

ACADEMIC CERTIFICATE

Dental Assisting

DAS.CT

CODE	COURSE	CREDITS	CODE	COURSE	CREDITS
First Year/Summer Semester			First Year /Spring Semester		
ENG-101	English Composition I	3	DAS-115	Pharmacology	1
DAS-141	Biological Science for the Dental Assistant	1	DAS-125	Preventive Dentistry	3
DAS-143	Infection Control for the Dental Assistant	2	DAS-152	Dental Laboratory Procedures II	2
HPE-181	Basic Life Support "C" AHA	1	DAS-160	Supervised Clinical Experience	6
PSY-101	Basic Psychology	3	DAS-180	Office Administration	2
		10	DAS-190	Oral Pathology	1
First Year /Fall Semester					15
DAS-111	Fundamentals of Chairside Assisting	7	Total Minimum Credits		41
DAS-120	Dental Radiology	4			
DAS-150	Dental Anatomy for Dental Assisting	2			
DAS-151	Dental Laboratory Procedures I	2			
DAS-170	Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office	1			
		16			

NOTICE: Part-Time Evening Alternative ALL courses will be held Monday–Thursday 5:30-8:30 p.m.

NOTICE: Clinical placements are a required part of the curriculum and a requirement for graduation. Clinical placements may require a criminal background check, health clearance and/or drug testing before participation is allowed. Clinical sites may deny a student's participation in the event of a positive finding. Individuals who have been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor may be denied certification or licensure as a health professional. Information regarding eligibility may be obtained from the appropriate credentialing body.

NOTICE: Student must have adequate transportation for the clinical placement requirement.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A dental assistant works at chairside while the dentist examines and treats patients. The dental assistant makes the patient comfortable in the chair, prepares the patient for treatment, obtains dental records, prepares impression and restorative materials, exposes and processes dental radiographs, and hands the dentist the proper instruments and materials. The assistant also sterilizes and disinfects instruments, prepares dental tray setups, and instructs the patient in postoperative and general oral health care.

PART-TIME OPTION FOR DENTAL ASSISTING (DA) PROGRAM:

This program can be taken on a full time or part-time basis. Classes in the full time program are offered during the day. The part-time program is offered in the evening. Please note that Supervised Clinical Experience in the affiliate offices is offered only during the day in the last semester for both programs.

For more information, email Roxane Terranova, the program coordinator at rterranova@camdenc.edu.

PROGRAM GOALS

- To provide a college-level dental assisting education that will prepare the student to function effectively as a dental assistant in various settings.
- To maintain a dynamic dental assisting education that recognizes the complexity of a scientific and technologically oriented society.
- To provide students with the skills and knowledge necessary to attain certification, registration and licensure mandated for dental assistants.
- To provide students with General Education courses.

PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the program, the graduate will be able to:

1. Perform the clinical tasks and responsibilities of a registered dental assistant under direct supervision of a dentist.
2. Provide patient education.
3. Apply technology in order to find information, take intraoral photographs, take digital radiographs and manage patient and business records.
4. Integrate and apply basic science, dental science and dental assisting knowledge and skills.
5. Explain and apply basic concepts of dental ethics and jurisprudence.

SPECIAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Interview with the program coordinator
- Physical exam, various immunizations, drug screening verification must be current and will be required prior to beginning of class.
- Admission on a first-qualified, first-admitted basis
- Proof of high school diploma
- Completion of high school laboratory biology or chemistry with a grade "C" or better (equivalent courses may be taken at CCC).
- Application to the DA program
- Minimum 2.5 GPA
- Must maintain grade "C" or better in all DA coursework.
- Placement at the College level English and math courses based on Accuplacer.
- Students will perform two full-mouth series on patients to pre-clinical proficiency. Although some patients may be provided by the College, the student may need, identify and schedule patients who have a clinical need for dental radiographic imaging.

*The department has an extensive exposure control/infectious disease policy, which is available upon request.

ACCREDITATION

The program in Dental Assisting is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation and by the United States Department of Education.

The Commission on Dental Accreditation can be contacted at (312) 440-2719 or at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611.

The Dental Assisting radiology course is accredited by the New Jersey Radiologic Technology Board of Examiners.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Chairside assistant or business administrator in general and specialty practices
- Chairside assistant or business administrator in hospital and institutional settings
- Dental assisting education
- Positions dealing with dental insurance, dental laboratories, dental suppliers and dental placement agencies

CONTACT PERSON

Professor Roxane Terranova, Coordinator
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email: rterranova@camdenc.edu

Highlights

Students who have completed the Dental Assisting certificate program are eligible to continue their studies at the College and earn an Associate in Applied Science degree. The student earns 41 credits for the dental assisting certificate program and with additional credits, the student is eligible for the Associate in Applied Science degree.