

THE UNIVERSITY of

DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

FRESHMAN POLICY AND POLICY MANUAL

2023 – 2024

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**DENTAL HYGIENE
PROGRAM POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL**

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**University of New England
Westbrook College Campus Dental Hygiene Program**

Mission

The Dental Hygiene Program endeavors for excellence by preparing oral health professionals intellectually and practically for a broad and robust career in dental hygiene.

Program Learning Outcomes /Program Goals

Program goals are broad statements about what the program wants the program to do.

The dental hygiene program strives to:

1. **Be a leader in dental hygiene education.**
 - To better serve teaching dental hygiene students using current and effective methodologies.
2. **Offer opportunities to students that are student centered, interprofessional, leadership forward, and diversely experiential in clinical and community settings.**
 - To better provide real-life experiential learning opportunities for students.
3. **Faculty will participate in leadership and scholarship with the vision of national engagement as an overarching goal.**
 - To better prepare faculty for student mentorship.

The Dental Hygiene Program faculty will immerse students in educational experiences that prepares the student to achieve the following learning outcomes:

1. **Provide the public with compassionate and competent dental hygiene care founded on evidenced-based scientific knowledge as an essential component of comprehensive interprofessional health care and community-based health care.**
 - Measurement of PLO # 1 is by student success demonstrated by the direct measure of TalEval grades benchmarked with minimum scores of 74%.
2. **Demonstrate effective decision-making skills through the use of the critical thinking process.**
 - Measurement of PLO # 2 is by demonstrating competency in clinical decision making and problem solving by using the dental hygiene process of care. AAC&U rubrics are used to gauge success in didactic assignments as a direct measure.
3. **Explore the complexities of ethical decision-making as it relates to professional expectations and social responsibility for diversity and inclusion and equity.**
 - Students take an IHS 310 Ethics for Health Professionals course. Measurement of success in PLO # 3 is by passing the course and by the student's ability to treat all

4. **Commit to advocacy, leadership, scholarship, and life-long learning to respond to an ever-changing healthcare environment and growing profession.**
 - DEN 422 Leadership course encompasses leadership, scholarship by searching for evidenced-based literature for poster session topics presented to dental professionals for continuing education. Measuring PLO # 4 is by successful completion of the poster session as a direct measure.

5. **Utilize oral healthcare technology (Health Informatics) to enhance patient care and communication abilities in the professional and practical arenas.**
 - Students are expected to be competent in professional communication for clinical care. The professional communication and competent use of the Electronic Medical record is measured in the web-based grading platform TalEval with at least minimum scores of 74% or better.

6. **Successfully gain access to dental hygiene licensure in the state of choice by successfully completing the national and regional board examinations.**
 - PLO # 6 is measured directly by the pass rates on the National Board Dental Hygiene Exam, and the Commission on Dental Competencies Assessments ADEX examinations, along with verification pages processed by the registrar's office for application for

Technical Standards

Introduction

University of New England Dental Hygiene Program is committed to the principle of inclusivity and diversity. Consistent with that commitment, admissions to the Dental Hygiene Program is open to all qualified individuals and complies with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (1993). These technical standards reflect performance abilities and characteristics that are necessary to successfully complete the requirements of the dental hygiene program curriculum, including the clinical component.

Technical standards are the nonacademic functional abilities that are essential for the delivery of effective and safe dental hygiene care. The technical standards listed below identify the skills and behaviors necessary to successfully complete the dental hygiene curriculum and adequately prepare our students for the practice of dental hygiene.

Technical standards review is conducted annually for students.

The Dental Hygiene Program's technical standards are as follows, which a student must meet with or without reasonable accommodations:

Motor Skills / Manual Dexterity

Students must have full manual dexterity including adequate functioning of arms, wrists, hands and fingers. Appropriate psychomotor skills, manual dexterity and motor movement skills are necessary to render clinical dental hygiene treatment while possessing the physical strength to move oneself into a position that will enable the student to provide appropriate dental hygiene care.

The student must be able to:

- Use personal protective devices (tolerate face mask/shield, safety eyewear, surgical gloves and laboratory coat).
- Function in an environment where latex is present.
- Carry out OSHA infection control procedures using cleaners and chemicals.
- Perform dental hygiene procedures (scaling, polishing, x-rays) and manipulate dental materials Access a patient from a seated or standing position.
- Operate switches, knobs, levers in operation of the dental chair and accessory equipment in all clinics and laboratory settings.
- Exhibit sufficient motor function to elicit information from a patient by palpation, auscultation, percussion, and other diagnostic modalities.
- Perceive and interpret tactile vibrations appropriately.
- Manipulate small objects and materials, paying close attention to fine

- Demonstrate a team approach in carrying out responsibilities in all settings. Endure physically taxing workloads.
- Function effectively under stress.
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Dental Hygiene Program Full-Time Faculty and Professional Staff

The offices of the faculty and staff of the Dental Hygiene Program can be found in Hersey Hall and the Grace Coleman Building on the Portland Campus. Students are encouraged to meet with faculty and staff as needed. Office numbers, telephone/voice mail numbers and e-mail addresses are listed below.

University of New England Dental Hygiene
Program Technical Standard Signature Form
Student Access Policy

<https://forms.office.com/r/yZsG061HJW>

Name: _____

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