Instructions for Completing the Dental Assisting Degree or Certificate Program

The *Dental Assistant Bridge* (DEN) program is a collaborative educational program being offered through a partnership between Skagit Valley College (SVC), Bellingham Technical College (BTC), and the Northwest Career and Technical Academy (NCTA). To become better prepared for employment as a certified Dental Assistant, students completing Skagit Valley College's *Dental Assisting Bridge Program* can continue their education/training in BTC's nationally accredited Dental Assisting program to complete the Dental Assistant certificate or degree.

To qualify for college credit and "program ready" status for admission into BTC's Dental Assisting Certificate or AAS Degree program, students must receive a minimum of C (2.0) or better grades in all **required prerequisite academic general education and dental technical core courses.** All courses taken through the *Dental Assistant Bridge* program will be transcribed for college credit through Skagit Valley College.

SVC/BTC DENTAL ASSISTING "PROGRAM READY" ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:
To be eligible for admission to the Dental Assisting program at Bellingham Technical College, applicants must meet all regular college admission requirements, including evidence of high school graduation or its equivalent. During the 2nd semester of the *Dental Assistant Bridge Program*, all students will organize an application portfolio to include the following elements:

- Copy of high school diploma, high school transcript or GED certificate
- Evidence of taking the college math placement exam (ASSET or ACCUPLACER); or transcript indicating successful completion of prerequisite math course (MATH& 107 or WMATH 100)
- Evidence of taking the college Reading Comprehension & Sentence Skills exam (ASSET or ACCUPLACER); or transcript indicating successful completion of prerequisite English course (ENGL& 101)
- Evidence of taking the HOBET (Health Occupations Basic Entrance Test) - *this test must be taken at BTC; contact the BTC Testing Center to schedule the exam (there is a fee to take the exam)*
- Evidence of being 18 years of age (birth certificate or driver's license)
- Evidence of satisfactory oral health by dental examination
- Evidence of satisfactory health status by physical examination
- Copy of current immunization status – including completed hepatitis B series
- Evidence of negative test for tuberculosis from physician or health department
- Copy of current CPR card – Healthcare Provider status (American Heart Association - 6 hour certification course)

At completion/graduation from the *Dental Assistant Bridge Program* students need to add the following documents to their portfolio:

- SVC transcript verifying completion of the *Dental Assisting Bridge Program* courses
- SVC transcript verifying completion of the academic general education prerequisite courses

To receive program ready status into BTC's Dental Assisting Certificate program, the following requirements must be met:

- Complete application process to BTC's Dental Assisting program within one year of completing NCTA/SVC's Dental Assisting Bridge Program
- Meet all BTC admission requirements
- Portfolio with copies of all required documents and immunization records
- SVC transcript verifying completion of the *Dental Assisting Bridge Program* courses
- SVC transcript verifying completion of the academic general education prerequisite courses
- Completed BTC Dental Assisting Program Application Form (available at BTC website)

Students who are "program ready" and admitted to BTC's Dental Assisting program will enter at the 2nd quarter of the 3 quarter program. See last page of this document for a sample schedule for completing the degree or certificate program at BTC.

NOTE: *admission to BTC's Dental Assisting program is only available Fall and Spring quarters on a space available basis.* **For a complete overview of the Admission Requirements for BTC's Dental Assisting Certificate and Degree programs: http://www.btc.ctc.edu**

TRANSFER OF COLLEGE COURSE EQUIVALENCIES:

BTC will accept for transfer all SVC dental technical and General Education prerequisite courses listed in the course equivalency chart below for a ***total credit value of up to 40.5 credits as required for the certificate and degree program***.

The General Education academic prerequisite courses must be completed PRIOR to being admitted to BTC's *Dental Assisting* program. Students enrolled in the NCTA *Dental Assisting Bridge Program* can take the following courses anytime during the school year, or summer quarter at Skagit Valley College. Students should consider taking one general education course each quarter. Qualified high school students may take the courses for free through the Running Start program. Students must complete **15 credits of academic general education coursework** and receive a minimum 2.0 (C) or better grades in all academic courses prior to being admitted to BTC's Dental Assisting program.

Bellingham Technical College		**Skagit Valley College**	
General Education Prerequisites		**General Education Prerequisites**	
COM 170 5 cr	Oral & Written Communication	ENGL& 101 5 cr	English Composition
MATH 100 5 cr MATH& 107	Occupational Math, ***or*** Math in Society	WMATH 100 5 cr MATH& 107	Professional-Technical Applied Math, ***or*** Math in Society
CMST& 210 5 cr PSYC& 100	Interpersonal Communication, ***or*** General Psychology	CMST& 210 5 cr PSYC& 100	Interpersonal Communication, *or* General Psychology
Total Credits 15		**Total Credits 15**	
Dental Technical Core Prerequisites		**Dental Technical Core Prerequisites**	
BIO 105 5 cr	Essentials of Anatomy & Physiology	AHE 106 6 cr	Anatomy and Physiology
HLTH 133 1 cr	HIV-AIDS for Healthcare Professionals	AHE 200 3 cr	First Aid & Emergency Procedures
HO 127 0.5 cr	Healthcare Provider CPR	AHE 200	First Aid & Emergency Procedures
DEN 100 1 cr	Introduction to Dental Assisting	DEN 100 1 cr	Introduction to Dental Assisting
DEN 105 2 cr	Head and Neck Anatomy	DEN 105 2 cr	Head and Neck Anatomy
DEN 110 5 cr	Dental Foundations	DEN 110 5 cr	Dental Foundations
DEN 112 7 cr	Chairside Assisting I	DEN 112 7 cr	Chairside Assisting I
DEN 114 4 cr	Dental Sciences	DEN 114 4 cr	Dental Sciences
	No BTC equivalency for this course	AHE 128 2 cr	Introduction to Dental Clinic
Total Credits 25.5		**Total Credits 30**	
Total Credits 40.5	**Gen Ed + Technical Course PreReqs**	**Total Credits 45**	**Gen Ed + Technical Course PreReqs**

SAMPLE SCHEDULE TO EARN DENTAL ASSISTING CERTIFICATE or DEGREE

Program	Number	Title	Credits	Transfer to BTC
DENTAL ASSISTING BRIDGE PROGRAM				
		Fall Quarter at NCTA (7 credits)		
DEN	100	Introduction to Dental Assisting	1	1
DEN	105	Head and Neck Anatomy	2	2
DEN	114	Dental Sciences	4	4
		Winter Quarter at NCTA (14 credits)		
AHE	106	Anatomy and Physiology	6	5
AHE	200	First Aid & Emergency Procedures	3	1.5
DEN	110	Dental Foundations	5	5
		Spring Quarter at NCTA (9 credits)		
DEN	112	Chairside Assisting I	7	7
AHE	128	Introduction to Dental Clinic	2	0
		Total Credits	**30**	**25.5 credits**
Complete Gen Ed Requirements at SVC – take one class per quarter				
ENGL&	101	English Composition	5	5
MATH&	107	Math in Society, ***or take***	5	5
W-MATH	100	Professional-Technical Applied Math		
PSYC&	100	General Psychology, ***or take***	5	5
CMST&	210	Interpersonal Communications		
		Total Credits	**15**	**15 credits**
	Total Credits Earned During Bridge Program Year		**45**	**40.5**
COMPLETE DENTAL ASSISTING CERTIFICATE at BTC – *45 credits needed*				
DEN	115	Dental Clinic Practicum I	6	
		Total Credits	**6**	
		Quarter Two		
DEN	120	Patient Assessment	8	
DEN	122	Chairside Assisting II	6	
DEN	124	Radiography	3	
DEN	125	Dental Clinic Practicum II	4	
		Total Credits	**21**	
		Quarter Three		
DEN	130	Preventative Dentistry	3	
DEN	132	Dental Specialties	1	
DEN	134	Laboratory Procedures	2	
DEN	135	Dental Clinic Practicum III	4	
DEN	137	Extramural Practicum	8	
		Total Credits	**18**	
		Total Credits Required to Complete Certificate	**85.5**	
DENTAL ASSISTING AAS DEGREE				
SPCH	105	Interpersonal Communications	5	
		Total Credits Required to Complete AAS Degree	**90.5**	
DENTAL ASSISTING AAS-T DEGREE (Transfer)				
1 additional transfer level elective science, social science or humanities course as well as ENGL& 101, MATH& 107, & PSYC& 100			5	
		Total Credits Required to Complete AAS-T Degree	**95.5**	

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