Dental Assistant (31-508-1)
Technical Diploma
Effective 2026/2027

The course sequence shown on this sheet is the recommended path to completion. Courses will be scheduled in the terms indicated here. All courses should be taken in the order shown to help you stay on track and graduate according to your academic plan. Courses in this program may be offered in a variety or combination of formats (for example: in-person, video conferencing, online, etc.). More detailed scheduling information for this program can be found at https://www.gtc.edu/dental-assistant. Please see your academic advisor for additional information.

R-D = Racine/days, F=Fall, S=Spring, SU=Summer

Term	Course Number	Credits	Course Title	Requisites (prereq- before/ coreq- with)	Notes	R-D
1	890-155	1	Gateway to Success (G2S)		• Students are required to take this course in their first semester of enrollment. Please see an advisor for details.	SU
1	801-301	1	Writing Principles	Prereq: 851-756	• Satisfactory college placement results (through multiple measures or placement test scores) or successful remediation is required prior to enrollment. See an advisor for details	SU
1	801-302	1	Speaking Principles			SU
2	*508-101	1	Dental Health Safety	Prereq: Advisor Consent		F
2	*508-103	2	Dental Radiography	Prereq: Advisor Consent; Coreq: 508-101; 508-304		F
2	*508-113	2	Dental Materials	Prereq: Advisor Consent		F
2	*508-302	5	Dental Chairside	Prereq: Advisor Consent Coreq: 508-101; 508-304; 508-113	• Faculty have identified this milestone course as providing a strong foundation for success throughout the program.	F
2	*508-304	2	Dental and General Anatomy	Prereq: Advisor Consent	• Faculty have identified this milestone course as providing a strong foundation for success throughout the program.	F
2	*508-306	3	Dental Assistant Clinical	Prereq: Advisor Consent Coreq: 508-101 508-103; 508-113; 508-302; 508-304; 508-307	• Travel is required to clinical sites. Students must provide their own transportation. • Students must have a valid CPR certification on file with the college to be eligible to register for this course. Must be completed prior to taking this course.	F
2	*508-307	1	Dental Assistant Professionalism	Prereq: Advisor Consent	• This course will be taught online. Basic computer literacy and Brightspace knowledge are highly recommended.	F
3	*508-120	2	Dental Office Management	Prereq: 508-307	• This course will be taught online. Basic computer literacy and Brightspace knowledge are highly recommended.	S
3	*508-308	5	Dental Chairside – Advanced	Prereq: 508-302		S
3	*508-309	4	Dental Laboratory Procedure	Prereq: 508-113		S
3	*508-310	1	Dental Radiography – Advanced	Prereq: 508-103		S
3	*508-311	2	Dental Assistant Clinical – Advanced	Prereq: 508-306, Coreq: 508-308, 508-309, 508-310	• Travel is required to clinical sites. Students must provide their own transportation. • Students must have a valid CPR certification on file with the college to be eligible to register for this course. Must be completed prior to taking this course. • Course 508-311 Dental Assistant Clinical - Advanced utilizes a Pass/Fail grading system.	S

Minimum Program Total Credits Required: 33

(*) Students must achieve a minimum of 2.0 ("C") or above for this major course to meet graduation requirements.

Dental Assistant (31-508-1)

Dental Assistant program prepares graduates to work with dentists as they examine and treat patients. Dental Assistants with documented skills also may carry out a variety of laboratory, clinical and office duties. Some dental assistants manage the office and are responsible for patient scheduling and bookkeeping functions. Graduates receive a technical diploma and are eligible to write the certification examination of the Dental Assisting National Board. Most dental assistants work in general or specialized dental offices, either for individual dentists or for groups of dentists. Some dental assistants may choose to work for insurance companies, dental laboratories, or dental supply companies. The dental assistant also may find employment with federal agencies such as the Veterans' Administration, United States Public Health Services, the Armed Forces, or a state, county or city health facility. The Dental Assistant Program is only offered on a full-time basis, Monday through Friday.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates will be able to:
1. Perform a variety of advanced supportive dental procedures.
2. Manage infection and hazard control.
3. Produce diagnostic intraoral and extraoral radiographs on a
4. variety of patients.
5. Perform advanced dental laboratory procedures.
6. Demonstrate professional behaviors, ethics, and appearance.
7. Perform dental office business procedures.

Essential Career Competencies

Gateway's six essential career competencies are the general attitudes and skills promoted and assessed by all programs. All Gateway graduates will develop skills in:
1. Communication Competence
2. Critical Thinking and Problem Solving
3. Professionalism and Career Management
4. Teamwork and Collaboration
5. Cultural Competence
6. Technology Competence

Admission Requirements

1. Students must submit an application and pay $30 fee.
2. Students must meet one of the following: minimum cumulative high school GPA of 2.6 (unweighted); earned at least 12 college credits with a minimum GPA of 2.0; or complete valid reading, writing, and math placement assessments.
3. Review the technical standards for this program at www.gtc.edu/forms. An acknowledgement of these standards will be completed within the online application.
4. This is a high demand program that utilizes a priority placement process for enrollment in core program courses. Students admitted into this program progress through three stages pre-core, core-ready and core-active as they work to complete their degree. Students are selected based on application date, completion of academic preparedness requirements and district residency. Academic preparedness requirements may include a Background Information Disclosure Form and Criminal Background Check and official high school, GED or HSED transcript including a graduation or passing date.

Graduation Requirements

1. Minimum 33 credits with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above.
2. *Minimum of 2.0 ("C") or above for these major courses.
3. Complete 890-155 Gateway to Success (G2S) in the first semester.

For a complete list of Graduation Requirements, check the Student Handbook or Graduation Requirements.

Notes

1. Any non-508 course may be taken prior to entry in the program, assuming requisites have been satisfied (or waived with departmental approval).
2. This is a high demand program that utilizes a priority placement process for enrollment in core program courses.
3. Please note that your program may require one or all of the following additional fee(s) for: Criminal Background Check, Medical Document Manager, and/or Drug Testing.

Gateway Technical College reserves the right to modify curriculum requirements for students who interrupt enrollment for one year or take over seven years to complete. Tuition and material fees are determined by the board of the Wisconsin Technical College System. Consult My Gateway for exact fee amounts. The District reserves the right to modify, cancel, or relocate course offerings in response to factors such as low enrollment, resource availability, or other relevant considerations to ensure high-quality educational experiences. Students will be notified in writing and are encouraged to meet with their Academic Advisor to adjust their academic plan.

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