

Application Criteria Dental Hygiene Program

Fall 2025

March 4th, 2025, through June 2nd, 2025.

Thank you for your interest in the Dental Hygiene (DH) program at Isothermal Community College. Please read this information thoroughly. We want to make sure you have the best possible chance of being selected by completing all processes and submitting all necessary application documents completely, correctly and by the deadline. Please call the dental assisting director with any questions at 828-395-4440 or sjenkins@isothermal.edu

You must be a high school graduate or have an Adult High School or High School Equivalency (HSE) diploma to be eligible to enter any allied health program and have self-certified this requirement on your Isothermal Community College application.

CHEMISTRY REQUIRED

To apply for the Dental Hygiene program, you must have successfully completed CHEM 130, 130A.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS *(Prior to Application)*

Successful completion of the following two (3) courses with a grade of "C" or higher from a regionally accredited institution is required *prior to applying to the program.*

- Basic Anatomy and Physiology (BIO 163, 168 or acceptable substitute)
- General, Organic and Biochemistry (CHM 130/130A or acceptable substitute)
- ACA 122 College Transfer Success

THE APPLICATION PERIOD

We will begin accepting applications March 4, 2025, for the DH class that begins fall semester 2025. All deadlines and requirements in this document must be met to be eligible to apply. The deadline to apply will be on Monday June 2nd 2025.

Please note: Alternates will be accepted after the application deadline of June 2nd, 2025, if deemed necessary to fill the class. Notification of this will be emailed out to those on the alternate list.

IMPORTANT APPLICATION INFORMATION

To be eligible for admission to the fall 2025 class, all applicants will be required to take the TEAS Exam. This can be scheduled through the testing center at ICC. Email tporter@isothermal.edu or mtenpenny@isothermal.edu for information on testing opportunities. There are also testing study materials in the ICC library that can be checked out.

HOW TO APPLY: Admissions and Graduation Requirements

Admissions Requirements Part I: Apply to Isothermal Community College

Interested students first complete the North Carolina Residency Determination Service online application. Students need to record their Residency Certification Number to complete the general Isothermal application. Students then complete and submit a general Isothermal Community College application to the College with the intended major of the pre-health major, General Occupational Technology Dental Transfer Degree. Students will need to have an acceptance letter from Isothermal to enter the pre-health major. Students submit their official high school transcript or high school equivalency transcript to the College Admissions Office. Students also submit all official college transcripts from the issuing institution to the Isothermal Admissions Office for evaluation for any coursework the student is looking to transfer in or receive program application points on. The College may award transfer credit for courses that have a GPA of 2.0 or higher. Isothermal must be in receipt of all official high school and college transcripts prior to the start of the student's first semester. Students may either take, or be exempt from taking, the college placement assessment. Students need to pass or be exempt from remedial math, MAT 003, with a grade of P1 and remedial reading/writing, ENG 002 with a grade of P2. Students whose high school transcripts show a GPA of 2.8 or higher are exempted from the North Carolina Diagnostic and Placement Test. Otherwise, they must take the test to determine college readiness. Students who score high enough on the Diagnostic and Placement Test are exempt from the remedial courses.

Admissions Requirements Part II:

After college acceptance, the College assigns a General Occupational Technology Dental Transfer student to the Pre-Health Sciences Navigator. This navigator guides the student through the application process for the Dental Hygiene Program. Enrollment is limited and admission is a competitive process. Meeting minimum admission criteria does not guarantee an applicant an offer of admission into the Dental Hygiene Program. The Program does not use a waiting list. Therefore, applicant records must be updated annually. If a student has applied previously, the student must reinitiate the process of applying. To be eligible for consideration for admission to the new fall class, all qualified dental hygiene applicants must have exempted or successfully completed all required developmental courses and the following: BIO 163 or BIO 168, CHM 130 and 130A and ACA 122, Students are encouraged, but not required, to take the required general education (non-dental) courses prior to entry into the Dental Hygiene Program (BIO 175 or 275, ENG 111, COM 231, PSY 150, SOC 210, HUM XXX and ACA 122). Due to the rigorous nature of the Dental Hygiene Program, the College recommends taking these courses early. Completed dental hygiene program applications are due to the Dental Hygiene Director by set due dates. All deadlines and requirements must be met to be eligible for consideration.

Admissions Requirements Part III:

The points system was designed to be a well-rounded representation of each student. The sections that are included are as follows:

- Points by grade in BIO 163 or BIO 168, BIO 175, BIO 275 and CHM 130 and 130A

- Points by grade in ENG 111 and COM 231
- Points by grade in PSY 150 and SOC 210
- Points by grade in HUM XXX Elective
- Points by grade in ACA 122
- Grade of “A” = 30 points, grade of “B” =15 points, and grade of “C”= 5 points.
- You will receive 30 points for the successful completion for any healthcare related Diploma, Certificate, AAS, BA, BS, or master’s degree.
- You will receive 30 points for job experience in the field.
- You will receive 30 points for being a DANB certified dental assistant.
- You will receive the total points you scored for TEAS composite score range.

The credit received for each completed course is measured by the grade that was achieved. The credit received for a previous degree or certificate also is determined by what education level was met. All documentation for GPA, course credit, prior transcripts, job experience, and certificates must be turned in to the admissions office by the packet deadline to be reviewed.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Any Allied Health student deemed to have violated the College Student Code of Conduct may not be eligible for application or re-admission to Allied Health programs.

Applicants should be aware that North Carolina State or National Boards may deny licensure or certification to individuals “convicted of a felony or any other crime involving moral turpitude.” Questions regarding this issue should be directed to the NC State Board of Dental Examiners at 919-781-4901.

Applicants for the Selective Allied Health Programs must demonstrate the ability, with or without reasonable accommodations, to meet certain technical standards critical to the successful completion of the program. These standards include skills and abilities essential for such things as operation of equipment (as related to hand-eye coordination and visual acuity); evaluation and manipulation of patients; evaluation of microscopic components and color reactions; and communication with patients, families, and other medical personnel. For an explanation of specific physical and cognitive requirements for the DH program, refer to the “Program Recommendations for ADA Technical Standards” notebook, which is available in the Admissions Office or on the ICC web page. For further clarification, contact the Dental Programs Chair at (828) 395-4440.

If you are not selected for the DH program beginning fall semester 2024 and wish to apply for the fall 2025 class, you must re-apply and re-compete.

All documents that you submit with your application for the DH program must be true, correct, and complete. Falsification of documentation may result in denial of admission or dismissal after admission.

Admission criteria are reviewed each year and are subject to change from year to year.

Fall 2025 Admissions:

Student Name: _____ Student ID#: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home/Cell Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

School Email Address: _____@student.isothermal.edu

Personal Email Address: _____

In the DH program there will be exposure to bloodborne pathogens. Students should have this signed and dated before turning it in to the advisor.

Students will be exposed to bloodborne pathogens and other infectious diseases in this program. Infection control is mandatory before working with patients and all precautions must be taken to minimize exposure. Failure to follow proper infection protocols and procedures could lead to dismissal from the program.

Must sign here for proof of understanding.

Student Signature:

Date:

Technical Standards

Technical Standards for: Dental Hygiene Students

Purpose Statement:

The following standards reflect reasonable expectations of a student in the Dental Hygiene program for the performance of routine dental hygiene care. In adopting these standards, the Dental Hygiene program is dedicated to the highest level of safety and care for Dental Hygiene students and future patients. The Dental Hygiene student must be able to apply the knowledge and skills necessary to function in a broad variety of situations while providing the spectrum of dental hygiene services. To verify the student's ability to perform these essential functions, students may be required to demonstrate the following technical standards with or without reasonable accommodation.

	Definition of Standard	Example(s) of Technical Standard	My signature represents that I can meet the technical standards of this program with or without reasonable accommodations.
1	Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment.	Identify cause and effect relationships in clinical situations. Assimilate knowledge from lectures, laboratory, and clinical arenas. Utilize basic mathematic skills.	
2	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, physical, medical, and intellectual backgrounds. Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others.	Establish rapport with patients, families, and colleagues. Explain hygiene procedures and health instruction as well as document hygiene procedures and patient responses.	
3	Physical abilities sufficient to move around rooms in the dental environment, maneuver in small spaces and reach needed equipment.	Move around clinical operatory, sterilization room and other treatment areas. Position self-chairside near patient. Administer CPR and BLS procedures. Access radiographic equipment,	

	<p>Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective assistance to the dentist, patient, and co-workers.</p> <p>Fine motor skills sufficient for assessment and performance of dental chairside hygiene procedures</p>	<p>which is approximately 5-6' off floor. Transfer patients from wheelchairs to dental chairs and back.</p> <p>Move, adjust, and use equipment and dental materials and supplies including sharp instruments during hygiene procedures. Use auxiliary aids, chairside mannequins, small equipment, etc.</p> <p>Perform hygiene procedures to scale and polish teeth; place radiographic sensors;</p>	
4	<p>Abilities sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.</p> <p>Abilities sufficient to monitor and assess health needs.</p>	<p>Observe patient responses such as skin color and facial expression. Monitor vital signs. Evaluate radiographs for technical quality including density, contrast, and distortion. Judge and communicate clinical processes.</p> <p>Detect instruments and equipment being properly utilized and monitor vital signs. Respond to patient needs.</p>	

I have read, understand, and acknowledge receipt of the Dental Hygiene Technical Standards. I understand that if the criteria listed above are not met satisfactorily, I may be denied the opportunity to complete the internship component of the curriculum.

Student's Signature: _____ Date: _____

If I have any questions I will ask:

Director: Stacey Jenkins-(828) 395-4440 [-sjenkins@isothermal.edu](mailto:sjenkins@isothermal.edu)

Dean of Department: Donna Hood- (828) 395-1404- dhood@isothermal.edu

Accessibility Counselor: Cody Ezell - 828-395-1481 cezell@isothermal.edu

ADA Statement: If you have a documented disability, it is your responsibility to contact the Accessibility Support Counselor (828-395-1481) to discuss classroom accommodations.

**DENTAL HYGIENE
ISOTHERMAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE (ICC)
POINTS ADMISSION WORKSHEET
Fall 2025**

Student Name: _____ SS#: _____ ICC ID# _____

General Education/Experience in the Field "A" = 30 points, grade of "B"=15 points, and grade of "C"= 5 points.

Courses Taken			College/University where the course was taken	Semester/ Year Course Taken	Letter Grade	Points Earned
BIO 163	or	BIO 168				
ACA 122						
ENG 111						
PSY 150						
CHEM 130, 130A or CHM 151 or CHM 152						
BIO 175 or BIO 275						
SOC 240						
COM 231						
HUM XXX						
Job Experience in the Field. Must have required documentation filled out by supervisor to receive points						
			Total Points			

Education/Training	Awarding Institution	Date Obtained	Point Scale	Points Earned
Highest Education Degree Earned You will receive 30 points for the successful completion for any healthcare related Diploma, Certificate, AAS, BA, BS, or master's degree				
CDA: You will receive 30 points for being a DANB certified dental assistant				
Total Points				

Previous Education/Training from Accredited or Approved Institution Teas Test:

Education/Training	Awarding Institution	Points Earned
TEAS SCORE: You will receive the total points you scored for TEAS composite score range		
Total Points		

CUMULATIVE TOTAL POINTS: _____