DENTAL ASSISTING (LEVELS I & II) (DENA)

Prepare for a career that combines hands-on patient care, technical skills, and teamwork to make a meaningful impact in oral health care

Get the skills to launch a career as a dental assistant in just one year. You'll start by building your knowledge in Semester One through online learning, then practice your skills on manikins and your classmates in the college's dental clinic during on-campus labs on select weekends in Semester Two. You'll round out your training in Semester Three by completing a placement in a dental office.

This combination of theory and practice will give you the required knowledge and practical experience through a multi-disciplinary approach working with dental hygienists, dentists, and other health care professionals in the clinical environment and in community placements.

If you are currently working or have previously worked in a dental office, you may be eligible to receive credit for your work experience through Prior Learning Assessment and Recognition (PLAR) (https://cambriancollege.ca/supports-services/plar/).

Program highlights

- In Semester One, you will complete theory-based coursework fully online on your own schedule while meeting established course deadlines
- In Semester Two, you will complete five intensive clinical and laboratory sessions on campus, each five days in length (these are scheduled across weekends, Thursday through Monday)
- Labs and clinical courses in Semester Two are delivered at the Cambrian College Dental Clinic and simulation labs
- In Semester Three, you will complete a 6-week placement in a dental office
- Be job-ready in 10 months
- Learn from experienced dental health care professionals in a supportive, hands-on environment
- Gain real-world experience by supporting patients in a dental clinic and during an off-site practicum
- You will be HARP certified when you graduate

Program of study for 2027-28 Academic Year

Semester 1		**Credits**
BIO 1130	Anatomy Physiology and Oral Science	3
DEN 1260	Health Promotion	3
DEN 2500	Introduction to Dental Assisting	4
DEN 2502	Dental Office Management	3
ENG 1002	College Communications	3
	Credits	**16**
Semester 2		
BIO 1225	Pharmacology	3
DEN 1266	Lab Practice and Dental Materials	3
DEN 1275	Clinical Applications in Dental Assisting	8
DEN 2503	Dental Assisting Theory	4
DEN 2505	Dental Radiography Techniques	4
	Credits	**22**
Semester 3		
DEN 2506	Clinical Experience	6
	Credits	**6**
	Total Credits	**44**

Admission requirements

For graduates of the new curriculum (OSS): Ontario Secondary School Diploma (30 credits) or equivalent or mature student status, including:

- Any grade 12 English (C)or (U)
- Any grade 11 (U) or (C) or grade 12 biology (U)

Please note: A minimum of 60% is required in each prerequisite course

Program delivery

2027-2028
Fall term start

SEMESTER 1: Fall 2027
SEMESTER 2: Winter 2028
SEMESTER 3: Spring 2028

Winter term start

SEMESTER 1: Winter 2028
SEMESTER 2: Spring 2028
SEMESTER 3: Fall 2028

College or university degree opportunities
If you are a graduate of this program, you may continue your studies at a college or university and you may receive credit(s) for your prior college education. Refer to Cambrian's college and university agreement (https://cambriancollege.ca/supports-services/articulation-agreements/universities-in-canada/) details for further information.

Employment opportunities

Upon successful completion of the NDAEB examinations, graduates may find employment in a variety of settings:

- As a Level II Dental Assistant in general and specialty practices
- Community health settings
- Insurance
- Dental sales and supply companies
- Canadian Armed Forces and government programs
- Education

Contacts

Carli Wright
Program Coordinator
705-566-8101, ext 6784
carli.wright@cambriancollege.ca