

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE – PRE-PROFESSIONAL DENTAL HYGIENE
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA
DONALD SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

UPDATED: April 2022

You are responsible for ensuring that your registration is complete and appropriate and that your course choices comply with the program to which you have been admitted at Red Deer Polytechnic and/or to the university to which you wish to transfer (if applicable). You are cautioned that any changes to your courses, your major or your transfer destination may adversely affect your transferable credit (if applicable), admission requirements for future programs, or eligibility to graduate from Red Deer Polytechnic. Please consult with an Advisor if you have any questions.

Students in university transfer programs are strongly advised to refer to the calendar of the university to which they wish to transfer and should contact appropriate university departments as required.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

- See the Academic Calendar of your goal institution for admission requirements to their program

WHAT IS THIS GUIDE?

- This is an Academic Planning Guide, prepared by the Student Connect Centre to help you register for courses towards your desired program.
- If you are transferring to another institution to complete your degree, we strongly advise that you read the Academic Calendar of your destination institution for full information.

WHAT IS THE PRE-PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM AT RDP?

Pre-Professional Programs at Red Deer Polytechnic are starting points to help students understand, and work towards, future admission into programs such as the Bachelor of Science, Dental Hygiene (DH) program at University of Alberta (UAlberta).

Students are eligible to apply to DH after one year of appropriate study, however, this program is competitive, and admission is not guaranteed. The coursework recommended is foundational and works as Year 1 of many Science programs. As such, students who do not gain admission into Dental Hygiene can continue to work towards a four-year baccalaureate degree. One such example could be to stay at RDP and work towards [RDP's Bachelor of Science Biological Sciences degree](#).

HOW DO I BECOME ELIGIBLE TO APPLY TO DH AT UALBERTA?

Please read the UAlberta DH [admission requirements](#). It is your responsibility to understand these admission requirements as this guide will provide basic information to help you start your studies. While most students apply after one year of study, there are countless ways to work towards DH admission, and each student's pathway will be unique.

- Academically, applicants must complete 30 credit units (10 courses) of University transferable work including the pre-requisite courses listed in the admission link above (also listed in page 3 of this guide).

- Of these 30 credits, 27 credits must be taken during one Fall/Winter academic year (September to April inclusive).
- Please [visit the UAlberta Dental Hygiene website](#) to see information related to the admission process, admission requirements, application deadlines, and other important application information.

WHEN DO I APPLY TO DENTAL HYGIENE?

Pay attention to the deadlines. Normally the [application deadline](#) for Dental Hygiene is **November 1**. Based on the competitiveness of the program, it is recommended to also apply to an additional undergraduate program (either at UAlberta or another institution).

WHAT IS A TERM? TERMS ARE THE PERIOD IN WHICH YOUR STUDIES TAKE PLACE. AT RDP, WE OFFER FOUR TERMS.

- Fall term (September through December)
- Winter Term (January through April)
- Spring term (May through June): Spring term is an optional, condensed term. Course offerings are limited.
- Summer Term (July through August): Summer term is an optional, condensed term. Course offerings are limited.

HOW MANY COURSES SHOULD I TAKE A TERM?

- If you want to be eligible to apply into Dental Hygiene after one year of study at RDP, you will need to take a full course load (5 in the fall, 5 in the winter) while completing all the required pre-requisite courses.
- When determining your course load keep your funding in mind, if applicable. For course load requirements for funding purposes, please visit www.rdpolytech.ca/psfunding.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I TAKE LESS THAN 10 COURSES A YEAR?

- You will need to take an extra year of study before being eligible to apply into UAlberta Dental Hygiene.

I SEE THE INFORMATION FOR THE GUIDE FOCUSES ON UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA. I WOULD LIKE TO APPLY TO DENTAL HYGIENE AT A DIFFERENT INSTITUTION, WHAT SHOULD I DO?

- There are many institutions across Canada that offer Dental Hygiene programs. While there are some similarities, each institution will have unique admission requirements and required pre-requisite courses.
- We have transfer agreements with University of Alberta, governing how RDP courses transfer to UAlberta. As such, we know how UAlberta will accept our courses in order to meet admission requirements.
- These same agreements do not typically exist outside of the province, and each out of province institution will assess RDP coursework independently.
- As such, there is more onus on you to connect with an institution out of province (if that is your goal) to get information on admission requirements. From there, we can help with some suggestions, but we highly recommend you stay in contact with the institution you are seeking admission.

WHAT IF I COMPLETED COURSES AT ANOTHER POST-SECONDARY INSTITUTION?

Once you are admitted to RDP, you can then apply to have your post-secondary courses assessed for transfer credit through our [Recognition of Prior Learning Office](#). Once admitted to RDP you can complete an [RPL application form](#), provide the Polytechnic Assessors with any and all transcripts, course outlines/descriptions, or other documentation necessary to support your PLAR application.

REGISTRATION AND PROGRAM AUDIT

- Refer to the **Registration** tab on your Loop account to view **Registration Tips and Tricks** for information on:
 - Registering in classes
 - Waitlisting

- Checking Prerequisites and Corequisites
 - Courses listed as **prerequisites** must be completed before you start the course in question.
 - Courses listed as **co-requisites** must be taken at the same time as the course in question.
- Viewing Your Schedule
- And much more!
- After you have completed your registration, if you would like an advisor to review your registration please submit a [Registration Review Form](#).

PRE-REQUISITE COURSES FOR ADMISSION TO BSC DENTAL HYGIENE

REQUIRED COURSES	# OF CREDITS	RECOMMENDED RED DEER POLYTECHNIC COURSES
English	6	ENGL 219, ENGL 220
General Chemistry	3	CHEM 211
Organic Chemistry	3	CHEM 351
Biology	3	BIOL 217
Sociology	3	SOCI 260
Psychology	3	PSYC 260
Statistics	3	STAT 251
Electives	6	2 additional courses transferable to the University of Alberta

SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCE AND CHECKLIST

REQUIREMENT	PREREQUISITE(S)	COMMENTS	DONE
FIRST TERM			
BIOL 217 (3 Credits)	Introduction to Cell Biology	Biol 30 and Chem 30	Can be completed Fall or Winter
CHEM 211 (3 Credits)	General Chemistry I	Chem 30 and MATH 30-1	
ENGL 219 (3 Credits)	Essay Writing and Critical Reading	ELA 30-1	
PSYC 260 (3 Credits)	Principles of Psychology I		Can be completed Fall or Winter
Elective			
SECOND TERM			
STAT 251 (3 Credits)	Introductory Statistics	Math 30-1 or Math 30-2	Can be completed Fall or Winter
CHEM 351 (3 Credits)	Organic Chemistry I	CHEM 211 OR CHEM 102	
ENGL 220 (3 Credits)	Literary Analysis	ENGL 219	
SOCI 260 (3 Credits)	Introduction to Sociology		Can be completed Fall or Winter
Elective			

ELECTIVES

Examples of available Arts & Science Electives for the current academic year can be viewed [here](#).

TRANSFER INFORMATION

- Make sure the courses you take are transferable using [Transfer Alberta](#).

IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW	
Admission Requirements	It is imperative you familiarize yourself with the UAlberta Bachelor of Science Dental Hygiene Admission Requirements . There are academic and non-academic requirements that students will need to be aware of and prepare for.
Minimum Transferable Grade	A minimum grade of C- must be achieved in order for course credit to be transferable to UAlberta. While courses with grades of D or F will not transfer, they remain on your transcript and will be used in calculation of your GPA. <i>Please talk to an Academic Advisor as soon as possible if you feel you may be in jeopardy of not getting a C- in a course you are enrolled in.</i>
Spring Term	A spring term course may be taken in year of transfer if it is not required for admission to the program. Student wishing to apply after one year of study will need to have all requirements finished by the end of the Winter term. <i>Please speak to an Advisor in the Student Connect Centre if you want to take a Spring Course.</i>
Application Deadline	Normally November 1. Please see the UAlberta Dental Hygiene website for official deadlines.

CONTACT INFORMATION/RESOURCES

Red Deer Polytechnic Student Connect Centre	studentconnect@rdpolytech.ca www.rdpolytech.ca/SCC 403.342.3254
Red Deer Polytechnic website	rdpolytech.ca
Transfer Alberta Guide	transferalberta.alberta.ca
Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry (UAlberta)	http://www.dentistry.ualberta.ca/ admissions@dentistry.ualberta.ca