

DENTAL ASSISTANT LEVEL II PROGRAM

Admission Requirements and Recommendations

(Revised January 2008; April 2008)

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS and PREREQUISITES

Applicants must meet all of these requirements prior to acceptance into the program:

- ✓ British Columbia Grade 12 graduation with a minimum “C” standing in Biology 12 and English 12. An Adult Graduation Diploma with a minimum “C” standing in Biology 12 and English 12 will be accepted as equivalent. (Technical and Professional Communications 12, and English Literature 12, are both accepted as equivalent to English 12.)
- ✓ Doctor’s certificate of good health confirming good vision, healthy back and neck
- ✓ TB clearance (less than six months old)
- ✓ Current immunization record including Hepatitis B vaccine
- ✓ Current (within two months of program start date) dental examination record. Treatment of any caries or periodontal conditions must be completed before working in the mouths of fellow students (term II) and/or patients
- ✓ Signed consent for a criminal records check under the Criminal Records Review Program (CRRP)
- ✓ Satisfactory entrance interview with College official and completion of required forms

Criminal Record Checks

Discovery Community College will submit each applicant’s criminal record check (CRC) on-line to the Criminal Record Review Program (CRRP). The status of the CRC does not automatically prevent an applicant from attending this program. However, any CRC that reveals “relevant” offences may make it difficult or impossible to place the student in a practicum. Students who cannot be placed in a practicum cannot graduate from this program and will be withdrawn.

Some practicum hosts may require their own criminal record check. It is the Student's responsibility to provide this directly to the practicum host. If the criminal record check reveals information that raises concerns relevant to the practicum placement the host may decline the placement. Students who cannot be placed in a practicum cannot graduate from this program and will be withdrawn.

A criminal record check is a requirement for registration with the College of Dental Surgeons of BC (CDSBC). The CDSBC may not register or license any applicant who has a relevant criminal record. We recommend that applicants who are concerned about their criminal record complete their CRC through the CRRP before they begin the Dental Assistant Program.

RECOMMENDED STUDENT CHARACTERISTICS

Before applying for this program, students should learn as much as possible about this career. Successful dental assistants are genuinely interested in helping people maintain dental health. You should be self-motivated, responsible, sensitive; and responsive to your own and others’ needs. You should be willing to engage in reflection on your own personal and professional development and to

participate in class activities and discussions as speakers and active listeners. You should enjoy reading and study, and be able to write and record your thoughts and information gathered.

Students with the following characteristics can anticipate success in the program and in their future career as a CDA:

- Able to work in close proximity to others (dentists) and within the personal space of patients (and classmates). You will be required to engage actively in laboratory practice, acting both as patient/client and as caregiver in simulated situations
- Good manual dexterity to enable safe, skillful use of instruments while working in the mouth
- A mature positive self-image with high standards of personal and professional integrity
- Able to move freely in confined spaces
- Able to speak confidently with people of all ages
- Able to pay close attention to detail over considerable periods of time
- Able to work quickly with accuracy and neatness
- Excellent oral and personal hygiene
- Able to work as part of a team respecting the ways in which others organize and execute their work
- Have basic computer literacy (internet search, use email and Windows)