

PROGRAM GOALS AND GRADUATE COMPETENCIES

The goals and competencies of the Catawba Valley Community College Dental Hygiene Program are designed to provide the dental profession with competent and knowledgeable dental hygienists who will offer quality dental hygiene services to patients within the bounds of the North Carolina Dental Practice Act.

Goal 1: To support CVCC as it seeks to achieve its mission and goals by maintaining a quality Dental Hygiene program.

Program Competency:

1.1 Graduates of the program will be competent in providing dental hygiene care and preventive services in private practice, public health and/or alternative settings.

Competency Measures Of Assessment:

Clinical grade sheets
Graduate Surveys
Employer Surveys
Feedback from Advisory Committee

Goal 2: To make available to the students admitted to the program an educational experience which will prepare them to practice their selected profession skillfully, intelligently, ethically, and safely within their legal stated bounds.

Program Competencies:

2.1: Graduates of the program will be able to provide care to all patients using an individualized approach tailored to the patient's needs.

2.2: Graduates of the program will be able to apply critical thinking skills to the process of providing dental hygiene care to patients.

2.3: Graduates of the program will adhere to the American Dental Hygienists' Association Professional Code of Ethics.

2.4: Graduates of the program will comply with the stipulations of the North Carolina Dental Practice Act as well as all applicable local, state and federal laws governing the practice of dental hygiene.

Competencies Measures Of Assessment:

Clinical grade sheets
Graduate Surveys
Employer Surveys
Feedback from Advisory Committee

Goal 3: To provide the community with quality dental hygiene and preventive care services and to cooperate with public health professionals in providing care to under-served sectors of the population.

Program Competencies:

3.1: Graduates of the program will be able to provide oral health services in a variety of settings.

3.2: Graduates of the program will be able to assess, plan, implement and evaluate community oral health programs.

3.3: Graduates of the program will volunteer their services in providing care to underserved populations by participating in Sealant Projects, Give Kids A Smile and other public health projects.

Competencies Measures Of Assessment:

Projects in DEN 232 Community Dental Health

Clinical grade sheets

Graduate Surveys

Employer Surveys

Feedback from Advisory Committee

Participation in public health projects sponsored by the Dental Hygiene Department

Goal 4: To undergo continuous internal evaluation and upgrading in order to stay abreast and incorporate the most current educational methods and dental hygiene trends into the educational process.

Program Competency:

4.1: Graduates of the program will be knowledgeable in the latest trends and techniques in their profession.

Competency Measures Of Assessment:

Clinical grade sheets

Dental Hygiene National Board scores

Graduate Surveys

Employer Surveys

Feedback from Advisory Committee

Goal 5: To establish the significance of continuing education with each student and create life-long learners.

Program Competency:

5.1 Graduates of the program will continuously perform self assessment for life-long learning and professional growth.

Competency Measures Of Assessment:

Clinical grade sheets

Radiology grade sheets
Graduate attendance to CVCC sponsored Continuing Education courses
Graduate Surveys
Employer Surveys
Feedback from Advisory Committee

Goal 6: To establish the significance of participation in professional organizations with each student and encourage continuing membership in professional organizations.

Program Competency:

6.1: Students will be members of SADHA and participate in professional meetings and community service activities sponsored by their professional association.

Competency Measures Of Assessment:

SADHA membership roster
Professional development points awarded in all Dental Hygiene Theory courses (DEN 131, 140, 221, 231) for participation in professional association meetings and sponsored professional activities.
Graduate Surveys

Goal 7: To encourage and support faculty development through continuing education, professional involvement, and higher educational achievement in order to improve classroom and clinical instruction to the students.

Program Competency:

None required.