

DENTAL ASSISTING (LEVELS I & II) (DETB)

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 in Thunder Bay. 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

- Delivered at the Confederation College campus in Thunder Bay, Ontario
- 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 an on-campus dental clinic and during an off-site practicum
- The program is delivered in a executive delivery format
- Complete coursework asynchronously on your own schedule while meeting established course deadlines
- In Semester Two, you will come on campus for intensive five-day clinical and laboratory sessions (these are scheduled across weekends, Thursday – Monday)
- You will be HARP certified when you graduate

Program of study for 2026-27 Academic Year

Course	Title	Credits
Semester 1		
DEN 1260	Health Promotion	3
DEN 2500	Introduction to Dental Assisting	4
DEN 2502	Dental Office Management	3
ENG 1002	College Communications	3
BIO 1130	Anatomy Physiology and Oral Science	3
Credits		16
Semester 2		
DEN 1266	Lab Practice and Dental Materials	3
DEN 2503	Dental Assisting Theory	4
DEN 2505	Dental Radiography Techniques	4

DEN 1275	Clinical Applications in Dental Assisting	8
BIO 1225	Pharmacology	3
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

2026-2027

Fall term start

SEMESTER 1: Fall 2026

SEMESTER 2: Winter 2027

SEMESTER 3: Spring 2027

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

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