



DENTAL ASSISTING

PROGRAM INFORMATION

BECOME A VITAL MEMBER OF THE DENTAL CARE TEAM.

Dental Assisting students gain technical knowledge and manual skills necessary to enter the dental profession as a chair-side clinician, assisting with a variety of clinical functions, laboratory tasks and business office responsibilities. Classroom and hands-on training will prepare students to perform procedures such as exposing radiographs, placing pit and fissure sealants, taking impressions and managing patient records. In addition, labs, internships and service learning activities offer students real-life experiences and interactions with patients and dental health care professionals.

Dental assisting offers a 100% job placement rate as there is currently a shortage of dental assistants in every region of Minnesota.

THINGS TO KNOW

CREDENTIALS AVAILABLE: DIPLOMA, ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE

FAST: Full-time students complete a diploma in **3** semesters

AFFORDABLE: Total tuition and fees of approximately **\$9,200** (diploma) and **\$12,300** (degree) ^

DELIVERY: On campus

PROGRAM START: Fall semester (part-time options available upon instructor approval)

Things to know about Dental Assisting at Northwest Technical College:

- The Dental Assisting program at NTC is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, and approved by the Minnesota State Board of Dentistry.
- Learn in fully equipped labs from fully accredited and experienced faculty.

FUTURE OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of NTC's dental assisting program will be prepared to become a dental assistant working under the direction of a dentist in general dentistry, dental specialties, orthodontics and oral/maxillofacial surgery.

Dental Assisting graduates enter a growing field of employment opportunities as the need for dental care continues to increase in the United States. Most assistants work with general dentists, although positions are also available with orthodontists, oral/maxillofacial surgeons and other dental specialists. Other employers include public health and government clinics, military dental services, dental schools, allied dental education programs, the retail and wholesale dental industry, and insurance and consulting companies. Dental practices often offer attractive compensation packages and excellent work schedules in a pleasant work environment. Dental assistants work in a variety of settings and have one of the most flexible and in-demand roles on a dental team. A dental assisting diploma takes less than one year to earn with immediate job opportunities available for graduates.

OUR GRADUATES

NTC PLACES 100% OF ITS GRADUATES IN CAREERS SUCH AS:

- Dental Assistant

data from: NTC Career Services

^ estimated total tuition and fees of \$9,270.00 (diploma) and \$12,360.00 (degree) based on Spring 2021 rates. Learn more at <https://www.ntcmn.edu/myntc/aid/tuition/>

CAREER OUTLOOK

AVERAGE SALARY IN MN
\$52,686 PER YEAR ⁽¹⁾

AN IN-DEMAND CAREER
★★★★ RATED

JOB OPENINGS IN MN,
NEXT DECADE
7,500+ ⁽¹⁾

DATA: NTC CAREER SERVICES; MINNESOTA DEED.
(1) FOR JOB CATEGORY DENTAL ASSISTANTS.

MORE INFORMATION

Admissions Office
(218) 333-6600 or (800) 942-8324
ntc.admissions@ntcmn.edu
TTY: (800) 627-3529





PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Required Courses – DIPLOMA

COURSE #	NAME	CREDITS
COMM 1102	Applied Communications	3
HPER 1410	First Aid / CPR	1
DENT 1010	Infection Control	1
DENT 1100	Biomaterials	3
DENT 1106	Biodental Science	2
DENT 1112	Dental Anatomy	3
DENT 1114	Dental Radiology	4
DENT 1122	Dental Ethics & Jurisprudence	1
DENT 1124	Clinical Assisting I	4
DENT 1126	Clinical Assisting II	4
DENT 1130	Dental Prac Management	1
DENT 1132	Credentialing Exam Preparation	1
DENT 1134	Clinical Affiliation	7
DENT 1136	Advanced Functions	7
DENT 1500	Dental Health	3

Total Credits 45

Required Courses – ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE

COURSE #	NAME	CREDITS
HPER 1410	First Aid / CPR	1
DENT 1010	Infection Control	1
DENT 1100	Biomaterials	3
DENT 1106	Biodental Science	2
DENT 1112	Dental Anatomy	3
DENT 1114	Dental Radiology	4
DENT 1122	Dental Ethics & Jurisprudence	1
DENT 1124	Clinical Assisting I	4
DENT 1126	Clinical Assisting II	4
DENT 1130	Dental Prac Management	1
DENT 1132	Credentialing Exam Preparation	1
DENT 1134	Clinical Affiliation	7
DENT 1136	Advanced Functions	7
DENT 1500	Dental Health	3

Select one of the two following:

- BIOL 2252 Anatomy & Physiology I 3
- BIOL 2221 Microbiology 3

Required Courses:

ENGL 1111	College Writing I	3
PSYC 1105	General Psychology	3
SPCH 1110	Intro to Public Speaking	3
	General Education Electives	6

Total Credits 60

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

DENTAL ASSISTING APPLICANTS MUST:

- Apply & be accepted to Northwest Technical College:
 - complete application & pay application fee
 - provide all academic transcripts (*high school and/or previous college or university*)
- If required, **complete** college readiness courses. Students may be required to enroll in college readiness courses in reading, writing, and/or mathematics. Enrollment in readiness courses is determined by Accuplacer test scores.
- Maintain** a C or above in all program-required courses (includes pre- and co-requisite courses).
- Prior to entering the Dental Assisting program, students must successfully complete foundational courses determined by the Accuplacer assessment or be waived from these courses based on courses already taken.
- Current CPR, AHA Healthcare Provider required to be taken fall semester, or transfer of equivalent course and provide current CPR card.
- Vaccinations against Hepatitis B or a signed release form and a Mantoux test.
- Mandatory attendance at an informational meeting during the first week of fall semester.
- Laptop required – no Chromebooks or Apple computers as they are not compatible with some program software.

UPON GRADUATION, TO BECOME A LICENSED DENTAL ASSISTANT IN MINNESOTA, DENTAL ASSISTANTS MUST:

- Pass the national DANB Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) exam
- Graduate from a Minnesota CODA-accredited dental assisting program or Graduate from a CODA-accredited program in a state other than Minnesota and, upon MN Board review of curriculum, complete additional coursework
- Pass the Minnesota Dental Assistant State Licensing Exam
- Pass the Minnesota Jurisprudence Exam
- Apply for licensure to the MN Board of Dentistry
- All licensed dental assistants must maintain a consecutive and current certificate in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) at the BLS level.

