

Dental Assistant (C.C.)

Program Requirements

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

1. Complete an application for Florida State College at Jacksonville with Dental Assisting as the Program of Study.
2. Submit official non-FSCJ transcripts to the College prior to the application deadline date.

Additional Admissions Information

Applicant ranking is based on the sum of two scores: the CASCAS Gold score and high school/college Grade Point Average (GPA) or GED® score. The maximum score is 50 points.

CASCAS Gold – Scoring of the CASCAS Gold test is calculated from the scores earned on the Reading and Math sections of the test. The applicant will receive 10 points for each section if they meet the following minimum scores:

Reading 254

Math 249

Students with a CASCAS Gold exemption will receive the maximum points possible (30). Scores earned in any section that are below the minimum are valued at 0 points. Possible points = 30

GPA/GED® – The applicant may select to use their high school or college (12 or more college credits) GPA or GED® score, whichever is higher. The GED® score is calculated by dividing the first 3 digits of the score by 5, i.e. GED® score of 3500 is calculated as $350/5 = 70$, then...

- Applicants with a high school or college GPA of 3.0 or higher or a GED® score of 70 or higher = 20 points
- Applicants with a high school or college GPA of 2.0 to 2.9 or a GED® score of 60 - 69 = 10 points

- Applicants with a high school or college GPA of 1.9 or lower or a GED® score of 59 or lower = 0 points

For your reference, the Dental Assisting rubric that will be used to determine your admissions ranking is included below.

Dental Assisting Admissions Rubric				
GOALS CASAS Results		Points	Max Points	Points Earned
Reading	254 or greater	10	20	
Math	249 or greater	10		
G.P.A./GED		Points	30	
G.P.A.	GED			
≤ 1.9	≤ 59	0		
2.0-2.9	60-69	10		
≥ 3.0	≥70	20		
Total Possible Points:			50Pts	

When the application deadline is reached, all complete applications will be ranked and the 22 students with the highest scores will be offered acceptance.

Students will be notified through their FSCJ Student email of their admissions status after all applications have been reviewed and processed. Students can anticipate being notified approximately one month following the application deadline. Information concerning a student's admissions status will not be given via telephone.

Students selected for admission will have a specified time to notify the Health Career Advising Center that they are accepting the seat. Failure to notify the Health Career Advising Center as indicated in the acceptance email will result in forfeiture of the seat. If a seat is forfeited, the next eligible applicant on the ranked list will be offered the seat.

If you have questions or need assistance, we have dedicated staff available to help. Please reach out to us by phone at (904) 713-4545 or by email at hcc@fscj.edu.

Students Requesting Reinstatement No guarantee of reinstatement is offered to students who withdraw from the program for academic or personal reasons. Students requesting reinstatement after withdrawal from the Dental Assisting program will be considered on an individual basis. Students that are granted reinstatement will do so only after signing a contract describing the program's

behavioral and academic expectations for the readmitted student and the consequences of noncompliance.

Reapplication Process

In the event you are not selected for entrance to the Dental Assisting program, the procedure for reapplying follows:

1. Applicants must resubmit a new application. No applications will be held for the next admitting term.
2. Applicants who wish to be reconsidered for upcoming classes are responsible for meeting any new criteria for that class as they are announced.
3. Please supply all required documents with the new application.

General Professional Information

Industry Information: Dental assistants have many tasks, ranging from providing patient care and taking x-rays to recordkeeping and scheduling appointments. Their duties vary by state and by the dental offices where they work.

Program Information: The Dental Assisting program provides students with theoretical, practical and clinical skills. Courses include dental basic sciences, dental radiographic techniques, dental materials, sterilization and disease control, chairside assisting, office management, dental specialties and expanded duties. The Dental Assisting program has been approved by the Florida Board of Dentistry to offer certification in the following expanded functions and dental radiology:

- Making alginate impressions for study casts
- Removing sutures
- Placing or removing temporary restorations
- Polishing amalgam restorations
- Polishing clinical crowns for the purpose of stain removal
- Applying sealants
- Preliminary charting of existing conditions
- Placing and removing periodontal dressings
- Placing and removing matrices
- Placing and removing rubber dam
- Applying cavity liners, varnishes, or bases
- Applying topical fluorides
- Removing excess cement

- Placing gingival retraction cord
- Fabrication of temporary crowns and bridges
- Cementing temporary crowns and bridges
- Positioning and exposing dental radiographic film

Jobs: According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of dental assistants is expected to grow by 19.5 percent from 2016 to 2026, much faster than the average for all occupations. Ongoing research linking oral health and general health will continue to spur the demand for preventative dental services. Bureau of Labor Statistics, <http://www.bls.gov/>. Upon completion of coursework, Florida State College at Jacksonville does not guarantee employment or salary in a given field of study. Any jobs mentioned are given as examples of potential employment.

Infectious Disease Policy

In the performance of assigned treatments and/ or procedures, students enrolled in the Dental Assisting program at FSCJ may be exposed to bloodborne pathogens that may progress to an infectious disease. Students seeking admission to the dental programs may, through previous exposure, be infected with an infectious disease. To protect the health and safety of students, as well as faculty, staff, and patients, the FSCJ Dental Assisting program has established an Infectious Disease Policy that describes the proper techniques and procedures necessary to minimize these risks. Instruction in infection control and prevention is a significant part of our dental assisting curriculum. Applicants interested in obtaining a copy of the program's Infectious Disease Policy can do so by calling (904) 766-6571. Dental

Assisting Program Course Requirements/ Sequence

All Dental Assisting courses must be taken in sequence, except in rare, extenuating circumstances with the permission of the program director. Students must achieve a "C" average in all courses prior to graduation from the program. No Dental Assisting course may be repeated more than twice. Any reinstatements must be approved by the program director after consultation with the Admission Committee. Enrollment into the program will typically occur in the fall term.