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## Mesa dental hygiene students offer free dental services



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MCC

**Screenings are not comprehensive exams and treatment will not be provided during the event.**

Posted Friday, January 22, 2021 4:24 pm

Mesa Community College dental hygiene students are seeking individuals for complimentary oral health screenings on Saturday, Feb. 6, at the Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health, 5855 E. Still Circle in Mesa. Appointments are available at 9 a.m., 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. and may be made by calling 480-248-8195.

Ideal screening candidates are individuals who have not received dental health care for three years or longer or who have been diagnosed with dental health issues, according to a release.

Screenings are not comprehensive exams and treatment will not be provided during the event. Although the screening is complimentary, those selected as patients for the program will be charged for the customized oral health care services provided.

Screening participants must agree to have a full set of x-rays taken. Copies of x-rays may be purchased for \$20 and picked up the following week during hygiene clinic hours: 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays.

“Dental hygiene students only progress in their education through the participation of community members through events such as this. The students’ clinical requirements state that care must be provided for individuals who have been diagnosed with periodontal (gum) disease and never had it treated, have been told they need a deep-scale cleaning, or have other dental hygiene issues such as puffy and bleeding gums,” Debi Sparks, director of the MCC dental hygiene program, said in the release.

Some patients will be invited to participate as patients in the MCC dental hygiene program receiving personalized fee-for-service care provided by MCC dental hygiene students. Students provide quality care using the latest technology in comfortable surroundings at fees less than most private dental practices. All patient care is provided under the supervision of licensed dental hygienists and supervising dentists, the release states.

The Mesa Community College Dental Hygiene Clinic provides a full range of dental hygiene services offered during convenient evening hours at the Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health Clinic. To schedule an appointment outside of this screening event, call the clinic at 480-248-8195.

Additional information about the MCC Dental Hygiene Program and the dental clinic is at [mesacc.edu/dental](https://www.mesacc.edu/dental) (<https://www.mesacc.edu/departments/applied-sciences-and-technology/dental-hygiene>).

The MCC dental hygiene program offers a rigorous and intensive science-orientated program and is accredited by the American Dental Association’s Commission on Dental Accreditation. Dental hygienists traditionally provide preventive and therapeutic oral health care to patients in a dentist-supervised work setting. Career opportunities are available in private dental offices and clinics, nursing homes, schools, post-secondary institutions, public health, research and in private business.

Students successfully completing the dental hygiene program at MCC will prepare individuals for the necessary licensure requirements and are eligible to take the written and clinical exams necessary to obtain licensure in any state in the U.S. MCC offers a dental hygiene clinic open to the public at the A.T. Still University Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health's "state-of-the-art" facility in Mesa. The clinic sees patients from late August through mid-May of each year. All patient clinical work is supervised by professional dental hygienists and supervising dentists. For more information, go to [mesacc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene](https://www.mesacc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene) (<https://www.mesacc.edu/programs/dental-hygiene>).

Mesa Community College has degree and certificate programs at its two campuses, additional locations and a combination of online formats. MCC is one of 10 colleges in the Maricopa County Community College District. Go to [mesacc.edu](https://www.mesacc.edu).

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