Dear Dental Hygiene Applicant,

Welcome, we are very proud of the excellent dental hygiene program offered here at TSTC, and we are glad you wish to be a part of it! The enclosed packet of information has been prepared to help guide you through the application process. Because admission to the dental hygiene program is extremely competitive, we suggest a meeting with either Raquel Rico, Department Chair of Dental Hygiene (956-364-4702, raquel.rico@tstc.edu), or one of the Dental Hygiene faculty to clarify admission requirements. Students must take the **Test of Essential Academic Skills V (TEAS V)** to be considered eligible candidates for the Dental Hygiene Program. The program is a two-year program and after completion of the program you will receive an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Dental Hygiene. To set up an appointment, call Raquel Rico at (956) 364-4702. We are looking forward to helping you!

Sincerely,

Raquel Rico
Dental Hygiene Program Chair

Ph: 956-364-4702
Fax: 956-364-5162
raquel.rico@tstc.edu

DENTAL HYGIENE DEGREE PLAN 2015-16
DENTAL HYGIENE DEGREE PLAN

COURSE	TITLE	LEC	LAB	CONTACT HOURS	CREDIT HOURS
Pre-requisites					
BIOL 2301 & BIOL 2101	A & P I	3	3	96	4
CHEM 1305 & 1105	Intro to Chem	3	3	96	4
TOTAL HOURS		**6**	**6**	**192**	**8**
FALL SEMESTER					
DHYG 1227	Preventive Dental Hygiene Care	1	3	64	2
DHYG 1301	Orofacial Anatomy, Histology, and Embryology	2	4	96	3
DHYG 1331	Preclinical Dental Hygiene	2	4	96	3
BIOL 2302 & BIOL 2102	A & P II	3	3	96	4
TOTAL HOURS		**8**	**14**	**352**	**12**
SPRING SEMESTER					
DHYG 1304	Dental Radiology	2	3	80	3
DHYG 1211	Periodontology	1	2	48	2
DHYG 1260	Dental Hygienist I	0	10	160	2
BIOL 2320 & BIOL 2120	Microbiology	3	3	96	4
Gen Ed Humanities/Fine Arts Course		3	0	48	3
TOTAL HOURS		**9**	**18**	**432**	**14**
SUMMER SEMESTER					
DHYG 1319	DENTAL MATERIALS	2	3	80	3
DHYG 1261	Dental Hygiene Clinic II	0	8	128	2
DHYG 1235	Pharmacology	1	2	48	2
SOCI 1301	Sociology	3	0	48	3
T0TAL HOURS		**6**	**13**	**304**	**10**
FALL SEMESTER					
PSYC 2301	General Psychology	3	0	48	3
DHYG 1215	Community Dentistry	1	4	80	2
DHYG 1239	General and Oral Path	1	2	48	2
DHYG 2201	Contemporary Dental Hygiene CareI	1	3	64	3
DHYG 2360	Clinic Dental Hygienist III	0	14	224	3
TOTAL HOURS		**6**	**23**	**464**	**12**
SPRING SEMESTER					
DHYG 2153	Dental Hygiene Practice	1	0	16	1
DHYG 1207	General and Dental Nutrition	2	0	32	2
DHYG 2361	Clinic Dental Hygienist IV	0	14	224	3
ENGL 1301	Composition I	3	0	48	3
SPCH	Speech elective	3	0	48	3
TOTAL HOURS		**9**	**14**	**368**	**12**
GRAND TOTAL		**44**	**88**	**2112**	**68**

** Must take TSTC 1101 before 3rd (Spring) Semester

TSTC Dental Hygiene Program Fee Estimate 2015-2017
(PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL FEES ARE ESTIMATED)

Semester One (Pre-requisites)

Tuition and fees (4 credit hours, Texas resident)		512.00
(4 credit hours, Non-Texas resident)		1,200.00
Hepatitis B vaccines		150.00
Update of vaccinations and TB test		150.00
Books		350.00
	Texas resident	**Total 1,162.00**
	Non- Texas resident	**Total 1,850.00**

Semester Two (Fall)

Tuition and fees (12 credit hours, Texas resident)		1,716.00*
(12 credit hours, Non-Texas resident)		3,600.00*
Instrument kit		1,900.00
2 sets of scrubs		150.00
CPR		50.00
Clinic equipment usage fee		100.00
Insurance		60.00
Books		600.00
	Texas resident	**Total 4,576.00**
	Non- Texas resident	**Total 6,460.00**

Semester Three (Spring)

Tuition	(14 credit hours, Texas resident)	2,002.00
	(14 credit hours, non-Texas resident)	4,200.00
Surgical loupes (**MUST be purchased through TSTC)**		1000.00
Disposable clinic supplies, Clinic equipment usage fee		100.00
Insurance		45.00
Books		500.00
	Texas resident	**Total 3,747.00**
	Non- Texas resident	**Total 5,845.00**

Semester Four (Summer)

Tuition (12 credit hours, Texas resident)		1,716.00
(12 credit hours, non-Texas resident)		3,600.00
Disposable clinic supplies, Clinic equipment usage fee		100.00
Insurance		45.00
Books		400.00
	Texas resident	**Total 2,261.00**
	Non- Texas resident	**Total 4,145.00**

Semester Five (Fall)

Tuition (12 credit hours, Texas resident)	1,716.00
(12 credit hours, non-Texas resident)	3,600.00
Disposable clinic supplies, Clinic equipment usage fee	100.00
Insurance	60.00
National Dental Hygiene Exam registrations	385.00
Books	400.00
Texas resident	**Total 2,661.00**
Non- Texas resident	**Total 4.545.00**

Semester Six (Spring)

Tuition (7 credit hours, Texas resident)	1,001.00
(7 credit hours, non-Texas resident)	2,100.00
Disposable clinic supplies, Clinic equipment usage fee	100.00
Insurance	45.00
Western Regional Boards, accommodation, travel	1,800.00
Texas resident	**Total 2,946.00**
Non- Texas resident	**Total 4.045.00**

Program Total Texas Resident	**$17,353.00**
Program Total non-Texas Resident	**$26,890.00**

* Includes TSTC 1101 class

GENERAL INFORMATION AND COMMON QUESTIONS REGARDING 2016 ADMISSION INTO THE TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

(**DISCLAIMER**: The Dental Hygiene Program reserves the right to make changes to the admissions criteria at any time it deems necessary)

PROGRAM ACCREDITATION

The program is fully accredited through the American Dental Association Joint Commission on Dental Accreditation. For more information call Ms. Raquel Rico at 956.364.4702 (e-mail; raquel.rico@tstc.edu) , Tanya Villarreal at 364.4636, or Lori Renteria at 956.364.4696.

COMPLICANCE WITH BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS STANDARDS AND OTHER REGULATORY POLICIES

Dental Hygiene students will come in contact with blood and other potentially infectious materials during the clinical portion of their studies. Prospective Dental Hygiene students are encouraged to start the Hepatitis B vaccination series as early as possible to be complete by the start of the program. TSTC Dental Programs comply with all institutional, local, state, and federal regulations on bloodborne pathogens and infectious diseases, ionizing radiation, and hazardous materials. Students in the Dental Hygiene Program will follow all CDC, OSHA, EPA, and other protective policies to protect themselves and their patients from occupational exposures to these potential hazards. Strict adherence with Privacy Protection (HIPAA) is required of all students, faculty, and staff.

APPLICANT POOL

The program is highly competitive, with the number of applicants varying each year from 100-140. We can accept up to 30 students per class, if appropriate. Acceptance is strictly based on the objective selection criteria outlined on page nine of this packet, with only qualified applicants being accepted.

WHAT ARE MY CHANCES OF GETTING ACCEPTED?

There is a minimum grade point average of 2.0 needed in order to apply. Admission to the Dental Hygiene Program is highly competitive. Success in your academic courses will help prepare you for the **Test of Essential Academic Skills V (TEAS V)** and program science course GPAs count in the selection process.

COSTS

The cost of the entire dental hygiene program for Texas residents is approximately $17,353. This figure includes tuition and fees, instruments, and clinical/laboratory supplies, Hepatitis B and meningitis vaccinations, CPR certification, membership in the Student American Dental Hygiene Association, liability and health and accident insurance, and licensure examinations.

CURRICULUM SCHEDULE

You should expect to be in class from 8:00-5:00 Monday through Friday, with some evening clinicals. If you transfer courses into the program you have a lighter schedule but the two-year program is not shorter. While you may not be scheduled in class or clinic from 8:00-5:00, most students spend the “off” hours studying, using learning resources in the library, etc.

CAN I WORK DURING THE PROGRAM?
We strongly recommend that you **do not** work because the program requires much classroom and study time. Some students work part-time, however, securing financial aid in the form of loans, grants or scholarships is strongly recommended.

PREVIOUS DENTAL EXPERIENCE
No prior work experience in any health related field is necessary to be considered for admissions. Graduation from an **ADA/CODA accredited** dental assisting program, TSTC- Harlingen's Dental Assistant Program, **or** two years experience as a dental assistant adds to the applicant's total selection score.

FINANCIAL AID
Many students obtain some form of financial aid, usually as loans or grants. You should understand that Financial Aid grants will not cover all of the program costs, and it may be necessary to take out student loans. You may call the Financial Aid office at 956.364.4332 for information on application for financial aid.

WHAT SALARY CAN I EXPECT AS A DENTAL HYGIENIST?
Depending on the geographic location in Texas, you may expect to earn from $200-250 per day as a **new** graduate in a private general dentistry practice. Surveys have shown there is oidemand for dental hygienists in the Rio Grande Valley, and an high demand for dental hygienists outside the immediate area.

WILL CLASSES FROM ANOTHER SCHOOL TRANSFER?
Transfer credit (within the past 5 years) in general education and general science courses are evaluated by the Dental Hygiene Department Chair and the Program Chair of the Department for which the Director of Admissions requests the transfer credit, with final approval. Only grades of "C" or above may be used for transfer credit. Proper forms, available at the Admissions Office, must be completed in order for transfer credit to be awarded.
Specific dental hygiene courses and dental-related courses cannot be transferred. At the present time, there is no credit by examination for courses, nor is "advanced standing" status granted for the dental hygiene program. General education and general science course credit obtained while attending a foreign college or university must follow the same process for U.S. college credit. **No credit** will be transferred for dental hygiene or dental school courses obtained while attending a foreign college or university. Note: This is the ruling of the American Dental Association Council on Dental Accreditation.

ARE THERE ADDITIONAL PREREQUISITE CLASSES NOT LISTED IN THE CURRICULUM?
TSTC 1101 is a mandatory class that must be taken before the 3rd or Spring Semester unless you have 24 credit hours of previous college experience or have taken HRPO 1311.

TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE HARLINGENDENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM
ACCEPTANCE POLICY FOR THE CLASS OF 2015-2015

Notice: It is important for prospective Dental Hygiene (DHYG) Program students to understand that meeting admission requirements to be admitted to TSTC-Harlingen as a general student with a DHYG major code does not mean that the student has been accepted for full continuance in and completion of the DHYG program. **Applicants for the DHYG program must ALSO make a formal application to the Dental Hygiene Program by March 1, 2016 and fulfill all other requirements described below to be considered as an applicant.** Approximately 30 DHYG students will be officially accepted to complete the DHYG Program and be allowed to take DHYG prefix courses.

DISCLAIMER: The DHYG program reserves the right to make changes to the admissions criteria at any time it deems necessary.

The following steps are involved in acceptance/continuance in the DHYG program:

STEP 1 Apply for general acceptance to TSTC Harlingen by submission of Admission Application. Applications to the college may be done on-line by contacting www.tstc.harlingen.edu **This is in addition to the Dental Hygiene Application.** Please note that International students have additional requirements. Please call 956-364-4690 for further information.

STEP 2 Communicate with a TSTC advisor, 956-364-4775 to discuss eligibility to become TSI complete. TSI measures Reading, Writing, and Math skills.

STEP 3 Take the **Test of Essential Academic Skills V (TEAS V)** during the month of January, 2016. The TEAS V test is a nationally normed test developed to measure basic essential skills in the academic areas of reading, mathematics, science, and English and language usage that has been proven to be an accurate predictor of success in health occupations. The test will be administered at the TSTC counseling center during the month of January, 2016 for a fee of $70.00. $45.00 must be paid by credit card in the student's name at the time of the test, and $25.00 test administration fee paid at the cashier's office and a receipt must be shown for admittance to the test. It is a timed test of about 4 hours and for the convenience of our students, applicants can take the computer test between 8 am -1:00 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays, or Thursdays no later than 5. The test is also offered on Saturdays if arriving no later than 8:30 am at the Testing Center in the Student Center. If you have questions, please call the Testing Center at 956.364.4308. Test dates are from January 5, 2016 to January 30, 2016 **with no exceptions**. Please don't wait until the last week to take the test. Retakes are not allowed, and test scores are only valid for one year. Prep materials are available for purchase at atitesting.com. Click on create a new account and follow the screen prompts. **You will need to preregister <u>before</u> taking the test at ari.testing.com.** Please remember your user name and password for the day of the test. You may also call ATI Testing at 1-800 667-7531 for clarification.

STEP 4 **A completed TSTC Dental Hygiene Program application must be filed by March 1, 2016** using the form available in this packet or at the program. Applicants must attach TSI verification to the application. Applicants will receive notification of their acceptance into the program by March 30, 2015. **NOTE**: Prospective applicants are strongly advised to make an appointment and meet with the program chairperson, Ms. Raquel Rico to ensure understanding of the application process.

STEP 5 Upon acceptance into the DHYG Program, the following basic program courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or better, and a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 or better must be maintained.

These courses <u>MUST</u> be completed prior to beginning the DHYG program in August, 2016:

BIOL 2301 & 2101 Anatomy and Physiology I
CHEM 1305 &1105 Intro to Chem

Failure to complete this course by the start of the Fall semester 2016with a 2.0 or better will result in the loss of the candidate's acceptance status in the Dental Hygiene Program. The candidate will be dropped from the program and an alternate candidate who has successfully passed the class will be accepted.

IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT THE CANDIDATE COMPLETE ALL NON-DENTAL HYGIENE COURSES BEFORE THE AUGUST START DATE TO FACILITATE SUCCESS IN THE RIGOROUS DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM.

STEP 6 Students accepted into the TSTC-HARLINGEN Dental Hygiene Program will be required to return a **NON-REFUNDABLE $300.00 deposit** which will be applied to the student's instrument kit with their letter of acceptance by May 1, 2016 to ensure their position in the entering class of the Fall of 2016.

DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM ACCEPTANCE PROCEDURES:

I. The DHYG Program Admissions Committee applies an **objective** program acceptance formula to each applicant's file in making **all** program acceptance/continuance decisions. ***The committee will review only complete those applicants who have completed both TSTC and Dental Hygiene Program applications; have taken the HOBET test, and have satisfied THEA requirements.*** The following formula will result in a composite score used to determine qualified applicants.

II.	**Selection Factors**	**Possible Points**
1.	**Accepted as Student to TSTC**	
2.	**Completed Dental Hygiene Application**	
3.	**Test of Essential Academic Skills V (TEAS V)**	Composite Score
4.	Graduate from **TSTC Dental Assisting Program** or an American Dental Association accredited Dental Assisting Program	5 points
	OR	
5.	**2 years or more as Clinical Dental Assistant**	3 points
6.	**Each of the completed required science courses;** **A = 2 points** **B = 1 point.** Chemistry, Anatomy and Physiology I, Anatomy and Physiology II, and Microbiology	8 possible points
		Total Points = Selection Score

III The applicants with the **highest selection scores** will be offered acceptance into the DHYG Program. The Department Chair will notify applicants who are accepted in writing. Only those applicants receiving this official letter of acceptance/continuance will be allowed to register for the DHYG prefix courses and continue the program degree plan. In the case of a tie, the candidate with the highest GPA based on general college courses will receive admission into the program.

IV All other DHYG majors and applicants **not** accepted for acceptance/continuance in the program must re-apply to the DHYG Program for the next annual DHYG class to be evaluated and selected. No preference will be given to applicants from one year to the next.

V. **Alternate List**

Students who meet the qualifications for the DHYG Program but are **not** among the top 30 may be placed on the alternate list in rank order based on the formula score. In the event that an applicant who is accepted declines the position in the class, the first available applicant on the alternate list will be offered this position.

Applicants on the alternate list who are not ultimately offered a position in the current year's class, and who wish to re-apply for the next year's class will be expected to complete a new application with the DHYG Program. Those students placed on the alternate list will **not** receive any preferential selection due to their prior status on the alternate list.

VI. Non-Acceptance

Applicants who are not selected for acceptance/continuance by the DHYG Selection Committee are sent official letters to that effect by the Dental Hygiene Department Chair All applicants not accepted will be offered the opportunity for academic counseling with a member of the DHYG faculty to discuss ways to improve future application scores. However, this counseling does not provide any guarantees that the applicant will be accepted in the future.

VII. Summary of Selection Process for DHYG Program Acceptance/Continuance

Step 1 Admissions Office receives completed TSTC application form and transcripts.

Step 2 Applicant takes **Test of Essential Academic Skills V (TEAS V)** during January, 2016.

Step 3 Applicant completes DHYG application from the DHYG Program before March 1, 2016
PLEASE NOTE: The Dental Hygiene Application is separate from the College application. You must apply to both to be considered.

Step 4 DHYG Selection Committee selects the top 30 applicants based on program acceptance formula.

Step 5 Letters of Acceptance/Denial/Alternate List status are mailed out to applicants by March 31, 2016.

Step 6 Accepted students return their letters of acceptance and a $300.00 non-refundable instrument kit deposit by May 1, 2016.

Step 7 Applicant completes Anatomy and Physiology I and Intro to Chem and show documentation of required immunizations before start of the Fall, 2016 courses.

Step 8 Applicants on the Alternate List will be offered positions in the current class as they become available.

Step 9 Applicants **not** selected for the current year **MUST** re-apply to the DHYG Program the following year if they would like to be considered.

Dental Hygiene Program
Requirement Checklist

STUDENT NAME_____Date_____
Student signature_____

NEEDED BY DATE OF DENTAL HYGIENE ORIENTATION:

Shot record to include the following:

____ Tetanus-Diphtheria or dTap within past 10 years

____ Measles, Mumps & Rubella —2 on or after the first birthday

____ TB test within past 3 months

____ HEP B injection 1st series
____ HEP B injection 2nd series
____ HEP B injection 3rd series

____ Meningitis

NEEDED BY FIRST DAY OF CLASS EVERY SEMESTER:

PROOF OF INSURANCE: (Invoice from TSTC Business Office)

____ Malpractice (only once a year)

____ Accident

____ Needlestick

Other:
____ Books for DHYG courses

____ Valid Texas driver's license or Texas identification

TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE HARLINGEN
DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

2016 APPLICATION FORM

(Please type or print in black ink both sides of this form)

Date of application _____/_____/_____ Social Security Number _____-_____-_____

I. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Date of Birth_____ _____Male _____Female

Name _____
(Last) (First) (MI) (Maiden)

Current Mailing Address: _____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

E-mail address _____

Current telephone _____ Cell Phone_____

Permanent Address _____
(Street) (County) (City) (State) (Zip)

(OFFICIAL SCORES MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH APPLICATION)

Have you taken the Health Occupations Basic Entrance Test V? _____ Score

II. DENTAL EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Employer	City/State	Position	Dates
_____	_____	_____	_____to_____
_____	_____	_____	_____to_____

DENTAL ASSISTANT EMPLOYMENT MUST BE DOCUMENTED BY EMPLOYER LETTER INCLUDING DATES.

III. EDUCATION BACKGROUND

In the space below, list ALL schools (high school and/or college) you have attended. If you have **graduated** from an American Dental Association **accredited** Dental Assisting Program, please list.)

Name of School	City	State	Dates of Attendance MO/YR to MO/YR	Degree OR Sem./Qtr. Hrs.

IV. CURRENT COURSEWORK

Please check the following courses that you have completed**. You will need to support this with transcript documentation which must be attached to this application.**

Please Check	Course Title	Grade received	Year taken	Name of School
	INTRO TO CHEMISTRY			
	ENGL 1301 COMPOSITION I			
	PSYC 2301 GENERAL PSYCHOLOGY			
	BIOL 2401 (2301 & 2101) ANATOMY AND PHYS I			
	BIOL 2402 (2302 & 2102) ANATOMY AND PHYS II			
	BIOL 2420 (2320 & 2120) MICROBIOLOGY			
	SPCH ELECTIVES			
	HUMANITIES (ARTS 1301, MUSI 1306, ETC)			

I understand that the Admissions Committee will not regard this application as "complete" until all supporting papers have been received; therefore, it is to my interest to see that these are submitted as promptly as possible. It is also my understanding that official transcripts sent directly from each school I have attended must be received by the Admissions Office as soon as possible at the end of each successive semester or quarter for as long as my application is being considered.

I understand that as a Dental Hygiene Student, I will be exposed to blood and body fluids. Texas State Technical College will not be held responsible for injury sustained during clinical experiences. As a student, I am to carry my own medical and accident insurance. Proof of such insurance must be kept on file in the Dental Hygiene Program Office. I also understand that as a Dental Hygiene Student I will be required to obtain the Hepatitis B and other vaccinations as required by the Texas Department of Health before enrolling into the Program.

I further understand that officials of Texas State Technical College determining my status for admission will rely upon the information submitted herein. I certify that the information in this application is complete and correct and I understand that the submission of false information is grounds for rejection of my application, withdrawal of any offer of acceptance, cancellation of enrollment, or appropriate disciplinary action.

_____

Signature of Applicant **Date**

This completed Dental Hygiene application form must be received at TSTC by March 1, 2016.

Mail to:
Texas State Technical College Dental Hygiene Program
Raquel Rico, Dental Hygiene Program Chair
1902 N. Loop 499
Harlingen, TX 78550