

High School to College and Career Pathway: Secondary

Career and Technical Education: Preparing Students for College and Career!



Area of Study: Health Science Education

Pathway: Therapeutic Services – Dental

Get the Facts

Research shows that chronic gum disease leads to the release of inflammatory substances and bacteria into the blood stream, which leads to heart disease.

Workforce Trends

The dental industry is in critical need of dental assistants. Dentists are hiring more assistants to perform routine tasks so that they may devote more time to complex procedures. In Utah, employment for dental assistants is projected to increase 5.4 percent through the year 2018.

Nationwide, approximately 10 percent of the people employed as dental assistants are men.



CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION Recommended Pathway Courses

(Students may select individual courses for exploration, or a complete Pathway for an in-depth focus.)

CLASS AVAILABILITY MAY VARY AT YOUR HIGH SCHOOL

Course #	Foundation Courses: (required)	Credit
51.0601	Dental Assistant	2.00
Elective Courses:		
51.0001	Health Science, Introduction	.50
20.0108	Food & Nutrition I	.50
20.0118	Food & Nutrition II	.50
20.0138	Foundations of Nutrition	.50
51.1399	Medical Anatomy & Physiology	1.00
51.0799	Medical Terminology	.50
51.9999	Medical Math	.50
51.1199	Health Science, Advanced (capstone course)	1.00
32.0199	Student Internship (Critical Workplace Skills)	.50

2.00 credits

1.00 credit

3.00 credits for completion

Dental is:

- > High demand
- > Nontraditional for males

Sample Career Occupations

- > Dental Assistant
- > Dental Ceramist
- > Dental Hygienist
- > Dental Laboratory Technician
- > Dentist
- > Health Science Education Teacher
- > Orthodontic Technician

In Utah, a dental hygienist and a dentist must be licensed.

Middle School		State Requirements		High School Suggested Education Plan				College and Career
7th Grade	8th Grade	Middle School	High School	9th Grade Suggested	10th Grade Suggested	11th Grade Suggested	12th Grade Suggested	Beyond High School
Language Arts 7 1.00	Language Arts 8 1.00	2.00	Language Arts 4.00	Language Arts 9 1.00	Language Arts 10 1.00	Language Arts 11 1.00	Language Arts 12 1.00	There are a number of options for education and training beyond high school, depending on your career goals. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> > Certificate > Associate degree > Bachelor's degree > Professional degree > On-the-job training > Apprenticeship > Military training For more information on salary projections, labor market demand, and training options, visit www.utahfutures.org .
Math * 1.00	Math * 1.00	2.00	Math 3.00	Math * 1.00	Math * 1.00	Math * 1.00	Medical Math .50	
Science .50	Science 1.00	1.50	Science 3.00	Biology or Human Biology 1.00	Chemistry 1.00	Medical Anatomy and Physiology 1.00		
Utah Studies .50	U.S. History I 1.00	1.50	Social Studies 3.00	Geography for Life .50	World Civilizations .50	U.S. History II 1.00	U.S. Government and Citizenship .50	
P.E. 1.00	Health .50	1.50	P.E./Health 2.00	Participation Skills and Techniques .50	Fitness for Life .50 / Health Education .50 Lifetime Activities or Sport .50			
The Arts .50	The Arts .50	1.00	Fine Arts 1.50	Fine Arts Courses 1.50				
Keyboarding .50			Computer Tech. .50	Computer Technology .50				
CTE Intro 1.00		1.00	CTE 1.00	Refer to Career and Technical Education box above.				

* Talk to your school counselor about math requirements in the new common core curriculum. Core curriculum and elective requirements may vary district to district.

Concurrent enrollment course offerings vary by school and district. Many Utah postsecondary programs accept high school courses toward a two- or four-year degree through concurrent enrollment. Check regional postsecondary Pathways for details.