



# COLLEGE *of* NURSING & HEALTH SCIENCES

VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY

**Valdosta State University**

**Associate of Applied Science in Dental Hygiene  
(A.A.S)**

**In cooperation with  
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College**

[www.valdosta.edu/dentalhygiene](http://www.valdosta.edu/dentalhygiene)

**The Dental Hygiene Faculty offices are located at  
Wiregrass Georgia Technical College.**

*Sandi Woodard, Director of Dental programs, [sandi.woodward@wiregrass.edu](mailto:sandi.woodward@wiregrass.edu)*

*Clinical related questions can be referred to: 229-259-5533*

The CONHS Advising Center offices are located in the  
Health Sciences and Business Administration Building  
2nd Floor – North Campus, 229-253-2866



# Important Information on the Dental Hygiene Major

## Things to Know:

- When you apply, and are accepted to Valdosta State University, declare Dental Hygiene as your major.
  - It is acceptable for students to begin core at Wiregrass Georgia Technical College or other accredited institutions but all students must complete core at Valdosta State University.
- Students must be enrolled at VSU at the time of application to the clinical Dental Hygiene program.
- Transfer students should be aware of the residency requirement for graduation. A minimum of **21 credit hours MUST be completed at VSU** to meet the residency requirement.
  - *The residency requirement is mandated by the Georgia Board of Regents and is non-negotiable.*
- All students declaring Dental Hygiene as a major will be assigned to a College of Nursing and Health Sciences advisor.
- Students should schedule appointments to be advised.
- A mandatory Admission Procedure Orientation will be conducted each year in March. The orientation will be held on the WGTC campus and conducted by the Dental Hygiene faculty. VSU Advisors will notify all DHYG students of the specific date and time via e-mail each year.
- 8 hours of shadowing a Dental Hygienist and successful completion of the HOAE (minimum score 200).

## Completion of Core Courses

- It is strongly advised that all core courses be completed prior to application to the clinical program. Core complete applicants are stronger applicants due to the quality point system utilized for selection.
  - **However**, it is permissible to apply with courses in progress during summer semester. A candidate may be offered tentative acceptance pending successful completion of an in-progress course.
- Final evaluation for completion of core will take place at the END of summer semester. A current official transcript will be required to verify course completion.
  - Science courses include: BIOL 2651, BIOL 2652, BIOL 2900, CHEM 1151K, and CHEM 1152K. Be advised that science courses are weighted heavier in the competitive admissions process.
- Science courses must not be older than 10 years at the time of program application.

**Note that completion of core courses does not guarantee program admission.**

## **Grade Point Average, Prerequisite Courses and Program Progression**

- All prerequisite courses required for Dental Hygiene major must be passed with a **minimum grade of “C” or better**.
- Minimum dental hygiene program GPA is 2.5.
  - Potential students should be advised that while a “C” is a passing grade for a course, too many “C’s” will not achieve the required 2.5 dental hygiene program GPA.
  - Serious candidates should strive for grades of B or better to achieve the required GPA.
- The Dental Hygiene GPA is calculated strictly on required DHYG core curriculum.
  - The **highest** course attempt will be calculated in the GPA for competitive admission.
- **Note once in the Dental Hygiene program:**
  - Once accepted to the clinical program students must successfully complete all Dental Hygiene courses with a final score of 70% or better to proceed in the program. A final grade less than 70% in any DHYG course is considered **unsatisfactory** progress.
- A student that is withdrawn from the program academically must wait **1 academic year** to reapply through the competitive process.
  - Ex: if you are dismissed during the spring semester, you must wait until the following spring to reapply. For more information consult your advisor.

## **Shadowing Hours**

### **8 total hours**

- 2 hours at Wiregrass (by appointment only, call 229-245-3716), 6 in a dental office.
- Shadowing hours should be spent observing a registered dental hygienist performing direct patient care.
- Shadowing must be completed and documented at the time of application to the clinical program. Recommend completing these hours during the Summer and Fall before applying to the program.
- Applications without documented shadowing hours will be considered incomplete, do not wait until the last minute to get these hours.

## **Health Occupations Aptitude Exam (HOAE)**

- A minimum score of **200 is required**. A maximum score on the exam is 350. Students should obtain the best score possible to improve opportunity for program admission.
- Contact the VSU Testing office at 229-245-3878 to schedule the time and date for your examination.
  - Guidelines, additional information and study materials for the HOAE can be found at:
    - <http://psbttests.com/>
    - and [https://www.test-preparation.ca/psb/psb\\_practicetest/](https://www.test-preparation.ca/psb/psb_practicetest/)
- Students should sit for the HOAE exam by midterm of the spring semester immediately preceding the application deadline.
- Students may take the test twice (2) times per application cycle (1 year).
  - HOAE scores must be less than 1 year at time of application.

## **Minimum Physical Requirements**

- **Good Visual Acuity:** (Natural or corrected) Students must be able to detect subtle differences in color, shape size, dimension and be able to differentiate measurements within + or – 1mm.
- **Hearing:** (Natural or corrected) Must be able to hear auditory sounds for equipment. Must be able to hear patient conversation and faint sounds such as auscultatory sounds and TMJ sounds.
- **Physical Ability:** to sit and focus into a small area for extended periods of time. Ability to assist with ambulation of patients.
- **Excellent Manual Dexterity and Hand Eye Coordination**

## **Permanent Records and Health History Profile**

Upon program acceptance, students will be required to complete an electronic health history profile through Castle Branch.

- Profile contents include *but are not limited to:*
  - Vaccination Records
  - Required Vaccinations and Titers
  - TB Test
  - Oral Health Verification

Additional requirements could apply as deemed necessary by the institution.

Further instructions for this process will be provided at an orientation for accepted students.

## **Financial Aid Information for Clinical Portion of Training**

### **Tuition and Fees**

- All tuition and fees are paid directly to Valdosta State University during clinical training.
- Students will continue to complete financial aid documentation (FAFSA, HOPE, PELL) through VSU.
- Students continue to pay VSU fees and tuition for the duration of clinical training.

### **Supplies and Instruments**

- Students will purchase books and supplies at the Wiregrass book store.
  - Some equipment such as magnification safety glasses, dental models and instruments are purchased directly from vendors. Further instructions for purchases will be provided to accepted students upon program entry.
- Financial aid cannot be used at multiple institutions simultaneously.
- Financial aid will not be available at the WGTC bookstore to purchase books instruments and supplies.
- All incoming students should plan in advance to purchase required books and instruments. Students will not be able wait until financial aid checks are disbursed to purchase required books, instruments and supplies. Be sure that you are financially prepared for the program.
  - An estimated list of expenses can be found in this packet.

## Notice of Institutional Plans, Procedures and Policies

<b>Procedure to File Complaints with CODA</b>	<b>Dental Department Exposure Control Plan</b>
<p>The Commission on Dental Accreditation will review complaints that relate to a program's compliance with the accreditation standards. The Commission is interested in the sustained quality and continued improvement of dental and dental-related education programs but does not intervene on behalf of individuals or act as a court of appeal for treatment received by patients or individuals in matters of admission, appointment, promotion or dismissal of faculty, staff or students.</p> <p>A copy of the appropriate accreditation standards and/or the Commission's policy and procedure for submission of complaints may be obtained by contacting the Commission at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611-2678.</p>	<p>Due to the nature of the Dental Hygiene occupation, any student entering Dental Hygiene program has increased occupational risks, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• heavy lifting injuries</li> <li>• radiation and chemical exposure</li> <li>• exposure to blood and airborne pathogens</li> <li>• exposure to nitrous oxide</li> </ul> <p>For additional information a complete copy of the exposure control plan is available upon request at the dental department business office.</p> <p>Applicants should be aware that the Dental hygiene profession is a Class 1 on OSHA's exposure classification scale.</p>
<b>Student Advisory Regarding Misdemeanors &amp; Felonies</b>	<b>Advisory Statement for Dental Hygiene Licensure</b>
<p>Students with prior felonies or misdemeanors are advised to contact the state licensing board prior to program entry.</p> <p>Visit the Georgia Board of Dentistry website (<a href="http://gbd.georgia.gov/">http://gbd.georgia.gov/</a>) for additional information on requirements and restrictions for Dental Hygiene licensure in Georgia.</p> <p>Applicants wishing to practice in other states should check with the Board of Dentistry in that particular state for specific requirements.</p>	<p><i>"Valdosta State University, Wiregrass Georgia Technical College and faculty and staff are not responsible in the event a student successfully completes program requirements and boards but is unable to obtain licensure due to misdemeanors and/or felonies. It is the sole responsibility of the student to determine if a previous felony or misdemeanor conviction might preclude licensure to practice Dental Hygiene."</i></p> <p>Students <b>will be required</b> to sign an acknowledgement of the <b>Advisory Statement Regarding Misdemeanors and Felonies</b> when applying to the clinical program and again upon program entry.</p>

# Dental Hygiene Required Core Curriculum and DHYG Curriculum Sequence (Current Fall 2021)

Effective Fall 2015

Dental Hygiene Core Curriculum Offered By VSU	Credit Hours	Dental Hygiene Clinical Courses Wiregrass Georgia Technical College	Credit Hours
ENGL 1101 Composition I	3	<b><u>FALL I</u></b> DHYG 1040 D.H. Preclinic Lec	2
ENGL 1102 Composition II	3	DHYG 1050 D.H. Preclinic Lab	2
MATH 1101 or 1111	3	DHYG 1080 Dental Biology	5
BIOL 2651 Human A & P	4	DHYG 1206 Pharmacology	3
BIOL 2652 Human A & P	4	<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>	<b>12</b>
BIOL 2900 Microbiology	4	<b><u>SPRING I</u></b>	
CHEM 1151K Survey of Chem I (General)	4	DHYG 1110 D.H. Lec I	2
CHEM 1152K Survey of Chem II (Organic)	4	DHYG 1111 D.H. Clinic I	3
POLS 1101 American Government	3	DHYG 2200 Periodontology	3
HIST 2111 or 2112 American History	3	DHYG 1070 Radiology Lecture	2
PSYC 1101 Fundamentals of Psychology	3	DHYG 1090 Radiology Lab	1
SOCI 1101 Intro to Sociology	3	<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>	<b>11</b>
COMM 1110 or COMM 1100 or ACED 2050	3		
<b>TOTAL HOURS @ VSU</b>	<b>44</b>		

The courses above are used to calculate the Dental Hygiene GPA for competitive admission.

A minimum dental hygiene GPA of 2.5 is required.

<b><u>SUMMER</u></b> DHYG 2010 D.H. Lec II	2
DHYG 2020 D.H. Clinic II	2
DHYG 2050 Pathology	3
DHYG 1030 Dental Materials	2
<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>	<b>9</b>

<b><u>FALL II</u></b> DHYG 2070 Community D.H.	3
DHYG 2080 D.H. Lec III	2
DHYG 2090 D.H. Clinic III	4
DHYG 2105 Nutrition	1
<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>	<b>10</b>

**RECAP FOR BOTH INSTITUTIONS**

<b>Semester Credits for VSU</b>	<b>44</b>	DHYG 2130 D.H. Lec IV	2
<b>Semester Credits for WGTC</b>	<b>48</b>	DHYG 2140 D.H. Clinic IV	4
<b>Total Semester Credits for Program</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>TOTAL HOURS</b>	<b>6</b>

*\*Transfer students should note that a mini of 21 credit hours (Non-DHYG) MUST be ta at VSU to meet the residency requirements as required by Georgia Board of Regents.\**

**TOTAL DHYG HOURS @ WGTC** **48**

<b>Fall I Feb2021</b>	<b>List Updated</b>	<b>Estimated Cost</b>	<b>Vendor for Purchase</b>
Medical Requirements for Program Entry: Hepatitis B, Required Vaccines, Required titers, TB Test, Oral Exam		300.00	Student Choice of Healthcare Providers
4 Ceil Blue Uniforms, Lab Coat, Clinic Shoes, Surgical Caps, ID Badge Holder		400.00	Student Choice
SADHA Dues \$65 (Junior Year)		65.00	Pay to SADHA
Fall Semester Books and Supplies		1,000.00	Book Store
Jr. Instrument Kit: (Instruments and Sharpener, Sterilization Supplies)		1210.00	Hu-Friedy
MISC Supplies: Clinic Notebook, paper, pens, highlighter, etc.		50.00	Student Choice PRN
CPR Class (Scheduled and provided by Faculty in Program: <b>DO NOT</b> take a class on your own!)		65.00	WGTC B & I
Dental Typodont: Modupro DH w /articulator, soft tongue, sim Calc (1 bottle), oral cavity cover.		365.00	Simply Hygiene
Perio Refill Kit (Modupro)		209.00	Simply Hygiene
Clinic Equipment (blood pressure cuff, stethoscope, infrared thermometer, AW syringe tips, nitrile utility gloves pkg 3 pair (size SM, M, L, XL); Nemesis safety glasses a fog black w/clear lens; 2 chart marking pencil red/blue.		201.00	Simply Hygiene
TalEval Patient/Student and Patient Tracking Fee (one- time fee)		90.00	Paid to Bookstore
Loupes		1500.00	(Designs for Vision, Surgitel, Orascope,Q-Optics; Choice of Vendor) Pay Direct to Vendor
<b>Spring I</b>			
RINN Devices for Radiology		248.00	Bookstore
Books and Supplies		250.00	Bookstore
Additional Uniform		50.00	Student Choice
Additional Cassette for Cavitron Tips and Handpiece		133.00	Hu-Freidy
Cavitron Unit package 6 cavitron Inserts with 3 jetmate Handpiece,2 prophy jet inserts, foot pedal,1bottle sodium bicarbonate, 1 bottle trihydroxide powder.		2855.00	Simply Hygiene/Dentsply
Cordless Handpiece with 3 sheaths		630.00	Simply Hygiene
Spring I Student Kit: Disclosing Swabs, cloth face drapes (white pk12); prophy cups(100pk), angled tapered prophy brush(100pk) prophy paste (200 box bubblegum fine); prophy paste (200 box mint fine)		230.00	Simply Hygiene Based on current CDC Requirements
<b>Summer</b>			
Lab Kit for Dental Materials		50.00	Simply Hygiene
Books and Supplies		250.00	Bookstore
Additional Uniform & Scrub Cap		50.00	Student Choice
Summer Student Kit		TBA	Simply Hygiene Based on current CDC Requirements



<b>Fall II</b>		
TB Test Due on 1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Fall Semester (TB must be repeated annually)	35.00	Student Choice
Senior Instrument Kit	550.00	Hu-Friedy
Books HESI Review Code and Supplies	200.00	Bookstore
SADHA Dues \$65 (Senior Year)	65.00	Pay to SADHA
Additional Uniform	50.00	Student Choice
NBDHE Board Review: <i>Pay for review and make reservations Fall semester. Board review is in January. Fees include estimated lodging and travel.</i>	600.00	Board Review TBA
Fall II Student PPE Kit	TBA	Simply Hygiene Based on current CDC Requirements
<b>Spring II (Items with *may be covered by WIOA for eligible students)</b>		
Hu Friedy Instrument Trade In* (Limit of 10 instruments for WIOA Students)	100.00	Hu-Friedy
Books and Supplies	200.00	Bookstore
DHYG Pin and Stole Fee (Does not include cost for embroidery)	75.00	Pay in Book Store
Dental Hygiene National Board*	450.00	NBDHE
CRDTS Clinical Exam Fee (\$995) and Site Fee (\$175)*	1200.00	CRDTS
CRDTS Lodging, Food and Travel Expense for student and patient	400.00	Student Choice
Graduation Application Fee @ VSU	35.00	VSU Bursary
Spring II Student Kit	TBA	Simply Hygiene Based on current CDC Requirements

### **DHYG Estimated Expenses Explanation**

- The list of estimated expenses is provided so that each student can be financially prepared for the expenses encountered in Dental Hygiene clinical training.
- Students are expected to purchase required books and instruments on the 1<sup>st</sup> day of each semester. A three (3) day grace period will be allowed. On the beginning 4<sup>th</sup> day students will not be allowed to attend class without required books, instruments or supplies. Student will be marked absent. Please make financial arrangements before each semester begins.
- Expenses described **DO NOT** include tuition and fees that are paid directly to VSU each semester. Students should be prepared to pay out of pocket for books and instruments and items paid directly to vendors.
- Financial aid **DOES NOT** cover books and instruments purchased at the WGTC Bookstore. Allocate any financial Aid disbursements for next semester.

***Estimated Fees and Expenses are correct at the time this list is published.***

***Fees are subject to change without notice.***

***Supply List is Subject to Change without notice to keep up with industry standards.***

## Procedure for Application to Dental Hygiene Program

### How To Submit Your Competitive Admission Application To Clinical Program.

- Application period will be annually the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in February until April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Applications must be submitted online at

[https://valdosta.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_88rAW6Xdnv91lea](https://valdosta.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_88rAW6Xdnv91lea)

Candidates will need an electronic copy of all the following documents to upload with the application:

- Final transcripts
  - HOAE scores
  - Shadowing verification forms.
- If you have any difficulties with the electronic application process call or visit the Advising Center at VSU (number on front of packet). Candidates will be notified no later than May 15th of acceptance.
  - Accepted candidates are required to apply to WGTC and complete an application for admission to Wiregrass by June 1st.

MANDATORY orientation will be held for accepted students and alternates around June 15th. Candidates will be notified of specific date for orientation in acceptance letter.



## DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM PRE-ADMISSION SHADOWING VERIFICATION FORM

It is required that applicants observe the practice of Dental Hygiene for a minimum of **8 hours** prior to their educational experience in the Dental Hygiene Program.

- 2 hours at Wiregrass (by appointment only, call 229-245-3716 to schedule),
- 6 hours in a dental office. Student must make arrangements for the dental office shadowing.
- Shadowing must be completed and documented at the time of application to the clinical program.
- These hours during the Summer and Fall before applying to the program.
- Applications without documented shadowing hours will be considered incomplete, do not wait until the last minute to get these hours

As a member of the dental health team, it is important that applicants have an awareness of the requirements involved in dental hygiene.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**VSU ID:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

\*Only one form is required. Multiple observations will be recorded on one form

Date of Observation	Name and Location of Practice or Dentist	Hours Observed on this day	Verification by RDH Signature
<b>Total Observation Hours</b>			

By my signature below I attest that I have shadowed for the hours and in the locations shown above.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_