

Expanded Functions Dental Assisting, Certificate

School of Health Professions

Program Description

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.

Getting Started: General Application Process for Health Professions Programs

- Apply to be a Westmoreland County Community College Student.
- Submit official transcript from all secondary schools attended, graduate equivalency degree (GED) programs and any other formal educational program beyond high school.
- Applicants for the Westmoreland County Community College Health Profession programs must be a Westmoreland County Community College student and have an active Student ID and college email account.
- Applicants for the Health Professions Programs must also have attended any college required planning sessions and placement assessment(s) and completed any developmental coursework that may be required based upon the assessment evaluation prior to applying for the selected Health Profession.
- 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, Surgical Technology or Radiology).
- Submit all required documents to the College by the deadline.
- Qualified applicants to the Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, and Nursing Program will be invited to take the standardized entrance examination. The score on this examination is utilized in the selective admissions process. You may only take this examination once per admission cycle.
- Preference for admissions will be given to students who exceed minimum criteria

Special Admission and Selection Criteria for the Certificate Expanded Functions Dental Assisting Program

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.

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-October

Final Admission Criteria

Students accepted into the School of Health Professions including Nursing, Dental Programs, Radiology, Sonography, Medical Assisting, Phlebotomy, Surgical Technology and Specimen Processing are required to have a health clearance, 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 Tuberculosis screening results
- 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 to determine if there are any substances that will prevent the applicant from participating in clinical experiences or bar entry into Health Profession Programs.
- 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.

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- Receipt of proof of vaccinations including, but not limited to, MMR, Varicella, Tdap, HepB, Flu, and COVID-19 that are necessary to participate in clinical experiences.
- Receipt of Child Abuse History 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, Surgical Technology, 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.

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.

Fall Start

Sugg. Term	Seq #	Course ID	Course Title	Cr	Term Offered	Prereq/Coreq(Co)	Options Available
Fall	1	PDV 101	First Year Seminar	1	F, Sp, Su		
	2	DAE 100	Dental Anatomy	2	F	Co: DAE 101	DAS 101 or DAH 104
	3	DAE 101	EFDA I	6	F	Co: DAE 100	
	4	SPC 156	Interpersonal Communication	3	F, Sp, Su		
Spring	5	DAE 102	EFDA II	3	Sp	DAE 100, DAE 101	
	6	CPT 150	Microcomputer Concepts	3	F, Sp, Su		

Total Program Credits

18

EXFDA

Students must pass all program courses with a C or better

Spring Start

Sugg. Term	Seq #	Course ID	Course Title	Cr	Term Offered	Prereq/Coreq(Co)	Options Available
Spring	1	PDV 101	First Year Seminar	1	F, Sp, Su		
	2	DAE 100	Dental Anatomy	2	Sp		DAS 101 or DAH 104
	3	DAE 101	EFDA I	6	Sp	Co: DAE 100	
	4	SPC 156	Interpersonal Communication	3	F, Sp, Su		
Summer	5	DAE 102	EFDA II	3	Su	DAE 100, DAE 101	
	6	CPT 150	Microcomputer Concepts	3	F, Sp, Su		

Total Program Credits

18

EXFDA

Students must pass all program courses with a C or better