

Dental Assisting DAST

Associate in Science Degree

Certificate of Achievement (One year plus one Summer)

Division of Science and Allied Health

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Program Information

The Dental Assisting program, 27 units, is a full-time day program to which students are admitted in August of each year. The curriculum is approved by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association and leads to a Career Certificate in Dental Assisting. After successful completion of the curriculum the student is eligible to take the National Board Examination and upon passing becomes a Certified Dental Assistant. This evidence of competence is recognized throughout the United States. In addition, graduates will be able to apply for and take the Dental Board of California examination for state licensure as a Registered Dental Assistant and a state examination for a special permit to perform advanced orthodontic procedures. In addition to normal student expenses (for textbooks, etc.), the Dental Assisting Program requires an expenditure of approximately \$2,230.00 during the one-year program for uniforms and special supplies. If this creates a hardship, check with the Financial Aid Office for possible assistance before entering the program.

The program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. The Commission on Dental Accreditation can be contacted at 312-440-4653 or at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611. The program is also approved by the Dental Board of California and includes special certification courses for the performance of Registered Dental Assisting Expanded Duties and a orthodontic assistant permit.

Career Opportunities

This program prepares the student for employment as a dental assistant. The dental assistant works with the dentist in providing patient treatment, including restorations, x-rays, and preventive services. Employment opportunities are excellent, not only in private dental offices, but also in public and private hospitals, clinics and laboratories, dental schools, dental supply houses, and in the armed forces.

Enrollment Eligibility

To be eligible for enrollment in the program, the student must meet the following criteria:

- Completion of ENGRD 11 or ESLR 310 with a grade of "C" or better; or placement into ENGRD 110 or ESLR 320 through the assessment process.
- Proof of eligibility can be obtained by either (1) submitting an official college transcript indicating the successful completion of an appropriate level English Reading course or (2) submitting the results of assessment testing which verifies placement in an appropriate level English Reading course.
- High school or college grade point averages are not used to establish eligibility for the dental assisting program.

Enrollment Process

Eligible students are selected for the program according to the following steps:

1. Send application and proof of eligibility directly to the Dental Health Office.
2. Applications will be accepted after January 1. To be eligible, applicants must have both their application and proof of eligibility in to the Dental Health Office. Eligible applicants will be selected for enrollment based on the date the completed application and proof of eligibility are received in the Dental Health Office.
3. After the class has filled, other eligible applicants will be placed on an alternate list according to the date their application and proof of eligibility arrived in the Dental Health Office. As positions become available, eligible applicants will be taken off this list in chronological order. Eligible applicants may be selected for enrollment up to the first day of class in the Fall.

Upon completion of this program, the student will be able to:

- demonstrate a knowledge, to include didactic, pre-clinical, and clinical, in all aspects of dental practice.
- exhibit knowledge necessary for successful completion of the California Registered Dental Assistant's Examination, the National Certified Dental Assistant's Examination and the California Orthodontic Assistant permit written examination.
- demonstrate and perform all functions allowed by the California State Dental Practice Act.

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Required Program	Units
DAST 101, Biodental Science.....	2
DAST 104, Anatomy and Morphology	3
DAST 102, Chairside Assisting I.....	6
DAST 107, Dental Radiology I.....	1.5
DAST 116, Practice Management for Dental Assistant.....	2
DAST 111, Dental Nutrition and Prevention.....	1
DAST 115, Advanced Expanded Duty Certifications	2
DAST 112, Chairside Assisting II.....	3
DAST 117, Dental Imaging.....	2
DAST 119, Clinical Experience I.....	3
DAST 129, Clinical Experience II	2
AH 104, Aging and its Implications for Health Care	0.5
Total Units Required	28

Associate in Science (A.S.) Degree

The Associate in Science degree may be obtained by completion of the required program, plus general education requirements, plus sufficient electives to meet a 60-unit total. See SCC graduation requirements.

Certificate of Achievement

The Certificate of Achievement may be obtained by completion of the required program with grades of "C" or better.

General education requirements may be completed either before or after completing the sequence of dental assisting courses listed above.

Dental Assisting (DAST)

DAST 101 Biodental Science 2 Units

Prerequisite: See enrollment limitations.

Enrollment Limitation: Acceptance into the Dental Assisting program and successful completion of an English reading course equal to or greater than ENGRD 11 or ESLR 310; or placement into ENGRD 110 or ESLR 320 through the assessment process.
36 hours LEC

Biodental Science deals with microbiology and asepsis, dental pathology, sterilization, pharmacology, medical emergencies, and hazardous materials in the dental practice.

DAST 102 Chairside Assisting I 6 Units

Prerequisite: See enrollment limitations.

Enrollment Limitation: Acceptance into the Dental Assisting program and successful completion of an English reading course equal to or greater than ENGRD 11 or ESLR 310; or placement into ENGRD 110 or ESLR 320 through the assessment process.
72 hours LEC; 108 hours LAB

This course is an introduction to chairside dental assisting and the principles of four-handed dentistry, including materials and instrumentation. In this course, emphasis is given to step-by-step procedures and the function, use, and care of dental equipment and operator. Extra time outside the normal school schedule may be required for field trips, conventions, community projects, etc.

DAST 104 Anatomy and Morphology 3 Units

Prerequisite: See enrollment limitations.

Enrollment Limitation: Acceptance into the Dental Assisting program and successful completion of an English reading course equal to or greater than ENGRD 11 or ESLR 310; or placement into ENGRD 110 or ESLR 320 through the assessment process.
54 hours LEC

This course is the study of dental morphology including the form, function, and location of the hard and soft structures of the mouth. In addition the course also studies the anatomy and physiology of the head and neck as they relate to the practice of dentistry.

DAST 107 Dental Radiology I 1.5 Units

Prerequisite: See enrollment limitations.

Enrollment Limitation: Acceptance into the Dental Assisting program and completion of ENGRD 11 or ESLR 310 with a grade of "C" or better; or placement into ENGRD 110 or ESLR 320 through the assessment process.
9 Hours LEC; 54 hours LAB

Dental Radiology I is an introduction to the basic principles of dental radiology including theory and techniques, operation of the x-ray machine, biological effects, safety practices and the practical application of utilizing appropriate infection control while exposing, processing, mounting, and evaluating intraoral dental films.

DAST 111 Dental Nutrition and Prevention 1 Unit

Prerequisite: DAST 101, 102, 104, and 107 with grades of "C" or better; See enrollment limitations.

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the Dental Assisting program. 12 hours LEC; 36 hours LAB

This course is the study of nutrition from both a whole body concept and its interrelated effects on the dental environment. The course will integrate these concepts into preventive dentistry concepts and the role of the Dental Assistant in community/public health involvement.

DAST 112 Chairside Assisting II 2.5 Units

Prerequisite: DAST 101, 102, 104, and 107 with grades of "C" or better.

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the Dental Assisting program. 24 hours LEC; 72 hours LAB

The course entails the study of practical applications of advanced four-handed dental techniques. Instruction in California's "Expanded Duties" is part of the course.

DAST 115 Advanced Expanded Duty Certifications 2 Units

Prerequisite: DAST 101, 102, 104, and 107 with grades of "C" or better

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the Dental Assisting program. 108 hours LAB

This course will provide instruction in the practical application of coronal polishing techniques in the clinical setting. The course also includes the theory and practical application of pit and fissure sealants.

DAST 116 Practice Management for the Dental Assistant 2 Units

Prerequisite: DAST 101, 102, 104, and 107 with grades of "C" or better

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the Dental Assisting program. 36 hours LEC

Practice Management includes the principles of dental office management including: secretarial procedures, record keeping, dental histories, financial arrangements, bookkeeping, insurance procedures, patient communication, patient psychology, and job-finding skills.

DAST 117 Dental Imaging 2 Units

Prerequisite: DAST 101, 102, 104, and 107 with grades of "C" or better

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the Dental Assisting program. 12 hours LEC; 72 hours LAB

Advanced Dental Imaging includes advanced principals in obtaining and processing digital dental images for dental radiology, intra-oral and extra-oral photography for patient assessment and practice enhancement, and obtaining intra-oral images for computer-aided design (CAD) milled restorations, including manipulation and fabrication.

DAST 119 Clinical Experience I 3 Units

Prerequisite: DAST 101, 102, 104, and 107 with grades of "C" or better.

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the Dental Assisting program. 240 hours LAB

This course involves performance of dental assisting duties in an assigned dental clinic or private office during a full-time (40 hours/week) clinical affiliation of six weeks. Students will meet for six hours of seminar. This course is graded on a credit/no-credit basis.

DAST 129 Clinical Experience II 2 Units

Prerequisite: DAST 111, 112, 115, 116, 117, and 119 with grades of "C" or better.

Enrollment Limitation: Enrollment in the Dental Assisting program. 108 hours LAB

This course involves performance of basic dental assisting duties as well as expanded duties in an assigned dental clinic or private office during 105 hours of clinical affiliation to be arranged. Students will meet for three hours of seminar. This course is graded on a credit/no-credit basis.

DAST 295 Independent Studies in Dental Assisting 1-3 Units

Prerequisite: None

Enrollment Limitation: Student must be enrolled in the Dental Assisting program.

162 hours LAB

This is a course for those dental assisting students requesting special projects related to their dental assisting education.

DAST 299 Experimental Offering in Dental Assisting .5-4 Units

See Experimental Offering