

Program Goals of the Dental Hygiene Program are:

Patient Care: Goal 1: Prepare graduates with the knowledge, clinical competencies, professional behaviors, and ethical standards necessary to be eligible for licensure and to provide safe, effective, and patient-centered dental hygiene care in the State of Georgia.

Teaching and Learning Goal 2: Promote excellence in teaching and learning through continuous faculty development, evidence-based instructional practices, and ongoing evaluation of teaching effectiveness to support student achievement and program improvement.

Service: Goal 3: Provide meaningful community-based oral health education and preventive dental services that enhance student learning while addressing the oral health needs of the community.

Research and Evidence-Based Practice Goal 4: Foster the integration of evidence-based decision-making in teaching, learning, and patient care through the evaluation and application of current research and best practices in dental hygiene.

Dental Hygiene Program Learning Outcomes are as follows:

1. Identify and understand professional codes and ethical conduct appropriate in the practice of clinical dental hygiene.
2. Identify individual and group guidance and problem-solving techniques which encourage and teach appropriate critical thinking skills required for clinical dental hygiene care
3. Develop appropriate curricula instructional practices and assessment strategies that prepare dental hygiene graduates to meet licensure requirements of dental governing boards
4. Identify and maintain a safe and healthy learning environment that ensures safe and health techniques for competency in clinical dental hygiene practice
5. Develop procedures and protocols that ensure quality assurance for all procedures during the practice of clinical dental hygiene