Job Outlook!

- Employment of dental hygienists is expected to grow by 38 percent from 2010 to 2020, much faster than the average for all occupations (14%).

- Ongoing research linking oral health and general health will continue to spur the demand for preventative dental services, which are often provided by dental hygienists.


It's easy to get started ...

1. Complete an admissions application http://www.dcc.vccs.edu/Studentservices/BecomeaStudent.htm
2. Take a placement assessment
3. Meet with a DCC counselor
4. Meet with your faculty advisor (DCC site coordinator)
5. Pay for your classes

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Vision: Danville Community College will be the college of choice in our region for exemplary educational programs and services.

Mission: Danville Community College is committed to providing quality comprehensive higher education and workforce programs and services to promote student success and to enhance business and community development.

It is easy to get started ...
DENTAL HYGIENE

Danville Community College has partnered with Virginia Western Community College to bring dental hygiene education to our region. It is an associate of applied science degree program designed to prepare students as primary preventive oral health professionals licensed to practice dental hygiene. Upon successful completion of the program, graduates are eligible to take national, regional and state board examinations leading to licensure as a registered dental hygienist (RDH).

About the Program

Have you ever seen the way that a perfect smile can change a person’s life? Are you the kind of person who can help calm and soothe others during times of minor stress? Do you have that gentle touch, easy way of talking, and the desire to create a perfect smile? Students attend classes through lectures provided through VTEL instruction and are supervised for clinical instruction in DCC’s new dental clinic (located in the college’s newest building - Foundation Hall). While students take all courses at DCC they are actually registered as VWCC students. VWCC admits a class of 14 students every two years.

Jobs

A dental hygienist may practice in any of the following settings:

- Dental offices/clinics
- Federal, state & local health departments
- Hospitals and nursing homes/home health organizations
- School districts/departments of education
- Educational programs assisting students
- Correctional facilities
- Private & public facilities

Program of Study

FIRST YEAR CURRICULUM

First Semester
- DNH 111 Oral Anatomy 2
- DNH 115 Histology/Head & Neck Anatomy 3
- DNH 120 Management of Emergencies 2
- DNH 130 Oral Radiography for the Dental Hygienist 2
- DNH 141 Dental Hygiene I 5
- SDV 100 or SDV 108 College Survival Skills 1

Second Semester
- DNH 142 Dental Hygiene II 5
- DNH 145 General & Oral Pathology 2
- DNH 146 Periodontics for the Dental Hygienist 2
- DNH 216 Pharmacology 2
- ENG 111 College Composition 3

Summer Session
- DNH 235 Management of Dental Pain and Anxiety 2
- DNH 150 Nutrition 2
- DNH 190 Coordinated Practice 3
- NAS 185 Microbiology 4

SECOND YEAR CURRICULUM

Third Semester
- DNH 214 Practical Materials for Dental Hygiene 2
- DNH 226 Public Health Dental Hygiene I 2
- DNH 244 Dental Hygiene IV 5
- PSY 230 Developmental Psychology 3

Fourth Semester
- DNH 227 Public Health Dental Hygiene II 1
- DNH 230 Office Practices & Ethics 1
- DNH 245 Dental Hygiene V 5
- HUM EEE Humanities/Fine Arts Elective 3

*Note: BIO 141 - 142, Human Anatomy & Physiology I-II, 8 credits are prerequisites for program admission. Must be successfully completed by the end of upcoming Spring semester.

How To Apply

All application material(s) are required to be submitted directly to Health Professions at Virginia Western Community College. Provide the following information and submit in one envelope to Pam Woody, VWCC-Health Technology, P.O. Box 14007, Roanoke, VA 24038. The colleges are not responsible for any delays in processing your file if you fail to submit the required documents as indicated.

- Apply to the college by completing a VWCC Application, if not currently attending. You are encouraged to complete the application on-line by logging in at http://apply.vccs.edu. Please make sure you indicate your plan of study as “Pre-Dental Hygiene (credit classes) on the college application. (DCC applicants must also complete a DCC application for admission prior to February 15, please contact the DCC Admissions Office or visit www.dcc.vccs.edu/Studentservices/BecomeaStudent for more information).

- Apply to the Dental Hygiene Program by completing a Dental Hygiene Application Form.
  - Dental Hygiene Application (PDF)
  - Application Instructions(PDF)

- Have all official sealed transcripts (high school and college) and a copy of GED scores (if applicable). We strongly suggest applicants to request transcripts be sent to the applicant’s mailing address, so you are fully aware of whether your request is filled and all material can be placed by you in one larger envelope for submission. Remember, do not open any envelope which contains an “official transcript”, because they are then no longer “official”.
  If a school refuses to issue “official” transcripts directly to student, please request they be sent addressed directly to Pam Woody at the address above. Please do not request transcripts from VWCC or any other community college in Virginia. Transcripts must include Continuing Education courses. High school transcripts are required even if you are a college graduate. GED holders must also submit official high school transcripts if completed at least through the 9th grade. If you were home-schooled, a detailed academic curriculum report showing completion by the school administrator is required (including a statement indicating if a lab component was completed for Biology and Chemistry).