



# Vancouver College<sup>TM</sup> of Dental Hygiene<sup>Inc.</sup>

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene Inc. (VCDH)

The information regarding our Dental Hygiene program is within this package.

Please complete the application form in full and mail it to VCDH, e-mail it to [info@vancouver-college-dental.org](mailto:info@vancouver-college-dental.org), or fax it to 604-215-7660.

**Currently there is a promotion where the entrance exam is FREE!**

At Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene Inc. our goal is to put your needs and your career success first.

Whether you are applying from within the city, the province, Canada or internationally, our friendly admissions staff will assist and guide you throughout the entire admissions process.

We look forward to speaking with you about attending the Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene Inc.

If you require further information or assistance, please visit our webpage at <http://www.vancouver-college-dental.org> or to speak with us directly, please contact us at 604-215-7611 or toll free at 1-800-457-3189.

Sincerely,

Admissions Coordinator,  
Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene Inc.

## **History of the Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene Inc.**

The Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene Inc. has been in operation since December 2005. It was founded by Dr. Boris Pulec, a licensed dentist and Ms. Lidia Di Nicolo, a former registered dental hygienist who both work and live in Ontario. Together, they have over 65 years of experience in the dental field.

The VCDH has a designated certificate with the Private Training Institutions Branch.

The VCDH Dental Hygiene program has received accreditation from the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada.

The VCDH curriculum has met the approval of the College of Dental Hygienists of British Columbia and the College of Dental Surgeons of British Columbia.

## **Dental Hygiene Pre-Admission Exam Times**

You may return the application form by the following methods:

1. **Scan the application to:** [info@vancouver-college-dental.org](mailto:info@vancouver-college-dental.org)
2. **Fax the application to:** 604-215-7660
3. **Mail the application to:**

Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene Inc.  
1205-6<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
New Westminster, B.C.  
V3M 2C1  
*Attention:* Admissions Department

Testing times and dates are as follows:

Monday to Thursday: 1PM & 6PM

Friday: 1PM

Hours of operation are as follows:

Monday to Thursday: 7:00AM-8:00PM

Friday: 7AM-5:00PM

We encourage all applicants who are interested in the **Dental Hygiene program at VCDH** to please read the comprehensive admission information within this package. Applicants that have specific questions or would like additional information regarding the Dental Hygiene program should call the admissions department at **604-215-7611** or **1-800-457-3189** (toll free in North America).

### **Applicants Educated in Canada**

Applicants **must** have completed the **30** first year university transfer credits listed below:

- **English** (6 credits)
- **Anatomy and Physiology** (6 credits with lab components)
- **Chemistry** (6 credits with lab components)
- **Psychology** (6 credits)
- **Statistics** (3 credits)
- **One Elective** (3 credits)

### **Applicants Educated Outside of Canada**

Applicants who have graduated from a post-secondary institution in a foreign country are required to have their diplomas evaluated on a course-by-course basis by the International Credential Evaluation Service (ICES). This is to determine if their foreign education is equivalent to the first year university transfer courses listed above, which are required for admission into the Dental Hygiene program.

All applicable fees associated with ICES are the responsibility of the applicant. Both Comprehensive and Supplemental Evaluations are required. Applicants must arrange to have copies of the evaluation forwarded to the Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene Inc. directly from ICES by the required deadlines.

### **English Proficiency**

English is the language in which the Dental Hygiene program is taught at the Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene and Inc. VCDH does not teach English as a second language to the students.

The Dental Hygiene program is fast paced. In order to complete the program it is imperative that the student has a strong grasp of the English language, both verbal and written. Lack of English proficiency may result in poor academic performance and potential release from the program.

The student must be able to handle the delivery and retrieval of information by communicating effectively with clients and instructors. Lack of comprehension or communication skills may jeopardize the safety of the clients. This may result in the

college taking necessary measures to ensure client safety, which may include release from the program.

### **Prior Learning Assessment**

Applicants of the Dental Hygiene program with a dental background or other related courses will not be granted advanced standing or exemptions.

All courses must be taken and completed successfully in order to graduate from the program offered at VCDH.

### **Recommended Admission Requirements**

- Good vision and visual perception with or without corrective lenses
- Manual dexterity that allows manipulation of small instruments with repetitive motions
- Good interpersonal communications skills
- Confidence speaking in front of individuals and/or groups
- Problem solving and critical thinking skills
- Emotional maturity with an internal value of helping and caring for others
- Ability to co-operate with others
- Ability to handle responsibility
- Self-motivation
- Good organizational and time management skills
- Attention to detail

### **Mandatory Pre-admission Exam**

In addition, all applicants that meet the minimum admission requirements will be required to write the mandatory dental hygiene pre-admission exam. Applicants are required to bring government issued photo identification to the pre-admission exam for viewing by the admissions coordinator.

The pre-admission exam consists of the following:

- English Questions  
Including vocabulary, grammar, and reading comprehension
- Biology Questions
- Spatial Relations Questions
- Written Component

In order to be successful on the pre-admission exam, the applicant must achieve a score of 70% or above.

## **Applicants Located Outside of the City**

Applicants that are located a far distance from the college or from out of the province or country do not need to physically attend the dental hygiene pre-admission exam. The applicant may use a qualified testing center that will supervise their pre-admission exam. Please call a VCDH admissions coordinator for more information at 604-215-7611 or toll free at 1-800-457-3189. Also, please feel free to e-mail questions to [info@vancouver-college-dental.org](mailto:info@vancouver-college-dental.org). There is currently **no fee** associated with the mandatory dental hygiene pre-admission exam.

## **Mandatory Pre-Admission Interview**

Applicants who achieve above 70% on the mandatory pre-admission exam will be asked to participate in the mandatory pre-admission interview. The interview is designed to allow the applicant to demonstrate their personal qualities. Students will be evaluated on their knowledge of the profession and their communication and critical thinking skills. Applicants will be evaluated according to their responses and to the overall impression made during the interview.

## **Selection Process**

Applicants who achieve 70% or above during the mandatory pre-admission interview are considered to be qualified applicants for entry into the Dental Hygiene program. Other considerations in the selection process will include:

1. Academic performance in university
2. Dental industry experience
3. Other factors deemed relevant by the Dean and Admissions Committee

Any applicant who has met the minimum requirement level will be considered a qualified applicant.

## **Unsuccessful Applicants**

Unsuccessful applicants will be informed of their status in person, by e-mail or by telephone.

## **Conditional Acceptance Status**

A qualified applicant will be offered conditional acceptance into the program. There are documents and payment requirements that must be met prior to the qualified applicant being offered full acceptance into the program. Once the applicant is offered conditional acceptance they will be given a set period of time to respond to the college if they wish to accept the offer.

Once the candidate has accepted the conditional acceptance offer, they will be sent requirements and documents that need to be read, signed and returned within a specified period of time.

In addition, the qualified applicant must submit evidence of their status in Canada by providing a copy of one of the following documents:

- Canadian Passport;
- Canadian Citizenship Card;
- Canadian Birth Certificate;
- Documentation of Permanent Residence Status;
- Documents of Landed Immigration Status; or
- Documentation of Study Visa\*

*\*Study Visa must be valid in Canada for the duration of the program*

- International applicants only: Proof of Health Insurance  
International students must submit proof of health insurance upon receipt of a valid study visa. Most health insurances are only valid for one year from the start date and therefore must be renewed for the remaining duration of the program.

**Additional documents** that must be submitted prior to the start of the program are as follows:

- Proof of current Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) **BLS** Certification
- A completed Immunization Report provided by VCDH
- Criminal Record Check (CPIC) and Vulnerable Sector Screening (VSS)\*

**The requirements cannot be waived by either the Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene Inc. or the applicant.**

**Any fees associated with completing these documents are the responsibility of the applicant**

\*Registration with the British Columbia College of Oral Health Professionals (BCCOHP) is mandatory to practice as a dental hygienist in British Columbia. A history of criminal offences or charges of professional misconduct in another jurisdiction or profession may interfere with your ability to become registered in British Columbia or other provinces or countries.

**It is the applicants responsibility to contact the BCCOHP (or the regulatory body they intend to register with post-graduation) if they have a criminal history to determine if it will jeopardize being registered as a dental hygienist post- graduation.**

Applicants that require clarification can contact VCDH and speak with an admissions coordinator.

## **Full Acceptance Status**

Full Acceptance Status into the Dental Hygiene program at the Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene Inc. is granted once the qualified applicant has signed the Student Enrolment Contract and completed all the entrance requirements stated in the conditional acceptance offer. This includes any required payments prior to the commencement of the program.

## **Waiting List**

A waiting list of qualified applicants will be established any time that the number of qualified applicants exceeds the program's capacity. These qualified applicants will receive an e-mail or telephone call informing them that they have been placed on the program waitlist.

Qualified applicants that are still on the waitlist once the available spaces have been filled and the selection process is complete will receive an e-mail indicating that they will not be admitted to the program. Qualified applicants will be permitted to have their application forwarded to the next available intake.

## **Closing of Intake**

Entry into an intake will be deemed closed when all the available seats are filled. Qualified applicants on the waitlist will be notified that the program is full.

## **Selection Process Procedure:**

1. Submit the application.
2. Submit post-secondary documents.
3. Write the mandatory pre-admission examination and successfully achieve a score of 70% or greater.
4. If successful, participate in a mandatory pre-admission interview and successfully achieve over 70%.
5. If successful, the applicant is deemed a qualified applicant.
6. Qualified applicants will be offered conditional acceptance status until all entry requirements are met.

7. Full acceptance status is granted once all the conditional acceptance requirements are completed.
8. If the number of qualified applicants exceeds the programs capacity the qualified applicant will be placed on a waitlist.
9. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified.

**Please Note:** The Dental Hygiene program does not accept transfer credits

### **Career Opportunities**

Dental hygiene is a dynamic and challenging health care profession which allows for a wide range of opportunities. Dental hygienists have both employment and self-employment opportunities. The dental hygiene profession is desirable due to its flexible hours. There are options for part-time or full-time career opportunities. As a dental hygienist, graduates may work interdependently and collaboratively with health care professionals in a variety of practice settings.

There are numerous post-graduate opportunities, including:

- General dental office and/or clinic
- Specialty dental office and/or clinic i.e. Periodontics, Orthodontics, Paedodontics, and Prosthodontics.
- Independent dental hygiene practice
- Independent business owner
- Community health settings
- Public health departments
- Research
- Educational institutions
- Sales and marketing
- Administration
- Private Consulting

VCDH does not guarantee employment for any student who successfully completes the Dental Hygiene program.





# Vancouver College<sup>™</sup> of Dental Hygiene<sup>Inc.</sup>

## Program fees

The Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene Inc. anticipated fees for the Dental Hygiene program are as follows:

Tuition:	\$47,800.00
Additional fees	
Books:	\$3,550.00*
Uniforms and Equipment:	\$2,775.00
Expendable Materials:	\$1200.00
Other Compulsory Fees:	\$250.00

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**Total Dental Hygiene program costs: \$55,575.00**

International Student Fee: \$8,000.00 (if applicable)

\*Book fees may be subject to change due to price increases by book publishers

**VCDH accepts monthly payments to assist students with their finances.**

VCDH is affiliated with all student loans across Canada.

The National Student Loans Service Centre address is as follows:  
P.O. Box 4030, Mississauga, Ontario, L5A 4M4



# Vancouver College<sup>™</sup>

## of Dental Hygiene<sup>Inc.</sup>

### **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

#### **Is the Dental Hygiene program offered at VCDH accredited?**

The Dental Hygiene program offered at the VCDH has been granted Accreditation by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada.

Students that graduate from our accredited Dental Hygiene program in Canada may apply to write the National Dental Hygiene Certification Board Exam with the National Dental Hygiene Certification Board (NDHCB). Once the student successfully passes this national examination they may apply for registration with the province of their choice. Applicants would need to meet all of the regulatory body's requirements prior to registration in British Columbia or any other province.

You may also have the option to write the American National Board exam as well. Applicants would need to meet all of the requirements to be eligible to write the American Board exam.

#### **Is VCDH certified with the Private Training Institutions Branch?**

Yes, VCDH has a designated certificate with the Private Training Institutions Branch.

#### **Do students receive a certificate or a diploma once they complete the program at the VCDH?**

Upon successfully completion of the Dental Hygiene program offered at the VCDH, the student will receive an official diploma.

#### **How long is the Dental Hygiene program offered at VCDH?**

The Dental Hygiene program offered at VCDH is 76 weeks or approximately 18 months in duration. The program is divided into four semesters with one week off between semesters.

Students are able to complete the program in approximately 18 months because VCDH does not take extended summer vacations or holiday breaks.

Other programs in Canada that take extended breaks within their program may take up to 3 years to complete.

Students that attend VCDH appreciate the fact that they are able to finish the program in a shorter period of time. This allows the graduate the opportunity to seek employment sooner.

### **What is the cost of the program offered at the VCDH?**

The total program cost is **\$55,575.00**. This includes everything from tuition, textbooks, insurance, instruments and clinical fees.

### **Are there any hidden fees that we should be aware of at the VCDH?**

**NO!** There are no hidden fees. VCDH believes that the student should know what their financial situation is well in advance so that they can prepare themselves for the financial commitment of the Dental Hygiene program.

### **Does VCDH have payment options?**

**YES!** VCDH accepts monthly payments as an option to assist students with their finances during the program.

### **Does VCDH accept student loans?**

**YES!** All provincial student loans across Canada are available as an option for payment at VCDH.

Students that reside in British Columbia may be eligible for loans, grants, or awards granted under StudentAidBC. Financial assistance may be available for those who qualify. For more information, please visit the StudentAidBC website at <https://studentaidbc.ca/>

Students from other provinces may be eligible for loans, grants, or awards granted under their province's student aid. Please visit your province's student aid website for more information.

The National Student Loans Service Centre address is as follows:  
P.O. Box 4030, Mississauga, Ontario L5A 4M4

### **Does VCDH assist students with bank loans or line of credit applications?**

**YES!** There are several financial institutions that will assist students with student loans and a student line of credit. Most financial institutions will require a co-signer when applying for a student loan or line of credit.

VCDH admissions coordinators assist applicants with all of the financial options that are available. They can be reached at 604-215-7611 or toll free at 1-800-457-3189.

### **Does everyone write the National Dental Hygiene Certification Exam (NDHCE)?**

**Yes!** All graduates of all the Dental Hygiene programs across Canada must write the NDHCE, with the exception of graduates in Québec.

The NDHCE is intended to fulfill the written examination requirement. However, requirement of the National Dental Hygiene Certification Board (NDHCB) for licensure or registration is completely at the discretion of each provincial or territorial dental hygiene regulatory authority. Dental hygiene regulatory authorities in all provinces except Québec require the NDHCB Certificate as one requirement for licensure or registration.

### **Are there fees associated with writing the NDHCE?**

**YES!** There is a fee associated with writing the NDHCE. This fee is the responsibility of the student. These are not included in the Dental Hygiene program fees. The fees are determined by the NDHCB and may change annually. The fees are paid directly to the NDHCB.

### **Is there a fee associated with the admission testing and interview?**

**No!** Currently there are no fees associated with the admission test and interview.

Sample questions are available by contacting the Admissions Department at [info@vancouver-college-dental.org](mailto:info@vancouver-college-dental.org) or 604-215-7611 or toll free at 1-800-457-3189.

### **Does the Dental Hygiene program accept out of province students?**

**Yes!** VCDH accepts students from all across Canada. VCDH understands that there is a lot of planning involved with attending the Dental Hygiene program away from home. The admission staff will assist the applicant throughout the entire process until arrival at VCDH.

### **Does the Dental Hygiene program accept International students?**

**Yes!** VCDH accepts international students if they meet all the entry requirements.

Successfully completing the Dental Hygiene program at the Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene Inc. does not guarantee the ability to work and/or to live in Canada. Please see the Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC) website for information on working and living in Canada.

Study visas must be valid in Canada for the duration of the study period.

**How many students are accepted into the Dental Hygiene program?**

52 students are accepted into the Dental Hygiene program at VCDH.

**How many dental chairs does VCDH have?**

VCDH has 26 fully operational dental chairs, 2 of which include digital radiographic rooms. There is also an additional 8 radiographic units.

The dental hygiene clinic is 100% paperless using all the latest technology that a modern dental office would use. This includes digital photography, digital x-rays, 3D Consult-Pro patient education software, signature pads and fingerprint scanners. Each dental chair is equipped with its own computer.

**What are the university pre-requisites that are required prior to entering into the Dental Hygiene program?**

Applicants **must** have completed the **30 first year** university transfer credits listed below:

- **English** (6 credits)
- **Anatomy and Physiology** (6 credits with lab components)
- **Chemistry** (6 credits with lab components)
- **Psychology** (6 credits)
- **Statistics** (3 credits)
- **One Elective** (3 credits)

**Where can I get these credits?**

The VCDH has no preference as to where your credits are achieved as long as they are university transfer courses.

Please contact an admissions coordinator for further information on where to complete the credits.

**How do students get their Dental Hygiene Registration after graduation?**

The student would attend the Dental Hygiene program and having successfully completed the program would be offered an official diploma from our accredited program. The individual would then be required to write the National Dental Hygiene Certification Exam and pass.

The graduate can then apply to register in one of the other provinces in Canada. They must meet all registration requirements prior to registration. Another option would be to apply to register in the USA or internationally. Each

country may have differences regarding the registration requirements that need to be met prior to being granted registration.

VCDH has many students that apply from all across Canada and internationally to the Dental Hygiene program.

### **How is it different if I attend the Dental Hygiene program in Ontario?**

There are many provinces and or states that require the students to have their first year university transfer courses. If a student attends the Dental Hygiene program at the Toronto College of Dental Hygiene and Auxiliaries Inc. in Ontario, then the student is not required to take their first year university transfer courses prior to applying.

In Ontario, however, local anesthetic is not a course that is required to be taken since dental hygienists in Ontario cannot practice this procedure. Therefore, if the graduate is returning to a province where this is a requirement, then the student would still be allowed to register and practice in the province but they would be given a certain period of time (approximately 2 years) to complete a local anesthetic course.

### **Does VCDH provide employment assistance?**

**YES!** VCDH provides assistance with job placement in the following ways:

1. VCDH post all job openings and opportunities on the internal job posting board.
2. Current students are informed of potential job opportunities through e-mails.
3. VCDH maintains alumni information and notifies former graduates of potential job opportunities through e-mail.
4. VCDH allows students to utilize the facilities to contact potential employers and print resumes.
5. VCDH may provide a letter of reference for graduates.

VCDH does not guarantee employment for any student who successfully completes the Dental Hygiene program.

### **Additional Information**

Please visit the VCDH website at [www.vancouver-college-dental.org](http://www.vancouver-college-dental.org) or call 604-215-7611 or toll-free at 1-800-457-3189 to speak to an Admissions Coordinator.

It is recommended, if possible, to schedule an individual tour and pre-admission exam date. This can be done by contacting a VCDH Admissions Coordinator.

**Currently VCDH is offering the pre-admissions exam free of charge to applicants that apply to the Dental Hygiene program.**

**Scan the application to:** [info@vancouver-college-dental.org](mailto:info@vancouver-college-dental.org)

**Fax application to:** 604-215-7660

**Mail application to:** VCDH, 1205 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, New Westminster, B.C., V3M 2C1

**Attention:** Admissions Department