

ORIGINAL

The UAF Faculty Senate passed the following at its Meeting #147 on December 10, 2007:


MOTION:


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The UAF Faculty Senate moves to approve an Associate of Applied Science degree program in Dental Hygiene.

EFFECTIVE: Fall 2008 and/or  
Upon Board of Regents approval.

RATIONALE: See the full program proposal #123 and courses #106 - 122 from the Fall 2007 review cycle on file in the Governance Office, 312 Signers' Hall.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President, UAF Faculty Senate      12/13/07  
Date

APPROVAL:   
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chancellor's Office      DATE: 12-15-07  
\_\_\_\_\_

DISAPPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chancellor's Office      DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

### Dental Hygiene Program, Objectives, and Career Opportunities

The primary goal of the Dental Hygiene program is provide students with the knowledge and clinical skills required for entry-level positions as dental hygienists. The program goals are achieved by meeting or exceeding the requirements established by the Commission of Dental Accreditation. A successful graduate of the University of Alaska Fairbanks/ Tanana Valley Campus dental hygiene program will take and pass the required exams for licensure in the State of Alaska as established by the State of Alaska Board Dental Examiners. Those exams consist of the Dental Hygiene National Written Board, and the clinical and local anesthetic boards administered by the Western Regional Examining Board (WREB).

Career opportunities are strong as cited by the State of Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD) 2002-2012 study. An article based on this study in the October, 2004 *Alaska Economic Trends* predicts an increase of over 40% in the need for dental hygienists, one of the highest rates of anticipated need among the occupations tracked by the state. A related DOLWD report projects 22 annual openings for dental hygienists statewide. The site specifies an average entry-level wage of \$38,960 and a mean salary of \$63, 810.

The UAF/TVC dental hygiene program will consist of a two-year academic schedule. Students will be selected for admission to the AAS in Dental Hygiene following successful completion of the prerequisite course work and other qualifications outlined in the application packet. The UAF/TVC dental hygiene program was directly modeled after the successful dental hygiene program at the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA). The UAA dental hygiene program has been established for over 20 years and is accredited by CODA. UAF/TVC has the full support and cooperation of UAA in this endeavor. Further, the Allied Health Alliance and Karen Purdue, Vice President for Health Programs, are in agreement that it is in the best interest of the University and the State that UAF align its program with UAA.

The proposed dental hygiene program at the University of Alaska Fairbanks/ Tanana Valley Campus received initial accreditation from the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) in August of 2007, following the site visit on May 3-4 of 2007. CODA is the governing division of the American Dental Association that sets the standards and requirements for curriculum and facilities, conducts site visits which review curriculum (existing and proposed) and school facilities, and grants accreditation for dental and dental hygiene programs and schools. CODA will conduct another site visit prior to the graduation of the first cohort of six students to review standards and compliance to curriculum and goals of the school.