



Admissions Packet and Handbook For Dental Assisting STC. Program

To be considered for the next DAS program, you must complete the DAS application and provide medical documentation with your completed application on or after **June 30th**, and no later than **September 1st of the year prior to entering the program. Please Note: There is no wait list. If you do not get in the year you are applying for, you will have to reapply the following year.**

Dear Prospective Dental Assisting Applicant

Thank you for inquiring about Sinclair Community College's Dental Assisting Program. This packet represents the most up to date information in print. Please note that it is subject to change as needed to maintain a high-quality program. Currently, a class of 20 is enrolled each year beginning in the spring semester. Online classes will begin every January with your first face to face class meeting on Thursday in January through May, Room 14-142 from 2:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Spring Semester, and Tuesdays and Thursdays, May through August from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Summer Semester.

The Dental Assisting Program is a limited enrollment program; therefore, students must apply and be enrolled in the college as well as submit the Dental Assisting Application to the Dental Health Sciences Department. The Dental Assisting Application deadline is September 1st. The medical documentation is due with the application no earlier than June 30th. Students become "eligible" when they meet specific admission criteria **including** submission of all medical documentation. Once students successfully complete the process, they are accepted on a first-come, first-placed basis. You will be notified by mail or email if you make one of the 20 slots and be informed of a mandatory orientation that will be held in the evening of **the first or second Wednesday of December**. If you do not make one of the slots, you will have to reapply for the next year and resubmit all documentation.

"Important information about the educational debt, earnings, and completion rates of students who attended this program": Here is a link to Sinclair's Gainful Employment Disclosure website for use in this regard: <https://www.sinclair.edu/about/consumer-info/ge-disclosure/>

All students considering the Dental Assisting Program must meet the following requirements:


1. **Apply to Sinclair Community College** (if new to the college)
<http://www.sinclair.edu/explore/bestroad/new.html>
2. **High School Diploma or GED**
 - The college may also ask for High School Transcript, ACT, SAT or Compass scores.
3. **Take the ACCUPLACER Placement Test** (If Applicable)
 - ****NOTE****: *College-level ACT, SAT or Compass score within the last two years may also be used for placement. See FAQ page for details.*
 - *If you have transfer credit from another institution, have your official transcript(s) sent directly to: Registration & Student Records, Sinclair Community College, 444 W. Third Street, Dayton, Ohio 45402-1460.*

- 4. Make an Academic Advising Appointment to develop your My Academic Plan (MAP)**
- If you have never taken a credit course at Sinclair Community College, make an appointment with an Academic Advisor at (937)512-3700.
 - If you are a current student at the College, make an appointment with the Academic Advisor. For more information call (937)512-3700.
 - For those who have Disability Services questions, call (937)512-5113.
- 5. URGENT: Go online and take the Sinclair Community College Distance Learning course. You must take this prior to being accepted into the program. Refer to this link: (<https://www.sinclair.edu/locations/online/hts/>)**
- 6. Have an overall 2.0 GPA; Acceptable forms are from Sinclair Community College, High School GPA, and approved transfer from another school. Please contact an Academic Advisor at (937) 512-3700, fax to (937) 512-3840, or send via email to <https://apps.sinclair.edu/liquidfiles/dentalsciences.cfm> . You can also send via postal mail to:**

**Sinclair Community College
ATTN: Deborah Taylor, Admin. Asst. I
444 West Third Street, Room 14000B
Dayton, OH 45402**

We look forward to your continued interest in Sinclair Community College's Dental Assisting Program.

Sincerely,



Bonita J. Kipling, D.D.S./Chair/Prof
Dental Health Sciences

EXAMINATIONS AND IMMUNIZATION

To qualify for Dental Assisting Program (DAS) enrollment/restricted courses, you will be required to have the following Examinations and Immunizations:

EXAMINATIONS:

ALL OF THESE RECORDS MUST BE TURNED IN WITH YOUR APPLICATION BEFORE YOU WILL BE ACCEPTED INTO THE PROGRAM. ONLY ORIGINAL LAB REPORTS ACCEPTED.

General physical examination by your medical doctor. Must be completed within the year preceding your first day of starting DAS courses.

IMMUNIZATIONS (Read requirements carefully):

YOU CANNOT SUBMIT HEP B RECORDS OLDER THAN 10 YEARS!

Hepatitis B: Requires 2-Shot or 3-Shot Series Vaccination or positive antibody titer (Anti-HBs): The first injection must be prior to your application date. The second injection is due 30 days after the first injection and the third is due five months after the second injection was completed. If you had the three-injection series, please send proof. If the injection was 10 years ago or more, you will need to have an antibody titer (Anti-HBs) completed. If any injections were significantly beyond the specified time frame, a titer is also recommended. If a titer is negative or the student waives the titer recommendation, you must provide evidence of physician counseling. **LAB REPORT REQUIRED.**

Measles-Mumps-Rubella (MMR): 2-shot vaccination or positive antibody titers. **LAB REPORT REQUIRED.**

Varicella (chicken pox): proven history of disease, positive antibody titer, or 2-shot vaccination is required. **LAB REPORT REQUIRED.**

TB Skin Test: 1-step PPD, QuantiFERON, or T-spot completed within twelve months prior to starting DAS limited- enrollment courses. A positive reaction requires a chest x-ray with documentation of physician evaluation. **LAB REPORT REQUIRED.**

Tetanus (Tdap): within the past 10 years

CPR/BLS CARD: ONLY HEALTHCARE FOR PROVIDERS ACCEPTED.

- CPR course resources are listed below (CANNOT BE ONLINE COURSES):
- American Heart Certification (BLS Healthcare Provider) <https://cpr.heart.org/en/> or (1-877-AHA-4CPR)
- For Your Health (Healthcare Provider CPR): <http://cprforyourhealth.com/> (937-898-7660)
- American Red Cross (Professionals Rescuers and Health Care Providers) <http://www.redcross.org/ux/take-a-class>

SINCLAIR ALSO OFFERS BLS COURSE ALH-1130

NOTE: All exam/immunization information and web site for submission will be included with your notification of cohort eligibility to start limited-enrollment courses. Please note the time restrictions on the examinations and immunizations. If they are done too early, you will be required to repeat.

Dental Health Sciences

Dental Assisting Program STC. (Short term Certificate)

Faculty

The Dental Assisting Program faculty is comprised of highly skilled professionals all devoted to student success. The faculty not only brings expertise from the field to the classroom and clinic, but real-world experience, making the learning environment a balance of hands-on academic education. In the preclinical and clinical setting, there is a low faculty-to- student ratio.

Administration:

Bonita J. Kipling, DDS
Chairperson/ Dental Health Sciences
Email: bonita.kipling@sinclair.edu

Chelsea Taylor, RDH, MS (EFDA, DAS)
Dental Assisting Program Coordinator/ Lead Instructor
Email: chelsea.taylor1@sinclair.edu

Jessica Hatfield, CDA, EFDA (EFDA, DAS)
Dental Assisting/ Assistant Lab Instructor
Email: jessica.hatfield1711@sinclair.edu

(Adjunct faculty will assist the lead instructor in labs.)

Deborah J. Taylor, Administrative Assistant 1/Dental Health Sciences
Phone: 937 512-2779 (leave a message for any tardiness or
absences OR as instructed by your instructor)
Email: deborah.taylor1@sinclair.edu

HEALTH SCIENCES DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF DENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES
Dental Assisting STC

Progression Criteria

Required Curriculum Sequence

Dental Assisting courses must be taken in a designated sequence of the curriculum plan. All required non-dental assisting courses can be taken prior to or during the dental assisting specific curriculum plan.

TECHNICAL COURSE NUMBER	COURSE TITLE	CREDITS	PRE- & CO-REQUISITES	
Spring Semester				
ALH 1130	Basic Life Support Training	1		On Campus
COM 2206	Interpersonal Communication	3	ACCUPLACER, ACT, SAT. Compass, DEVs	On Campus or Online
DAS 1102	Introduction to Dental Assisting Terminology	1		Online
DAS 1104	Dental Assisting Techniques & Materials I	4		Online
DAS 1105	Lab for Dental Assisting Techniques & Materials I	0	DAS 1104 Co-Req.	On Campus
Summer Semester				
DAS 1204	Dental Assisting Techniques & Materials II	4		Online
DAS 1205	Lab for Dental Assisting Techniques & Materials II	0	DAS 1204 Co-Req.	On Campus
DAS 1108	Dental Assisting Office Management	2		Online
DAS 1206	Dental Assisting Radiography	2		Online
DAS 1207	Lab for Dental Assisting Radiography	0	DAS 1206 Co-Req.	On Campus
	Total	17		

You must present your CPR card to your Academic Advisor to get credit for the course to receive certification. You will NOT graduate from this course without either taking and passing ALH 1130 or providing current proof of an approved BLS / Health Care Provider card to your Academic Advisor.

ALH 1130	Basic Life Support Training	The American Heart Association (AHA) Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers is designed to train participants to save lives of victims in cardiac arrest through high-quality cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). This course prepares healthcare professionals to know how to perform CPR in both in- and out-of-hospital settings. The course includes adult, child, and infant rescue techniques, as well as first aid. Those who successfully complete the course will receive an AHA First Aid Provider Card and AHA BLS Provider card, valid for two years.	
COM 2206	Interpersonal Communication	Exploration of the development, maintenance and termination of interpersonal relationships. The focus is on effective verbal and nonverbal interactions between two people, highlighting methods of initiating and maintaining effective communication with, and understanding of, others through learning and applying interpersonal communication theory.	
DAS 1102	Introduction to Dental Assisting Terminology	Orientation to terms related specifically to the science of dentistry. Includes dental terminology application along with definitions and relationships of words to other similar dental terms, the use of root words, prefixes and suffixes related to dentistry. Introduction to the profession of dental assisting and the ethics, laws and rules.	
DAS 1104	Dental Assisting Techniques & Materials I	Principles of dental assisting skills with emphasis on exposure control, dental instrument differentiation, patient anatomy, collecting data and basic dental laboratory procedures. Two classroom, six lab hours per week.	Co-requisite: DAS 1105
DAS 1105	Lab Dental Assisting Techniques & Materials I	Laboratory experiences for DAS 1104.	Co-requisite: DAS 1104
DAS 1108	Dental Assisting Office Management	This course will introduce the learner to business operating systems in a dental office. Includes procedure manuals, HIPPA, record keeping, accounts receivable, inventory and scheduling.	
DAS 1204	Dental Assisting Techniques & Materials II	Principles of dental assisting skills with emphasis on dental procedure instrument differentiation. Basic dental laboratory materials and equipment utilization. Two classroom, six lab hours per week.	Co-requisite: DAS 1205
DAS 1205	Lab Dental Assisting Techniques & Materials II	Laboratory experiences for DAS 1204.	Co-requisite: DAS 1204
DAS 1206	Dental Assisting Radiography	The learner will be introduced to Dental Radiography for the Dental Assistant. The course will prepare the learner for the state license examination for exposing radiographs in a dental office setting. Includes properties of x-rays, the dental x-ray machine, radiation effects, radiation safety, digital imaging, dental films, and the processing of radiographs. One classroom, two lab hours per week.	Co-requisite: DAS 1207
DAS 1207	Lab Dental Assisting Radiography	Scientific principles of radiation, radiographic production and patient management in dental practice.	Co-requisite: DAS 1206

Sinclair Community College

General Learning Outcomes

Purpose Statement

Our general education philosophy is embedded in our vision and mission and is supported by our core values. These core values serve to emphasize our commitment to our students, to learning, to shared responsibility, and to the continuous improvement of the education we offer. We work collaboratively to create a campus which is academically challenging and emotionally supportive.

1. **Oral Communication: The creation of common understanding through the use of verbal and nonverbal messages in a variety of contexts.**
 - Compose and organize oral communication messages appropriately.
 - Use effective verbal and non-verbal skills to deliver appropriate messages effectively.
 - Communicate in ways that recognize diverse opinions, cultural differences, and individual differences as well as reinforce conflict management.
 - Demonstrate the use of effective listening behaviors.

2. **Written Communication: The creation of understanding through composition and synthesis of the written word.**
 - Select a topic that is clear, manageable, flows logically, and has sufficient supporting examples.
 - Prepare written material whose message is shaped to appeal to appropriate audiences and situations.
 - Prepare written material that applies the correct structures of composition.
 - Appropriately and effectively incorporate another writer's material.

3. **Information Literacy: The ability to effectively locate, evaluate, and use information.**
 - Pose valid research or discovery questions based on need and formulate thesis idea and purpose connected to research.
 - Organize and integrate information and use information ethically.
 - Select sources to support an idea that are appropriate, credible, and relevant to the idea being presented.

4. **Critical Thinking: The application of higher order, analytical and creative cognitive processes.**
 - Identify and fully define a problem and its various constituents.
 - Through the use of charts, graphs, diagrams, sketches, etc. clearly represent the problem audibly or visually.
 - Approach the problem in different and appropriate ways.
 - Develop a solution to a problem.
 - Interpret, assess and evaluate the solution to a problem.

5. **Computer Literacy: The ethical and appropriate use of computers, terminology, computer hardware, and computer software to complete tasks appropriate for the degree field at a level considered satisfactory to industry standards.**
- Use a computer and its hardware to complete tasks appropriate for the degree field at a level considered satisfactory by industry standards.
 - Use a computer and its software to complete tasks appropriate for the degree field at a level considered satisfactory by industry standards.
 - Exhibit knowledge of ethical behavior in the use of a computer, computer hardware and computer software.
6. **Cultural Diversity & Global Citizenship: Apply knowledge of cultural diversity to real world context by acknowledging, understanding, and engaging constructively within the contemporary world.**
- Cultural Diversity Self-Awareness (Introduce)
 - Describe one's own cultural values, attitudes, beliefs, and ethics.
 - Demonstrate awareness of one's preconceived notions about others.
 - Acknowledge how others view one's own culture.
 - Recognize personal and social responsibility to community.
 - Demonstrate knowledge of the dimensions of diversity within college, local, regional, and global communities.
 - Recognize distinctive patterns of thought and behavior that contribute to the formation of a worldview different from one's own.
 - Cultural Diversity in Context (Refine)
 - Explain the impact of culture within disciplines.
 - Examine the values, beliefs, and ethics of others.
 - Recognize the changing dimensions of diversity that influence cultural development.
 - Recognize the role of language use in creating positive personal and discipline-specific interactions.
 - Applications of Cultural Diversity (Master)
 - Participate in diverse communities as an informed, committed and productive individual.
 - Demonstrate the ability to respect and empathize with divergent worldviews.
 - Engage in ethical personal and professional interactions.
 - Engage constructively and positively with cultural differences and conflicts.

DENTAL ASSISTING PROGRAM PURPOSE AND PHILOSOPHY

Dental Assisting Program Purpose

The Dental Assisting Program is designed to prepare students to provide basic, adjunctive and supportive dental services alongside licensed dental professionals. The program prepares its graduates to become eligible for the certificate in dental assisting through the Commission on Ohio Dental Assistants. In addition, upon successful completion of the dental assisting radiology course, students can apply for the dental assistant radiographer certificate. The program provides an environment for learning the knowledge, skills and behaviors necessary for professional practice.

Dental Assisting Program Philosophy

The Dental Assisting Program will prepare students to demonstrate knowledge and clinical skills essential for the delivery of supportive dental services. Graduates will understand the role of the dental assistant as well as that of all other members of the dental health team and will be prepared to adapt to the changing demands of the oral healthcare profession.

The Program at Sinclair Community College seeks to develop dental assistants who view their profession with confidence and pride; those who understand its territory and scope of practice and are able to influence the factors that affect the advancement of the profession.

Dental Assisting Programs Goals

1. Perform clinical assisting functions in accordance with the State Dental Practice Act.
2. Assess, plan, implement, and evaluate an oral health program within the community.
3. Seek opportunities for continuing personal professional development.

Dental Assisting Program Outcomes

1. Demonstrate the ability to effectively communicate with patients, healthcare providers and the public regarding the significance of dental care and overall health.
2. Demonstrate professionalism in all aspects of dental assisting care, including the ability to make ethical decisions and apply critical thinking skills.
3. Demonstrate competence in the provision of contemporary dental assisting services.

PROGRAM PLANNING AND SEQUENCE

Dental Assisting Short Term Certificate (STC.)

Sinclair Community College dental assisting enhancement program consists of 10 courses/labs for the short-term certificate. The certificate will be earned within two semesters of academic coursework and hands-on learning experiences in the classroom, laboratory, and clinic. It is a **hybrid program**. A hybrid program merges the face-to-face interactions of traditional courses with the flexibility of online courses. Your lab courses DAS 1105, 1205, and 1207 will meet via traditional face to face contact. ALH 1130 will also meet in a traditional format. Com 2206 can be met either via a traditional format or online. DAS 1102, 1104, 1108 and 1206 required course content and activities will be accessed online via a computer with an Internet connection using Sinclair's eLearn course management system which could include:

- Syllabus
- Announcements
- Resources and Web-links
- Lecture Notes & Handouts
- Course calendar
- Course email
- Discussion forums
- Assignments
- Assessments
- Virtual Office Hours
- Various Multimedia Contents

Admissions Criteria

Enrollment in the program is limited. Admission is offered to eligible applicants on a space-available basis. The dental assisting program requires a separate application; admission to Sinclair Community College does not automatically mean acceptance onto the dental assisting program.

Applicants who have completed the enrollment process at Sinclair must also accomplish the following requirements for admission into the DA program:

- Have a 2.0 GPA (if needed, high school g.p.a. accepted within 5 years of graduation) and
- Submit a Dental Assisting Application to the Dental Health Sciences Department located in this packet.

Dental Assisting Application

Unless all health and program requirements are completed by admission into the program, the applicant forfeits his/her position in the dental assisting program. Failure to meet or maintain health and program requirements by the designated deadline could affect a student's progression in a dental assisting course. Each student is responsible for the cost of his/her own health requirements expenses.

The following Health and Program requirements are listed:

1. Physical examination
2. Immunity to the following, demonstration by titer/screen: Rubella, Rubeola, Mumps, Chickenpox
3. Tdap (Tetanus/Diphtheria/Pertussis) – One Step acceptable
4. Mantoux (PPD) for Tuberculosis (TB)
5. ****Hepatitis B Immunization Series and Titer (with Ratio)/Declination (**this series must be started before entering the program but you can complete the series during the program).**

Estimated Expenses for Dental Assisting Certificate Excluding Tuition

Text books	\$200.00
Physical Exam with immunizations	Consult your physician's office
Scrubs/Lab jackets	\$100.00
Shoes	\$ 50-100.00
State Radiographer's Certification	
State CDA Certification Exam	\$ 25.00
Lab Kit includes goggles, typodont, name tag, and miscellaneous other materials.	\$365.00

Continuation and Promotion

In order to continue in the dental assisting program, a student must achieve a grade of 'C' or better in ALL dental assisting courses. If a student earns a grade below a 'C' they can be reinstated into the dental assisting program on a space available basis the next year when the course is offered. Students will need to apply for reinstatement.

In addition, students must meet all criteria required for successful course completion outlined in each dental assisting course syllabus – as first semester dental assisting courses is a prerequisite for second semester courses.

Course Content

The lead instructor of a particular course reserves the right to modify the class content and requirements as deemed necessary for effective teaching of the class. Adjustments may be made in content covered, date of coverage, order of coverage, date of exams, assignments, and the amount of work assigned.

Specific requirements for each course will be provided in the syllabi at the onset of each course. These standards may differ slightly from this handbook but should conflict with specific departmental policies.

You can apply the credits earned from the Dental Assisting STC. Program towards an Associate's degree in Health Sciences. This is optional. Below is a brief description of the Health Science's Associate degree and a link towards the course work.

Optional: Health Sciences - Associate of Applied Science

The associate of applied science degree in Health Sciences provides students with a general degree in the health science field. Students with technical certificates or college credits in allied health courses can apply their credits toward the AAS. Graduates will be able to enter a health-related field, or continue their education toward a Bachelor's of Science degree at a four-year university.

See the link below for more information.

<http://www.sinclair.edu/program/params/programCode/HS-S-AAS/>

This Dental Assisting Handbook is designed to assist you in learning and understanding the mission, philosophy, and goal of the program in which you have enrolled. The policies and procedures that will affect your retention, progression and graduation from the program are described. The Handbook also services to be a resource of information and guide to support you and help you successfully navigate the program.

You are expected to read this information and to comply with the policies and procedures of the program and department. For the most current College Policies and Procedures please visit [Student Judicial Affairs Code of Conduct Handbook \(PDF\)](#). These policies complement this Handbook and contain policies and procedures related to your enrollment as a Sinclair Community College dental assisting student within the Department of Health Sciences. In specific situations, dental assisting program policies and procedures supersede College policies and procedures; these situations will be identified.

Dental Assisting Handbook

AMERICAN DENTAL ASSISTANTS' ASSOCIATION (ADAA) POLICY ON PRINCIPLES OF ETHICS AND CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

FOREWORD:

As an organization charged with representing a part of the profession involved in the practice of dentistry, the American Dental Assistants Association has delineated the Principles of Ethics and the Code of Professional Conduct for members, officers and trustees. The Principles of Ethics are general goals to which each member should aspire and are not intended to be enforceable as rules of conduct for dental assistants. The Code of Professional Conduct is intended for use as a guide for the evaluation of elected officials and members.

AMERICAN DENTAL ASSISTANTS ASSOCIATION PRINCIPLES OF ETHICS

Each individual involved in the practice of dentistry assumes the obligation of maintaining and enriching the profession. Each member may choose to meet this obligation according to the dictates of personal conscience based on the needs of the human beings the profession of dentistry is committed to serve. The spirit of the Golden Rule is the basic guiding principle of this concept. The member must strive to at all times maintain confidentiality, and exhibit respect for the dentist/employer. The member shall refrain from performing any professional service which is prohibited by state law and have the obligation to prove competence prior to providing services to any patient. The member shall constantly strive to upgrade and expand technical skills for the benefit of the employer and the consumer public. The member should additionally seek to sustain and improve the Local Organization, State Associate, and the American Dental Assistants Association by active participation and personal commitment,

CODE OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

As a member of the American Assistants Association, I pledge to:

- Abide by the Bylaws of the Association;
- Maintain loyalty to the Association;
- Pursue the objectives of Association;
- Hold in confidence the information entrusted to me by the Association;
- Serve all members of the Association in an impartial manner;

- Recognize and follow all laws and regulations relating to activities of the Association;
- Maintain respect for the members and the employees of the Association;
- Exercise and insist on sound business principles in the conduct of the affairs of the association;
- Use legal and ethical means to influence legislation or regulation affecting members of the Association;
- Issue no false or misleading statements to fellow members or to the public;
- Refrain from disseminating malicious information concerning the Association or any member or employee of the American Dental Assistants Association;
- Maintain high standards of personal conduct and integrity;
- To not imply Association endorsement of personal opinions or positions;
- Cooperate in a reasonable and proper manner with staff and members;
- Accept no personal compensation from fellow members, except as approved by the Association;
- Promote and maintain the highest standards of performance in service to the Association;
- Assure public confidence in integrity and service of the Association.

The Dental Assistants Creed

To be loyal to my employer, my calling and myself.

To develop initiative – having the courage to assume responsibility and the imagination to create ideas and develop them.

To be prepared to visualize, take advantage of, and fulfill the opportunities of my calling.

To be a co-worker – creating a spirit of cooperation and friendliness rather than one of fault-finding criticism.

To be enthusiastic – for therein lies the easiest way to accomplishment.

To be generous, not alone of my name but of my praise and my time.

To be tolerant with my associates, for at times I too make mistakes.

To be friendly, realizing that friendship bestows and receives happiness.

To be respectful of the other person's viewpoint and condition.

To be systematic, believing that system makes for efficiency.

To know the value of time for both my employer and myself.

To safeguard my health, for good health is necessary for the achievement of a successful career.

To be tactful – always doing the right thing at the right time.

To be courteous – for this is the badge of good breeding.

To walk on the sunny side of the street, seeing the beautiful things in life rather than fearing the shadows.

To keep smiling always.

Juliette A. Southard

ADAA American Dental Assistants Association

The Dental Assistants Pledge

I solemnly pledge that,
In the practice of my profession, I will always be
Loyal to the welfare of the patients who come
Under my care, and to the interest of the
Practitioner whom I serve.

I will be just and generous to the members
Of my profession, aiding them and lending them
Encouragement to be loyal, to be just, and to
Be studious.

I hereby pledge to devote my best energies to
The service of humanity in that relationship of
Life to which I consecrated myself when I
Elected to become a Dental Assistant.

Dr. C.N. Johnson

ADAA American Dental Assistants Association

Dental Assisting Program Expectations

Dental assisting is quickly growing and is rewarding in a number of different ways. The dental assisting program prepares students for professional careers within the dental office or clinic setting. Becoming a dental assistant requires preparation for an array of different duties and responsibility which you are sure to encounter. Our goal is to educate and instruct you for entry into the respected dental profession.

Before you initiate this journey into this program and exciting field, it is of course important to get a good sense of what you can expect from the program and your instructors. Student experiences will include close physical contact and touch with other students and faculty. This will occur under the supervision of faculty to promote learning of dental assisting skills. All activities will require participation from each student.

Other critical requirements of the program include but are not limited to:

Professionalism, Ethics and Conduct:

- Present yourself with the highest degree of professionalism and integrity
- Show respect for all people
- Accept responsibility for actions and behaviors
- Conduct must adhere to **all** of the guidelines set forth in your class syllabus

Skills of Observation:

- Participation, practice and demonstrate competency in all skills learned is mandatory for success in this program

Cognitive Functioning:

- Demonstrate the willingness to formulate questions and answers
- Show the ability to problem solve and critical think independently
- Show the ability to create new ideas independently
- Show the willingness and ability to follow directions and requests
- Expand and incorporate new skills learned

Communication:

- Conduct appropriate and effective written, oral and non-verbal communications
- Be mindful of all individuals cultural and economic differences
- Display the ability to receive and appropriately respond to constructive criticism

Time Management:

- Establish effective time management to allow dedication to course load, this in turn will reduce stress level.

Reasonable accommodations can be made for any student that has a documented condition, as long as it does not impede the learning environment to the program, faculty, or other students. It is the responsibility of the student to request accommodations as early as possible. Students who need assistance must notify Disability Services. If an accommodation plan can be established, the student must contact the Dental Assisting Coordinator and Instructor to discuss the plan.

Any change in your personal health that may cause extended absenteeism must be reported in writing to the Program Coordinator.

I have read and understand the Dental Assisting Program Expectations, I agree to conduct myself in a professional manner at all times.

DENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONS POLICIES

DENTAL DEPARTMENT PROFESSIONAL GUIDELINES

Students who engage in or exhibit inappropriate behavior (including disruptive, unethical and/or illegal) unsafe dental practices, excessive inconvenience to the patient, lack of measurable progress (see definitions below) and/or any violation of the SCC College Policies as outlined in the Student Handbook and Planner will be removed from the classroom, lab or clinical site (campus or external) immediately.

A. Inappropriate Behavior

The following are types of inappropriate behavior but are not to be considered inclusive.

1. Any form of violence.
2. Abusive or offensive language or gestures
3. Throwing or slamming articles.
4. Shouting at instructors, patients, staff member or peers.
5. Challenging instructor decisions in a confrontation manner in front of patient.
6. Gross neglect of personal hygiene (Refer to the Dental Program Clinic Dress and Appearance Policy)
7. Other behaviors as described in college policies/procedures documents.

B. Unsafe Dental Practice

The following are types of unsafe practices but are not to be considered inclusive.

1. Gross violation of infections control practices
2. Gross deficiencies in clinical skill with the potential to harm a student partner.
3. Gross neglect of medical/legal record keeping practices.
4. Lack of awareness of the major steps in emergency protocol.
5. Non continuance of CPR certification.

C. Lack of Measurable Progress

The following would suggest a lack of measurable progress but are not to be considered inclusive:

1. Lack of a noticeable improvement after remediation activities, course repeats, etc.
2. Lack of obvious progress toward resolving deficiencies in requirements and/or achievements of minimal competency levels in a reasonable time frame.

DENTAL DEPARTMENT CLINIC DRESS AND APPEARANCE POLICY

Students must present with a professional appearance at all times. Students are expected to adhere to the following dress and appearance when participating in a lab experiences. If the following guidelines are not met, students may be asked to leave until they remedy the situation. Continued occurrences may result in more severe consequences including dismissal from the program.

The policy for student dress and appearance is as follows:

- 1) Student must appear neat, clean, and professional at all times.
- 2) Personal hygiene must be impeccable.
- 3) Oral hygiene must be impeccable. Dental needs should be addressed.
- 4) If tobacco is used, all evidence must be absent from the person, clothing, and belongings.
- 5) Gum chewing is not permitted. If student is in an active tobacco cessation program, he/she may be permitted to use nicotine replacement products such as lozenges and/or gum, by request in advance.
- 6) Hair must be clean, neat, and worn short or confined away from the face. Hair must be of a naturally occurring color. Hair holders must be of a material that can be disinfected. Cloth type hair holder must be washable and clean.
- 7) Perfume and cologne should not be used.
- 8) If used, cosmetics must be conservative in amount and color.
- 9) Fingernails must be clean and short. Only clear or neutral color nail polish is allowable. Only natural nails are allowed. Acrylic finishes are not permitted.
- 10) Jewelry shall not be worn on hands or arms during patient treatment. If necklaces are worn, they must be placed inside the lab coat. A wristwatch may be worn. A smooth band and face design is recommended. Rings should not be worn. Earrings must be small, of inconspicuous design and are limited to only one per ear.
- 11) With the exception of a small single earring, visible body piercing (including tongue, lip, brown, neck, etc.) are not permitted.
- 12) Tattoos or body art should not be visible and must be concealed and/or covered.
- 13) Clean, black, low-heeled rubber-soled shoes without colored stripes or ornamentation must be worn. These can be professional clinic shoes or athletic shoes that meet specification.
- 14) Plain white/black socks must be worn when in uniform (scrubs). Socks should be long enough so that skin does not show when sitting down. Shoelaces should be white with no ornamentation.
- 15) Undergarments must be concealed by clinic attire in standing, seating or bending positions.
- 16) Properly fitting, appropriately sized uniforms (scrubs) as selected by the program must be worn. All clothing must be clean, reasonably stain free, and wrinkle free.
- 17) Personal protective equipment must be worn per program guideline.
- 18) Students not participating in a clinical session may be present in the clinic but must dress professionally.

DENTAL DEPARTMENT INCOMPLETE GRADE POLICY

Students may be given an "I" if their work has not been completed. The students must contact their instructor and request an "I" grade. If the instructor agrees, the students and instructor must sign the "Incomplete Grade Contract." When the required work is completed within 30 calendar days after the beginning of the next term, a grade will be submitted for the "I" grade. If this is not removed within this time, the "I" becomes an "F".

If the student fails to contact the instructor to arrange an incomplete grade, the instructor is required to assign an "F" instead of an "I" for the term's work. For cases in which hardships are involved, the student may make up the work which could change the "F" to the grade otherwise deserved. The instructor's permission is required.

DENTAL DEPARTMENT ATTENDANCE POLICY

Because of the fast-paced curriculum and standards for the completion of each course, attendance in all Dental Health Sciences professions department courses is vital to student performance and success. For that reason, regular and punctual attendance in all Dental Health Sciences Department DAS courses is mandatory.

If a student is or anticipates being absent, late or needing to leave early from any DAS course, the student should contact the instructor, as soon as possible, prior to the start of the class period. For an absence to be considered excused by the course instructor, students must present documentations to validate circumstances immediately upon return. Students may make up missed work, quizzes, etc. at the discretion of the course instructor and is further clarified in your course syllabi.

For further questions or assistance regarding the Open Enrollment procedures for Dental Assisting programs, please contact Academic Advising at (937) 512-3700 or the Dental Health Sciences Department at (937) 512-2779.

PLEASE BRING THIS MANUAL/DOCUMENT WITH YOU TO ORIENTATION FOR REVIEW AND SIGNATURE AT THAT TIME. DO NOT RETURN IT WITH YOUR APPLICATION FORM. DO NOT MAIL IT WITH YOUR APPLICATION AND MEDICAL DOCUMENTATION. YOU WILL HAVE TO DO IT AGAIN THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS.

Your signature indicates that you:

1. Read this Handbook in its entirety and are familiar with its contents.
2. Clarify any questions regarding any part of this Handbook.
3. Understand that it is your responsibility to review appropriate sections of this Handbook as they are presented throughout the program.
4. Understand you may receive revisions to this Handbook and that if and when received you will review the changes and add them to your handbook.
5. May request an additional copy of this Handbook, in writing, if you lose or damage your original copy (a fee may be charged.)
6. Are aware that a copy of this page will be kept in your permanent file in the Dental Health Sciences Office.

I have received a copy of the *Dental Assisting Handbook*. I have read and I understand the *Dental Assisting Handbook* and program expectations. By signing this document, I agree to conduct myself in a professional manner at all times. I understand the statements above, and acknowledge that I was offered the opportunity to ask for clarification regarding the contents of the Handbook and expectations before signing my name.

Student's Printed Name

Student's Signature

Date

Faculty Initials: _____

