

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

**What is the minimum grade point average (GPA)?** *The minimum GPA is 2.50 on a 4.00 scale for the BSDH Entry-Level and the Post-Degree Certificate in Dental Hygiene programs. A minimum 2.75 GPA is required for the RDH-to-BSDH Program.*

**What is the application fee?** *\$60 (non-refundable).*

**Can I take my prerequisites at UTSD Houston?** *No, all undergraduate coursework must have been completed at another college or university.*

**Can I submit an application although I have not completed all of my prerequisites or still have courses in progress?** *Yes. However, all coursework must be completed by May 31 prior to the anticipated enrollment.*

**Can I submit my letters of recommendation, transcripts, or any other supporting documents before submitting an application?** *Yes, all documents will go into a pending file until the application has been submitted.*

**What is the best option to send my official transcripts?** *Official transcripts must be submitted by the college or university directly to the Office of the Registrar at the address listed below or electronically using electronic data interchange (EDI).*

UTHealth  
Office of the Registrar  
PO Box 20036  
Houston, TX 77225

**Do I need to submit SAT or ACT scores to be considered for admission?** *No*

**Is a test required for admissions?** *Yes, the Health Science Reasoning test ([HSRT](#)).*

**Can I take the HSRT somewhere else or have my score transferred?** *No, the HSRT is only valid if taken onsite at UTSD Houston, and the score cannot be transferred from another institution.*

**Can I take the HSRT before submitting and application?** *Yes, the HSRT is administered between April and August annually. Spaces are limited; please check our website ([Students>Dental Hygiene>Admissions>General Information](#)) for availability.*

**If I do not get accepted, do I have to retake the HSRT?** *Yes, the score is only applicable for the current application cycle.*

**Can I observe a dentist to fulfill the required observation hours?** *Applicants must complete a minimum of 20 hours shadowing a registered dental hygienist(s). Shadowing a dentist will not be accepted for any portion of the 20 hours.*

**If I am an international student or foreign-trained dentist, am I eligible to apply to the UTSD Houston Dental Hygiene Program?** *Yes; however, all undergraduate course requirements must have been completed at a regionally accredited U.S. or Canadian university/college. Foreign coursework will not count toward meeting any of the prerequisites, even if transfer credit has been given for them by a U.S. or Canadian school.*

**What is the minimum test score for TOEFL?** *Internet-based Total (IBT) of 90-120.*

**How can I find out if the courses I've taken or plan to take will satisfy the prerequisites requirements?** *The [Transfer Guide](#) gives a list of courses that can be used as a general reference. The UTHHealth Registrar's Office conducts the official evaluation after receiving your online application and official transcripts.*