Dentistry Pathway

Grades 9-12 and Postsecondary Continuation

Pathway Overview

BridgePoint's Dentistry Pathway builds from a common health-science foundation into dental career exploration, college prerequisite coursework, work-based learning, and preparation for postsecondary dental hygiene education. Students develop academic knowledge, technical skills, professional judgment, and progressively greater exposure to dental and healthcare settings.

All students complete the common Grade 9-10 academic and Health Science/CTE foundation. Students who select the Dentistry pathway then advance through college coursework when eligible, structured work-based learning, pathway-specific experiences, and preparation for postsecondary Dental Hygiene admission.

How to Read the Program of Study

The grade-level tables show the major academic, pathway, and work-based learning components students can expect each year. They are not a bell schedule. Individual schedules may vary based on prior coursework, readiness, college course availability, age, and approved work-based learning opportunities.

Phase I: Common Foundation - Grade 9 (2027-28)

Course / Experience	Schedule	Credit / Requirement
Integrated Humanities: English & Social Studies	75 minutes, M-Th	1.5 HS: 0.5 English + 1.0 Social Studies
Mathematics: Algebra I or Geometry	Blended math block, M-Th	1.0 HS math
Biology	Full year, M-Th	1.0 HS science
Academic Lab	M-Th	Academic support
Pathway to Purpose	Friday	1.0 HS credit

Grade 9 Health Science/CTE Rotation

Semester	Monday / Wednesday	Tuesday / Thursday
1	Introduction to Dentistry	Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
2	Introduction to Behavioral Health	Substance Abuse & Community Impact

Each course earns 0.25 HS CTE credit; Grade 9 total: 1.0 HS CTE credit.

Summer 2028 - Before Grade 10

Course	Format	Credit
Introduction to Anatomy & Physiology	Required summer intensive	0.5 HS science

Grade 10 (2028-29)

Course / Experience	Schedule	Credit / Requirement
Integrated Humanities: English & Social Studies	75 minutes, M-Th	1.5 HS: 0.5 English + 1.0 Social Studies
Mathematics: Geometry or Algebra II	Blended math block, M-Th	1.0 HS math
Advanced Anatomy, Physiology & Health Science	Full year, M-Th	1.0 HS science
Academic Lab	M-Th	Academic support
Pathway to Purpose	Friday	1.0 HS credit
Grade 10 Readiness Panel	End of year	Readiness for college/pathway advancement

Advanced Anatomy, Physiology & Health Science includes applied chemistry and biochemistry concepts used in healthcare, including pH, electrolytes, solutions, respiration and gases, metabolism, and healthcare calculations. It is a high-school course and does not replace college Chemistry or Anatomy & Physiology.

Grade 10 Health Science/CTE Rotation

Semester	Monday / Wednesday	Tuesday / Thursday
1	Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)	Mental Health & Crisis Intervention
2	Foundations of Nutrition & Wellness	Introduction to Fire Science

Each course earns 0.25 HS CTE credit; Grade 10 total: 1.0 HS CTE credit.

tudents for nursing assistant certification upon completion of required training and assessments.

Introduction to Fire Science provides all students exposure to fire behavior, wildfire and public health, incident command, PPE, safety, teamwork, and emergency-service careers.

Blended Mathematics Model

BridgePoint provides two mathematics levels in each grade: Algebra I or Geometry in Grade 9, and Geometry or Algebra II in Grade 10. Each math block combines teacher-directed instruction, guided and applied practice, and structured online learning. Placement is based on prior coursework and demonstrated proficiency. Students are not required to repeat mathematics coursework they have already successfully completed. Transcripts identify the actual course completed.

Summer 2029 - Before Grade 11

Course	Provider / Format	Credit
Introduction to Medical Terminology	College summer intensive	0.5 college credit

College credit is subject to provider approval, enrollment eligibility, and course availability.

Phase II: Dentistry Pathway - Grades 11-12

In Grades 11 and 12, students move from the common foundation into dentistry-specific college preparation, career readiness, college coursework, and progressively deeper work-based learning.

Grade 11 - Dentistry Readiness and Work-Based Learning

Course / Experience	Schedule	Credit / Requirement
English / Humanities or College English	BridgePoint or college block	HS or college credit, based on placement
Mathematics / College Mathematics	BridgePoint or college block	Appropriate level based on readiness
Pathway-Specific Science / College Science	BridgePoint or college block	HS or college science credit
Dentistry Pathway Seminar / Applied Dental Health	CTE block	HS CTE credit
Potential college coursework: Human Anatomy & Physiology I + Lab; General Psychology; College English	As eligible and available	College credit by course
Work-Based Learning	Approximately 4 hours/week; target 150 hours	Counts toward 400-hour graduation requirement
Pathway to Purpose	Friday	1.0 HS credit

Grade 11 work-based learning may include dental or healthcare shadowing, simulations, serving as a patient for college skills labs or practicums when appropriate, community oral-health experiences, career exploration, approved healthcare placements, and other structured experiences connected to dentistry and health-professions competencies.

Grade 12 - College Preparation, Work-Based Learning, and Postsecondary Advancement

Course / Experience	Provider / Schedule	Credit / Requirement
Senior Capstone - Dentistry Focus	BridgePoint	1.0 HS English
Mathematics / College Mathematics	BridgePoint or college block	As appropriate for graduation/pathway
Pathway-Specific Science / College Science	BridgePoint or college block	As appropriate for graduation/pathway
Potential college prerequisite coursework	Scheduled within CTE/college block	College credit by course
Work-Based Learning	Approximately 8 hours/week; target 250 hours	Counts toward 400-hour graduation requirement
Pathway to Purpose	Friday	1.0 HS credit
Paid Healthcare Employment	Completed during an approved portion of Grades 9-12	Required; hours count toward the 400-hour WBL total

College coursework is selected based on student readiness, high-school graduation requirements, provider availability, and the prerequisites most useful for postsecondary dental hygiene study.

Potential College Coursework for Dentistry

The courses below are potential college choices aligned with dental hygiene preparation. They are not a prescribed sequence or a guaranteed concurrent-enrollment offering. Students select a feasible combination while meeting BridgePoint graduation requirements, pathway experiences, and work-based learning schedules.

Potential Course	Course #	College Credits
Human Anatomy & Physiology I + Lab	BIOL 209 / 209L	4
General Psychology I	PSYC 150	3
College English Composition I	Code to confirm	3
Introduction to Chemistry + Lab	CHEM 101 / 101L	4
Essentials of Sociology	SOCO 260	3
College English Composition II	Code to confirm	3
Human Anatomy & Physiology II + Lab	BIOL 210 / 210L	4
Health Psychology	PSYC 233	3
College Mathematics	MATH 110 or higher	3
Introduction to Microbiology + Lab	BIOL 250 / 250L	4
Speech	SPCH 101 or 102	3
Health & Wellness / Kinesiology elective	KINA 100 / elective	2

The options above total 39 potential credits. Students may complete up to 36 college credits depending on eligibility, scheduling, provider approval, and the combination that best supports their postsecondary plan. Chemistry remains available as a college-level prerequisite where needed; the Grade 10 high-school science course does not replace it.

Work-Based Learning Graduation Requirement

Dentistry pathway students complete a minimum of 400 hours of approved work-based learning before graduation. The pathway is designed around approximately 150 hours in Grade 11 and 250 hours in Grade 12. The required paid healthcare employment experience is included within, not added on top of, the 400-hour total.

Experience Type	Examples	How It Counts
Career exploration	Dental/healthcare job shadowing, career interviews, workplace observation	Approved documented hours
Skill and simulation experiences	Dental/health simulations, patient communication, safety and infection-control practice	Approved instructional/WBL hours
Higher-education practicum support	Serving as a patient for college skills labs or practicums when appropriate; supervised training support	Approved documented hours
Field exposure when available	Dental office, clinic, public-health, long-term-care, or other approved healthcare exposure	Approved documented hours
Paid healthcare employment	Approved healthcare position completed during the four-year diploma program	Required employment; hours included in 400-hour total
Community-based experiences	Oral health, public health, service, prevention, and other approved pathway experiences	Approved documented hours

Work-based learning is intentionally broader than clinical placement. This allows students to build professional readiness and meaningful exposure even when age, site capacity, provider requirements, or the nature of clinical settings limits access to traditional practicums.

Student Routes Through Grades 11-12

Student Readiness	Grades 11-12 Pathway	Next Step
Ready for substantial college coursework	Complete an individualized combination of dental-hygiene prerequisites, WBL, capstone, and employment	Continue remaining prerequisites and seek Dental Hygiene admission after graduation
Ready for some college coursework	Complete selected prerequisites alongside BridgePoint academics, WBL, capstone, and employment	Complete remaining prerequisites after graduation
College-course timing or readiness requires additional preparation	Continue pathway preparation, WBL, career exposure, capstone, and employment while completing appropriate academics	Complete remaining prerequisites and enter postsecondary dental training when eligible

Phase III: Postsecondary Dentistry Continuation

After BridgePoint graduation, students may complete any remaining Dental Hygiene prerequisites and seek admission to a postsecondary Dental Hygiene professional sequence. The pathway is designed so that students arrive with health-science preparation, college coursework where eligible, substantial work-based learning, paid healthcare employment, and progressively developed professional readiness.

Common Academic and Career Progression

Area	Grades 9-10	Grades 11-12
English / Social Studies	Integrated Humanities each year	College English where eligible + senior capstone
Mathematics	Grade 9: Algebra I / Geometry; Grade 10: Geometry / Algebra II	College mathematics / individualized advancement
Science	Biology; summer Intro A&P; Advanced A&P; & Health Science	Pathway-specific college science
Health Science	Eight rotating CTE courses; EMR (G9), CNA (G10);	Dentistry pathway preparation + college prerequisite coursework
Career Development	Pathway to Purpose	Pathway to Purpose + 400 total WBL hours, including required paid healthcare employment

The Student Journey

GRADES 9-10: Common academics, eight rotating CTE courses, summer health-science preparation, EMR in Grade 9 and CNA in Grade 10.
GRADES 11-12: Dentistry pathway preparation, college coursework where eligible, work-based learning, senior capstone, and required paid healthcare employment within the 400-hour WBL total. **POSTSECONDARY:** Complete remaining prerequisites, seek Dental Hygiene admission, complete professional training, and pursue applicable licensure.

College course offerings, credit awards, admission requirements, and clinical eligibility are controlled by the relevant provider and may change.