

DENTAL ASSISTANT, ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE

NMC Code 300

Dental Assistants are members of a highly qualified health team whose varied duties require knowledge of the basic dental sciences, proficiency in laboratory and clinical skills, and practical experience in meeting patient needs. Both the associate and the certificate programs are accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) and approved by the Michigan Board of Dentistry. Completion of the program qualifies students for the state board exam and after passing the exam, they may practice as Registered Dental Assistants. In addition, program completers are eligible for the National Certification Exam, which is recognized nationwide.

Few jobs offer the diversity and flexibility found in dental assisting. While most dental assistants work as chairside or business assistants in general or specialty dental practices such as orthodontics or oral surgery, other career paths include the following: lab technicians, sales representatives in dental supply companies, and as teachers in vocational or college dental auxiliary programs.

Enrollment in any Dental Assistant (HDA) course requires admission to the dental assistant program **or** approval from the dental assistant program director.

The following are required for admission:

1. High school **or** college transcript 2.0 minimum GPA, **or** successful GED completion.
2. Mathematics: MTH 23 Beginning Algebra **or** placement into MTH 111 Intermediate Algebra **or** higher.
3. Communications: Placement into ENG 111 English Composition **or** higher.

Requirements

Major Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		
ENG 111	English Composition	4
ENG 112	English Composition	4
Any Group 1 Humanities course		3
Math Competency ¹		
BIO 106	Human Biology	4
PSY 101	Introduction to Psychology	3
Elective course(s) 100 level or above		3-4
Occupational Specialty Requirements		
BUS 155 or COM 111	Interpersonal Communications Public Speaking	3-4
HAH 120	Infection Control	2
HDA 101	Introduction to Dentistry	2
HDA 112	Dental Materials	2
HDA 113	Dental Materials Lab	1

HDA 120	Dental Anatomy	3
HDA 140	Oral Pathology/Pharmacology	2
HDA 150	Dental Office Management	2
HDA 160	Dental Emergencies	1
HDA 170	Preventive Dentistry	2
HDA 240	Chairside Procedures	5
HDA 241	Chairside Procedures Lab	2
HDA 242	Dental Radiography	2
HDA 243	Dental Radiography Lab	1.5
HDA 282	CDA/RDA Written Exam Prep	2
HDA 286	RDA Clinical Exam Prep	1
HDA 290	Dental Assistant Internship	5
HPD 110	BLS for Health Care Providers (or equivalent)	0.2
Total Credits		59.7-61.7

¹ Placement into MTH 111 Intermediate Algebra **or** higher, **or** completion of MTH 23 Beginning Algebra

Note: A 2.0 grade or higher is required in HDA & HAH courses.

Course Sequence Guide Placement Requirements

Program admission requires a 2.0 minimum GPA on high school or college transcript, or pass GED.

Mathematics: Placement into MTH 111 Intermediate Algebra or higher

Communications: Placement into ENG 111 English Composition

General Education Requirements

The following courses may be taken before entering the program, after completing the program, or in any semester prior to graduation:

Course	Title	Credits
PSY 101	Introduction to Psychology	3
ENG 111	English Composition	4
ENG 112	English Composition	4
BIO 106	Human Biology	4
BUS 155	Interpersonal Communications	3
COM 111	Public Speaking	4
Humanities Group I		3
Group I Elective		3-4
Total Credits		28-29

Model Schedule

Course	Title	Credits
Fall		
HPD 110	BLS for Health Care Providers (or equivalent)	(0.2)
HAH 120	Infection Control	2
HDA 101	Introduction to Dentistry	2
HDA 120	Dental Anatomy	3
HDA 150	Dental Office Management	2
HDA 160	Dental Emergencies	1
HDA 242	Dental Radiography (Lecture)	2

HDA 243	Dental Radiography Lab	1.5
Credits		13.5
Spring		
HDA 112	Dental Materials (Lecture)	2
HDA 113	Dental Materials Lab	1
HDA 140	Oral Pathology/Pharmacology	2
HDA 170	Preventive Dentistry	2
HDA 240	Chairside Procedures (Lecture)	5
HDA 241	Chairside Procedures Lab	2
HDA 282	CDA/RDA Written Exam Prep	2
Credits		16
Summer		
HDA 290	Dental Assistant Internship	5
HDA 286	RDA Clinical Exam Prep	1
Credits		6
Total Credits		35.5

General Information

- An overall GPA of 2.0 must be maintained throughout the program.
- A 2.0 grade or higher is required in all HDA and HAH classes.