Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Q: Where do I get a Dental Hygiene Application?**
   a. **A:** [www.gpc.edu/~gpcdh](http://www.gpc.edu/~gpcdh)
      i. This application must be printed and mailed to the Dental Hygiene Department: 2101 Womack Road, Dunwoody GA 30338

2. **Q: What classes are needed before I can apply to your program?**
   A: GPC’s DH program requires COMPLETION of the following with a grade of ‘C’ or better and a minimum 2.5 GPA:
   1. CHEM 1151 & CHEM 1151L
   2. BIOL 1611 & BIOL 1611L (Human Anatomy and Physiology, Part I)
   3. BIOL 1612 & BIOL 1612L (Human Anatomy and Physiology, Part II)
   There are other core courses that are needed to earn an associates degree in Dental Hygiene but the **above listed courses (1-3)** are the only one’s required before you can APPLY.

3. **Q: Will I need to submit a letter of recommendation with my application to the program?**
   a. No, you are required to shadow a Dental Hygienist for a minimum of 20 hours. The Dental Hygienist must complete a Shadowing Form which can be found at [www.gpc.edu/~gpcdh](http://www.gpc.edu/~gpcdh).
   b. No, we do not take letters of recommendation into consideration.

4. **Q: Do I need to send transcripts to your department?**
   a. A: No, IF you are a transfer student with previous college experience at another institution OTHER THAN GPC, you must only submit transcripts to our District Admissions Office (Clarkston Campus, 555 N. Indian Creek Drive, Clarkston, GA 30021).
      i. That is the ONLY office that evaluates transcripts for GPC.
      ii. They are not open to the public and do not receive phone calls or make appointments to ‘go over’ your transcript credits.
      iii. If you have questions about a questionable transfer credit once you have been notified by District Admissions of accepted
credits, you can make an appointment with Advising and Counseling at either GPC campus to discuss your concerns.

5. **Q: I am a non-traditional student, but I have college credits from more than 7 years ago. Will those credits transfer to GPC?**
   
   a. A: GPC is a member of the University System of Georgia with full accreditation, therefore college credits from other accredited institutions will transfer to GPC.

   i. The science courses (listed pre-requisites plus CHEM 1152 and MICROBIOLOGY) are only acceptable as meeting the Dental Hygiene program requirements within 7 years of application date.

   1. The reason for this exception is DH is a highly science based program and the required science courses for this program are essential in your studies as a DH student. Therefore to be up-to-date on the latest science education, we require a maximum maturity of seven years for those courses.

6. **Do I have to take ALL of the courses listed on the Program of Study for Dental Hygiene before I can apply?**
   
   a. A: No, you are only required to complete the 3 science courses listed along with SOME of the other core curriculum. There is no stipulation on how long it takes you to complete these courses or which ones you complete, but it is encouraged to complete as many if not all of the core curriculum before entering the Dental Hygiene program because of the intense study and class time demanded for this program.

7. **I am a self-supporting single parent, how can I fit my hectic lifestyle within the guidelines of your program and keep my full-time job?**
   
   A: Realizing you are coming to this program with the intentions of either changing your profession or enhancing your skills, your ultimate goal is to become a Dental Hygienist. Unlike other disciplines within the college (ie: English, Math, Science) here in Dental Hygiene you actually are working towards a career. Any means of supporting your family that you may have depended on in the past, may need to be adjusted to meet the needs of your new career goals.

8. **What is the benefit of being a GPC student as opposed to a TRANSFER student?**
   
   A: All the courses required for GPC’s Dental Hygiene Program are offered at each of our GPC campuses. The advantage of taking the required courses for Dental Hygiene here at GPC is convenience.

   • Grades are pulled according to GPC deadlines therefore any transcript evaluations must be submitted and evaluated by GPC District Admissions prior to the Application deadline.
• The evaluation process of transcripts is a 4-6 week process. The District Admissions office is responsible evaluation of ALL transcripts submitted to the college and work on a first come, first serve basis.

9. Will I receive additional points for extra shadowing beyond 20 hours and can I get points for work experience and/or certification in the dental field?
   A: There will be no points given for shadowing. Shadowing a dental hygienist for 20 hours is mandatory before application. There will not be any additional points for shadowing 40 hours.
   A: There will be 2 points given for work and/or educational experience. Please refer to the admissions process.

10. If I am accepted into the Dental Hygiene Program how many days/hours can I expect to be in class or on campus?
    A: Dental Hygiene classes and clinic are scheduled Monday through Thursday and can be as early as 7:00AM and end as late as 5:00 PM. You may have off days and breaks in between classes as the schedule varies from semester to semester. There will be times when the schedule is as consuming as a full time job and it is strongly suggested that students in the program not work and complete all of their general education requirements prior to starting the program.

11. How many times can I reapply to the program?
    A: There are no limits to the number of times an applicant can reapply.

    Please email additional questions to anita.mccullough@gpc.edu