

DENTAL HYGIENE LAB

SPACE DESCRIPTION

Dental Hygiene Labs are designed to replicate a professional dental clinic and function as such, treating the public in addition to providing a place for skills training. The lab should have an exterior entrance for public access, separate from general student entrances. Restroom facilities to serve the waiting room should be located in the space, or nearby. The ultimate size of the lab will be determined by the number of dental chairs required by the program. Each dental chair station must provide all tools, resources, and storage needed for instruction and clinical use. In addition, support spaces such as Sterilization, Radiology, Pano, Reception and Mechanical/ Pump Room are required. Dental Assisting labs are not designed to serve the public and are unique from Dental Hygiene labs.

SPACE ACCREDITATION

This space must meet the requirements of the “Commission on Dental accreditation”.

SUCCESS FACTORS

Infrastructure: The lab contains a significant amount of equipment with specific utility needs. All must be carefully coordinated before construction begins to ensure the correct utilities are provided to the correct location.

Health and safety features: Handwashing stations and other sanitary measures are required. A dedicated Sterilization Room must have utilities for all necessary equipment including autoclaves and ultrasonic cleaners.

Public Access: The space must have an independent entrance and circulation route for the users of the clinic, separate from students.

SPACE FREQUENCY

Plan for 5 dental chairs per each instructor.

The typical lab size is 10 dental chairs and 2 instructors, but this must be confirmed with each service area.

GENERAL

Coordinate the need for wall blocking with the Panoramic Dental X-ray machine.

Wall shielding requirements must be considered for X Ray rooms.

ACOUSTICS

The mechanical space will contain the air compressor and suction/ vacuum equipment which will need to be acoustically separated from the surrounding area.

MECHANICAL / PLUMBING

Provide sinks and drains as indicated in the space plan. Some sinks will require a plaster trap. Confirm locations with faculty. Water and drains are required for sterilization equipment. Coordinate the location of the emergency eyewash with faculty. An emergency shower may be considered.

The medical grade compressed air and suction/ Vacuum equipment should be housed in the dedicated dental mechanical room and run to each exam station. The desired make and model of dental equipment should be selected by the faculty and provided to the design team before design begins, so the infrastructure needs can be properly coordinated. For some equipment, the location of utilities must be coordinated within a very tight tolerance. Equipment suppliers may need to be involved in both the design and construction of the space to ensure proper coordination.

ELECTRICAL & DATA

Electrical power requirements shall be based on selected dental equipment. 120/208V service typical.

Provide radiation-monitoring devices where applicable.

LIGHTING

Standard classroom lighting throughout.

Overhead exam lights with adjustable swing arm at each station.

TECHNOLOGY

Provide wireless capability throughout.

A multi-line telephone system and HIPAA compliant software are required for patient scheduling.

ACCESSORIES AND EQUIPMENT

The following built-in equipment is required. To ensure proper coordination of infrastructure, the specific make and model of equipment should be selected by the faculty before the design process begins.

- Power-operated dental chair(s) for treating patients in a supine position
- Air and water syringe
- Adjustable dental light
- Dental radiography units
- Radiographic teaching mannequins
- Radiographic view boxes and/or monitors
- Digital equipment for image processing is preferred over darkrooms.
- Multiple sets of image receptor holding devices

FINISHES

Walls: Epoxy Paint system. 6" Vinyl wall base

Countertops: Epoxy Resin or solid surface, typical. Stainless steel countertops are required in the Sterilization Room.

Ceiling: Acoustical Panel Ceiling – Washable

Floor: Hard surface, easily cleanable flooring is required. Skid-proof medical flooring is preferred, but skid proof mats may be used as a substitute.

STERILIZATION

SPACE DESCRIPTION

Within the Dental Assisting Lab, the Sterilization room provides a location for students and faculty to store and clean equipment, maintaining a sterile environment for dental care. Sterilization must follow ANSI/AAMI ST79 standards, or standards adopted by Ivy Tech.

This space must remain sterile. Consideration must be given to where the space is located and access in order to maintain a sterile environment.

The Sterilization room must have dedicated space for storage and processing of both sterile and non-sterile tools and supplies. Special sterilization equipment such as autoclaves and ultrasonic cleaners are required. Verify needs with the program.

Provide the following:

- Wall and Base cabinets with stainless steel countertop
- Autoclaves and ultrasonic cleaners
- Pass-thru counters for clean and dirty supplies