



DENTAL ASSISTANT

Technical Diploma Program Code: 30-508-2 Total Credits: 16

In this program, you will learn to use dental equipment, expose and process radiographs, assist with dental emergencies, record medical and dental information, maintain a supply inventory, and perform related dental office and laboratory procedures. Students in the program receive practical training on-site with one of our dental office partners. Hands-on experiences include working with dental practice management software and dental equipment and materials. Students will also operate x-ray units and other digital imaging devices to perform radiographs.

Estimated tuition and fees: mstc.edu/programcosts

ACADEMIC ADVISOR

To schedule an appointment with an academic advisor, call 715.422.5300. Academic advisors will travel to other campuses as necessary to accommodate student needs. For more information about advising, visit mstc.edu/advising.

NEW STUDENT CHECKLIST

Complete the following steps to prepare for your New Student Advising appointment with your academic advisor:

- ☐ Submit a Mid-State application at mstc.edu/apply.
- ☐ Send official transcripts to:
Mid-State Technical College
Student Services
1001 Centerpoint Drive
Stevens Point, WI 54481
- ☐ Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov. Mid-State's Financial Aid team is available to assist with your FAFSA application and to answer your financial aid questions. Contact Financial Aid or schedule an appointment at mstc.edu/financial-aid.
- ☐ Set up student MyCampus account at mstc.edu/mycampus-assistance.
- ☐ Schedule a New Student Advising appointment at mstc.edu/advising.



mstc.edu • 888.575.6782 • TTY: 711



ADAMS CAMPUS
401 North Main
Adams, WI 53910

MARSHFIELD CAMPUS
2600 West 5th Street
Marshfield, WI 54449

**STEVENS POINT
DOWNTOWN CAMPUS**
1001 Centerpoint Drive
Stevens Point, WI 54481

WISCONSIN RAPIDS CAMPUS
500 32nd Street North
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

CAREER PATHWAY • BEGIN AT ANY POINT



CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING AND EXPERIENCE

CREDIT FOR PRIOR LEARNING AND EXPERIENCE

- Certifications and Licenses
- High School Credit
- Military Experience
- National/Standardized Exams
- Transfer Credit
- Work and Life Experience

Learn about Credit for Prior Learning at mstc.edu/cpl.

TECHNICAL DIPLOMA

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Technical Diploma • 16 Credits

Start Your Career

- Dental Assistant
- Orthodontic Assistant

BACHELOR'S DEGREE

BACHELOR'S DEGREE OPTIONS

For those interested in continuing their education, Mid-State offers transfer agreements with various four-year colleges and universities. For more information and additional opportunities, visit mstc.edu/transfer.

OTHER OPTIONS

RELATED PROGRAMS

- Health & Wellness Promotion
- Health Information Management
- Medical Assistant
- Medical Coder
- Nursing
- Nursing Assistant
- Phlebotomy Technician
- Radiography
- Respiratory Therapy
- Sterile Processing Technician
- Surgical Technology

OUTCOMES

Employers will expect you, as a Dental Assistant graduate, to be able to:

- Perform a variety of entry-level supportive dental procedures.
- Manage infection and hazard control.
- Produce diagnostic radiographs.
- Perform basic dental laboratory procedures.
- Demonstrate professional behaviors, ethics, and appearance.

TECHNICAL SKILLS ATTAINMENT

The Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS) has implemented a requirement that all technical colleges measure outcomes attained by students. This requirement is called Technical Skills Attainment (TSA). The main objective of TSA is to ensure graduates have the technical skills needed by employers. Students will be notified of their TSA assessment in the final few courses of the program.

ADDITIONAL ENTRY CRITERIA

To apply to the Dental Assistant program, please submit the following documents to Mid-State Admissions:

- Criminal Background Statement of Understanding and Release of Information form.

Mid-State Technical College • Admissions
500 32nd Street North, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

A list of specific physical, emotional, and mental tasks needed to function as a dental assistant is available at mstc.edu/programs/dental-assistant. Contact the Disability Services coordinator in the Student Services & Information Center to receive assistance.

CLINICAL-RELATED REQUIREMENTS

Prior to placement at a clinical site, students need to pay for a criminal background check and provide documentation of required health work.

Students are responsible for ensuring all requirements remain current during program enrollment.

Clinical sites have the right to refuse a student's placement based on inadequate health records, pending charges, or conviction records. Students with a criminal history may not be able to complete clinical courses. Mid-State will make two attempts to place a student in an appropriate clinical experience. If Mid-State is unable to place the student after two attempts, the student will be withdrawn from the clinical course and will not be able to advance in the program.

PROGRAM PROGRESSION AND COMPLETION

In order to maintain a passing status and progress in the program, students must:

- Repeat courses not completed with a grade of "C" or better prior to progressing in program. courses with co- or prerequisites.
- Receive a grade of "C" or better in all courses required for graduation.
- Please note that the ability to repeat courses is dependent upon availability in courses. Students may be required to apply for program re-entry in order to repeat courses within the program's instructional area.

STUDENT HANDBOOK

Visit mstc.edu/studenthandbook to view Mid-State's student handbook, which contains information about admissions, enrollment, appeals processes, services for people with disabilities, financial aid, graduation, privacy, Mid-State's Student Code of Conduct, and technology.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENT

The GPS for Student Success course is required for all Mid-State program students and is recommended to be completed before obtaining 12 credits. (Not counted in the total credit value for this program.) Some students are exempt from this requirement. Please see your program advisor for more information.

GPS for Student Success ☑

10890102 1 credit
Integrate necessary skills for student success by developing an academic plan, identifying interpersonal attributes for success, adopting efficient and effective learning strategies, and utilizing Mid-State resources, policies, and processes. This course is recommended to be completed prior to obtaining 12 credits and is a graduation requirement unless you receive an exemption from your program advisor.

ADDITIONAL COURSES AS NEEDED

The following courses may be recommended or required if the student does not achieve minimum Accuplacer scores.

College Reading and Writing 1

10831104 3 credits
Provides learners with opportunities to develop and expand reading and writing skills to prepare for college-level academic work. Students will employ critical reading strategies to improve comprehension, analysis, and retention of texts. Students will apply the writing process to produce well-developed, coherent, and unified written work.

Pre-Algebra

10834109 3 credits
Provides an introduction to algebra. Includes operations on real numbers, solving linear equations, percent and proportion, and an introduction to polynomials and statistics. Prepares students for elementary algebra and subsequent algebra-related courses.

SAMPLE FULL-TIME CURRICULUM OPTION

Term		16 credits
31508301	Dental Health Safety	1
31508302	Dental Chairside	5
31508303	Dental Materials	2
31508304	Dental & General Anatomy	2
31508305	Applied Dental Radiography	2
31508306	Dental Assistant Clinical	3
31508307	Dental Assistant Professional	1
	Total credits	16

📌 This course has options available to receive credit for prior learning (CPL) or work experience. Visit the website at mstc.edu/cpl or contact your advisor for details.

Please Note:

- This curriculum sequence is only for student planning. Actual student schedules will vary depending on course availability.
- Program completion time may vary based on student scheduling and course availability. For details, go to **mstc.edu/schedule**.

NOTES:

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Applied Dental Radiography

31508305.....2 credits

Prepares dental auxiliary students to operate x-ray units and expose bitewing, periapical, extra oral, and occlusal images. Emphasis is placed on protection against x-ray hazards. Students also process, mount, and evaluate dental images for diagnostic value. In this course students demonstrate competency on a manikin. In addition, students expose bitewing and periapical images on a peer or patient. Students gain further experience in exposing images on patients in the clinical portion of their program. This course also provides the background in radiographic theory required for students to make informed decisions and adjustments.

Prerequisite: Admission to Dental Assistant program 305082 and 31508301 Dental Health Safety; Corequisites: Dental Assistant Clinical 31508306, Dental & General Anatomy 31508304, Dental Chairside 31508302, and Dental Materials 31508303

Dental & General Anatomy

31508304.....2 credits

Apply fundamentals of general and dental anatomy to informed decision-making and to professional communication with colleagues and patients.

Prerequisite: Admission to the Dental Assistant program and 31508301 Dental Health Safety; Corequisites: 31508305 Applied Dental Radiography, 31508302 Dental Chairside, 31508306 Dental Assistant Clinical, 31508303 Dental Materials.

Dental Assistant Clinical

31508306.....3 credits

Apply skills in a clinical setting with patients. Integration of core abilities and basic occupational skills are emphasized.

Prerequisite: Admission to the Dental Assistant program and 31508301 Dental Health Safety; Corequisites: 31508302 Dental Chairside, 31508304 Dental & General Anatomy, 31508305 Applied Dental Radiography, 31508303 Dental Materials.

Dental Assistant Professional

31508307.....1 credit

Develop professional appearance and image and learn to work within ethical guidelines and legal frameworks. Develop and customize a portfolio and on-going professional development plan to prepare for the workforce.

Prerequisite: Admission to the Dental Assistant program 305082 and 31508301 Dental Health Safety; Corequisites: 31508306 Dental Assistant Clinical, 31508305 Applied Dental Radiography, 31508302 Dental Chairside.

Dental Chairside

31508302.....5 credits

Prepares dental assistant students to chart oral cavity structures, dental pathology, and restorations and to assist a dentist with basic dental procedures including examinations, pain control, amalgam restoration, and cosmetic restoration. Students will also develop the ability to educate patients about preventive dentistry, brushing and flossing techniques, and dental procedures, using lay terminology. Throughout the course, students will apply decoding strategies to the correct use and interpretation of dental terminology.

Prerequisite: Admission to the Dental Assistant program and 31508301 Dental Health Safety; Corequisites: 31508306 Dental Assistant Clinical, 31508304 Dental & General Anatomy, 31508305 Applied Dental Radiography, 31508303 Dental Materials.

Dental Health Safety

31508301.....1 credit

Prepares dental auxiliary students to respond proactively to dental emergencies, control infection, prevent disease, adhere to OSHA Standards, and safely manage hazardous materials. Students also take patient vital signs and collect patient medical/dental histories. CPR certification is a prerequisite; students will be required to show proof of certification before beginning the course. This course is a WTCS aligned course required in both the Dental Hygienist and Dental Assisting programs.

Prerequisite: Admission to Dental Assistant program 305082

Dental Materials

31508303.....2 credits

Prepares dental auxiliary students to handle and prepare dental materials such as liners, bases, cements, amalgam, resin restorative materials, gypsum products, and impression materials. They also learn to take alginate impressions on manikins and clean removable appliances. This course is aligned to serve students in the Dental Hygienist and Dental Assistant programs.

Prerequisite: Admission to Dental Assistant program 305082 and 31508301 Dental Health Safety; Corequisites: Dental Assistant Clinical 31508306, Dental & General Anatomy 31508304, Applied Dental Radiography 31508305, and Dental Chairside 31508302