

Kathryn Dockter, Chair, Allied Dental Education at North Dakota State College of Science

Good Morning, my name is Kathryn Dockter, Chair of Allied Dental Education at North Dakota State College of Science. Thank you for allowing me this opportunity to provide information to improve the access to dental services and ways to address dental providers shortages, including Expanded Functions for Dental Assistants and Dental Hygienists; also working to increase our Dental Assisting Workforce for the state by providing an online/hybrid DA course.

Our Allied Health building was finished in 1999, it had been the Butte gymnasium for many years. Our dental clinic was renovated in 2012 with all new equipment.

Our programs are Accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. The Dental Assisting program has two options, a certificate which is 41 credits or an Associate of Applied Science which is 66 total credits. Semesters: Fall, Spring, Summer, 10 ½ months. Dental Instruction: Didactic, laboratory, preclinical, clinical. Spring Affiliations & Summer Internships: 300 clinical hours at local & regional dental office sites. The majority of our students are from North Dakota with a percentage from MN and SD.

Workforce survey: Greatest need for DA's. The survey was emailed to 325 ND dentists and 74 respondents completed the survey. The survey measured dentists' perceptions of dental workforce needs in ND. **Current Openings and Hiring Projections:**

- 39.1% currently have at least one opening for a full/part-time dental assistant
- 78.3% of respondents expect to hire at least one dental assistant in the next five years
- 45.1% expect to hire more than one dental assistant

Fall 2015: Two Hybrid Courses – pilot DAST 115 Dental Radiology and DAST 111 Intro to Chairside

Fall 2016: Hybrid Courses added-increase class size on site and distance students.

This change had not been in our budget, so we are looking for funding through other sources. There are many hurdles to cross, such as the higher learning commission and a major change summary to CODA but we feel this is very important to have trained and licensed DA's who can then obtain the expanded functions certificate.

The Dental Hygiene program graduates approximately 25 students a year with an Associate in Applied Science and many of our students at the same time obtain an AS in Liberal Arts. To go on to their Bachelor's Degree in DH, they would need approximately 30-35 more credits. Presently we have an articulation agreement with Minnesota State University – Mankato. We are working on articulation agreement with Metropolitan State University and they have a Dental Therapist program in conjunction with Normandale.

Our placement report was just published and our students have 95-100%.

The clinic was renovated in 2012, 18 chairs, Computer with Eaglesoft dental software, Intraoral camera, digital radiographs and a digital panoramic machine. Last year we obtained an Otto Bremer grant with matching funds from the state.

The patients seen in our clinic are mainly elderly, uninsured, head start children, Circle of Nations native American children, migrant workers children, Medicaid and low income population. We are providing a service for many that would otherwise not be seen in a dental office.

The workforce survey for dental hygiene showed the following.

Current Openings and Hiring Projections:

10.8% currently have at least one opening for a full/part time dental hygienist;

50% of respondents expect to hire at least one dental hygienist in the next five years

13.4% expect to hire more than one dental hygienist.

We are presently working on an Expanded Function curriculum to meet the needs of our ND workforce. This is for both DA and DH.

Dental Therapist – A large percentage of our DDS's will be retiring in the next 15 years. We need workforce in our rural areas to provide services. Need providers in public health settings, FQHC (Federally Qualified Health Centers) and AHEC (Area Health Education Centers) facilities.

Allied Dental Education

Dental Assisting
Dental Hygiene



Allied Dental

Mission

The mission of the Allied Dental Education Department is to offer curriculums that can provide quality graduates in both dental assisting and dental hygiene programs. The curriculum and activities associated with the department will be directed at providing students with the knowledge, skills and professionalism necessary for entry into the professions of dental assisting or dental hygiene.



Mayme Green Allied Health Center



Clinic



Certificate AAS Degree

Dental Assisting Certificate

- Dental & General Education courses
- 41 total credits

Dental Assisting Associate in Applied Science Degree

- Dental & General Education courses
- 66 total credits



Dental Assisting Program Admission

Limited enrollment

- Maximum capacity: 20 students

Admission criteria

Applicants

- 48-59 applicants/year



Dental Assisting Accepted Student Data

2012 class:

- 80% from ND
- 85% prior college

2013 class:

- 67% from ND
- 72% prior college

2014 class:

- 58% from ND
- 58% prior college

2015 class

- 60% from ND
- 80% prior college

2016 class

- 65% from ND
- 95% prior college



DA Work Force Survey

Current Openings and Hiring Projections

- 39.1% currently have at least one opening for a full/part-time dental assistant
- 78.3% of respondents expect to hire at least one dental assistant in the next five years
- 45.1% expect to hire more than one dental assistant



NDSCS Hybrid Course

Fall 2015

Two Hybrid Courses - pilot

DAST 115 Dental Radiology

DAST 111 Intro to Chairside

Fall 2016

Hybrid Courses added-increase class
size



North Dakota State College of
Science

Dental Hygiene Program



Dental Hygiene Program

Graduate approximately 25 students per year

- Associate in Applied Science in DH-AAS
- Over half also obtain AS Degree in Liberal Arts
- To complete their bachelor's degree in DH need approximately 30-35 more credit hours
- Bachelor's Degree articulation agreement with Minnesota State University – Mankato
- Working on articulation with Metropolitan State University



Placement Data

Dental Assisting					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Graduates	16	19	17	18	10
Average Salary	\$2,353	\$2,232	\$2,376	\$2,600	\$2,704
Placement Rate	94%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Dental Hygiene					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Graduates	25	25	25	19	22
Average Salary	\$4,940	\$3,976	\$3,901	\$4,124	\$4,132
Placement Rate	72%	91%	100%	94%	95%

NDSCS Dental Clinic

- 18 ADEC Dental Chairs
- 2 chairs used for Dental Assisting program
- 6 chairs used in Radiology
- 33 Computer stations-Eaglesoft
- 15 Intraoral cameras
- Renovations 2012



Otto Bremer Grant/ND Match Grant

Digital Panoramic machine
Film Processor
Hand pieces
Autoclaves
Intra Oral Cameras
Skulls



Dental Clinic Patient Demographics

- Elderly
- Low income
- Medicaid recipients
- Very few with dental insurance (<5%)
- Head start children
- Circle of Nations School – Native American youth



DH Workforce Survey

Current Openings and Hiring Projections

- 10.8% currently have at least one opening for a full/part time dental hygienist
- 50% of respondents expect to hire at least one dental hygienist in the next five years
- 13.4% expect to hire more than one dental hygienist



Expanded Functions

- Continued Education modules (patterned after other states with EF)
 - Use of clinic for multiple students
 - Hands on under DDS supervision
 - Additional hands on lab experiences and training before certificate



Dental Therapist

- Need for ND residents to remain in state to practice in rural areas
- Large percent of ND DDS retiring in next 15 years
- Rural rotations
- Community experiences-Public health settings
- FQHC (Federally Qualified Health Centers) and AHEC (Area Health Education Centers) facilities



