



Wharton County Junior College

911 Boling Highway • Wharton, Texas 77488 • (979) 532-4560
An Equal Opportunity Educational Institution

Dental Hygiene Department Application Packet

Read this packet carefully. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the Dental Hygiene Department receives all required paperwork and information by the deadlines.

Dear Applicant:

2009

Thank you for your interest in the Wharton County Junior College Dental Hygiene Program. Our two-year program (five semesters) is accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation. Students who submit a completed application packet and meet all deadline criteria will be evaluated by a selection committee for acceptance into the program.

No applicant will be denied acceptance on the basis of disease status, such as HIV, HBV, or HCV. In the occurrence of such infection, the Rules & Regulations established by the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners (TSBDE) state the health care provider must notify patients and obtain their written consent prior to patient treatment. The student may encounter obstacles with acquiring patient consent thus making completion of clinical educational requirements difficult. In the event that the student completes the program, the TSBDE may deny licensure. Therefore, in the instance of such disease status, career counseling may be in order.

Wharton County Junior College Dental Hygiene Department requires all accepted applicants to undergo a Criminal Background Check prior to full admittance into the program. Final acceptance into the program is contingent upon a satisfactory background check, which will be completed by an approved agency at the applicant's expense. The estimated cost is \$53.00. In order to receive full acceptance for enrollment in the Dental Hygiene Program, an applicant with an unsatisfactory criminal background check must counsel with the Director of Dental Hygiene.

Applicants accepted into the Dental Hygiene program will be required to complete a drug screening consisting of a Health Care Professional Panel. Full acceptance into the program is contingent upon a negative drug screen. Only drug screenings conducted through a College-approved agency will be accepted.

An applicant with a positive drug screen will not gain acceptance into the program for that application period. The applicant may re-apply after a minimum of twelve months, and provide documentation of successful counseling and treatment. The cost of the drug screen will be at the applicant's/student's expense and is approximately \$50.

The TSBDE may deny application for licensure based on a person's conviction under state or federal law of a felony or misdemeanor that directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of the profession for which the person seeks licensure. For further information see *The Texas Occupations Code*, Subchapter B. Ineligibility for Licensure, http://www.tsbde.state.tx.us/index.php?option=com_content&task=section&id=10&Itemid=102

Assistance with financial aid is available. Personnel in the Office of Financial Aid will be able to assist you with financial aid and scholarship options. The Office of Financial Aid, 1-800-561-9252, ext. 6345, designates application deadlines as April 1 for fall funds and November 1 for spring funds, even if program acceptance is still pending. Applications for financial aid may also be submitted at www.fafsa.ed.gov.

This application packet includes:

1. Program Deadlines & Requirements, pg. 3-4
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If you need further assistance with the application process or other program information, please contact Gail Struhall at 979-532-6429 or struhallg@wcjc.edu. It is the applicant's responsibility to verify that the department secretary receives all documents pertaining to the application packet prior to the May 31st deadline. Also, please be advised that our department does not require personal interviews and it will not affect the status of your application by requesting one.

Sincerely,

Carol J. Derkowski

Carol J. Derkowski, R.D.H., M.A.I.E.
Director, Dental Hygiene

CJD/cw

Dental Hygiene Department

Program Deadlines & Requirements

Deadlines for Completed Application **First Selection Begins – December 1st**
Final Selection Ends – May 31st
 Number Accepted Up to 28 applicants will be selected, dependent upon space availability and program constraints.
 Only a COMPLETE application will be considered. All documentation must be received prior to the May 31st deadline to be considered for acceptance into the Dental Hygiene Program. **It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure all documentation is received by the deadline.**

Program Requirements:

GPA Minimum 2.5 GPA in all required college courses
 ACT National ACT is preferred with a **minimum composite score of 19 and minimum reading score of 18**; ACT must be taken within the last 5 years. **ACT required of all applicants regardless of current degree or other similar exams taken.**
 ACT Contact www.act.org or contact your local college testing center
 Hepatitis B Must be documented in progress by the May 31st deadline. Hep B series must be completed prior to January 1st of the freshman spring semester.
 Immunization
 Age upon Graduation Applicants must be a minimum of 18 years old by projected graduation date due to TSBDE licensure requirements.

PREREQUISITE COURSES*

Chemistry 2 semesters of High School chemistry with a minimum grade of “C” **OR**
 4 hours college chemistry – CHEM 1405 or CHEM 1411
 BIOL 2401 Anatomy and Physiology 1
 BIOL 2402 Anatomy and Physiology II, may be in progress at the time of application submission

CO-REQUISITE COURSES†

BIOL 2420 Microbiology, taken within the last 5 years
 ENGL 1301 English Composition
 Humanities 3 hours of a Humanities equivalent or Performing/Visual Arts (see College catalog for options)
 PSYC 2301 OR 2314 Introduction to Psychology or Lifespan Growth and Development
 SPCH 1315, 1318, OR 1321 Fundamentals of Speech, Interpersonal Communication, or Business and Professional Speaking
 SOCI 1301 Introduction to Sociology

* **Prerequisite** courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or above and should be completed prior to application submission. If they are not completed by the May 31st deadline your chances of acceptance are greatly reduced.

† **Co-requisite** courses must be completed prior to DH program graduation. The program is curriculum intensive, thus it is recommended to complete most or all co-requisites prior to entering the DH program.

Requirements and Deadlines AFTER Acceptance

Upon acceptance to the program, the following must be provided. The forms will be included with the acceptance packet. CPR certification arrangements are the applicant’s responsibility; photo copies of both sides of the certification card must be provided.

Requirements:	Details:	Deadlines:
Criminal Background /Drug Screening	Information Mailed with Acceptance Letter	Must be submitted to specified company within 15 days of program acceptance
Deposit of \$125 to secure your position	Information Mailed with Acceptance Letter	Paid to WCJC Business Office by deadline listed on form.
Technical Standards and Immunizations Forms	Completed by Health Care Provider Information Mailed with Acceptance Letter	Must be submitted to DH office within one month of acceptance
CPR Certification	2 year, Health Care Provider certification by the American Red Cross or American Heart Association	Must be submitted to DH office within one month of acceptance and preferably have the expiration date after expected date of graduation from the DH program.

Complete Application Packet Should Include:

It is highly recommended that applicants make copies of all documentation prior to submitting application packet.

- WCJC Application Include a copy of WCJC Application of Admission with Dental Hygiene application. If you are not a WCJC student, you must apply to the college as well as the DH program. Original application of admission must be sent to the registrar. **DO NOT** include the original with your DH application.
- DH Application Dental Hygiene Program application with all portions completed
- Transcripts Official transcripts of all colleges attended must be sent to the registrar’s office. Copies of these transcripts or a separate set of official transcripts must be included with the DH application. Transcript copies must clearly show student’s name and information, as well as completed or in-progress courses.
- High School Transcripts High School transcripts are only required if you are using high school chemistry for the prerequisite requirement or your ACT scores are listed on them.
- ACT Scores Official ACT scores must be sent to the registrar. A copy of the official scores will be acceptable to include in the DH application packet.
- Hepatitis B Immunization Documentation of Hep B series, in progress or completed, noted at the bottom of page 10 by health care provider.
- Work Experience Proof of 6 months minimum, related work experience, such as dental assistant. A letter from employer stating specific job description and length of time employed will be acceptable. **THIS IS NOT REQUIRED FOR PROGRAM CONSIDERATION.**

**Dental Hygiene Department
Selection Committee Criteria**

1) Applicant Has a Complete Application Packet

- i) Packet contains all information and documentation as specified on pages 3 and 4, *Program Deadlines & Requirements*, and has met the Dec. 1st through May 31st deadline.
- ii) Prerequisite Courses are completed with a grade of “C” or above
 - a) Prerequisite courses “In Progress” during application submission must be completed prior to entering the program. Applicant’s chance of acceptance may be reduced if course work is not completed prior to May 31st application deadline.
- iii) Co-requisite Courses are completed or In Progress
 - a) Preference may be given to applicants with more co-requisites completed prior to application deadline of May 31st.

- b) BIOL 2420 – If not completed prior to entering the program, microbiology will be offered day-time, first-year fall semester to avoid scheduling conflicts with DHYG-designated courses. If not completed at this time, BIOL 2420 may not fit within the DHYG-course schedule. Grade of “C” or above is required.
- iv) Minimum GPA (2.5) in requisite courses met
- v) ACT meets minimum composite score and minimum reading score
 - a) Minimum composite score of 19 and minimum reading score of 18 is achieved or exceeded, documented properly, and current within the last 5 years (National preferred over Local).
- vi) Transcripts showing completion of spring *In Progress* courses are received prior to the May 31st deadline.

2) Applicant Evaluation

- i) Applicants are ranked according to requisite GPA, ACT score, and then Point System with the exceptional applicants considered first for acceptance. In the event applicants have identical scores, then science grades in chemistry, anatomy, and microbiology will be evaluated and ranked by individual grades.
 - a) Extra points will be assigned for proof of previous certificates, degrees, high ACT score, and prior/current related work experience (6 months or more), and WCJC district residents.
- ii) Transcript evaluations will be conducted by the selection committee.
 - a) Course load (part-time or full-time student) of each college semester will be considered, though no preference given to either.
 - b) Number of dropped, failed, and repeated courses will be considered, especially for the prerequisite courses. Multiple failed attempts or repeats may decrease the overall application rating.
- iii) Applicant has shown the ability to meet all required deadlines for the application process.

3) Acceptance, Alternate, or Rejection of Applications

- i) Letters will be mailed within two weeks after deadlines and will identify the application status, with the exception of the December deadline. Only acceptance letters will be mailed after the December 1st deadline.
 - a) Acceptance letters are conditional, pending all further deadlines and documentation requirements are satisfied, including a satisfactory criminal background check. If any stated requirements in an individual’s letter are not met, the position will be offered to an Alternate.
 - (1) A declined position will result in the position being filled by an alternate applicant.
 - b) Alternate candidate positions are offered to qualified applicants only, with a potential fluctuation in the number offered, dependant upon the application pool and the number of withdrawn applications.
 - c) Alternate candidates are not necessarily ranked; when a position arises, the space may be filled with the first alternate contacted.
 - d) Rejection of an application will result in a letter stating why the application was not qualified and suggesting ways to enhance the application upon resubmission. These letters will be mailed only after the May 31st deadline.
 - e) It is the applicant’s responsibility to ensure that the application is complete and qualified, via contact with the Dental Hygiene Department as changes occur.

Dental Hygiene Department **Philosophy Statement**

The Department of Dental Hygiene, an educational unit of Wharton County Junior College, Division of Allied Health, is a two-year program culminating in the Associate of Applied Science Degree. The Curricula are structured to assist the students in the development of skills necessary for entry into the oral health care delivery system. The faculty is committed to creating an educational environment that will facilitate the development of creative, critical thinking, responsible professionals who use skills of problem solving, decision making, and evaluation to direct their future. Furthermore, the faculty strives to instill in graduates the importance of lifelong learning, the advancement of professional skills, and continued competence.

The goal of the Wharton County Junior College Dental Hygiene Program is to graduate hygienists who:

1. Demonstrate knowledge of and ability in human relations and communications as they relate to the individual, the community, and the profession;
2. Recognize the value of continued education following graduation;
3. Provide competent, total patient care while recognizing each patient as an individual with particular needs;
4. Participate in professional associations for the advancement of dental hygiene and promotion of oral health;
5. Contribute to the advancement of dental hygiene knowledge and patient care by participating in research and applying research results to the practice of dental hygiene; and
6. Commit to upholding the ethics of the dental hygiene profession.

Dental Hygiene Course Transferability

Wharton County Junior College DHYG-designated courses are transferable to other Texas colleges as outlined in Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) *Workforce Education Course Manual (WECM)*. Other requisite courses necessary to graduate from the Dental Hygiene Program are transferable to other Texas colleges as outlined in THECB *Academic Course Guide Manual (ACGM)*.

Immunization Requirements

Documentation by your health care provider for the following immunizations must be provided upon acceptance into the program. The proper form will be included with the acceptance packet. The following is for applicant information only.

TETANUS/Diphtheria (Td)	Booster within 10 years	
HEPATITIS B	3 shot series or antibody test	In progress at time of application submission. Completion prior to Jan. 1 st of freshman year.
M.M.R. (measles, mumps, rubella)	2 doses required if born after 1956	Proof of serologic immunity acceptable
VARICELLA (chicken pox)	Written proof of disease, positive Varicella antibody, or 2 doses of varicella vaccine	Vaccination requirements vary upon age they were given.
TUBERCULOSIS	Annual (yearly) screening	PPD Mantoux results only. Tine or Monovac are not acceptable.

Examples of Technical Standards Necessary to Perform Dental Hygiene-Related Duties

This is for applicant information only; form will be provided upon acceptance into the DH Program.

1. **DEXTERITY** – sufficient coordination and fine motor skills to potentially perform lab and clinical procedures; including but not limited to the use of curets and probes.
2. **COMMUNICATION SKILLS** – sufficient verbal ability to speak clearly and succinctly; construct legal documentation.
3. **VISUAL ACUITY** – healthy vision (near or farsighted) with or without corrective lenses. Ocular condition should not hinder normal hygienist procedures such as reading radiographs and interpreting oral health of patients.
4. **TACTILE ACUITY** – displays sufficient, normal tactile acuity to potentially perform delicate hygiene procedures.
5. **AUDITORY ABILITY** – hearing is sufficient to clearly determine blood pressure with proper instrumentation and understand normal speaking tones.
6. **PHYSICAL ABILITY** – overall physical condition should not hinder maneuverability in limited spaces; allow for ergonomic positioning of body for safe operator-patient positioning over extended periods of time.
7. **CRITICAL THINKING ABILITY** – displays mental ability to interpret written information and visual assessments (as best determined within the context of a normal physical exam).
8. **INTERPERSONAL ABILITY** – does not have a medical history or condition that would result in an inability to function and adapt under stressful conditions.

Dental Hygiene Department Expense Estimate

The following is an estimate of expenses during the two years of enrollment in the Dental Hygiene Program. These figures are ESTIMATES ONLY and may change at any time. ‡

Do not purchase anything in advance without prior instructions in writing from your instructors.

Fall Semester Freshman Year		Spring Semester Freshman Year	
Instrument Kit	\$ 700	Instrument Kit	\$ 600
Scrubs	\$ 60	Instrument Replacement	\$ 50
		Disposables: Wrap, Gloves, etc.	\$ 75
Leather Shoes	\$ 60	Tuition, Fees: In District Est.	\$ 832
		13 hrs	
Handpiece	\$ 300	Books	\$ 350
Disposables: Wrap, Gloves, etc.	\$ 75	Student Conference, Registration, Hotel	\$ 160*
SADHA dues	\$ 50	Estimate Total	\$ 2067
Blood Pressure Kit	\$ 30		
		Summer Semester Freshman Year	
Tuition, Fees: In District Est.	\$ 640	Tuition, Fees: In District Est.	\$ 192
		3 hrs	
Books:		Books	\$ 55
	10 hrs.		
	New \$ 470		
	Used \$ 359		
Estimate Total	\$ 2385	Estimate Total	\$ 217

Fall Semester Sophomore Year		Spring Semester Sophomore Year	
Instrument Kit/Lease	\$ 550	Instrument Replacement	\$ 50
Instrument Replacement	\$ 50	Disposables: Wrap, Gloves, etc.	\$ 75
Disposables: Wrap, Gloves, etc.	\$ 75	WCJC Dental Hygiene Pin	\$ 45
SADHA dues	\$ 50	National Board Exam	\$ 200
Student Conference, Registration, Hotel	\$ 160*	WREB Clinical Exam	\$ 810
Registration, Hotel: National Board Review	\$ 585	State Board Application Fee	\$ 75
Tuition, Fees: In District Est.	\$ 640	Jurisprudence Exam	\$ 62
		Tuition, Fees: In District Est.	\$ 576
Books:		9 hrs	
	10 hrs.	Books	\$ 65
	New \$ 300		
	Used \$ 160		
Estimate Total	\$ 2,570	Estimate Total	\$ 1,958

* Attendance at student conference required 1 time during the 2 year program.

‡ The projected cost for the two year (five semester) Dental Hygiene Program is about \$9200 in district. This projection is an estimate and can change at any time according to the college catalog schedule of fees, price of books, state and national exams, and miscellaneous expenses.

WCJC Dental Hygiene Application Form Fall 2009

Date of Application _____

Name _____				
Last	First	Middle	Maiden	
Address _____				
		City	State	Zip
Phone _____				
Home		Work		Cell
Email _____			Social Security Number _____	
Application is submitted for Fall _____ of WCJC Dental Hygiene Program school year				
Do you meet age requirement of 18-years old? Yes _____ No _____ U.S. Citizen _____ Other _____				
Have you previously attended any dental hygiene program? Yes _____ No _____. If yes, what school _____				
Explanation: _____				

List all Dental Hygiene Programs to which you are applying (for WCJC research data only):

Name	Address	City	State	Zip

WORK RECORD – Include only dental-related work experience (6-month minimum)

Firm's Name	Address Work Experience is NOT required	Employment Dates	Position	Reason for Leaving

EDUCATION HISTORY – Complete all applicable spaces

High School Attended _____	Graduated _____	GED _____	Date of Graduation _____
ACT Test Taken within 5 years: Yes _____ No _____ Date Taken _____ Location _____			
ACT Composite Score _____ Chemistry Taken: High School _____ College _____ College Hours Completed _____			

Prerequisites	Name of School	Semester	Year	Grade	In Progress
BIOL 2401 Anatomy/Phys. I					
BIOL 2402 Anatomy/Phys. II					
CHEM 1405 Intro Chem.					
CHEM 1411 Gen. Chem					
Co-requisites					
BIOL 2420 - Microbiology					
ENGL 1301					
PSYC 2301 OR 2314					
SOCI 1301					
SPCH 1315, 1318 OR 1321					
Humanities/Fine Arts – 3 hours					

Certificates Awarded: _____

Degrees Awarded: Yes _____ No _____ Associate _____ Baccalaureate & higher _____

College Degree Awarded From: _____

College

State

Country

I hereby certify that the above information is correct to the best of my knowledge. I also understand that Wharton County Junior College Dental Hygiene Department will maintain my personal information in a secure and confidential manner.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Important Deadlines: 1st Selection December 1st
Final Selection May 31st

All applications, transcripts and Hep B shot records must be received **prior** to May 31st.
Each September **all** application files will be shredded unless the applicant requests otherwise.

Remember, it is the applicant's responsibility to verify with the department secretary that all records have been received and the file is complete, BEFORE the application deadlines.

Attach documentation or have health care provider document the following immunization series initiation or completion (1st dose must be prior to May 31st application deadline):

HEPATITIS B – three (3) doses or a positive Hep B surface antibody test

DOSE 1 _____ DOSE 2 _____ DOSE 3 _____

HEP B Surface Antibody Date _____ Reactive _____ Non-Reactive _____

Health Care Provider Signature _____

Printed Name and Address _____

Phone _____

WCJC Dental Hygiene Department Transcript Evaluation Form

Name _____			Social Security Number _____		
Last	First	Middle			
Address _____					
Street		City	State	Zip	
Phone _____					
Home		Work	Cell		
Email _____					

Transcript Information – To be filled out by DH Staff

Course	Semester Completed	Grade	Credit Hours	Grade Points *	Total Grade Points
BIOL 2401					
BIOL 2402					
BIOL 2420					
CHEM 1405 OR 1411					
ENGL 1301					
SOCI 1301					
PSYC 2301 OR 2314					
SPCH 1315, 1318 OR 1321					
HUMANITIES-3 hrs.					
	*Grade Points A = 4 Points B = 3 Points C = 2 Points		Total Credit Hrs.		Total Grade Points

Grade Point Average – Requisite Courses

GPA = Total Grade Points divided by Total Credit Hours
 Admission Points = All extra points plus the Total Grade Points
 GPA of: 4.0 → 3.5 = 5 Admission points
 3.4 → 3.0 = 4 Admission points
 2.9 → 2.5 = 0 Admission points

GPA = _____
 GPA Adm. Pts. = _____
 Total Points = _____

Admission Points

Degree Completion from Accredited Institutions

Certificates =1 Adm. Pts. List Certificates: _____
Associate =2 Adm. Pts.
Baccalaureate =4 Adm. Pts. & higher

Admission Points _____

ACT Data

Minimum Composite Score of "19" required
Minimum Reading Score of "18" required

19 =	1.0 Adm. Pts.	English _____
20 – 22 =	3.0 Adm. Pts.	Math _____
23 – 25 =	5.0 Adm. Pts.	Reading _____
26 – 32 =	7.0 Adm. Pts.	Science _____

Date Taken: _____ National _____ Local _____ Composite Score _____

Admission Points _____

Other Data

Related Work Experience – minimum 6 months – written proof provided = 2.0 Adm. Pts.

Admission Points _____

Total Admission Points:

Subtotal of All Admission Points Awarded _____

Add 5% for residents of WCJC school district _____

Total Admission Points (including GPA points) _____

This form is to be completed by the Dental Hygiene Department Secretary.
It will be used, by the selection committee, as a cover sheet to the application.
All GPA calculations are calculated in the manner of all college transcripts.