Frequently Asked Questions
Please read this section first as it will help you understand the purpose of this guide, give you important information to understand and register for courses, as well as provide definitions for common phrases and terms used in post-secondary.

What is the Pre-Professional Program Dental Hygiene program at RDC?
Pre-Professional Programs at RDC 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 very 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. The recommended coursework at RDC can also be completed over two years (if appropriate UAlberta rules are followed).

What are terms, and how many of them are there?
Terms are the period of time in which your studies take place. At RDC, we offer four terms.

- Fall term (September through December)
- Winter Term (January through April)
- Spring term (May through June): Spring term is a condensed term. We recommend only a maximum of two courses in the Spring. Course offerings are reduced in this term as well.
- Summer Term (July through August): Only select upgrading courses are currently available in this term.

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. 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 prerequisite courses listed in the admission link above. Of these 30 credits, 24 credits must be taken during one Fall/Winter academic year (September to April inclusive). These courses are also detailed on Page 3.

For Fall 2021, applicant profiles are weighted as such: Overall GPA (OGPA) - (80% of overall rank score) is comprised of all transferable post-secondary work completed as a full-time student taken during Fall/Winter or Spring/Summer Terms. For OGPA calculation full-time study is equivalent to a minimum of 18 credits taken during Fall/Winter Terms or 12 credits taken during Spring/Summer Terms. Interview score comprises the final 20% of overall rank score. In order to be competitive, applicants should strive for a minimum GPA of 3.0. Students with a GPA of less than 2.7 will not be considered for admission. The selection process will change for students applying Fall 2022 and onwards.
For more information on the academic and non-academic requirements, interview information, the selection process and important dates, please refer UAlberta’s Dental Hygiene website.

What does the term “credit” mean?
A credit is what you earn for completing courses. To earn most four-year baccalaureate degrees, a student will need to earn 120 credits. Most courses a student completes will be three credits. There are some courses that span a full year (Fall to Winter) that are six credits. As such, 120 credits is generally 40 courses.

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 a secondary undergraduate program (either at UAlberta or another institution).

What should I do if I want to take these requirements over 2 years?
It is likely you will complete more courses than you need if you take the requirements over two years (which is not a problem). However, this gives you the opportunity to customize your schedule and prioritize your GPA as you finish the appropriate pre-requisite courses.

- Connect with artscienceinfo@rdc.ab.ca.
- Recommend to keep a course load of 24 credits (4 per term Fall & Winter).
- Take a course load that is appropriate for you.
- Have an alternative baccalaureate degree in mind. This may help with course selection, as well as give you another option should you not gain admission into Dental Hygiene.

Final thoughts
- Use this guide and use the advice!
- Make sure the courses you take are transferable using Transfer Alberta.
- You should be taking university level and university transferable courses
  - “200” Level courses are Year 1 courses at RDC
  - “300” Level courses are Year 2 courses at RDC
  - (each institution will use different numbering conventions for their years)
PRE-REQUISITE COURSES FOR ADMISSION TO BSC DENTAL HYGIENE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REQUIRED COURSES</th>
<th># OF CREDITS</th>
<th>RECOMMENDED RED DEER COLLEGE COURSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>ENGL 219, ENGL 220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Chemistry</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>CHEM 211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organic Chemistry</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>CHEM 351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>BIOL 217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sociology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>SOCI 260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>PSYC 260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statistics</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>STAT 251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2 additional courses transferable to the University of Alberta</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SAMPLE COURSE SCHEDULE – Year 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FALL TERM</th>
<th>WINTER TERM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL 217 (can be completed Fall or Winter)</td>
<td>STAT 251 (can be completed Fall or Winter)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHEM 211</td>
<td>CHEM 351</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 219</td>
<td>ENGL 220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC 260 (can be completed Fall or Winter)</td>
<td>SOCI 260 (can be completed Fall or Winter)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective (see note 1 below)</td>
<td>Elective (see note 1 below)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

REGISTRATION NOTES
1) Examples of available Arts & Science Electives for the current academic year can be viewed here: [https://rdc.ab.ca/node/80375/attachment](https://rdc.ab.ca/node/80375/attachment) (you can pick up this printout from the School of Arts & Sciences in Room 2203 or view on the Loop)
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. 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.

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. Please speak to an Advising & Recruiting Specialist if you want to take a Spring Course.

Application Deadline
Normally November 1. Please see the UAlberta Dental Hygiene website for official deadlines.

CONTACT INFORMATION

School of Arts & Sciences Red Deer College
Room 2203
artsscienceinfo@rdc.ab.ca
403.342.3585 (select option 1)

Transfer Alberta Guide
http://transferalberta.alberta.ca

Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry (UAlberta)
http://www.dentistry.ualberta.ca/
admissions@dentistry.ualberta.ca

PLEASE NOTE:
This document is designed to provide recommendations and general information related to transfer pathways that best suit Red Deer College (RDC) course offerings. There are many ways to create a schedule and complete your studies, and we recommend you familiarize yourself with the intricacies of the program and university you want to transfer into. We are here to assist in helping you navigate your studies and can connect you with resources as needed, but you are responsible for your course registration, class schedule, applications to transfer and other related matters. Students in university transfer programs are strongly advised to refer to the calendar of the university that they wish to attend, and should contact appropriate university departments as required.

Please note that institutions can make changes to their program and/or transfer requirements without consulting RDC. As such, it is recommended you consult with the appropriate institutional information (i.e. university calendars, websites, advisors,) to gain the most up to date information as you progress through your studies.

You are cautioned that any changes to your courses, your major, or your transfer destination may adversely affect your transferable credit or admission requirements for future programs. Consult with the School of Arts & Sciences if you have any questions.