

Dental Setting Observation and Reflection Essay Guidelines

The Dental Setting Observation and Reflection Essay should be included with the submission of the screening documents sent to dhy-admissions@clcollinois.edu. Documentation of the dental setting observation and reflective essay will be reviewed and read by faculty members on the Dental Hygiene Admissions Committee.

Applicants must complete 4 observation hours. Hours cannot be paid or completed for academic credit. The hours may be divided among offices and/or on more than one day. Please adhere to the appropriate dress code and PPE standards required by the dental setting you are observing.

OBSERVATION VERIFICATION FORM

(To be submitted with Reflective Essay)

The bearer of this form, _____ is an applicant to the College of Lake County's Dental Hygiene Program. Applicants to this program are required to document 4 hours observing a Registered Dental Hygienist.

Dental Office of: _____

Telephone: _____ E-mail _____

Date of observation: _____

Dentist signature verifying 4 hours of observation:

Dental Hygienist signature verifying 4 hours of observation:

Thank you for providing this experience.

REFLECTIVE ESSAY GUIDELINES

The essay will be evaluated on form and content. Please submit a double-spaced, 12-point font essay utilizing the following prompts:

- 1) Describe the unique role of the Dental Hygienist and how this role differs from others on the dental team.
- 2) Describe anything that surprised you about the role or duties of the Dental Hygienist?
- 3) What personal qualities do you possess that would make you a good fit for the field of Dental Hygiene?
- 4) Many people lack the ability to obtain dental care. Please discuss your views on oral health disparities and how your future role as a Dental Hygienist might impact these disparities.