

The logo for TAFE SA, featuring the text "tafeSA" in a white, lowercase, sans-serif font. Above the letters "e" and "s" are three white circles of varying sizes, arranged in a slight arc.

Government of
South Australia

ADVANCED DIPLOMA OF

ORAL HEALTH (DENTAL HYGIENE)

10286NAT

tafesa.edu.au





CENTRE FOR DENTAL STUDIES

TAFE SA Centre for Dental Studies provides career pathways with courses in dental assisting, dental radiography, practice management, dental technology, dental prosthetics and dental hygiene.

Our Dental Studies programs are nationally endorsed and the Advanced Diploma of Oral Health (Dental Hygiene) (10286NAT) is accredited by the Australian Dental Council (ADC) providing evidence of consultation with learners, industry and community towards provision of quality assured and industry supported programs of learning.

Dental Studies programs incorporate innovative and flexible learning and assessment methodologies to reflect current practice within the dental community and industry. An emphasis on integrating current evidence-based science and practice is facilitated through competency and problem based learning methodologies that reflect required knowledge and skills for industry application.

The innovative methodologies include the online learning management system that facilitates a virtual environment for all learners to access valuable learning and assessment resource to support their learning endeavours.

FACILITIES

The Centre for Dental Studies at the TAFE SA Gilles Plains was re-designed and renovated in 2008 to create a modern teaching facility for dental studies including an updated 36 station Dental Laboratory and a state of the art 28 chair fully functioning dental clinic and demonstration area utilising intraoral and extraoral cameras. The clinic also includes 7 intraoral radiography units and a panoramic radiography machine.

Students will also attend the University of Adelaide Dental Simulation Clinic on their North Terrace Campus. The simulation clinic has 90 individual simulators, each equipped with their own mannikin, dental equipment, computer and monitor.



COURSE AIM AND OBJECTIVES

On successful completion of the Advanced Diploma of Oral Health (Dental Hygiene) (10286NAT) graduates will have completed the education and training in contemporary dental hygiene practice, enabling them to work in both private and government sectors provisional to the graduate achieving registration as a Dental Hygienist with the Dental Board of Australia through AHPRA.

Each graduate will have developed the knowledge, skills, behaviours, attitudes, values and judgements that will enable them to:

- > Work as an integral part of the dental team to provide preventive and therapeutic oral health care on an individual and community level
- > Work effectively, and in partnership, with other allied health professionals to encourage the adoption of optimum oral health practices by the individual and/or community group
- > Design, conduct and evaluate health promotion highlighting the important links between general and oral health to individuals and groups in dental, allied health, and community settings, taking into account the behavioural, cultural, socio-economic, environmental and genetic risk factors and their impact on oral health
- > Collect, analyse and interpret relevant oral health data for the individual patient and/or community groups, for the purpose of designing, implementing and evaluating strategies that address the hygiene treatment and preventive oral health needs of each individual/community group, in collaboration and partnership with the patient/client group and the dentist and other health professionals
- > Seek out and adopt new and innovative practices and advances in relevant knowledge and research findings in the dental community through readings and attendance through professional development opportunities in accordance with legislative requirements that underpin the practice of dental hygiene
- > Maintain the highest level of professionalism in the practice of dental hygiene through:
 - > The use of accountable and cost effective care management strategies
 - > The adoption of reflective work practices
 - > The application of lifelong learning and self-evaluation skills

- > The identification and completion of professional development requirements
- > The provision of ethical patient care
- > Providing a leadership and mentoring role in developing and promoting effective, professional and accountable work practices which are evidence based and quality assured
- > Monitoring and evaluating treatment outcomes as a means of providing ongoing self-evaluation and continued work improvement towards responsive dental hygiene practice.
- > Graduates will be required to meet the Australian Dental Council Professional Competencies for the Newly Graduated Dental Hygienist

COURSE OUTLINE

The TAFE SA Advanced Diploma of Oral Health (10826NTAT) is the only professional oral health Advanced Diploma available in South Australia. Students work and study as part of a small oral health community in a supportive and collegial manner. Key features of the program include early clinical experience, a significant amount and variety of clinical practice, health promotion and development of research skills.

The program focuses on the development of competence in clinical examination and diagnosis of oral disease, the formulation of individual treatment plans for patients, prevention and control of oral disease by clinical treatment and preventative procedures, and health promotion of clients and the community to establish patterns of behaviour conducive to good oral health.

Graduates of the program strive through their advocacy and clinical practice to empower individuals and communities to maintain optimum oral health throughout their lives.

COURSE DELIVERY

The course is delivered in a combination of simulated practice, competency based and problem-based learning. Supervised Clinical experience will occur in the TAFE SA Dental Clinic and other specialist clinical areas through the course.

COURSE LENGTH

Two years full-time (the first year only may be undertaken on a part-time basis); this may vary depending on study load and delivery mode.

COURSE ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Course entry requirements include:

ESSENTIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

- > Certificate III in Dental Assisting or higher qualification in a dental field.

OR

- > SACE completion or equivalent.

All applicants are required to undertake the Dental Hygiene Admission Test.

The test will cover the following aspects:

- Communication Skills
- Dental conditions and terminology
- Basic Head and Neck Anatomy
- Basic Dental Charting
- Basic Biology
- Basic general dental knowledge

RECOMMEND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Successful students who do not already hold a licence to operate an ionising radiation apparatus will need to enrol in the following units within the first year of their studies:

- > Apply the principles of radiation biology and protection in dental practice (HLTDEN007)
- > Prepare to expose a prescribed dental radiographic image (HLTDEN008)
- > Produce a prescribed dental radiographic image (HLTDEN009).

All students must have a current First Aid Certificate (HLTAID003) prior to commencing their supervised clinical practice, and maintain a current certificate through the length of the studies in the program.

Prior to enrolment candidates will be advised that to undertake the course they must be eligible for unlimited registration as a student with the Dental Board of Australia under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act 2009.

Many health care facilities including SA Health require candidates and other Health Care Workers to present the result of a criminal history check and evidence related to immune status for vaccine preventable diseases, blood borne virus infection and tuberculosis screening, prior to allowing clinical access to patients. Failure to comply with any of the above requirements is likely to result in being unable to undertake the clinical placements necessary for completion of this course.



UNITS

CORE UNITS

Units of competency	Unit code
Undertake and analyse diagnostic tests to determine oral health status	OHDUAD602
Analyse and apply epidemiology in dental and health practice	OHDAAE603
Apply rubber dam and fissure sealants	OHDARD607
Investigate and assess oral health status	OHDIAO608
Confirm physical health status	HLTAAP002
Examine and assess a patient to devise a dental hygiene treatment plan	OHDEAP610
Provide individual and community based dental health education and oral hygiene instructions	OHDPIC620
Scale teeth, debride root surfaces and stains from teeth	OHDSTD621
Take an impression and construct study models for dental hygiene patients	OHDTIC622
Establish and manage client relationships	CHCCOM006
Take a clinical photograph	HLTDEN014
Work with diverse people	CHCDIV001
Contribute to working with the community to identify health needs	HLTPOP006
Plan a population health project	HLTPOP021
Evaluate a population health project	HLTPOP022
Promote Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural safety	CHCDIV002
Participate in workplace health and safety	HLTWHS001
Comply with infection prevention and control policies and procedures	HLTINF001
Work legally and ethically	CHCLEG001
Research and apply personality and development theories	CHCCSL004
Administer pain control for dental treatment	OHDAPC601
Apply oral medicine and pathology principles to dental hygiene treatment	OHDAOM604
Apply pharmacology principles to dental hygiene management	OHDAPP605
Apply professional tooth whitening agents	OHDAPT606
Diagnose and manage periodontal conditions	OHDDMP609
Identify and interpret findings on a dental radiograph	OHDIIF611
Implement a dental hygiene program for children and adolescents	OHDIDH612
Provide clinical dental hygiene treatment	OHDPCD614
Perform a nutritional oral health assessment	OHDPNO615
Perform prescribed orthodontic procedures	OHDPPO616

Place temporary restorations, polish restorations and remove overhanging margins	OHDPTR617
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Plan and manage dental hygiene care for patients with special needs	OHDPDH618
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Provide dental hygiene care to elderly patients	OHDPDH619
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Diagnose and manage dental caries and other hard tissue pathologies in the patient	OHDDMD623
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Use chemotherapeutic agents to manage and prevent dental disease	OHDUCA624
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Research and apply evidence to practice	CHCPOL003
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All clinical subjects are taught at the TAFE SA Dental Clinic, Gilles Plains and The University of Adelaide Dental Simulation Clinic.

ASSESSMENTS

Dental Studies programs incorporate innovative and flexible learning and assessment methodologies to reflect current practice within the dental community and industry.

CREDIT TRANSFER

If you have completed equivalent studies, you may apply for credit transfer once you have been accepted into the TAFE SA course.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

If you have gained the skills and knowledge equivalent to a unit in this course through work experience, life skills or on the job training you may apply for the recognition of these skills, once you have been accepted into the course. This may shorten the length of time required for you to study to complete the course.

FEES

Full fee: \$54,849

WorkReady fee: \$11,045.00 – \$14,134.00

This course is funded through the Government of South Australia's WorkReady initiative. Eligibility criteria apply, incidental fees may apply for specific tools, materials, events or uniforms.

Students will need to check course fees directly with TAFE SA via website TAFE SA Courses. TAFE SA will advise students about all fees and publish their fee policies on TAFE SA website.

Subject to eligibility, only applies to courses that are listed on the WorkReady training list.

Applying for a TAFE SA course is free. Concessions will be available for students who:

- > hold a health care card;
- > hold a pensioner concession card; and/or
- > hold a pensioner concession card issued by the Department of Veteran Affairs.

For further information: tafesa.edu.au

Please make an appointment with a TAFE SA student support officer to discuss your eligibility if you require assistance.

Work Ready This course is funded through the Government of South Australia's WorkReady initiative. Eligibility criteria apply, incidental fees may apply. Indicative prices only. For fees and more information visit tafesa.edu.au.

HOW TO APPLY

Entry to the course in South Australia is administered through the South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC). Visit tafesa.edu.au/courses and click on courses listed with 'Apply Now'.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Students are able to apply for a VET Student Loan for TAFE SA diploma and advanced diploma qualifications.

VET Student Loans are a Commonwealth Government loan scheme which assists students to pay for all or part of the TAFE SA tuition fees. Like HECS, it is an income contingent loan. A VET Student Loan will be repaid through the Australian taxation system once your repayment income is above the minimum threshold.

To be eligible for VET Student Loan assistance, you must be:

- > a student of any age an Australian citizen; or
- > the holder of a permanent humanitarian visa and resident in Australia for the duration of the TAFE unit of study
- > studying with an approved VET training provider.

It is recommended that students contact the TAFE SA Infoline for more information. Freecall 1800 882 661.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Student eligibility applies to all new students or ongoing students commencing a new course. Students will be eligible for funded training if they meet all three student eligibility criteria at the time of enrolment in Skills for All funded course, and a place is available:

1. AGE

The individual is aged 16 years or over

2. RESIDENCY STATUS

The individual either resides or works in South Australia – as determined by postcode of home address or place of work; and

- > Is an Australian or New Zealand citizen; or
- > Is a permanent Australian resident; or
- > Holds a state sponsored visa on a pathway to permanent residency.

SUPPORT SERVICES

General career and education counselling and learning support are available. Most campuses have a learning resource centre (library), student lounge and recreational activities.

ACCESS AND EQUITY

TAFE SA is committed to ensuring that all members of the public have access to all of the courses offered and a fair and non-discriminatory learning environment. Conditions of registration, including TAFE SA Code of Practice can be found at tafesa.edu.au



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tafesa.edu.au/dental

1800 882 661

If you are deaf, or have a hearing or speech impairment,
contact us through the National Relay Service relayservice.gov.au