Fees and Financial Aid

The total fees for the one-year (4 quarter) program are approximately $35,290 for California residents and $47,535 for nonresidents. Fees are subject to change.

The Office of Student Financial Services on the San Francisco campus administers several financial aid programs offering loans and grants. Contact the office by visiting staff on campus or by e-mail: finaid@ucsf.edu.

Scholarship opportunities, specific to dental hygiene, also are available. Information can be obtained from:
- American Dental Hygienists Association
  adha.org
- American Dental Education Association
  adea.org
- National Dental Hygienists’ Association
  ndhaonline.org
- The Hispanic Dental Association
  hdassoc.org

Further Information

For specific questions about the program, contact the Program Administrator at joanna.hill@ucsf.edu or call (415) 502-8740.

MS Dental Hygiene Program
University of California, San Francisco
3333 California Street, Suite 495
Box 1361
San Francisco, CA 94143

Dental Hygiene Graduate Program Director
Margaret M. Walsh, R.D.H., M.S., Ed.D.
margaret.walsh@ucsf.edu

University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) and San Francisco area

UCSF is one of the ten campuses of the University of California and is the only one devoted solely to the health sciences.

The campus is uniquely positioned to develop a multidisciplinary program that brings to bear the expertise of world-renown faculty, whose research and professional interests span a variety of health-related disciplines.

The San Francisco Bay Area is rich in culture and activities with an exciting mix of museums, restaurants, performing arts centers, parks and beaches, major league sports, world-class shopping, and multiple ethnic neighborhoods.

The 1,017-acre Golden Gate Park with its museums, lakes, waterfalls, gardens, and trails, is only a short distance from UCSF.
Program Overview
The Master of Science Program in Dental Hygiene prepares dental hygienists to engage in multidisciplinary problem solving related to oral disease prevention and health promotion to improve the oral health of varied populations. Graduates are prepared to assume roles in education and research collaboration in academic, public health, or oral healthcare industry settings.

Curriculum
The MS degree in Dental Hygiene requires 36 units of course work and a comprehensive examination (i.e., Capstone Project). The one-year degree program consists of a four quarter curriculum designed to develop dental hygiene scholars, research collaborators, and educators.

Field Work: Graduate learners are required to develop and execute a scholarly dental hygiene problem solving project in various settings related to the learner’s area of interest (education, research, public health, industry). Mentors assist in identifying projects and overseeing the related field work.

Course Work: The course work provides graduate learners with the knowledge and skills to synthesize related evidence from research on dental hygiene, oral health and disease, professional education, dental public health, and behavioral and social sciences. The Dental Hygiene Science courses in the summer and fall quarters focus on preparation of a dental hygiene problem solving proposal (i.e., the Oral Qualifying Examination).

In the spring quarter course, MS degree candidates integrate the material covered in the previous courses with the knowledge and perspective gained from their fieldwork and prepare for their comprehensive examination.

Comprehensive Examination: The examination (Capstone Project) is a written scholarly manuscript suitable for publication.

Curriculum Courses

Summer: 10 units
DH200A: Dental Hygiene Science (4)
DH202A: Dental Hygiene Curriculum Development and Methods of Instruction (4)
DPH210: Introduction to Research Methods and Design (2)

Fall: 13 units
DH200B: Dental Hygiene Science (3)
DH202B: Dental Hygiene Curriculum Development and Methods of Instruction (1 Fall IP into Winter)
DH204: Oral Disease Prevention and Management by Risk Assessment (4)
DH206: Leadership in Dental Hygiene (3)
DH220: Analysis of Scientific Literature (2)

Winter: 6 units
DH202B: Dental Hygiene Curriculum Development and Methods of Instruction (IP from Fall-2 Winter)
DH208: Dental Hygiene Field Work (4)
DH249A: Elective - Independent Study Teaching (1-2)

Spring: 7 units
DH200C: Dental Hygiene Science (4)
DH202C: Dental Hygiene Curriculum Development and Methods of Instruction (3)

Admission Requirements
For admission details, our on-line application form, and fee information, please access our website: https://graduate.ucsf.edu/programs/dhms

The program begins each year in the summer quarter. The application deadline is March 31st of each year. Completed applications submitted prior to this date will be reviewed on a rolling admission basis. Applications received after the deadline will be reviewed on a space available basis only. Candidates need to satisfy the following minimum requirements:

- Graduation from a basic preparation dental hygiene program
- Completion of a baccalaureate degree in any discipline
- California residents must have a minimum overall and science college GPA of 2.7. Non-California residents must have a minimum overall and science college GPA of 3.0.
- Personal interview

The following documents need to be submitted:
- Online UCSF Graduate Division application: https://gradapplication.ucsf.edu
- Official academic transcripts from all post-secondary institutions
- Two letters of recommendation (online submission)
- Results of the TOEFL or IELTS for International students