

**West Los Angeles College
Faculty Survey: Interest in
Dental Hygiene Baccalaureate Degree**

A survey was distributed to faculty of the Dental Hygiene program at West LA College to determine their interest in a Baccalaureate degree.

- Of the 20 faculty members, 14 responded, all stating that they are in support of a four-year degree in Dental Hygiene.
- Most of the faculty holds multiple higher-level degrees; 1 faculty member is in the process of completing her BS degree.
- With higher level degrees, it has provided faculty the opportunity to teach didactic and clinical courses, lecture at continuing education events, become Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice (business owners), obtain employment in corporate industry and become administrators for the college.
- Comments in support include:
 - “My Bachelor degree afforded me the opportunity to be selected initiate a feasibility study for the 5th dental hygiene program in Washington State.
 - “By instituting a program to obtain a BS degree in DH at West, our students will receive a degree that acknowledges how much they have actually achieved.”
 - “Having a BS Degree will allow them to advance their DH careers and expand into education.”
 - Allowing the dental hygiene students to obtain a bachelors degree would open up more doors to future employment opportunities.”
 - “The existing RDH dental hygiene program is affordable, nationally recognized for excellence in education, program completion, and licensure of graduates.”