

Dental Hygiene (A45260): Degree Checklist

Instructional Service Agreement with Halifax Community College
2025-2026 Catalog Year - Present

Table 1: Overview of developmental courses required for 100 level English and Chemistry classes

Development Courses: Prerequisites for 100 level English and chemistry classes	
ENG 025	
MAT 025	MAT 035

Table 2: Overview of courses taken at Nash Community College

General Education Requirements: Taken at Nash Community College						
✓	Course:	Course Name:	Credit Hour(s):	Prerequisite	Corequisite	Notes:
x	ENG 111	Writing & Inquiry	3	DRE 098A or ENG 025		
xx x	ENG 112 & COM 231 or ENG 114	Writing & Research in the Disciplines & Public Speaking Professional Research and Reporting	3	ENG 111		If ENG 112 is taken, student must also take COM 231
x	HUM 115	Critical Thinking	3	DRE 098 or ENG 025		
x	CHM 130	General, Organic and Biochemistry	3	MAT 025 or MAT 035		
x	BIO 168	Anatomy & Physiology I	4			
x	BIO 169	Anatomy & Physiology II	4	BIO 168		
x	BIO 175	General Microbiology	3	BIO 110, BIO 111, BIO 163, or BIO 168		BIO 168 is the recommended prerequisite.
x	PSY 150 & SOC 210	General Psychology	3			PSY 150 and SOC 210 must be taken to count as the required SOC 240
x		Introduction to Sociology	3			

Table 3: Major courses taken at Halifax Community College

Major Courses Taken at Halifax Community College		
*DEN 110--Orofacial Anatomy	*DEN 111--Infection/Hazard Control	*DEN 112--Dental Radiography

*DEN 120--Dental Hyg Preclinic Lec	*DEN 121--Dental Hygiene Preclin Lab	*DEN 123--Nutrition/Dental Health
*DEN 124--Periodontology	*DEN 125--Dental Office Emergencies	*DEN 130--Dental Hygiene Theory I
*DEN 131--Dental Hygiene Clinic I	*DEN 140--Dental Hygiene Theory II	*DEN 141 Dental Hygiene Clinic II
*DEN 220--Dental Hygiene Theory III	*DEN 221--Dental Hygiene Clinic III	*DEN 222--General & Oral Pathology
*DEN 223--Dental Pharmacology	*DEN 224--Materials and Procedures	*DEN 230--Dental Hygiene Theory IV
*DEN 231--Dental Hygiene Clinic IV	*DEN 232--Community Dental Health	*DEN 233--Professional Development

***This program has special admissions requirements. These requirements are in addition to those completed for the College. Please visit www.halifaxcc.edu to review the requirements (click on For Students >Programs of Study > Dental Hygiene). Students must apply and be formally admitted to the program to take any DEN courses.**

***Degree granted from Halifax Community College.**

Total Hours Required For Graduation: 68-70

Questions? Contact Renee Martinez, Executive Director of Advising Services, at crmartinez699@nashcc.edu or 252-451-8373

Important Information from Halifax Community College

The HCC Dental Hygiene Program is an ADA Accredited Program

The ADA has a uniform curriculum with similar learning experiences, admission and graduation standards. Graduates of the associate degree dental hygiene program will receive an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Dental Hygiene from Halifax Community College. Graduates of this program may be eligible to take national and state/regional examinations for licensure which are required to practice dental hygiene.

Curriculum Description

The Dental Hygiene curriculum provides individuals with the knowledge and skills to assess, plan, implement, and evaluate dental hygiene care for the individual and the community.

Students will learn to prepare the operator, take patient histories, note abnormalities, plan care, teach oral hygiene, clean teeth, take x-rays, apply preventive agents, complete necessary chart entries, and perform other procedures related to dental hygiene care.

Employment opportunities include dental offices, clinics, schools, public health agencies, industry, and professional education.

Admission Policy

Admission for Associate Degree dental hygiene student:

Students are admitted to the Halifax Community College dental hygiene program in accordance with recommendations by the American Dental Association (ADA) Commission on Dental Accreditation. The college does not guarantee admission to every student who seeks admission. Completion of the dental hygiene curriculum does not guarantee success in passing the licensure exam.

A dental hygiene student must be admitted to the dental hygiene program in order to take courses for credit in any dental hygiene (DEN) course.

Admission to the dental hygiene program is limited to eighteen (18) students each August. Applicants must have submitted all required documents to the Admissions Office, including all test scores by **January 29, 2027**. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all required documents are submitted by the established deadline. Deadlines, guidelines, and policies apply equally to all students. Halifax Community College does not maintain a waiting list. Applicants to the Dental Hygiene Program must reapply each year. Applicants who are not accepted to the Dental Hygiene Program for the current admissions cycle must reapply each year.

Application Process

- 1. Submit a completed Halifax Community College application** Applications may be obtained on campus at the admissions office or online at [Halifax Community College's Admission's webpage](#). Transcripts from high schools and/or other colleges or

universities that you have attended must be submitted with the application. Only official transcripts will be accepted by HCC in a sealed envelope. Transcripts for courses taken at HCC do not have to be requested. On the application, indicate your chosen program of study by putting a check in the box beside Dental Hygiene A45260. A signed copy of a social security card is required for application to be considered complete.

2. Submit Official Transcripts

- High school
- All post-secondary transcripts

3. Have coursework evaluated for transfer into the HCC dental hygiene program. It is advantageous (but not required) to take general education courses that are part of the dental hygiene course sequence prior to enrollment in the dental hygiene program. The general education courses marked with an asterisk (*) listed below must have been taken no earlier than 3 years prior to enrollment in the dental hygiene program. The possible transfer or substitution of General Education Courses must be evaluated by the Registrar's Office. Call 252-536-7227 for info

General Education Courses:

*BIO 168	Anatomy and Physiology I	ENG 111	Expository Writing
*BIO 169	Anatomy and Physiology II	ENG 114	Professional Research/ Reporting
*BIO 175	Microbiology	HUM 115	Critical Thinking
*CHM 130	Gen., Organic, & Biochem		
SOC 240	Social Psychology		

**SCIENCE Courses must be completed no earlier than three years prior to application, no earlier than 2023.*

- 4. Provide evidence of an overall GPA of 2.8** at time of entry.
- 5. Must attend a Halifax Community College dental hygiene information session.** All information sessions will be held through Zoom. It is best to attend the earliest information session. In the information session you will receive a code for the Dental Hygiene Application.

Day	Date	Time
Monday	August 24, 2026	5:00 PM Zoom
Tuesday	August 25, 2026	5:00 PM HCC Campus
Tuesday	September 29, 2026	5:00 PM Zoom
Wednesday	October 28, 2026	5:00 PM Zoom
Thursday	October 29, 2026	5:00 PM HCC Campus
Thursday	November 19, 2026	5:00 PM Zoom
Friday	December 11, 2026	10:00 AM Zoom
Wednesday	January 12, 2027	5:00 PM Zoom

- 6. Submit one of the following documents:** (*Documents can be found on Halifax CC website*)
- Dental assisting experience documentation
 - Dental office observation documentation (16 hours)
 - Documentation of current enrollment in an ADA accredited dental assisting program
 - Dental Hygiene Interview Form
- 7. Take the HESI and score a 65% or higher.** Must submit HESI scores as part of application. The HESI is given at Halifax Community College. There are free study materials online. TEAS scores will also be accepted; however, Halifax does not administer that test. You must score a 59% or higher on the TEAS test.
- 8. Must provide Social Security Number on Application**
- 9. Submit a Dental Hygiene Health Sciences Application and Dental Hygiene Information Session Attendance Verification Form.** This form will be provided at the Dental Hygiene Information Session.

Nash Community College Transfer Information

Students desiring to transfer and apply to the dental hygiene program at Halifax Community College must fulfill the requirements above by the application deadline (**January 29th**) ([see website](#)). To be eligible to gain one of Nash's two seats in the program, students must notify Renee Martinez (contact information below) by January 11th.

Nash Community College Approved Substitutions & Course Information

- Nash can substitute **PSY 150 & SOC 210** together to take the place of **SOC 240**.

- BIO 275 can substitute for BIO 175.
- At NCC, BIO 175 has a prereq of BIO 110 or BIO 111 or BIO 163 or BIO 168. Students are encouraged to take BIO 168 before taking BIO 175, since BIO 168 is a requirement for the Dental Hygiene degree.

For questions about classes offered at Nash Community College, please contact:

- Renee Martinez, Executive Director of Advising Services
252-451-8373 - crmartinez699@nashcc.edu - Office 2037, Building A

For questions about classes offered at Halifax Community College, please contact:

- Lisa Santiago, Dental Hygiene Instructor, Program Head
252-538-4338 – lsantiago@halifaxcc.edu