Missouri Southern State University  
Dental Hygiene Program  
Application: Please submit complete application and all required documentation before January 31st.

Dental Hygiene Program  
Information/Application Packet

Introduction

The MSSU Dental Hygiene Program provides basic education and experience, to prepare graduates for licensure as dental hygienists. Each fall semester a class of 50 students (30 in Joplin, 10 in Rolla, MO and 10 in Sikeston, MO) will begin the two-year program. Students generally have classes five days per week.

General Description

Dental hygienists are licensed, preventive oral health care professionals who provide educational, clinical and therapeutic services to the public in a variety of settings. As a member of the dental healthcare team, the dental hygienist promotes and maintains oral wellness through such services as oral health assessments, taking radiographs, dental health education, non-surgical periodontal therapy, removal of deposits and stains from the teeth, and application of dental sealants and fluorides.

Admission Requirements:

- Complete all prerequisite courses with grade “C” or better by the end of the spring semester of the year in which you are applying. If a passing grade is not achieved after two attempts in any program prerequisite course, an applicant will not be considered for the program.
  - COMM 100: Oral Communications
  - ENG 101: College Composition (WI)
  - MATH 030: Intermediate Algebra (or higher)
  - KINE 103: Lifetime Wellness
  - BIO 121: Human Anatomy & Physiology I
  - BIO 221: Human Anatomy & Physiology II
  - BIO 231: General & Medical Microbiology
  - CHEM 120: Chemistry for Allied Health Sciences
  - MSSU course numbers
- Minimum GPA 2.75
- Submission of the Dental Hygiene Application prior to the deadline of January 31st.

For transfer students, please refer to the link below for assistance in identifying how courses from selected colleges will transfer to MSSU.

http://www.mssu.edu/registrar/transfer-guides

Application to MSSU and the MSSU dental hygiene program are TWO separate processes.
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PRIOR TO APPLYING TO THE MSSU DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM:

1. Must have been accepted to MSSU, and all official transcripts from every college and/or university attended on file with the MSSU admission/registrar’s office.
2. One meeting with an MSSU dental hygiene faculty advisor at the site for which you are applying.

DENTAL HYGIENE APPLICATION – INSTRUCTIONS
THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTATION IS REQUIRED AND MUST BE INCLUDED WITH THE DENTAL HYGIENE APPLICATION:

1. Completed dental hygiene program application

2. A 250-WORD ESSAY: How does the profession of dental hygiene impact today’s society?
   FORMAT: Times New Roman, 12 point font, double spaced, 1 inch margins.

3. A schedule of courses in which you are enrolled for the spring semester

4. Shadowing form confirming 40 hours of documented shadowing of at least TWO practicing dental hygienists at work (must be less than 6 months prior to submission of application).
   OR 2 years documented experience as a Dental Assistant in an office that employs dental hygienist(s).

Submit ONLY required information.

- MAIL Dental Hygiene application and all required information to:
  MSSU
  DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM
  3950 East Newman Road
  Joplin, MO 64801

- We encourage you to mail your application as registered mail with a return receipt and keep copies for your records
- Receipt of application will be confirmed by e-mail, within 2 weeks. Due to the number of applicants, immediate notification may not be possible. Please be patient.
- Once the application has been received, if any additional information is required, WE WILL CONTACT YOU.

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Please circle the location you prefer (circle ONE).

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<tr>
<th>JOPLIN</th>
<th>ROLLA</th>
<th>SIKESTON</th>
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NAME: ________________________________________________________________________
(Last) (First) (Middle) (Maiden)
ADDRESS: ________________________________________________________________________
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip Code)
Telephone____________________________ MSSU Student ID # ____________________________
Cell phone____________________________ E-mail ________________________________
MSSU Admission Status: ____ Application Submitted ____ Application HAS NOT been submitted
(Check Appropriate Status) ____Accepted for Admission ____ Currently Enrolled ____ Formerly Enrolled

I. Have you ever been dismissed from any school or college for any reason? ____ Yes ____ No  If yes, explain
_____________________________________________________________________________________

II. Have you previously enrolled in another dental hygiene program? ____ Yes ____ No
   a. If yes, please specify at what institution(s) ________________________________
   b. Did you graduate from this dental hygiene program? ____ Yes ____ No
   c. IF no, are you eligible to return to the dental hygiene program you that you did not complete?
      ____ Yes ____ No ____ Not sure

III. Have you ever been convicted of a felony? ____ Yes ____ No

I certify that the information provided in this application is correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that I will not be considered for admission to the dental program until I have been accepted to Missouri Southern State University.

______________________________ ________
(Signature) (Date)

Mail completed application and all required documents to: (Please make a copy for your files)
MSSU, Dental Hygiene Programs, 3950 E. Newman Road, Joplin, MO 64801

It is the responsibility of the applicant to update any information that may change after submission of the application. Minimal effort will be made to contact those who have not notified the office of any changes.
For job shadowing hours to qualify, document must confirm:
- 40 hours of shadowing at least TWO Registered Dental Hygienist at work (preferably in two separate dental offices/clinics)
- be less than 6 months prior to submission of the application
- OR, document 2 years experience as a Dental Assistant.

**JOB SHADOWING**

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TOTAL HOURS 40 MINIMUM

NOTE: Observation of a dentist is commendable, but does not meet requirements and will not be used in the selection process.

*Use additional sheets if necessary to document shadowing hours
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**SELECTION PROCESS**

1. Cumulative college GPA – points
2. Science courses GPA – points
3. Essay – 1 possible points
4. **APPLICATIONS MAY** be invited for an interview and asked to complete the Health Sciences Reasoning Test at the interview ($25.00).

**ALL APPLICANTS** will be notified of their status (acceptance into the dental hygiene program or not) by mail after **all** applications have been reviewed, typically by mid-April.

**UPON NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE INTO THE DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM:**

**STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING PRIOR TO ORIENTATION:** Forms will be provided upon notification of admission and MUST be completed and signed by appropriate providers.

1. A statement of satisfactory physical, mental, dental and visual health
2. A Complete Blood Count, less than 6 months prior to entering the program
3. The following immunization or titers verifying immunity:
   a. HEP A and B, tuberculin test, Tetanus/TDAP and MMRV
4. Proof of Health Insurance
5. Basic Life Support for Health Care Providers – 2 year certification, not to expire before mid-June of students 2nd year in the dental hygiene program
6. Upon receipt and review, a signed copy of the Communicable Disease Policy
7. **ACCEPTED APPLICANTS** will be required to attend a **MANDATORY** two-day orientation on the main campus in Joplin in JUNE or JULY
   a. ORIENTATION INFORMATION WILL BE PROVIDED UPON RECEIPT OF AN ACCEPTANCE LETTER, AND
   b. $100.00 ORIENTATION FEE

**NOTE:** Failure to complete the 7 requirements listed above will result in loss of eligibility for admission to the dental hygiene program.

**A copy of MSSU policy for Bloodborne Pathogens & infectious diseases is available for review upon request.**