

Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program

First Biannual Progress Report

September 30, 2015

College: Foothill College

Degree: B.S. Dental Hygiene

Program Description:

Foothill College is proposing that its existing Associate in Science Dental Hygiene program be modified to meet the requirements of a Bachelor of Science Degree in Dental Hygiene as part of the Board of Governors approved pilot program for California Community Colleges.

The first two years of the baccalaureate Dental Hygiene degree will be the general education courses required for the major and the supporting science and social science courses, which include: English, math, chemistry, anatomy and physiology, microbiology, nutrition, pharmacology, health, psychology, sociology, communication and humanities for a total of 86 quarter units for the first two years of the program. The second two years of the Dental Hygiene bachelor's degree pilot program would be 100 units of Dental Hygiene courses, inter-professional allied health courses, and upper division general education.

The new program will provide pathways appropriate for bachelor degree graduates such as:

- Employment in public health, research, and the health care industry
- Clinical supervision,
- Education,
- Master's degree programs.

A second cohort will be a baccalaureate completion program for students who have graduated from an accredited associate degree dental hygiene program, passed National & Clinical board examinations and are licensed dental hygienists. This cohort will have only didactic courses and will be a part-time, hybrid model program that may be completed in one academic year. The bachelor's completion degree program will broaden the educational experiences of **licensed dental hygienists** who have graduated from an accredited two-year community

college dental hygiene program by providing an in depth curriculum, including, but not limited to: critical thinking, analysis, writing, communication, cultural sensitivity, researching, and reporting. The dental hygiene degree completion program will expand professional opportunities beyond the private dental office and promote career advancement in management, education, public health and research. The program will prepare dental hygienists to interact effectively with other health professionals in a competent, collaborative, and ethical manner.

The first semester/quarter when the baccalaureate program will be offered:

Both cohorts, the entry level dental hygiene program and the bachelors completion cohort, will be offered in Fall 2016

How many students anticipated per cohort and when will each cohort start:

The Dental Hygiene program for the entry-level dental hygiene student plans to admit twenty-four students each year. Due to the clinical capacity and Commission of Dental Accreditation standards, we do not plan to increase the number of students in this cohort.

The bachelor's completion cohort for the licensed RDH will admit 30 to 40 students in 2016, with increases planned beginning in 2018-19.

Provide a description of each cohort (two- or four-year cohort):

The entry-level dental hygiene cohort will be two year – upper division. The bachelor's completion cohort for the licensed RDH will be one year.

Status of the submission of the Substantive Change request to the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges:

Approved May 2015

Does the college plan to hire additional faculty and staff to support the Baccalaureate Degree Pilot Program?

The new program will replace the existing Associate in Science program and will use existing faculty, learning, and student support resources. As the enrollments expand in 2018-19, the program may need to add 1 additional full-time faculty position. The bachelor's completion cohort for the licensed RDH has the potential to grow and may require a full-time faculty position to teach and coordinate this separate cohort.

Next Steps:

- Approval of curriculum from the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office
- Submission to the Federal Department of Education for approval to offer federal financial aid