

Dental Assisting

The Dental Assisting curriculum prepares individuals to assist the dentist in delivering dental treatment and function as integral members of the dental team while performing chairside and related office and laboratory procedures.

Coursework includes instruction in general studies, biomedical sciences, dental sciences, clinical sciences, and clinical practice. A combination of lecture, laboratory, and clinical experiences provides students with knowledge of infection/hazard control, radiography, dental materials, preventive dentistry, head and neck anatomy, dental and medical emergencies, and clinical procedures.

Graduates may be eligible to take the Dental Assisting National Board Examination to become Certified Dental Assistants. As a Dental Assistant II, defined by the Dental Laws of North Carolina, graduates work in dental offices and other related areas.

For specific information about potential positions and wages in dental assisting employment, visit the Central Piedmont Career Coach website.

No degrees are offered for Dental Assisting.

Dental Assisting Diploma (D45240)

Diploma Awarded

A Diploma in Dental Assisting is awarded by the college upon completing this program.

Program Accreditation

The Dental Assisting Program at Central Piedmont is accredited by the American Dental Association, Commission on Dental Accreditation. (CODA)

Admissions

Please refer to the Admission Steps for a degree, diploma, or certificate:

- Complete a general application for admission to Central Piedmont
- Submit high school, as well as college transcripts to Admissions, Registration & Records.
- Schedule a meeting with an academic advisor to determine if placement tests are required. If so, take tests and review placement test scores and program information to select courses for registration.
- Complete and submit a Dental Assisting Program Application by the deadline date.
- Progression in this program is dependent upon a grade of "C" or better in all general education courses, as well as major and related courses.

Attendance at a virtual information session is required to apply for the dental assisting program. The virtual information session can be accessed on CPCC's dental assisting website.

Notes

Costs of this program, in addition to tuition and textbooks, include school uniforms and supplies, fees for professional organization dues, national board testing, Nitrous Oxide Monitoring course, a current physical examination, blood and drug screen tests, and updated immunizations.

Reliable transportation is needed to meet off-campus clinical rotation requirements.

Students must be certified by the American Heart Association in "Health Care Provider Level" CPR or by the American Red Cross in "CPR for the Professional Rescuer" before registering.

Students must successfully complete all prerequisite DEN courses prior to beginning clinical rotations.

To participate in clinical education experiences at health care facilities, students may be required to submit results of a NC state or national criminal background check at their own expense. As a condition of program admission, students may be required to verify they are United States citizens or are otherwise legally authorized residents of the United States.

Contact Information

For more information, visit the Dental Assisting website. If further assistance is needed, contact the Dental Assisting Department at 704-330-2722 x3731.

General Education Requirements

ENG 111	Writing and Inquiry	3.0
COM 231	Public Speaking	3.0
	or COM 110 Introduction to Communication	

Major Requirements

DEN 100	Basic Orofacial Anatomy	2.0
DEN 101	Preclinical Procedures	7.0
DEN 102	Dental Materials	4.0
DEN 103	Dental Sciences	2.0
DEN 104	Dental Health Education	3.0
DEN 105	Practice Management	2.0
DEN 106	Clinical Practice I	6.0
DEN 107	Clinical Practice II	5.0
DEN 111	Infection/Hazard Control	2.0
DEN 112	Dental Radiography	3.0

Other Major Requirements:

BIO 163	Basic Anatomy & Physiology	5.0
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Total Credits 47

No certificates are offered for Dental Assisting.

The following is the suggested sequence for when to take each course to complete the Associate in Applied Science degree, based on the program requirements of the 2022-2023 catalog. This is only a recommendation — you may take courses in another order if you need to. This sequence is based on you starting with college-level math and English courses, starting your program in the fall, and attending full-time. You can also follow this sequence if you attend part-time. Speak with an advisor about the sequence and any questions. This program does not offer certificates at this time; visit the catalog or contact the program for details.

Dental Assisting suggested course sequence