



West Los Angeles College
Proposed Dental Hygiene Bachelor Program

Creates upward educational and professional opportunity

- No CSU/UC baccalaureate track available to holders of AS in dental hygiene
- BSDH opens doors to master's programs in dental hygiene and public health
- BSDH opens doors to private practice and working in schools with children—both requiring a baccalaureate for licensing

Huge and continuing marketplace demand

- CA Employment Development Department Labor Market Info (LMI) projects 6,050 new and replacement dental hygienists in the Los Angeles County through 2020
- O-Net Online—"Bright Outlook"; projected to **grow much faster than average** (employment increase of 22% or more) with **100,000 or more job openings** nationally through 2022
- Professional standards committees of state and national American Dental Hygienists Association chapters are changing standards to recommend baccalaureate.

Ease of implementation

- All courses already in place—no new curriculum to develop/approve, no new sections to fund unless growing the program
- Current students already finish the program with more than 120 units of course work—60 units of pre-requisites and general education + 61 units in Dental Hygiene—only earning two associate degrees when they could earn an associate and a baccalaureate



West Los Angeles College
Proposed Dental Hygiene Bachelor Program

WLAC is well positioned to meet all of the SB850, Article 3, Section 78040-78042 requirements to establish a Bachelor's Degree in Dental Hygiene.

- WLAC has the infrastructure, faculty, resources, student demand and college support to implement the BS in Dental Hygiene.
- The WLAC Dental Hygiene Program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) and approved by the Board of Dental California and the Dental Hygiene Committee of California.
- Based on current trends it is projected to award between 180-240 BS in Dental Hygiene degrees by the 2022-2023 academic year.
- To complete the current AS in Dental Hygiene degree, students earn over 120 units of college credit.
- No CSU or UC transfer pathway for dental hygiene degree.
- Trends in healthcare industry show the need to have a higher educational degrees
 - Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice
 - Public Health Agencies
 - Health Services Management
- The American Dental Hygiene Association recommends that Baccalaureate degree as the entry point for Dental Hygiene.
- The American Dental Educator's Association (ADEA) research findings show high demand for dental hygiene educators.
- CODA requires dental hygiene faculty to have Bachelor's degree to teach in an accredited dental hygiene program.
- For the past ten years the program has demonstrated a 100% pass rate on national and state exams; 98% retention and success rates and awards 25 AS in Dental Hygiene and 40 AS in Health Professions.