

St. Cloud Technical & Community College Dental Assistant Program

Current SCTCC Student - 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 2-application process.

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

Students will learn chairside assisting, infection control procedures, prepping instruments and materials, laboratory procedures, administrative duties, mechanical polishing, and sealant application.

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.

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 \$20.00 per hour.

Academic Advising Center - Current Student / Advisor Meetings

Current 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!

Definition of a *Current Student* is one that has:

- Completed the Admissions process and fully accepted to SCTCC AND
- Completed e-orientation and scheduled an initial appointment with an academic advisor OR
- Currently registered for classes at SCTCC as a current, accepted student.

Academic Advising Center: 320-308-5741

Email: aac@sctcc.edu

<https://www.sctcc.edu/advising>

Dental Assistant Program application (2nd application):

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

Students can apply to the Dental Assistant program with pre-requisites in-progress, **MUST** be complete prior to the start of the program (see previous page).

Priority will be given to students with all pre-requisites complete at the time of application.

Applicants must be in *Good Academic Standing* at SCTCC (cumulative GPA of 2.0 and cumulative completion rate of 67%).

Students who are on academic warning or probation will only be considered through an appeals process.

- The Dental Assistant application is open December 1st through March 1st
Applications will remain open until program is filled.
Applications received after March 1st deadline will be placed on the alternate list.
- Application is found at <http://www.sctcc.edu/dental-assistant-apply-online>

The Dental Assistant program is competitive and the college may not be able to accept all applicants that meet the minimum admission standards.

Dental Assistant – A.A.S. Degree Requirements

A minimum grade of “C” or better AND a cumulative GPA of 2.0 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.

RE-TAKE Options: (consult with an advisor about the impact of repeated courses)

- Each pre-requisite may be re-taken one time.
- Each General Education course may be re-taken one time.

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 67%).

General Education pre-requisites include:

Goal Area 1 Communication – Oral (example CMST 1320)	3 credit
Goal Area 1 Communication – Written (example ENGL 1308)	3 credit
Goal Area 3 – Natural Science	4 credit
TOTAL	10 credits

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

Psychology Course (example PSYC 1304)	3 credit
Goal Area 2,6, 7, 8, 9 or 10 (example DVRS 1304)	3 credit
TOTAL	6 credits

Students MUST supply documentation OR take course work at SCTCC:

CPR requirement: MUST BE American Heart Association - Basic Life Support (BLS)

- Provide a copy of CPR card to the college when accepted to the program (if not taken at SCTCC).
- Course options at SCTCC: EMSC 1480 (1 credit course) **OR** HBHE 1510 (Hour based course)

MATH Requirement:

- Accuplacer: minimum score of “44” **OR** “225”.

If scores are not met, consult with an Academic Advisor to discuss course options.

Students may meet the math requirement due to previous college math course work, consult an advisor.

NOT Required, but recommended to improve program acceptance:

- Complete Nurse Assistance course (HLTH 1402)
- Complete 10 or more pre-requisite credits at SCTCC

Dental Assistant Program - Diploma Requirements

A minimum grade of “C” or better AND a cumulative GPA of 2.0 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.

RE-TAKE Options: (consult with an advisor about the impact of repeated courses)

- 1 of the pre-requisite courses may be re-taken one time

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 67%).

General Education pre-requisites include:

ENGL 1308 Stretch Writing OR **ENGL 1309** Stretch Writing II 3 credit
Goal area 1 Communication -Written

DVRS 1310 Human relations for the Workplace OR 3 credit
DVRS 1304 Diversity & Social Justice

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

Psychology Course (Example PSYC 1304) 3 credit

Students MUST supply documentation OR take course work at SCTCC:

CPR requirement: MUST BE American Heart Association - Basic Life Support (BLS)

- Provide a copy of CPR card to the college when applying to the program (if not taken at SCTCC).
- Course options at SCTCC: EMSC 1480 (1 credit course) OR HBHE 1510 (Hour based course)

MATH Requirement:

- Accuplacer: minimum score of “44” OR “225”.
If scores are not met, consult with an Academic Advisor to discuss course options.
- Students may meet the math requirement due to previous college math course work, consult with an Academic Advisor.

NOT Required, but recommended to improve program acceptance:

- Complete Nurse Assistance course (HLTH 1402)
- Complete 9 or more pre-requisite credits at SCTCC

Dental Assistant Historical Applicant Data (Previous years – Student Data)

Start Date	Seats Available	Total # of Applicants	* Total # of Qualified Applicants	Average GPA in pre-requisites	** Earned Diploma, AA, HSBF, Bachelor's degree OR Health Degree	** Earned 9 or more credits at SCTCC	** Completed Nurse Assistant course
Fall 2014	30	47	35	3.31	7	18	9
Fall 2015	30	37	29	3.31	6	11	3
Fall 2016	30	53	34	3.31	3	16	9
Fall 2017	30	46	36	3.30	4	13	6
Fall 2018	30	56	44	3.52	7	7	5

* All pre-requisites complete with a GPA of 2.0 or higher

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

Dental Assistant Application Status Notification Estimated dates and are subject to Change!

Must be a current SCTCC student to apply to the program

The Dental Assistant application is open December 1st through March 1st

- Applications will remain open until program is filled.
- Applications received after March 1st deadline will be placed on the alternate list.

Application is found at <http://www.sctcc.edu/dental-assistant-apply-online>

6 weeks after application period closes:

Acceptance letters sent to the top 30 students.

Students offered admission to the Dental Assistant program must respond by the date noted in the acceptance letter to reserve their seat in the program.

Alternate List applicants are notified of their status (not accepted to the program, currently on the alternate list).

Non-accepted applicants are notified and are encouraged to meet with an Academic Advisor to discuss:

- ways to improve your application before reapplying to the program
- your educational options / course selections for next semester

- other program and opportunities at SCTCC

Students admitted to the Dental Assistant program

- Students will be notified of the date and time for the mandatory Dental Assistant student orientation, usually held in May.
- Students MUST supply documentation of current AHA/Basic Life Support.
- Students 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.
- Students placed on this list will be eligible for admission to the program if spaces open prior to the beginning of the fall semester.
- ALL students 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) \$12,214
- Books, Supplies, Materials \$ 5,550
- \$17,764

Please visit <http://www.sctcc.edu/financial-aid> for tuition and fees rate, cost of credits and programs. Also, there is information on how to apply for Financial Aid and Scholarships.

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) \$10,789
 - Books, Supplies, Materials \$ 5,110
- \$15,899

Please visit <http://www.sctcc.edu/financial-aid> for tuition and fees rate, cost of credits and programs. Also, there is information on how to apply for Financial Aid and Scholarships.

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 course may be re-taken 1 time. Please check with an advisor before re-taking classes. Students may not receive Financial Aid for the re-take course.

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.

Checklist to Acceptance

Health Programs at St. Cloud Technical & Community College (For Students Currently Enrolled at SCTCC)

Cardiovascular Technology • **Dental Assistant** • Dental Hygienist • Paramedicine
Practical Nursing • Nursing (2-year RN) • Sonography • Surgical Technology

- Register for pre-requisite courses for intended health major (each semester you and an advisor will review your academic plan).

- Earn a high GPA to be considered for health majors.

- Apply to the health major when requirements have been met and the program application window is open.

For details, please refer back to the Packet Information.

Visit SCTCC! – Dental Assistant Information Session

Thank you for your interest in the Dental Assistant program at SCTCC!
We invite you to sign up for a Dental Assistant Information Session to learn more about the program. <https://www.sctcc.edu/infosessions/HEALTH>

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 aac@sctcc.edu