

DRAFT

Dental Aid/Assisting Handbook

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INTRODUCTION

Vision:

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) Dental Aide/Assisting program:
Will prepare students to obtain Dental Assisting National Board Certification thus enabling them to become safe, competent and productive Dental Assistants.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Dental Aide/Assisting Program is to provide quality education and training to meet the demands of the changing health care industry.

- To provide the basic skills and knowledge necessary to meet the requirements for graduation/completion.
- To successfully pass the Dental Assisting National Board Examination.
- To gain entrance into a post-secondary program, and/or gainful employment.
- To reinforce basic skills in English, mathematics, and science appropriate for job preparation.
- To provide the means by which students may discover and develop their capabilities as they seek desired career goals.
- To afford students an opportunity to participate in community service projects in collaboration with health organizations in the community.

M-DCPS Dental Aide/Assisting curriculum training program:

The M-DCPS Dental Aide/Assisting Program curriculum is a complement of theoretical inquiry and clinical practice. Theory and practice covered in the curriculum are in accordance with State of Florida Minimum Performance Standards and the Miami-Dade Public Schools' Pupil Progression Plan. Theory is the basis of life long practice, reinforces conceptualization and skills towards mastery. Practice in curriculum progresses from simple to complex, hands-on exercises, and clinical rotation experiences in actual dental care institutions in the community. This blend of planned and controlled learning experiences is designed to prepare students to perform safely and competently as entry-level dental assistants.

Program Standards:

The M-DCPS Dental Aide/Assisting program is founded on the belief that high standards contributes to the centrality of dental assisting for the public good and provides for the maintenance and enhancement of educational quality; continuous self-assessment, planning, and improvement. Achievement of these standards indicate to the general public and to the educational community that a dental aide/assisting program has clear and appropriate educational objectives and is providing the conditions under which its objectives can be fulfilled. Emphasis is placed upon the total dental assistant program, and its compliance with established standards and criteria in the context of current practice and anticipated future direction.

Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA)

All Health Science Education students are encouraged to join and participate in the activities with the student organization. A club fee is paid early by all members.

American Dental Association (ADA)

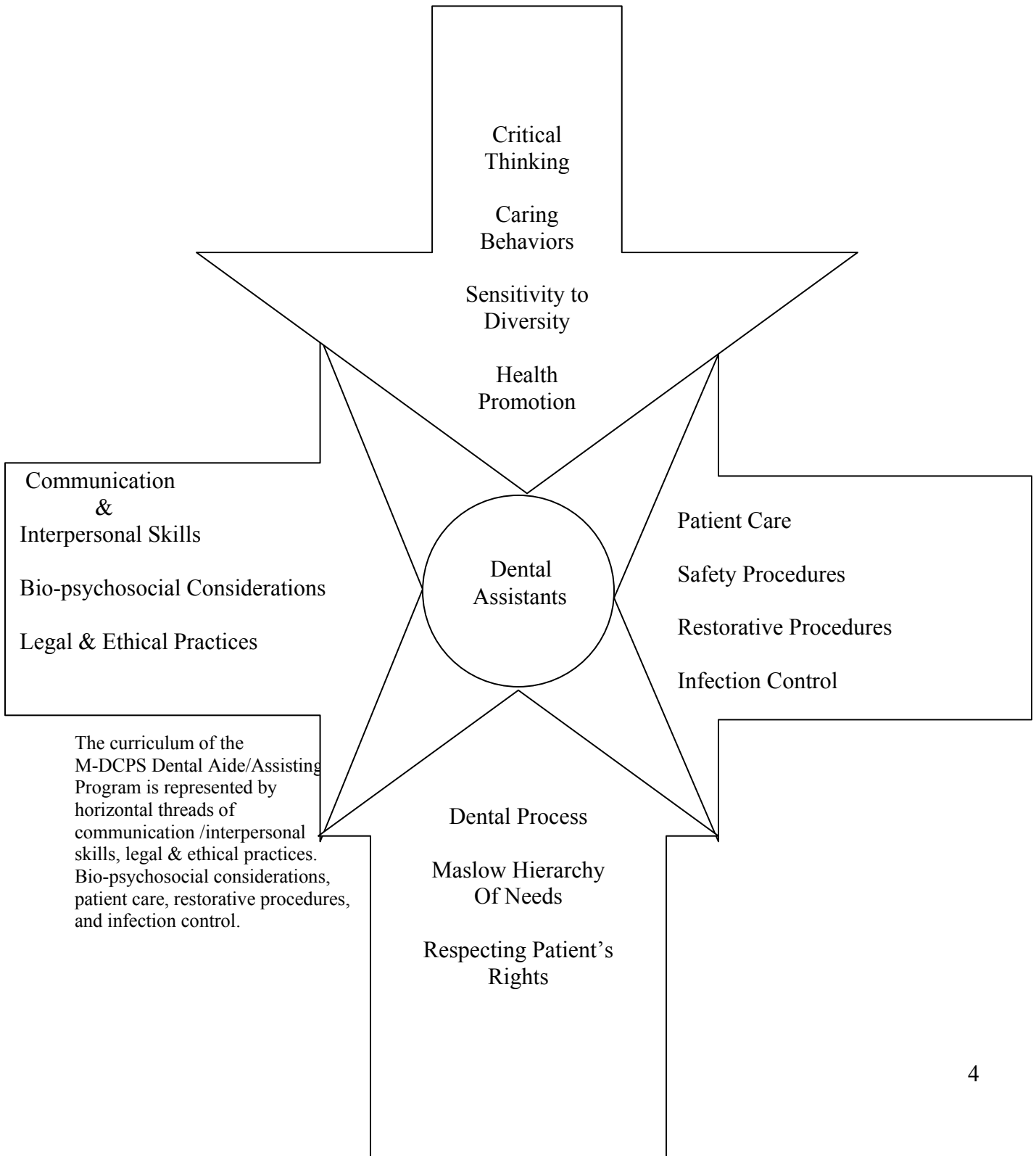
The ADA is the professional association of dentists committed to the public's health, ethics, science and professional advancement; leading a unified profession through initiatives in advocacy, education, research and the development of standards. The oral health authority is committed to the public and the profession.

Each program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation must develop and implement a procedure to inform students of the mailing address and telephone number of the Commission on Dental Accreditation. The Commission on Dental Accreditation will review complaints that relate to a program's compliance with the accreditation standards. The Commission is interested in the sustained quality and continued improvement of dental and dental-related education programs but does not intervene on behalf of individuals or act as a court of appeal for treatment received by patients or individuals in matters of admission, appointment, promotion or dismissal of faculty, staff or students.

A copy of the appropriate accreditation standards and/or the Commission's policy and procedure for submission of complaints may be obtained by contacting the Commission at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611-2678 or by calling 1-800-621-8099 extension 4653.

Conceptual Framework

The curriculum of the M-DCPS Dental Aide/Assisting program is woven into the philosophy and terminal objectives of the program. This conceptual model reflects the faculty’s belief about the individual, health, society, and the teaching/learning processes. These beliefs are reflected in the following model.



Operating Procedures

The Miami-Dade County Public Schools Dental Aide/Assisting program is designed to provide those enrolled with knowledge and skills which will enable them to function effectively as a dental assistant.

Entrance Requirement:

- Application
- Interview by appropriate faculty
- Pass the program of study
 1. Secondary: Health Science I (or Anatomy and Physiology) and Health Science II with a passing grade of “C” or better.
 2. Postsecondary: Health Science Education Core with a passing grade of “C” or better.

Attendance Requirement:

Hours of Operation:

Scheduled theory and clinical days and hours vary by school site and will be discussed during orientation. Because of the short duration of the clinical course, absenteeism and tardiness should be kept at a minimum. Strict adherence to the attendance policy is necessary.

Tardiness/Absenteeism:

Requirements are according to Miami-Dade County Public Schools policy. Since the primary purpose of this program is to prepare students for employment, attendance and punctuality are of **utmost** importance.

Make Up Hours:

Secondary:

Theory make-up time must be done as recorded in the Teacher-Parent-Student Conference. A written contract will be implemented at this time indicating the make-up dates, as well as a deadline for completion.

Postsecondary

If for any reason a student is unable to attend class or clinical practice, a call must be made to the school and to the clinical facility 30 minutes before class. All students should be made aware of their attendance records in a timely manner. Excessive absenteeism is not permitted.

Types of Fees:

1. Certification examination fees/Postsecondary
2. Insurance:
 - Malpractice
 - Special Risk/Accident
3. Uniforms: to be purchased by students according to M-DCPS Dental Aide/Assisting Program.
4. Equipment: Watch must have a second hand; safety glasses
5. Other fees incurred during the course may include those for activities of Health Occupations Students Of America (HOSA)
6. Additional supplies may be mandatory by individual instructors to meet the needs in clinical setting.

Financial Aid (See Financial Aid Personnel)

Postsecondary students' financial aid will be provided on an individual basis.

Personal appearance

The health profession maintains high standards for personal appearance and grooming. It is essential that the dental aide/ assisting program designated uniform be worn by all students in the clinical setting and/or the classroom. Good personal grooming should be maintained at all times.

THE INSTRUCTOR MAY DISMISS THE STUDENT FROM THE CLASSROOM OR CLINICAL AREA FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THESE REGULATIONS. THE STUDENT MAY BE REFERRED FOR COUNSELING BEFORE RE-ENTRY.

Dress Code:

The dress code consists of:

- Pressed dental uniform specified by the assigned school/center.
- Conservative underwear, neutral in color with no discernible pattern. A full slip must be worn with uniform dress.
- White shoes; plain white socks when wearing pants; and white hose when wearing knee-length dress (shoes must have noiseless rubber heels.)
- No open toe/heeled shoes.
- Identification badges: A school name pin and/or school picture ID should be worn at all times in the clinical area and on school site.
- Plain white sweaters and/ or scrub jacket as assigned by the school/center are acceptable.
- On “cold” days a white undershirt with/without collar may be worn under uniform.

Image:

- Fingernails must be clean and short. Colorless or pale polish may be worn.
No artificial tips or artificial nails are allowed.
- Makeup worn should be natural looking.
- Facial hair must be clean shaved and beards must be neatly trimmed.
- Heavy perfume and colognes are not permitted.
- Hair must be kept off face, styled in professional manner. No unusual hair colors.
- Jewelry is limited to the following: wedding band, watch, one pair of small stud earrings in lower lobe of ear, and medic alert.
- Chewing gum is strictly prohibited.

Evaluation

Miami-Dade County Public Schools grading system will be used to compute students' grade.

The grading system is as follows:

A = Excellent	90-100
B = Good	80-89
C = Satisfactory	70-79
D = Unsatisfactory	60-69
F = Failure	0-59
I = Incomplete	

- Passing grade for Miami-Dade County Public Schools DA Program is 70% or greater on all theoretical examinations.

A student failing to take an examination at the scheduled time due to absence is required to make arrangements to take the test.

Postsecondary-Each dental course must be passed prior to proceeding to the next course.

Clinical Evaluation

Clinical grades will be documented by the DA instructor.

Grounds for Disciplinary Action

The Miami-Dade County Public School code of student conduct policies will be followed.

Personal Health Care and Illness

The development of good personal health habits is emphasized throughout the program. The instructors will give guidance by means of student service resources.

Advanced Placement Credit

Articulated Components:

In a continuing effort to serve the needs of students in technical and career programs, M-DCPS Postsecondary Technical Centers agree to extend postsecondary vocational credit to graduates of the M-DCPS Dental Aide Program toward a Dental Assisting Vocational Credit Certificate.

Remediation/Redirection

Every fourth week of a nine week grading period, students will receive a progress report. If student fails to meet the 70% in a course, a student will receive academic warning. If satisfactory progress has not been met, then the student will be placed on academic probation and/or will not be a program completer.

Program Completer

Postsecondary students will be eligible for program completion only if their academic/laboratory, clinical progress and passing TABE scores in the program is satisfactory.

High school Dental Aide students must meet all state and M-DCPS requirements for graduation. The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, adheres to a policy of nondiscrimination in educational programs activities, employment, and strives affirmatively to provide equal opportunity for all.

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, adheres to a policy of nondiscrimination in employment and educational programs/activities and programs/activities receiving Federal financial assistance from the Department of Education, and strives affirmatively to provide equal opportunity for all as required by:

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 - prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin.

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended - prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, or national origin.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 - prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender.

Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (ADEA), as amended - prohibits discrimination on the basis of age with respect to individuals who are at least 40.

The Equal Pay Act of 1963, as amended - prohibits sex discrimination in payment of wages to women and men performing substantially equal work in the same establishment.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 - prohibits discrimination against the disabled.

Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) - prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in employment, public service, public accommodations and telecommunications.

The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA) - requires covered employers to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave to "eligible" employees for certain family and medical reasons.

The Pregnancy Discrimination Act of 1978 - prohibits discrimination in employment on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions.

Florida Educational Equity Act (FEEA) - prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, gender, national origin, marital status, or handicap against a student or employee.

Florida Civil Rights Act of 1992 - secures for all individuals within the state freedom from discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, or marital status.

School Board Rules 6Gx13- 4A-1.01, 6Gx13- 4A-1.32, and 6Gx13- 5D-1.10 - prohibit harassment and/or discrimination against a student or employee on the basis of gender, race, color, religion, ethnic or national origin, political beliefs, marital status, age, sexual orientation, social and family background, linguistic preference, pregnancy, or disability.

Veterans are provided re-employment rights in accordance with P.L. 93-508 (Federal Law) and Section 295.07 (Florida Statutes), which stipulate categorical preferences for employment.