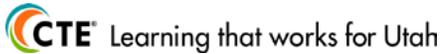


# Utah Career and Technical Education Career Pathway

## 2018-2019 School Year



**CTSO Information**  
 Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSO) align with the national Career Clusters® and the Utah CTE Career Pathways.

HOSA is the CTSO for students in the Dental Assistant Career Pathway. HOSA enhances the delivery of compassionate, quality health care by providing opportunities for knowledge, skill and leadership development of all health science education students.

**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 3.0 percent through the year 2024.

### Career Cluster: Health Science

#### Career Pathway: Therapeutic Clinical Services: Dental Assistant

CORE CODE	FOUNDATION COURSES (required)	CREDITS	
36.01.00.00.020	Dental Assistant	2.00	2.00 credits
ELECTIVE COURSES			
34.01.00.00.150	Food and Nutrition 1	.50	1.00 credit
34.01.00.00.160	Food and Nutrition 2	.50	
34.01.00.00.185	Foundations of Nutrition *	.50	
36.01.00.00.090	Health Science, Introduction	.50	
36.01.00.00.001	Health Science, Advanced (capstone course) *	.50	
36.01.00.00.110	Medical Anatomy and Physiology	1.00	
36.01.00.00.150	Medical Math	.50	
36.01.00.00.175	Medical Terminology	.50	
41.00.00.00.030	Workplace Skills	.50	
<b>3.00 credits for completion</b>			

\* Course can be taken up to 1.00 credit.

**Career and Technical Education provides all students access to high-quality, rigorous career-focused programs that result in attainment of credentials with labor market value.**

**Dental Assistant is:**  
 > High demand

**Sample Occupations Requiring:**  
High School Diploma  
 > Dental Laboratory Technician  
Certificate  
 > Dental Assistant  
Assoc. or Technical Degree  
 > Dental Hygienist  
 > Medical Equipment Repairer  
Baccalaureate Degree  
 > Career and Technical Education Teacher  
 > Health Services Administrators  
 > Public Health Educators  
Graduate or Prof. Degree  
 > Dentist  
 > Orthodontist

**Student Testimonial**  
 "The high school dental assisting program has helped me beyond measure. I always knew I wanted to be in the dental field and this [CTE Pathway] gave me the assurance I needed. The opportunity I had to gain this knowledge of my passion for the dental field, as a junior in high school, has greatly [impacted] my future."  
 Sydnee Dayley

### HIGH SCHOOL TO POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING

There are a number of options for education and training beyond high school, depending on your career goals.

12th Grade	1-Year Certificate	2-Year Associate or Technical Degree	4-Year Bachelor's Degree	More Graduate or Prof. Degree
Certificates are awarded upon the successful completion of a brief course of study, usually one year or less. Upon completion of a course of study, a certificate does not require any further action to retain.	In high school a variety of certificates can be earned.	An academic degree is an award for the completion of a program or course of study over multiple years at postsecondary education institutions.	In 2015-2016, 73 percent of secondary students who concentrated in a CTE Career Pathway placed in postsecondary education, advanced training, military service or employment (October 1-December 31).	

**Utah Business and Industry Facts**  
 The University of Utah School of Dentistry provides dental-related clinical, research, and healthcare training.  
 According to the Utah Department of Workforce Services, more than 4,500 dental assistants are employed in 1,697 dental offices throughout the state.  
 In Utah, dental professionals must be licensed.

**CTE Skill Certificates**

Competency-based student assessments, measured by core standards and competencies needed to be successful in the workforce.

**UtahFutures: College and Career Planning**

Visit [UtahFutures.org](http://UtahFutures.org) for salary projections, labor market demand, and training options.

In 2016-2017, 105,691 CTE skill certificates were awarded to high school students. Students' knowledge and performance is demonstrated as part of the Skill Certificate process.

In 2016-2017, the graduation rate for students who concentrated in a CTE Career Pathway was 95 percent, compared to Utah's statewide graduation rate of 86 percent.