

# Dental Hygiene

## The Program

A dental hygienist examines patients' teeth and gums, cleans teeth, administers local anesthesia, takes dental X-rays, applies fluoride treatments and sealants to teeth, and educates patients about proper oral health care.

The two-year program of sequenced courses is accredited by the American Dental Association and the North Central Accrediting Board. This accreditation entitles graduates to sit for the National Board examinations for dental hygienists and the North East Regional Board examination eligibility for licensure in the State of Illinois or other adjoining states.

## Degrees and Certificates

Dental Hygiene—A.A.S. Degree



## Career Opportunities

According to the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics, dental hygiene is projected to be one of the 20 fastest-growing occupations. As dentists' workloads increase, they are expected to hire more hygienists to perform preventive dental care so that they may devote their own time to more complex procedures.

## About the Curriculum

PSC's Dental Hygiene program is taught by four full-time, licensed dental hygienists and two contracted, licensed dentists. In addition to this core team of faculty, are adjunct faculty made up of both hygienists and dentists, many of whom are working in the community. This combination of real-world dental experience and dynamic classroom instruction enables PSC students to enjoy the best of both worlds. The program combines courses in general education, basic science, dental science, and clinical science with learning experiences in the Dental Hygiene Clinic. Graduates of this program are eligible to sit for state and regional licensing examinations. Courses must be completed in sequence. Those who desire part-time college enrollment may enroll only in the general education courses prior to applying for entry into the Dental Hygiene program.

All application requirements must be completed and submitted by the deadline date of February 15. The Dental Hygiene program begins each year during the first summer session which begins the day after Memorial Day.



## For More Information

Contact Barbara Kelly-Gorbitz, coordinator of dental hygiene, at (708) 709-3714, or e-mail [bgorbitz@prairiestate.edu](mailto:bgorbitz@prairiestate.edu).

## Reasons to Attend

### Prairie State College

- Fully accredited
- Credits that transfer
- Small classes
- Great career programs
- Dedicated professors
- Convenient scheduling
- Free tutoring and open computer labs

### Admissions

PSC offers open admission that encourages diversity and admits all high school graduates or the equivalent.

Here's how to start your college career at PSC:

- Provide a high school diploma or GED.
- Take the COMPASS Placement Test or submit a copy of ACT scores.
- Meet with an advisor from Counseling and Advising to select courses. For questions, contact an academic advisor at (708) 709-3506.



## Financial Aid Information

PSC's tuition is affordable, and financial aid is available through a variety of sources. Additional information at [prairiestate.edu/finaid](http://prairiestate.edu/finaid).

### How to Apply

#### 1. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)

The school code for PSC is 001640. Apply online at [fafsa.gov](http://fafsa.gov).

#### 2. Notification from Department of Education

If you listed PSC's school code in your FAFSA, the college's Financial Aid Office will receive your report in approximately 14 days.

#### 3. Notification from PSC

Once PSC receives your FAFSA from the Dept. of Education, a letter is mailed to the student indicating needed documents. Students are required to complete the PSC financial aid application.

#### 4. Determination Letter

Once all documents are completed, an award or ineligible letter is issued.

### PSC Financial Aid Opportunities:

- PSC Board of Trustees Scholarships cover tuition and fees for two years.
- The PSC Foundation awards more than \$75,000 in scholarships annually.

For more information about how to obtain financial aid, call (708) 709-3562 or e-mail Alice Garcia at [agarcia@prairiestate.edu](mailto:agarcia@prairiestate.edu).

### Gainful Employment Disclosure

Visit [prairiestate.edu/ge](http://prairiestate.edu/ge) for important information about our gainful employment programs.

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Comm 04/12

 **Prairie State College**

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