

St. Cloud Technical & Community College Dental Assistant (AAS/Diploma) Program – Information Packet

Welcome!

Health programs have specific requirements for students to complete.

This material is to help guide you through the process from beginning to graduating from your intended health major. Staff and faculty are here to assist with your educational journey and look forward to seeing you on campus!

Dental Assistant Program Description

The Dental Assistant is a full-time program that begins each fall semester.

- 30 students are accepted each fall semester
- Program begins each fall semester
- 4 semesters: fall, spring, fall, spring

It is a competitive program that requires a thorough application process

Dental assistants are important members of the dental healthcare team, and a degree from SCTCC will prepare graduates with the skills needed to have a career in the dental profession.

Students will learn and develop skills in chairside assisting, infection control procedures, instrument and materials usage, laboratory procedures, administrative duties, mechanical polishing, sealant application, and other expanded functions.

Graduates of the program find work in dental offices in a variety of settings. As a dental assistant you may work side by side with the dentist or as office personnel scheduling appointments or billing. Dental assistants work in corporate or private practices, in dental product sales, or as OSHA compliance officer.

Dental Assistant Careers

Graduates of the program find work in dentists' offices, as well as work as a dental office manager, in public and private practices, in dental product sales, or as OSHA compliance officer.

- The 3-year placement rate for the Dental Assistant program is 100%.
- The average Central MN hourly salary range is \$23.50 per hour.

Prospective/Returning Student - Application Process

- Your first step is to apply to SCTCC as a Pre-Dental Asst student at <https://sctcc.edu/apply>
- Follow instructions received by Admissions and Records & Registration offices.
- Meet with an advisor to begin the *Current SCTCC Student* process.

Current SCTCC Student / Advisor Meetings - Academic Advising Center

- Current SCTCC students are required to meet with an advisor at least once a semester to receive a registration access code and review their academic plan.
- We encourage students to visit more often with any questions or concerns they may have.
- We are here to align you with resources that are available and help guide you through your educational journey at SCTCC!

Dental Assistant Planner (AAS/Diploma)

- A minimum grade of “C” or better AND a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above in pre-requisite coursework is required to be considered for admission.
- Students can apply with pre-requisites in-progress, MUST be complete prior to the start of the program. Priority will be given to students with all pre-requisites complete at the time of application.
- When applying to the program, applicants must be in *Good Academic Standing* at SCTCC
 - Not on warning or probation - cumulative GPA 2.0 & cumulative completion rate of 66.67%.
- **RE-TAKE Options:** Each pre-requisite and General Education course may be taken 3 times.
 - Consult with an advisor about the impact of repeated courses.
- Program application dates and periods may vary and/or be extended. Priority is given to those who apply during the first application period. Stay up to date by checking the program page frequently.
- The Dental Assistant program is competitive, the college may not be able to accept all applicants that meet the minimum admission standards.

<u>AAS Degree General Education Pre-Requisites:</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Semester</u>
Goal Area 1 Written Course (Example: ENGL 1308)	3 Credits	_____
Goal Area 1 Oral Course (Example: CMST 1320)	3 Credits	_____
Goal Area 3: Natural Science WITH Lab Science Course WITH Lab (Example: BLGY 1321)	4 Credits	_____
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See advisor for full Goal Area course list 		
<u>General Education courses (can be taken before OR during program acceptance)</u>		<u>Semester</u>
Psychology Course (Example: PSYC 1304)	3 Credits	_____
Goal Area 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, or 10 (Example: DVRS 1304)	3 Credits	_____
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See advisor for full course list 		

<u>DIPLOMA Option General Education Pre-Requisites:</u>	<u>Credits</u>	<u>Semester</u>		
Goal Area 1 Written Course (Example: ENGL 1308)	3 Credits	_____		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See advisor for full course list 				
Diversity Course – choose 1 course	3 credits	_____		
(<table style="display: inline-table; vertical-align: middle;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 0 10px;"> DVRS 1310 Human Relations for the Workplace DVRS 1304 Diversity & Social Justice </td> <td style="font-size: 3em; vertical-align: middle;">}</td> </tr> </table>	DVRS 1310 Human Relations for the Workplace DVRS 1304 Diversity & Social Justice	}		
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<u>General Education courses (can be taken before OR during program acceptance)</u>		<u>Semester</u>		
Psychology Course (Example: PSYC 1304)	3 Credits	_____		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • See advisor for full course list 				

AAS & Diploma Option Students MUST supply documentation OR take course work at SCTCC:

CPR requirement: Basic Life Support (BLS) American Heart Association OR American Red Cross

- Provide a copy of CPR card AFTER accepted to the Dental Assistant program
- (During Dental Assistant orientation meeting)

Course options at SCTCC: EMSC 1480 (1 credit course) OR HBHE 1513 (Hour based course)

NOT Required, but recommended to improve program acceptance:

- Complete Nurse Assistance course
 - HLTH 1402 or HCCC 1415 & HCCC 1425 or provide 75-hour certificate
- Complete 9 or more college credits (at any institution)

Dental Assistant Historical Applicant Data

Program Start Date	Number of Seats Available	Total Number of Applicants	Total Number of Qualified Applicants*	Average GPA in prerequisites of Accepted Applicants	Number of Accepted Applicants that earned 9 or more credits earned at SCTCC**	Number of Accepted Applicants with a diploma, Associates in Arts or Bachelor's degree**	Number of Accepted Applicants that completed the Nursing Assistant Course**
Fall 2017	30	46	36	3.30	13	4	6
Fall 2018	30	56	44	3.52	7	7	5
Fall 2019	30	49	48	3.44	20	3	2
Fall 2020	30	51	49	3.48	10	5	6
Fall 2021	30	42	35	3.39	9	2	6
Fall 2022	30	52	39	3.58	17	9	8
Fall 2023	30	48	42	3.388	27	3	NA

* All pre-requisites complete with a GPA of 2.5 or higher

** Students accepted to the Dental Assistant program earned /completed areas.

Dental Assistant Program Check List for new & returning (out for over a year) students:

- Apply to SCTCC: <https://sctcc.edu/apply>
- Complete eOrientation & Meet with an Academic Advisor
- Apply for Scholarships and/or FAFSA

Dental Assistant Program Check List for current SCTCC students:

- Follow an *Academic Plan* developed by you and an advisor
- Complete Pre-Requisites (can apply to the program with pre-requisites in-progress)
- Apply to the Program: <https://sctcc.edu/dental-assistant-apply-online>

- The Dental Assistant application is open December 1st through March 1st
- Application date may be extended for additional program applications

Application Timeline for the Dental Assistant Program at SCTCC

- Must be a current SCTCC student to apply to the program
- The Dental Assistant application is open December 1st through March 1st
 - Dates are estimated and subject to change. Review Dental Assisting page for updates.
- Application is found at <https://www.sctcc.edu/dental-assistant-apply-online>
- 6 weeks after application period closes:
 - **Accepted** applicants will have letters sent
 - Top 30 ranking students
 - **Alternate List** applicants will be notified of their status
 - **Non-accepted** applicants are notified & encouraged to meet with an advisor to discuss:
 - ways to improve your application before reapplying to the program
 - your educational options / course selection for next semester
 - other programs and opportunities at SCTCC

Students admitted to the Dental Assistant program

- Applicants will be notified of the date and time for the mandatory Dental Assistant student orientation, usually held in May.
- Applicants **MUST** supply documentation of current AHA/Basic Life Support.
- Applicants will be required to take and pass a MN Criminal Background study, electronic fingerprinting, AND drug testing (paid for by the student).

Students placed on the *Alternate List* for Dental Assistant

- Applicants who meet the requirements but were not admitted because the
- program was full will be placed on a ranked alternate list.
- Applicants placed on this list will be eligible for admission to the program if spaces open prior to the beginning of the fall semester.
- ALL applicants who wish to gain admission to the Dental Assistant Program in the future must reapply, including those who were on the previous year's alternate list.

*****If an applicant is accepted and declines to be admitted into the program, no preference will be given to the applicant should he or she choose to apply in any subsequent year. In order to be considered for admission in any subsequent year, such students will need to go through the entire application process again.**

The Dental Assistant (A.A.S. Degree) Program is a 60-credit degree

Length of Program Once Admitted: 4 semesters Start: Fall Semester/August

Program courses (once accepted) 50 credits

Pre-requisites credits: 10 credits

TOTAL 60 credits

Dental Assistant Program Course (once accepted)

Fall Semester (first semester)

DENT 1400 Dental Sciences 3 credit

DENT 1405 Introduction to Dental Assisting 2 credit

DENT 1413 Pre-Clinical Dental Assisting 2 credit

DENT 1415 Infection Control in the Dental Environment 2 credit

TOTAL 9 credits

Spring Semester (second semester)

DENT 1425 Chairside Assisting I 3 credit

DENT 1435 Dental Materials 3 credit

DENT 1441 Dental Radiology I 3 credit

DENT 1445 Expanded Functions I 3 credit

TOTAL 12 credits

Fall Semester (third semester)

DENT 2406 Dental Health 1 credit

DENT 2424 Chairside Assisting II 4 credit

DENT 2447 Dental Radiology II 3 credit

DENT 2454 Expanded Functions II 4 credit

TOTAL 12 credits

Spring Semester (fourth semester)

DENT 2413 Dental Practice Management 2 credit

DENT 2461 Internship 7 credit

DENT 2486 Internship Seminar 1 credit

DENT 2488 Dental Ethics and Jurisprudence 1 credit

TOTAL 11 credits

General Education courses (can be taken before OR during program acceptance)

MNTC Psychology course (example PSYC 1304) 3 credit

MNTC goal area 2, 6, 7, 8,9 or 10 3 credit

TOTAL 6 credits

Estimated Cost of Program

- Tuition & Fees (60 credits) \$13,290
- Books, Supplies, Materials \$2,950 = \$16,240
 - Please visit <http://www.sctcc.edu/financial-aid> for tuition and fees rate, cost of credits and programs.

Information on the financial aid process and scholarships is also available

Licensing Exam

Graduates will be eligible to write the Dental Assisting National Board Certification examination as well as the Minnesota licensure examination. Students earn the credentials CDA (Certified Dental Assistant) and LDA (Licensed dental Assistant) after successful completion of these exams.

The Dental Assistant Program (Diploma option) is a 53-credit degree

Length of Program Once Admitted: 4 semesters *Start: Fall Semester/August*

Program courses (once accepted) 47 credits

Pre-requisites credits: 6 credits

TOTAL 53 credits

Dental Assistant Program Course (once accepted)

Fall Semester (first semester)

DENT 1400 Dental Sciences 3 credit

DENT 1405 Introduction to Dental Assisting 2 credit

DENT 1413 Pre-Clinical Dental Assisting 2 credit

DENT 1415 Infection Control in the Dental Environment 2 credit

TOTAL 9 credits

Spring Semester (second semester)

DENT 1425 Chairside Assisting I 3 credit

DENT 1435 Dental Materials 3 credit

DENT 1441 Dental Radiology I 3 credit

DENT 1445 Expanded Functions I 3 credit

TOTAL 12 credits

Fall Semester (third semester)

DENT 2406 Dental Health 1 credit

DENT 2424 Chairside Assisting II 4 credit

DENT 2447 Dental Radiology II 3 credit

DENT 2454 Expanded Functions II 4 credit

TOTAL 12 credits

Spring Semester (fourth semester)

DENT 2413 Dental Practice Management 2 credit

DENT 2461 Internship 7 credit

DENT 2486 Internship Seminar 1 credit

DENT 2488 Dental Ethics and Jurisprudence 1 credit

TOTAL 11 credits

General Education courses (can be taken before OR during program acceptance)

MNTC Psychology course (example PSYC 1304) 3 credit

TOTAL 3 credits

Estimated Cost of Program

- Tuition & Fees (60 credits) \$11,740
- Books, Supplies, Materials \$2,950 = 14,690.
 - Please visit <http://www.sctcc.edu/financial-aid> for tuition and fees rate, cost of credits and programs.
 - Information on the financial aid process and scholarships is also available.

Licensing Exam

Graduates will be eligible to write the Dental Assisting National Board Certification examination as well as the Minnesota licensure examination. Students earn the credentials CDA (Certified Dental Assistant) and LDA (Licensed dental Assistant) after successful completion of these exams.

Program FAQ's – Dental Assistant Program

Can I apply directly to the Dental Assistant program?

Students MUST be a *Current Student* (applied and accepted to SCTCC).

Can I apply to the program without all of the pre-requisites complete?

Students can apply with pre-requisites in-progress, MUST be complete prior to the start of the program. Priority will be given to students with all pre-requisites complete at the time of application.

Can I re-take a pre-requisite course to improve my GPA?

Each pre-requisite and General Education course may be taken 3 times. **Consult with an advisor about the impact of repeated courses.**

When does the Dental Assistant program start?

The Dental Assistant program is a 4-semester program that begins each Fall Semester.

How many students are accepted?

30 students are accepted each fall semester.

Can I attend Part-Time?

The Dental Assistant program is a *full-time* program only.

When can I apply to the program?

The Dental Assistant application window is open December 1st through March 1st and can be found at

<http://www.sctcc.edu/dental-assistant-apply-online>

Once accepted to the program, what is the schedule like?

(SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

First year classes (semester 1 – fall semester)

Monday: lecture from 10am-3pm, lab from 4-6 p.m. Wednesday: 1-4p.m. Friday: 10am-11am
(No classes held on Tuesday and Thursday the first semester).

First year classes (semester 2 – spring semester)

Monday: lecture from 11am-3pm and Tuesday: lecture from 1pm-3pm

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday lab from 8am-Noon,

Friday lab either 8am-10am, 10am-Noon or Noon-2pm

Second year classes (semester 3 – fall semester)

Monday: lecture 10am-Noon, Tuesday: lecture 1pm-2pm, Wednesday: lecture 1pm-2pm Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday lab from 8am-Noon (No class on Friday)

Second year classes (semester 4 – spring semester)

First Month some class time, remaining of the semester students will be completing internship.

Is the Dental Assistant program accredited?

St. Cloud Technical and Community College dental assistant program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. Graduates will be eligible to write the Dental Assisting National Board Certification examination as well as the Minnesota licensure examination. Statistically over the past several years, SCTCC dental assistant students have scored **above the national and state average on both of these exams**. Students earn the credentials CDA (Certified Dental Assistant) and LDA (Licensed dental Assistant) after successful completion of these exams.

Visit SCTCC! – Dental Assistant

Thank you for your interest in the Dental Assistant program at SCTCC!

We invite you to sign up for a tour or open house event at <https://sctcc.edu/visit>

After reviewing this information, if you need further assistance, please contact:

Admissions Office 320-308-5089 enroll@sctcc.edu

Academic Advising Center 320-308-5741 advising@sctcc.edu