

Phyllis Martina, RDH, BS, MBA  
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June 10, 2014

**West Los Angeles College**  
**Dental Hygiene Department**  
9000 Overland Avenue  
Culver City, California 90230  
(310) 287-4464 | [www.wlac.edu/alliedhealth/denta](http://www.wlac.edu/alliedhealth/denta)

**To Whom It May Concern:**

I am writing to support a bachelor degree program at West Los Angeles College. The need for a bachelor degree program for dental hygienists is stronger now than has been in many years. West LACC Dental Hygiene program is the premier program in the area with a long history of providing excellent dental hygienists to the profession. Offering a bachelors program will continue your leadership position.

I have been a clinical hygienist, dental educator and held positions in marketing and sales for major companies supplying dental products for over 35 years. I have also been active in professional dental and education organizations and seen the trends in dental care and the need for changes in dental education.

A bachelor degree is essential for dental hygienists to stay relevant and employed in today's environment. As the Senior Academic Relations Manager at Colgate Oral Pharmaceutical, Inc. I hire only dental hygienists and do not even look at candidates unless they have at least a bachelor degree. I understand to work at West LA a bachelor degree is also the minimum degree required for employment so you understand the value of the degree. The popular press is replete with articles discussing limited access to medical and dental care. To address this issue a separate provider category is under review at the bachelor degree level for this new category.

Your dental hygiene students are already completing enough college credit hours for a bachelor degree but are being denied the degree and the opportunities afforded to those with a degree.

On your web site you say, "West Los Angeles College empowers students to succeed." Success for your dental hygiene students will be measured by their ability to find meaningful employment. A bachelors program will allow your students to continue to find success and fulfillment as a dental hygienist.

Sincerely,



Phyllis Martina, RDH, BS, MBA

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12500 Wilshire Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90025  
Tel: (310) 833-3333  
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West Los Angeles College  
Dental Hygiene Department  
12500 Wilshire Blvd  
Los Angeles, CA 90025  
Tel: (310) 833-3333  
www.westla.edu/education/healthcare

West Los Angeles College

I am writing to apply for a Bachelor degree program at West Los Angeles College. The need for a  
Bachelor degree program for dental hygienists is strong, now there has been a lot of activity in West  
Los Angeles dental hygiene program is the premier program in the area with a long history of providing  
excellent dental hygiene education to the profession. Obtaining a Bachelor's program will continue your  
education.

I have been a clinical dental hygienist, dental educator and held positions in market and sales for major  
dental hygiene supply companies for over 35 years. I have also been active in professional dental  
and education organizations and seen the trends in dental care and the need for changes in dental  
education.

A Bachelor degree is essential for dental hygienists to stay relevant and employed in today's  
environment. As the Senior Academic Relations Manager at College Oral Pharmaceutical, Inc. I hire  
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degree. I understand to work at West LA a Bachelor degree is also the minimum degree required for  
employment so you understand the value of the degree. The popular press is replete with articles  
of dental hygienists who have advanced their education in dental care. To address this issue a separate provider  
of dental hygiene education is needed for the dental profession.

Your dental hygiene students are already completing enough college credit hours for a Bachelor  
degree but are being denied the degree and the opportunities afforded to those with a degree.

On your web site you say "West Los Angeles College empowers students to succeed." Success for  
your dental hygiene students will be measured by their ability to find meaningful employment. A  
Bachelor's program will allow your students to continue to find success and fulfillment as a dental  
hygienist.

Thank you

Dr. [Name]

West Los Angeles College