

**STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES
CURRICULUM PROGRAM APPLICATION
Fast Track for Action [FTFA*]**

Request:

The State Board of Community Colleges is asked to approve the curriculum program at the listed college on the condition that equipment funds are available to the college and operating funds generated by the budget formula will permit the offering of this program without any special allocation of funds.

Davidson County Community College
Dental Assisting (Diploma) (D45240)

Background:

Program applications must meet the following criteria in order to be placed on the Fast Track For Action (FTFA) program approval request presented to the State Board of Community Colleges as part of the consent agenda:

- The curriculum program title currently exists within the System and does not require the creation of a new program title and new curriculum standard;
- The application is complete, requires no further analysis or documentation, and has the endorsement of Academic Programs;
- There are no negative impact assessments from other colleges; and
- The college does not go outside of its service area for planning purposes.

Contact:

Ms. Jennifer Frazelle
Director

**PROGRAM APPLICATION
SUMMARY EVALUATION REPORT
Davidson County Community College
Dental Assisting (Diploma) (D45240)**

Program Planning

Davidson County Community College is seeking approval for the Dental Assisting (Diploma) (D45240) program to begin Fall 2017. The planning area is defined as the college's service area of Davidson and Davie counties. All colleges were notified of the planning process for this program.

The proposed program was approved by the Board of Trustees at Davidson County Community College on March 8, 2016. Minutes from this Board meeting were attached to the program application. The President and the Board of Trustees of Davidson County Community College have certified the following:

- The proposed program will enhance the workforce of North Carolina, will provide educational and training opportunities consistent with the mission of the college, and will not duplicate the opportunities currently offered.
- They have assessed the need for the proposed program and the resources required to maintain a viable program and certify that the college can operate the proposed program efficiently and effectively within the resources available to the college.
- The college will complete a program accountability report including student success measures, enrollment trends, completion rates, and employment data three years after implementation of the program.

Program Rationale

Davidson County Community College (DCCC) indicates the following:

- The ECU School of Dental Medicine established nine Community Service Learning Centers across North Carolina to provide dental students with hands-on experience and to help more adults and children receive the oral health care they need. ECU School of Dentistry located one of the Community Service Learning Centers on the DCCC campus. The Dean of ECU's Dental School noted: *with the addition of the Dental Assisting curriculum, you will be making available the opportunity for program graduates to greatly increase the efficiency of the delivery of quality oral health care while becoming value members of the dental care team in public health, private practices and academia.*

- To determine interest from area high school students, a survey was developed and administered to Health Science students in all eleven high schools in the service area. A total of 682 students completed the survey with 141 students expressing an interest in pursuing the Dental Assisting program.
- The Sheps Center for Health Services Research at Chapel Hill reports: *that Davidson County, by comparison, has only 2.6 dentists for every 10,000 residents, with nearly half of its dentists near or past retirement age. It is important to note that the national average is six dentists for every 10,000 people. The presence of the community service learning center itself has brought dental care to many patients that previously had little access to oral health care.*
- Letters of support for the program were submitted to DCCC by six dental practices in their area.
- One of the six dentists noted: *Having practiced in Lexington for nearly thirty years, we have dealt with the need for such a program on many occasions. We have been forced several times to hire out of town assistants who leave when they can find jobs closer to home, to having to use office trained assistants, to working short staffed. Our office is currently short one assistant.*

Impact of the Proposed Program on Other Programs

Sixteen community colleges are approved to offer the Dental Assisting program. This program contains a clinical component, therefore each college was provided with a program impact from DCCC. Initially, Guilford Technical Community College (GTCC) expressed objections. **This issue has been resolved and the objection has been removed.**

Implementation of Collaborative Plan

Not Applicable

Curriculum Design

The proposed program of study is in compliance with the State Board approved curriculum standard.

Curriculum Description as Designated on Curriculum Standard

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.

Contact:

Ms. Renee Batts
Associate Director