Please contact the following numbers for counselor's office hours: (915) 831-4636, (915) 831-4036, (915) 831-4155.

HEALTH CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION, MATH & SCIENCE
Specialized Admissions Program Information Guide
For
DENTAL ASSISTING
ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE (AAS-DNTA)
And
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION (C2-DNTC)
2023-2024 Catalog

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

Program Coordinator: Lourdes Garduño, BIS, AAS., CDA, RDA.   **Phone #:** 915-831-4048
Office Location: RG Campus, Health Science Bldg. RM H-231   **E-mail: mgardun2@epcc.edu**

Clinical Coordinator: Joy Pilant, BS**,** CDA, RDA, RDH.   **Phone #:** 915-831-4065
Office Location: RG Campus, RM H-018   **E-mail: jpilant@epcc.edu**

Dean: Souraya A. Hajjar, Ed.D., CHES, CHCO, MPH.   **Phone #:** 915-831-4030
Office Location: RG Campus, RM A-240   **Email: shajjar@epcc.edu**

DNTA Program Counselors
Office Location: RG Counseling Dept., 103 Montana Ave., 3rd. floor

Guadalupe Marshall, Lead Counselor   **Phone #:** (915) 831-4040   **E-mail: gibarra@epcc.edu**
Ricardo Lopez de Lara, back-up Counselor   **Phone #:** (915) 831-4447   **E-mail: rlopezde@epcc.edu**

PROGRAM MAP

Program Map provides additional information regarding salary projections, employment opportunities, licensure requirements and Educational milestones.   LINK: https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Catalog/program-map?programID=786

If applicable, students qualifying for Specialized Admissions must satisfy all of the following: General Requirements, minimum set TSIA2 scores, Mandatory courses, and Pre-Program Specifics. Once all requirements are completed, ranking points are derived from the highest TSIA2 scores and most recent G.P.A. of ranking courses. Applicants who complete all ranking courses may be more competitive for admission into their program of choice.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for specialized admissions must satisfy minimum criteria in order to be eligible for ranking. The following is required of all applicants:

➢ Prior to ranking, **the student must** submit all previous college/university official transcripts (transliteration of all foreign coursework required).
  For online **Transcripts Evaluation:** sendtranscripts2@epcc.edu **PDF with a password protection.**
➢ Student must have a **High School Diploma or GED. Submit official transcripts to:**
    El Paso Community College Admissions Office
    P.O. Box 20500, El Paso, Texas 79998.
➢ Student must:
  1. Be approved to take credit academic courses by EPCC
  2. Have successfully completed **TSIA2 Assessment Tests.**
  3. Attend a Health Careers Orientation Session or complete it online at: https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/Orientation/health-careers-orientation
  4. Submit Specialized Admissions Application form and pay $ 10.00 fee. specialized.adm@epcc.edu, in person would be at the Valle Verde campus.
  5. A grade of a "C" or better is required for all academic and specialized courses listed under the degree plan.
➢ **EPCC Cumulative GPA of 2.7 is required.**

> **"Effective Fall 2011, and based on new federal regulations, students are not allowed to repeat previously passed courses more than Once".**
> Students should meet with a counselor to determine how a repeat course (s) would impact his/her academic, prerequisite, specialized admissions or transferability of courses. It is the student's responsibility to check with the Office of Student Financial Services to inquire how a repeat course (s) would impact their financial aid or veteran's assistance.

TEXAS SUCCESS INITIATIVE (TSIA2) ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS

The Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0 **"TSIA2",** a redesign of the original Texas Success Initiative Assessment **"TSIA1",** is part of the Texas Success Initiative enacted by the Texas State Legislature and was designed to assess test takers' readiness for college-level coursework in the general areas of English language arts and reading (ELAR) and mathematics. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) requires the reporting of developmental progression and outcome of all students engaged in developmental education. After January 11, 2021, all new degree-seeking students are required to take the Texas Success Initiative Assessment 2.0 (TSIA2).

Refer to EPCC Catalog or see your counselor for more information.

TSIA2 MINIMUM REQUIRED ASSESSMENT SCORES FOR AAS DNTA

Test Area	Test Code	TSIA2 Cut Score
Math	PTMT	940
Reading & Writing	PTER	940
Essay	PTWE	6

> **TSIA2 Official Assessment scores are valid for two (2) years with the highest test score used for qualifying and ranking.**
> **Posting of TSIA2 Assessment scores will take between 24 to 48 hours. Assessment Tests have to be completed at least 48 hours prior to ranking date.**

DENTAL ASSISTING LICENSURE EXAM REQUIREMENTS

NOTE: After graduating with an AAS in Dental Assisting, graduates qualify to take the Dental Assisting Licensure Exam. Students must have a U.S. Identification (U.S. Citizenship, Green Card, or permit to work in the U.S.). Please contact Lourdes Garduno, DNTA Coordinator for more information at: 915-831-4048.

DNTA PRE-PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for Specialized Programs must also meet Pre-Program Specific Criteria prior to qualifying for ranking. The following is required of all applicants:

> **Immunizations and Titers** – The following must be completed.
> - **POSITIVE TITER required for Hepatitis B vaccination series of three and Titer** (can take 4-6 months to complete). If a student has started the Hepatitis B series by ranking deadline, he/she may be clear for ranking or registration with the understanding that the series have to be completed in a timely manner prior to starting clinical courses. Documentation of starting the series must be on file.
> - **Tuberculosis (TB) screening required annually**. ****NOTE: It is highly recommended to complete any and all TB skin testing prior to receiving the MMR and/or Varicella vaccines. MMR or Varicella vaccines could cause a false negative TB skin test result.**
>   1. **Individuals who previously tested negative, have never tested, or are not sure if previously tested.**
>   a. Initial 2 Step TB Skin Test (effective January 1, 2018, for all students/faculty new to health programs).
>   i. Initial TB skin test (TST) administered and read 48-72 hours later.
>   ii. If initial TB skin test is negative, the second TST must be administered no sooner than 7 days and no later than 21 days after administration of the initial TST.
>   iii. If initial TST is positive, DO NOT ADMINISTER the second TST. Individual needs Chest X-ray and annual TB Assessment/Clearance (or equivalent document) from Health Care Provider.
>   2. **TB Skin Test Positive** (previously). Requires completed Annual TB Assessment/Clearance form.
> - **POSITIVE TITER required for each two doses - Measles, Mumps and Rubella Vaccinations (MMR)** (completed) **and Titer.**
> - **POSITIVE TITER required for each two doses - Varicella Vaccination and Titer** (completed).
> - **Tetanus/Diphtheria and Pertussis (TDAP)** vaccine (completed, expires after 10 years).
> - **Influenza vaccine is required** (done annually).

- **Meningitis or Booster** – (Effective January 1, 2012, a Bacterial Meningitis Vaccination is required for all entering students under the age of 22. The term "entering students" includes new students to EPCC, transfer students, and returning students. Students must provide proof of an initial meningitis immunization or booster to the Admissions and Registration Department at any campus. The meningitis immunization must be administered at least 10 days before the start of the semester and must have been administered within the last five years).
  NOTE: If you have had the vaccination at an earlier date, you may start with a Titer, as the result will indicate if you need the vaccine.
  If you have not had the vaccination and after vaccination is applied, you must wait 4-6 weeks for immunity to show up on the TITER.

➤ **COVID-19 vaccine is now required by all hospitals. Medical or religious exemption is allowed but proof of either is expected.**
Visit Admission and Registration EPCC web page for additional information. **Website:** https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/immunization-law

A tracking system, **COMPLIO,** will assist students and coordinators alike to be compliant with immunizations, CPR, First Aid, physical, etc.
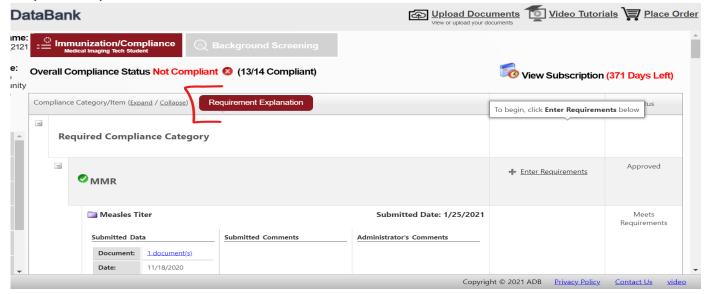All students participating in health programs must be part of the American Databank, in order to keep their clinical data in compliance and updated.
If you have any questions contact Lourdes Garduno, Program Coordinator at: mgardun2@epcc.edu, or Joy Pilant, Clinical Coordinator at: jpilant@epcc.edu
COMPLIO Link: https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/Documents/Background_Check_Substance_Abuse_Testing.pdf
Follow below example when inputting your Program required documents; students can find this information under the "Requirement Explanation" button.

The Dental Assisting Program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association (CODA), a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation and by the United States Department of Education. 211 East Chicago Avenue, Suite 1900, Chicago, ILL 60611-2978; phone: (800) 232-6180, fax: (312) 440-4653, Email: http://www.ada.org/en/coda. Program Medical Advisor: Dr. Kelly Brooks

DNTA AAS DEGREE PROGRAM COURSES

In order to complete the requirements for progression and graduation, students enrolled in this program must have a grade of "C" or better in all specialized courses. The term "specialized courses" refers to all courses carrying the prefix of the program in which the student is majoring or the prefix of another health-related discipline.

Check 2023-2024 El Paso Community College Catalog for Prerequisites

First Semester
BIOL 1306 Biology for Science Majors I (Lecture) (C) (MNS), **and** Prerequisite: Placement at college-level English Language Arts Reading by TSIA2 or equivalent; OR completion with a "C" or better or concurrent enrollment in the following: INRW 0311 or INRW 0312 or INRW 0313. Corequisite: BIOL 1106.
BIOL 1106 Biology for Science Majors I (Lab) **or** Corequisite: BIOL 1306.
BIOL 1308 Biology for Non-Science Majors I (Lecture) (C) (MNS), **and** Prerequisite: Placement at college-level English Language Arts Reading by TSIA2 or equivalent; OR completion with a "C" or better or concurrent enrollment in the following: INRW 0311 or INRW 0312 or INRW 0313. Corequisite: BIOL 1108.
BIOL 1108 Biology for Non-Science Majors I (Lab) Corequisite: BIOL 1308.
COSC 1301 Introduction to Computing **or**
ITSC 1301 Introduction to Computers
Mathematics Elective[1] (C) (MNS) **(Preferred Course MATH 1332)**

Second Semester

        Humanities or Fine Arts Elective[2] (C) (HFA)

        Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective[3] (C) (SBC) (**Preferred Course PSYC 2301**)

        Speech Communication Elective[4] (**Preferred Course SPCH 1315**)

Third Semester

DNTA	1245	Preventive Dentistry	**Lab fee.**
DNTA	1301	Dental Materials	**Lab fee.**
DNTA	1305	Dental Radiology	**Lab fee.**
DNTA	1311	Dental Science	**Lab fee.**
DNTA	1315	Chairside Assisting	**Corequisite: DNTA 1353.**
DNTA	1353	Dental Assisting Applications	**Corequisite: DNTA 1315.**

Fourth Semester

DNTA	1202	Communication and Behavior in the Dental Office	
DNTA	1447	Advanced Dental Science	
DNTA	2252	Advanced Dental Radiology	**Prerequisite: DNTA 1305.**
DNTA	2350	Advanced Dental Assisting Applications	**Prerequisite: DNTA 1353.**
DNTA	2360	Clinical-Dental Assisting/Assistant I	**Prerequisite: DNTA 1305.**

Fifth Semester

DNTA	1251	Dental Office Management	**Lab fee**
DNTA	2230	Seminar for the Dental Assistant	
DNTA	2363	Clinical-Dental Assisting/Assistant II	**Prerequisites: DNTA 2360 and DNTA 2252.**
ENGL	1301	Composition I (C)	**Prerequisite: Placement at college-level English Language Arts Reading by TSIA2 or equivalent; OR completion of INRW 0311 or INRW 0312 or INRW 0313 with a "C" or better; OR concurrent enrollment in INRW 0311 or INRW 0313.**

[1]Mathematics Elective: Complete one course from MATH 1314, 1324, 1332, 1342, 2314, 2412, or 2413.

[2]Humanities or Fine Arts Elective: Complete one course from ENGL 2322, 2323, 2341, PHIL 1301, or 2306.

[3]Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective: Complete one course from PSYC 2301, 2314, or SPCH 1318.

[4]Speech Communication Elective: SPCH 1315, 1318, or 1321.

 Courses may not be used more than once within the degree plan.

Following completion of the Associate of Applied Science Degree, a multi-disciplinary Enhanced Skills Certificate of Completion in Border Health Issues is available. This program prepares graduates to work as members of a multi-disciplinary team to meet the unique health care needs of the U.S./Mexico border community.

C2-DNTC CERTIFICATE

Check 2023-2024 El Paso Community College Catalog for Prerequisite

First Semester

DNTA	1245	Preventive Dentistry	**Lab fee.**
DNTA	1301	Dental Materials	**Lab fee.**
DNTA	1305	Dental Radiology	**Lab fee.**
DNTA	1311	Dental Science	**Lab fee.**
DNTA	1315	Chairside Assisting	**Corequisite: DNTA 1353.**
DNTA	1353	Dental Assisting Applications	**Corequisite: DNTA 1315.**

Second Semester

DNTA	1202	Communication and Behavior in the Dental Office	
DNTA	1447	Advanced Dental Science	
DNTA	2252	Advanced Dental Radiology	**Prerequisite: DNTA 1305.**
DNTA	2350	Advanced Dental Assisting Applications	**Prerequisite: DNTA 1353.**
DNTA	2360	Clinical-Dental Assisting/Assistant I	**Prerequisite: DNTA 1305.**

Third Semester

DNTA	1251	Dental Office Management	**Lab fee.**
DNTA	2230	Seminar for the Dental Assistant	

DNTA 2363 Clinical-Dental Assisting/Assistant II **Prerequisites: DNTA 2360 and DNTA 2252.**

ENGL 1301 Composition I (C) **Prerequisite: Placement at college-level English Language Arts Reading by TSIA2 or equivalent; OR completion of INRW 0311 or INRW 0312 or INRW 0313 with a "C" or better; OR concurrent enrollment in INRW 0311 or INRW 0313.**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

➢ Official Ranking Date: **June 1, 2023.**
➢ Program Begins-**Fall.**
➢ Maximum Students Admitted: **12 Students.**
➢ Community Wide Orientation online at: https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/Orientation/community-wide-orientation
➢ HIPAA online at: https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/hipaa
➢ Health Careers Orientation online at: https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/Orientation/health-careers-orientation
➢ Online additional program-specific and career information: https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health
➢ Students who completed articulated or dual credit courses in health in high school should bring this to the attention of the counselor. College credit may still be available.
➢ DNTA website: https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/dental-assisting

POST-ACCEPTANCE REQUIREMENTS

Students are responsible for the following requirements AFTER accepting a seat in the Program.

➢ Must file a degree plan with the designated Health Counselor.
➢ **Background Check-** Each student must complete a background check prior to enrolling in clinical courses. Background checks are required prior to acceptance into most health programs or courses. Students are responsible for the costs. Currently, the approved vendor for El Paso Community College is American Databank: http://www.elpasoex.com/. Only background checks from American Databank are accepted.
You will receive a letter from the Dean of Health Career and Technical Education, Math & Science division to inform you of the status of your background check. The student will not be able to go to the clinical areas/health care facilities until cleared.
***NOTE: If a student has not enrolled in a health-related program for one or more semesters, the student must redo the background check at his/her own expense, for further information, please ask a Health Counselor or call the Program Coordinator.

There are two Levels of background checks: **Level I** applies to all students, and includes: (1) Social Security Number Verification. (2) Criminal Search 7 years minimum or up to five criminal searches. (3) Violent Sexual Offender and Predator Registry Search. (4) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) list of Excluded Individuals/Entities. (5) GSA List of Parties Excluded from Federal Programs. (6) U.S. Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), List of Specially Designated Nationals (SDN), and (7) State Exclusion List.
Level II is for students already licensed or certified in any area. **Level II** requires all of the Level 1 elements plus (1) License Verification, (2) Certification Verification, and (3) Employment Verification, including reason for separation and eligibility for re-hire.
A positive criminal history will require proof of the official case disposition for clearance. Generally: Disqualifying criminal offenses include, but are not limited to any felony conviction within the last 10 years, or two or more misdemeanors in crimes against persons, or families, such as homicide, kidnapping, rape, sexual assault, assault, battery, aggravated robbery, theft. Any misdemeanor or felony conviction involving abuse, neglect, or exploitation against a child, vulnerable adult or disabled individual. Felonies or two misdemeanors involving manufacture, importation, delivery, or possession of controlled substances, including felony conviction of DWI or two misdemeanor DWI convictions. Deferred adjudication for any felony is also a disqualifying event for enrolling into any of the Health Programs.

Please note that many professional licensure or certification agencies may have additional requirements. You should reference the requirements for each agency.

➢ **Community Wide Orientation** - Conducted online: https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/Orientation/community-wide-orientation (must be renewed every year).
➢ **CPR** - American Heart Association (AHA) CPR/BLS (only Health Provider training accepted) card from AHA. Military Training Network (AHA recognized) cards will be accepted. Hybrid AHA courses with live skills demonstration will be accepted. CPR card must remain current throughout the course of the program (Certification may not be older than two (2) years).
➢ **HIPAA Training** - Conducted online: https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/hipaa (must be renewed every year).
➢ **Current Physical Examination** completed by a Physician, Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant licensed in the United States (Not older than one year). **Website:** FFAA-1.pdf (epcc.edu)
➢ **Physical Technical Standards Form** (completed):
https://www.epcc.edu/Administration/InstitutionalEffectiveness/PoliciesandProcedures/FB-8.pdf

- **Professional Practice Insurance** is required for all clinical and selected laboratory courses. This fee is paid during the time of enrollment. Instructor may ask for proof of payment (your registration receipt) on the first day of class.
- **Program Orientation.** "Admitted students will receive notification of Program Orientation following verified acceptance into the program."
- **Specialized Equipment** in accordance with course syllabi students must purchase their own supplies. The program coordinator will provide students with detailed information.
- **Substance Abuse Screening** will be required for each student enrolling in health career programs with clinical components. For further information, please ask a Health Counselor or call the program coordinator. *****NOTE:** Students must re-take and pay for substance abuse test if the test was taken three months prior to the first clinical education course. **Website:** http://www.elpasoex.com/
- **Uniforms, Dental Assisting Supplies, and Miscellaneous Clinical Supplies**–In accordance with course syllabi; students must purchase their own uniforms, dental assisting supplies, and miscellaneous clinical supplies. The Program Coordinator will provide students with detailed information.
- **Transportation:** Students are responsible for their own transportation to off-campus clinical/learning sites.
- **Textbooks** and other course materials must be purchased at student's expense in accordance with course syllabi.

OTHER INFORMATION

- CPR and First Aid Courses are available through the EPCC Continuing Education Division. Please see the current Continuing Education Course Schedule or call 915-831-7820 for more information.
- Our EPCC Rio Grande Border Health Clinic is located at the Rio Grande Campus, for information call: 915- 831-4016 or call 915-831-4017 for dental, medical sonography, or physical therapy clinics.

This document is to be used with EPCC College Catalog, which provides complete information on courses as well as College regulations and procedures. This is for informational purposes only and is not a binding offer or contract between the College and the student. This document was revised September 2022 and is subject to change without prior notice.