

**NHTI – CONCORD’S COMMUNITY COLLEGE
DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM**

Mission, Competencies, and Program Learning Outcomes

Mission

The mission of the NHTI, Concord’s Community College Dental Hygiene Program is to advance the mission of the college by providing a learning environment in which each dental hygiene graduate gains the knowledge, skills, and values to provide comprehensive educational, preventive, and therapeutic services reflecting the competencies vital to our community and the profession of dental hygiene.

4 Program Competencies (PC’s)

The NHTI Dental Hygiene Program will:

1. Provide a curriculum that integrates general education, biomedical sciences, dental sciences and the knowledge of current dental hygiene theory, practice, and the provision of dental hygiene care.
2. Prepare students to think critically and implement the dental hygiene process of care to promote and maintain oral and systemic health for diverse populations in the collaborative practice of dental hygiene.
3. Prepare students to exercise principles of professional, regulatory, and ethical behavior in implementing oral health care.
4. Prepare students to commit to professional growth and lifelong learning to maintain compliance and competence through self-assessment and evidence-based decision-making in an evolving health care system.

9 Program Learning Outcomes (PLO’s) Divided into Three Main Domains:

Domain #1 – Professionalism:

1. Ethics. The new dental hygiene graduate must be able to discern and manage the ethical issues facing dental hygiene practice in a rapidly changing environment.
2. Information Processing. The new dental hygiene graduate must be able to acquire and synthesize information in a critical, scientific, and effective manner.
3. Professional Identity. The new dental hygiene graduate must contribute to improving the knowledge, skills, and values of the profession.

Domain #2 – Health Promotion and Disease Prevention:

4. The Individual. The new dental hygiene graduate must provide planned educational services using appropriate interpersonal communication skills and educational strategies to promote optimal health.

5. The Community. The new dental hygiene graduate must be able to initiate and assume responsibility for health promotion and disease prevention activities for diverse populations in a variety of settings.

Domain #3 – Patient Care:

6. Assessment. The new dental hygiene graduate must be able to systematically collect, correlate, critically analyze, and document data on the general oral, and psychosocial health status for diverse patients using methods consistent with medico-legal-ethical principles.
7. Planning. The new dental hygiene graduate must be able to formulate a comprehensive dental hygiene care plan that is evidence-based and patient-centered.
8. Implementation. The new dental hygiene graduate must be able to provide specialized care that includes educational, preventative, and therapeutic services designed to assist the patient in achieving and maintaining oral health goals.
9. Evaluation. The new dental hygiene graduate must be able to critically evaluate the effectiveness of implemented educational, preventive, and therapeutic services and make modifications as necessary.