individual Phase I scores or is the overall Phase I cut-score. Each year the Phase I score, applicant pool, and/or the selection criteria changes. In lieu of sharing the Phase I cut-score, our admissions team publishes the admissions statistics for the most recent application cycle.

How do I obtain PCC Dental Clinic experience points?

Applicants can earn points by uploading the [PCC Dental Clinic Experience Form](#) and showing completion of **one or both** of the following experiences:

1. Shadowing a PCC Dental Hygiene student at the PCC Dental Clinic for 3.5 hours.
2. Completing treatment at the PCC Dental Clinic. Completion of treatment means that applicants have participated in the entire dental hygiene process of care, including a full teeth cleaning from start to finish. Each appointment is approximately 4 hours and may require multiple visits.

How should I contact the PCC Dental Clinic?

- Email dentalclinic@pcc.edu (emails will be returned within 48 business hours)
- Include in your email:
 - Which program are you applying to (Dental Hygiene or Dental Assisting)
 - Which year you will be applying to the Dental Hygiene program (2026, 2027, etc.)
 - What type of experience you want to complete (shadowing and/or completing treatment)
 - Monday – Friday general availability
 - Most reliable phone number to contact you
- Arrive early and leave time to find parking
- Bring your supporting documents so they can be signed
- **Important:** Please inform the clinic ASAP if you cannot make it to your scheduled appointment. The clinic has a waitlist for appointments and needs time to fill your spot if you are unable to attend

Additional Considerations:

- Shadowing and treatment need to be completed during PCC's Fall, Winter, and Spring terms
 - Anticipated Fall term availability is M/W/F between 9:00am - 4:00pm
 - Anticipated Winter term availability M & F between 9:00am - 4:00pm
- The dental clinic is closed during the Summer term
- To learn more about PCC's Dental Clinic availability, review the [PCC Dental Clinic Experience Form](#)

How do I document dental setting experience points?

All documentation forms can be found at the [Apply to Dental Hygiene](#) page and must be uploaded to PCC application under the documents section of the DHCAS application.

- To document job shadowing experience, applicants must upload and submit the [Dental Hygiene Shadowing Hours Form](#). The form must be signed by the Dental Hygienist that was shadowed.
- To document 1,000+ hours of work experience in a dental setting, current enrollment in a DANB CDA program, or DANB CDA certification, applicants must upload and submit both pages of the [Dental Experience Documentation Form](#). This form must be signed either by your Supervisor, DANB CDA Instructor, or Dentist. If applicable, applicants must upload a copy of their CDA certification for verification.

What if I can't schedule all 20 hours of job shadowing experience at the same dental clinic?

To earn points, applicants must complete a minimum of 20 hours of job shadowing a dental hygienist at a dental clinic. A maximum of 3.5 hours can be completed at the PCC Dental Clinic. If necessary, applicants may upload multiple shadowing forms to document the completion of all 20 hours.

Can I combine the 20 hours of job shadowing experience & the PCC Dental Clinic experience?

No, these experiences must be distinct and separate to be eligible for points in each section.

What does a copy of my DANB CDA Certification look like?

Applicants will need to upload a copy of their DANB CDA certification in order to earn points. The uploaded copy should include your name, expiration date, and certification ID number. See an example below:



What documents can I submit for Military Active Duty or Veteran points?

DD214 Member 4 Copy is required for documenting service and honorable discharge. Active-duty military personnel need to submit a formal letter on branch letterhead from their commanding officer. Documentation must be uploaded to PCC application under the documents section of the DHCAS application.

Phase II FAQs

How should I prepare for the Health Sciences Reasoning Test (HSRT)?

The HSRT is a critical thinking exam which makes it difficult to study for. Most of the questions are situational and may have more than one correct answer. You can read more about the HSRT on the [Insight Assessment FAQ page](#) under the Testing and Administration section. Applicants usually have 50 minutes to complete the exam and are assessed based on how they answer the questions rather than the completion of the test. For more info, see [How to Prepare](#) and [Top 10 Critical Thinking FAQ's](#).

Why are Phase II scores not shared?

Similar to Phase I scores, our admissions team does not share individual and/or overall Phase II scores. If an applicant does not receive a program invitation, they should practice answering critical thinking questions.

Phase III FAQs

After I get admitted, what is required of me?

After being accepted, students will be required to successfully pass a criminal background check, drug screen, and provide proof of required immunizations. Please review the following requirements for clinical and field education: pcc.edu/programs/nursing/wp-content/uploads/sites/100/2020/11/immunizations-cpr.pdf

Can I start working on these requirements now?

Please wait to start working on the above requirements until you are offered a seat in the program. This is because there are specific ways to document completing these requirements and there are also expiration dates to consider as well.

Program Completion FAQs

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.

Can I transfer after completing the program to get my Bachelor's degree?

PCC Dental Hygiene students can transfer credits from general education and Dental Hygiene program electives to various institutions for Bachelor's degree completion programs, such as Portland State University (Public Health or Business), Pacific University (Health Management), Oregon Institute of Technology, University of Idaho, Idaho State University, and Eastern Washington University. Students are encouraged to consult with an advisor at the institution they plan to transfer to, as only that institution can determine which PCC credits are transferable and accepted. Please note that it is recommended to complete the full Anatomy & Physiology series and the full Allied Health Chemistry series if you are planning to apply and/or transfer to a 4-year program.

Additional Support Resources

PCC Internal Support Resources

- Academic Advising: pcc.edu/advising/
- Accessible Ed & Disability Resources: pcc.edu/disability/
- Additional Program FAQs: pcc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene/
- Apply to Page: pcc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene/apply/
- Career Services: pcc.edu/careers/
- Clinical & Field Education Requirements: pcc.edu/programs/nursing/wp-content/uploads/sites/100/2020/11/immunizations-cpr.pdf
- Connect with Us Form: connect.pcc.edu/register/connect-with-us?sys:field:program_interest=0dcd1beb-57c3-485e-b9d5-ca098047dc28
- Dental Clinic: pcc.edu/dental-clinic/
- Financial Aid: pcc.edu/enroll/paying-for-college/financial-aid/contacts/
- General Questions: pcc.edu/programs/get-in-touch/?discipline=Dental+Hygiene
- Information Session Page: pcc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene/info-sessions/
- International Students: pcc.edu/international-students/
- Job Finding Support: pcc.edu/careers/jobs/
- Locations and Maps: pcc.edu/locations/
- Orientation Center: pcc.edu/visit/orientation-centers/
- Panther Pantry: pcc.edu/panther-pantry/
- PCC Foundation: pcc.edu/foundation/
- Placement Process: pcc.edu/enroll/placement-process/
- PCC Shuttles: pcc.edu/transportation/alternatives/shuttles/
- Scholarship Support: pcc.edu/enroll/paying-for-college/scholarships/
- Student Records: pcc.edu/student-records/
- Transportation and Parking: pcc.edu/transportation/
- Tutoring: pcc.edu/tutoring/
- Vanport Building: pcc.edu/locations/vanport/

External Support Resources

- ADEA DHCAS Help Center: help.liaisonedu.com/ADEA_DHCAS_Applicant_Help_Center
- American Dental Education Association DHCAS: adea.org/dhcasapp/
- American Dental Hygienists Association: adha.org
- Health and Science Reasoning Test (HSRT): insightassessment.com/product/hsrt
- Oregon Board of Dentistry: 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. Applicants 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 [Accessible Ed & Disability Resources](#) for assistance. If you are accepted into the program and your functional abilities change, please meet with the Dental Sciences Dean for assistance.

Portland Community College is an affirmative action equal opportunity institution.

Students are admitted without discrimination as to age, race, religion, gender, sexual preference, national origin or marital status.