Dental Hygiene frequently asked questions:

1. What is the income range within the dental hygiene profession? $20.00 – $27.00 per hour. (wages vary around the country)

2. How long will I be in school? There is one year of pre-requisite classes. Try to complete the four sciences classes first. (see program requirements) They are BI 121, BI 122, BI127 and CHM 210. The four science classes must be completed with a C- grade or higher BEFORE you can get your name on the ready/wait list to start the program. The dental hygiene program takes 2 years to complete. Plan on a minimum of three years to complete the associate degree in applied arts and sciences for dental hygiene.

3. What skills will I use the most? Interpersonal, communication, and manual dexterity skills.

4. What skills or classes may not be required coursework but will be beneficial to my future success in this occupation? Algebra, as well as communication and speaking classes.

5. What personal characteristics are helpful in this career? You must be a people person! Organizational skills are a must!

6. Does your organization or company have job shadowing, internship, volunteer or mentoring opportunities? Opportunities to observe a lab session are sometimes available.

7. What can I do now to prepare myself for a positive future in my chosen career? Try to observe in your dentist’s office. This opportunity provides potential students with a good overview of what an average day in the dental office looks like.