

VALENCIA COLLEGE

Associate in Science Degree in Dental Hygiene

Admission Guide | Catalog Year: 2026-2027

Program Overview

The Dental Hygiene Program at Valencia College is Limited-Access. This guide outlines the admissions process, including program course requirements, application requirements, and the next steps after applying. This program equips students with the skills and experience needed to succeed as a Dental Hygienist.

Admission Updates [\(Effective Fall 2026\)](#)

Admission Requirement Updates

- No admission requirement updates for the 2026-2027 catalog

Application Deadlines

Program Start Term	Application Open	Application Close	Term Start Date
Summer 2027	January 1, 2027	February 1, 2027	May 10, 2027

Program Location & Delivery Format

Students admitted to the Dental Hygiene program are assigned to the West Campus at the time of admission. Lecture and Lab simulation experiences are delivered at the West Campus. Clinical experiences take place at the West Campus and affiliated healthcare agencies throughout Central Florida.

Complete Before Submitting the Secondary Health Sciences Application

Item	Details
Attend an Allied Health Information Session	Virtual and in-person Allied Health Information Sessions are offered each term to review program requirements. Visit valenciacollege.edu/HealthInfoSessions for the current schedule, presentation slides, and pre-recorded sessions.
Review Program Requirements	Confirm that you meet all program requirements outlined in this guide, including completion of required prerequisite coursework, minimum overall GPA requirements, and the ATI TEAS composite score requirement.
Confirm Eligibility – Program Participation Requirements	Before applying, applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements: • Applicants must be 18 or older by the <u>start date</u> of the program • Eligible applicants include U.S. Citizens, U.S. Permanent Residents, International Students, and individuals with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), Temporary Protected Status (TPS), Refugee, or Asylee status. • Applicants who are not U.S. Citizens or Permanent Residents must have a valid Employment Authorization Document (EAD) for clinical placement purposes. Please note, graduates must have a Social Security Number (SSN) to be eligible to sit for the credential examination through the Florida Board of Dentistry.
Apply to Valencia College	Submit a Valencia College admission application and complete ALL steps outlined in Steps to Enrollment. <i>Note: This is the General Admission application and not the secondary Health Sciences application.</i>
Meet with a Student Success Coach	After applying to Valencia College, students are strongly encouraged to meet with their assigned Student Success Coach early and regularly while completing prerequisite coursework. Ongoing advising support helps ensure all admission and eligibility requirements are met prior to submitting the secondary health sciences program application.
Submit Transcripts	Submit high school and college transcripts from all institutions attended. Transcripts must be posted to your Valencia College record before submitting the secondary health sciences program application deadline (recommended 3 months prior). Students using credit by exam (such as AP, CLEP, or IB) for prerequisite coursework must request official score reports from the appropriate testing agency. <i>Transfer students are not considered “first-time-in-college” and are not required to submit a high school transcript.</i>

Verify Transfer Courses Equivalency (if applicable)	Transfer courses may need to be reviewed for potential course substitution or equivalency. This must be completed <u>before</u> submitting the secondary health science application.
Complete Program Prerequisites	All required prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of C or better prior to the application deadline. Refer to the Admission Requirements section for full details.
ATI TEAS Testing & Score Submission	Applicants must earn a minimum composite score of 58.7 on the ATI TEAS exam. You may take the ATI TEAS up to three times within a 12-month period, however you must allow 30 days between retakes. The 12-month period begins at the date of a first attempt. Applicants who take the ATI TEAS exam outside of the Valencia College Assessment Center must request official scores from ATI. After requesting scores, applicants must complete the ATI Score Matching Request Form so scores can be properly matched to their Valencia College record.
Core Performance Standards	Review the Core Performance Standards to ensure you are able to meet program requirements, with or without reasonable accommodations.

Dental Hygiene Program Admission Requirements

To be eligible for admission consideration to the Associate in Science Degree in Dental Hygiene program, applicants must meet all minimum requirements by the application deadline.

Admission Requirements	
Academic Standing	Must be in Good Academic Standing at Valencia College at the time of application.
Minimum Overall GPA	2.5
Minimum ATI TEAS Composite Score	58.7

Required Prerequisite Coursework			
All required prerequisite courses listed below must be completed with a grade of C or better across these courses to be eligible for admission consideration+.			
Course	Title	CR	Points
BSC 2085C	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	4	A=10, B=8, C=6
BSC 2086C	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	4	A=10, B=8, C=6
MCB 2010C	Microbiology	4	A=10, B=8, C=6
Core Math	See Area 3: Core Math	3	A=3, B=2, C=1
ENC 1101	Freshman Composition I	3	A=3, B=2, C=1
Additional Points – Required for Graduation The following courses are required for graduation with the degree. Completion of these courses with a minimum grade of C prior to the application deadline will result in more admission points to be a competitive applicant.			
SYG 2000	Introduction to Sociology	3	A=3, B=2, C=1
PSY 2012	General Psychology	3	A=3, B=2, C=1
Core Humanities	See Area 2: Core Humanities	3	A=3, B=2, C=1
POS 2041 , AMH 2010 [^] , AMH 2020	U.S. Government or U.S. History to/from 1877	3	A=3, B=2, C=1
Florida Civic Literacy Exam (FCLE)	Earn a passing score (60%) on the FCLE		1
Additional Points – Not Required for Graduation The following courses are not required for graduation. Completion of these courses with a minimum grade of C prior to the application deadline will result in additional admission points to be a competitive applicant.			
HSC 1531	Medical Terminology	3	A=3, B=2, C=1
HSC 1004 OR SLS 1122	Introduction to Health Professions OR New Student Experience	3	A=3, B=2, C=1
Alternate	Previous year applicants identified as Alternate		3
Graduate of CODA- Accredited Dental Assisting Program.	Proof of graduation is required (<i>Documentation must be submitted</i>)		5
Total Possible Points:			63
+ Credit by exam satisfies prerequisite course and credit requirements (such as CLEP, AP/IB, or S/P/Z grades); however, these credits do not carry grade points and are not included in the combined prerequisite GPA used in the competitive selection process.			
* Grade of C or higher in BSC 1010C or BSC 2085C is a required prerequisite for BSC 2086C & MCB 2010C.			
[^] AMH 2010 must be completed Fall 2024 or later to satisfy admission & Civic Literacy requirements.			

How to Apply to a Health Science Program

Applying to the Dental Hygiene Program is a two-step process. Applicants must complete both the Valencia College General Admission process (if not already active) and the secondary Health Science Program application by the published deadline (pg. 1).

Steps to Apply	Description
Confirm Valencia College Student Status	Before applying to a health science program, applicants must have an active Valencia College student status. New students must first submit a General Valencia College Application
Submit the Secondary Health Science Application	Access the Secondary Health Science Application, then select the desired Health Science program during the published application window at: valenciacollege.edu/apply-health . - Applications must be submitted using your MyVC username and password - Applicants attempting to access the application outside the published window will encounter an error message.
Application Support	- If you receive an error message during the published application window, contact healthscienceapplications@valenciacollege.edu - Valencia College employees using a @valenciacollege.edu email address must contact the same inbox for assistance.
Submit Application Fee	- Pay the \$15 non-refundable application fee - Applications are not complete—or reviewed—until payment is received

What Happens After You Apply

Application Review Process: Applications are reviewed approximately four to six weeks after the closing deadline. Applicants who meet all minimum admission requirements will be ranked and selected through a competitive review process. Admission decisions are communicated via the applicant's MyVC email.

Admission Decisions

Decision Type	Description
Selected	Offered admission into the Program. Applicants must confirm acceptance by the stated deadline to secure their seat.
Alternate	Offered placement on the alternate list. Applicants must confirm acceptance of their alternate status by the stated deadline to remain eligible to be offered a seat if one becomes available. Admission is not guaranteed.
Not Selected	Met minimum admission requirements but was not selected due to limited program capacity.
Ineligible	Did not meet one or more program eligibility or admission requirements by the application deadline.

Requirements If Selected for Admission

Mandatory Program Orientation: All students selected for admission must attend the Program Orientation, which is held prior to the start of the program.

2026-2027 Orientation Date

Term	Orientation Date	Start of Term
Summer 2027	March 2027 (Specific date and time will be communicated to admitted students.)	Monday, May 10th, 2027

Clinical Compliance Requirements

Compliance requirements and deadlines will be discussed during Orientation. Students who are accepted into a Health Sciences Program must submit the items listed below:

Item	Description
Level II Background Screening	Comprehensive criminal background check that includes fingerprint-based checks for statewide criminal history records
Drug Screening	10 Panel Drug Screening
Fingerprints	Required to meet clinical placement requirements
CPR Certification	American Heart Association (AHA) Basic Life Support (BLS)
Required Vaccinations	1. COVID-19[^] 2. Hepatitis B⁺ 3. Influenza (Flu) ^{*^} 4. MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)⁺ 5. Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis) 6. Tuberculosis (TB) screening* 7. Varicella (Chickenpox)⁺ * Required annually ⁺ May be met with titer (proof of immunity) [^] May be declined or met through an exemption process

Contact Information

Questions?	Contact
Application Questions	healthscienceapplications@valenciacollege.edu
Compliance Questions	hscompliance@valenciacollege.edu
Health Sciences Website	valenciacollege.edu/health
Allied Health Info Session	valenciacollege.edu/HealthInfoSessions
Valencia College Application	valenciacollege.edu/apply-credit/
Secondary Health Science Application	valenciacollege.edu/apply-health
Valencia Assessment Center	valenciacollege.edu/teas
ATI TEAS Website	atitesting.com/teas/transcript
ATI TEAS Matching Request Form	forms.valenciacollege.edu/assessment-ati-score-matching-request
Equal Opportunity Institution	valenciacollege.edu/about/equal-opportunity-title-ix/

Non-Tuition Program Expenses

Expense	Estimated Cost
CastleBranch Account	\$200
Uniforms	\$230
Lab Kits	\$350
Trajecsyst	\$180
Instructional Material	\$3,000
Immunizations	\$500
Estimated Total (Non-Tuition): \$4,460 Disclaimer: Costs are estimates and subject to change. Tuition, fees, transportation, and personal expenses are not included.	

Dental Hygiene Core Performance Standards For Admission and Progression

Dental Hygiene is a practice discipline with cognitive, sensory, affective, and psychomotor performance requirements. Based on these requirements, the following list of "Core Performance Standards" has been developed. Each standard has an example of an activity, or activities, that a student will be required to perform while enrolled in the Dental Hygiene program. These standards are a part of each Dental Hygiene course and of the professional role expectation of a Dental Hygienist.

For the Dental Hygiene Program, a qualified individual with a disability is one who, with or without reasonable accommodations or modifications, meets the essential eligibility requirements for participation in the program. Valencia College: School of Allied Health makes no preadmission inquiries concerning an applicant's disability status. Information related to an applicant's disabilities is not a part of the information reviewed by the Admission Committee.

These Performance Standards should be used to assist students in identifying the academic and clinical expectations for all students. Students needing reasonable accommodations to fulfill required program outcomes or clinical expectations are encouraged to contact the Office for Students with Disabilities to engage in an interactive process regarding their request. It is the student's responsibility to notify and register with the Office for Students with Disabilities to identify and receive reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are effective only after engaging in this process and are not retroactive. Determination is made on an individual basis as to whether any accommodations or modifications can be reasonably made. Valencia is an Equal Opportunity Institution.

Core Performance Standards		
Criteria	Standard	Examples Of Required Activities
Critical Thinking	Ability to make sound clinical judgments and care decisions.	Develop care plans, assess conditions, and respond appropriately in clinical situations.
Communication	Effective verbal and written communication in English.	Establish rapport, educate patients, and collaborate with colleagues.
Mobility	Physical ability to move safely within clinical environments.	Navigate treatment areas, assist patients, and perform clinical procedures.
Motor Skills	Fine and gross motor coordination to provide safe, precise care.	Use instruments, calibrate equipment, and perform procedures with steady hand-eye coordination.
Hearing & Visual	Sensory ability to observe and respond to patient needs.	Assess oral health, observe patient cues, and respond to alarms and emergencies.
Tactile	Tactile ability for assessment and clinical procedures.	Perform palpation, detect calculus, and monitor vital signs effectively.