

# Frequently Asked Dental Hygiene Admissions Questions for International Students

Revised 05/20/16

- 1- Does the University Of Minnesota School of Dentistry's Division of Dental Hygiene accept international students?**  
*-Yes, we most definitely do. International students are reviewed using the same criteria as students from the United States.*
- 2- Are the requirements for international students any different from what they are for students who were educated in the United States?**  
*-No, requirements are the same.*
- 3- I did not take an ACT test, since I did not finish high school in the United States. What do I do?**  
*-The ACT requirement for the Bachelors of Science in Dental Hygiene does not change if you are an international student. All applicants are required to take the ACT (SAT can be substituted) examination and submit the composite score and sub-scores with their application materials. EXCEPTION: If an applicant has completed a Baccalaureate Degree (including foreign students), the ACT (or SAT) is NOT required. You can sign up to take the ACT via your local ACT testing center, if you live in the United States. The National ACT exam would be the appropriate exam if you plan on applying to more than one college. However, the University of Minnesota can assist you in taking a residual ACT exam. This is different from a National ACT exam, in that it is administered on our campus, and the results are only valid at the University of Minnesota. Here are the steps you should take if you are interested in the B.S. in Dental Hygiene Program and would like to take the Residual ACT exam:*
  - Complete and mail an Undergraduate Admissions Application. These can be found online at [www.admissions.tc.umn.edu/apply](http://www.admissions.tc.umn.edu/apply).*
  - To set up an appointment to take the residual ACT call Nataki Morris at the University of Minnesota-Crookston, 218-281-8586 or the Office of Admissions at the University of Minnesota-Morris, 320-589-6035.*
  - Once you receive your scores, fill out our online B.S. in Dental Hygiene Application. This can be found at [http://www.dentistry.umn.edu/programs\\_admissions/dental\\_hyg\\_iene\\_division/BS\\_Dental\\_Hygiene/home.html](http://www.dentistry.umn.edu/programs_admissions/dental_hyg_iene_division/BS_Dental_Hygiene/home.html) . Find the link for the online application on the menu bar. You will be asked to*

*enter your scores in this application, and we will be able to verify the scores.*

**4- Do I need to take the TOEFL exam?**

*-Are you a non-native English speaker? If the language you speak at home is not English and if you scored 17 or lower on the English and Reading portion of your ACT, then yes, you do need to take the TOEFL exam. We require a minimum TOEFL score of 79 for our program. However, you may be exempt from this requirement if you have satisfied one of the following conditions:*

*-You have taken at least 60 semester credits at a 2 or 4 year post-secondary institution in the United States.*

*-You have taken at least 26 semester credits at a 2 or 4 year post-secondary institution in the United States, including the full freshman English requirements at that school, with a grade of C or better.*

**5- Do you accept my credits from a University in my home country?**

*- To determine which credits transfer to the University of Minnesota from your home country university, the transcript first needs to be translated. Dental hygiene will only accept translated transcripts from Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc. You can find them on the internet at [www.ece.org](http://www.ece.org).*

*The transcript then needs to be reviewed by the University of Minnesota general admissions to determine which credits will transfer for liberal education requirements. From this review, dental hygiene can determine which prerequisites qualify for dental hygiene admissions. Therefore, the translated transcript needs to go to general university admissions as well as to dental hygiene admissions.*

**6- I have a degree in Dentistry or Dental Hygiene from my home country. Will this help me in my application to your Dental Hygiene Program?**

*- The previous coursework and/or experience you have will be taken into consideration when reviewing your application. However, being a foreign trained dentist or dental hygienist does not allow exemption from any particular courses within the dental hygiene curriculum because of national accreditation standards.*

**7- Can I transfer to the University of Minnesota and take classes prior to acceptance in the Dental Hygiene Program?**

*-Yes, you can apply to be admitted to the University of Minnesota. You would not be admitted to dental hygiene for the purpose of taking prerequisites. Also, transferring early does NOT guarantee a spot in our Baccalaureate Dental Hygiene Program.*

**8- What courses need to be completed at the time of application to the Dental Hygiene Program?**

*- The admissions committee recommends completion of as many prerequisites as possible for your review to be competitive with other applicants. Some applicants have completed one semester of college while others have completed a baccalaureate degree at the time of application. However, at a minimum, you need to complete either the biology or chemistry requirement by the time of application to be eligible for our program. We strongly recommend that you also complete english composition and either psychology or sociology by the time you apply to our program.*

**9- I am unable to obtain a transcript from my high school in a foreign country. What should I do to fulfill this requirement for the application?**

*- The University of Minnesota, and therefore the Dental Hygiene Program, requires a high school transcript for admission. You need to abide by the University of Minnesota general admissions policies in such cases where you are not able to obtain the transcript. General admissions will guide you through that process.*

**10- Who do I contact if I have any more questions about applying to the Dental Hygiene Program?**

*- The School of Dentistry's Office of Admissions and Diversity would be happy to answer your questions. Our preferred method of contact is via e-mail, at [dhapply@umn.edu](mailto:dhapply@umn.edu) . However, if you need to speak with someone via telephone, you can call 612-625-7477 and your call will be answered or returned shortly.*