RCTC PROGRAM PLAN

DENTAL ASSISTANT
Associate in Applied Science
Program Accreditation: American Dental Association, Commission on Dental Accreditation, in compliance with the standards set forth by the ADA Council on Dental Education.

I. MINNESOTA TRANSFER CURRICULUM (MNTC)/ GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS .............................................. 17 CREDITS
   GOAL 1: WRITTEN AND ORAL COMMUNICATION ............................................. 7 CR
   COMM 1114, Fundamentals of Public Speaking, 3 cr
   OR
   COMM 1130, Interpersonal Communications, 3 cr
   ENGL 1117, Reading & Writing Critically I, 4 cr
   GOAL 2: CRITICAL THINKING MAY BE MET BY ANY COURSE IN MNTC 1-10 GOALS
   GOAL 3: NATURAL SCIENCES ........................................................................... 4 CR
   BIOL 1110, Human Biology, 4 cr
   GOAL 5: HISTORY AND THE SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES ...................... 3 CR
   PSYC 1611, Psychology of Adjustment, 3 cr
   OR
   PSYC 2618, General Psychology, 4 cr
   GOAL 6: HUMANITIES - THE ARTS, LITERATURE AND PHILOSOPHY ..................... 3 CR
   Credits from MNTC Goal 6

II. PROGRAM CORE REQUIREMENTS ................................................................. 47 CREDITS
   DA 1200, Dental Communications, 5 cr
   DA 1210, Dental Science I, 3 cr
   DA 1215, Dental Practice Management, 2 cr
   DA 1220, Chairside Assisting I, 6 cr
   DA 1225, Dental Infection Control, 2 cr
   DA 1230, Preventive Dentistry, 2 cr
   DA 1250, Dental Science II, 3 cr
   DA 1255, Dental Materials, 4 cr
   DA 1260, Chairside Assisting II, 4 cr
   *DA 1265, Expanded Functions II, 7 cr
   *DA 1270, Expanded Functions II, 1 cr
   *DA 1280, Dental Assisting Internship, 7 cr
   *DS 1300, Dental Radiology, 3 cr

TOTAL ................................................................................................................. 64 CREDITS
Purpose: The Dental Assistant major is designed to provide the student with the technical knowledge, manual skills, clinical experiences, communication skills, and positive attitudes toward work required to make the graduate a valuable member of the dental health care profession.

The dental assistant may assist the dentist at chairside, perform expanded functions and dental laboratory procedures, provide personal oral care instruction, or function as a dental receptionist/dental office manager. The program prepares the student to function in both general and specialty dental practices.

Clinical experience is obtained in the technically current dental clinic. The clinic has twelve operatories equipped for four-handed dentistry, a recirculation/sterilization room, a darkroom for processing x-rays, and a complete dental laboratory. Patients come to the dental clinic for tooth polishing, fluoride treatments, dental x-rays, pit and fissure sealants, and personal oral care instruction. A dentist is on staff to aid in the direct instruction and supervision of students, along with dentists from the community who give guest presentations. In the final semester of the program, students will further their clinical experience through three assigned internships in different dental offices in southeastern Minnesota.

Upon successful completion of the Dental Assistant Program, graduates are eligible to sit for the Minnesota Licensing Examination for Dental Assistants and the National Certification Examination for Dental Assistants.

For more information on program admission requirements, please see the department website at http://www.rtc.edu/program/da/admission.html.

More Information Requirements:
(*Students must show current certification in either American Red Cross: CPR for the Professional Rescuer or American Heart Association: BLS Healthcare Provider to enroll in this course. The certification will need to remain active throughout the final semester in Dental Assisting.)

Notice of Minnesota Background Study Requirement
Minnesota Statute 245C requires that students who have contact with individuals in licensed institutions complete an annual background study with the Minnesota Department of Human Services. Individuals who do not pass the background study will not be allowed to participate in clinical activities. A list of disqualifying offenses is available at https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=245C.15. Students in the program will also be required to complete a national criminal background study. Information about completing both background studies will be available from program faculty.

Revised: 03/01/2012