

# CURRICULUM STANDARD

Effective Term  
Fall 2016  
[2016\*03]

Curriculum Program Title	<b>Dental Assisting (Diploma)</b>	Program Code	<b>D45240</b>
Concentration	<b>(not applicable)</b>	CIP Code	<b>51.0601</b>

## Curriculum Description

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

Course work includes instruction in general studies, biomedical sciences, dental sciences, clinical sciences, and clinical practice. A combination of lecture, laboratory, and clinical experiences provide students with knowledge in infection/hazard control, radiography, dental materials, preventive dentistry, 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.

## Curriculum Requirements\*

*[for associate degree, diploma, and certificate programs in accordance with 1D SBCCC 400.10]*

- I. **General Education.** Degree programs must contain a minimum of 15 semester hours including at least one course from each of the following areas: humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, and natural sciences/mathematics. Degree programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of communications. Diploma programs must contain a minimum of 6 semester hours of general education; 3 semester hours must be in communications. General education is optional in certificate programs.
- II. **Major Hours.** AAS, diploma, and certificate programs must include courses which offer specific job knowledge and skills. Work-based learning may be included in associate in applied science degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit. *(See second page for additional information.)*
- III. **Other Required Hours.** A college may include courses to meet graduation or local employer requirements in a certificate, diploma, or associate in applied science program. These curriculum courses shall be selected from the Combined Course Library and must be approved by the System Office prior to implementation. Restricted, unique, or free elective courses may not be included as other required hours.

	<b>AAS</b>	<b>Diploma</b>	<b>Certificate</b>
Minimum General Education Hours	15	6	0
Minimum Major Hours	49	30	12
Other Required Hours	0-7	0-4	0-1
<b>Total Semester Hours Credit (SHC)</b>	<b>64-76</b>	<b>36-48</b>	<b>12-18</b>

\*Within the degree program, the institution shall include opportunities for the achievement of competence in reading, writing, oral communication, fundamental mathematical skills, and basic use of computers.

## Major Hours

- A. Core.** The subject/course core is comprised of subject areas and/or specific courses which are required for each curriculum program. A diploma program offered under an approved AAS program standard or a certificate which is the highest credential level awarded under an approved AAS program standard must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit derived from the subject/course core of the AAS program.
- B. Concentration** *(if applicable)*. A concentration of study must include a minimum of 12 semester hours credit from required subjects and/or courses. The majority of the course credit hours are unique to the concentration. The required subjects and/or courses that make up the concentration of study are in addition to the required subject/course core.
- C. Other Major Hours.** Other major hours must be selected from prefixes listed on the curriculum standard. A maximum of 9 semester hours of credit may be selected from any prefix listed, with the exception of prefixes listed in the core or concentration. Work-based learning may be included in associate in applied science degrees up to a maximum of 8 semester hours of credit; in diploma programs up to a maximum of 4 semester hours of credit; and in certificate programs up to a maximum of 2 semester hours of credit.

### Dental Assisting (Diploma) D45240

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<b>Minimum Major Hours Required</b>	<b>49 SHC</b>	<b>30 SHC</b>	<b>12 SHC</b>																																	
<p><b>A. CORE</b></p> <p><b>Required Courses:</b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 15%;">DEN 101</td><td style="width: 60%;">Preclinical Procedures</td><td style="width: 25%; text-align: right;">7 SHC</td></tr> <tr><td>DEN 102</td><td>Dental Materials</td><td style="text-align: right;">4 SHC</td></tr> <tr><td>DEN 103</td><td>Dental Sciences</td><td style="text-align: right;">2 SHC</td></tr> <tr><td>DEN 104</td><td>Dental Health Education</td><td style="text-align: right;">3 SHC</td></tr> <tr><td>DEN 105</td><td>Practice Management</td><td style="text-align: right;">2 SHC</td></tr> <tr><td>DEN 106</td><td>Clinical Practice I</td><td style="text-align: right;">6 SHC</td></tr> <tr><td>DEN 107</td><td>Clinical Practice II</td><td style="text-align: right;">5 SHC</td></tr> <tr><td>DEN 111</td><td>Infection/Hazard Control</td><td style="text-align: right;">2 SHC</td></tr> <tr><td>DEN 112</td><td>Dental Radiography</td><td style="text-align: right;">3 SHC</td></tr> </table> <p><b>Required Subject Areas:</b></p> <p><b>Dental Anatomy. <i>Select one:</i></b></p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr><td style="width: 15%;">DEN 100</td><td style="width: 60%;">Basic Orofacial Anatomy</td><td style="width: 25%; text-align: right;">2 SHC</td></tr> <tr><td>DEN 110</td><td>Orofacial Anatomy</td><td style="text-align: right;">3 SHC</td></tr> </table>	DEN 101	Preclinical Procedures	7 SHC	DEN 102	Dental Materials	4 SHC	DEN 103	Dental Sciences	2 SHC	DEN 104	Dental Health Education	3 SHC	DEN 105	Practice Management	2 SHC	DEN 106	Clinical Practice I	6 SHC	DEN 107	Clinical Practice II	5 SHC	DEN 111	Infection/Hazard Control	2 SHC	DEN 112	Dental Radiography	3 SHC	DEN 100	Basic Orofacial Anatomy	2 SHC	DEN 110	Orofacial Anatomy	3 SHC		<b>36-37 SHC</b>	
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<p><b>B. CONCENTRATION</b> <i>(Not applicable)</i></p>																																				
<p><b>C. OTHER MAJOR HOURS</b></p> <p><i>To be selected from the following prefixes:</i></p> <p>BIO, CIS, CSC, DEN, ENG, HSC, PSY, SOC, and WBL</p> <p><i>Up to two semester hour credits may be selected from ACA.</i></p> <p><i>Up to three semester hour credits may be selected from the following prefixes: ARA, ASL, CHI, FRE, GER, ITA, JPN, LAT, POR, RUS and SPA.</i></p>																																				