

2018-2019

SOUTHEAST  
COMMUNITY  
COLLEGE  
NEBRASKA

# DENTAL ASSISTING

LINCOLN CAMPUS AND ONLINE

Diploma

[www.southeast.edu/DentalAssisting](http://www.southeast.edu/DentalAssisting)



*Make someone smile! Dental assistants provide the opportunity to interact with patients and assist dentists in providing quality dental health care. Dental assistants may also expose and process dental X-rays, prepare and sterilize instruments and equipment, take impressions of patients' teeth, polish (coronal) teeth, assist the dentist with various procedures, communicate with other health care professionals, and perform office-management tasks. Dental assistants are classified as licensed professionals in the state of Nebraska.*

## Basic Information

### What does a dental assistant do?

Dental assistants perform a variety of laboratory, clinical and office tasks, and work with dentists to provide dental treatment to patients. Dental assistants are skilled at helping the patient be as comfortable as possible during the dental treatment. During the dental procedure, they assist the dentist by keeping the patient's mouth clean with suction devices and exchange instruments. They take impressions, construct temporary crowns/bridges, and assist in operative procedures, oral surgery and other dental specialties. Dental assistants expose and process radiographs as directed by a dentist.

### Other skills used by dental assistants include:

- polishing of the teeth
- sterilizing and disinfecting dental equipment and instruments
- prepare operatories, including tray setups for dental procedures and
- providing post-operative instructions to patients pertaining to oral health practices.

In some offices, dental assistants may also manage the entire dental office, arrange and confirm appointments, receive patients, keep treatment records, send statements, receive payments, file insurance forms, and order dental supplies and materials.

### What does it take to become a certified dental assistant?

It takes dedication and hard work to become a dental assistant. Dental assistants must be dedicated to helping people and must desire to be part of the dental team.

They need to be able to work well with people and with patients under stressful circumstances since not everyone enjoys a visit to the dentist. The Dental Assisting program at SCC helps the student gain the skills necessary to be successful.

Dental assisting students must be prepared for a full schedule of classes. Because there is an extensive amount of material to cover in a short time,

**continued....**

This program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA), 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611, 312-440-2500, [www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org). All graduates are eligible to sit for the Dental Assisting National Board exam.

After passing the DANB exam, students can apply for a license in Dental Assisting.

After becoming an LDA, additional permit courses can be completed at SCC.



### Graduate Earnings

Recent graduates report an average starting salary of \$34,000 per year.

### For more information contact:

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[healthprograms@southeast.edu](mailto:healthprograms@southeast.edu)

or the College Admissions Office  
Lincoln 402-437-2600, 800-642-4075 ext. 2600

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**Basic info continued....**

dental assisting classes are extremely time consuming, and the successful dental assisting student must have excellent study skills and be committed to the program.

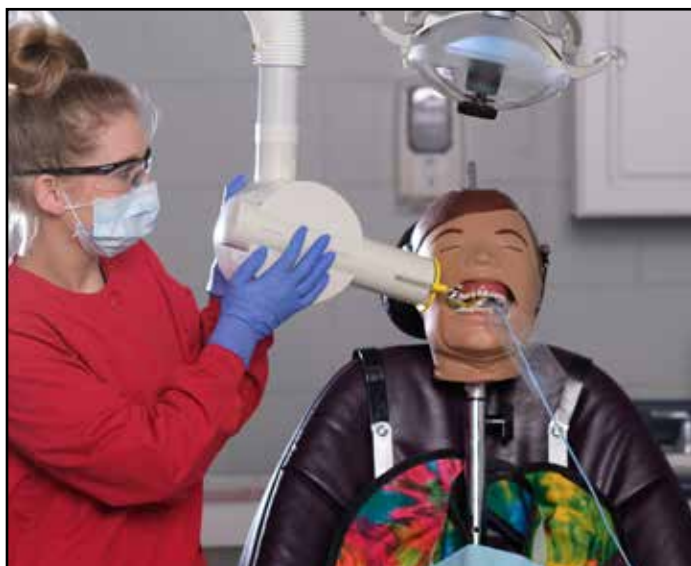
**How long is the program at SCC?**

The program is designed to be completed in four quarters.

**How much time will I spend in dental offices?**

Clinical Education I & II seminars include 1.5 hours per week in the classroom during both third and fourth quarters and an average of 16 hours a week in clinicals. Students rotate in private dental offices, dental clinics and the UNMC-College of Dentistry.

Some clinical assignments may not be accessible by public transportation or may be outside of Lincoln, so students must be prepared to arrange for transportation if necessary.



**Admission Requirements:**

1. Application to the program.
2. Submit program advising sheet showing completion or enrollment in the final quarter/semester of all program required courses with the required grade-point average.
3. Transcripts from high school, GED® or other colleges (if applicable).
4. Prerequisite grade point average of 2.5.

**Program Requirement Courses:**

SPCH1110	Public Speaking or	4.5
SPCH1090	Fundamentals of Human Communication or	
SPCH2810	Business & Professional Communication	
	AND	
PSYC1250	Interpersonal Relations or	4.5
PSYC1810	Introduction to Psychology	
	AND	
FSDT1350	Basic Nutrition	4.5
		13.5 hours

**Dental Assisting Courses:**

Course #	Course title	Credit hrs
DENT1103	Oral Sciences I	3.0
DENT1110	Preclinical Concepts	4.5
DENT1111	Ethics and Jurisprudence	2.0
DENT1210	Oral Sciences II	3.5
DENT1211	Dental Assisting Foundations I	5.0
DENT1212	Oral Hygiene	3.0
DENT1214	Clinical Concepts	3.0
DENT1311	Dental Assisting Foundations II	4.0
DENT1312	Dental Materials I	3.0
DENT1313	Oral Radiography I	4.5
DENT1314	Clinical Education I	6.5
DENT1410	Practice Management Skills	3.0
DENT1411	Dental Assisting Foundations III	4.0
DENT1412	Dental Materials II	3.0
DENT1413	Oral Radiography II	1.5
DENT1414	Clinical Education II	6.5
		60.0 hours

**Expanded Function Courses: (permit courses)**

\*Must be a Licensed Dental Assistant or by permission. Completion of these courses allows a dental assistant to obtain a permit for that expanded function.

DENT1500	*Nitrous Oxide Administration	1.0
DENT1510	*Fixed Prosthodontics	1.5
DENT1520	*Removable Prosthodontic	1.5
DENT1530	*Pediatric Fixed	1.5

**Special Program Requirements PRIOR to the START of Dental Assisting program.**

All requirements to be submitted together to Health Division Office Administrative Assistants in Room B-4:

1. Submit completed Health Statement.
2. A current Basic Life Support (BLS) for the Health Care Provider (HCP) by the American Heart Association or CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer or Health Care Provider by the American Red Cross is required.
3. Current prophylaxis (teeth cleaned) verification.
4. Two-step skin test for tuberculosis.
5. \*\*Current health insurance policy is recommended.

**During the Program:**

1. Criminal Background Check is required in the 1st quarter of the program. Please note: Misdemeanor or felony convictions may prevent a graduate from acquiring a state license.
2. Students admitted to a Health Sciences program at Southeast Community College requiring a clinical rotation at a contracted healthcare facility will submit to initial drug and alcohol testing prior to the first clinical rotation
3. Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 is required to graduate from the program.
4. All DENT courses completed with a grade of 75% (C+) or higher to progress through the program. Program offers Web-based courses but requires supervised clinicals/practicums/labs at identified locations. Note: This program is offered on the Lincoln Campus and begins in both Spring and Fall quarters.

**Estimated Expenses**

Nebraska Resident tuition/fee rate is \$69.50 per credit hour. Out-of-state tuition/fee rate is \$83.50 per credit hour. Graduation fee is \$25.

Housing is available at Beatrice and Milford campuses only. Tuition, books and fees are dependent upon classes taken each quarter.

Students should plan a budget that includes room, meals, clothing, laundry, medical care, recreation and entertainment, transportation, insurance, etc.

**FIRST QUARTER**

Tuition And Fees	\$869
Books	926
Special Fee (Assessed with DENT1110)	459
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,254</b>

**FOURTH QUARTER**

Tuition And Fees	\$1,043
Books	134
Special Fee (Assessed With DENT1414)	430
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,607</b>
<b>Total Estimate For Program</b>	<b>\$6,405</b>

**SECOND QUARTER**

Tuition And Fees	\$973
Books	234
Special Fee (Assessed With DENT1211)	45
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,252</b>

**ADDITIONAL RELATED EXPENSES**

Student Health Statement	\$50-300
(includes 3 Hepatitis B injections)	
Health Insurance	\$300

**THIRD QUARTER**

Tuition And Fees	\$1,286
Special Fee (Assessed With DENT1314)	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,291</b>