

Expanded Functions Dental Assisting, AAS School of Health of Professions

The Expanded Functions Dental Assisting (EFDA) provides students with training in advanced skills recognized by the Pennsylvania State Board of Dentistry as legal functions for the Expanded Functions Dental Assistant. Graduates of the EFDA program are qualified to take the Pennsylvania Certification Exam for EFDA.

The program includes lab experience in the college campus facility and clinical experience in a dental office. Students are responsible to secure a clinical site to complete the clinical portion of the curriculum.

Special Admission and Selection Criteria

Admission to the EFDA program is highly competitive and enrollment is limited. Specific criteria for admission and selection are listed below. Each applicant must meet one of the following:

- Applicants must hold a Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) credential or a Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) license
- Applicants may be currently enrolled in an accredited Dental Assisting program and pass the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) prior to the start of the semester
- Applicants may apply without a CDA credential after three years of clinical experience. All applicants applying without a CDA credential must have a letter verifying three years recent chairside dental assisting experience including dates and hours from the employing dentist.

Applicants selected for admission must submit satisfactory results from pre-entrance medical examination and immunization obtained at the candidate's expense. Specific information regarding the examination will be provided to students upon acceptance.

Application Process for Health Profession Programs

- Complete and submit an Application for Admission to Westmoreland County Community College
- Complete and submit an application for the specific Health Profession Program (Dental Assisting, Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Expanded Functions Dental Assisting, Medical Assisting, Nursing*, Phlebotomy/Specimen Processing* or Radiology)
- Submit all required documents to the Admissions Office by the deadline.
- Submit official transcript from all secondary schools attended, graduate equivalency degree (GED) programs and any other formal educational program beyond high school.

For fall start:

Application Deadline January 12 prior to fall start Acceptance Notification Mid-March

For spring start:

Application Deadline May 15 prior to spring start Acceptance Notification Mid-August

Final Admission Criteria

Students accepted into the School of Health Professions including Nursing, Dental Programs, Radiology, Sonography, Medical Assisting, Phlebotomy and Specimen Processing are required to have a criminal background check, child abuse history and drug screening at the student's expense.

The Program Director of each Health Profession Program gives the accepted student directions for setting up a password-secure Castle Branch Account.

Castle Branch is the background screening and compliance tracking company, which provides Westmoreland County Community College Health Profession Programs with student background screening services.

Castle Branch background screening and compliance management includes:

- Background Checks (FBI Fingerprint Check, Criminal Background Check and Child Abuse Clearances)
- Urine Drug Screen
- Immunization and Record Tracking
- Houses PPD (TB screening)
- CPR Training Documentation
- Liability Insurance (if applicable for program)
- Houses the results of the Required Health Physical

Final admission is conditional pending receipt of Urine Drug Screen and receipt and evaluation of Criminal Background Check to determine if there is any conviction that may bar the applicant from entering the Health Profession Programs.

Essential Cognitive, Physical and Behavioral Functions

The Westmoreland County Community College Health Profession Programs including Nursing, Dental Programs, Radiology, Sonography, Medical Assisting, Phlebotomy and Specimen Processing require that students meet certain functional abilities essential to each program. A detailed list is available in each program's handbook.

Please be aware that based on ongoing changes occurring in the dental profession, it may be necessary to modify courses listed in this catalog to meet changing practice competencies.

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Career Opportunities

Graduates who have earned the EFDA AAS degree and passed the Expanded Functions Pennsylvania Certification Exam may seek career opportunities in a variety of dental settings including private practice, dental clinics, laboratory and administrative duties in dental office management. This degree will increase access to care within Pennsylvania and provide oral health care in public health clinics.

Program Requirements

Only graduate of Westmoreland County Community College Dental Assisting program qualify for the EFDA AAS degree. All other candidates will obtain a certification in EFDA.

Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this program, students will be able to:

- Provide safe and competent services to dental patients including placing and removing rubber dams, matrices and wedges; applying cavity liners and bases; placing, condensing, carving and contouring amalgam restorations; placing and finishing composite resin restorations; placing sealants; coronal polishing and fluoride restorations.
- Demonstrate understanding of dental technologies and proper use/ care of dental devices and equipment.
- Demonstrate commitment to lifelong learning and professional advancement in the healthcare delivery system.
- Demonstrate professionalism in all aspects of dental practice including appearance, communication and behaviors.

| Sugg. Term | Seq # | Course ID | Course Title | Cr . | Term Offered | Prereq(s) | Options Available |
|------------|-------|-----------|--------------------------------------|------|--------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1st Fall | 1 | PDV 101 | First Year Seminar | 1 | F, Sp, Su | | |
| | 2 | DAS 100 | Intro to Dental Assisting | 4 | F | | |
| | 3 | DAS 101 | Oral Anatomy | 2 | F | | |
| | 4 | DAS 102 | Dental Material for Dental Assisting | 2 | F | | |
| | 5 | DAS 103 | Dental Assisting Lab | 4 | F | | |
| | 6 | DAS 105 | Dental Rad for Dental Assisting | 3 | F | | |
| | 7 | BIO 107 | Human Biology | 3 | F, Sp, Su | | BIO 171 & 172 |
| 1st Spring | 8 | DAS 104 | Dental Science | 4 | Sp | DAS 100, 101,102, 103, 105 | |
| | 9 | DAS 106 | CLN Dental Assisting I | 5 | Sp | Corequisite DAS 104 | |
| | 10 | ENG 161 | College Writing | 3 | F, Sp, Su | ENG 085 or Placement | |
| | 11 | PSY 160 | General Psychology | 3 | F, Sp, Su | | |
| 1st Summer | 12 | DAS 108 | CLN Dental Assisting II | 4 | Su | DAS 104, 106 | |
| | 13 | DAS 109 | Practice Management | 2 | Su | DAS 104, 106 | |
| | 14 | SPC 156 | Interpersonal Communication | 3 | F, Sp, Su | | |
| 2nd Fall | 15 | DAE 101 | EFDA I | 6 | F | DAS 108, 109 | |
| | 16 | CPT 150 | Microcomputer Concepts | 3 | F, Sp, Su | | |
| | 17 | ENG 163 | Business Communication | 3 | F, Sp, Su | ENG 161 | |
| 2nd Spring | 18 | DAE 102 | EFDA II | 3 | Sp | DAE 101 | |
| | 19 | BUS 120 | Mathematics of Business | 3 | F, Sp, Su | MTH 050, 050A or Placement | MTH 157 or MTH 161 |

Total Program Credits

61