



DENT – Dental Assistant Program

Health and Human Services

Effective Term & Year: Fall 2026

Program Outline Review Date: 2031-04-01

Program Area: Health

Description:

The Dental Assistant Program is a full-time, ten-month program designed to prepare graduates for careers as Licensed Dental Assistants (LDAs). The program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada.

Upon graduation, students are eligible to write the National Dental Assisting Examining Board (NDAEB) examination. Successful completion of the NDAEB examination is required before graduates can apply for registration and licensure with the appropriate provincial Dental Assisting Regulatory Authority. Graduates may practice as a Licensed Dental Assistant in British Columbia only after successfully completing the NDAEB examination and obtaining the required provincial registration and licensure.

Program Information:

The ten-month full-time program combines lecture and clinical practice to prepare students for a career as a Licensed Dental Assistant.

Credentials Granted:

Dental Assistant Certificate

Minimum Course Grade: A minimum grade of B-

Program Average: A minimum program grade point average of 2.0/10 (C- average)

General Requirements:

Program Requirements

- Dental Office Observation
- Dental Screening Form
- CPR Level C certification, current for the duration of the program. Acceptable CPR courses must include a face-to-face component and may be combined with a first aid course
- BCCDC Immunizations for BC Health Care Workers
- Annual influenza immunization
- COVID-19 vaccination
- Negative TB testing results, must be completed no earlier than 6 months before the beginning of the Dental Assistant Program
- Computer literacy is recommended

Delivery Methods: On-Campus (Face-to-Face)

Credits: 49

Instructional Activity and Hours:

Activity	Hours
Classroom, Directed Studies or Online Instruction	447
Seminar/Tutorials	
Laboratory/Studio	559
Practicum/Field Experience	180
Co-op/Work Experience	
Other	14
Total	1200

Admission Requirements:

- Complete all of the following
 - Secondary school graduation or equivalent.
 - Earned a minimum grade of C+ (65%) in at least 1 of the following:
 - [ENST 12](#) – English Studies 12
 - [ENFP 12](#) – English First Peoples 12
 - [ENGL090](#) – Provincial English: Literature-based (0)
 - Earned a minimum grade of C+ (65%) in at least 1 of the following:
 - [ATPH 12](#) – Anatomy and Physiology 12
 - [BIOL090](#) – Biology-Provincial Level (Human Biology) (3)

Recommended Admission Requirements:

English Language Proficiency Requirements

- Applicants whose first language is not English may be required to undergo the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). An overall score of 6.5 in all bands is required to enter the program
- It is the applicant's responsibility to arrange this assessment through Student Services or an Education Advisor at the College

Non-Academic Admission Requirements:

- Dental Assistant Program Requisite Skills and Abilities Declaration
- Criminal Record Check (CRC) through the Ministry of Public Safety and Solicitor General
- Notice of Collection, Use and Disclosure Agreement

Program Completion Requirements:

Certified Dental Assistant Program

49 Total Credits

- Completed the following:
 - [DENT100](#) – Introduction to Dental Assisting (3)
 - [DENT130](#) – Microbiology and Infection Control (2)
 - [DENT131](#) – Basic Dental Assisting (2)
 - [DENT132](#) – Patient Assessment (4)
 - [DENT133](#) – Dental Office Emergencies (2)
 - [DENT134](#) – Preventive Dentistry (3)
 - [DENT135](#) – Dental Radiography (3)
 - [DENT136](#) – Restorative Assisting (3)
 - [DENT137](#) – Laboratory Procedures (2)
 - [DENT140](#) – Dental Specialties (3)
 - [DENT141](#) – Community Dental Health (3)
 - [DENT142](#) – Dental Reception (3)
 - [DENT143](#) – Patient Care Procedures (2)
 - [DENT154](#) – Clinical Dental Assisting Procedures (6)
 - [DENTPRAC1](#) – Work Experience 1 (4)
 - [DENTPRAC2](#) – Work Experience 2 (4)

Grand Total Credits: 49

Prior Learning and Recognition: No

Program Transfer Credit:

For information about block transfer agreements between programs in British Columbia, Alberta, and elsewhere, please visit <http://www.cotr.bc.ca/transfer>.

To minimize transfer issues, check with an academic advisor at the institution that will receive the transfer credits.

Academic Policies:

College of the Rockies policies related to courses can be found at <https://cotr.bc.ca/about-us/college-policies/> and include the following:

- Policy 2.1.4 Course Audit
 - Policy 2.4.1 Credential Framework
 - Policy 2.4.3 Students with Documented Disabilities
 - Policy 2.4.4 Student Rights, Responsibilities and Conduct
 - Policy 2.4.8 Academic Performance
 - Policy 2.4.9 Student Feedback and Concerns
 - Policy 2.4.11 Storage of Academic Works
 - Policy 2.5.3 Student Appeal
 - Policy 2.5.5 Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR)
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Program Changes:

Information contained in this program outline is correct at the time of publication. Courses and course content may be revised from time to time based on changing educational, employment and marketing needs. The timetable may also be revised.

Course Descriptions: Refer to Course Outlines – <https://outlines.cotr.bc.ca/course/>