

About the Program

The Career Certificate (C.C.) in Dental Assisting provides students with dental assisting classes that cover the theoretical, practical and clinical skills necessary to receive an entry-level position in a dental office.

Note: If you are considering employment in a state other than Florida, please visit fscj.edu/academics/license-disclose to determine if this program will meet the selected state's educational requirements to sit for licensure or certification testing.

A Related Career Pathways includes is the A.S. in Dental Hygiene. **Related Industry Certifications:** Upon completion of this program, students will be awarded the following certifications or licenses: Expanded Functions certificate, Orthodontic Expanded Functions certificate, Dental Radiography license.

In addition, graduates will be eligible to earn the Certified Dental Assistant credential upon successful completion of the Dental Assisting National Board examinations.

Program Accreditation

The Dental Assisting Program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and has been granted the accreditation status of "approval without reporting requirements". The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. Additional information about the Commission on Dental Accreditation, including contact information, is available in the College Catalog.

Program Requirements

This program is offered for full-time enrollment and requires **1230 contact/clock hours** that must be completed and documented. Students should also understand and accept the attendance requirements prior to enrolling in this career certificate program. This program is **eligible** for financial aid.

Adult Basic Skills

Adult Basic Skills are a major criterion in a student's completion of the program. In order to earn the Career Certificate, students must achieve or surpass the designated exit score(s) on an approved adult basic skills assessment or qualify for a waiver. Program exit scores are available on the Assessment and Certification website at fscj.edu/assessment-and-certification/available-assessments/tabe/tabe-certificate. Online resources and Academic Skills Building (ASB) coursework in Mathematics and Reasoning Through Language Arts are available for student who need assistance in order to meet the exit requirement(s).

Application Procedure

To meet the minimum requirements for consideration and acceptance to the Dental Assisting program, students must:

- ☐ Complete a Florida State College at Jacksonville application.
- ☐ Complete a Dental Assisting application.
- ☐ Successful completion of the Background and Drug Screening process upon acceptance into the program.
- ☐ A physical examination will be required upon acceptance into the program.
- ☐ Complete an approved course in healthcare provider-level CPR with first aid prior to the start of class.
- ☐ Submit one of the following:
 - a. An official (unopened) High School completion transcript (no diplomas) or college transcript
 - b. An official copy of GED® test scores (a copy will be made and the original returned to the applicant). **Note:** Florida State College at Jacksonville transcripts can be unofficial. Transcripts from outside colleges must be official (unopened).

Note: Admissions preference is given to fully qualified candidates who have met all entrance criteria, and have met the exit adult basic skills requirements or have submitted a waiver.

Application Deadline

Applications are due on July 15 of each year with classes starting in the fall. Admission to this program is limited and is based on academic performance and other criteria. Students are accepted into the program (on a space available basis) until the first day of class. After that, students will need the written approval of the dental assisting instructor.

Career Certificate Graduation Requirements

- ☐ Fulfill all academic requirements for the chosen program of study as outlined in the Florida State College at Jacksonville catalog and curriculum.
- ☐ Earn the required number of clock hours for the chosen program of study with a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (C) on a 4.0 scale in all courses that apply to the chosen program of study.
- ☐ Complete a minimum of 25 percent of the total clock hours required for the certificate program as a student at Florida State College at Jacksonville.
- ☐ Fulfill all obligations, financial or otherwise, to the College before graduating.
- ☐ Meet or exceed the program's exit requirement(s), if applicable, or meet the criteria to earn a waiver.

Catalog Year

This document is prepared for students with a **2025-26 College Catalog year**. Students who enter under the 2025-26 catalog will be assigned to the degree or certificate requirements in effect during the 2025-26 academic year. The student's assigned catalog year will remain in effect as long as the student maintains continuous enrollment. Changes to requirements as mandated by law or by rule of the District Board of Trustees may supersede this provision.

To maintain continuous enrollment, a student must have registration for, and successful completion of, at least one course within a three-term period. After three consecutive terms of no enrollment, the student will be discontinued from the current program of study and will need to apply to FSCJ to reenter under the same program of study. Upon readmission, the student will be assigned to the current catalog of record in the chosen program.

Curriculum

A minimum grade of C or higher must be achieved in all professional coursework.

Sample Roadmap

This sample roadmap shows one possible pathway to program completion and may not be appropriate for all students. Prior to enrolling in classes, please meet with an advisor for specific guidance about your individual academic plan.

Term 1

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|---|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEA 0020 - Introduction to Clinical Procedures, Contact Hours: 40. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEA 0020L - Introduction to Clinical Procedures Laboratory, Contact Hours: 80. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEA 0130 - Biological Sciences for the Dental Assistant, Contact Hours: 60. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEA 0725 - Introduction to Dental Assisting, Contact Hours: 90. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DES 0021 - Head, Neck and Dental Anatomy, Contact Hours: 60. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DES 0103 - Dental Materials, Contact Hours: 30. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DES 0103L - Dental Materials Laboratory, Contact Hours: 34. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DES 0205 - Radiology I, Contact Hours: 30. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DES 0205L - Radiology I Laboratory, Contact Hours: 50. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DES 0501 - Dental Office Management, Contact Hours: 32. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |

Term 2

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|--|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEA 0029 - Dental Specialties, Contact Hours: 112. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEA 0311 - Preventive Dentistry, Contact Hours: 32. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEA 0834 - Expanded Functions, Contact Hours: 32. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEA 0834L - Expanded Functions Laboratory, Contact Hours: 88. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEA 0850 - Dental Assisting Clinical Practice I, Contact Hours: 112. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DES 0053 - Pharmacology and Dental Office Emergencies, Contact Hours: 32. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DES 0206 - Radiology II, Contact Hours: 32. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DES 0206L - Radiology II Laboratory, Contact Hours: 32. Weeks Per Course: 15. | Grade Earned: _____ |

Term 3

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEA 0851 - Dental Assisting Clinical Practice II, Contact Hours: 224. Weeks Per Course: 7. | Grade Earned: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> DEA 0936 - Seminar, Contact Hours: 28. Weeks Per Course: 7. | Grade Earned: _____ |

Course Requirements

Prerequisites, corequisites, and conditions for any course are subject to change. Students must meet the prerequisite and corequisite requirements of any course at the time the student attempts to register for that course. If you have questions about the prerequisites, corequisites, or conditions for a course, please contact any academic advisor.

Professional Courses

Complete all of the following courses.

DEA 0020 - Introduction to Clinical Procedures, Contact Hours: 40. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: None. **Conditions**: Admission to the Dental Assisting program. First term Dental Assisting courses.

DEA 0020L - Introduction to Clinical Procedures Laboratory, Contact Hours: 80. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: DEA 0020. **Conditions**: Admission to the Dental Assisting Program; First term dental assisting courses.

DEA 0029 - Dental Specialties, Contact Hours: 112. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: None. **Conditions**: Successful completion of first term Dental Assisting courses. Second term Dental Assisting courses.

DEA 0130 - Biological Sciences for the Dental Assistant, Contact Hours: 60. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: None. **Conditions**: Admission to the Dental Assisting program. First term Dental Assisting courses.

DEA 0311 - Preventive Dentistry, Contact Hours: 32. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: None. **Conditions**: Successful completion of first term Dental Assisting courses. Second term Dental Assisting courses.

DEA 0725 - Introduction to Dental Assisting, Contact Hours: 90. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: None. **Conditions**: Admission to the Dental Assisting Program.

DEA 0834 - Expanded Functions, Contact Hours: 32. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: None. **Conditions**: Successful completion of first term Dental Assisting courses. Second term Dental Assisting courses.

DEA 0834L - Expanded Functions Laboratory, Contact Hours: 88. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: DEA 0834. **Conditions**: Successful completion of first term dental assisting courses; Second term dental assisting courses.

DEA 0850 - Dental Assisting Clinical Practice I, Contact Hours: 112. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: None. **Conditions**: Successful completion of first term Dental Assisting courses. Second term Dental Assisting courses.

DEA 0851 - Dental Assisting Clinical Practice II, Contact Hours: 224. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: DEA 0936. **Conditions**: Successful completion of first and second term Dental Assisting courses.

DEA 0936 - Seminar, Contact Hours: 28. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: DEA 0851. **Conditions**: Successful completion of first and second term Dental Assisting courses.

DES 0021 - Head, Neck and Dental Anatomy, Contact Hours: 60. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: None. **Conditions**: Admission to the Dental Assisting program. First term Dental Assisting courses.

DES 0053 - Pharmacology and Dental Office Emergencies, Contact Hours: 32. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: None. **Conditions**: Successful completion of first term Dental Assisting courses. Second term Dental Assisting courses.

DES 0103 - Dental Materials, Contact Hours: 30. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: None. **Conditions**: Admission to the Dental Assisting program.

DES 0103L - Dental Materials Laboratory, Contact Hours: 34. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: DES 0103. **Conditions**: Admission to the Dental Assisting Program.

DES 0205 - Radiology I, Contact Hours: 30. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: None. **Conditions**: Admission to the Dental Assisting program. First term Dental Assisting courses.

DES 0205L - Radiology I Laboratory, Contact Hours: 50. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: DES 0205. **Conditions**: Admission to Dental Assisting Program; First term dental assisting courses.

DES 0206 - Radiology II, Contact Hours: 32. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: None. **Conditions**: Successful completion of first term Dental Assisting Program courses; Second term Dental Assisting Program courses.

DES 0206L - Radiology II Laboratory, Contact Hours: 32. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: DES 0206. **Conditions**: Successful completion of first term dental assisting courses. Second term dental assisting courses.

DES 0501 - Dental Office Management, Contact Hours: 32. **Prerequisite(s)**: None. **Corequisite(s)**: None. **Conditions**: Admission to the Dental Assisting program. First term Dental Assisting courses.