



Program Description

The Dental Assisting curriculum is designed to provide opportunities for the student to develop a sound fundamental background for the practice of dental assisting. The specialized knowledge in the field of dental assisting prepares the student and graduate to contribute to the world of dentistry for today's changing environment. This program identifies necessary competencies and integrates the curricula to support these outcomes to produce a dental assistant who is a vital member of the dental health team. The student will become grounded and prepared to function as a Chairside and Expanded Functions clinician, a Business/Office Dental Assistant and a Laboratory Dental Assistant. Graduates of the program are capable of practicing in a general dental practice or in a dental specialty. Progression through the program is sequential. Admission date is Summer Session. Due to the limited amount of space in the clinical area, students will be admitted on space available basis. Successful completion of all courses in the dental assisting program require passing with a C/2.0 GPA or above.

The program is designed to meet the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation Standard for Dental Assisting with the clinical skills and competencies as designated by the State Dental Practice Act of Minnesota State Board of Dentistry. A unique aspect of the South Central College's Dental Assisting program is its location on the Minnesota State University, Mankato campus in a newly refurbished 12-unit dental clinic, with restorative facilities, shared by MSU's Dental Hygiene program. Students are allowed to live on the MSU campus when space is available.

Program Delivery: Students will be admitted to this program in the summer semester, fall admittance will be determined by space availability and faculty advisement.

Program Core Competencies

1. Demonstrate skill competency in oral/written communication and patient management.
2. Demonstrate practical application of infection control, biohazards/quality assurance procedures, and treatment area maintenance.
3. Demonstrate skills to collect medical/dental data, vital signs, dental charting, and maintain accurate patient records.
4. Conduct extra-oral /intra-oral exams, radiographs, preliminary impressions, study casts and occlusal bite registrations.
5. Demonstrate competencies skills and proficiency in tray set-ups, unit preparation, and medical emergency situations.
6. Apply current dental assisting concepts and techniques through competency skill levels and clinical/laboratory dental assisting, expanded functions, general and specialty dental procedures.
7. Demonstrate competency / skill in business office procedures and equipment, dental practice management systems, and financial transactions.

Basic Entrance Requirements

To be admitted to the Dental Assisting Program, students must have completed Interpersonal Communication, Ethics in Society, Current Health Care Provider CPR, First Aid, and Safety prior to taking any core dental assisting courses.

Degrees and Diplomas

Dental Assisting

A.A.S. Degree

Dental Assisting

Diploma





Offered on North Mankato Campus

Admission Date: Summer Semester

Student Background Studies

Minnesota law requires that any person who provides services that involve direct contact with patients and residents at a health care or child care facility licensed by the Minnesota Department of Health have a background study conducted by the state. An individual who is disqualified from having direct patient contact as a result of the background study, and whose disqualification is not set aside by the Commissioner of Health, will not be permitted to participate in a clinical placement in a Minnesota licensed health care or child care facility. Failure to participate in a clinical placement required by the academic program could result in ineligibility to qualify for a degree in that program.

Dental Assisting A.A.S. Degree (65 Credits)

AAS3303

REQUIRED TECHNICAL COURSES

	45
DA1811 Dental Science I	2
DA1812 Oral Anatomy	2
DA1813 Preclinical Dental Assisting	2
DA1814 Chairside Dental Assisting I	4
DA1815 Dental Materials	3
DA1816 Radiology I	3
DA1821 Dental Practice Management	2
DA1822 Clinical Dental Assisting	2
DA1823 Dental Science II	2
DA1824 Chairside Dental Assisting II	4
DA1825 Dental Assisting Expanded Functions	3
DA1826 Radiology II	3
DA1827 Dental Nutrition	1
DA1828 Nitrous Oxide Sedation	1
DA1831 D.A. Internship I	4
DA1841 D.A. Internship II	4
*HLTH1950 CPR	1
*HLTH1952 First Aid	1
*HLTH1954 Safety	1

**These courses must be completed prior to enrolling in any technical Dental Assisting Courses*

REQUIRED LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

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To complete an A.A.S. Degree, students must complete 20 MNTC credits from 3 of the 10 MNTC Goal Areas (combination of required and recommended). See pgs. 56-62 for more information. Courses must be selected in consultation with advisor/faculty.

MNTC - Goal Area 1: Communications

ENGL100 Composition	4
*SPCH100 Interpersonal Communication	3

MNTC - Goal Area 2: Critical Thinking

*PHIL100 Ethics in Society	3
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MNTC - Goal Area 4: Mathematical/Logical Reasoning

MATH115 Concepts in Math	4
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ELECTIVE CREDITS

LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

6

Courses must be selected in consultation with advisor/faculty. Recommended:


MNTC - Goal Area 3: Natural Sciences


BIOL270 Microbiology	4
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MNTC - Goal Area 5: History & the Social & Behavioral Sciences

PSYC100 Introduction to Psychology	4
SOC101 Introduction to Sociology	3

**These courses must be completed prior to enrolling in any technical Dental Assisting Courses*

 See pages 205-256 to find course descriptions for the courses listed above.

 This program has an online option for one or more of its courses. Contact Advisor for online option availability. For more information visit online.southcentral.edu



Offered on North Mankato Campus

Admission Date: Summer Semester

Student Background Studies

Minnesota law requires that any person who provides services that involve direct contact with patients and residents at a health care or child care facility licensed by the Minnesota Department of Health have a background study conducted by the state. An individual who is disqualified from having direct patient contact as a result of the background study, and whose disqualification is not set aside by the Commissioner of Health, will not be permitted to participate in a clinical placement in a Minnesota licensed health care or child care facility. Failure to participate in a clinical placement required by the academic program could result in ineligibility to qualify for a degree in that program.

Dental Assisting Diploma (51 Credits)

DIP3302

REQUIRED TECHNICAL COURSES

	45
DA1811 Dental Science I	2
DA1812 Oral Anatomy	2
DA1813 Preclinical Dental Assisting	2
DA1814 Chairside Dental Assisting I	4
DA1815 Dental Materials	3
DA1816 Radiology I	3
DA1821 Dental Practice Management	2
DA1822 Clinical Dental Assisting	2
DA1823 Dental Science II	2
DA1824 Chairside Dental Assisting II	4
DA1825 Dental Assisting Expanded Functions	3
DA1826 Radiology II	3
DA1827 Dental Nutrition	1
DA1828 Nitrous Oxide Sedation	1
DA1831 D.A. Internship I	4
DA1841 D.A. Internship II	4
*HLTH1950 CPR	1
*HLTH1952 First Aid	1
*HLTH1954 Safety	1

***These courses must be completed prior to enrolling in any technical Dental Assisting Courses**

REQUIRED LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

	6
<i>Courses must be selected in consultation with advisor/faculty.</i>	
<i>MNTC - Goal Area 1: Communications</i>	
*SPCH100 Interpersonal Communication	3
<i>MNTC - Goal Area 2: Critical Thinking</i>	
*PHIL100 Ethics in Society	3

***These courses must be completed prior to enrolling in any technical Dental Assisting Courses**

Course Descriptions See pages 205-256 to find course descriptions for the courses listed above.

ONLINE Options This program has an online option for one or more of its courses. Contact Advisor for online option availability. For more information visit online.southcentral.edu