

Lake Superior College
Dental Hygiene Program Competencies and Supporting Competencies

1.0 Prepare graduates with the knowledge and clinical competency required to provide current comprehensive dental hygiene services:

- 1.1 Provide care to all patient types including children, adolescent, adult, geriatric and medically/physically compromised patients
- 1.2 Provide dental hygiene process of care, assessment, dental hygiene diagnosis, planning, implementation and evaluation
- 1.3 Provide care for periodontal disease
- 1.4 Provide management of medical emergencies
- 1.5 Problem Solve for Management of Comprehensive Patient Care
- 1.6 Apply current infection /hazard control measures
- 1.7 Assess and provide health education strategies

2.0 Interact effectively with patients, peers and dental health care members utilizing professional written and oral communication:

- 2.1 Evaluate scientific literature
- 2.2 Solve problems and make decisions based on accepted scientific principles
- 2.3 Present detailed process of care to meet the individual needs of each patient
- 2.4 Effectively interact and communicate with a diverse patient population
- 2.5 Demonstrate increased use of professional language over time

3.0 Develop an identity of self, supportive of continuous learning and professional endeavor:

- 3.1 Self-assess for life-long learning
- 3.2 Assess professional resources and social networks to support continuous learning
- 3.3 Identify sources of continuing education and degree completion programs
- 3.4 Advance the profession through leadership, service activities and affiliations with professional organizations
- 3.5 Demonstrate ability to identify weaknesses and develop appropriate problem solving strategies
- 3.6 Illustrate ability to recognize strengths and maximize them

4.0 Exhibit ethical behavior consistent with professional conduct:

- 4.1 Apply ethical, legal and regulatory concepts to care
- 4.2 Serve all clinical patients without discrimination
- 4.3 Comply with all existing state and federal laws governing the practice of dental hygiene
- 4.4 Provide considerate, respectful and confidential treatment to all patients
- 4.5 Insure reasonable continuity of care and completion of treatment

5.0 Initiate and assume responsibility for health promotion and disease prevention activities:

- 5.1 Assess, plan, implement and evaluate community-based oral health programs
- 5.2 Assess the oral health needs of the community and the availability of resources
- 5.3 Provide dental hygiene services in a variety of settings
- 5.4 Develop management and marketing strategies to be used in non-traditional health care settings

6.0 Acquire and synthesize information in a critical, scientific and effective manner:

- 6.1 Determine priorities and establish oral health goals with each patient
- 6.2 Analyze and evaluate alternative treatment methods
- 6.3 Expand and contribute to the knowledge base of dental hygiene
- 6.4 Assume the roles of the profession (clinician, educator, researcher, change agent, consumer advocate, and administrator.)