

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>Entry Level Programs) 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 UTHealth Registrar's Office conducts the official evaluation after receiving your online application and official transcripts. If you have questions regarding the transfer of credits, please contact the UTHealth Registrar Office at 713-500-3361.*