ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE

Dental Hygiene
ASSOCIATE in SCIENCE
ADMISSIONS GUIDE

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

- SPC's Dental Hygiene A.S. Degree students gain the technical expertise to excel in this growing field, in part, by working in our dental hygiene clinic, which provides dental hygiene services (cleanings and x-rays) to more than 2,500 patients a year.

Term	Applications Accepted	Application Review	Interview Invitations Sent to Eligible Candidates	Interview	Student Notified By MySPC E-mail (xxxxxx#@live.spcollege.edu)
Summer: May	Nov 1 - Jan 8	Jan 9 - Feb 11	Feb 12	Feb 22 or Feb 23	March 5

☐ IMPORTANT: It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure all the following requirements are satisfied and posted accurately to their student record by the application deadline for admission consideration. For questions about these admissions requirements: Academic Advising

☐ **New** students must complete the St. Petersburg College Admission Application and pay the non-refundable fee. **Returning** students must complete the online Readmission steps in MySPC if you have not enrolled in the previous six semesters. Admissions and Readmissions

A secondary Health Program Application is required for limited access Health Programs. See link below.

☐ Submit official, unopened (sealed) high school or GED transcripts indicating completion of standard high school diploma or equivalency. **See *Transcripts/Transfer Credit**
If you completed an AAS degree or higher at an institutionally accredited institution, SPC will not need your high school/GED transcript or Home School Affidavit.

☐ Submit official, unopened (sealed) transcripts from all institutionally accredited college(s) and/or universities currently or previously attended (outside of St Petersburg College). **See *Transcripts/Transfer Credit**

☐ Students must demonstrate they are at college level in Writing, Reading, and Math either through appropriate test scores or through appropriate course completion.

☐ Students must have a cumulative grade point average of 2.00 on a 4.00 scale in all postsecondary coursework. Your Academic Standing may have an impact on your admission, enrollment, and financial aid eligibility. See the SPC Academic Standing Policy for details. Academic Standing Policy

☐ Read and acknowledge the Technical Standards for Dental Hygiene AS Degree Program.

- ☐ Complete a minimum of 20 credit hours from the Dental Hygiene Curriculum with grades of "C" or better.
  Including the below classes:
  - BSC 2085 and BSC 2085L (Human Anatomy and Physiology 1 and Lab)
  - BSC 2086 and BSC 2086L (Human Anatomy and Physiology 2 and Lab)
  - MCB 2010 and MCB 2010L (Microbiology and Lab).

- ☐ Earn a minimum 3.00 GPA on a 4.00 scale in the pre-entry, general education and support courses of the Dental Hygiene curriculum.

- ☐ Complete a minimum of 4 hours of dental hygiene observation or experience with a registered dental hygienist within one year of the application deadline (since January 8, 2026). You must collect the following information while completing your observation hours. The Health Programs Application will provide you the opportunity to **input the following mandatory information as you complete the application**.
  - **Complete Name & Location Address of Facility**
  - **Complete Name of Dentist**
  - **Complete Date (M/D/Y) and Number of Observation Hours**
  - **Complete Name of Dental Hygienist Observed as listed on the Hygienist's License**
  - **Complete License number of the Dental Hygienist Observed as listed on the Hygienist's License**

- ☐ Submit the Health Programs Application by going to: https://web.spcollege.edu/hec/application/apply.

All transcripts and alternate satisfaction requests must be received and evaluated by St. Petersburg College at least 30 days prior to the application deadline to ensure consideration.* ***Students are responsible for ensuring their application and records reflect satisfaction of all criteria by the application submission deadline*.*

Selection Criteria

Due to enrollment limitations, meeting minimum requirements does not guarantee admission. When the number of eligible applications exceeds the program availability, selective criteria will be used to determine which applicants will be offered admission. Students who have met all admission requirements will be considered using a point system based on health program GPA, pre-entry, general education, support coursework completed as well as the interview score:

- **31 points** may be awarded based on the number of health program pre-entry, general education and support courses completed.
- **40 points** may be awarded based on the health program GPA (grades earned from pre-entry, general education and support courses). A grade of P will have no effect on GPA for selective admissions. The computer/information literacy competency grade will not be calculated into the GPA for selective admissions.
- **29 points** may be awarded based on participation in an academic group interview. The interview includes a group discussion, hands-on group activity and individual essay to be typed and saved on site. Computer skills and soft skills including punctuality, professionalism, leadership, cooperation and communication are considered.
- In the event of a tie, science GPA will be considered first. If it is also tied, a lottery system will be used.
- **All application requirements must be satisfied by the close of the application window.**

Selection Process

- **February 12** - All applicants will receive one of the following emails to their MySPC live student email account (xxxxxx#@live.spcollege.edu). If you are not sure how to access your MySPC live student email, please visit How do I Access My SPC Email:
  1. Email to applicants with **incomplete** files (missing transcripts, coursework, or other application requirements).
  2. Email to applicants whose **Dental Hygiene Admissions Credits + GPA is below the top 60,** to notify applicants they will not be admitted to the program.
  3. Email to **top 60 applicants with the highest Dental Hygiene Admissions Credits + GPA Points**, to offer applicants the opportunity to participate in the Interview segment of the application process.
- **February 17** – RSVP Deadline for Interview
- **February 22nd or 23rd** – Interview
- **March 5** - Remaining applicants will receive either an acceptance or nonacceptance email with further instructions.

If you are offered admission you will need to complete the following pre-enrollment requirements by a specific due date to maintain eligible status:

- Complete the Notice of Intent survey (Provided in Admission E-Mail).
- Successfully pass a background check and drug screening (Information and due date provided in Admission E- Mail).
- Complete the Health Education and Program Orientation. (Date provided in Admission E-Mail)
- Provide documentation of required immunizations and test results for infectious diseases by the first day of class of your first term (Information/Instructions provided at Program Orientation).
- Provide documentation of valid and current American Heart Association CPR certification (Information/Instructions provided at Program Orientation).

Candidates on the Alternate list must follow instructions and deadlines in their notification to maintain eligibility for possible admission. If you are not moved from alternate to admitted, you will need to reapply during the next appropriate application period.

If you are not offered admission, you will need to reapply during the next appropriate application acceptance period.

Program Admission Statistics

The Dental Hygiene program typically accepts 30 students but with current COVID restrictions enrollment may be reduced to 24, which includes up to 10 active military students. The average GPA for acceptance varies based on the pool of applicants but typically falls between 3.7 and 3.9 with all courses complete. For the prior admission cycle, the average Total Points **(CREDIT POINTS + GPA POINTS + INTERVIEW POINTS)** for acceptance was 96.12 out of a maximum of 100 Total Points.

Program Information

Dental Hygiene students are expected to attend courses each semester from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. three to four days a week. During certain semesters, there are labs required that are held in the late afternoon until 7:30 p.m. Attendance is mandatory for all courses and labs. The dental hygiene curriculum prepares students by requiring them to participate throughout the program as a patient subject and clinician as part of their educational experience. These experiences will include but are not limited to:

- Being a patient for a peer receiving local anesthesia through syringe injections in the mouth.
- Being a patient for a peer as they practice instrumentation in the mouth.
- Being a patient for a peer as they practice taking impressions in the mouth.
- Being a clinician performing the aforementioned services.
- Being a clinician exposed to bloodborne pathogens (blood and bodily fluids) during the dental hygiene process of patient care.
- Being a clinician who will expose radiographic images on patients (taking x rays on patients).

As part of the educational experience, dental hygiene students are required to participate throughout the program at off-campus clinical rotation sites and as part of our curriculum courses. These multiple clinical rotation sites and community service-learning experiences require traveling to and from each site to observe or provide dental hygiene services to different patient populations and network with oral healthcare professionals. Transportation to these sites is the responsibility of the student.

Estimated Costs

Detailed program cost information can be found in the College's Academic Catalog.

PRE-ENTRY REQUIREMENTS (May not be satisfied by an Associate in Arts or higher degree.)	**CREDITS REQUIRED**
BSC 2085- Human Anatomy & Physiology I	**3**
BSC 2085L- Human Anatomy & Physiology Laboratory I	**1**
BSC 2086 - Human Anatomy & Physiology II	**3**
BSC 2086L - Human Anatomy & Physiology Laboratory II	**1**
MCB 2010 - Microbiology	**3**
MCB 2010L - Microbiology Laboratory	**1**
SUPPORT COURSES (May not be satisfied by an Associate in Arts or higher degree.)	
PSY 1012 – General Psychology or (Honors)	**3**
GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES (May be satisfied by an Associate in Arts or higher degree.)	
ENC 1101- Composition I or (Honors)	**3**
*3 credits from the State Approved Humanities & Fine Arts Core Course List	**3**
**3 credits from the State Approved Social & Behavioral Sciences Core Course List	**3**
3 credits from the State Approved Mathematics Core Course List	**3**
PHI 1600 – Applied Ethics or (Honors)	**3**
Computer/Information Literacy Competency Requirement (Not calculated into GPA)	**1**
CREDIT HOUR TOTALS	**31**
Find your program GPA calculator here **(Program GPA multiplied by 10 = GPA Points) 4.0 GPA x 10 = 40**	
MAXIMIUM POINT TOTAL = (CREDIT POINTS + GPA POINTS + INTERVIEW POINTS)	

Credit Points	**31**
GPA Points	**40**
Interview Points	**29**
Maximum Points	**100**

***Transcripts/Transfer Credit:** Submitting Official Transcripts

- Transcripts must be received **and** evaluated by St. Petersburg College prior to the application deadline to ensure consideration.
- We do not accept unofficial copies or unsealed official copies.
- International students, please refer to Submitting Official Transcripts
- Transcripts for course credit earned by exam(s) (e.g., AP, CLEP) must be provided from the originating testing agency.
- **If you have submitted updated transcripts from one institution, please verify that your most recent coursework is evaluated and posted to your SPC record.**

***Alternative Satisfaction**

- Transfer courses for which there is no direct SPC equivalent will be posted as elective credit and designated with a number ending in "999"; additionally, upper division (3000/4000 level or higher) transfer credits do not automatically post to your SPC record.
- All upper division coursework (transfer or SPC) does not automatically satisfy admission requirements; it must be requested by the student.

If you believe a course posted as an elective should satisfy a degree requirement, or you would like an upper division course be used to satisfy a lower division course, please complete the **Alternative Satisfaction Survey**
A copy of your transcript from the former institution and a course syllabus will be required.
*All transcript/transfer credit questions can be directed to Academic Advising

To **confirm posted credits**: Log into MySPC > My Academics > View Unofficial Transcript > Other/Transfer

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

A.S. Dental Hygiene Program of Study
A.S. General Education Requirements in SPC's Program of Study for the Associate in Science degree program.

***ENHANCED WORLD VIEW:** Complete at least one 3-credit course intended to enhance the student's world view considering an increasingly globalized economy.
This course may also be used to satisfy another General Education Requirement (Humanities and Fine Arts)

****CIVIC LITERACY:**
Students entering an A.S. Degree program in the 2022-2023 academic school year, or thereafter, must demonstrate competency through successful completion the Civic Literacy requirement.
This may include a course and exam, or an alternative accelerated mechanism.
This course may also be used to satisfy another General Education Requirement (Social & Behavioral Sciences)
Please view additional details on the FCLE webpage.

Accessibility Services

St. Petersburg College is committed to providing quality education and services to all students by ensuring that admission, academic programs, support services, student activities, and campus facilities are accessible to and usable by qualified students with disabilities. Each specific health program has its own technical standards which all students must meet with or without an accommodation(s). To help students achieve success, Accessibility Services works with students, faculty, and staff to coordinate the provision of reasonable accommodations. To put your accommodations in place, please contact the Health Education Center (HEC) Accessibility Services (AS) at 727-341-3432 or https://www.spcollege.edu/current-students/student-affairs/student-support-resources/accessibility-services even if you are registered with another campus.

St. Petersburg College is committed to equal access/equal opportunity in its programs, activities, and employment. For additional information visit SPC EAEO.

Please note, all information in this guide is subject to change.

St. Petersburg College

Dental Hygiene

Observation Record

Minimum 4 Hours of dental hygiene observation completed within one year of the application deadline (since January 8, 2026)

*****Applicants are to dress in accordance with the dress code of the facility of attendance. Please inquire when calling to arrange your appointment. *****

This form is for informational purposes only and does not need to be sent to the Health Education Center. You will have the opportunity to input the information you collect on this form in the Health Programs Application at the time of submission. **You must type ALL of the following information when submitting your admission application, including the full name and clear/active Dental Hygiene license number of the registered dental hygienist you observe within one year of your application deadline:**

Observation:

Full Facility Name & Location & Full Dentist Name	**Full Date (M/D/Y) & # of Observation Hours**	**Full Name of Dental Hygienist Observed**	**License # of Dental Hygienist Observed**
1.			
2.			
3.			
4.			

Confidentiality of patient records: According to the HIPPA guidelines, information regarding the names of individuals and/or treatment they are undergoing must be treated in strict confidence and must not be communicated in any manner. Any unauthorized viewing, discussion or disclosure of an individual's healthcare information could result in litigation and / or prosecution.