



Dental Hygiene Program

DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM STATEMENT OF PHILOSOPHY AND GOALS

PHILOSOPHY

The Tulsa Community College Dental Hygiene Program is based upon the philosophy that quality education in a positive and supportive learning environment will enhance an individual's potential to achieve competence, contribute to society and to foster lifelong learning. The Program blends rigorous courses with experiential learning opportunities to develop dental hygiene professionals who are patient-centered, clinically competent, and capable of ethical decision making and critical thinking.

GOALS

1. Students will exemplify the American Dental Hygienists' Association code of ethics, state and federal laws, recommendations and protocols in the provision of dental hygiene care.
2. Students will communicate effectively using verbal, nonverbal, written and electronic skills.
3. Students will perform evidenced-based individualized dental hygiene education and care based on the periodontal condition as defined by the American Academy of Periodontology.
4. Students will integrate methods to ensure the health and safety of the patient and the dental hygienist in the delivery of dental hygiene care.
5. Students will perform oral health services in a variety of settings.
6. Students will assess, plan, implement and evaluate community-based oral health programs.
7. Students will evaluate elements that can be used to promote patient adherence to disease prevention and/or health maintenance strategies.
8. Students will identify individual and population risk factors for oral disease.
9. Students will exemplify commitment to lifelong learning, utilizing current scientific literature and self-assessment skills.
10. Students will identify the role of the dental hygienist within health-care, such as: industry, education, research and public health.

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