



## Great Oaks Dental Technology Essential Skills Profile

This profile provides an outline of the skills required for the successful completion of this career program. Additional information is located on the Great Oaks website at

<https://hs.greatoaks.com/future-students/essential-skills-for-high-school-programs> and select the corresponding career program.

### Recommended WorkKeys ® Scores for Dental Technology

Applied Mathematics – 4
Workplace Documents – 4
Graphic Literacy – 4

\*Practice tests and more information at <https://jobseeker.ohiomeansjobs.monster.com/Assessments/Home.aspx>

### Recommended Essential Skills to Successfully Complete the Program

<b>Rating Key:</b>	<b>Low = Slightly Essential</b>	<b>Medium = Essential</b>	<b>High = Very Essential</b>
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Key Vocational Factors		Rating
Visual Acuity	The ability to detect differences/details visually	High
Depth Perception	The ability to detect the physical distance/depth of objects in space and time	Low
Oral Communication	The ability to express/explain ideas	High
Oral Expression	The ability to verbally explain and express self in complete sentences in an intelligible manner so others will understand	High
Written Communication	The ability to communicate in a written format and record information accurately	High
Physical Mobility/Strength	Stooping, bending, walking, demonstrating, and using equipment such as weights	Medium
Eye-hand Coordination/Fine Finger Dexterity	Using instruments, care of wounds, etc.	High

Worker Trait Skills	Rating
Ability to get along with others	High
Ability to work independently, without close supervision	High
Ability to work accurately, recheck, and correct work, to an industry standard	High
Ability to follow and retain:	
Multistep oral instructions	High
Written instructions/technical manuals - multistep	High
Simple to complex diagram instructions	Medium
Visual models or demonstrated instructions	Low

Ability to use tools of trade (small tools, dental tools such as steam autoclaves or sterilizers, orthodontic pliers, dental hand pieces or accessories, dental forceps, and dental dam supplies, etc.)	High
Ability to reference and interpret charts- anatomical and geometrical	High
Ability to discriminate between objects of similar:	
Size	Medium
Shape	Medium
Color	Medium
Spatial relationship	Medium
Ability to organize work process/follow defined procedures	High
Detail oriented	High
Work with bodily fluids, blood, bad breath, and be exposed to possible diseases	High
Professional dress, grooming, and hygiene	High
Adheres to health codes, personal and tool cleanliness, and overall cleanliness in work station	High
Wear gloves, masks, and other protective equipment while working in confined or small spaces	High

<b>Applied Mathematics Skills * Recommended WorkKeys® Scores 4</b>	
Understanding of numbers	Work with whole numbers and decimals. Convert fractions to decimals and/or convert from decimals to percentages.
Mathematical Calculations	Use one or two-step calculations to solve problems, decide what information, calculations or unit conversions to use to answer a problem
Solving problems with math	Solve problems that require mathematical operations with multiple units (e.g. 6 feet 4 inches or 4 hours 30 minutes), identify calculation mistakes
<b>Workplace Documents Skills * Recommended WorkKeys® Scores 4</b>	
Complexity	Mostly clear and direct but with multiple details, may have complex sentences and/or conditional situations
Information and detail	May need to meet inferences, differentiate/interpret details
Vocabulary	Industry jargon, acronyms, use context to understand words
Document type	Informational, instructional and policy-type documents
<b>Graphic Literacy Skills * Recommended WorkKeys® Scores 4</b>	
Using Charts/graphs	Locate information in charts or graphs
Interpreting Information	Compare two or more pieces of information, identify trends/patterns, make inferences and identify graphics that accurately represent data

**Additional Recommended Abilities**

<b>Medicine and Dentistry</b>	Knowledge of the information and techniques needed to diagnose and treat human injuries, diseases, and deformities. This includes symptoms, treatment alternatives, drug properties and interactions, and preventive health-care measures.
<b>English Language</b>	Knowledge of the structure and content of the English language including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar.
<b>Customer and Personal Service</b>	Knowledge of principles and processes for providing customer and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for services, and evaluation of customer satisfaction.

**Additional Considerations**

Must be able to deal with bodily fluids, smells, and injuries	Moving around, stooping, and bending
Wear a uniform	Pass background screening (BCI)
Work as a team member	Visually astute and detail oriented
Enjoy helping others	Maintain cleanliness standards including own hygiene

**Dental Technology Work Activities**

Prepare patient, sterilize or disinfect instruments, set up instrument trays, prepare materials, or assist dentist during dental procedures.	Fabricate and fit orthodontic appliances and materials for patients, such as retainers, wires, or bands.
Record treatment information in patient records.	Clean teeth, using dental instruments.
Expose dental diagnostic x-rays.	Pour, trim, and polish study casts.
Take and record medical and dental histories and vital signs of patients.	Fabricate temporary restorations or custom impressions from preliminary impressions.
Assist dentist in management of medical or dental emergencies.	Schedule appointments, prepare bills and receive payment for dental services, complete insurance forms, and maintain records, manually or using computer.
Provide postoperative instructions prescribed by dentist.	Apply protective coating of fluoride to teeth.
Instruct patients in oral hygiene and plaque control programs.	Make preliminary impressions for study casts and occlusal registrations for mounting study casts.
Order and monitor dental supplies and equipment inventory.	Clean and polish removable appliances.

**Technology**

Word Processing Software	Medical Software
Spreadsheet Software	Electronic Records
Office Suite Software	Accounting Software

**Certifications Students Can Earn**

Credential	Ohio Graduation Points
CODA Ohio Certified Dental Assistant	6
American Medical Technologists (AMT) Registered Dental Assistant	6
Ohio State Dental Board-Dental Assistant Radiographer	6
OSHA 10-Healthcare	1
American Heart Association Basic Life Support CPR, First Aid Certification	1

**Possible College Credits**

College Credit Plus (CCP)	The CCP program provides Ohio high school students an opportunity to complete college courses and earn transcribed credit.
Career Technical Assurance Guides (CTAGs)	CTAGs award college credit for career-technical coursework to students who complete an approved course and earn a qualifying score at the end of course exam.
Articulated Credit	Some Great Oaks career-technical programs have agreements with colleges where students can earn credit toward a specific degree.

Please speak with your school counselor, Great Oaks counselor and/or career technical instructor to learn more about these potential opportunities.

**Possible Career Pathways:**

General Chairside Assistant	Dental Assistant
Dental Hygienist	Lab Technician
Dentist	Dental Sales Rep