

HEALTH & EDUCATION

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Delivery: Mostly daytime on campus classes, some classes will be completed online

Start: Fall Semester, Full-Time

AWARDS

Dental Assistant A.A.S. Degree. 60 cr.

Dental Assistant Diploma. 40 cr.

MAJOR DESCRIPTION

This program prepares students for employment in dentistry as a Certified Dental Assistant and a Licensed Dental Assistant. Students are trained to expose and process dental x-ray films, master a variety of chairside skills and expanded functions delegated by the Minnesota State Board of Dentistry. Students also study ways to control and prevent dental disease. Excellent communication skills are required for patient education.

Employment in this field typically requires successful completion of the Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) and Licensed Dental Assistant (LDA) licensing exams.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

Dental assistants provide patient care working under the supervision of a dentist. Potential work settings include dental practices in both general and specialty offices. Work areas are near the patient in the dental chair to permit efficient assistance to the dentist.

POTENTIAL JOB TITLES

- Certified Dental Assistant (CDA)
- Licensed Dental Assistant (LDA)
- Expanded Duty Dental Assistant
- Restorative Dental Assistant

SALARY DATA

See latest data at careerwise.minnstate.edu.

- Average Wage: \$28.25/hour
- Top Earners: \$31.40/hour

ACCREDITATION

The Dental Assistant program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Scan the QR code for more program information and specific program costs; some courses may have additional lab or instructional fees.



DENTAL ASSISTANT

A.A.S DEGREE

This is a suggested sample course sequence.

Please contact your program advisor regarding your academic plans.

First Year - Fall Semester 17 cr

DENT1100	Dental Science	4
DENT1110	Pre-Clinical Dental Assisting	3
DENT1120	Dental Health	2
DENT1135	Chairside Assisting I	4
DENT1145	Dental Materials	4

First Year - Spring Semester 16 cr

DENT1250	Radiology	5
DENT1260	Expanded Functions	5
DENT1275	Chairside Assisting II	4
DENT1280	Dental Practice Management	2

First Year - Summer Session 7 cr

DENT2970	Externship	7
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Second Year - Fall Semester 20 cr

COMS1020	Interpersonal Communication	3
ENGL1150	Composition I	3
PHIL1350	Medical Ethics	3
PSYC1350	Lifespan Development	4
	General Elective (any MnTC area)	3
	General Elective (MnTC Goal 3 or 4)	4

TOTAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS 60

Dental Assistant A.A.S. students are required to obtain a C or higher on all DENT and general education courses.

DENTAL ASSISTANT

DIPLOMA

This is a suggested sample course sequence.

Please contact your program advisor regarding your academic plans.

First Year - Fall Semester 17 cr

DENT1100	Dental Science	4
DENT1110	Pre-Clinical Dental Assisting	3
DENT1120	Dental Health	2
DENT1135	Chairside Assisting I	4
DENT1145	Dental Materials	4

First Year - Spring Semester 16 cr

DENT1250	Radiology	5
DENT1260	Expanded Functions	5
DENT1275	Chairside Assisting II	4
DENT1280	Dental Practice Management	2

First Year - Summer Session 7 cr

DENT2970	Externship	7
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TOTAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS 40

Dental Assistant Diploma students are required to obtain a C or higher on all DENT courses.



DAKOTA COUNTY
TECHNICAL COLLEGE

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DCTC IS AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION, EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER/EDUCATOR.

This information is available in an alternate format by calling 651-423-8469 or TTY/Minnesota Relay at 1-800-627-3529.