



**GUIDELINES FOR  
ADMISSION**

HESI Deadline: May 21, 2022


**Deadline: May 31, 2022**



**DENTAL HYGIENE  
PROGRAM**

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**AMARILLO  
COLLEGE**



**2022**

# AC DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

Tab 1

## IN THIS SECTION:

- What is a Dental Hygienist
  - Job Prospects
- Associate in Applied Science Degree
  - Where are we

## What is a Dental Hygienist?

A dental hygienist is a licensed health care professional, oral health educator, and clinician who, as a co-therapist with the dentist, provides preventive, educational, and therapeutic services supporting total health to control oral diseases in the promotion of oral health. A registered dental hygienist has graduated from a minimum two-year college program that includes classroom studies and extensive supervised clinical experience. A dental hygienist also must pass a national written exam and a comprehensive state clinical exam to earn the RDH license.

Generally, the dental hygienist may work in general and specialty oral health practices. Other employment areas include programs for research, professional education, community health; hospital and institutional care of disabled persons; federal programs, such as the armed services; or other health service locations as specified in statute or as authorized by the state board of dentistry. More information about the careers available to dental hygienists is available at <http://www.adha.org/careerinfo.htm>

## How Much Money do Dental Hygienists Make and What Are the Job Prospects?

Dental hygiene salaries can vary widely depending on factors including but not limited to type and location of practice, whether the work is full or part-time, and the hygienist's experience level. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median annual salary for a dental hygienist in the United States was \$72,720 in 2015, and the mean hourly wage was 34.96 (<http://stats.bls.gov/oes/current/oes292021.htm>)

Employment of dental hygienists is projected to grow 33 percent from 2012 to 2022, much faster than the average for all occupations. Ongoing research linking oral health and general health will continue to spur demand for preventative dental services, which dental hygienists often provide. New and increasingly accurate technologies to help diagnose oral health problems are also expected to increase demand. Job prospects are expected to be favorable in most areas but will vary by geographic location. Because graduates are permitted to practice in the state where they are licensed, hygienists wishing to practice in the regions with an abundance of dental hygiene programs may experience strong competition for jobs.

# Associate in Applied Science Degree

The Dental Hygiene curriculum at Amarillo College leads to an Associate in Applied Science degree. Enrollment is limited to accepted applicants. The application process is outlined in this document. Students who complete the Dental Hygiene Program at Amarillo College and pass their licensure exams are equipped to provide preventive, educational, and therapeutic services that support disease prevention and total oral health in a dental setting. AC's Dental Hygiene Program's mission is to provide quality technical education that leads students to academic excellence and inclusion in community service.



## Where are We?

The Dental Hygiene Program is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of the Jones Hall building on the AC west campus.

Amarillo College West Campus  
6222 West 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Amarillo, Texas  
79106

Mailing Address:  
P.O. Box 447  
Amarillo, Texas  
79178

# AC DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

## IN THIS SECTION:

- Common Traits of a DH
  - Program Costs
    - Tuition and Fees
    - Additional Costs

# COMMON TRAITS OF A DENTAL HYGIENIST

Dental hygienists have a diverse set of personality traits that allow them to work very closely with patients. A SUCCESSFUL DENTAL HYGIENIST IS...

## **Patient and understanding.**

Some patients may be uneasy about dental work and oral examinations. A good dental hygienist is patient with people who may be afraid of coming into the dental office and will be understanding about their fears. A dental hygienist should work to make the patient relaxed and comfortable and should fully explain the health reasons and steps behind everything he or she does inside the patient's mouth.

## **Detail-oriented.**

The mouth is a very small space, so it's essential that a dental hygienist pays careful attention to detail when working in a patient's mouth. Dexterity is also incredibly important in such a small space, as the slightest nudge to a sensitive tooth can be extremely painful for a patient.

## **Passionate.**

Part of a dental hygienist's job is to educate patients about good oral health practices. A dental hygienist that is passionate about oral health and general health can be a role model to patients and help them modify their behaviors to focus on preventative maintenance on their teeth and gums to avoid disease in the future.

## **Sturdy on his/her feet.**

Dental hygienists are moving throughout the day sometimes sitting, standing, working with repetitive motions, and moving around the clinical environment. It is important that a dental hygienist possesses the physical stamina to keep this up throughout the entire day.

## **Positive.**

A positive attitude goes a long way as a dental hygienist. Many patients prefer energetic, friendly and outgoing hygienists to ease some of their stress about coming to the dentist's office.

**Source: American Dental Education Association 1/25/2021**

**The dental hygiene education curriculum is a postsecondary scientifically-oriented program that is rigorous and intensive. Source: Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) Standard 2-3**

# Program Costs

## Tuition and Fees

Visit the AC website for tuition/fees; <https://www.actx.edu/business-services/tuition-basic-fees>

If you have additional questions, the AC Business Office is located in the Byrd Building 1<sup>st</sup> Floor. You can contact them through email: [business@actx.edu](mailto:business@actx.edu) or Phone (806) 371-5001

## Additional Supply & Equipment Costs



There is an additional cost with the DH program as the student purchases supplies and equipment averaging \$8000.00, not including textbooks.

There is also the additional cost of licensure exams.

# AC DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

## IN THIS SECTION:

- Degree Plan
- Admission Process
- Minimum Requirements
- Steps to Apply to the Program



# Degree Plan

## **General Education Requirements (31 Semester Hours)**

*\*All Associate (AA, AS) degrees and Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degrees have a 1 credit hour institutional requirement of **EDUC 1100: First Year Seminar**.*

BIOL 2401 - Anatomy and Physiology I

BIOL 2402 - Anatomy and Physiology II

BIOL 2420 - Microbiology for Non-Science Majors

CHEM 1406 - General Organic & Biological Chemistry

ENGL 1301 - Composition I

PSYC 2301 - General Psychology

SOCI 1301 - Introduction to Sociology

PHIL 2306 - Introduction to Ethics

SPCH 1318-Speech

## **Major Course Requirements (38 Semester Hours)**

DHYG 1201 - Orofacial Anatomy, Histology and Embryology

DHYG 1207 - General and Dental Nutrition

DHYG 1211 - Periodontology

DHYG 1215 - Community Dentistry

DHYG 1219 - Dental Materials

DHYG 1227 - Preventive Dental Hygiene Care

DHYG 1235 - Pharmacology for the Dental Hygienist

DHYG 1239 - General and Oral Pathology

DHYG 1260 - Clinical - Dental Hygienist I

DHYG 1304 - Dental Radiology

DHYG 1331 - Preclinical Dental Hygiene

DHYG 1360 - Clinical Dental Hygienist II

DHYG 2153 - Dental Hygiene Practice

DHYG 2201 - Dental Hygiene Care I

DHYG 2231 - Dental Hygiene Care II

DHYG 2260 - Clinical Dental Hygienist III

DHYG 2360 - Clinical - Dental Hygienist IV



## Admission Process

### Minimum Requirements

- Have a high school diploma or GED
- Completion of Pre-requisite courses
- Completion of Health Science ONLINE Application
- Completion of the HESI A2 Exam in Reading, Math, Anatomy & Physiology, and Critical Thinking.
- Cumulative 2.5 GPA
- Earn sufficient points to be placed on the class roster.
- An incomplete application will **NOT** be reviewed for admission into the Dental Hygiene Program.
- After acceptance into the program, the student must pass a criminal background check and drug testing via *Complio*. The student will also be required to complete all required immunizations prior to entering the program.

### Steps to Apply to the Program (ONLINE ONLY)

1. Complete pre-requisite courses
2. The AC Dental Hygiene Program is competitive for applicants, and high grades in pre-requisite courses are recommended.
3. Points are only received for completed courses.

#### **Pre-requisites required:**

BIOL 2401 Anatomy & Physiology I

BIOL 2402 Anatomy & Physiology II

BIOL 2421 Microbiology

CHEM 1406 General Organic & Biological Chemistry

ENGL 1301 - Composition I

PSYC 2301 - General Psychology

PHIL 2306 - Introduction to Ethics  
SPCH-1318-Speech  
SOC1 1301 - Introduction to Sociology

4. Apply for general admission to AC at <https://www.actx.edu/enroll/>
5. Submit all **official** college transcripts to the registrar's office if from another institution. <https://www.actx.edu/admission/transfer-students>
6. If AC is the only college you have attended, this step does not need to be completed.
7. Only the courses listed "in progress" at the time of submission will not count toward your points.
8. Request evaluation of transcripts from the Registrars office (if necessary)
9. Register and take the HESI (A2) Exam by the **May 21 deadline**.
10. Take the HESI A2 Exam (One attempt allowed per application cycle)
11. Complete the ONLINE Health Science Application.  
<https://www.actx.edu/forms/health/index.php>
12. After you submit the Health Science Application, watch for an email (*your amarillocollege.com email account*) with instructions on completing your application.
13. Review and submit forms required through the admission process
  - a. You will need to submit your HESI results and Critical Thinking results to the Health Science Application as well.
14. The top-scoring candidates will have a mandatory orientation session in June.  
You will receive an invitation from the program director through your AC email.
15. Complete Required Texas Immunizations

**You DO NOT need to complete until you are accepted into the program:**

- CPR Certification (Healthcare Provider BLS)
- Background Check
- Drug Screen
- Tuberculosis Skin Test
- Flu vaccine

# AC DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM

## IN THIS SECTION:

- HESI A2 Exam
- Point System
- HESI Frequently Asked Questions

# AC Dental Hygiene Program Application

## HESI Admission Assessment Exam (A2)

The HESI exam is being used by the Dental Hygiene Program to help evaluate students' academic readiness as part of the selection process. The HESI A2 Exam is a comprehensive exam that assesses academic knowledge in **English, Math, Science, and Critical Thinking** and a learning style and personality profile assessment. The learning style and personality profile assessment will not be scored.

Prospective applicants may take the HESI A2 only one time during each program admission period. Students may not reschedule their test unless there is a verifiable emergency, and no refunds will be given for the HESI Exam.

**All applicants** must take the **HESI A2 Admission Assessment Exam by midnight on May 21, 2022**, before the application deadline on Tuesday, May 31, 2022, at midnight.

### HESI A2 Scoring

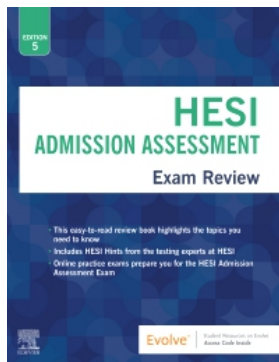
\*\*\*Your **HESI results** are multiplied by (.30) to give you a total number of points. (i.e., if a student scores 85.1 x 0.30=25.53 for 26 points are rounded to the nearest whole number)

\*\*\*Your **Critical Thinking results** will give you the following points: ≤ 699=0 points; 700-799=5 points; 800-849=10 points; 850-899= 15 points; ≥900=20 points

### Preparing for the HESI A2 Version 1 Exam

A study guide is available: Admission Assessment Exam Review, 5th Edition  
ISBN: 9780323582261, Copyright: 2021

<https://evolve.elsevier.com/cs/product/9780323582261?role=student>



**Section:**

**Reading Comprehension**

*(Provides reading scenarios to measure reading comprehension, identifying the main idea, finding the meaning of words in context, passage comprehension, and making logical inferences.)*

**Basic Math Skills**

*(Focuses on math skills needed for healthcare fields, including basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, fractions, decimals, ratio and proportion, household measures, and general math facts.)*

**Anatomy and Physiology**

*(Provides coverage of general terminology and anatomical structures and systems.)*

**Critical Thinking**

*(Assesses 4 Categories)*

*Problem Solving*

*Biases & Ethical Dilemmas*

*Argument Analysis*

*Analysis of Data*

**Cost of the HESI Exam \$60.00**

**[link to HESI/PROCTOR U](#)**

## Steps to taking the HESI Exam

**\*Note\*** All correspondence will be through Amarillo College email.

We will be using **ProctorU** for online proctoring of your HESI exams. To use ProctorU services, you must create an account on their website. A [student portal](#) is available to walk you through creating your account and test with ProctorU.

1. Once you have created an EVOLVE account, you will create your test-taker Proctor U account.

2. Before you schedule your exam with Proctor U, please review the following:

\* Test your equipment: <https://go.proctoru.com/users/6443074/system-metrics/new>

\* Pick Your Browser: download the [Chrome](#) or [Firefox](#) extension.

\* Watch the [student experience video](#) for what to expect

3. Schedule Your Exam with Proctor U (*You can use the same password but, either way, remember your password.*)

4. Upload your scores

Health Science applicants must take the HESI Entrance Assessment exam and upload their scores **to the application** before the application is considered complete.

**The Dental Hygiene Program Admission Committee** reviews applications beginning June 1, 2022. You will be contacted through your Amarillo College email by the Director of the Dental Hygiene Program when all applicants have been scored and reviewed.

If you are accepted into the program, you will be informed about your next steps. Please be aware that you will be required to have a Background Check, Drug Screening, and Immunizations prior to entering the program.

## AC Dental Hygiene Link to HESI

[https://hesiinet.elsevier.com?reservation\\_id={{reservation uuid}}](https://hesiinet.elsevier.com?reservation_id={{reservation uuid}})

# Point System

## AC Health Science Program

Acceptance into the AC Dental Hygiene Program is based on the combined points for pre-requisite grades, HESI A2 exam points, and additional points. The point system is used to select students for the Dental Hygiene Program. Completion of pre-requisites assigns points to the grade achieved. *(Note: Students will receive the highest grade for courses earned per category or repeated; be aware that courses may only be repeated one time)*

### PRE-REQUISITE POINTS

Grade of "A" for courses = 10 points

Grade of "B" for courses = 7 points

Grade of "C" for courses = 4 points

### HESI ADMISSION ASSESSMENT

Composite score x 0.30 = total HESI points

### HESI EXAM A2 CRITICAL THINKING PORTION

≥900 = 20 points

850-899 = 15 points

800-849 = 10 points

700-799 = 5 points

699 = 0 points

### ADDITIONAL POINTS

All general/related courses completed = (10 points)

Cumulative GPA of 3.0 and above = (10 points)



# Frequently Asked Questions about HESI Admission Assessment Exam (A2)

## What does HESI stand for?

Health Education Systems, Inc., and A2 stands for Admission Assessment.

## When can I take the HESI exam?

You can take the exam any time before the May 21, 2022 deadline.

## What is covered in the HESI exam?

- Reading Comprehension- Provides reading scenarios to measure reading comprehension, identifying the main idea, finding the meaning of words in context, passage comprehension, and making logical inferences.
- Basic Math Skills- Focuses on math skills needed for healthcare fields, including basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, fractions, decimals, ratio and proportion, household measures, and general math facts.
- Anatomy and Physiology- Provides general terminology and anatomical structures and systems coverage.
- Critical Thinking- Assesses problem-solving, biases, and ethical dilemmas, as well as analysis of data.

## How long will the HESI exam take?

Students will be permitted short breaks between components if needed. Registering for the test will take about 30 minutes, so students should allow approximately 4 hours to complete the exam.

## Can I do this exam in a testing center, or do I need to take it through ProctorU?

The AC Dental Hygiene Program has decided to utilize Proctor U. However, if you prefer to use the AC West Campus Testing Center, you may do so.

## How do I schedule my HESI examination in the AC West Campus Testing Center?

There is a link in the Health Sciences Application for scheduling this version of the exam. Make sure to keep a copy of the payment receipt and your customer ID and password. It will be required at the testing center.

## What is the cost of the HESI examination?

The test will cost approximately \$60.00. Students will register and pay online through Proctor U. The fee is \$58.00 if you decide to utilize the AC West Campus Testing Center.

## How many times can I take the HESI exam?

Students are allowed to take the test 1 time. There are no re-takes.

## Is there an expiration date for my HESI exam?

Yes, HESI A2 scores are valid for one year. For example, HESI A2 taken on March 20, 2019, are valid through March 20, 2020. HESI scores from only a single testing period will be used for an application period.

### **When will the HESI exam be administered?**

The HESI A2 exam does not have a specific date assigned for testing. The applicant chooses the date and time to test. Be aware the deadline is May 21, 2022. The applicant's responsibility is to register for the exam through:

Create an account and purchase the HESI A2 Exam. Be sure to write down your USER ID and PASSWORD.

### **How do I get my HESI score?**

#### **What is the minimum score accepted for the HESI exam?**

Candidates will receive points based on their total score based on a percent set forth by program faculty.

### **When will I know the results of the HESI exam?**

Within 48 hours, students will receive a detailed email regarding their scores.

### **How do I submit my HESI results and Critical Thinking results to the Health Science Application?**

After taking the HESI admission exam, the student will need to upload their HESI results to the Amarillo College Health Science application. There will be two sets of results. The instructions for accessing these scores are as follows:

1. Log on to [evolve.elsevier.com](http://evolve.elsevier.com)
2. Click on **Student Access**
3. Click on **Admission Assessment Report** under **Exam History** (*this is for the bar graph page of the HESI—Save this document as PDF*)
4. Go back to **My Exams**
5. Click on the plus sign (+) next to **Admissions Assessment Report**
6. **Critical Thinking** will appear in the drop-down list. Click on the link **View Results**.
7. Click on **Results Report.pdf** under **View Your Detailed Scoring Report** on the right (*Save this document as PDF*)
8. Go back to the Health Science application, upload these two documents, **and then submit the application.**

### **How do I troubleshoot for the HESI exam?**

[HESI@/HESI Compass: Student Troubleshooting for HESI on ProctorU \(elsevier.com\)](#)

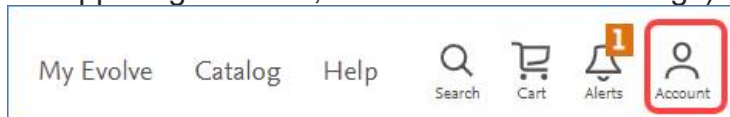
Some systems that are not compatible:

- Google Chromebooks
- Microsoft Surface (RT) versions (they are like a Chromebooks with a deprecated version of Microsoft Windows).
- Tablets

## Any helpful hints for the HESI exam day?

[LOGIN](#) on the ProctorU website at least 15 minutes prior to your session start time.

- Have a clean work area and close the door to your room.
- It is helpful to have a watch or a clock nearby that you can see to keep track of your time.
- Be prepared to pick up your laptop or camera to show the proctor the room.
- Have your ID ready.
- Have your Evolve account: Username and Password.
- (If you've forgotten, temporarily login to your Evolve account, select Account in the upper right corner, and then Account Settings)



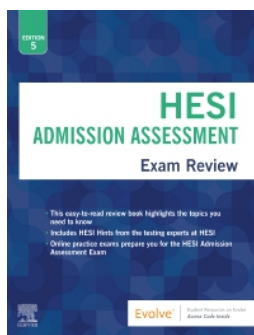
- **When you open the HESI A2 Exam, you will be offered a list of subjects to choose to take tests on.** They include Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary and General Knowledge, Grammar, Math, Physics, Biology, Anatomy & Physiology, and Chemistry. **Remember you only need to choose the following 4 subjects; READING COMPREHENSION, MATH, ANATOMY AND PHYSIOLOGY, AND CRITICAL THINKING.**

## How can I study for the HESI exam?

- Amarillo College Academic Success Center offers HESI workshops. You can find information for these workshops in the Health Science Application.



- There are websites and apps available to help you prepare for the HESI A2. Previous students have recommended <https://nursehub.com/> and Nursing School Pocket Prep App.
- A study guide is available: Admission Assessment Exam Review, 5th Edition ISBN: 9780323582261, Copyright: 2021 <https://evolve.elsevier.com/cs/product/9780323582261?role=student>
- A code comes with this book that makes online resources available to you. Previous students have told us that these online sample questions are an excellent representation of the HESI A2 Exam.



**How long will I have to wait to hear from the AC Dental Hygiene Department to find out if I am accepted into the program or not?**

The Dental Hygiene Program Admission Committee reviews applications beginning June 1, 2022. You will be contacted through your Amarillo College email by the Director of the Dental Hygiene Program when all applicants have been scored and reviewed. If you are accepted into the program, you will be informed about your next steps. Please be aware that you will be required to have a Background Check, Drug Screening, and Immunizations prior to entering the program.