Information Packet 2027

(It is the applicant's responsibility to consult the current Savannah Technical College Catalog for further information about admission and progression requirements of the program.)

Savannah Technical College
ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN DENTAL HYGIENE
PROGRAM OF DENTAL HYGIENE

The Dental Hygiene Program appreciates your interest in the profession of Dental Hygiene. The following information will provide you with the admission criteria and the process for applying to the program. Carefully review the information and contact the Program at (912) 443-4089 or (912) 443-5436 if you have any questions.

A. Career Information

Dental Hygienists are important members of the dental care health team and find professional opportunities that are both interesting and varied. Working with dentists, dental hygienists provide professional services such diagnostic aids such as medical and dental histories, radiographs (x-rays), study models, diet counseling, fluoride applications, mouth guards fabrication, bleaching trays and pit and fissure sealants. Additionally, dental hygienists perform oral cancer and blood pressure screenings.

According to the most recent Occupational Outlook Handbook, published April 2026, by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of dental hygienists is expected to grow 9% from 2023 to 2033, much faster than the average for all occupations. Dental Hygienists will continue to be in the top growth disciplines in the health care professions through the year 2033. Some areas of the country are currently reporting shortages of dental hygienists.

B. Admission Information

A new class of Dental Hygiene Students begins each August. Applications for admission to the **August 2027** Dental Hygiene Program are accepted January 1, 2027 and will continue through May 7, 2027 at 5:00 pm. Students are encouraged to begin taking related core courses prior to that time. **Completion of certificated in Health Care Science or Technical Specialist and/or any of the dental hygiene courses within these certificates does not guarantee admission to the dental hygiene program.** The Admissions Committee will begin to offer seats in June to the most qualified candidates. **Georgia residents will receive priority**. Applicants will be notified of acceptance or not by mid-June, 2027. Admission to Savannah Technical College (STC) does not guarantee admission to the Dental Hygiene program. **Please note that the department has a separate formal admission process. You must first apply to STC and upon acceptance to the College, pay the $25.00 competitive admission application fee. Then apply to the Dental Hygiene Program online.**

The Georgia Board of Dentistry shall have the authority to refuse to grant a license to an applicant who has been convicted of any felony or any crime involving more turpitude. This law is further defined in 43-11-47 of the

Georgia Board of Dentistry Laws. Because of the inability of these persons to become or remain registered dental hygienists, person to whom this law applies may not be admitted into or may be dismissed from the program.

STC Acceptance:
You must first apply to Savannah Technical College and upon acceptance to the College, apply to the Dental Hygiene Program.

Application Period:
The next application period for the Dental Hygiene Fall 2027 Program will be January 1, 2027 through the deadline date of May 7, 2027. We **HIGHLY RECOMMEND** that each student review their grades one week after each semester to ensure that the grades are correct. We are looking at grades that are in our system at that time.

Incomplete & Late Applications:
An incomplete application and/or an application received after the deadline date will not be considered by the Admissions Committee.

Transfer Students:
All transcripts of non-post-baccalaureate student must be reviewed by the Transfer Evaluation Coordinator. This process must be completed prior to the dental hygiene application deadline. Incomplete transfer evaluations will not be considered.

C. Criteria for Admission

Admission to the Associate Degree Dental Hygiene major is on a space available basis and is limited to the most qualified students as determined by the Dental Hygiene Admissions Committee using an Admission Point Index (API) Score and the Test of Essential Academic Skills Test Score. Utilizing criteria such as an adjusted GPA (all college work related to the Healthcare Science Certificate) and number of completed college credits. In the event of an API score tie, the GPA for the API score will be used to break the tie. The College has a right to expand the selection criteria based on the needs of the cohort. The following are the admission criteria for the Dental Hygiene program:

1. Obtain Regular Admission to Savannah Technical College
2. Completion of all prerequisite general education, sciences, and DHYG 2110 courses for the Healthcare Science Certificate Program. When a course used to calculate the GPA for selection to the Dental Hygiene program is taken more than once within the five (5) years prior to the application deadline, all earned course grades will be averaged to calculate the GPA. If a course is older than five (5) years, the most recent attempt will be used. Transferred courses will be included in the GPA calculation where applicable. We **HIGHLY RECOMMEND** that each student review their grades **1 week after** each semester to ensure that the grades posted are correct. We are looking at grades that are in our system at that time.
3. Minimum adjusted college GPA of 2.50 **(of all college work related to the Healthcare Science Certificate).**
4. **Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) is REQUIRED** with a minimum of 65% or higher Total Score on the test. This score will be used as a component of the ranking process along with the API score. This test is 40% of the Total Score and the API Score will be 60% of the Total Score. *Beginning May 5, 2025, all TEAS testing must be taken In-Person*. Proctoring institutions include Savannah Technical College, PSI Testing Centers, and other select academic institutions. If the most recent TEAS score is from an Online TEAS test taken prior to May 5, 2025, the score will be accepted unless expired according to the program's selection criteria. **The TEAS test does expire**. It is good for 5 years from the date taken**. It is your responsibility to make sure the score is applied to your school record.** The scores will be pulled from your record one week after the SPRING

semester has ended. If the score is not in your record, then you will not be considered for the program. Please check to make sure that the score is on your record. Beginning August 1, 2024, there is a 14-day waiting period to retake the TEAS test.

5. Students must meet all legal requirements for licensure. See "Dental Hygiene" section of the catalog. "Legal Requirements"

6. **Savannah Technical College Procedure: Student Residential Criteria for Competitive Admission Programs.**

RE: TCSG Procedure 6.6.1p Student Tuition and Fees

The following residential criteria is established for admission into programs that admit students on competitive basis.

1. In accordance with TCSG Procedure 6.6.1p Student Tuition and Fees, Out of State students shall be in rolled in the College on a space available basis and shall not displace and shall not displace any Georgia Student desiring to enroll in the College.
2. Military-affiliated students who are deemed eligible for HOPE grant and scholarship per Georgia Student Finance Commission regulations will not be considered out of state students for purposes of competitive program admission. The military affiliated student must be residing in the state of Georgia or a resident of Georgia.
3. Out of State students who apply for competitive admissions programs shall be considered for admission on space available basis. They shall not displace any student with a Georgia domicile who meets minimum requirements for admission to the program.
4. Non-Citizen students who apply for competitive admissions programs shall be considered for admission on a space available basis. They shall not displace any student with a Georgia domicile, Eligible Non-Citizen or Out-of-State student who meets minimum requirements for admission to the program.

EFFECTIVE: JANUARY 8, 2019

NOTE: MEETING MINIMAL REQUIREMENTS DOES NOT GUARANTEE ADMISSION TO THE DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

D. <u>Progression Requirements</u>

The student must earn a grade of "C" or better in each dental hygiene course before entering subsequent dental hygiene course. If a student fails two DHYG occupational courses or fails the same DHYG occupational course twice, that student is ineligible for admission to the dental hygiene program. Additionally, DHYG occupational courses cannot be greater than 2 years old prior to admission to the Dental Hygiene Program.

E. <u>Science Courses</u>

The students must earn a "C" or better in each of the required science courses (CHEM 1211, BIOL 2114, and BIOL 2117). Four (4) of the required science courses must be complete or in a process at the time of application (in process courses must be completed by Spring semester of year applying).

F. <u>Transfer of Courses</u>

Students may take the general, science, and/or core course at other regionally accredited institutions of higher education. It is the student's responsibility to ensure COURSE EQUILVANLENCY and TRANSFER OF CREDIT. This process requires that the student contact the registrar's office at STC and all other institutions attended and ensure that all transfer credit is complete. Official transcripts of course work taken at other institutions must be formally requested by the student to be sent to the STC Registrar.

G. <u>Background Check</u>

Please be informed that a background check may be required of you prior to the completion of your extramural requirements. It will be your responsibility to acquire this check.

Criminal Background Checks: Clinical agencies utilized by the Health Science Division may require criminal background checks and/or drug testing prior to acceptance of the student into clinical facilities. Students who do not pass the criminal background check and/or drug test may be unable to attend clinical courses and therefore may be unable to complete their program of study. Any fees or cost associated with background checks and/or drug testing is the responsibility of the student.

H. Legal Requirements

Current students and potential students need to be aware that the licensure process may include criminal background checks. It is the responsibility of STC and the Dental Hygiene Program to provide students with the education necessary to obtain licensure. Licensure, however is solely the responsibility of the Georgia Board of Dentistry or other state licensing agencies. In Georgia, the Georgia Board of Dentistry shall have the authority to refuse to grant a license to an applicant who has been convicted of any felony or any crime involving moral turpitude which may be based upon the results of any and all background checks. This law is further defined in 43-11-47 of the Georgia Board of Dentistry Laws. Because of the inability of these persons to become or remain Registered Dental Hygienists, persons to whom this law applies may not be admitted into the program or may be dismissed from the program. **Additionally, non-U.S. citizens are advised to seek, in advance, verification of eligibility from the Board of Dentistry of the state you plan to apply for licensure.**

I. Applicant Bloodborne Infectious Disease Policy

Bloodborne pathogens are defined as pathogenic microorganisms that are present in human blood and can cause disease in humans. These pathogens include, but are not limited to, Hepatitis B Virus (HBV) and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV). (Standard 29 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR], 1910.1030 is available for review in the Dental Hygiene Program.)

Savannah Technical College will strictly conform to state and federal laws regarding discrimination toward students with HIV infection. Additional information and counseling about HIV and related issues can be obtained from the Chatham County Department of Public Health on Eisenhower Drive.

J. Special Populations/Disabilities

Please notify Wendi Gowans (5717 White Bluff Road, Savannah, GA 31405), email: specpops@savannahtech.edu) should you feel you have a learning disability and/or disability as identified under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1992.

According to the ADA, HIV is classified as a disability. The Dental Hygiene Program recognizes this Federal Regulations. Students are expected to render treatment to HIV patients. Where appropriate, a medical consultation with the patient's physician may occur.

K. Application Procedure

Applications can be completed online via the Savannah Technical College website. In the search bar type Competitive Selection Health Science Program. The application will be on this page. Your completed application must be submitted on or before the **APPLICATION DEADLINE of May 7, 2027.**

NOTE: Applications for admissions to the Dental Hygiene Program are received from January 1, 2027 to May 7, 2027. **Applications received after the May 7th deadline will not be considered.** Seats are competitively assigned

based on an Admissions Point Index System. Applicants are notified via letter of the application status: accepted or not accepted.

PLEASE NOTE: INCOMPLETE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED.

L. Information for ACCEPTED students for Fall 2027

1. Dental Hygiene students are responsible for providing their own transportation to and from the campus and to community agencies when assigned for field experiences and clinical.
2. Students must meet all legal requirements for licensure.
3. Students MUST secure a copy of the Savannah Technical College Catalog from the Admission's or Registrar's Office or on the STC website. This catalog contains program information concerning admissions, progression requirements, and curriculum.
4. Attendance:

   Savannah Technical College Institution Attendance Policy: Students are expected to be punctual and attend all classes for which they are registered. Attendance requirements vary by program and will be clearly stated on the course syllabus. Course participation includes completing activities such as submitting assignments, taking exam/quizzes, interactive tutorials or computer-assisted instruction. Students enrolled in online course are expected to participate in the online class by completing assignments, contributing to online discussions, and initiating contact with a faculty member. Logging into the online class does not establish student enrollment and participation in the course. Student must establish enrollment and course participation each semester before financial aid funds is disbursed. Student attendance will be monitored for the first seven (7) calendar days of each semester. Monitoring attendance beyond the seventh day is the instructor's discretion.

   No Show Status: Students are expected to attend all classes for which they are registered. It is the student's responsibility to drop or withdraw from any course they are not attending. Students who do not establish attendance in at least one class session will be reported as a No Show for the course and if applicable, financial aid will be reduced accordingly.

   Student Withdrawal: Students who wish to withdraw from classes must submit a Student Course Withdrawal electronic form (located on the STC website at the "Student" link). Tuition and, if applicable, financial aid will be adjusted for students who withdraw within the first three (3) instructional days of an academic term. Students withdrawing form a course by the end of the third instructional day of the term and no shows shall receive a 100% refund of applicable tuition (hours below the 15-hour tuition cap) and applicable refundable fees, excluding the application fee.

   Exceptions may be allowed for customized courses that do not follow the college's standard academic calendar. Students who withdraw from a course after the third instructional day of the term shall receive no refund. The date of submission of the form will be considered the student's official last date of attendance. Students who stop attending classes but do not complete the official withdraw process will receive 0 points for each test, quiz, or assignment during the class.

   Students may withdraw from a sing class or all classes without academic (Grade Point Average) penalty before the designated date on the academic calendar. Students will receive a final grade of W for the course(s) withdrawn. Grades of W may negatively affect students' satisfactorily academic progress, financial aid, and account balance. Students are encouraged to consult with the Financial Aid Office prior to withdrawing from the College.

Excused Absences: Military Service/Training, School Sponsored Activities, and Jury Summons (attendance at a legal proceeding in which the student has been charged in not included) will not be counted as absences if substantiating documentation is submitted to the instructor before such events occur. Excused absences will not be used as a basis for withdrawing a student from class or in determining a student's Work Ethics Grade. A student who is granted an excused absence will be responsible for completing all work as assigned by the instructor in order to successfully complete the class. Employment, child-care issues, child support and custody issues, divorce issues, and juvenile court legal issues are not considered to be excused absences.

Dental Hygiene Program Attendance Policy: Attending didactic, laboratory and clinical classes is mandatory. Excused clinical absences must be made up hour for hour.

5. Financial Aid is available. Contact the Savannah Technical College Financial Aid Office for more information.

M. Location of Department Description

The Dental Hygiene Department is located on the main campus, 5717 White Bluff Rd., Savannah, GA 31405 in Goodman Hall, first floor, room 2181.

N. Non-Discrimination Statement

Savannah Technical College complies with the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG). The TCSG State Board prohibits discrimination on the basis of an individual's age, color, disability, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, sex, or veteran status ("protected status"). No individual shall be excluded from participation in, denied the benefit of, or otherwise subjected to unlawful discrimination, harassment, or retaliation under, any TCSG program or activity because of the individual's protected status; nor shall any individual be given preferential treatment because of the individual's protected status, except the preferential treatment may be given on the basis of veteran status when appropriate under federal or state law.

Any student or employee grievance concerning possible discrimination should be presented to the Savannah Technical College Title VI, IX, or 504 Coordinators in writing. The coordinators are:

Title VI (Discriminatory)/Title IX (Equity)
Regina Thomas-Williams
Savannah Technical College
5717 White Bluff Road
Savannah, GA 31405
912-443-5708

Section 504/ADA (Disability)
Wendi Gowans
Savannah Technical College
5717 White Bluff Road
Savannah, GA 31405
912-443-5719

Please see the Savannah Technical College website, www.savannahtech.edu for more information

Graduate Warranty Statement

The warranty guarantees that the program graduate has demonstrated the knowledge and skills, and can perform each competency as identified in the industry-validated standard or program guide. Any program graduate who is determined to lack such competence shall be retrained at no cost to the employer or the graduate for tuition or institutional fees.

A claim against the warranty may be filed by either an employer in conjunction with a graduate or graduate if the individual is unable to perform one or more of the competencies contained in the industry-validated standard or program guide, including failure to pass a State of Georgia required licensing examination. This warranty is applicable only to

graduates of a technical certificate of credit, diploma, or degree program who entered the program subsequent to the mandated standards implementation date. The warranty shall remain in effect for two years immediately following the date of graduation and shall be honored by Savannah Technical College.

***ESTIMATED COST INFORMATION FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM**

Matriculation Fee for Resident Student (Full-Time)	$1986.00 per semester
Matriculation Fee for Out-of-State Student (Full-Time)	$3591.00 per semester
Matriculation Fee for International Student (Full-Time)	$6801.00 per semester
Fee for Dental Hygiene Books	$1500.00 entire 2 years
Uniforms	$300.00 entire 2 years
Instruments & Supplies	$4000.00 entire 2 years approximately
Additional Lab Fees ($35.00 per semester)	$200.00 entire 2 years
Graduation Fee	$45.00
Membership in the Student American Dental Hygienists' Association and miscellaneous expenses	$250.00 entire 2 years
National Board Examination Fee	$600.00
Upon Graduation, students must take a State, Regional, or National Licensing Examination. Currently, the State of Georgia is a member of the Central Regional Dental Testing Agency.	2025 Regional Examination Fee & Licensure approximately $1150.00

*NOTE: Fees and charges are subjected to change.

Prerequisite Classes

General Education and Science Courses must be completed prior to entering the program

PREREQUISITE GENERAL EDUCATION AND SCIENCE COURSES	
CHEM 1211 Chemistry I	MATH 1111 College Algebra
CHEM 1211L Chemistry I Lab	OR
OR	MATH 1103 Quantitative Skills/Reasoning
CHEM 1151 Survey of Inorganic Chemistry	AND
CHEM 1151L Survey of Inorganic Chemistry Lab	ENGL 1101 Composition & Rhetoric
AND	SOCI 1101 Introductory Sociology
BIOL 2113 Human Anatomy & Physiology I	PSYC 1101 Introductory Psychology
BIOL 2113L Human Anatomy & Physiology I Lab	SPCH 1101 Public Speaking
BIOL 2114 Human Anatomy & Physiology II	DHYG 2110 Biochemistry & Nutrition
BIOL 2114L Human Anatomy & Physiology II Lab	Humanities (elective) your choice
BIOL 2117 Introductory Microbiology	*ARTS 1101 Arts Appreciation
BIOL 2117L Introductory Microbiology Lab	*HUMN 1101 Introduction to Humanities
	*ENGL 2130 American Literature
	*MUSC 1101 Music Appreciation
	*ENGL 2110 World Literature
	*THEA 1101 Theater Appreciation

Dental Hygiene Classes

(Taken once you have been accepted into the program)

First Semester Dental Hygiene Student	Second Year Dental Hygiene Student
Fall (15 weeks) DHYG 1000 Dental Anatomy DHYG 1010 Embryology/Histology DHYG 1020 Head & Neck Anatomy DHYG 1040 Pre-Dental Hygiene Lect. DHYG 1050 Pre-Dental Hygiene Lab	Fall (15 weeks) DHYG 1206 Pharmacology DHYG 2080 Clinical Dental Hygiene Lect. III DHYG 2090 Clinical Dental Hygiene Lab III
Spring (15 weeks) DHYG 1110 Clinical Dental Hygiene I Lect. DHYG 1111 Clinical Dental Hygiene I Lab DHYG 1070 Radiology Lecture DHYG 1090 Radiology Lab DHYG 2050 Oral Pathology DHYG 2200 Periodontology	Spring (15 weeks) DHYG 2070 Community Dental Health DHYG 2130 Clinical Dental Health Lect. IV HDYG 2140 Clinical Dental Health Lab IV
Summer (10 weeks) DHYG 1030 Dental Materials Lect & Lab DHYG 2010 Clinical Dental Hygiene Lect II DHYG 2020 Clinical Dental Hygiene Lab II	

TEST OF ESSENTIAL ACADEMIC SKILLS (TEAS) INFORMATION

This test is REQUIRED

- A minimum of 65% or higher Total Score.
- This score will be used as a component of the ranking process along with the Admission Point Index (API) score. This test is 40% of the Total Score and the API Score will be 60% of the Total Score.
- The TEAS test can be taken **IN PERSON ONLY**.
- This test **EXPIRES** in **5 years** from the date taken.
- The scores will be pulled one week after the SPRING Semester ends. If the score is not in the system, you will not be considered for the program.
- To register for the test at the testing center (Main Campus), students will need to go to. https://www.atitesting.com/.
- The TEAS study manuals are now available for students to check out now at the Main and Liberty campus.
- There is a **14-day** waiting period to retake the test.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR TAKING THE TEAS TEST

- You **MUST** arrive 30 minutes prior to your test appointment.
- You **MUST** have your 900# written on a piece of paper
- You **MUST** have your Username and Password from the TEAS Test website written down.