

Dear Prospective Applicant:

Thank you for inquiring about the Dental Hygiene Program at Stark State College of Technology. This information represents the most current available. Please note that all information is subject to change as needed to assure a high quality program. One class of 18-20 students will be enrolled each year. The determination of whether the class will begin in the summer or fall will be made each year. In either case, the start date will be announced in a timely manner.

There is no application deadline, however, specific admission criteria must be met and completed in a prescribed order. Eligible applicants are accepted on a first-come, first placed basis. To date, there have been more eligible applicants than spaces available for a class. When this occurs, eligible applicants will be offered the next available space in a future class. *(The College reserves the right to temporarily suspend receipt of applications or to place conditions on acceptance if classes fill too far into the future.)*

The following steps are appropriate for all students considering the dental hygiene program:

1. Make an appointment with a SSCT academic advisor.
 - * If you have never attended the College, make an appointment with an Admissions counselor by calling 330-966-5450.
 - * If you are a current student at the college, make an appointment with the program director by calling 330-966-5458, extension 4707.
2. Take the Compass Skills Assessment Test. There is no fee and the test can be taken after you officially apply to the College. The test will help determine whether or not you need to take introductory and/or prerequisite courses BEFORE you begin the eligibility (pre-application) courses which are critical for admission to the dental hygiene program. Having your results available during your advising appointment will allow an admissions counselor to best advise you about how to meet the dental hygiene admission requirements. Call 330-966-5450 for test dates and times or to arrange for the computer based test.

Note: *Transfer students and/or students who have taken the ACT within the last two calendar years may not be required to take the Compass Skills Assessment Test. An admissions counselor will discuss these details with you.*

3. Enroll in appropriate course(s).

I look forward to your continuing interest in the dental hygiene profession and the educational program at Stark State College.

Sincerely,

Nichole Oocumma, BSDH, MA, CHES
Assistant Professor / Department Chair

Dental Hygiene Program
STARK STATE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY (SSCT)
DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

If after reading this information, I still have questions, who should I contact?

Call the Admissions Office (330) 966-5450 to schedule an appointment with a SSCT admissions counselor or contact your assigned faculty academic advisor.

What resources would provide useful information to me about the profession?

Visit adha.org, odha.net, ada.org and state.oh.us/den to learn much more about the dental professions.

Will I get a degree upon completion of the program?

Yes. The Associate of Applied Science degree is awarded.

If I am past the traditional college age, am I too old to enter dental hygiene?

Certainly not. There is a growing trend for people to change careers, or to choose to enter the dental hygiene field later in life.

Is financial aid available?

Yes. SSCT's financial aid office can provide information concerning available grants, loans and scholarships. Call (330) 966-5456 to make an appointment with a financial aid counselor.

Is experience as a dental assistant helpful?

Yes. Familiarity with the dental work setting and terminology is helpful. Program eligibility requirements are the same, however, for dental assistants. All students admitted into the SSCT Dental Hygiene program are required to take all coursework listed on the program curriculum plan, despite their dental experience.

What exactly is a Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH)?

A licensed professional who works under the direction of a dentist to promote optimal oral health, prevent oral diseases and intervene with therapeutic services. Typical responsibilities include: instructing patients in oral health education, scaling and polishing the teeth, exposing, processing and mounting x-ray films, administering fluoride treatments, applying sealants, taking impressions, assisting the dentist, collecting medical/dental history data from the patient and managing the recall system.

Is dental hygiene a field for women only?

No. While the majority of dental hygienists are women, men are welcome in the profession and are as successful as women in securing employment.

Where are most dental hygienists employed?

Most dental hygienists are employed in private dental offices, but many are employed in public health settings, dental hygiene education programs, public schools, hospitals, and by private industry.

Are there any personal attributes I should consider when thinking about dental hygiene as a career?

Yes. Prospective students should have the ability to succeed in a science-based curriculum, relate well to people on a one to one basis, feel comfortable working in close proximity with people of all ages and backgrounds, be patient, and have good time management skills.

Are there any specific physical requirements necessary to perform dental hygiene functions?

Yes. A dental hygienist must have use of both hands, dexterity in the fingers and tactile sensitivity to manipulate dental instruments, materials, dental handpieces, and operate dental equipment. The use of feet is necessary to manipulate rheostat for handpieces and other adjunct dental equipment. The body must be able to work from dental operator stool in order to perform dental hygiene procedures. The ability to sit and stand for a duration of time is also necessary. Other specific requirements include color discrimination (differentiation of various shades of color and gradations from black to white); manual dexterity/motor coordination (discern changes in surface textures by manipulating dental instruments, control exertion of hand/finger pressure); hand-eye coordination (transfer of visual input into motor output); physical communications (perceive sound through telephone, hear commands through operator's face mask, discern blood pressure sounds); visual acuity (identify the working ends of various dental instruments and implements at a 2 foot distance); form/spatial ability (view in 3 dimensional relationships, distinguish subtle changes from one form or shape to other, discriminate intricate measurements);and, language development (speak clearly so that patient understands his/her dental condition).

Do I have to be licensed to practice dental hygiene?

Yes. To apply for a license in any state, one must graduate from an accredited program, pass the written National Board, a regional or state clinical / written board and a written state exam typically focusing on the state laws and rules and regulations of dental hygiene practice.

Is it easy to find a job once graduated?

The employment picture is bright and is predicted to be for the next decade. SSCT's Career Services office is ready to assist students in their job search before and after graduation. Currently, that office receives significantly more requests for grads than individuals available. Surveys of the 2003 and 2004 graduating classes show 100% of grads who wish to be in the field are employed and wages are excellent.

Is the program accredited?

Yes. The program in dental hygiene is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. The Commission on Dental Accreditation may be contacted at (312) 440-4653 or at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611.

Can credits earned in the program be transferred or applied to a baccalaureate degree?

General studies courses included in the program were selected in part, because they are transferable. Dental hygiene courses are technical courses which must be evaluated by the institution to which you are transferring. Contact the Program Director for information about degree completion programs.

When do classes begin?

Students are admitted once per year. A summer or fall semester start date will be announced during the enrollment year. Details will be provided to students who apply to the program.

Are there any special requirements for enrolling in the dental hygiene program?

Yes. Enrollment is limited. Therefore, acceptance by SSCT does not automatically mean acceptance into the dental hygiene program. Candidates must become eligible by meeting specific requirements and must apply to the program. Formal notification of acceptance into the program is required.

What does eligibility mean?

It means that a candidate has met the special pre-application requirements and may apply for admission to the program.

What is the PAX Test? When is it given? Is there a fee for the test?

The PAX test is a standardized exam which, in combination with other indicators, is helpful in predicting the academic success potential of candidates. It tests verbal ability, mathematics and science and takes about 3 hours. Tests are administered approximately 2 times per month. Registration for the Pre-Admission Examination (PAX Test) will be online through the National League for Nursing (NLN) website at: <https://www.nlnonlinetesting.org/pax/>. Students should not go to Registration, Admissions, or the Cashier Office to register or pay for the examination.

The PAX Test fee is \$ 80.00. *Note: This is subject to change by the NLN. The fee and dates are posted online. If you reschedule 3 weeks or less than 3 weeks in advance of the test, NLN will charge an additional \$15. NLN will not refund your money if you cancel or do not show the day of the test.*

Do all eligible applicants get into the program?

Yes. Acceptance to the program is based solely on meeting the special requirements and submitting a complete application. Applicants are not placed in competition with one another. However, because the number of eligible applicants often exceeds the number of openings for a class, admission is granted on a space available basis. Eligible applicants are guaranteed admission but may be placed on a wait list for a succeeding class.

How long might I wait to begin classes after being accepted?

Your start of dental hygiene courses will be delayed one or more years depending on the number of applicants who have preceded you. When you are accepted, you will be informed of your start date. If spaces open earlier, you will be notified. You are encouraged to apply as soon as you are eligible and to use the waiting period to complete your non-dental hygiene courses.

What must I do to become eligible? What steps should I follow ?

Turn to page 8 of these Q & A sheets. See: What must I do in order to be admitted to the program? and What are the steps I must follow to apply for admission?

Is there an application deadline?

Not specifically. Applications will be accepted when a candidate completes the eligibility {pre-application} requirements (Note: applications cannot be submitted BEFORE the date stated for the particular PAX test period).

How many students are in each class?

A full class includes 24 students. The actual number of applicants admitted to class may be less however, if circumstances require a previously enrolled student to return.

How long is the program?

A minimum of two years is required to complete the 73 credit hour program. The 4 eligibility {pre-application} courses are part of the dental hygiene program but are taken before being admitted.

Do most students complete the program in the minimum time?

No. Most students take some or all of the required general studies courses before starting the dental hygiene sequence. This strategy is highly recommended to strengthen your academic background and lighten the load to allow for full focus on the dental hygiene courses.

Are there any non-dental hygiene courses that should not be taken too far in advance?

Yes. BIO 221, Principles of Microbiology, must not be taken earlier than three (3) years prior to enrolling in the first dental hygiene course (DHY 121) In general the eligibility courses have specific timelines. Refer to the section on eligibility course limitations / rules on page 9.

What hours will I be in attendance at school while enrolled in the dental hygiene program?

The schedule varies during the year. Lecture and lab classes are generally scheduled between 8:00 - 5:00 (M-F). All students must accept assignments to both day and evening clinical sessions. Students are encouraged not to schedule other activities until the schedules are posted each semester.

Can I work while going to dental hygiene school?

It is recommended that part-time employment be limited to 8-10 hours per week. However, the actual number will vary depending on individual student circumstances.

Can I attend part-time?

Not at this time. You must enroll in all courses scheduled for the semester. However, students who complete all or most of their non-dental hygiene courses prior to enrolling will have reduced course loads roughly equivalent to part-time study.

Can I visit the program facilities?

Certainly. Please call to make arrangements. In fact, students are welcome to experience the clinic more directly by becoming a patient. Call (330) 305-6610 if you wish to make an appointment.

I am currently enrolled in a dental hygiene program at another college. What must I do to transfer to SSCT?

SSCT's program may or may not be able to accept in progress dental hygiene students depending on space availability and the curriculum match between the two colleges. Please contact the dental hygiene program director for assistance.

What expenses can I expect to incur related to my dental hygiene education?

Expenses include, but may not be limited to: tuition, college fees, special dental hygiene course fees, instrument kits, textbooks and supplies, liability insurance, health insurance, physical examination and immunization costs, uniforms and transportation to and from off-campus clinical experiences. In addition, board exams and state license application related fees should be expected. NOTE: Students should expect fees to be greater than that listed for other SSCT programs. Please see page 10 for more details about costs.

Do I have to take the four eligibility {pre-application} courses during the summer semester as shown on the curriculum sequence?

No. The 14 credit hours may be taken during one or more semesters and at any time as long as you meet the eligibility course time limitations and rules.

Are dental hygienists at risk for infectious diseases such as AIDS?

Dental hygienists practice according to infection control guidelines recommended by the Centers for Disease Control, and by doing so are at no greater risk than any other health care professional.

If I have an infectious disease, can I still apply to the Program?

You should request a copy of the program's Bloodborne Infectious Disease(s) Policy from the Dean of Students. It addresses this issue with respect to your status as an applicant and student.

Can out of state students apply and be accepted?

Yes. The same criteria and procedures apply.

Exactly what courses are included in the curriculum?

Students will follow the sequence shown on page 6. Non-dental hygiene courses may be taken before beginning the dental hygiene course sequence.

Will I be required to learn local anesthesia injection (how to give shots)?

Yes. Dental Hygienists in the State of Ohio are allowed to administer local anesthesia (give shots). Students in this program will learn and practice local anesthesia injection.

Dental Hygiene Curriculum Plan Credit Hours

Eligibility Courses [pre-application]

CHM121 General Chemistry	4	
BIO121 Anatomy & Physiology I	4	
ENG124 College Composition*	3	
PSY121 General Psychology	3	14 (semester total)

First Semester

DHY121 Head, Neck & Oral Anatomy	2	
DHY122 Oral Histology & Embryology	1	
DHY123 Dental Radiography	3	
DHY131 Fundamentals of Dental Hygiene Practice	4	
BIO122 Anatomy & Physiology II	4	14 (semester total)

Second Semester

DHY124 Periodontics I	1	
DHY125 Dental Materials	3	
DHY126 Pathology	2	
DHY132 Dental Hygiene Theory I	2	
DHY133 Clinical Dental Hygiene I	2	
BIO221 Principles of Microbiology**	4	14 (semester total)

Summer

DHY134 Clinical Dental Hygiene IA	1	3 (semester total)
DHY127 Community Oral Health I	1	
DHY221 Nutrition in Dentistry	1	

Third Semester

DHY222 Dental Pharmacology	2	
DHY223 Community Oral Health II	2	
DHY225 Anesthesia and Pain Control	2	
DHY231 Dental Hygiene Theory II	2	
DHY232 Clinical Dental Hygiene II	4	
SOC121 Sociology	3	15 (semester total)

Fourth Semester

DHY224 Periodontics II	1	
DHY233 Dental Hygiene Theory III	2	
DHY234 Clinical Dental Hygiene III	5	
COM121 Effective Speaking	3	
Social Science Elective ***	3	14 (semester total)

Total Semester Hours

73 (program total)

* Based on SSCT Placement Scores

** May not be taken earlier than three years prior to enrollment in DHY121

*** May select any PSY/SOC course of three credit hours or more, SWK127 or PHL122

Dental Hygiene Course Descriptions and Clock hours per Week of Study:

DHY121 (Lec 1, Lab 2, Clinic 0) Gross anatomy of the head and neck, tooth morphology and physiology of occlusion.

DHY122 (Lec 1, Lab 0, Clinic 0) Embryological development and histologic characteristics of the orofacial organs and structures.

DHY123 (Lec 2, Lab 3, Clinic 0) Fundamental knowledge of radiographic principles and safety considerations. Skill development in image production, processing mounting techniques, and radiographic interpretation.

DHY124 (Lec 1, Lab 0, Clinic 0) Explores etiology, diagnosis and prevention of diseases affecting tissues that support, attach, and surround the teeth. Observation Field Experience is required.

DHY125 (Lec 2, Lab 3, Clinic 0) Fundamental knowledge of the dental materials commonly used in contemporary dental practice including their physical, chemical and manipulative characteristics and skill development in correctly using these materials.

DHY126 (Lec 1, Lab 2, Clinic 0) Concepts of developmental/growth disturbances; diseases of microbiological origin; injury and repair; metabolic and disease disturbances; and oral manifestations of diseases and conditions.

DHY127 (Lec 1, Lab 0, Clinic 0) Concepts of research design, methods and evaluation as it related to community health program planning. Emphasis on reading and reviewing scientific literature, understanding assessment processes and statistical reporting and the levels of public health prevention and administration.

DHY131 (Lec 2, Lab 6, Clinic 0) Introduction to dentistry, the dental hygiene profession, and ethical and professional patient care. Terminology and basic skills utilized in the contemporary practice of dental hygiene, including infection control procedures and patient assessment and treatment. Concepts are applied in a preclinical setting with manikins and student partners.

DHY132 (Lec 2, Lab 0, Clinic 0) Build upon fundamentals to provide further study of dental hygiene practices including, but not limited to, dental specialties, treatment planning and management of medical/dental emergencies.

DHY133 (Lec 0, Lab 0, Clinic 6*) Patient care experiences which reinforce fundamentals and which correlate with, and allow the application of, dental hygiene procedures and concepts presented in Dental Hygiene Theory I. Emphasis on application of basic skills and professionalism.

DHY134 (Lec 0, Lab 0, Clinic 3*) Patient care experiences which allow further development of clinical skills and application of concepts. Emphasis on patient management and effective communications.

DHY221 (Lec 1, Lab 0, Clinic 0) Basic concepts of nutrition and the effects on general and oral health. Emphasis on the role of nutrition in dentistry for disease prevention and health promotion.

DHY222 (Lec 2, Lab 0, Clinic 0) Principles of drug regulation and prescribing, action and handling and adverse reactions. Emphasis on body systems, medical histories and their impact on drugs used in dentistry and their potential to alter dental treatment. Drugs used to manage medical emergencies and control pain and anxiety.

DHY223 (Lec 0, Lab 2, Clinic 0) Concepts of assessing, planning, implementing and evaluating oral health programs for community groups. Focus on program planning models, incorporation of research methods into program development and evaluation and offers practical application of community health concepts. Field experiences are required.

Dental Hygiene Course Descriptions and Clock hours per Week of Study continued:

DHY224 (Lec 1, Lab 0, Clinic 0) Builds on and reinforces fundamentals of Periodontics with clinical case applications. Periodontal evaluation and surgical and chemotherapeutic treatment modalities. Current advances in periodontic research and therapy. Field observation required.

DHY225 (Lec 1, Lab 3, Clinic 0) This course will teach the basic concepts of anesthesia and pain control as they relate to patient management in the provision of comprehensive dental hygiene care. Lecture will focus on theory of pain control, selection of pain control modalities and implications of local anesthesia. Topics will utilize knowledge and review of anatomy, physiology and pharmacology. Lab includes competency based practice of the administration of pain control modalities.

DHY231 (Lec 2, Lab 0, Clinic 0) Further exploration of treatment modalities and dental hygiene services such as dietary analysis and counseling, and oral hygiene indices tobacco use and cessation education. Focus on the development of more complex dental hygiene treatment plans and working with patients with special needs.

DHY232 (Lec 0, Lab 0, Clinic 12*) Patient care experiences which refine fundamentals and correlate with, and allow application of, dental hygiene procedures and lecture concepts presented in Dental Hygiene Theory II. Emphasis on total patient care and treatment planning, including judgment and decision making.

DHY233 (Lec 2, Lab 0, Clinic 0) Further exploration of treatment modalities and adjunct procedures. Focus on transitions to practice, including principles of office management, jurisprudence, and current issues in dental hygiene.

DHY234 (Lec 0, Lab 0, Clinic 15*) Patient care experiences that correlate with, and allow application of, dental hygiene procedures and lecture concepts presented in Dental Hygiene Theory III. Development of proficiency in implementing treatment plans to meet individual patient's oral health needs. Emphasis on self-evaluation and quality assurance.

*Note: For each three hour clinic session, an additional one hour is required for treatment area preparation and record-keeping functions. (Example: in DHY134, you will spend three hours with patients and one hour with supportive functions.)

What must I do in order to be admitted into the program?

1. Have a high school diploma or G.E.D. certificate.
2. Complete four eligibility {pre-application} courses totaling 14 semester credits. (^^)
 - ENG124 College Composition (3 credits)
 - PSY121 General Psychology (3 credits)
 - BIO121 Anatomy & Physiology I (4 credits)
 - CHM121 General Chemistry (4 credits)

(^^) **NOTE:** Students *may or may not* also be required to take introductory reading, critical thinking, chemistry, anatomy & physiology and/or math courses **prior** to enrolling in the above courses. This will depend upon the student's academic background, years out of high school, scores on SSCT's placement (Compass Skills Assessment) tests, and course prerequisites as listed in the college catalog. Students must follow advisor recommendations and take listed prerequisites, and therefore, may need to plan for additional semester(s) of course work before taking the eligibility {pre-application} courses en route to applying for admission to the dental hygiene program.

Students should also note Eligibility (Pre-Application) Course Limitations/Rules.

3. Earn at least a grade of C in each of the eligibility {pre-application} courses.

-AND-

Earn a grade point average (using only the grades earned in the eligibility courses) of at least 2.75.

4. Score at or above the 60th percentile on the PAX Test.
5. Document 20 hours of dentistry observation/employment experience.
6. Complete supplemental admission requirements:
 - Apply for general admission to the College if not already a SSCT student.
 - Take SSCT's Skills Inventory Tests and follow advisor recommendations for course placement.
 - After acceptance and prior to date specified: present documentation of current Basic Life Support Certification (CPR Healthcare Provider - Course C)
 - After acceptance and prior to date specified: present complete physical exam report with documentation of the hepatitis B immunization (first dose) and others as required.
7. Take careful note of the limitations and special rules which apply to requirements 1-6 above.

They are listed below. If you do not completely understand any of the statements, contact an admissions counselor or your academic advisor.

What are the important limitations & special rules that apply to the admission requirements of which I must be well aware?

Eligibility {Pre-application} Course Limitations / Rules:

You must complete EACH of the four eligibility {pre-application} courses with a grade of C or better. C minus is not acceptable.

You may only repeat each course once to improve your grade. (Effective for all courses taken 6/2/97 or later). Eligibility courses already repeated before June 2, 1997 may be repeated one additional time to improve the grade.

Students applying to the College 7/31/06 or after, can not use eligibility courses taken over eight years prior to application to the dental hygiene program to meet eligibility requirements. These courses can be taken and repeated once within the last eight years to improve the grade. (Rule effective 5/23/06). Note: Students who have completed a Bachelors and/or Masters degree and earned a C or better in either/both College Composition and General Psychology are exempt from this eight year rule.

You may only withdraw from each course twice. A third withdrawal from the same course will result in your ineligibility to apply to the program. (Rule effective 10/1/99).

BIO123 (Principles of Human Structure and Function) can not be used or substituted to meet the eligibility requirement of BIO121 (Anatomy & Physiology I) regardless of when completed or grade earned. Comparable courses transferred from another institution will be evaluated for eligibility.

SSCT course substitutions are not permitted for any of the Eligibility Courses. Comparable courses transferred from another institution will be evaluated for eligibility.

GPA's from two or more colleges will not be combined or averaged; the SSCT transcript will take precedence once 12 or more credit hours have been completed at SSCT. Effective June 5, 2006, twelve (12) credit hours are needed to apply for the Dental Hygiene Program.

Cumulative Grade Point Average Limitations / Rules

Only the grades earned for the four (4) eligibility courses will be computed for the GPA used for eligibility.

Applicant must be in good academic standing with their college at the time of application and must maintain that status each semester during the waiting period for final enrollment into the dental hygiene course sequence.

PAX Test Limitations / Rules

Applicant must complete the eligibility courses and meet GPA requirements **prior** to registering for or taking the exam. Only examination scores from PAX Tests taken **after** eligibility courses are completed will be accepted.

The PAX test may be repeated twice (once at the next test period and once at least one year later after an appointment with the dental hygiene program director) to achieve a qualifying score.

PAX test scores are accepted for a period of three years.

Effective 5/26/99. PAX Test applicants who declare majors other than dental hygiene may not transfer that PAX Test score to dental hygiene admissions for a period of one (1) year from the test date.

Dentistry Observation/Employment Experience Limitations / Rules

The experience must occur in a dental office where a dental hygienist and a dental assistant are employed and observation of dentist, dental hygienist and dental assistant functions must be documented using the appropriate college form.

The experience must occur within two years prior to application to the dental hygiene program.

Supplemental Requirement Limitations / Rules

All applicants must take SSCT's Compass Test and follow course placement recommendations. **Note:** Transfer students and/or students who have taken the ACT within the last two calendar years may not be required to take the Compass Skills Assessment Test. An admissions counselor will discuss these details with you.

What are the steps I must follow to apply for admission?

1. Submit a Stark State College application (new SSCT students only) along with the required fee to the College and take the Compass Skills Assessment Test.

Note: Transfer students and/or students who have taken the ACT within the last two calendar years may not be required to take the Compass Skills Assessment Test. An admissions counselor will discuss these details with you.

2. Complete any prescribed introductory and/or prerequisite courses to the four eligibility courses and complete the four eligibility courses.
3. Once the four eligibility courses have been completed and the grades have been recorded, obtain a green Dental Hygiene Program Application Request Form from the Registration, Admission or Health Division Offices. Complete it and return it to the Registration Office. SSCT Registration staff will then review your request and, if you are eligible, will mail you an Eligibility letter, Dental Office Experience Form and Dental Hygiene Program Application. The Eligibility letter instructs you to proceed to register for and take the PAX Test. **NOTE:** Only PAX tests scores taken after pre-eligibility courses have been completed successfully and confirmed by the Registration Office will be used for admission. If you are found not to be eligible, the Registration Office will contact you by mail.
4. Take the PAX test scoring at or above the 60th percentile AD composite. (**)
5. After you receive your PAX test results, you are eligible to submit a Dental Hygiene Program Application if you scored at the 60th percentile or above. For each PAX test period, there is a date on or after which you may submit your application. Be sure you are aware of the date for your test period because applications will only be accepted *on or after* that date.

6. Submit the application along with a copy of your PAX test scores, Dental Office Experience Form and current transcript(s) from other colleges (if applicable) to the Registration Office. **Applications are not considered complete unless accompanied by your PAX scores copy, Dental Office Experience Form & transcript(s) from other colleges (not SSCT).**
 7. Once all of the admission requirements have been met and a *complete* application is received, a letter of acceptance with projected starting date will be mailed to the applicant within 4-6 weeks. Since a waiting period is expected, applicants are encouraged to submit an application as soon as admission requirements are completed in order to reserve a space. The remaining non-dental hygiene courses can be completed while waiting to enter the dental hygiene sequence. Applicants must remain in continuous good standing for final enrollment into the dental hygiene course sequence.
- (**) *If you score below the 60th percentile, you may request an application for the next scheduled PAX test. If you qualify on your second attempt, proceed with step 4. If your second attempt is again below the 60th percentile, you should schedule an appointment with the dental hygiene program director. You may not reenter the process (request the PAX test application) for a period of one year from the date of the second unsuccessful attempt. If you reapply, you will be required to meet all criteria and processes which are in effect at that time. You may only reenter the process once.*

The College reserves the right to change, without notice, statements concerning rules, policies, fees, curricula, courses or other matters.

SSCT is committed to equal opportunity for all and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color religion, national origin, gender, age or disability.

SSCT strives to enroll a diverse representation of students within the health technologies programs. Members of under represented groups are encouraged to apply.

ESTIMATED DENTAL HYGIENE EXPENSES

Excluding Tuition & Living Expenses
Students Entering 2009

Instructional Instruments & Equipment	Approximate Cost	Semester Required	Licensure Related	Education Program Related
Instrument Kit - A	\$ 370.00	Fall (1 st year)		X
Instrument Kit - B	264.00	Fall (1 st year)		X
Instrument Kit - C w/ ultrasonic inserts	385.00	Spring (1 st year)		X
XCP Set	87.00	Fall (1 st year)		X
Typodont	183.00	Summer/Fall (1 st year)		X
Safety Glasses (2 pair)	30.00	Fall (1 st year)		X
Utility Gloves	15.00/yr	Fall (1 st year) (and replace as needed)		X
Blood Pressure Kit	75.00	Fall (1 st year)		X
ESTIMATED TOTAL	\$ 1,409.00			

Other Expenses	Approximate Cost	Semester Required	Licensure Related	Education Program Related
Special Dental Hygiene Program Facility Use Fee	\$700.00/semester \$3,500 total	Fall, Spring & Summer Semesters		X
Liability Insurance	15.00/year	Summer (1 st & 2 nd year)		X
Uniforms with Name Tag	200.00	Fall (1 st year) (and replace as needed)		X
Textbooks - General Studies Courses	800.00	As Needed		X
Textbooks - Dental Hygiene Courses	800.00	As Needed		X
Transportation to Sites	80.00	Variable		X
Physical Exam with Immunizations	500.00	Summer (1 st & 2 nd year)		X
CPR Certification	35.00	Continuous (1 st & 2 nd yr)	X	X
National Board Exam	265.00	Spring (2 nd year)	X	
NERB Exam	925.00	Spring (2 nd year)	X	
Board Exam Review Course (optional)	400.00		X	
SADHA Membership	65.00/year	Fall (1 st & 2 nd year)		X
State License	147.00	After Graduation	X	
Community Dental Health Projects/ Table Clinics	100.00	Fall (2 nd year)		X
Graduation Pin (gift from Akron Dental Society)	0.00	Spring (2 nd year)		
PAX Test Fee	65.00	Pre-Application		X
FBI	30.00	Pre-Application		X
SCCT Application Processing Fee (one time only)	65.00	Pre-Application		X
ESTIMATED TOTAL	\$ 8,002.00			

STARK STATE COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY
Dental Hygiene Program Applicants (or Associate Degree in Nursing Program)
Recommendations for Achieving Success on the
PRE-ADMISSION EXAMINATION (PAX TEST)

The following are recommendations for achieving success on the Pre-Admission PAX Examination for those applying to either the Dental Hygiene Program or Nursing Program. The exam is also known as the PAX-RN Exam. While the exam is officially sponsored by the National League for Nursing Test Service, NONE of the questions pertain specifically to nursing. Your score on the exam is based on national performance norms and it is not determined by comparing your score with Stark State College nursing applicants.

The PAX-RN exam tests in three areas. These are 1) Verbal Ability, 2) Mathematics, and 3) Science. The Verbal Ability section consists of word knowledge and reading comprehension. The Mathematics section measures skills in basic arithmetic calculations as well as elementary algebraic and geometric concepts. Both computational exercises and word problems are included. The Science section evaluates high school level knowledge of general sciences, chemistry, biology, and physics, with particular emphasis on those areas most applicable to the Health professions.

You might find it helpful to prepare for the exam by studying one or both recommended review books especially designed to prepare students for the PAX Exam. The two books are: National League for Nursing Review Guide for RN Pre-Entrance Exam, 2nd Edition, edited by Mary McDonald and published by Jones and Bartlett Publishers, Sudbury, Massachusetts (2004) and Arco's Nursing School and Allied Health Entrance Exam, 17th Edition, by M. Gooding and published by McMillan; New York, NY (2005). Both books are available in the Stark State College Bookstore at a price of \$29.95 and \$17.99 respectively.

The NLN Review Book has five major sections. While the Introduction section discusses career options in nursing, it also presents information on proven study strategies and test-taking skills which will be helpful to any student.

Section A provides a comprehensive review of the verbal and reading comprehension vocabulary and reading skills. Section B offers an overview of math content with detailed examples. Section C reviews the science content with detailed summaries of high school biology, chemistry, and physics. Included in each of the Sections, A, B, & C, are three to four exams as a means of review of these areas. The last major section of the book is entitled "Comprehensive Practice Tests". This final section contains three comprehensive practice exams (160 questions which are actual NLN Pre-Admission exams that are no longer in use).

The Arco book has three major sections. Part One gives general information on how to use the book and information on the exam including the content and format of the examination, how to interpret test scores, and preparing for the examination itself. Part Two is a study guide with specific information on each area of the PAX Exam. It includes sample test questions. Part Three contains general information useful for review, but not necessarily geared towards this exam. Do not be concerned about the nursing focus of the book--the information is general enough so that it can be used by anyone taking the PAX Exam.

On the back of this page is a copy of an actual report received by a student. Use it to help you determine whether or not you have met the program's minimal requirement. **You must score at the 60th percentile (minimum score) or greater in the area shown under AD-Composite (see circled area on back).**

If you have further questions regarding the PAX exam, please contact your academic advisor at 330-966-5458. If you are applying to the Dental Hygiene Program contact Nichole Oocumma at ext. 4707. If you are applying to the Nursing Program contact Gloria Kline at ext. 4252.

Best wishes in your preparation for the exam!

**NOTE: PLEASE SAVE THIS PAPER SO YOU CAN DETERMINE YOUR SCORE
(SEE BACK)**



National League for Nursing

Assessment and Evaluation

61 Broadway • New York, NY 10006 • 800-669-1656 • 212-363-5555

Gloria Kline Director
Stark State College of Technolog
Associate Degree Program
Nursing Program
6200 Frank Avenue NW
Canton, OH 44720

Program Code: 337443
NLN Order Number: 65882
Report Date: 09/06/2005

Test Code: PAXPODMRN53A
Test Date: 08/26/2005

Individual Performance Report PRE-ADMISSION RN FORM 53A

Should be
60 or better.

Percentile Rank:

DI 69 AD 64 ALL 65

Summary

Examinee:
Composite Score: 108

Test	Raw Score	Percentiles		
		DI	AD	ALL
VERBAL	41 of 60	80	71	71
MATH	12 of 40	11	6	6
SCIENCE	39 of 60	85	78	77

*PERCENTILE NORMS ARE BASED ON PERFORMANCE OF:

	INDIV.	PROG.	STATES
APPLICANTS TO DIPLOMA PROGRAMS -----	890	29	12
APPLICANTS TO ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS----	22433	106	42
ALL APPLICANTS TO BASIC NURSING PROGRAMS---	25034	202	49

SCORES ON THIS EXAMINATION FORM WERE UPDATED USING A
PRE-EQUATING SAMPLE OF 25,034 EXAMINEES TESTED IN 2001-2002

GUIDE FOR THE INTERPRETATION OF THE TEST REPORT

SCORES The individual tests included in the examination are identified in the left-hand column of the report. Immediately to the right, in the column labeled "Score" is the raw score earned. This score is the number of test items you answered correctly. Each test contains some additional items that were included for test development purposes only. These items were not used to calculate the scores. The highest possible raw score in each test is as follows: Verbal Ability - 60; Mathematics - 40; Science - 60.

THE COMPOSITE SCORE is based on your performance on the total examination, but is not the sum of the items answered correctly. It is a standard score, i.e., a weighted combination of the scores on the individual tests. Composite scores may range from 0 to 200. The average is 100, and the standard deviation a measure of variability around this average score, is 20. Most scores range between 50 and 150.

A PERCENTILE SCORE for each test and for the composite score is reported in the column labeled "Percentile Norms." Percentiles, which range from 0-99, indicate what portion of a reference group of applicants to similar nursing programs earned raw scores lower than yours. For example, if the report shows a percentile score of 84 for a raw score of 49 on the Verbal Ability test, it means that 84% of the norms group received a raw score of 49 or less. The percentile scores do NOT indicate the percentage of items that were answered correctly.

NORMS GROUP Each norms group used in preparing this report is identified at the top of the column labeled "Percentile Norms." For the Pre-Admission Examination-PN the norms group is comprised of all applicants to practical nursing programs who took this test during the period identified at the bottom of the report. For the Pre-Admission Examination-RN three sets of norms are provided: "DI" refers to applicants to diploma programs; "AD" refers to applicants to associate degree programs; and "ALL" refers to all applicants to any of the three types of programs preparing students for registered nurse practice. The most appropriate norms group to use is the group which matches or includes the type of program to which you are applying. This allows comparisons with other applicants to similar programs. Each norms group is described in the section following the test scores.

INTERPRETING THE SCORES Percentiles substantially above the 50th percentile indicate better than average performance, percentiles ranging from about 40-60 average, and those substantially below the 50th percentile poorer than average. Areas of strength or weakness may be identified by noting those parts of the examination for which the percentiles are high or low. It should be noted that equal differences in percentiles do not indicate equal differences in ability since examinees' test scores tend to group around the average score. The further one is from the average, in either direction, the greater is the degree of ability represented by each additional percentage point. The difference between percentiles of 80 and 89 is far greater in terms of ability than the difference between 50 and 59; similarly the difference between percentiles 10 and 19 is greater than the difference between 50 and 59.

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Page 8 of 22

PRE-ADMISSION EXAMINATION (PAX TEST)

REGISTRATION:

Registration for the Pre-Admission Examination (PAX Test) will be online through the National League for Nursing (NLN) website at: <https://www.nlnonlinetesting.org/pax/>

Please DO NOT go to Registration, Admissions, or the Cashier Office to register or pay for the examination.

Test fee is \$ 80.00. Note: This is subject to change by the NLN. The fee and dates will be posted once you go online to register. If you reschedule 3 weeks or less than 3 weeks in advance of the test, NLN will charge an additional \$15 for you to reschedule. NLN will not refund your money if you cancel or do not show the day of the test.

TEST DATES: The test will start promptly at the times given – please arrive at the testing room at least 15 minutes prior to the testing time. *Please note: There are only 23 seats in the computer lab so each testing session will be limited to 23 people.*

NOTE: DENTAL HYGIENE STUDENTS

Please read page four of this Pre-admission PAX Examination document carefully for completed Application acceptance dates.

Although the testing method has changed, the admission requirements for eligible dental hygiene students completing the PAX test remain the same.

Pre-Dental Hygiene Students should be aware of the Admission Rules for their Program. (for more information refer to the Dental Hygiene Prospective Applicant Packet).

IMPORTANT NOTE: Only PAX tests scores taken after pre-eligibility courses have been completed successfully and confirmed by the Registration Office will be used for admission

REQUIREMENTS TO BE ADMITTED FOR TESTING ARE:

You ***MUST*** bring the following documents with you into the testing room or you will not be permitted to take the test:

- 1. Pre-Admission Examination for RN Programs Permit** you will receive this page once you register for a class.
- 2. Driver's License or your Stark State Student ID Card.**

TESTING INFORMATION:

Please allow 3 ½ hours for taking the test. The actual test is 3 hours; however, the 3 ½ hours accounts for required breaks and directions for the test. No late comers will be admitted once the test starts. Snow days will be rescheduled per NLN. There will not be a \$ 15 reschedule fee and you will not lose your money in the event of a snow day.

Also, calculators will not be permitted for the test. Cell phones, Blue tooth technology/earpieces, etc. will not be permitted. They must be turned off completely (no tone or vibrating, etc.). It is highly recommended that you take care of any personal matters with your family, etc. prior to the examination so you are not expecting a phone call during the examination. You will be dismissed from the test if you have any of these items on or on vibrate, etc. while testing. Food and drinks are not permitted in the computer labs.

Please note: If you are not successful at your first attempt, (you must be in the 60th percentile rank or greater) you can repeat the test in six (6) month intervals.

PAX TEST SCHEDULE FOR DENTAL HYGIENE APPLICATIONS:

Completed Dental Hygiene Applications for admissions will only be accepted *on or after* the dates indicated below:

TEST DATE	APPLICATION ACCEPTANCE DATE
January:	
Saturday, May 16, 2009 9:00 am	Thursday, May 28, 2009
February:	
Saturday, June 27, 2009 9:00 am	Thursday, July 9, 2009
March:	
Saturday, July 11, 2009: 9:00 am	Thursday, July 23, 2009
April:	
Saturday, August 8, 2009 9:00 am	Thursday, August 20, 2009

NOTE: DENTAL HYGIENE STUDENTS

1. Please read page four of this Pre-admission PAX Examination document carefully for completed Application acceptance dates.
2. Although the testing method has changed, the admission requirements for eligible dental hygiene students completing the PAX test remain the same.
3. Pre-Dental Hygiene Students should be aware of the Admission Rules for their Program. (for more information refer to the Dental Hygiene Prospective Applicant Packet).
4. ***IMPORTANT NOTE: Only PAX tests scores taken after pre-eligibility courses have been completed successfully and confirmed by the Registration Office will be used for admission***
5. Effective 5/26/99:PAX Test applicants who declare majors other than Dental Hygiene may not transfer that PAX Test score to Dental Hygiene admissions for a period of one (1) year from the test date.
6. Effective 2/11/05: Dental Hygiene Applicants must score at or above the 60th percentile on the PAX test to meet eligibility requirements.