



British Columbia Dental Hygienists Association

Student Awards Guide

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BRITISH COLUMBIA DENTAL HYGIENISTS AWARD GUIDE

INTRODUCTION

The BCDHA offers an awards program that recognizes and highlights the achievements of dental hygiene students enrolled in accredited dental hygiene diploma and degree programs in British Columbia (BC) that engage with BCDHA throughout the academic year.

This guide focuses on the academic awards available to dental hygiene students in the diploma & degree programs in BC.

AWARD CATEGORIES

First-Year Achievement Award (Diploma)

BCDHA Award of Excellence (Diploma and Degree Completion)

Joan Voris Award (Entry-to-Practice Degree)

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions or further information, please contact:

- Email: swilson@bcdha.com
- Phone: (604) 415-4559
- Office Location: 900-1021 W. Hastings Street Vancouver, BC V6E 0C3



BCDHA AWARD OF EXCELLENCE (DIPLOMA PROGRAM)

AWARD DESCRIPTION

This award is offered annually to one (1) graduating dental hygiene student with the highest overall proficiency in each accredited dental hygiene diploma program in British Columbia (BC). If more than one (1) recipient is named from a single program, cash awards are split between recipients.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- The award recipient must be enrolled in one of the accredited dental hygiene diploma programs in BC.
- The recipient must be a graduating dental hygiene student with the highest overall proficiency, as chosen by the program.
- The recipient must be a BCDHA student member.
- The recipient must have signed the BCDHA media release form.

SELECTION PROCESS

- Award recipients are selected based on faculty recommendations.
- Recipient names must be submitted by the DH Program Director to the BCDHA Manager of Practice and Education no later than two weeks before the academic institution award ceremony.

AWARD BENEFITS

- The award consists of a digital certificate and a \$750 cash award.
- The award is available once per year at accredited dental hygiene diploma programs:
 - Camosun College
 - College of New Caledonia
 - Vancouver Island University
 - Vancouver Community College
 - Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene



AWARD DISTRIBUTION AND CEREMONY

- DH Program Director must advise BCDHA of the name of chosen award recipient at least two weeks prior to date of Award presentation and a digital certificate, in the recipient's name, will be sent directly to the DH Program Director for presentation.
- Cash award amounts will be sent directly to the institution's Foundation office in January 2027, and the Foundation will disburse the cash awards to the student on behalf of BCDHA. If the Academic facility does not have a Foundation, the Program Director must pre-arrange with the Manager of Practice and Education for cash awards to be sent by e-transfer directly to the recipient.
- If an academic program has more than one dental hygiene cohort in a given year, the cash award is divided equally among the recipients from each cohort.
- The digital certificate and cash award are to be presented on behalf of BCDHA to the recipient at their respective academic institution award ceremonies. As the donor, a BCDHA representative will endeavor to present awards to students where feasible. Please advise the Manager of Practice and Education of Award ceremony dates at least 4 weeks in advance.
- BCDHA requests a photo of the award presentation, which may be shared in BCDHA member communication, including the website, social media, and newsletters at the end of the academic year. A link to a photo release form will be shared with Program Directors to arrange for recipient signature and an uploaded photo.



BCDHA AWARD OF EXCELLENCE (DEGREE COMPLETION PROGRAM)

AWARD DESCRIPTION

This award is offered annually to one (1) graduating dental hygiene student with the highest overall proficiency in each accredited dental hygiene degree completion program in British Columbia (BC).

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- The award recipient must be enrolled in one of the dental hygiene degree completion programs in BC.
- The recipient must be a graduating dental hygiene student with the highest overall proficiency, as chosen by the program.
- The recipient must be a BCDHA student member.
- The recipient must have signed the BCDHA media release form.

SELECTION PROCESS

- Award recipients are selected based on faculty recommendations.
- Recipient names must be submitted by the DH Program Director to the BCDHA Manager of Practice and Education no later than two weeks before the academic institution award ceremony.

AWARD BENEFITS

- The award consists of a digital certificate and a \$500 cash award.
- The award is available once per year at the following BC dental hygiene degree completion programs:
 - Camosun College
 - University of British Columbia

AWARD DISTRIBUTION AND CEREMONY

- DH Program Director must advise BCDHA of the name of chosen award recipient at least two weeks prior to date of Award presentation and a digital certificate, in the recipient's name, will be sent directly to the DH Program Director for presentation.
- Cash award amounts will be sent directly to the institution's Foundation office in January 2027, and the Foundation will disburse the cash awards to the student on behalf of BCDHA. If the Academic facility does not have a Foundation, the Program Director must



pre-arrange with the Manager of Practice and Education for cash awards to be sent by e-transfer directly to the recipient.

- The digital certificate and cash award are to be presented on behalf of BCDHA to the recipient at their respective academic institution award ceremonies. As the donor, a BCDHA representative will endeavor to present awards to students where feasible. Please advise the Manager of Practice and Education of Award ceremony dates at least 4 weeks in advance.
- BCDHA requests a photo of the award presentation, which may be shared in BCDHA member communication, including the website, social media, and newsletters at the end of the academic year. A link to a photo release form will be shared with Program Directors to arrange for recipient signature and an uploaded photo



BCDHA FIRST-YEAR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD (DIPLOMA PROGRAM)

AWARD DESCRIPTION

- This award is offered annually to one (1) first-year dental hygiene student with the highest overall proficiency in each accredited dental hygiene diploma program in British Columbia (BC).

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- The award recipient must be enrolled in one of the accredited dental hygiene diploma programs in BC.
- The recipient must be finishing the first year of their dental hygiene program with the highest overall proficiency.
- The recipient must be a BCDHA student member.
- The recipient must have signed the BCDHA media release form.

SELECTION PROCESS

- Award recipients are selected based on faculty recommendations.
- Recipient names must be submitted by the DH Program Director to the BCDHA Manager of Practice and Education no later than two weeks before the academic institution awards ceremony.

AWARD BENEFITS

- The award consists of a digital certificate and a \$500 cash award.
- The award is available once per year at the following accredited dental hygiene programs:
 - Camosun College
 - College of New Caledonia
 - Vancouver Island University
 - Vancouver Community College
 - Vancouver College of Dental Hygiene

AWARD DISTRIBUTION AND CEREMONY



- DH Program Director must advise BCDHA of the name of the chosen award recipient at least two weeks prior to the date of the award presentation, and a digital certificate, in the recipient's name, will be sent directly to the DH Program Director for presentation.
- Cash award amounts will be sent directly to the institution's Foundation office in January 2027, and the Foundation will disburse the cash awards to the student on behalf of BCDHA. If the Academic facility does not have a Foundation, the Program Director must pre-arrange with the Manager of Practice and Education for cash awards to be sent by e-transfer directly to the recipient.
- If an academic program has more than one dental hygiene cohort in a given year, the cash award is divided equally among the recipients from each cohort.
- The digital certificate and cash award are to be presented on behalf of BCDHA to the recipient at their respective academic institution's award ceremonies. As the donor, a BCDHA representative will endeavor to present awards to students where feasible. Please advise the Manager of Practice and Education of the Award ceremony dates at least 4 weeks in advance.
- BCDHA requests a photo of the award presentation, which may be shared in BCDHA member communication, including the website, social media, and newsletters at the end of the academic year. A link to a photo release form will be shared with Program Directors to arrange for the recipient's signature and an uploaded photo.



BCDHA JOAN VORIS AWARD (UBC ENTRY-TO-PRACTICE DEGREE)

AWARD DESCRIPTION

- This award is offered annually to one (1) graduating dental hygiene student with the highest overall proficiency in their dental hygiene degree program at the University of British Columbia in British Columbia (BC).

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- The award recipient must be enrolled in the UBC entry-to-practice dental hygiene degree program.
- The recipient must be a graduating dental hygiene student with the highest overall proficiency in their program, as chosen by the program.
- The recipient must be a BCDHA student member.
- The recipient must have signed the BCDHA media release form.

SELECTION PROCESS

- Award recipients are selected based on faculty recommendations.
- Recipient names must be submitted by the DH Program Director to the BCDHA Manager of Practice and Education no later than two weeks before the academic institution award ceremony.

AWARD BENEFITS

- The award consists of a digital certificate and a \$750 cash award.
- The award is available once per year at the following accredited public schools:
 - University of British Columbia

AWARD DISTRIBUTION AND CEREMONY

- DH Program Director must advise BCDHA of the name of the chosen award recipient at least two weeks prior to the date of the award presentation, and a digital certificate, in the recipient's name, will be sent directly to the DH Program Director for presentation.
- Program Director must pre-arrange with the Manager of Practice and Education for cash awards to be sent by e-transfer directly to the award recipient. The recipient will receive an e-transfer within one week of the award ceremony.
- The digital certificate is to be presented on behalf of BCDHA to the recipient at their respective UBC's award ceremony. As the donor, a BCDHA representative will endeavor



to present awards to students where feasible. Please advise the Manager of Practice and Education of the Award ceremony dates at least 4 weeks in advance.

- BCDHA requests a photo of the award presentation, which may be shared in BCDHA member communication, including the website, social media, and newsletters at the end of the academic year. A link to a photo release form will be shared with Program Directors to arrange for the recipient's signature and an uploaded photo.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the faculty members and program directors at BC's DH programs for their support in the selection process.

This guide aims to ensure a transparent and fair process in recognizing the outstanding achievements of dental hygiene students in BC.