

## Essential Requirements for Dental Hygiene Students and Dental Hygienists

- Utilize dental magnification (loupes) to distinguish among fine structural and color differences of intraoral tissues including oral pathologies (i.e. red vs. pink, blue, black vs. brown).
- Move freely and safely within a dental operator and laboratory setting and reach counters and shelves using proper ergonomic principles.
- Perform moderately strenuous and continuous physical work requiring prolonged sitting for several hours.
- Maneuver dental, radiology, and nitrous oxide portable equipment.
- Control dental and dental hygiene instruments using precision fine motor skills while providing dental hygiene therapy.
- Use a computer/keyboard to calculate, record, and transmit clinical information.
- Read and comprehend technical and professional materials.
- Follow verbal and written instructions to correctly and independently perform a self-assessment of laboratory activities and clinical procedures on patients.
- Converse with patients in a confidential, sensitive, and effective manner regarding their medical and oral conditions.
- Communicate effectively with faculty, staff, peers, and other healthcare professionals verbally and in written/typed format.
- Utilize effective time management to complete professional and technical tasks within realistic constraints.
- Prepare papers and reports, clinical notes, and take written, computer, and clinical practical examinations.
- Possess the emotional wellness necessary to effectively employ intellectual and appropriate judgment and mindfulness in potentially stressful situations.
- Provide professional and technical patient services within the constraints in the various educational settings.
- Be flexible and creative to adapt to professional and technological changes.
- Recognize potential hazardous materials, equipment, and situations to minimize risk of injury to self, patients, and other individuals.