

# 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
---------	----------------------------	-----

**Total Credits** **47**

**DEN 100. Basic Orofacial Anatomy. 2.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course provides a basic introduction to the structures of the head, neck, and oral cavity. Topics include tooth morphology, head and neck anatomy, histology, and embryology. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate knowledge of normal structures and development and how they relate to the practice of dental assisting. Acceptance required into the Dental Assisting program.

**DEN 101. Preclinical Procedures. 7.0 Credits.** Class-4.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-6.0. Work-0.0

This course provides instruction in procedures for the clinical dental assistant as specified by the North Carolina Dental Practice Act. Emphasis is placed on orientation to the profession, infection control techniques, instruments, related expanded functions, and diagnostic, operative, and specialty procedures. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate proficiency in clinical dental assisting procedures.

Prerequisites: Take ENG 111 COM 231, minimum grade of C; Take DEN 100 DEN 102 DEN 103 DEN 105 DEN 111 DEN 112

Corequisites: Take DEN 104

**DEN 101BB. Preclinical Procedures. 3.5 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0

This course provides instruction in procedures for the clinical dental assistant as specified by the North Carolina Dental Practice Act. Emphasis is placed on orientation to the profession, infection control techniques, instruments, related expanded functions, and diagnostic, operative, and specialty procedures. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate proficiency in clinical dental assisting procedures.

**DEN 101AB. Preclinical Procedures. 3.5 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0

This course provides instruction in procedures for the clinical dental assistant as specified by the North Carolina Dental Practice Act. Emphasis is placed on orientation to the profession, infection control techniques, instruments, related expanded functions, and diagnostic, operative, and specialty procedures. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate proficiency in clinical dental assisting procedures.

**DEN 102. Dental Materials. 4.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-4.0. Work-0.0

This course provides instruction in identification, properties, evaluation of quality, principles, and procedures related to manipulation and storage of operative and specialty dental materials. Emphasis is placed on the understanding and safe application of materials used in the dental office and laboratory. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate proficiency in the laboratory and clinical application of routinely used dental materials.

**DEN 103. Dental Sciences. 2.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course is a study of oral pathology, pharmacology, and dental office emergencies. Topics include oral pathological conditions, dental therapeutics, and management of emergency situations. Upon completion, students should be able to recognize abnormal oral conditions, identify classifications, describe actions and effects of commonly prescribed drugs, and respond to medical emergencies.

**DEN 103AB. Dental Sciences. 1.0 Credit.** Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course is a study of oral pathology, pharmacology, and dental office emergencies. Topics include oral pathological conditions, dental therapeutics, and management of emergency situations. Upon completion, students should be able to recognize abnormal oral conditions, identify classifications, describe actions and effects of commonly prescribed drugs, and respond to medical emergencies.

**DEN 103BB. Dental Sciences. 1.0 Credit.** Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course is a study of oral pathology, pharmacology, and dental office emergencies. Topics include oral pathological conditions, dental therapeutics, and management of emergency situations. Upon completion, students should be able to recognize abnormal oral conditions, identify classifications, describe actions and effects of commonly prescribed drugs, and respond to medical emergencies.

Corequisites: Take DEN 103AB

**DEN 104. Dental Health Education. 3.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-2.0. Work-0.0

This course covers the study of preventive dentistry to prepare dental assisting students for the role of dental health educator. Topics include etiology of dental diseases, preventive procedures, and patient education theory and practice. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate proficiency in patient counseling and oral health instruction in private practice or public health settings.

**DEN 105. Practice Management. 2.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course provides a study of principles and procedures related to management of the dental practice. Emphasis is placed on maintaining clinical and financial records, patient scheduling, and supply and inventory control. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate fundamental skills in dental practice management.

**DEN 106. Clinical Practice I. 6.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-12.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course is designed to provide experience assisting in a clinical setting. Emphasis is placed on the application of principles and procedures of four-handed dentistry and laboratory and clinical support functions. Upon completion, students should be able to utilize classroom theory and laboratory and clinical skills in a dental setting.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 101

**DEN 107. Clinical Practice II. 5.0 Credits.** Class-1.0. Clinical-12.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course is designed to increase the level of proficiency in assisting in a clinical setting. Emphasis is placed on the application of principles and procedures of four-handed dentistry and laboratory and clinical support functions. Upon completion, students should be able to combine theoretical and ethical principles necessary to perform entry-level skills including functions delegable to a DA II.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 106

**DEN 110. Orofacial Anatomy. 3.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-2.0. Work-0.0

This course introduces the structures of the head, neck, and oral cavity. Topics include tooth morphology, head and neck anatomy, histology, and embryology. Upon completion, students should be able to relate the identification of normal structures and development to the practice of dental assisting and dental hygiene. Acceptance required into the Dental Assisting or Dental Hygiene program.

Prerequisites: TAKE BIO 168 AND BIO 169

**DEN 111. Infection/Hazard Control. 2.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course introduces the infection and hazard control procedures necessary for the safe practice of dentistry. Topics include microbiology, practical infection control, sterilization and monitoring, chemical disinfectants, aseptic technique, infectious diseases, OSHA standards, and applicable North Carolina laws. Upon completion, students should be able to understand infectious diseases, disease transmission, infection control procedures, biohazard management, OSHA standards, and applicable North Carolina laws. Acceptance required into the Dental Assisting or Dental Hygiene program.

**DEN 112. Dental Radiography. 3.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0

This course provides a comprehensive view of the principles and procedures of radiology as they apply to dentistry. Topics include techniques in exposing, processing, and evaluating radiographs, as well as radiation safety, quality assurance, and legal issues. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate proficiency in the production of diagnostically acceptable radiographs using appropriate safety precautions. Acceptance required into the Dental Assisting or Dental Hygiene program.

**DEN 120. Dental Hygiene Preclinic Lecture. 2.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course introduces preoperative and clinical dental hygiene concepts. Emphasis is placed on the assessment phase of patient care as well as the theory of basic dental hygiene instrumentation. Upon completion, students should be able to collect and evaluate patient data at a basic level and demonstrate knowledge of dental hygiene instrumentation.

Corequisites: Take DEN 121

**DEN 121. Dental Hygiene Preclinical Lab. 2.0 Credits.** Class-0.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-6.0. Work-0.0

This course provides the opportunity to perform clinical dental hygiene procedures discussed in DEN 120. Emphasis is placed on clinical skills in patient assessment and instrumentation techniques. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate the ability to perform specific preclinical procedures.

Corequisites: Take DEN 120

**DEN 123. Nutrition/Dental Health. 2.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course introduces basic principles of nutrition with emphasis on nutritional requirements and their application to individual patient needs. Topics include the study of Federal Nutritional Guidelines, nutrient functions, Recommended Daily Allowances, Adequate Intake, Tolerable Upper Intake Level, Estimated Average Requirement, and related psychological principles. Upon completion, students should be able to recommend and counsel individuals on their food intake as related to their dental health.

**DEN 124. Periodontology. 2.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course provides an in-depth study of the periodontium, periodontal pathology, periodontal monitoring, and the principles of periodontal therapy. Topics include periodontal anatomy and a study of the etiology, classification, and treatment modalities of periodontal diseases. Upon completion, students should be able to describe, compare, and contrast techniques involved in periodontal/maintenance therapy, as well as patient care management.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 110, minimum grade of C; Take BIO 175 or BIO 275, minimum grade of C

**DEN 125. Dental Office Emergencies. 1.0 Credit.** Class-0.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-2.0. Work-0.0

This course provides a study of the management of dental office emergencies. Topics include methods of prevention, necessary equipment/drugs, medicolegal considerations, recognition and effective initial management of a variety of emergencies. Upon completion, the student should be able to recognize, assess and manage various dental office emergencies and activate advanced medical support when indicated.

**DEN 130. Dental Hygiene Theory I. 2.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course is a continuation of the didactic dental hygiene concepts necessary for providing an oral prophylaxis. Topics include deposits/removal, instrument sharpening, patient education, fluorides, planning for dental hygiene treatment, charting, and clinical records and procedures. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate knowledge needed to complete a thorough oral prophylaxis.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 120

Corequisites: Take DEN 131

**DEN 131. Dental Hygiene Clinic I. 3.0 Credits.** Class-0.0. Clinical-9.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course continues skill development in providing an oral prophylaxis. Emphasis is placed on treatment of the recall patients with gingivitis or light deposits. Upon completion, students should be able to assess these patients' needs and complete the necessary dental hygiene treatment.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 110 DEN 111 DEN 112 DEN 120 DEN 121; Minimum grade; C

Corequisites: Take DEN 130

**DEN 140. Dental Hygiene Theory II. 2.0 Credits.** Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-2.0. Work-0.0

This course introduces principles in treatment modification. Topics include modification of treatment for pain management and advanced radiographic interpretation. Upon completion, students should be able to differentiate necessary treatment modifications, radiographic abnormalities, and be certified in the administration of local anesthesia. Introduction to the concept of power driven scalers and modification of treatment for special needs patients.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 130

Corequisites: Take DEN 141

**DEN 141. Dental Hygiene Clinic II. 2.0 Credits.** Class-0.0. Clinical-6.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course continues skill development in providing an oral prophylaxis. Emphasis is placed on treatment of patients with early periodontal disease and subgingival deposits. Upon completion, students should be able to assess these patients' needs and complete the necessary dental hygiene treatment.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 131

Corequisites: Take DEN 140

**DEN 220. Dental Hygiene Theory III. 2.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course introduces advanced principles of patient care. Topics include advanced periodontal debridement, subgingival irrigation, air polishing, special needs and case presentations. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate knowledge of methods of treatment and management of periodontally compromised and special needs patients.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 140

Corequisites: Take DEN 221

**DEN 220AB. Dental Hygiene Theory III. 1.0 Credit.** Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course introduces advanced principles of patient care. Topics include advanced periodontal debridement, subgingival irrigation, air polishing, special needs and case presentations. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate knowledge of methods of treatment and management of periodontally compromised and special needs patients.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 140

Corequisites: Take DEN 221

**DEN 220BB. Dental Hygiene Theory III. 1.0 Credit.** Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course introduces advanced principles of patient care. Topics include advanced periodontal debridement, subgingival irrigation, air polishing, special needs and case presentations. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate knowledge of methods of treatment and management of periodontally compromised and special needs patients.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 140

Corequisites: Take DEN 220AB

**DEN 221BB. Dental Hygiene Clinic III. 2.0 Credits.** Class-0.0. Clinical-6.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course continues skill development in providing an oral prophylaxis. Emphasis is placed on treatment of patients with moderate to advanced periodontal involvement and moderate deposits. Upon completion, students should be able to assess these patients' needs and complete the necessary dental hygiene treatment.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 141

Corequisites: Take DEN 221AB

**DEN 221AB. Dental Hygiene Clinic III. 2.0 Credits.** Class-0.0. Clinical-6.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course continues skill development in providing an oral prophylaxis. Emphasis is placed on treatment of patients with moderate to advanced periodontal involvement and moderate deposits. Upon completion, students should be able to assess these patients' needs and complete the necessary dental hygiene treatment.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 141

Corequisites: Take DEN 220

**DEN 221. Dental Hygiene Clinic III. 4.0 Credits.** Class-0.0. Clinical-12.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course continues skill development in providing an oral prophylaxis. Emphasis is placed on treatment of patients with moderate to advanced periodontal involvement and moderate deposits. Upon completion, students should be able to assess these patients' needs and complete the necessary dental hygiene treatment.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 141

Corequisites: Take DEN 220

**DEN 222. General & Oral Pathology. 2.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course provides a general knowledge of oral pathological manifestations associated with selected systemic and oral diseases. Topics include developmental and degenerative diseases, selected microbial diseases, specific and nonspecific immune and inflammatory responses with emphasis on recognizing abnormalities. Upon completion, students should be able to differentiate between normal and abnormal tissues and refer unusual findings to the dentist for diagnosis.

Prerequisites: Take One: BIO 163, BIO 165, or BIO 168

**DEN 223. Dental Pharmacology. 2.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course provides basic drug terminology, general principles of drug actions, dosages, routes of administration, adverse reactions, and basic principles of anesthesiology. Emphasis is placed on knowledge of drugs in overall understanding of patient histories and health status. Upon completion, students should be able to recognize that each patient's general health or drug usage may require modification of the treatment procedures.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 125, minimum grade of C

Corequisites: Take One: BIO 163, BIO 165, or BIO 168

**DEN 224. Materials and Procedures. 2.0 Credits.** Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0

This course introduces the physical properties of materials and related procedures used in dentistry. Topics include restorative and preventive materials, fabrication of casts and appliances, and chairside functions of the dental hygienist. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate proficiency in the laboratory and/or clinical application of routinely used dental materials and chairside functions.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 111 DEN 121, minimum grade of C

**DEN 230. Dental Hygiene Theory IV. 1.0 Credit.** Class-1.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course provides an opportunity to increase knowledge of the profession. Emphasis is placed on dental specialties, technological advances, and completion of a case study presentation. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate knowledge of various disciplines of dentistry, technological advances and principles of case presentations.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 220

Corequisites: Take DEN 231

**DEN 231. Dental Hygiene Clinic IV. 4.0 Credits.** Class-0.0. Clinical-12.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course continues skill development in providing an oral prophylaxis. Emphasis is placed on periodontal maintenance and on treating patients with moderate to advanced/refractory periodontal disease. Upon completion, students should be able to assess these patients' needs and complete the necessary dental hygiene treatment.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 221

Corequisites: Take DEN 230

**DEN 231BB. Dental Hygiene Clinic IV. 2.0 Credits.** Class-0.0. Clinical-6.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course continues skill development in providing an oral prophylaxis. Emphasis is placed on periodontal maintenance and on treating patients with moderate to advanced/refractory periodontal disease. Upon completion, students should be able to assess these patients' needs and complete the necessary dental hygiene treatment.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 221

Corequisites: Take DEN 231AB

**DEN 231AB. Dental Hygiene Clinic IV. 2.0 Credits.** Class-0.0. Clinical-6.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course continues skill development in providing an oral prophylaxis. Emphasis is placed on periodontal maintenance and on treating patients with moderate to advanced/refractory periodontal disease. Upon completion, students should be able to assess these patients' needs and complete the necessary dental hygiene treatment.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 221

Corequisites: Take DEN 230

**DEN 232. Community Dental Health. 3.0 Credits.** Class-2.0. Clinical-0.0. Lab-3.0. Work-0.0

This course provides a study of the principles and methods used in assessing, planning, implementing, and evaluating community dental health programs. Topics include epidemiology, research methodology, biostatistics, preventive dental care, dental health education, program planning, and financing and utilization of dental services. Upon completion, students should be able to assess, plan, implement, and evaluate a community dental health program.

Prerequisites: Take DEN 123 DEN 130 and DEN 131, minimum grade of C

**DEN 233. Professional Development. 2.0 Credits.** Class-2.0.

Clinical-0.0. Lab-0.0. Work-0.0

This course includes professional development, ethics, and jurisprudence with applications to practice management. Topics include conflict management, state laws, resumes, interviews, and legal liabilities as health care professionals. Upon completion, students should be able to demonstrate the ability to practice dental hygiene within established ethical standards and state laws.