In Partnership with
Normandale community college

Post-Baccalaureate Certificate for Dental Hygienists

Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Collaborative Dental Hygiene Practice
This program provides baccalaureate educated dental hygienists, who have graduated from an accredited institution, the opportunity to complete a certificate in dental hygiene. The focus is to augment the skills and education of the dental hygienist to become a community-minded oral health care provider with the intention of enhancing the oral health of underserved and diverse populations. The certificate will also prepare students who are interested in pursuing Metropolitan State University’s proposed master’s degree program in advanced dental hygiene practice, the Master of Science: Oral Health Care Practitioner, by offering courses that are pre-requisites for this program.

To apply, submit the following:
- Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Dental Hygiene Application;
- $20.00 application fee;
- Official transcripts from all previously attended colleges or universities; and
- A 250-300 word essay related to how individual talents, experiences, opinions, and career goals will enhance the oral health of underserved and diverse population

Application to the Certificate Program
Applications are accepted for fall and spring admission. Application deadline for fall admission is March 30. Application deadline for spring admission is October 30 if seats in the program are available.

Admission to the certificate program is highly competitive. To be considered for admission, all application materials must be received by application deadline.

Program Admission Requirements
The following requirements are necessary for admission to Metropolitan State University’s dental hygiene certificate program:
- Official transcript from an accredited dental hygiene program;
- Cumulative GPA of 3.0 (calculated from all college coursework);
- CPR certification;
- Completion of HBV series and other immunizations;
- Successful background check;
- Professional liability insurance; and
- Documentation of an active dental hygiene license

If the applicant’s dental hygiene license does not meet Minnesota dental hygiene licensure requirements, specifically in regards to the administration of local anesthesia and nitrous oxide inhalation sedation, the applicant will be required to complete continuing education courses to meet these requirements.

These requirements must be completed before enrolling in the Restorative Functions Clinic course and/or the Dental Hygiene Capstone course. Normandale Community College will offer these pain management courses and certificate applicants will be given priority admission. Students who have questions regarding these requirements should contact the academic program advisor at Metropolitan State.
Post-Baccalaureate Certificate Curriculum
A student will be required to complete 9 – 15 credits from the dental hygiene coursework listed below. The determination of required certificate courses will be based upon the applicant’s baccalaureate degree and/or career goals. This certificate program allows students to continue employment as a dental hygienist.

The Dental Hygiene Certificate Courses:
- Collaborative and Advanced Practice Dental Hygiene (4 credits)
- Management of Oral Health Care Delivery (3 credits)
- Restorative Functions Theory and Lab (3 credits)
  (Requires more campus time and a lab fee; must be taken before enrollment in the Dental Hygiene Capstone course)
- Dental Hygiene Capstone (4 or 5 credits)
  (Last course to be enrolled in)

Other possible courses to choose from:
- Populations with Special Oral Health Needs (3 credits)
- Evidence-Based Dental Hygiene Practice (3 credits)
- Educational Concepts in Dental Hygiene (3 credits)

These courses will be taught in a web-enhanced or web-supported format. “Face to face” sessions will be required on campus two or three times a semester (Friday and/or Saturday) for campus seminars corresponding to each course. The Restorative Functions Theory and Lab course require significant on campus attendance for successful completion. The majority of the upper division dental “face to face” coursework takes place at Normandale Community College.

An optional one credit course leading to Restorative Functions certification by the Minnesota State Board of Dentistry is available for student enrollment the same semester as successful completion of the Restorative Functions Theory and Lab course. This optional course requires contractual agreement with a dentist for completion of the Minnesota Board of Dentistry Restorative Functions clinical requirements.
- Restorative Functions Clinic (1 credit)

For more information contact:
Metropolitan State University-Saint Paul Campus
College of Nursing and Health Sciences
Renee Beaulieu-Banks
Academic Program Advisor
700 East Seventh Street
Saint Paul, MN 55106-5000
651.793.1378

Normandale Community College Contacts
Susan Gekas
Counseling Department
9700 France Avenue South
Bloomington, MN 55431
952.487.8261 (Counseling receptionist)

This document is available in alternative formats to individuals with disabilities by Calling Disability Services at 651.793.1540 or 651.772.7723 (TTY)

All information on this fact sheet is subject to change without notice.