

DENTAL ASSISTING

ADMISSION PACKET FOR AUGUST 2021 FULL-TIME PROGRAM

Admission procedures require you to:

1. Be admitted to the College and have a student ID number **before** applying to the program.
2. Apply to the program **before** registering for the pre-entrance exam.
3. Check email frequently throughout the admission process. Correspondence will only be sent via email.

Dear Dental Assisting Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Dental Assisting (DNA) Program at John A. Logan College (JALC). The career that you are considering is truly exciting! Graduates of this program earn a Certificate of Achievement in Dental Assisting.

The College has an open admission policy; however, there are some programs which have additional entrance requirements. Please examine this packet, which will provide you with information about the profession and career of a Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) and the Dental Assisting Program at JALC. Links to online applications, general and program, and test registration are included. Enclosed you will find information about:

- [ADMISSION PROCEDURES](#)
 - [STEP 1: General Admission Requirements](#)
 - [STEP 2: Program Application Requirement](#)
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Further information is included in this packet and available on our website at [Restricted Testing services](#). We encourage you to thoroughly review the packet and website prior to applying to the program. Best wishes in your educational endeavors.

Regards,

Ariella Gomez
Coordinator of Testing Services

Pam Karns, MSHSAD, BSDH, RDH, CDA
Department Chair of Allied Health and Public Services
Coordinator and Instructor of Dental Assisting

Changes effective 10/6/20 - please note information listed in this packet is subject to change.

ADMISSION PROCEDURES

The following admission procedures shall be followed by all prospective applicants seeking admission to the JALC DNA program. It is imperative that the steps be followed in order to ensure that all the admission procedures are complete by the deadline date. Failure to comply with the deadline dates designated by JALC will automatically terminate the application for the program.

These admission procedures are in accordance with Illinois law. The law requires that programs not having sufficient space and resources to accommodate all applicants will accept those applicants best qualified, using ranking, ability and achievement test scores as guides, with preference given to students residing in-district.

The JALC DNA program admission process does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, color, national origin, gender, age, or the presence of a non-job-related condition or disability.

To be eligible for admission in the full-time program beginning fall 2021, an applicant must meet these criteria and submit the following credentials to the designated office by the deadline date.

STEP 1: General Admission Requirements

- [Apply for general admission](#) to the College by completing the online application by **March 31, 2021**, if not currently enrolled in courses at JALC. If an applicant prefers, a paper application may be completed, you can contact admissions at (618) 985-2828 ext: 8298.

If an application for general admission has previously been submitted, please update any relevant information online in the [MyJALC](#) portal, if necessary.

Need help accessing student accounts [click here](#), contact the Admissions and Records Office at (618) 985-2828 Ext. 8298.

- Submit current placement scores to the **Admissions and Records Office** by **March 31, 2021**. We will accept scores from ACCUPLACER, ACT, or SAT taken within the past three years. An applicant who has not already completed a college-level English and Mathematics course or scored below the minimum requirement in English and Math on the ACT or SAT, must complete placement testing in Reading, Writing, and Mathematics to determine appropriate placement in courses. For more information about placement testing, visit [Required Placement Testing](#). If an applicant needs to schedule an appointment to take a placement test, contact Testing Services at (618) 985-2828 Ext. 8520.

Regardless of placement test scores taken for general college admission, and any resultant remedial courses required, all applicants desiring to apply for the DNA program will be allowed to take the DNA pre-entrance exam. However, if an applicant scores low on any general admission placement test, counselors may advise against continuing the DNA application process.

- Submit all transcripts, high school and college, to the **Admissions and Records Office** by **March 31, 2021**. **An official copy of a final high school or GED® (High School Equivalency) transcript with a graduation date is required.** In addition, official transcripts from other colleges attended are required if transferring any courses. Transcript must show when the course was taken, and the grade received. It is the applicant's responsibility to

ensure that all official college transcripts have been received and evaluated in the Admissions and Records Office by the deadline.

- Provide proof of current residency to the **Admissions and Records Office** by **March 31, 2021**. Preference is given to in-district applicants. The following forms may serve as acceptable proof of residency to be **RANKED** as an in-district applicant:
 - A valid Illinois driver's license with an address in JALC College District #530
 - A valid Illinois state identification card with an address in JALC College District #530
 - A valid Illinois voter's registration card that indicates JALC College District #530
 - A current Illinois real estate tax bill that indicates property is owned within the JALC College District #530
 - A CAREER Agreement approved by JALC's V.P. for Instruction

In-district applicants will be rank ordered before applicants' out-of-district, if one of the above forms of acceptable proof is received in the Admissions and Records Office by March 31, 2021. If one of the above forms of acceptable proof is not received in the Admissions and Records Office by March 31, 2021, the applicant will be rank ordered at the bottom of the in-district list with all other out-of-district applicants.

Although the following forms may serve as proof to be charged the in-district tuition rate for an approved course or program guide, these forms **DO NOT** qualify as acceptable proof of residency to be **RANKED** as an in-district applicant. Therefore, **the applicant will be rank ordered at the bottom of the in-district list with all other out-of-district applicants.**

- A letter from an employer that indicates employment in JALC College District #530
- A lease agreement that indicates residence in JALC College District #530
- A bank statement or utility bill that indicates residence in JALC College District #530
- A valid Illinois FOID card with an address in JALC College District #530
- A final transcript from an in-district high school with a graduation date within the past five years

Verification must show the applicant's name with their current address. PO Boxes are not accepted as proof of residency. New driver's licenses now show both PO Box and street address.

If an applicant has questions regarding general admission, they should contact the Admissions and Records Office at (618) 985-2828 Ext. 8298.

STEP 2: Program Application Requirement

AN APPLICANT MUST HAVE AN ACTIVE JALC STUDENT ID NUMBER AND VOLMAIL EMAIL BEFORE APPLYING TO THE PROGRAM.

- [Apply to the Dental Assisting program](#) by completing the online application form by **March 31, 2021**. Fill out application completely and hit the submit button. Once submitted, click on the link provided to register for the pre-entrance exam. A new program application is required each year.

If an applicant has questions regarding program admission, they should contact Testing services at (618) 985-2828 Ext. 8247.

STEP 3: Pre-Entrance Exam Requirement

AN APPLICANT MUST APPLY TO THE PROGRAM BEFORE REGISTERING FOR THE PRE-ENTRANCE EXAM.

- Register online to take the **PSB Health Occupations Aptitude Examination** (HOAE) pre-entrance exam for the DNA program by the test registration deadline. To access the test registration link, visit [Restricted Allied Health Testing](#).

BEFORE REGISTERING, please read the information below carefully about the exam. Scroll down to view test dates and registration deadlines.

The test given for entry into the DNA program is the PSB [Health Occupations Aptitude Examination](#) (HOAE). The exam includes sections on academic aptitude, spelling, reading comprehension, information in the natural science and vocational adjustment index. All five sections of the test will be given. The raw score of the first four sections will be added to achieve a composite exam score to be used for admission ranking. The fifth section will be utilized for research purposes. **Test scores of 100 or higher are REQUIRED to be considered for placement into the program.**

Additional information about the test can be accessed by going to [Psychological Services Bureau](#) (PSB). Click on [Resources for Test Taking](#) to locate documents that may be viewed or printed containing information regarding [Sample Questions](#), [Understanding Test Results](#), and [Other Helpful Resources](#). Other test preparation web-based tutorials can be accessed online at [Test Prep Tutorials](#).

Test scores are valid for two consecutive academic years; however, a new program application must be completed each year and submitted by the required deadline. If an applicant tested the previous academic year and chooses not to retest in the current academic year, they must submit a written request to the Coordinator of Testing services for the previous test scores to be considered. In this instance, no pre-entrance exam registration is necessary.

Registration and payment will only be accepted online through [RegisterBlast](#). There is a \$33.50 registration fee (\$30.00 for the test plus a \$3.50 processing fee) due at the time of registration for each test date scheduled. Please have a credit card or debit card ready.

Two tests may be taken within one academic year (September 1st through August 31st) and there must be at least 21 days between test attempts. Tests will be held by Testing Services and will begin promptly at 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM, unless indicated otherwise. Late arrivals may not be allowed to take the test.

Photo ID and JALC student ID number are required on day of exam. No personal belongings are needed or permitted to be in applicant possession during the test. If an applicant must bring something, a designated place will be provided.

Tests will be administered in a computer-based format and are timed. The exam will take a minimum of 2 ½ hours. No calculators are permitted during the exam. Test questions may not be copied. Scratch paper must be turned in. These tests are copyrighted by [Psychological Services Bureau](#) (PSB). It is illegal to copy any portion of these exams.

Testing Services will provide test results to the applicants upon completion of the test session.

The College reserves the right to change exam dates and fees at any time. Seating is limited, and registrations will be processed on a first come, first served basis. Applicants must register before the registration deadline set below for each test session.

HOAE Test Dates for DNA	Registration Deadlines
Thursday, October 29, 2020 @ 1:00 PM	Wednesday, October 28, 2020
Friday, December 4, 2020 @ 9:00 AM	Thursday, December 3, 2020
Friday, December 4, 2020 @ 1:00 PM	Thursday, December 3, 2020
Thursday, February 4, 2021 @ 9:00 AM	Wednesday, February 3, 2021
Thursday, February 4, 2021 @ 1:00 PM	Wednesday, February 3, 2021
Thursday, February 11, 2021 @ 9:00 AM	Wednesday, February 10, 2021
Thursday, March 4, 2021 @ 9:00 AM	Wednesday, March 3, 2021
Thursday, March 4, 2021 @ 1:00 PM	Wednesday, March 3, 2021
Tuesday, March 30, 2021 @ 9:00 AM	Monday, March 29, 2021
Tuesday, March 30, 2021 @ 1:00 PM	Monday, March 29, 2021
Wednesday, March 31, 2021 @ 9:00 AM	Tuesday, March 30, 2021
Wednesday, March 31, 2021 @ 1:00 PM	Tuesday, March 30, 2021

If an applicant has a disability and wishes to obtain reasonable accommodations, they should contact [Disability Support Services](#) at (618) 985-2828 Ext. 8516 to schedule an appointment with the coordinator to see if they qualify for services.

If an applicant has questions regarding the pre-entrance exam or test results, they should contact Testing Services at (618) 985-2828 Ext. 8247.

STEP 4: Admission Selection Process

The selection of applicants is based on the stated admission criteria. The test scores are very important in the selection process because they are rank ordered from highest to lowest. Applicants that achieve the highest scores and complete the admission criteria by the program deadline will be selected. Priority will be given to applicants residing in-district or in a CAREER Agreement district. Rank order for the DNA program is based **exclusively** upon the following:

1. PSB Health Occupations Aptitude Examination (HOAE) scores. All five sections of the test will be given, however only the cumulative raw score of the first four sections will be used for admission ranking. The fifth section will be utilized for research. Ties will be broken by the highest score achieved on the HOAE, Part 1 and Part 3, successively.

Each applicant may take the pre-entrance exam twice within one academic year and there must be at least 21 days between test attempts. Any additional tests beyond the first two will not be counted. The highest composite score of the two tests will be used for determination of admission. **Test scores below 100 are ineligible for placement into the program.**

Any applicant taking ORI 100, PSY 132, and COM 115 or COM 116, prior to the admission deadline will not receive any advance standing in the application process. Applicants will be selected solely on the score earned on the HOAE.

Selection of the class will begin after the admission deadline stated in this packet. Notification of provisional acceptance will be sent via email beginning mid-April 2021 to the top eighteen (18) applicants on the ranking list with an offer for a full-time position that begins in August 2021.

Applicants that obtain provisional acceptance will have seven (7) days from the date emailed to return the acceptance form in the attached acceptance letter. If the applicant chooses not to accept or no response is obtained, the applicant will be dropped from future consideration and the next applicant in rank order on the list will be notified of provisional acceptance.

When all available positions are filled, notification of an alternate position will be sent via email to the next few applicants on the list. Notification of denial into the program will be sent via email when all alternate positions are filled, typically before late June. Any individual, not receiving an email by late June, should contact the Coordinator of Testing Services. Applicants who are not admitted and remain on the list after the program starts will not be carried over for the next year. If interested in applying for the next year's program, a new program application must be submitted.

If an applicant is accepted to the program and chooses not to enter the fall class, any future admission must be by re-application. All applicants must make application for each year they wish to be considered for entrance into the DNA program. PSB Health Occupations Aptitude Examination (HOAE) results will be considered valid for two consecutive academic years.

Any student admitted to the DNA program two times and have failed to continue in the program must seek approval from the Coordinator of Dental Assisting for re-application.

All correspondence will be sent via email, including acceptance, alternate, and denial notifications. Therefore, an applicant must provide an email, Volmail or personal, that is checked on a regular basis. The mailing address provided on the program application will be used for residency purposes and verification of residence at that address will be required (see residency requirements under STEP 1).

It is extremely important to abide by the deadline dates outlined in this packet. It is the applicant's responsibility to assure that these documents have been received in the designated office by the deadline date.

If you have questions regarding this process, please contact the Coordinator of Testing services at (618) 985-2828 Ext. 8247.

PROFESSION

The DNA program prepares students to become highly competent individuals possessing the skills and knowledge necessary for performing the many tasks required to provide quality dental care. As a member of the dental health team, the dental assistant is responsible for providing such services as assisting the dentist with operative and surgical procedures, manipulation of dental materials, taking radiographs, providing oral health instructions and performing office management skills. Classroom theory, laboratory practice and clinical training on campus and in the dental office are included in this certificate program.

Dental assistant wages vary throughout the nation. The [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#) reports median annual earnings in May 2019 at \$40,080.

Nationally, employment of dental assistants is expected to grow by 7 percent from 2019 to 2029 as projected by the [Bureau of Labor Statistics](#). Ongoing research linking oral health and general health will likely continue to increase the demand for preventive dental services. Dentists will continue to hire more dental assistants to complete routine tasks, allowing the dentist to see more patients in their practice and to spend their time on more complex procedures. As dental practices grow, more dental assistants will be needed.

For more information on the profession, visit [Dental Assisting National Board](#).

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

At the successful completion of the Dental Assisting Program, expanded function certificates will be earned for: Coronal Polishing, Sealant Placement, and Monitoring Nitrous Oxide.

Graduates will be eligible to sit for the Dental Assisting National Board Exam (DANB) and successful candidates may use the title of Certified Dental Assistant – CDA.

ACCREDITATION

[Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association](#)

[United States Department of Education](#)

Endorsed by the Southern Illinois Dental Society

LEGAL LIMITATIONS

Felony convictions that Dental Assisting graduates have may adversely affect their ability to sit for licensure exam and to receive employment.

Potential applicants with questions concerning the above may wish to make an appointment with the Coordinator of Dental Assisting at (618) 985-2828 Ext. 8639.

EXTERNSHIP REQUIREMENTS

Physical and dental examinations are required, **but should not be scheduled until you have received official notification that you have been accepted into the program.** These forms will be provided to accepted students during a new student orientation session with the Coordinator of Dental Assisting.

Prior to starting the DNA externship:

1. You will have to be inoculated against Hepatitis B. The Hepatitis B vaccine is a three-inoculation series vaccine to protect you against Hepatitis B virus. You will have to show proof of all three injections. (**Note:** *It will take six months to complete the three-part Hepatitis B vaccine series. Start the vaccine process immediately.*)

This mandate is a result of a federal OSHA law and a state Public Health law which began July 1, 1992. If you have elected **not** to receive the Hepatitis B vaccine, then complete the form appropriately. The physician should discuss with you the risk, as a member of the health care team, in not being protected against Hepatitis B.

2. You must demonstrate immunity to Rubella by the results of a Rubella Titer test. If your Rubella Titer test indicates that you cannot demonstrate Rubella immunity; then complete the form appropriately. The physician should discuss with you the risks, as a member of the health care team, in not being immune to Rubella.
3. You must demonstrate proof that you have received the Tetanus Toxoid test.
4. A drug/alcohol screen is performed as part of the externship requirement and possibly throughout the program for all DNA students. The student will be required to submit to a random drug screen by a party selected by the College and facility at the student's expense. If a student has a positive drug screen, they may not participate in the externship. The College does not guarantee a student with a positive drug screen that they will be able to complete any externship experience. A student who cannot be reasonably assigned an externship site will be dropped from the program.

You need to be aware that if a clinical agency where students are educated refuses to allow a student to enter their facility without proof of any of the above, then the unprotected student cannot be allowed into the health care facility for educational purposes. When clinical sites do not accept unprotected students, it is impossible for those students to be educated in the DNA program.

REQUIREMENTS OF ADMITTED STUDENTS

Eighteen (18) students are selected for full-time classes beginning in August of every year. The length of the program is twelve (12) months from start to finish.

General course ORI 100 will be scheduled in the fall semester and general courses PSY 132 and COM 115 or COM 116 will be scheduled in the summer semester unless the student has already completed these courses. These courses are not prerequisites for the DNA program, **but if they are completed prior to starting the program the student will graduate in the spring semester.**

The DNA student has a very concentrated schedule and will also complete 300 hours of externship in a dental office.

Students will need to provide transportation to and from the JALC campus and assigned dental clinical sites. Classes will be held on the JALC campus.

Students must have a valid social security number to participate in this program. This number is required for a criminal background check. A valid social security number must be on file in the Admissions and Records Office prior to the admission deadline.

Students will be conditionally admitted into the program based on results of a criminal background check. A criminal background check is performed as part of the entry requirement and possibly throughout the program for all students entering the DNA program. Estimated price range for the initial criminal background check fee is \$20.00 to \$50.00. The student is responsible for the actual cost of the background investigation which will be initiated by JALC. This fee will be added to the student's billing statement and is **NON-REFUNDABLE**. The background investigation will

encompass a standard federal criminal background search. **Positive “hits” on the criminal background must be followed up by the student and cleared through JALC Search Company prior to completing the 300 externship hours.**

Students will be given a pre-test exam during the first week of school in the fall and a post-test exam the last week of school in the spring. This exam will be used as an outcome assessment tool for the DNA program and will not affect your grade.

Prospective DNA students should **not** purchase any materials or supplies until **AFTER** they have been accepted and registered for classes. Questions regarding uniforms, schedules, requirements, etc. will be answered for accepted students during a mandatory new student orientation session in early June with the Coordinator of Dental Assisting.

PROGRAM GUIDE AND COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

DNA students must earn a minimum of a C grade in all courses listed in the program guide, including general courses.

It is the responsibility of all interested applicants to view the current DNA program guide and course descriptions online at the following links:

[Dental Assisting - Certificate of Achievement Program Guide](#)

[Dental Assisting \(DNA\) Course Descriptions](#)

GENERAL COURSE REQUIREMENTS

ORI 100 – College 101 – 1 credit
PSY 132 – General Psychology – 3 credits

Speech Elective – complete **one**:
COM 115¹ – Speech – 3 credits
COM 116 – Interpersonal Communication – 3 credits

¹ Transfer Information: Students planning to transfer to Lewis & Clark Community College’s Dental Hygiene Program should take COM 115.

Lewis & Clark Community College and Parkland College will accept and articulate John A. Logan College’s Dental Assisting courses when students enter their Dental Hygiene program. The student should contact these institutions directly to initiate the process upon application.

All applicants are strongly encouraged to complete the general courses with a minimum of a C grade prior to the fall semester they plan to start the program, so that they may increase their probability of success in the program.

For general course advisement and registration, an applicant should contact their advisor. If they need to be assigned to an advisor, they should contact Testing Services at (618) 985-2828 Ext. 8520. Registration is by appointment only, except during designated walk-in dates.

PROGRAM COSTS

Costs below are **estimates** based on the current 2020-2021 academic year.

ITEM	COST
Tuition – In-District at \$125.00 per credit hour – 7 hours (general courses)	\$875.00
Technology fee at \$5.00 per credit hour – 7 hours (general courses)	\$35.00
Course fees (general courses)	-0-
Variable Tuition ¹ – In-District at \$135.00 per credit hour – 29 hours (DNA courses)	\$3,915.00
Variable Tuition ¹ – Online/Hybrid at \$149.00 per credit hour – 4 hours (DNA courses)	\$596.00
Technology fee at \$5.00 per credit hour – 33 hours (DNA courses)	\$165.00
Course fees ² (DNA courses)	\$1,650.00
Textbooks (DNA courses)	\$760.00
Uniform	\$100.00
Clinical Shoes	\$75.00
Safety Glasses	\$10.00
Drug Screen	\$49.00
Criminal Background Check	\$20.00-\$50.00
Graduation fee	\$10.00
Registration fee for PSB Health Occupations Aptitude Examination (HOAE)	\$33.50
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST	\$8,293.50-\$8,323.50

[Click here to view Tuition and Fees Schedule.](#)

¹ Variable tuition rate of \$10.00 per credit hour assessed for DNA courses. An additional 10% rounded to the nearest dollar assessed for online and hybrid DNA courses.

² Included in lab fees: Dental Assisting National Board Examination \$450.00.

Additional costs may include:

- \$65.00 Student Activity fee assessed for 6 or more hours enrolled for fall and spring terms
- \$40.00 Student Activity fee assessed for 3 or more hours enrolled for summer terms
- Medical exams, dental exams, immunizations, and CPR

Note: Textbooks for general courses are not included due to variability of texts. **All costs listed above are estimates and subject to change. The DNA student should plan to meet these financial obligations before entering Dental Assisting.**

*Potential DNA students should **not** purchase or schedule anything until after they have been accepted and registered to begin the DNA program.*

For additional information, please contact Pam Karns, Coordinator and Instructor of Dental Assisting, at (618) 985-2828 Ext. 8639 or Pam.Karns@jalc.edu.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

JALC offers students several sources for financial assistance:

Financial Aid – A variety of financial aid exists and the applicant should contact the Financial Aid Office for more information at (618) 985-2828 Ext. 8308, financialaid.info@jalc.edu. Some of the types of financial aid presently offered are:

- [Federal Pell Grant](#)
- [Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant \(FSEOG\)](#)
- [Illinois State Map Grant](#)
- [College Work Study](#)

JALC is no longer participating in the Federal Direct Student Loan Program. Students in need of loan funds will have to apply for a Private Alternative Student Loan. In order to find a lender, contact your local Bank, Credit Union, or search on the web using “Private Alternative Student Loan providers” for your search. All students who apply for private alternative loans must first submit a FAFSA with JALC’s federal school code 008076.

Financial aid requirements and general information can be accessed online at [Financial Aid](#).

Scholarships – A variety of scholarships, administered through the JALC Foundation and external sources, are available and the applicant should contact the Foundation Office for more information at (618) 985-2828 Ext. 8355, foundation@jalc.edu.

Scholarship application procedures, scholarship application, letter of recommendation form, and lists of available scholarships through the JALC Foundation and external sources, can be accessed online at [JALC Foundation](#).

Veterans Resources – Military veterans should contact [Veterans Services](#) at (618) 985-2828 ext: 8563 or veterans@jalc.edu for more information on Illinois Veterans Grant and GI Bill Benefits.