Indian River State College

Dental Hygiene
APPLICATION BOOK

Application Deadline

Dental Hygiene: First Friday in May

For more information
IRSC Information Call Center
1-866-792-4772

www.irsc.edu
IRSC OVERVIEW

INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE is a public, comprehensive college with a nationally recognized commitment to helping students succeed. The College was selected out of 1,000 colleges nationwide as a Top Ten Finalist for the prestigious Aspen Prize for Excellence and has been designated an Achieving the Dream™ college for support of students from enrollment to employment. Over 30,000 people enroll in IRSC courses each year, attracted by the College’s combination of quality, convenience and affordable tuition. IRSC is designated as the 3rd Most Affordable College in the country by the U.S. Department of Education, and students benefit from many scholarship and financial aid opportunities.

Every aspect of IRSC is focused on helping students succeed with small classes, an array of student support services, convenient campuses, and online courses. IRSC offers over 100 programs, including Bachelor’s degrees, Associate in Arts degrees for continuing education at IRSC or a university, Associate in Science degrees for in-demand careers after two years of training, short-term certificate programs and Quick Job Training.

EA/EO

Indian River State College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ethnicity, sex, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, veteran status or genetic information in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies:

Adriene B. Jefferson
Equity Officer and Title IX Coordinator
IRSC Main Campus • 3209 Virginia Ave. • Fort Pierce, FL 34981
(772) 462-7156
ACCREDITATION

The programs in dental assisting, dental hygiene and dental laboratory technology are accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and have been granted the accreditation status of “approval without reporting requirements.”

The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. The Commission on Dental Accreditation can be contacted at the address below:

Commission on Dental Accreditation
211 East Chicago Ave.
Chicago, IL 60611 – 2678
Telephone (312) 440-4653
http://www.ada.org/100.aspx

In addition, the College Catalog and program websites are readily available and accurately depict:

a. purpose and goals of the program(s);
b. admission requirements and procedures;
c. degree and program completion requirements;
d. faculty, with degrees held and the conferring institution;
e. tuition, fees, and other program costs including policies and procedures for refund and withdrawal;
f. financial aid programs;
g. national and/or state requirements for eligibility for licensure or entry into the occupation or profession for which education and training are offered;
h. skill and competencies that students will need at the time of admission to the program.

www.irsc.edu    www.adex.org    www.danb.org
www.ada.org    www.adha.org    www.nadl.org
Dental Hygiene Program

APPLICATION FOR SUMMER II PROGRAM
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The following items are found in the *Health Science Division Student Handbook*.

(This list has been updated as of 3/16.)

1. Health Science Division Purpose Statement
2. Health Science Statement of Ethics
3. Health Science Plagiarism Regulation
4. Email/Contact Information
5. Health Science Use of Electronic Regulation
6. Health Science Confidentiality Statement
7. Health Science Grading
8. Health Science Retention Regulation
9. Health Science Probation Regulation
10. Health Science Readmission and Dismissal Regulation
11. Health Science Complaint Guidelines
12. Health Science Liability, Accident and Insurance Regulation
13. Health Requirements
14. Indian River State College Health Science Post Exposure Protocol
15. Health Science Background Check Regulation
16. Health Science Substance Abuse Regulation
17. Health Science Dress Code/Professional Standards
18. Health Science Student Parking Regulation
19. Health Science Student Smoking Regulation
PHILOSOPHY, PURPOSE AND GOALS OF THE DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

The philosophy of the Associate in Science Degree in Dental Hygiene program at Indian River State College supports and assists the implementation of the philosophy and purposes of the College. In support of the College’s mission statement, the program believes education is a partnership that involves a growth process as in the roles of the dental hygienist in the dental health field. The dental hygiene faculty encourages the development of the individual through optimum learning environments through life experiences. The College and the servicing communities provide rich learning experiences and resources that enable students to develop the competencies necessary for the practice of dental hygiene.

PURPOSE STATEMENT

The purpose of the Indian River State College Dental Hygiene program is to prepare quality health care professionals to meet the needs of a diverse community. Graduates will possess the required entry-level skills to provide comprehensive education, preventive and therapeutic services, which reflect the core competencies essential to the Dental Hygiene Profession. The program utilizes formal and on-going planning and assessment processes to evaluate and implement curriculum/program changes to assure educational excellence.

The purpose of the Dental Hygiene program supports the purpose of the Health Science Division at IRSC by preparing students to function effectively and competently as members of the dental health care team.

The program enables the College to achieve its mission by preparing dental hygiene students for employment in the community by achieving the following GOALS AND OBJECTIVES.

GOALS

1. To comprehensively prepare competent individuals in the discipline of Dental Hygiene while meeting the needs of the public by educating, treating and promoting preventive services as defined by the Florida Department of Education, Board of Dentistry and Accreditation Agencies.

2. Prepare students to successfully complete the National Board of Dental Hygiene and State Licensure Examination.

3. To provide academic and clinical settings which stimulate student learning, research and service by maintaining state-of-the-art equipment and laboratory facilities.

4. To ensure that students and faculty maintain professional behaviors in accordance with the American Dental Hygienists’ Association Principle of Ethics through professional membership growth and lifelong learning.

5. To organize and maintain an advisory committee which consists of persons who are actively engaged in/or supports the practice of dental hygiene.
THE REGISTERED DENTAL HYGIENIST

Dental Hygiene is a health profession with its primary responsibility being preventive in nature. Licensure qualifies the dental hygienist to provide oral health services to patients in a variety of settings including: private dental offices (general or specialty practices), public health facilities, state institutions, hospitals, nursing homes, group homes for the elderly or disabled and the military. In addition, dental hygienists may be employed as dental clinic managers, dental health educators and supervisors for public health agencies.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Necessary forms are located in the back of this Application Booklet.

_____ 1. Submit completed Indian River State College Application for Admission online at www.irsc.edu.

_____ 2. Send official transcripts from high school and all post-secondary schools attended to:

   Educational Services Division – Admissions
   Indian River State College
   3209 Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce, FL 34981

_____ 3. Complete and submit the Health Science Program Application online and pay the application fee by the deadline. Fees are non-refundable.

_____ 4. Read the “Performance Standards” form. (Page 14)

_____ 5.* Must attend a Dental Hygiene Information Session – Offered the 3rd Monday of the month (Jan., Feb., March, April, June, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov.) at 4:00 p.m., H-209, Main Campus, prior to deadline date for that application cycle. (May – April)

_____ 6.* Submit verification of Shadowing/Observation of a Dental Hygienist (minimum 20 hrs.) Participate in observation including a minimum 20 hours of verification of shadowing a dental hygienist.

_____ 7. A copy of current American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR card. Card should be valid for the length of the program. Failure to maintain a current CPR card will result in immediate withdrawal from the program.

_____ 8.* Read, sign and submit the “Infectious Disease Protocol” (Page 21).


_____ 10. Submit resume including community service.
11. Submit documentation of (if applicable):
   ______ Graduate of CODA accredited dental assisting program.
   ______ Certified Dental Assisting National Boards (Print from DANB website).

*(Note: Forms included in the back of this booklet.)

Completion of this checklist alone does not guarantee acceptance to the Dental Hygiene program. Students are selected on a competitive basis. You must complete all the above steps by the Application Deadline to be considered for the program.

Required supplemental documentation must be sent to:
Health Science Center
Indian River State College
3209 Virginia Avenue
Building H, 3rd Floor, Room 308
Fort Pierce, FL  34981
INTRODUCTION

The following Dental Hygiene program is offered through the IRSC Health Science Division. All applicants enter the program through a Selective Admissions process. Contact Enrollment and Student Services, any IRSC campus, or the Health Science Division at (772) 462-7550, or toll-free at (866) 792-4772 x7550, for additional information.

NOTE: If at any time during the application process you have a change of address or need to update other personal information, submit this information to the Enrollment and Student Services Division and to the Health Science Division or at any IRSC campus. This will expedite notification of acceptance status.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Any candidate who wishes to be considered for Dental Hygiene at Indian River State College should review the procedures outlined in the Dental Hygiene section of this booklet. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the process is complete.

The required forms are included in this application booklet.

Any candidate who wishes to be considered for a Health Science program at Indian River State College must complete the procedures outlined on the check listed on page 2. It is the student's responsibility to see that admission requirements are met. No notices will be sent.

Instructions on how to submit the Health Science Program application for Dental Hygiene:

Complete the Health Science Program Application online at www.irsc.edu and pay the $30 application fee by the program application deadline.

a. Go to the IRSC website at www.irsc.edu
b. Click MyIRSC and then Sign in to MyIRSC
c. Sign in using your Student ID and pin number
d. Go to Registration (blue menu bar) and select Health Science Application
e. Place a check mark in the “I Agree” statement.
f. In the Health Science Program box, select Dental Hygiene.
   Application Deadline: this automatically fills in the program deadline date.

   g. Select Submit. Select OK
   h. Select Pay Fee Now and then PAY NOW
   i. Select process for payment
   j. Select $30 application fee
   k. Enter credit card details
   l. Submit Payment
All applicants will be notified of their status approximately six to eight weeks after the deadline date. No information is available by telephone. To finalize acceptance, once notified of provisional acceptance, students will be provided information on how to complete the required IRSC physical examination form, a negative drug screen report and a FDLE background check prior to the first day of class.

**INFORMATION SESSIONS**

Students interested in applying to any health science program must attend the regularly scheduled program information session for direction and assistance with the application process. The information session addresses any questions or concerns prospective applicants may have. The session also assists students in understanding how to achieve a “qualified” applicant status. Students must attend an information session prior to the application deadline date. No reservations or fees are required to attend. Proof of information session attendance is required (see form in the back of this booklet). Attendance must be within the year in which the student is applying (May - April).

**Dental Hygiene Information Sessions**

Dental Hygiene Information Sessions are held at the Main Campus in Fort Pierce
Mary L. Fields Health Science Center
3rd Monday of the following months
(Jan., Feb., March, April, June, Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov.)
Building H Room 209
4:00 p.m.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE DATE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Application Deadline</th>
<th>Summer II Program</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Friday in May</td>
<td>Begins June</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**APPLICANT REVIEW**

Educational Services must receive the completed applicant files by the posted Application Review Deadline. This includes test scores and all official transcripts from IRSC and/or other institutions and a final high school transcript.

No documentation will be considered after the application deadline date.

Final consideration for admission into the Dental Hygiene program will be based upon the Health Science Admissions Committee review and scoring of the following criteria:

1. Must be 18 years or older.
2. IRSC Admission status must be complete (receipt of all transcripts).
3. 2.0 IRSC and College Cumulative GPA
4. Completion, submission and payment of Health Science Program Application
5. All items 1 – 10 completed on Application Checklist for Dental Hygiene

All of the above criteria must be met or the applicant file will not be reviewed and scored.
Note: Meeting admission criteria does not guarantee acceptance into the program. Students are selected on a competitive basis.

SHADOWING/OBSERVATION OF A DENTAL HYGIENIST

To learn more about the role of a dental hygienist, contact one of the area dental offices and ask to speak to a dental hygienists or the office manager. The student must indicate that they are applying for the IRSC Dental Hygiene program and need to arrange for twenty (20) hours of observation of a dental hygienist. Attire for the observation must be “business casual” unless the dental office indicates differently.

Business casual attire for men:
  Dark dress shoes and long pants (no jeans); collard dress shirt

Business casual attire for women:
  Leg pants with appropriate top, dress or business suit.

Note: Wear comfortable shoes (no high-heels or open-toe shoes)

You will be standing most of the day. Any applicant who arrives for the observation inappropriately dressed will be sent home and asked to reschedule. The form to verify the completion of the shadowing/observation experience is located in the back of this application book.

ESSAY

The required essay is a reflection of the observational/shadowing experience with a dental hygienist. The essay should be no more than 500 words, must be typed and double-spaced. Student name and ID must be at the top of the paper.

RESUME

Current resume including any community service.
COURSE CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

Academic performance in the general education courses for the A.S. Degree in Dental Hygiene and cumulative college grade point average are indicative of the probability of an applicant’s completing the academic portion of the program successfully. It is recommended that students complete as many of the following courses as possible, especially in the sciences before applying to the program.

Students are selected based on a point system. Applicants earn points for the following courses:

General Education Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SYG 2000</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPC 1608</td>
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<td>Total Gen Ed Points</td>
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Science Courses

<table>
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<tr>
<td>BSC 2093L</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>BSC 2094</td>
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<tr>
<td>BSC 2094L</td>
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<tr>
<td>CHM 1020</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>MCB 2010</td>
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<td>MCB 2010L</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>HUN 1201</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Science Points</td>
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*Applicants can earn additional points (10) for submitting a copy of their CDA license

Point Scale

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
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<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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</table>

ACCEPTANCE INTO PROGRAM

The Health Science Division will notify those applicants who have been selected on a competitive basis of their provisional acceptance into the program. Final acceptance in the program is contingent upon satisfactory results from a physical examination with immunization, drug screen and a national criminal background check (fingerprinting). Information on obtaining these tests/reports will be provided in the provisional acceptance notification package. These reports should not be submitted with initial application materials.

LATEX ADVISORY – For those individuals with sensitivities, applicants must be aware that latex-based products are used in all health care facilities.
Substance Use/Abuse Regulation

Refer to the IRSC website at www.irsc.edu. Click Programs & Careers. In the DIVISIONS box, select Health Sciences/How to Apply. In the HANDBOOKS/FORMS box, select Background Check Requirements.

Criminal Background Checks

Refer to the IRSC website at www.irsc.edu. Click Programs & Careers. In the DIVISIONS box, select Health Sciences/How to Apply. In the HANDBOOKS/FORMS box, select Background Check Requirements.

Health/Medical Record

After acceptance into the program, a copy of the Physical Examination Form will be provided in the provisional acceptance notification package. A completed physical exam form must be submitted and approved. This physical examination form is to include results from a physical examination and laboratory tests including immunization records.

Applicants who do not meet the standards of good physical and mental health, as required by clinical facilities for safe patient care, may reapply and be considered for application to a Health Science program after resolution of the health problem. An updated health record, verified by a licensed physician or an ARNP must be submitted.

Student Drug Screen, Background Check and Medical Records

When submitted, these records will become the property of the College and will not be available for copying or for use to meet the requirements of outside employers. Students who are out of the program for six months or more must submit new records.

Grievance/Complaint Procedure

Refer to the Academic Review/Admission Policy in IRSC Student Handbook/Planner.

NON-ACCEPTANCE INTO PROGRAM

Applicants who do not qualify for the program will be notified and may call the Office of the Dean of Health Science (772) 462-7550 for clarification on how to strengthen their application.

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Refer to the IRSC website at www.irsc.edu. Click Programs & Careers. In the DIVISIONS box, select Health Sciences/How to Apply and then select Dental Hygiene. In the START HERE box, select Expenses.
FINANCIAL AID/SCHOLARSHIPS

Financial Aid (grants, loans, work-study) is available to those who qualify. Complete the FAFSA and IRSC Supplemental Financial Aid Application to determine eligibility. For more information, contact the IRSC Financial Aid Office at (772) 462-7450 or toll-free at 1-866-900-3243 (FAID).

Scholarships designated for students in the Health Science programs may also be available. Complete the IRSC Online Scholarship Application www.irscfoundation.org. Health Science scholarship deadlines will be posted on the website.

For more information, or to request a scholarship application, contact the IRSC Foundation office at (772) 462-4786, or toll-free at 1-866-792-4772, ext. 4786. Scholarship applications are available online at www.irscfoundation.org.

PROGRAM CURRICULUM

IRSC’s Dental Hygiene program leads to an Associate in Science Degree and prepares students to take the Dental Hygiene National Board and the state licensure examinations. The A.S. Degree also qualifies students to continue their education at a senior university should they so desire.

Students accepted into the program receive a well-rounded general education with a strong emphasis on dental hygiene skills. Classroom instruction and lab experience complement clinical dental hygiene practice. Under the supervision of a licensed dentist and licensed dental hygienists, students provide comprehensive dental hygiene treatment to patients in the modern, well-equipped College Dental Clinic.

This two-year program requires 24 semester hours of general education and 64 semester hours and major field required courses for a total of 88 semester hours. Students will be enrolled in 16-18 credits per semester, attend class 30 hours per week and have 20-30 hours of homework each week.

The IRSC Dental Hygiene program is fully accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation.

Refer to the IRSC website at www.irsc.edu. Click Programs and Careers. Under Search by Interest, choose Health Sciences. In the middle of the page, under Associate in Science (A.S.), click Dental Hygiene. Under Guided Pathways, click Dental Hygiene - A.S.
PROGRAM COMPETENCIES

The following knowledge and skills are those necessary for the competent practice of dental hygiene. Achievement of these competencies will require general education background in: oral and written communications, psychology and sociology. Also required are a foundation in the biomedical sciences of anatomy, physiology, chemistry, biochemistry, microbiology, immunology, general pathology, nutrition and pharmacology.

2-12. Graduates must be competent in providing dental hygiene care for the child, adolescent, adult and geriatric patient. Graduates must be competent in assessing the treatment needs of patients with special needs.

DEH 1800, 1800L, 1802, 1802L, 2804, 2804L, 2806, 2806L: Clinical Dental Hygiene I, II, III, IV; DEH 1300: Pharmacology; DES 2051C: Pain Control and Anesthesia; DES 1051: Nitrous Oxide Monitoring

2-13. Graduates must be competent in providing the dental hygiene process of care which includes:

a) comprehensive collection of patient data to identify the physical and oral health status;
b) analysis of assessment findings and use of critical thinking in order to address the patient’s dental hygiene treatment needs;
c) establishment of a dental hygiene care plan that reflects the realistic goals and treatment strategies to facilitate optimal oral health;
d) provision of patient-centered treatment and evidence-based care in a manner minimizing risk and optimizing oral health;
e) measurement of the extent to which goals identified in the dental hygiene care plan are achieved;
f) complete and accurate recording of all documentation relevant to patient care.

DES 1020: Head, Neck and Dental Anatomy; DEH 2400: General and Oral Pathology; DES 1200 & 1200L: Dental Radiography; DES 1100, 1100L: Elements of Dental Materials; DEH 2702, 2702L: Community Dental Health; PSY 2012: Introduction to Psychology; SYG 2000: Introduction to Sociology

DEH 1003, 1003L: Pre-Clinical Dental Hygiene; DEH 1800, 1800L, 1802, 1802L, 2804, 2804L, 2806, 2806L: Clinical Dental Hygiene I, II, III, IV; DEH 2602, 2602L: Periodontology; DES 1800, 1800L: Introduction to Clinical Procedures; DES 1840, 1840L: Preventive Dentistry; DES 2530C: Expanded Functions for Dental Hygienists; HUN 1201: Nutrition

2-14. Graduates must be competent in providing dental hygiene care for all types of classifications of periodontal disease including patients who exhibit moderate to severe periodontal disease.

DEH 1802, 1802L, 2804, 2804L, 2806, 2806L: Clinical Dental Hygiene II, III, IV; DEH 2602, 2602L: Periodontology and Periodontology Lab; DES 2051C: Pain Control and Anesthesia
2-15. Graduates must be competent in interpersonal and communication skills to effectively interact with diverse population groups and other members of the health care team.

DEH 1800, 1800L, 2804, 2804L: Clinical Dental Hygiene I and III; DES 1840: Preventive Dentistry; DEH 2702, 2702L: Community Dental Health

2-16. Graduates must demonstrate competence in:
   a). assessing the oral health needs of community-based programs.
   b). planning an oral health program to include health promotion and disease prevention activities
   c). implementing the planned program, and
   d). evaluating the effectiveness of the implemented program.

DEH 1802, 1802L, 2806, 2806L: Clinical Dental Hygiene II and IV; DEH 2702, 2702L: Community Dental Health

2-17. Graduates must be competent in providing appropriate life support measures for medical emergencies that may be encountered in dental hygiene practice.

DES 1800, 1800L: Introduction to Clinical Procedures; DES 1600: Health Office Emergencies; CPR Certification

2-18. Where graduates of a CODA accredited dental hygiene program are authorized to perform additional functions required for initial dental hygiene licensure as defined by the program’s state specific dental board or regulatory agency, program curriculum must include content at the level, depth, and scope required by the state. Further, curriculum must content must include didactic and laboratory/preclinical/clinical objectives for the additional dental hygiene skills and functions. Students must demonstrate laboratory/preclinical/clinical competence in performing these skills.


2-19. Graduates must be competent in the application of the principles of ethical reasoning, ethical decision making and professional responsibility as they pertain to the academic environment, research, patient care and practice management.

DEH 1003, 1003L: Pre-Clinical Dental Hygiene; DEH 1800, 1800L, 1802, 1802L: Clinical Dental Hygiene I and II; DEH 2702, 2702L: Community Dental Health; DEH 2804, 2804L, 2806, 2806L: Clinical Dental Hygiene III, IV; DES 2530C: Expanded Functions for Dental Hygienists
2-20. Graduates must be competent in applying legal and regulatory concepts to the provision and/or support of oral health care services.

**DEH 1003, 1003L: Pre-Clinical Dental Hygiene; DEH 1800, 1800L, 1802, 1802L, 2804, 2804L, 2806, 2806L: Clinical Dental Hygiene I, II, III, IV; DES 2530C: Expanded Functions for the dental hygienists.**

2-21. Graduates must be competent in the application of self-assessment skills to prepare them for life-long learning.

**DEH 1800, 1800L, 1802, 1802L, 2804, 2804L, 2806, 2806L: Clinical Dental Hygiene I, II, III, IV; DES 1800, 1800L: Introduction to Clinical Procedures; DES 1840, 1840L: Preventive Dentistry; DEH 2702, 2702L: Community Dental Health**

2-22. Graduates must be competent in the evaluation of current scientific literature.

**DEH 2702, 2702L: Community Dental Health; DEH 1802: Clinical Dental Hygiene II**

2-23. Graduates must be competent in problem solving strategies related to comprehensive patient care and management of patients.

**DEH 1800, 1800L, 1802, 1802L, 2804, 2804L, 2806, 2806L: Clinical Dental Hygiene I, II, III, IV**

**POST-EXPOSURE PROTOCOL**

Refer to IRSC website at [www.irsc.edu](http://www.irsc.edu). Click Programs and Careers, and then Health Science Programs. In the Resources box select Post Exposure Protocol.

**JOB OUTLOOK**

Employment of dental hygienists is expected to **grow much faster than average** for all occupations through 2020, ranking among the fastest growing occupations, in response to increasing demand for dental care and the greater utilization of hygienists to perform services previously performed by dentists. Job prospects are expected to remain excellent.

Population growth and greater retention of natural teeth will stimulate demand for dental hygienists. As dentists’ workloads increase, they are expected to hire more hygienists to perform preventive dental care such as cleaning, so that they may devote their own time to more profitable procedures.

BEGINNING YOUR CAREER IN THE HEALTH SCIENCES AT IRSC

Welcome to the beginning of your career in the Health profession. We are proud that you chose Indian River State College, known for its quality education and its attention to the needs of individual students.

When starting any career, one needs to determine and begin acquiring the qualities of a professional. In the health sciences, there are particular skills that are required and a certain baseline level of background knowledge that must be attained. Like in any profession, learning and acquiring the skills and knowledge is a stepwise process through a series of ever-higher levels of difficulty.

It is unrealistic to expect yourself to enter a rewarding but difficult discipline without sufficient background and appropriate study skills. Some students may not succeed because they expect too much of themselves. They overload themselves with too many or too difficult courses before they have developed their skills enough to be successful. Don't be one of these.

As the old saying goes, "you must learn to walk before you can run." It is our job at IRSC to guide you through your journey to acquire the necessary skills and knowledge you need to obtain your goals. Your job at IRSC is to set reasonable goals, work very hard at attaining your goals and familiarize yourself and follow the stepwise process to becoming a professional.
DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM
PERFORMANCE STANDARDS
For Admission, Progression and Graduation
In Florida Community Colleges

Successful participation and completion of a Dental Hygiene Program requires that an applicant be able to meet the demands of the program. The dental hygiene student must be able to perform academically in a safe, reliable and efficient manner in the classroom, laboratory and in clinical situations. The student must demonstrate the behaviors, skills and abilities necessary to be in compliance with legal and ethical standards as set forth by the American Dental Hygienists’ Association Code of Ethics.

All Florida Dental Hygiene Programs are committed to the principle of diversity. In that spirit, admission to this program is open to all qualified applicants and complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act and with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Throughout the program curriculum, students acquire the foundation of knowledge, attitude, skills and behaviors that are necessary to function as a dental hygienist. Those attitudes, behavior, and skills that a Registered Dental Hygienist must possess to practice safely are reflected in the standards that follow.

Candidates for the degree must be able to meet these minimum standards, with or without reasonable accommodation, for successful completion of degree requirements.

If a student cannot demonstrate the skills and abilities identified for the profession, it is the responsibility of the student to request an appropriate accommodation. The College will provide reasonable accommodation as long as it does not fundamentally alter the nature of the program offered and does not impose an undue hardship such as those that cause a significant expense, difficulty or are unduly disruptive to the educational process.
DENTAL HYGIENE
APPLICATION COVER SHEET

STUDENT NAME__________________________________    Student ID_________________

I have attached the following items: (mark off items submitted with a check mark)

a. REQUIRED ITEMS:
   ___ Proof of information session attendance
   ___ Observational/shadowing experience form
   ___ CPR (card from American Heart Association)
   ___ Infectious Disease form
   ___ Essay
   ___ Resume

b. OPTIONAL ITEMS: (if applicable)
   ___ Certified Dental Assisting National Boards (print from DANB website)
   ___ Graduate from a CODA accredited dental assisting program

Please clearly print your name and student ID on each piece of paper submitted. All documentation must be submitted in order with this cover page on top and stapled in the upper left corner. Portfolio covers, folders and binders will not be accepted.

Please submit cover sheet with supplemental documents to:
Indian River State College
Health Science Division
3209 Virginia Ave
Building H, 3rd Floor, room 308
Fort Pierce, FL 34981
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DENTAL HYGIENE
Information Session Verification

STUDENT NAME ________________________________   Student ID____________________

I,____________________________________________ , attended a Dental Hygiene Program
Name

Information Session on_____________________________ and understand the application
Date

process, requirements and the commitment to learning that is required of a Dental

Hygiene student.

Proof of Attendance
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DENTAL HYGIENE
Observation/Shadowing Form

STUDENT NAME: ________________________________     Student ID: _________________
DENTAL OFFICE: _______________________________________________________________
ADDRESS: ____________________________________________________________________
PHONE NUMBER: _______________________________
DATE(S) OF OBSERVATION/SHADOWING: _________________________________________
NUMBER OF HOURS COMPLETED: _______________________________________________
COMMENTS (To be completed by the dental hygienist):

Please answer Y-Yes or N-No to the following questions:

___ Student arrived on time for scheduled observation/shadowing
___ Student was professionally dressed
___ Student conducted himself/herself professionally
___ Student was able to follow directions and communicated clearly during the experience

Signature of Dental Hygienist____________________________________________________
Print Name___________________________________________________________________

CONFIDENTIALITY STATEMENT
The patient has a right to every consideration of privacy concerning his/her own health care. Case discussion, consultation, examination, and treatment are confidential and should be conducted discreetly. Those not directly involved in the patient’s care must have the permission of the patient to be present. The patient has the right to expect that all communications and records pertaining to his/her care should be treated as confidential.

A Patient’s Bill of Rights (1975)

I am aware that as an applicant to Indian River State College Dental Hygiene program, I may have access to patient information that will remain confidential. I agree to respect and protect the confidentiality of all patient information.

_________________________________________         _______________________________
Applicant Name (Print)                                              Signature
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HEALTH SCIENCE STUDENTS DOING HEALTH CARE WORK
The risk of contracting an infectious disease is greater for the healthcare worker than the general public. However, recommendations for the control of infectious diseases will effectively prevent their spread. Because of the epidemiologic and immunologic link between TB, HIV and AIDS, persons co-infected with HIV and TB have an increased risk of developing active TB.

I. Sharp items, (needles, scalpel blades and other sharp instruments) shall be considered as potentially infective and be handled with extraordinary care to prevent accidental injuries. Proper disposal of sharp items according to OSHA guidelines shall be followed.

2. Disposable syringes and needles, scalpel blades and other sharp items should be placed in puncture resistant containers located as close to practical to the area in which they were used. To prevent needle stick injuries, needles shall not be recapped, purposely bent, broken, removed from disposable syringes or otherwise manipulated by hand.

3. When the possibility of exposure to blood or other body fluid exists, routinely recommended universal precautions should be followed. The anticipated exposure may require gloves alone, as in handling items soiled with blood or other body fluids, or may also require gowns, masks and eye coverings when performing procedures or post-mortem examinations. Hands should be washed thoroughly and immediately if they accidentally become contaminated with blood or body fluids.

4. To minimize the need for emergency mouth-to-mouth resuscitation, mouth-pieces, resuscitation bags or other ventilation devices should be located and available for use in areas where the need for resuscitation is predictable.

5. Pregnant health science students engaged in health care are not known to be at greater risk for contracting infectious diseases than students who are not pregnant. However, if a student develops an infection during pregnancy, an infant has an increased risk of infection through prenatal or perinatal transmission. Because of this risk, pregnant students should be especially familiar with precautions to prevent contracting infectious diseases.

6. For health science students engaged in health care who have been diagnosed as HIV positive, there is an increased danger from infection due to disease. Students who are HIV infected are at risk of acquiring or experiencing serious complications of such diseases. Of particular concern is the risk of severe infection following exposure to patients with easily transmitted infectious diseases (e.g. tuberculosis or chicken pox). HIV infected students will be counseled about potential risk associated with exposure to or taking care of patient with transmissible infections and should continue to follow universal precautions to minimize their risk of exposure to other infectious agents.

7. All health science students will receive an annual Tuberculosis screening. Participation in patient care services is contingent on a negative PPD. In the event of a positive PPD reading, the student must submit a Chest Radiograph as part of the initial evaluation. Current CDC guidelines will be followed regarding further evaluation and management.

8. The determination of whether a student with an infectious disease should be excluded from providing health care shall be made on a case-by-case basis by the student’s physician and the appropriate college officials.

9. Students who are exposed to infectious body fluids in the clinical area must report to the instructor immediately. If at a clinical site, the health care agency shall be notified and the agency protocol for such exposure followed. Additionally, a report must also be submitted to the college Health & Wellness Center via the instructor and the College Post Exposure Protocol will be discussed with the student.

10. In the event of exposure to infectious body fluids occurring either during clinical practicum or classroom practice of medical procedures, the source person and exposed individual will be requested to submit to baseline testing for HBV, HIV, PPD and RPR as appropriate.

I have read and understand this regulation:

Signature _____________________________ Date _____________________________