



# DENTAL ASSISTING PROGRAM

**Diploma in Applied Science with a major  
in Expanded Duty Dental Assisting**

## Program Description

The Expanded Duty Dental Assisting program is a Diploma program that is three semesters in length and is comprised of didactic, clinical, and laboratory courses offered at the Health Science Campus. In addition to on-site clinical experiences, dental assisting students will have the opportunity to gain meaningful experiences through off-site clinical rotations. Dental assisting students will be able to study and practice all expanded duties that they will be certified to perform, including assisting the dentist with restorative procedures, teaching oral hygiene instruction, taking impressions of teeth, polishing structures above the gum-line, taking radiographs (x-rays), placing preventive sealants to the pits and grooves of teeth, and monitoring of nitrous oxide.

## Career Description

Dental Assistants perform a variety of duties including those related to patient care, as well as many office and laboratory responsibilities. During patient care they work chairside assisting dentists as they examine and treat patients. Dental Assistants must be reliable, have good manual dexterity, and be able to communicate and work effectively with patients and other members of the dental office staff. Dental Assistants are employed, almost exclusively, in private dental offices. Some employment opportunities are available in public and government facilities. Nationally, the starting salary for a Certified Dental Assistant is approximately \$42,850 plus available benefits. As the population grows and as dentist's workloads increase, there is an increasing need for more trained Dental Assistants.



## Entry requirements and other program information

- ▶ High school diploma or GED
- ▶ Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0
- ▶ You must have taken BIO 112 and ENG 155 with a "C" or better
- ▶ College: None
- ▶ Medical examination
- ▶ CPR, background check, and drug screen
- ▶ Hepatitis B Immunization or Titer, MMR Immunization or Titer, Chicken Pox Vaccination or Titer, Two-Step PPD/Chest X-Ray

## Dental Hygiene Curriculum

			LECTURE	LAB
<b>PRE-REQS</b>	BIO 112	Basic Anatomy & Physiology	3	3
	ENG 155	Communications I	3	-
<b>1<sup>ST</sup> SEMESTER FALL</b>	DAT 113	Dental Materials	3	3
	DAT 115	Ethics & Professionalism	1	-
	DAT 118	Dental Morphology	2	-
	DAT 123	Oral Medicine/Oral Biology	3	-
	DAT 154	Clinical Procedures I	2	6
<b>2<sup>ND</sup> SEMESTER SPRING</b>	DAT 121	Dental Health Education	2	-
	DAT 122	Dental Office Management	2	-
	DAT 127	Dental Radiography	3	3
	DAT 164	Clinical Procedures II	1	9
	PSY 103	Human Relations	3	-
<b>3<sup>RD</sup> SEMESTER SUMMER</b>	DAT 124	Expanded Functions/Specialities	-	3
	DAT 177	Dental Office Experience	-	21
	MAT 155	Contemporary Mathematics	3	-

Upon completion you will have achieved a Diploma in Applied Science with a major in Expanded Duty Dental Assisting - **47 credit hours**