



Indian River
State College

Dental Hygiene

APPLICATION BOOK

**Summer A (May) Program
2026**

For more information

IRSC Health Science Division
772-462-7550

Healthscience@irsc.edu

IRSC OVERVIEW

INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE (IRSC) is a public, comprehensive college with a statewide and national reputation for excellence. Located in Florida's Treasure Coast region, each of the College's five campuses provide unparalleled educational environments.

IRSC serves approximately 30,000 students annually and offers more than 100 programs leading to Bachelor's degrees, Associate degrees, technical certificates and applied technology diplomas. Continuing a 60-year tradition of responsiveness to community needs, IRSC is committed to advancing educational, cultural, career training, workforce and economic development in its service area.

IRSC was distinguished as the 2019 winner of the prestigious Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, an honor that recognizes outstanding quality in the areas of completion & transfer, labor market outcomes, learning, equity and more. IRSC is one of the few colleges in the nation to earn the Achieving the Dream™ Leader College designation. The College is identified by the United States Department of Education as the most affordable college in Florida and the third-most affordable college in the country.

EA/EO

Indian River State College provides equal employment and educational opportunities to all without regard to race, color, national origin, ethnicity, sex, pregnancy, religion, age, disability, sexual orientation, marital status, veteran status, genetic information, and any other factor protected under applicable federal, state, and local civil rights laws, rules and regulations. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding non-discrimination policies:

Adriene B. Jefferson, Dean of Northwest Center,
Equity Officer & Title IX *Coordinator*
IRSC Massey Campus • 3209 Virginia Ave. • Fort Pierce, FL 34981
772-462-7101

ACCREDITATION

The program in dental hygiene is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and has 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.adha.org

www.cdcaexams.org

www.ada.org

Dental Hygiene Program

APPLICATION FOR SUMMER A PROGRAM



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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 (patient care) 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.

**DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM
(88 CREDITS)
SELECTIVE ADMISSION**

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.

Preference for admission will be given to residents of the four-county service area of IRSC: St. Lucie, Martin, Indian River and Okeechobee counties. Students must update their address via their MyPioneerPortal.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

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

1. ___ Must be 18 years or older.
2. ___ Must have a Standard High School Diploma or GED.
3. ___ Priority selection is based on a point system. Refer to page 6 for recommended courses students should complete with a “C” or better prior to the application deadline date.
4. ___ Courses counted towards the point system must be taken and completed the **term prior** (fall term) to the Application deadline date.
5. ___ Submit completed Indian River State College Application for the Dental Hygiene program online and pay the non-refundable \$30 fee by the deadline date. Keep the receipt.
6. ___ Must have a 3.0 or higher College cumulative GPA.
7. ___ Send official and final transcripts from high school or GED and all post-secondary schools electronically to the Office of Student Record or mail to:

Office of Student Records
Indian River State College, Building W (Crews Hall)
3209 Virginia Avenue, Fort Pierce, FL 34981-5596
8. ___ Read and sign the “***Performance Standards***” form. For **current application** cycle applying.

9. ___ Attend a Dental Hygiene Information Session and submit verification form. For current application cycle applying.
10. ___ Submit verification of Shadowing/Observation of a Dental Hygienist
11. **(Minimum 16 hrs.)**. For current application cycle applying. See page 11 for form
12. ___ Read and sign the “Infectious Disease Protocol” (Page 12). For current application cycle.
13. ___ Submit a short Essay on the observational experience. For current application cycle applying. Use your own words, **AI is not allowed.**
14. ___ Submit resume including community service. For current application cycle applying.
15. ___ Applicants must submit a hard copy in portfolio format with tabs marked for required items in a soft flexible binder **no later than 5pm** on the Application **deadline date** (January 16, 2026) to:

Anna Dacosta
Indian River State College
3209 Virginia Avenue
Building H, 2nd Floor, Room 217
Fort Pierce, FL 34981

*(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.

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 the Health Science Division at 772-462-7550, or toll-free at 866-792-4772 x7550, for additional information.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Prior to beginning the application process:

1. Read the **Dental Hygiene Application Booklet**.
2. Complete and submit the **IRSC Application** for the Dental Hygiene program (\$30 non-refundable fee; keep a copy of your receipt.)

Note: If at any time during the application process you have a change in personal information (name change, address, phone number or emails), submit the changes through **MyPioneerPortal** and the Health Science Division at 772-462-7550.

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 **must attend the program information session**. 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. Registration 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 (February - January).**

APPLICANT REVIEW

The Office of Student Records 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. Must have a Standard High School diploma or GED by application deadline date
3. IRSC Admission status must be complete (receipt of all official and final transcripts).
4. 3.0 IRSC or higher College cumulative GPA.
5. Submission and payment of the IRSC Application for the Dental Hygiene program.
6. All items 1–15 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 hygienist or the office manager. **The student must indicate that they are applying for the IRSC Dental Hygiene program and need to arrange for sixteen (16) 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:

Long 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. Use your own words and experience, AI not accepted.

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:

Science Courses

Course	Grade	Credits	Total
HUN 1201		3	
BSC 2086		3	
BSC 2086L		1	
CHM 1020 or higher		3	
MCB 2010		3	
MCB 2010L		1	
Civic Literacy Exam Passed		1	
Current CDA License		3	
Total Science Points			
Point Scale	A = 5	B = 4	C = 3

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, Meta Major** and then select **Health Science Meta Major**. Go to Dental Hygiene and select **Background Check and Drug Screening Requirements**.

Criminal Background Checks

Refer to the IRSC website at www.irsc.edu. Click **Programs, Meta Major** and then select **Health Science Meta Major**. Go to Dental Hygiene and select **Background Check and Drug Screening 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 via email and may call the Office of Health Science at (772) 462-7550 for clarification on how to strengthen their application.

PROGRAM EXPENSES

Refer to the IRSC website at www.irsc.edu. Click **Programs, Meta Major** and then select **Health Science Meta Major**. Go to **Dental Hygiene** and click on **Dental Hygiene Program 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 by logging into MyPioneerPortal*. Health Science scholarship deadlines will be posted on the website.

For more information, contact the Scholarship Development Coordinator; Sherri Monds at smonds@irsc.edu.

POST-EXPOSURE PROTOCOL

Refer to IRSC website at www.irsc.edu. Click **Programs** and then **Health Science Meta Major**. Go to **Dental Hygiene** and select **Post Exposure Protocol**.

JOB OUTLOOK

Employment of dental hygienists is expected to **grow much faster than average***, 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.

* Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/dental-hygienists.htm> U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

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.



INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE

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:**

- ___ Application to Program completed and \$30 dollar fee paid (For current application cycle applying). Keep receipt.
- ___ Observational/shadowing experience form (for current application cycle applying)
- ___ Performance Standards form (For current application cycle applying)
- ___ Infectious Disease form (For current application cycle applying)
- ___ Essay (For current application cycle applying)
- ___ Resume (For current application cycle applying)
- ___ Information session verification form (For current application cycle applying)

Please clearly print your name and student ID on each piece of paper submitted. All documentation listed above (required and optional), must be submitted in order, along with this cover page on top in a soft flexible binder to:

Anna Dacosta
Indian River State College
3209 Virginia Ave
Building H, 2nd Floor, Room 217
Fort Pierce, FL 34981



INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE

DENTAL HYGIENE OBSERVATION/SHADOWING FORM

STUDENT NAME: _____ Student ID: _____

DENTAL OFFICE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

DATE(S) OF OBSERVATION/SHADOWING: _____

NUMBER OF HOURS COMPLETED: _____

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

COMMENTS (To be completed by the dental hygienist):

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

Indian River State College Health Science Student INFECTIOUS DISEASE PROTOCOL

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.

1. 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 contacting 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 _____

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.

STANDARD	GENERAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT	ESSENTIAL FUNCTION
Motor Skills	<p><i>With or without reasonable accommodation, the student should be able to:</i></p> <p>Demonstrate a high degree of manual dexterity and the ability to execute motor movements reasonably required to provide general treatment and emergency care to patients/clients; adequate strength and ability to perform lifting and patient transfers into a dental chair; the ability to maneuver with functional coordination and mobility in small spaces, as well as be sedentary for several hours at a time.</p>	<p>IT IS REQUIRED THAT THE STUDENT:</p> <p>Be independent in mobility to move quickly in and around the classroom, laboratory, and the clinical operatory.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide for patient safety and well being in positioning of dental chair, dental light and x-ray equipment. • Quickly move from different positions, as required, to perform chairside clinical skills as well as be prepared to administer emergency care procedures. • Exhibit sufficient manual dexterity to manipulate and control small and large motor driven equipment. • Performs dental hygiene instrumentation with hand and ultra-sonic instruments. • Perform expanded duties. • Move adequately from sterilization, reception room, business office, x-ray rooms and clinical operatories. • Successfully complete a CPR Certification course.

Visual	Demonstrate visual acuity and perception sufficient for observation and assessment of needs to insure safe and effective clinical performance.	<p>Observe lecture, and laboratory demonstrations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive information via visual observation, assessment, and evaluation of oral tissues with regard to normal and abnormal conditions. • Demonstrate normal color vision sufficient to recognize subtle changes in oral tissues. • Observe and assess the patient's response to treatment, as well as evaluate the need for individualized oral hygiene care.
Hearing	Demonstrates functional use of hearing to acquire and mentally process information that is heard, and to better monitor and assess patient/client health needs.	<p>Hear and obtain appropriate course information from faculty and peers and to process this information for use in laboratory settings and on examinations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen actively. • Acquire accurate medical history and data collection verbally from the patient or guardian. • Demonstrate the ability to audibly ascertain if a patient is experiencing a medical emergency.
Communication	Demonstrate the ability to communicate clearly with patients/clients, physicians, other health professionals, faculty, family members faculty, significant others, caregivers, community or professional groups and colleagues. Communication includes: verbal and nonverbal expression, reading, writing, computation, and computer skills.	<p>Participate, via in-class and group discussions, in the delivery and receiving of information and in responding to questions from a variety of sources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Display knowledge of basic written grammar and spelling skills. • Report accurately and legibly through progress notes in the patient's chart. • Explain treatment, preventive procedures, and disease processes to patient and/or caregiver in a way that is easily understood. • Communicate with patient/client and faculty regarding patient care and referrals.

Interpersonal	Demonstrates the ability to relate to others verbally beyond giving and receiving instruction, and to cooperate with people from a variety of social, emotional, intellectual and cultural backgrounds.	<p>Develop a concern for others, such as classmates, staff, patients/clients and faculty.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperate with others and work as a team member. • Acquire the ability to maintain poise and flexibility in stressful or changing conditions. • Establish rapport and working relationships with colleagues and patient/clients. • Recognize and respond appropriately to individuals of all ages, genders, races, sexual preferences, socio- economic, religious and cultural backgrounds.
Self Care	Demonstrate the ability to maintain general good health and self-care in order not to jeopardize the health and safety of self and individuals with whom one interacts with in the academic and clinical setting.	<p>Maintain personal hygiene.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate safety habits and work area neatness. • Comply with industry health and safety standards, OSHA guidelines, and material safety data. • Maintain a lifestyle that is consistent with one's educational and professional requirements.
Critical Thinking	Demonstrate critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment and problem solving, to maintain competent judgment under stressful conditions, and to apply quick reaction time in an emergency situation.	<p>Apply critical thinking processes to solve work related problems in the classroom and in various clinical settings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exercise sound judgment in class, laboratory and clinic situations. • Follow safety procedures established for each class, laboratory and clinic. • Be able to self-evaluate and strive to improve technical skills. • Identify problems, take action and be responsible for that decision.
Organizational Skills	Demonstrates ability to handle multi-tasks simultaneously and to operate in a logical, sequential, and orderly manner.	Organize required classroom assignments, laboratory work, and extra-curricular activities each semester into a realistic workable schedule that will facilitate student learning and success.

Intellectual Abilities	Demonstrate the ability to read, write, speak and understand English at a level consistent with successful course completion and with development of positive client-student relationships.	<p>Comprehend and assimilate verbal and written program / course materials.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perform simple and repetitive tasks. • Learn to reconcile conflicting information. • Use proper punctuation, grammar, spelling in written work that is neat and legible. • Follow verbal and written instructions at a 75% or better level of competency.
Commitment to Learning	Demonstrate a positive attitude toward decision- making policies and program operating rules and procedures, as applied, as well as learning new concepts and abilities within the program's operational policies and methods.	<p>Display initiative, motivation, and a willingness to learn.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete reading assignments and other activities in a timely manner. • Complete all work without resorting to cheating or plagiarism. • Attend all class, laboratory and clinicals, as assigned. • Be consistently punctual to all classes, laboratories and clinical assignments.
Affective Learning Skills(Behavioral & Social attitudes)	Demonstrate appropriate affective behaviors and mental attitudes in order not to jeopardize the mental, emotional, physical, and behavioral safety of patients/clients and other individuals with whom one interacts in the academic, laboratory, and clinical setting. Acknowledge and respect individual values and opinions in order to foster harmonious working relationships with colleagues, peers and patients/clients.	<p>Display an ability to sustain the mental and emotional rigors of a demanding educational program, which includes an academic and clinical component, that occurs within set time constraints.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show a willingness to accept challenges; • Be open to feedback. • Follow guidelines and rules for the College and program.

NOTE:

If a student cannot demonstrate the skills and abilities identified above, 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.

Date: _____

I, _____ have read and understand the Essential Functions outlined above as performance standards necessary for being a student in the program and a success in the Dental Hygiene work environment after graduation.