

Dental Assisting (Associate of Applied Science)

Associate of Applied Science 1,455 Contact Hours 73.00 Semester Credits 80 Instructional Weeks – Full Time	Program offered at: Memphis, Tennessee
--	---

Dental Assisting (Associate of Applied Science) Mission Statement

The Dental Assisting program prepares students with the theoretical knowledge and practical skills needed for success in an entry-level position. The program aims to guide students in developing proficiency, professionalism, empathy, and accurate technique while learning to interact professionally with dentist, coworkers, and patients.

Learning Objectives / Instructional Outcomes

The program includes general education courses covering mathematics, written, verbal, and nonverbal communications; interpersonal skills; critical thinking; the sciences; and the humanities. Learning objectives include achievement of sufficient theoretical knowledge and practical skills in which students are required to successfully complete radiological written and skills assessments.

Career Overview

The Dental Assistant makes an important contribution to the success of a dental practice as a valuable member of the dental healthcare team. The Dental Assistant's responsibilities may include preparing patients for procedures, assisting the dentist with instrument transfer during procedures, maintaining treatment planning records, exposing and processing dental x-rays, reviewing oral hygiene and postoperative care instructions with patients, performing laboratory work, and managing such essential functions as inventory control, infection control and OSHA compliance. The Dental Assistant may also be called on to assist in the business office with filing records, preparing insurance reports, maintaining records on the computer, and scheduling appointments.

In order to graduate from the Dental Assisting (Associate of Applied Science) program, students must successfully complete the following curriculum:

Course #	Course Title	Theory Hours	Lab Hours	Externship Hours	Semester Credit Hours
GE102	Professionalism for Allied Health Careers	80			5.00
DA110	Introduction to Dental Assisting	40	40		4.00
DA120	Microbiology, Infection Control & Introduction to Chairside Assisting	40	40		4.00
DA130	Operative Dentistry and Properties of Dental Materials	40	40		4.00
DA140	Introduction to Radiology	40	40		4.00
DA150	Radiology and Introduction to Dental Procedures	40	40		4.00
DA160	Operative Dentistry Procedures and Manipulation of Dental Lab Materials	40	40		4.00
DA170	Practice Management & Dental Specialties	40	40		4.00
DA180	Dental Assisting Externship			320	7.00
MATH1320	College Algebra	45			3.00
ENGL1310	English Composition I	45			3.00
COMM1310	Elements of Human Communication	45			3.00
PHIL1310	Critical Thinking	45			3.00
PSYC1310	General Psychology	45			3.00
PSYC1320	Human Growth & Development	45			3.00
SOCI1310	Introduction to Sociology	45			3.00
CSCI1310	Computer Science	45			3.00
BIOL1301	Anatomy & Physiology	45			3.00
BIOL1330	Microbiology	45			3.00
NUTR1310	Nutrition	45			3.00
	Subtotals	855	280	320	73.00