SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT “LIMITED ACCESS” PROGRAMS

Some of the programs in Health Science offered at Horry Georgetown Technical College are classified as limited access programs, meaning they may have special or particular or additional admission and/or placement requirements beyond those normally required by the College. In many cases, these requirements include prerequisite classes that must be completed prior to the student’s placement into courses in the particular program area. Applicants must complete HGTC Admission requirements and the additional program admission requirements.

Because of prerequisite requirements that may exist for limited access programs, the following curriculum displays are for information only and should not be interpreted as an exact representation of course progression, but for information purposes only, outlining program course requirements necessary for completing a particular program of study. Students should confer with the Health Science Advisor on the Conway Campus or Grand Strand Campus, or the New Student Enrollment Advisor on the Georgetown Campus for more specific information.

It is the student’s responsibility to be aware of all limited access program admission, program advancement and program prerequisite requirements, and to be fully informed of any wait times that may exist for placement into a particular limited access program of study.

Programs with limited access admission, placement and/or prerequisite requirements are designated as limited access in the following descriptions.

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS AND URINE DRUG SCREENING

Many of the programs of study in Health Science REQUIRE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF A MANDATORY CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK AND URINE DRUG SCREENING prior to placement in clinical rotation. Students whose Criminal Background Check and/or Urine Drug Screening disqualify them from placement in clinical rotation will be declared ineligible for continued enrollment AND REMOVED FROM THE PROGRAM. Even if students have a clean or acceptable Criminal Background Check and/or Urine Drug Screening, it is the STUDENT’S RESPONSIBILITY TO NOTIFY the Office of Student Affairs or the Program Director at HGTC if any incident occurs during enrollment that may disqualify him/her from placement eligibility. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action and removal from the program.

ALL COSTS related to Criminal Background Checks, Urine Drug Screenings and further requirements ARE SOLELY THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT.

Degree: Associate in Applied Science
Major: DENTAL HYGIENE (DHG3) – Limited Access Program
Credit Requirements: 83 semester credit hours

Criminal Background Check Required: YES  
Urine Drug Screening Required: YES

The Dental Hygiene program prepares the student to provide direct patient care in the detection and prevention of oral diseases under the supervision of a dentist as required by law. The Dental Hygienist’s major role is as an educator and includes designing individualized dental hygiene patient treatment and education. The Dental Hygienist is qualified to evaluate patient medical histories, take and record blood pressure, chart conditions of periodontal disease and decay for diagnosis by the dentist, conduct oral cancer screening examinations, educate the patient on the latest techniques of oral home care and perform a thorough cleaning of the patients’ teeth. The Dental Hygienist is also qualified to apply sealants and fluoride for the prevention of decay, expose and develop radiographs, and provide nutritional counseling for dental patients.

Dental Hygiene program students receive their education in a modern, well-equipped on-campus dental clinic, under the direct supervision of licensed dentists and hygienists.

Students are eligible to take national and state board examinations. Upon successful completion of these examinations, the dental hygienist will be licensed and recognized as a Registered Dental Hygienist.

Career opportunities are readily available in a private dental practice, public health departments, hospitals, industrial clinics, health insurance companies, research, marketing and dental hygiene education. The flexibility of working hours, whether full or part-time employment, allows the dental hygienist to maintain a balance between career and other personal goals. Financial rewards are excellent and the work is challenging.
Note: Criminal background checks and drug testing are required of all students enrolling in this program. Felony or misdemeanor convictions could result in applicants and/or students being ineligible for licensure following completion of the program. Please contact the Admissions Office for more information.

**ACCEPTANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Applicants will be accepted into the Dental Hygiene program by completing a weighted admission form. Students with the highest scores will receive admission to the program. A “waiting list” of applicants will not be maintained for future admission. An applicant who receives notification that he/she was not admitted to the program must notify the Admission Office in writing by the program application deadline date to be considered for admission to the next available class. Weighted admission forms are available in the College’s Admissions office.

The following requirements for a completed application MUST be submitted to the Admissions Office by the application deadline date:

- Meet the criteria for admission to HGTC. This includes submission of application fee; official high school transcript, including graduation date or copy of GED; and official college transcripts;
- Minimum placement test scores from one of the following tests: SAT, ACT, or COMPASS (College placement test). The Developmental Studies course sequence will be required if minimum placement test scores are not achieved. Transfer students must meet the College transfer student admission requirements;
- Completion of the four prerequisite courses with a grade of “C” or higher: BIO 210 Anatomy & Physiology I, CHM 105 General, Organic and Biochemistry, CPT 101 Introduction to Computers, and ENG 101 English Composition I. Some of these courses may have time limits, so please refer to the transfer credit limit section in the catalog;
- May not have more than two unsuccessful attempts in a Dental Hygiene curriculum General Education course;
- Cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher in all required Dental Hygiene curriculum courses. A minimum grade of “C” is required in all DHG courses;
- Attend an information session with a Dental Hygiene faculty member and obtain a signed statement verifying attendance;
- Complete 10 hours of clinical observation: 5 in a private dental office observing the dental hygienist and 5 in the HGTC Dental Hygiene Clinic. (Observation forms will be available at the information session);
- Completion of a criminal background check and a drug screening test. This will be repeated annually;
- Review and acknowledge the Technical Standards of the Dental Sciences Department;
- Payment of a non-refundable tuition deposit; and,
- All applicants must be at least 18 years of age at the time of admission to the program.

**TECHNICAL ACCEPTANCE STANDARDS**

The Dental Sciences Department—the Dental Hygiene and Expanded Duty Dental Assisting programs—requires specific technical standards. These standards refer to all non-academic admissions criteria essential for program participation. In order to be considered, admitted or retained in the program after admission, all applicants with or without accommodations must possess the following abilities:

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

The student must have use of both hands and dexterity in the fingers to manipulate dental instruments, materials, dental hand pieces and to operate dental equipment. The use of the feet is necessary to manipulate foot pedals for hand pieces and other adjunct dental equipment. Body build must fit into dental operator’s stool in order to perform dental hygiene procedures. The ability to stand for duration of time is also necessary.

**DATA CONCEPTION**

The student must possess the ability to gather, classify and interpret information about data, people or things, be able to carry out appropriate actions in relation to the data received.

**VISUAL COLOR DISCRIMINATION**

The student must be able to differentiate various shades of colors in a limited environment and space in the oral cavity. Must be able to distinguish various gradations from black to white on dental radiographs.

**MANUAL DEXTERITY/MOTOR COORDINATION**

The student must be able to manipulate dental instruments to discern changes in surface textures, manipulate dental instruments without causing trauma to dental tissues, and to control pressure exerted by dental hand pieces on dental tissue to prevent injury to those tissues.
PHYSICAL COMMUNICATION
The student must be able to perceive sound through telephone, hear commands through operator’s face mask and discern blood pressure sounds through a stethoscope.

REASONING DEVELOPMENT
The student must be able to apply principles of logical or scientific thinking to define problems, collect data, establish facts, and draw valid conclusions.

VISUAL ACUITY
The student must be able to identify the working ends of various dental instruments implements at a 2 foot distance.

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT
The student must be able to read and comprehend complex information from scientific and/or technical journals, papers, textbooks, etc. Also, the student must be able communicate the same type of complex information through speech and in writing using proper format, punctuation, spelling, grammar and using all parts of speech, as well as communicating technical information to patients at a level so that the patient understands his/her dental condition. The student also must speak clearly with correct pronunciation of dental and medical terms.

NUMERICAL ABILITY
The student must be able to determine percentages, convert fractions, ratio, and proportions as well as basic subtraction, addition, multiplication, and division. Must have the ability to understand and interpret the implications and meanings of the numerical values.

FORM/SPATIAL ABILITY
The student must be able to view in 3-dimensional relationships, distinguish subtle changes from one form or shape to another, discriminate intricate measurements.

PERSONAL TEMPERAMENT
The student must be able to maintain a professional attitude and appearance, and be able to deal with stress produced by course load, clinical requirements and patient attitude. Also, students must adapt to change and function and focus in an environment with multiple extraneous stimuli.

COURSE SEQUENCE AND PROGRESSION
• Maintain a minimum grade of “C” in all Dental Hygiene curriculum courses. Failure of one Dental Hygiene course will result in the student being dropped from the curriculum with eligibility for readmission the next time the course is offered. Readmission will be on a space available basis and the student will also be required to meet all admission requirements for readmission. (Refer to Re-Acceptance section below);
  • Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher;
  • Submit evidence of and maintain current CPR Healthcare Provider certification throughout the Dental Hygiene curriculum;
  • Submit a completed Health Sciences Division physical examination record by the announced deadline in the first semester; and,
  • Must meet all course requirements, including attendance, according to the policies stated in the course syllabus (required to pass the course). Certain general education courses have credit time limits.

For the Associate Degree in Dental Hygiene the following course time limits apply: DHG courses; Biology 210, 211 and 225; and CPT 101. See the transfer credit time limit section of the catalog.

RE-ACCEPTANCE
A student may not be re-accepted to the Dental Hygiene program more than once. Each candidate for re-acceptance to the Dental Hygiene program will be considered on the basis of space availability in both theory and clinical courses. Students who receive a W, D, or F in the curriculum course may request consideration for re-acceptance to the Dental Hygiene program. Re-acceptance is not automatic. The following policies and procedures for re-acceptance must be followed:

• Submit a written request to the Dental Hygiene Department Chair;
• Have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better to include all curriculum and general education courses within the major;
• Schedule and attend a conference with the Dental Hygiene Department Chair to discuss the student’s written plan of activities related to successful completion of the program;
• Students reaccepted to the curriculum will be expected to update competencies prior to re-entering the program;
• Dental Hygiene courses older than two calendar years will not be accepted;
• Dental Hygiene curriculum general education courses may not be repeated more than twice; and,
• Dental Hygiene courses may not be repeated more than once.

Decisions regarding re-acceptance of students to the Dental Hygiene program are made by the Dental Hygiene Department Chair in collaboration with the entire Dental Science faculty.

**TRANSFER**
Students seeking transfer of credit from Dental Hygiene programs at other institutions will be considered on an individual, space available basis. Transfer candidates must:
• Submit a written request to the Dental Hygiene Department Chair;
• Meet all requirements for the completed application to the Dental Hygiene program;
• Meet all minimum requirements for acceptance to the Dental Hygiene program;
• Have Dental Hygiene courses that are not older than two calendar years;
• Not have repeated a Dental Hygiene course more than once;
• Not have repeated a Dental Hygiene curriculum general education course more than twice;
• Have earned a grade of “C” or better in all Dental Hygiene and support courses taken at the institution from which he or she is seeking transfer credit;
• Submit a letter of recommendation from the previous Dental Hygiene program; and,
• Complete at least the last two semesters in the Dental Hygiene program in order to receive a Dental Hygiene associate degree from Horry Georgetown Technical College.

Students transferring to the Dental Hygiene program may be expected to update competencies prior to entering the program.

**SUPPLIES**
Students will be responsible for items above and beyond tuition, such as instruments, uniforms and clinical supplies.

**ADVANCED PLACEMENT**
The Dental Hygiene Program does not currently accept advanced placement students. All courses with a DHG prefix, as well as AHS 113, are reserved for Dental Hygiene majors. All courses must be completed with a grade of “C” or higher. Grades below “C” are considered course failures.

**PREREQUISITES FOR ACCEPTANCE**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIO 210</td>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology I</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHM 105</td>
<td>General, Organic &amp; Biochemistry*</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPT 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Computers</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENG 101</td>
<td>English Composition</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
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*A prerequisite for BIO 210 (CHM 110) may be substituted for CHM 105.

**FIRST SEMESTER (FALL)**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AHS 113</td>
<td>Head &amp; Neck Anatomy</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 211</td>
<td>Anatomy and Physiology II</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIO 225</td>
<td>Microbiology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHG 125</td>
<td>Tooth Morphology &amp; Histology</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHG 151</td>
<td>Dental Hygiene Principles</td>
<td>5</td>
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**SECOND SEMESTER (SPRING)**

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<tr>
<td>DHG 121</td>
<td>Dental Radiography</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>DHG 141</td>
<td>Periodontology</td>
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<td>DHG 165</td>
<td>Clinical Dental Hygiene I</td>
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<tr>
<td>DHG 243</td>
<td>Nutrition</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPC 205</td>
<td>Public Speaking</td>
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### THIRD SEMESTER (SUMMER)

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<tr>
<td>DHG 175</td>
<td>Clinical Dental Hygiene II</td>
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<tr>
<td>DHG 239</td>
<td>Dental Assisting for Dental Hygienists</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAT 101*</td>
<td>Beginning Algebra</td>
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<td>PSY 201</td>
<td>General Psychology</td>
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### FOURTH SEMESTER (FALL)

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<td>DHG 140</td>
<td>General and Oral Pathology</td>
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<tr>
<td>DHG 143</td>
<td>Dental Pharmacology</td>
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<tr>
<td>DHG 230</td>
<td>Public Health Dentistry</td>
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<tr>
<td>DHG 241</td>
<td>Integrated Dental Hygiene I</td>
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<tr>
<td>DHG 255</td>
<td>Clinical Dental Hygiene III</td>
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### FIFTH SEMESTER (SPRING)

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<td>DHG 242</td>
<td>Integrated Dental Hygiene II</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DHG 265</td>
<td>Clinical Dental Hygiene IV</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOC 101</td>
<td>Introduction to Sociology</td>
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<td><strong>Humanities</strong></td>
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**Total Credit Hours** 83

*Students interested in transferring to a senior institution to complete a Bachelor’s degree may elect to take the following courses: MAT 110 in lieu of MAT 101 and CHM 110 in lieu of CHM 105. Please note that BIO 210 has a prerequisite of BIO 112, BIO 101 or CHM 110. It is the responsibility of students who plan to transfer to verify the transferability of credits and other transfer issues with the receiving institution prior to enrolling in classes at HGTC.

**Humanities:** ART 101, HIS 101, HIS 102, HIS 201, HIS 202, PHI 101, PHI 103, PHI 110, MUS 105, SPA 107

In addition to tuition and fees, the initial estimated expenses of the Dental Hygiene program include:

- Books: $700
- CPR (Healthcare Provider): $40
- Physical: $150
- Hepatitis Vaccine: $80
- Uniforms, shoes, name badge: $250
- Background check/drug screening: $91
- Blood pressure kit & stethoscope: $60
- Instruments, to include magnification loupes: $2,000
- Clinic supplies (gloves, etc.): $500
- National Board Exam Fee: $400
- National Board Review Course: $800
- Clinical Exam Fee: $1,500
- Student Association Dues (per year): $65
- Estimated Total: $6701