

# DENTAL HYGIENE

**Program:** DNTH

**Credential:** Ontario College Advanced Diploma

**Delivery:** Full-time

**Work Integrated Learning:** 4 Clinical Placements

**Length:** 6 Semesters

**Duration:** 3 Years

**Effective:** Fall 2018

**Location:** Barrie

## Description

The Dental Hygiene program will prepare the student to assume a position as a dental hygienist capable of providing preventive and therapeutic dental hygiene services utilizing the Dental Hygiene Process. In all roles and practice settings, the dental hygienist works with the client and community using a problem-solving framework, basing all decisions, judgments and interventions on current dental hygiene research and theory. The program will prepare the graduate for the legal and ethical responsibilities of a dental hygienist and with a basic understanding of business practices related to self-employment.

## Career Opportunities

As a dental hygienist, the graduate may work independently, interdependently and collaboratively with health professionals in a variety of practice settings, including private dental practices, community clinics, public health programs, institutions and long term care facilities. The graduate may choose to work as an employee or be self-employed.

## Program Learning Outcomes

The graduate has reliably demonstrated the ability to:

1. practise in a professional and competent manner within the defined scope of practice and consistent with current regulations and standards of practice;
2. evaluate clients' oral health status using determinants of health and risk analysis to identify needs, justify treatment decisions and provide appropriate referrals to other health care professionals as required;
3. design, implement and evaluate a range of primary, interceptive, therapeutic, preventative, and on-going oral health care services to meet the unique needs of clients;
4. analyze oral health issues in need of advocacy, identify networks and promote actions that will support change and facilitate access to care;
5. identify, select, implement and evaluate quality assurance standards and protocols which contribute to a safe and effective working environment;
6. establish and maintain professional and interprofessional relationships which contribute to client care safety and positive health care outcomes;
7. facilitate the development of specific oral health attitudes, knowledge, skills, and behaviours in clients by selecting and utilizing principles of teaching and learning;
8. develop and present a model for a DH practice that addresses relevant business principles, current legislation and standards of practice;

9. recognize and stress the importance of utilizing environmentally friendly products and supplies within the work environment.

## External Recognition

The Dental Hygiene Program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada.

The above program learning outcomes have been established for all community college dental hygiene programs and meet the current requirements of the College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario, Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada and the National Dental Hygiene Competency Examination. These outcomes exceed the current Provincial Program Standards.

The graduate of this program is entitled to write the National Dental Hygiene Certification Board Examination. Upon successful completion of this examination and the Georgian College Dental Hygiene Program, the graduate will be eligible for registration to practice in the province of Ontario as specified in the regulations of the Regulated Health Professions Act and the Dental Hygiene Act. Registration with the College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario is a legal requirement to practice and is subject to the regulations and restrictions established by this governing body.

## The Program Progression

### Fall Intake

- **Sem 1:** Fall 2018
- **Sem 2:** Winter 2019
- **Sem 3:** Summer 2019
- **Sem 4:** Winter 2020
- **Sem 5:** Summer 2020
- **Sem 6:** Fall 2020

## Articulation

A number of articulation agreements have been negotiated with universities and other institutions across Canada, North America and internationally. These agreements are assessed, revised and updated on a regular basis. Please contact the program co-ordinator for specific details if you are interested in pursuing such an option. Additional information can be found on our website at <http://www.georgiancollege.ca/admissions/credit-transfer/>

## Admission Requirements

OSSD or equivalent with

- Grade 12 English (C or U)
- Grade 12 Chemistry (C) or Grade 11 or 12 Chemistry (U)
- Grade 11 or 12 Biology (C or U)

Mature students, non-secondary school applicants (19 years or older), and home school applicants may also be considered for admission. Eligibility may be met by applicants who have taken equivalent courses, upgrading, completed their GED, and equivalency testing. For complete details refer to: [www.georgiancollege.ca/admissions/policies-procedures/](http://www.georgiancollege.ca/admissions/policies-procedures/) (<http://www.georgiancollege.ca/admissions/policies-procedures/>)

Applicants who have taken courses from a recognized and accredited post-secondary institution and/or have relevant life/learning experience may also be considered for admission; refer to the Credit Transfer Centre website for details:

[www.georgiancollege.ca/admissions/credit-transfer/](http://www.georgiancollege.ca/admissions/credit-transfer/) (<http://www.georgiancollege.ca/admissions/credit-transfer/>)

## Selection Process

Applicants will be assessed and ranked based on academic grades. A minimum grade of 75% in each pre-requisite subject is recommended.

## Criminal Reference/Vulnerable Sector Check

Placement agencies require an up-to-date clear criminal reference check and vulnerable sector check prior to going out on placement. Students should obtain their criminal reference three months prior to placement; checks conducted earlier may not be considered current. As some jurisdictions require longer lead-time for processing, please check with the program coordinator to ensure you allow for sufficient turn-around time. It is the student's responsibility to provide the completed document prior to placement start.

NOTE: Individuals who have been charged or convicted criminally and not pardoned will be prohibited from proceeding to a clinical or work placement.

## Additional Information

In addition to these requirements, applicants must also provide proof of a current Standard First Aid and C.P.R. Level "HCP" certification, prior to the commencement of preclinical courses in Semester 1. Annual CPR re-certification is mandatory.

Applicants are advised that the clinical requirements of the program and future employment require good vision (with or without corrective lenses) and visual perception; ability to sit for prolonged periods of time and manipulate small instruments with repetitive motion. Applicants with back/neck/wrist or visual problems should discuss individual concerns with the program Co-ordinator.

Applicants must also be comfortable speaking in front of individuals and groups.

Certain clinical placements will require students to have updated flu shots, TB testing and Hepatitis B vaccination as well as a Police Record Check (including Vulnerable Sector Screening" and a check of the Pardoned Sex Offender Data Base - refer to Criminal Reference Check below). It is the student's responsibility to ensure he or she is eligible to participate in clinical placements. The College assumes no responsibility for these matters and students should be aware that tuition will not be refunded in the event that access to a placement is denied.

Registration with the College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario (CDHO) is mandatory to practice as a dental hygienist in Ontario. Note: A history of criminal offences or charges of professional misconduct in another jurisdiction or another profession may interfere with your ability to become registered in Ontario. Should either situation apply, you are recommended to seek clarification with the CDHO before applying to the dental hygiene program at Georgian College.

## Graduation Requirements

31 Program Courses  
2 Communications Courses  
5 General Education Courses

### Graduation Eligibility

To graduate from this program, the passing weighted average for promotion through each semester, from year to year, and to graduate is 60%. Additionally, a student must attain a minimum of 50% or a letter grade of P (Pass) or S (Satisfactory) in each course in each semester unless otherwise stated on the course outline.

### Program Tracking

Semester 1		Hours
Program Courses		
BIOL 1001	Anatomy and Physiology - Introductory Concepts	42
DENT 1013	General and Oral Microbiology	42
DENT 1014	Dental and Orofacial Anatomy	42
DENT 1044	Pre-Clinical Dental Hygiene	98
DENT 1047	Introduction to the Dental Hygiene Profession	28
Communications Course		
Select 1 course from the communications list during registration.		42
General Education Course		
Select 1 course from the general education list during registration.		42
Hours		336

Semester 2		Hours
Program Courses		
BIOL 1002	Anatomy and Physiology: Advanced Concepts	42
DENT 1016	Dental Hygiene Process of Care	126
DENT 1018	Applied Oral Health Promotion	42
DENT 1019	Oral Histology and Embryology	42
DENT 1046	Dental Radiography for the Dental Hygienist	56
HLTH 1003	Preparation for Clinical Practice	42
Hours		350

Semester 3		Hours
Program Courses		
DENT 1021	Medical and Pharmacological Considerations for Dental Hygiene Care	42
DENT 1022	Periodontics for the Dental Hygienist	42
DENT 2008	Applied Clinical Theory	42
DENT 2019	Introduction to Clinical Dental Hygiene	112
HLTH 1000	Health Care in Canada	42
Communications Course		
Select 1 course from the general education list during registration.		42
General Education Course		
Select 1 course from the general education list during registration.		42
Hours		364

Semester 4		Hours
Program Courses		
BIOL 2008	Human Pathophysiology	42
DENT 2000	Oral Pathology	42
DENT 2018	Dental Hygiene Clinical - Intermediate	126
HLTH 2003	Diverse Populations and Health Beliefs	42
STAT 2005	Introduction to Statistics and Research Methods	42
General Education Course		
Select 1 course from the general education list during registration.		42
Hours		336

Semester 5		Hours
Program Courses		

BUSI 3007	Business Principles for the Regulated Professional	42
DENT 2005	Role of the Dental Hygienist in Orthodontics	42
DENT 2007	Community and Public Health	42
DENT 3005	Evidence Based Dental Hygiene Practice	42
DENT 3006	Dental Hygiene Clinical - Advanced	126
General Education Course		
Select 1 course from the general education list during registration.		42
Hours		336

## Semester 6

### Program Courses

DENT 1017	Dental Hygiene Practice Administration	42
DENT 2001	Professional Practice and Jurisprudence	42
DENT 3008	Dental Hygiene Clinical Consolidation	112
HLTH 3000	Interprofessional Practice	42
HLTH 3001	Health Policy and Advocacy	42
General Education Course		
Select 1 course from the general education list during registration.		42
Hours		322
Total Hours		2044

*Information contained in College documents respecting programs is correct at the time of publication. Academic content of programs and courses is revised on an ongoing basis to ensure relevance to changing educational objectives and employment market needs. The college reserves the right to add or delete programs, options, courses, timetables or campus locations subject to sufficient enrolment, and the availability of courses.*