



## CAREER INFORMATION 2023

### HIGHER CERTIFICATE: DENTAL ASSISTING



01 JAN - 31 DEC 2023



### Higher Certificate in Dental Assisting

**NQF Level: 5**

**SAQA ID: 97879**

**Qualification Code: HCDNAI**

**Location: ML Sultan Campus (Block A)**

#### Description of the Programme

Dental assistants require a variety of diverse skills ranging from secretarial to clinical skills. They are involved in everything from reception duties to data capturing, dealing with patients and medical aid schemes, however their primary task is assisting the dentist with dental procedure be it surgical, impression taking for dentures, orthodontics, fillings or extractions. One of the most important functions of a Dental Assistant is infection control, ensuring the proper sterilization of instruments and ultimately making sure that all the necessary precautions have been taken to ensure patient, dental assistant and dentist are protected.

Students will register for a Higher Certificate in Dental Assisting, which will be run over two semesters. They will also be registered with the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) as student dental assistants.

#### Personal Qualities Required

- Good people skills
- Well organized and an eye for detail
- An ability to concentrate and keep pace with very precise work
- Willingness to work under instruction
- Punctuality
- Ability to work under pressure

#### Career Opportunities

Career opportunities exist in South Africa at present. Employment opportunities exist for dental assistants in private practice, in the public hospitals as well as in the medical division of the defence force, medical aid companies, sales representatives for dental supply companies and dental laboratories. Experienced dental assistants also readily find employment internationally.

#### Explanation of Points scale:

SENIOR CERTIFICATE (SC)		
SYMBOL	HIGHER GRADE	STANDARD GRADE
A	8	6
B	7	5
C	6	4
D	5	3
E	4	2
F	3	1

NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE (NSC)		
%	LEVEL	POINTS
90-100	7	8
80-89%	7	7
70-79%	6	6
60-69%	5	5
50-59%	4	4
40-49%	3	3
30-39%	2	2
20-29%	1	1

## Entry Requirements (HC in Dental Assisting)

NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE (NSC) (01 JANUARY 200*)		SENIOR CERTIFICATE (SC) (PRE 2009)			NATIONAL CERTIFICATE (VOCATIONAL) (NCV)	
NSC DEGREE ENTRY		SC WITH MATRIC EXEMPTION			NCV LEVEL 4	
Compulsory Subjects	NSC Rating Code	Compulsory Subjects	HG	SG	Compulsory Subjects	Mark
English	3	English	E	C	English	60%
Mathematics OR	3	Mathematics	E	C	Mathematics OR	60%
Mathematics Literacy	5	Physical Science OR	E	C	Mathematics Literacy	70%
Physical Science OR	3	Biology	E	C	Physical Science OR	60%
Life Science	3				Life Science	60%
And <b>TWO</b> additional 20 credit subjects (not more than one language)	3	And <b>TWO</b> additional subjects	E	C	And any <b>TWO</b> subjects	60%

### Additional Entry Requirements:

Applicants will have to present themselves for interviews and entrance tests

Interviews will be conducted early in November.

Final selection of students will be made after the interviews have been completed

Applicants are generally selected after interview

**NB:** Meeting the minimum entry requirements does not guarantee admission

**NB:** Please check CAO and DUT website regularly for updates

## OR

### ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS BASED UPON WORK EXPERIENCE, AGE AND MATURITY

#### For admission to entry level diploma and certificate studies:

A person may, subject to such requirements as the Senate may determine, be admitted to the Institution even if such a person is not in a possession of a National Senior Certificate, Senior Certificate or an equivalent certificate, provided that:

(a) The person shall have reached the age of 23 in the first year of registration and shall have at least:

- three years' appropriate work experience; and/or capacity for the proposed instructional programme, which shall be assessed at the discretion of the respective Head of Department by a Senate approved admission assessment comprising of a DUT Standardised Assessment Test for Access and Placement (SATAP), Academic Literacies (Al) & English for Academic Purposes (EAP) and/or an appropriate subject or programme specific written assessment designed and marked by the relevant Department; and

(b) The relevant Faculty Board shall be satisfied that the person is standard of communication skills, ability to study successfully and/or work experience are such that the person, in the opinion of the relevant Faculty Board, should be able to complete the proposed instructional programme successfully. If required, the communication skills and study skills should be tested; and

(c) The person's application for admission in terms of work experience, age and maturity **is approved prior to registration.**

**Applicants intending to gain admission through work experience, age and maturity must submit their applications to the relevant department at least four months before commencement of the academic year inclusive of the date of scheduling writing a requisite eligibility assessment**

## Tuition Fees

To assist you with your planning, the **2022** fees have been indicated. An increase for next year to accommodate the inflation rate can be expected.

**Please Note:** DUT cannot be held liable for the fees in this brochure as the **2023** fees are not yet final.

## First Year Curriculum (HC in Dental Assisting)

Name of Module	Module Code	HEQSF Level	SAQA Credits	2022 Fees
<b>Semester One</b>				
Dental Assisting Practical IA	DAPA101	5	12	R2360.00
Dental Assisting Theory IA	DATA101	5	16	R2420.00
Dental Practice Management IA	DNPM101	5	12	R6690.00
Oral Anatomy & Pathology IA	OAPA101	5	12	R2850.00
Pharmacology for Dental Assisting	PHDA101	5	8	R1060.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>R15380.00</b>
<b>Semester Two</b>				
Dental Assisting Practical IB	DAPBI01	5	12	R2360.00

Dental Assisting Theory IB	DATB101	5	16	R2310.00
Oral Anatomy & Pathology IB	O A P B I 0 I	5	12	R2420.00
Dental Assisting Clinical Practice	DACP101	5	16	R1080.00
Cornerstone	CSTN101	5	12	R3410.00
<b>Total</b>				<b>R11580.00</b>
<b>Total Credits for Semester One &amp; Two</b>			<b>128</b>	

## Application

Applicants who wish to enroll for the programme must apply through the CAO system by no later than 30 September of the previous year.

## Application Forms

Contact the Central Applications Office (C.A.O.)

### Address letters to:

Central Applications Office  
Private Bag X06  
Dalbridge  
4014

Tel: (031) 2684444

Fax: (031) 2684422

### OR

Apply online: <http://www.cao.ac.za>

**Closing Date for Applications:** 30 September 2022

**CAO Code:** H. Cert – DUDHDA

## For Further Information

Department of Dental Sciences  
Durban University of Technology  
P.O. Box 1334

DURBAN  
4000

Tel: (031) 373 5356 / 5287 / 5800

Fax: (031) 373 6401

## Financial Aid:

For Financial Aid application for a DUT programme please apply online at [www.nsfas.org.za](http://www.nsfas.org.za) or call the NSFAS call centre on 0860 067 327.

For an explanation on how to fill out the application form, please go to [www.nsfas.org.za](http://www.nsfas.org.za) or contact the call centre on the number above.

**Please note** that completing a form does not guarantee Financial Aid. For further assistance, please consult the Department of Financial Aid and Scholarships on (031)3732931/2557/2054.

***This leaflet is for information purposes only and is not binding on the Durban University of Technology***