



**Associate of Applied Science Degree
Diploma**

Credit Hours Required for Graduation:
Associate of Applied Science Degree: 60.0
Diploma: 46.0



For more information contact:

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A0714 - DENT (08/19)

Make someone smile! Dental assistants interact with patients and assist dentists in providing quality dental health care. Dental assistants may also take 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 who pass their boards can become a licensed professional in the state of Nebraska.

Why SCC?

Students will acquire the knowledge and skills in optimal infection control practices and chairside skills to practice as an ethical dental assistant. Cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (hands on skills) and affective (behavior) learning domains are utilized during their education process. New students are admitted to the program in both Fall and Spring terms.

The program includes two semesters plus a 10-week summer term. The program provides clinical experiences at the University of Nebraska Medical Center-College of Dentistry, Veterans Administration-Dental Clinic, Lincoln Lancaster-County Health Department Dental Clinic, Bluestem Health -Dental Clinic, and in various private general and specialty dental offices. Students are responsible for their own transportation.

Graduates of the program are eligible to take the Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) examination, facilitated by the Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. (www.danb.org) and apply for a state license after passing the exam.



Top Career Options

- Licensed Dental Assistant
- Expanded Function Dental Asst.
- Certified Dental Assistant
- Head Dental Assistant
- Orthodontic Assistant
- Surgical Assistant



Graduate Earnings

Recent graduates report an average starting wage of \$17 per hour.

This program is accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation (ADA-CODA), 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611, 312-440-2500, www.ada.org

2019-2020 Tuition/Fee Rate Per Credit Hour	
Nebraska Resident	\$108
Out-of-state tuition/fee rate	\$129

Estimated Expenses Diploma

Tuition/Fees	\$ 6480
Books	1294
Special Fees	1539
Tools/Supplies	

Total: \$9,313



Types of jobs available

Graduates will have the opportunity to work in solo practices, group practices, or specialty practices (surgery, pediatrics, orthodontics, prosthodontics, endodontics, and periodontics). Public health dental clinics, dental school clinics, insurance companies, and dental product representatives are job prospects for graduates. Dental assistant's duties are among the most comprehensive and varied in a dental office that utilize both interpersonal and technical skills.

Admission Requirements

- Complete Program General Education Requirement Courses
- Complete online application to the program during the designated time periods.
- Complete Program Admission Checklist and Criteria (refer to program website for requirements: www.southeast.edu/dentalassisting)
- Submit Transcripts from high school, GED® or other colleges (if applicable)

Diploma – Dental Assisting

The diploma program is designed for those individuals who want to be in the profession of dental assisting. This degree allows graduates to take the national board exam to become a Certified Dental Assistant (CDA). The CDA credential will be the tool utilized to apply for a license in dental assisting (LDA) with the state of Nebraska. The LDA allows for continued growth within the profession of dental assisting by allowing licensed individuals to complete additional education in expanded duties within the dental assisting scope of practice.

Program General Education Requirements

Diploma

(select one course from each GELO)

GELO #1: Oral Communication		
SPCH1110	Public Speaking or	3.0
SPCH1090	Fundamentals of Human Communication or	
SPCH2810	Business & Professional Communication	
GELO #5: Analytical, Quantitative and Scientific Reasoning		
FSDT1350	Basic Nutrition	3.0
GELO #6: Career and Life Skills		
PSYC1250	Interpersonal Relations or	3.0
PSYC1810	Introduction to Psychology	
		9.0 hours

Dental Assisting Required Core Courses

Course #	Course title	Credit hrs
DENT1107	Dental Concepts	2.0
DENT1108	Dental Sciences	3.5
DENT1109	Dental Materials	3.5
DENT1114	Dental Procedures 1 (8week)	2.5
DENT1115	Dental Procedures 2 (8week)	3.0
DENT1220	Oral Prevention with Specialties	3.0
DENT1221	Dental Foundations	3.0
DENT1314	Clinical Education 1	4.5
DENT1313	Oral Radiography 1 (8week)	2.5
DENT1413	Oral Radiography 2 (8week)	2.0
DENT1410	Business Office Communication	2.5
DENT1414	Clinical Education 2	5.0
		37.0 hours



*A.A.S. – Dental Assisting

The AAS is a vocational degree with a focus on expanded duties or functions in the practice of Dental Assisting. Those individuals who have graduated from a CODA Dental Assisting Program, passed the CDA exam and become a Licensed Dental Assistant in Nebraska are eligible to complete this degree.

Program General Education Requirement

Associate of Applied Science (select one course from each GELO)		
GELO #2: Written Communication		3.0
AND		
GELO #3: Critical Thinking and Problem Solving		3.0
AND		
GELO #4: Global Awareness and Citizenship		3.0
AND		
In addition, one of the following courses below:		
HLTH1050	Dental Terminology	
OFFT1150	Basic Keyboarding	
BSAD1010	Microsoft Applications	3.0
		12.0 hours

*A.A.S. Dental Assisting Required Core Courses

Plus a combination of the Expanded Scope courses to equal a minimum of 2 hours

*To be eligible for courses: must be a Nebraska Licensed Dental Assistant or by permission.		
DENT1500	Nitrous Oxide Administration	1.0
DENT1515	Fixed and Removable Prosthodontics	1.5
DENT1530	Pediatric Fixed	1.0
		2.0 hours

Special fees: DENT1500: \$75. DENT1515: \$298.50. DENT1530: \$164.

Special Program Requirements

Submit at the time of completing application to the Health Sciences office (Room B-4):

1. Complete Health Statement (see form on program web page)
2. Complete and provide proof of Basic Life Support (BLS) for the Health Care Provider (HCP) by American Heart Association or CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer or Health Care Provider by American Red Cross
3. Provide proof of prophylaxis (teeth cleaned) verification (within the last 6 months)
4. Complete current Tuberculosis Two-step skin test (see form on program web page)
5. General Education required courses grade point average (GPA) of 2.5 minimum
6. **Current health insurance policy is recommended.

During the Program

1. A Criminal Background Check will be required of each student in the 1st term of this program. Based on the background check, a student may be prevented from taking certain courses, accessing certain laboratory experiences, or completing the program. A non-refundable fee of \$45 will be assessed for this CBC. 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. SCC will assess a non-refundable fee of \$35 to student account.
3. Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 is required to graduate from the program. All DENT courses completed with a grade of 75% (C+) or higher to progress through the program.



The Dental Assisting program challenged me to reach my full potential as a certified dental assistant. I worked in general dentistry for 10 years, then found my way into a specialized office for Endodontics where I have been the last 12 years. In Endodontics, we treat teeth with root canal therapy. I love every minute of it, working for such wonderful and skilled Endodontists, and knowing I helped someone feel better and to help save their teeth.

*-Laura Martacho,
Cornerstone Endodontics*

