



DENTAL ASSISTING

Fall 2026 Entry

Diploma - 45 Credit Hours
Jamestown Campus

The Dental Assisting program has a selective admissions process. A maximum of 36 applicants are accepted each fall. This packet will outline minimum criteria, program coursework, and the application/selection process. Before applying, it is recommended to review the [Technical Standards and Essential Functions](#) required for the program. Reading these standards carefully along with a realistic assessment of your own personality, interests, abilities, strengths, and weaknesses will ensure that you choose a program and career path that is a good fit for you.

Please read the contents of this packet carefully and in its entirety as some requirements are time sensitive.

PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- ✓ **Complete the GTCC General Admission/Readmission Process (new and returning students).**
 - *Students currently enrolled at GTCC do not need to complete a new application for admission. These students will begin with the remaining steps and make sure the NC Residency is current.*
 - *See page 2 for details on this requirement.*
 - *It is **highly recommended** to have this step completed by March 13th.*
- ✓ **Complete the REQUIRED online Program Information Session by March 20th.**
 - *See page 3 for instructions for accessing the session.*
 - *Sessions completed for previous admission cycles are **NOT** accepted.*
- ✓ **Demonstrate “college readiness” for English and Mathematics.**
 - *See page 3 to view options for meeting this requirement.*
- ✓ **High School Unweighted GPA of 3.0 or higher**
 - *Current High School Seniors **ONLY***
- ✓ **Demonstrate BIOLOGY competency**
 - *See page 4 to view options for meeting this requirement.*
- ✓ **Submit the Fall 2026 Dental Assisting Program Application**
 - *Applications can be submitted **February 2nd^h through March 27th**.*
 - *See page 4 for details on application submissions*

NEW Up to 5 program seats may be filled by graduating high school seniors. High School Seniors should plan to enroll in BIO 163 & ENG 111 in summer 2026 semester

Note: Meeting all criteria listed above does not guarantee acceptance to the program. However, all criteria must be met to apply and be considered for selection.

PROGRAM CURRICULUM OUTLINE

General Education Courses

These courses may be taken prior to applying to the program to lighten the academic load and for possible award of ranking points.

BIO 163	Basic Anatomy & Physiology (must be completed 2016 or later)	5 credits
ENG 111	Writing & Inquiry	3 credits
Total General Education Credits:		8 credits

Dental Assisting Program Courses

These courses are taken once accepted to the program.

Fall 2026

DEN 110	Orofacial Anatomy	3 credits
DEN 111	Infection/Hazard Control	2 credits
DEN 101	Pre-Clinical Procedures	7 credits
DEN 112	Dental Radiography	3 credits

Spring 2027

DEN 103	Dental Services	2 credits
DEN 104	Dental Health Education	3 credits
DEN 102	Dental Materials	4 credits
DEN 105	Practice Management	2 credits
DEN 106	Clinical Practice I	6 credits

Summer 2027

DEN 107	Clinical Practice II	5 credits
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Total Program Course Credits: 37 credits
TOTAL CREDITS REQUIRED FOR DIPLOMA: 45 credits

LIMITED ENTRY ADMISSION PROCESS – GTCC HEALTH SCIENCES PROGRAMS MEET PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Complete the GTCC General Admission Process (New and Returning Students)

- **New and returning GTCC students must complete the GTCC general admission, including the North Carolina Residency Determination Service (RDS).** To get started, visit <https://www.gtcc.edu/admissions-and-aid/apply-now.php>
 - **Returning students=** students previously admitted to GTCC and have not been enrolled in courses for more than 12 months
- **Submit your official transcripts to the GTCC Admissions Office by email at transcripts@gtcc.edu.** Once received, transcripts are evaluated by GTCC's Admissions staff. Approved transfer credits will be added to your academic record as appropriate. **(Note: it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that all official transcripts have been received by GTCC's Admissions Department. Please visit <https://transcripts.gtcc.edu/> to verify that your transcripts have been received).**

Please allow a minimum of TWO WEEKS for evaluation to occur. This process takes longer near the beginning or end of a semester. Transfer credits from an Institutionally Accredited College or University **must** appear on your GTCC **Student Planning** transcript in order to be considered for meeting program requirements and/or earning ranking points.

- **High School Seniors: A current copy of your transcript will need to be submitted initially. After graduation a final copy must be submitted.**
- **Activate your GTCC Titan Account.** You should be able to do this within 48 hours of completing your GTCC Application.

Need help with this requirement? For assistance with activating your GTCC Titan Account, you can contact Student Tech Support <https://www.gtcc.edu/help-center/student-tech-support.php#>, or 1-866-826-3748.

Complete the Required Online Program Information Session by 5pm, March 20th

Information Sessions completed for previous application cycles are not acceptable for purposes of meeting this requirement!

This session will provide you with a detailed overview of the program, faculty and student expectations, class schedules and clinical requirements, the minimum program admission requirements, submitting your program application, and the selection and notification process for the incoming class.

- **You must have an activated Titan account to access the information session.**
- Enroll yourself in the [Limited Entry Program Info Session: Dental Assisting Diploma course](#)
- You must pass all three modules with a score of 100% to receive credit for completing this task and to access the program application. **Access to the module will close at 5pm on March 20thth!**

Demonstrate College Readiness for English AND Mathematics

You must be able to demonstrate that you have achieved the appropriate levels of college readiness in both subject areas. The chart below shows options for meeting these requirements.

COLLEGE ENGLISH READINESS	COLLEGE MATHEMATICS READINESS
<input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: You have completed or received transfer credit for ENG 111.	<input type="checkbox"/> Option 1: You have completed or received transfer credit for <u>one</u> of the following -- MAT 143, MAT 152, MAT 171 (or a higher-level math).
<input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: You have completed or received waiver credit for <u>all</u> of the following: DRE 096, DRE 097, DRE 098	<input type="checkbox"/> Option 2: You have completed or received waiver credit for <u>all</u> of the following: DMA 010, DMA 020, DMA 030, DMA 040, and DMA 050
<input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: You have completed or received waiver credit for ENG 002 with a minimum grade of P2	<input type="checkbox"/> Option 3: You have completed or received waiver credit for MAT 003 with a minimum grade of P2
<input type="checkbox"/> Option 4: You have completed or received waiver credit for ENG 011	<input type="checkbox"/> Option 4: You have completed or received waiver credit for <u>one</u> of the following: MAT 043, MAT 052, or MAT 071
<input type="checkbox"/> Option 5: An earned Associate or Bachelor's degree from an Institutionally Accredited College or University	<input type="checkbox"/> Option 5: An earned Associate or Bachelor's degree from an Institutionally Accredited College or University
<input type="checkbox"/> Option 6: Completion of placement test within the past 10 years and achievement of appropriate scores. <u>If you took the placement test elsewhere, you MUST submit those scores to GTCC Admissions!</u>	<input type="checkbox"/> Option 6: Completion of placement test within the past 10 years and achievement of appropriate scores. <u>If you took the placement test elsewhere, you MUST submit those scores to GTCC Admissions!</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Option 7: Graduate of a US high school within the last 10 years, with an unweighted cumulative GPA of 2.8 or higher	<input type="checkbox"/> Option 7: Graduate of a US high school within the last 10 years, with an unweighted cumulative GPA of 2.8 or higher
<input type="checkbox"/> Option 8: You have completed or received waiver credit for ENG 025	<input type="checkbox"/> Option 8: You have completed or received waiver credit for MAT 025 (program of study requires MAT 143 or MAT 152)
	<input type="checkbox"/> Option 9: You have completed or received waiver credit for MAT 035 (program of study requires MAT 121 or MAT 171)

*****If you are unsure whether you meet either of these requirements, it is YOUR responsibility to speak with a Limited Entry Advisor for clarification PRIOR TO submitting your Program Application.***

Demonstrate Biology Competency

Applicants can meet this requirement one of the following ways:

- College-level BIO/lab course with a “C” or better, completed within 10 years of program start date— (since 2016)
 - The course must be reflected on your transcript in **Student Planning**.
- High school-level BIO/lab course with a “C” or better, completed the 2023-2024 school year or later
 - Your high school transcript must be on file in Admissions.

High School Unweighted GPA of 3.0 or higher

- **This requirement is for current high school seniors.** A current copy of your high school transcript must be on file in Admissions prior to submitting your program application.

SUBMITTING YOUR PROGRAM APPLICATION

Program Applications will be accepted February 2, 2026 through 5pm on March 27, 2026.

Once you have completed all of the program admission requirements, it’s time to submit your program application.

This will be completed electronically through the *Limited Entry Program Info Session: Dental Assisting Diploma course in Canvas*. Once you have completed all three modules and assessments with a score of 100% the link for the application can be accessed starting February 2, 2026.

- Only one submission will be permitted for each applicant
- If applicable, you will upload documentation of other ranking criteria
- **It is critical that you check your Student Planning transcript to make sure all coursework is accounted for, including transfer credits. Ranking points will only be given for courses that are on record. It is your responsibility to ensure all official transcripts have been submitted to Admissions and processed for transfer credits.**
- Incomplete and/or ineligible applications will not be moved forward to the Selection Committee
- **Program applications will not be reviewed by the Limited Entry Programs Office until after the March 27th deadline. It is important to make sure all requirements are met BEFORE submitting your program application.**

PROGRAM APPLICANT SELECTION AND NOTIFICATION PROCESS

Ranking and Selection Process

Three to four weeks following the March 27th deadline, all application submissions will be screened by the Limited Entry Programs Office to confirm all criteria have been met. All applicants will be notified via GTCC email if their submission will be moved forward to the Selection Committee for the final ranking review.

Each applicant will be notified via GTCC email of the results of the screening and next steps:

- Applications meeting all program admission requirements will move forward to the Selection Committee for the ranking review process.
- Applicants not meeting program admission requirements will not move forward for ranking review. Applicants will be advised on requirements needed to apply for the next program entry.

The next 2-3 weeks following the initial screening, the Health Sciences Review Committee (comprised of Health Sciences Program Directors and faculty, Dean of Health Sciences, and Limited Entry Programs Office Staff) will review all eligible applications.

Applicants are ranked using a points system and will be selected based on the total points earned (see below). Ties will be decided based on the following criteria: 1) The total points earned in the “General Education Courses” ranking section; 2) The GPA of the last school attended; and 3) The date of the Limited Entry Program Application.

NEW Up to 5 seats will be offered to current high school seniors. Applicants are ranked using a separate points system and will be selected based on total points earned. Ties will be decided based on the following criteria: 1) Total points earned in the “High School Coursework” section; 2) Current High School GPA; and 3) The date of the Limited Entry Program Application.

CALCULATION OF POINTS FOR RANKING AND SELECTION

(NOTE: Courses that have received “Pass/Fail” or “Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory” grades will be considered equivalent to a “C”.)

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES REQUIRED FOR THE DIPLOMA	Points Awarded
BIO 163 - Basic Anatomy & Physiology (completed 2016 or later)	A = 8; B = 6
ENG 111 – Writing & Inquiry	A = 4; B = 2

ADDITIONAL COURSES NOT REQUIRED FOR THE DIPLOMA	Points Awarded
BIO 168 and BIO 169 with grades of “B” or higher completed 2016 or later. Points for each course are averaged for the final point score. *No points awarded if BIO 163 is completed with a grade of “A”.	(A+A=8; A+B=6; B+B=4)
MAT 143 - Quantitative Literacy (or higher-level course) with a grade of “B” or higher	2
COM 110 (Intro to Communication), COM 120 (Intro to Interpersonal Communication), or COM 231 (Public Speaking) with a grade of “B” or higher	2
HUM 115 - (Critical Thinking) with a grade of “B” or higher	2
BIO 175 or BIO 275 (Microbiology) with a grade of “B” or higher (completed 2016 or later)	2
ENG 112 (Writing/Research in the Disciplines), ENG 113 (Literature Based Research), or ENG 114 (Professional Research and Reporting) with a grade of “B” or higher	2
PSY 150 (General Psychology) or SOC 210 (Introduction to Sociology) with a grade of “B” or higher	2
Any ACA course (i.e., ACA 111, ACA 118, ACA 122,) with a grade of “B” or higher	2

OTHER RANKING CRITERIA	Points Awarded
College-Level Degrees: Points awarded for the ONE HIGHEST level completed (ONLY ONE) – All degrees from institutions outside the United States require evaluation by a recognized credentialing agency to determine U.S. equivalency and transfer credit eligibility. – TRANSCRIPT MUST STATE DEGREE AWARDED OR CONFERRED & BE ON FILE IN ADMISSIONS!	
Completion of a Master’s Degree or higher in any field of study from an Institutionally Accredited College or University	6
Completion of a Bachelor’s Degree in any field of study from an Institutionally Accredited College or University	4
Completion of an Associate’s Degree in any field of study from an Institutionally Accredited College or University	3
Completion of a Diploma in a HEALTH-RELATED of study from an Institutionally Accredited College or University	2
Current Health-Related Certification/Licensure (up to two separate items may be submitted) -- MUST SUBMIT DOCUMENTATION.	

Must be from an officially recognized regulatory body. May attach up to two separate CURRENT certifications/licensure for one point each and a maximum total of two points. CPR/First Aid/BLS is NOT acceptable. Certificates of Completion are not accepted.	1-2
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TOTAL RANKING POINTS	Points Awarded
General Education Courses Required for the Diploma	
Additional Courses Not Required for the Diploma	
Other Ranking Criteria	
TOTAL RANKING POINTS EARNED:	

NEW CALCULATION OF POINTS FOR RANKING AND SELECTION FOR CURRENT HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS
High School Seniors should plan to enroll in BIO 163 & ENG 111 in summer 2026 semester

HIGH SCHOOL COURSEWORK	Points Awarded
AP Biology, BIO 163, or BIO 168 with a grade of “B” or higher	A = 8; B = 4
AP English or ENG 111 with a grade of “B” or higher	A = 4; B = 2
AP Psychology or PSY 150 with a grade of “B” or higher	A = 4; B = 2
AP Calculus, AP Statistics, or MAT 143(or higher level) with a grade of “B” or higher	A = 4; B = 2
Career & Technical Education (CTE) courses in the Health Sciences Career cluster completed with an “A” or “B”	1 point per course

AP (Advanced Placement) courses: applicants who earned AP credit for general education courses may earn ranking points based on the following criteria: **AP score of 5 = grade of “A” AP score of 4 = grade of “B”**

College Board scores must be on file in the GTCC Admissions Office to earn AP course credit, and AP scores are valid for five years (since 2021).

CURRENT (UNWEIGHTED) GPA	Points Awarded
GPA: 3.0 – 3.59	3
GPA: 3.6 or higher	4

TOTAL RANKING POINTS	Points Awarded
High School Coursework	
Current GPA	
Other Ranking Criteria	
TOTAL RANKING POINTS EARNED:	

Notification Process

Final results will be sent electronically to the applicant’s GTCC email address **approximately** 6 weeks after the application deadline—it is the applicant’s responsibility to check this email account frequently to avoid missing important communications from GTCC!

- **Applicants offered a seat must accept or decline a program seat by submitting an Intent to Enroll Form within 5 calendar days of the date on the acceptance letter.** Failure to respond within the stated timeframe will result in the seat being offered to an alternate. Once a student declines a program seat the decision may not be reversed.
 - **Applicants have 7 business days from the date of the notification letter to contest the results of the selection process.** The request for a review of the results must be submitted in writing to the Associate Vice President of Instruction (Dr. Jeremy Bennett - jdbennett5@gtcc.edu). The Associate Vice President of Instruction will render a decision within 7-10 business days of receipt of the written request. **The Associate Vice President of Instruction's decision is final.**
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PROGRAM ORIENTATION, ADVISING/REGISTRATION, AND ENROLLMENT

Once a seat in a program of study is accepted, the student will then communicate with the Program Director regarding all matters related to program orientation, advising/registration, and enrollment.

The student is required to attend all program orientations, meetings, or other events scheduled prior to the start of classes. Failure to attend these meetings without prior approval from the Program Director will result in removal from the health program. An alternate student will be selected to fill the vacant position, as directed by the Program Director.

The student must enroll in program classes prior to the first day of the semester. Failure to enroll without prior approval of the Program Director will result in removal from the health program.

A student who enrolls in first-semester classes for the program and withdraws from the program or is dropped from the program that semester must complete the entire program admission process if he/she wishes to apply for a future program entry.

The GTCC Health Sciences Limited Entry Process is not to be regarded as a contract between GTCC and students. GTCC reserves the right to change any provisions or requirements with adequate notice and minimum disruption to students.

Important Notes to Health Science Program Applicants

Program faculty reserves the right to revise or change course requirements in accordance with applicable state laws, college requirements, accreditation standards, and/or at the discretion of the faculty. By accepting admission into the program, students agree to at all times abide by the program requirements and procedures as set forth in the Student Handbook and the respective course syllabus issued at the beginning of each term for each course. The student is bound by such requirements and procedures regardless of whether they were established before or after the date of enrollment in the program. Changes made after the publication of the Handbook will be posted as an addendum to the Handbook.

Most programs require students to have a criminal background check, a drug screen, and an OIG review (Office of Inspector General) upon admission. Healthcare agencies that are utilized for clinical and/or internship experiences require this evaluation. If a student is denied agency access due to a positive check or screening, the students may not be able to complete the clinical education experiences, which will result in the inability to continue in the health science program. Screening may also be required after graduation by examination boards, state licensing boards, and employing agencies. Pending the outcome, a graduate may be disqualified from examination eligibility, state licensure, and/or employment.

Students must achieve a GPA of 2.0 or better to graduate. Students who receive a grade of "D" in a general education course (other than BIO or CHM) can graduate if their GPA is at least 2.0. However, a grade of "D" in a general education course will not transfer to another institution, nor will GTCC accept a grade of "D" for credit from another institution. Students must achieve a "C" or better in BIO, CHM, and program major courses. Students who do not achieve a "C" or better in these courses will be suspended from the program.

Infectious & Communicable Disease Acknowledgement

Students entering the Dental Hygiene and Dental Assisting programs should be aware that a career in the health profession involves potential exposure to communicable and infectious disease (including blood-borne pathogens). GTCC is committed to maintaining a safe learning environment and will provide comprehensive education in infection control policies and practices. These procedures are essential for your protection as a student and will remain critical throughout your professional career.

To reduce risk and ensure safety, all students are required to follow established infection control protocols. In addition, specific immunizations are mandatory prior to the start of the entering fall semester. Detailed information about required immunizations and documentation is provided in the admissions materials, and submission of this documentation is not optional.

GTCC's Dental Assisting program is nationally accredited by the American Dental Association's Commission on Dental Accreditation

211 East Chicago Avenue ♦ Chicago, Illinois 60611
800.232.6108 ♦ www.ada.org/en/coda

**If You Have Questions about the Health Sciences Limited Entry Admission Process, Please Contact:
Limited Entry Programs Office**

140 Hassell Health Technologies Center, Jamestown Campus ♦ (336) 334-4822, ext. 50439 ♦ limitedentry@gtcc.edu