Dental Hygiene Education Program Characteristics

**PERCENTAGE OF DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAMS THAT REQUIRE PREREQUISITE COLLEGE COURSES**

Most programs at public, as well as private non-profit, institutions required prerequisite college courses prior to entry in the program.

**PERCENTAGE OF APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED** was lowest at public community colleges, while private non-profit institutions had the highest acceptance rate.

**AVERAGE FIRST-YEAR CAPACITY** at public community colleges and technical colleges was about half that of private for-profit and non-profit institutions.

**STUDENT-TO-FACULTY RATIOS** were nearly identical for three types of programs, highest at private for-profit programs, and lowest at community colleges.

**THE AVERAGE TOTAL COST** (tuition and fees, plus related costs like textbooks, uniforms, and lab fees) is three to four times as much at programs located in private schools than public technical or community colleges.

**TOTAL PROGRAM LENGTH (IN WEEKS)** was slightly longer at private schools than at public institutions.

Source: Source: ADA Health Policy Institute, Commission on Dental Accreditation 2021-22 Survey of Dental Hygiene Education Programs.

For more information, contact the Health Policy Institute at hpi@ada.org.