

CERTIFICATE and ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE (AAS)

## Dental Assisting

The Dental Assisting program prepares students to become skilled members of the dental health care team. Dental assistants are dental professionals who work side by side with the dentist during patient care. They greatly increase the efficiency of the dentist in the delivery of oral health care and perform a wide range of responsibilities. Qualities that make a successful dental assistant include good interpersonal, technical, communication, and organizational skills.

### Why study dental assisting?

There is a variety of tasks that dental assistants perform. Along with assisting the dentist chairside, assistants take and review patient medical histories; provide patients with instructions for dental procedures; prepare equipment, materials, and instruments for patient care; create temporary crowns; provide coronal polishing and placement of sealants; take impressions of teeth; create study casts (models); expose radiographs; perform sterilization and disinfection procedures, and perform a variety of other duties according to the state where they are licensed. Dental assistants may also be responsible for administrative tasks, such as billing, patient verification, scheduling of various types of treatment appointments, and material inventory.

### Focused courses for your degree

The ten-month 45-credit certificate program includes lectures, supervised labs and clinics, as well as over 300 hours of clinical affiliation experiences in dental practices. Four pre-requisite courses must be completed before being accepted into the dental assisting program. Students may also choose the 64-credit Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree program, which will take two academic years to complete. Graduates of Dakota College's Dental Assisting program can perform advanced functions allowed by the state of North Dakota.

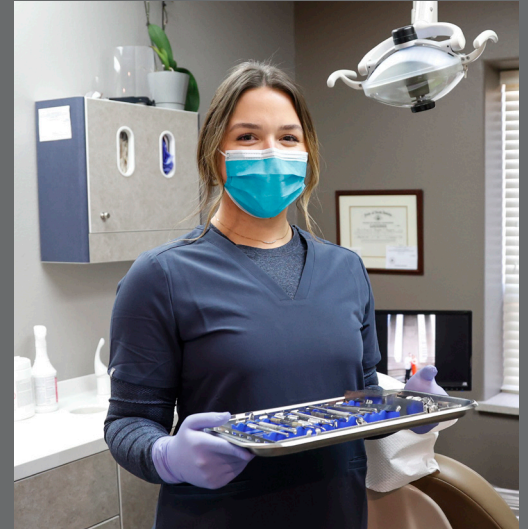
### Credential

Following graduation and licensure requirements of the North Dakota State Board of Dentistry, the dental assistant will use the credential Registered Dental Assistant (RDA).

The Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) serves the public and profession by developing and implementing accreditation standards that promote and monitor dental education programs' continuous quality and improvement. Dakota College is seeking initial accreditation by CODA.

### State and national licensure requirements

If the graduate wishes to become credentialed nationally, they must pass the Dental Assisting National Board Exam (DANBE) and will use the credential Certified Dental Assistant (CDA). Earning the DANB certification will allow degree transferability throughout the U.S.



## COURSES REQUIRED

### Certificate in Dental Assisting

#### Prerequisites

(must be completed before admission to program)

BIOL 115 Concepts of Anatomy & Physiology .....	4 cr
<b>or</b> BIOL 220 Anatomy & Physiology I .....	4 cr
and BIOL 221 Anatomy & Physiology II.....	4 cr
COMM 110 Fund. of Public Speaking .....	3 cr
DENT 116 Dental Anatomy .....	2 cr
UNIV 105 First Year Experience .....	1 cr

#### Semester 1 – Fall

DENT 117 Intro. to Infection Control, Immunology, and Medical Emergencies in the Dental Practice .....	2 cr
DENT 118 Biomaterials .....	3 cr
DENT 119 Dental Radiology.....	3 cr
DAST 122 Dental Assisting Radiology Lab I .....	1 cr
DAST 124 Clinical Assisting I.....	5 cr
DAST 144 Biodental Science.....	2 cr

#### Semester 2 – Spring

DENT 121 Dental Ethics & Jurisprudence .....	1 cr
DAST 123 Dental Assisting Radiology Lab II.....	1 cr
DAST 125 Clinical Assisting II.....	4 cr
DAST 126 Dental Practice Management.....	2 cr
DAST 128 Advanced Functions .....	4 cr
DAST 129 Dental Specialties.....	1 cr
DAST 149 Clinical Affiliation I.....	1 cr

#### Semester 3 – Summer

DAST 150 Clinical Affiliation II.....	5 cr
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### AAS COURSE REQUIREMENTS

To earn an Associate of Applied Science in Dental Assisting, the following general education courses must be completed:

BIOL 202 Microbiology .....	4 cr
Math elective.....	3-4 cr
PSYC 111 Introduction to Psychology .....	3 cr
Technology elective .....	3 cr
Wellness elective .....	1 cr

All courses subject to change.

### Admission to the Dental Assisting Program

A selective admission process is used for acceptance into the Dental Assisting Program, which admits 12 qualified students for a fall start each year. The admission requirements must be fulfilled to be considered for admission into the program.

To enroll in the Dental Assisting program, students must have a high school diploma or General Educational Development (GED) diploma, apply for admission to Dakota College, and meet program entry requirements.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Kris Pladson, CDA, RDH, MS Program Director  
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Ph: 701-371-5729

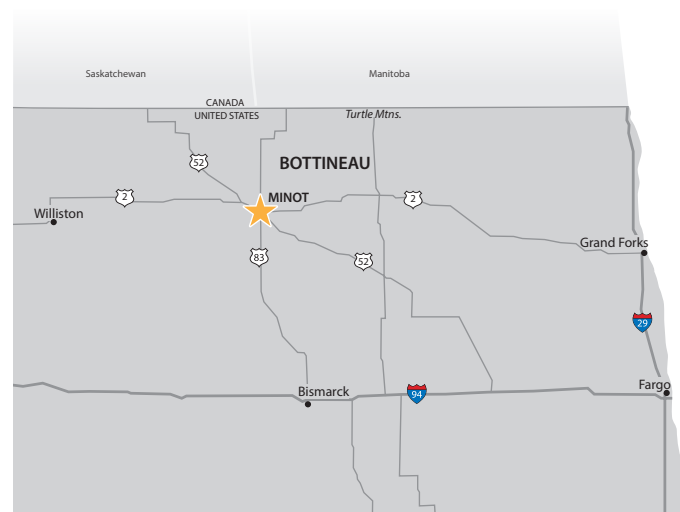
#### Mailing address:

Dakota College at Bottineau  
105 Simrall Blvd.  
Bottineau, ND 58318-1198

#### Site location:

Career and Technical Education Center  
120 East Burdick Expressway - Minot

*Dakota College is renovating the space located at 120 East Burdick Expressway in Minot for a Center for Technical Education. The Dental Assisting program is opening fall of 2024.*



Admission/Student Services: 800-542-6866

[WWW.DAKOTACOLLEGE.EDU](http://WWW.DAKOTACOLLEGE.EDU)