



****Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary (EFDA) ****

Program Information

Revised 11/2025

Dear Prospective Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary (EFDA) Applicant:

Thank you for inquiring about Stark State College's EFDA Program. This packet represents the most up to date information in print, but please note that it is subject to change as needed to maintain a high-quality program. Currently, students are enrolled each year. The EFDA program operates two separate cohorts: one cohort meets on Tuesdays and the other meets on Fridays. Each cohort begins in the fall semester and concludes in the spring semester.

The EFDA Program is a limited enrollment program; therefore, students must apply and be accepted into the program *separately* from being accepted/enrolled into the college. The program uses a "rolling admissions" process which means there is no specific application deadline for each class. Students become "eligible" to apply when they meet specific admission criteria (see the **Checklist/Application** on the Stark State College website). Once students successfully complete the application process, they are accepted on a first-come, first-placed basis.

All students considering the **EFDA Program** must:

- 1. Apply to Stark State College** (if new to the college)
- 2. Take the Accuplacer exam** (if not taken previously)
 - a. The test will determine whether or not you will need to enroll in any pre-requisite course (IDS 102) **BEFORE** you begin the program courses.
 - b. The test can be taken any time after you apply to the College, but it is strongly recommended that you complete it before your first advising appointment. This will allow your advisor to give you the best advice towards scheduling other courses.
 - **Note:** *Transfer students and/or students who have taken the ACT within the last two calendar years may not be required to take the Accuplacer exam. An admissions counselor can discuss the details with you.*
 - c. Call **330-494-6170 ext. 4228** for test dates and times.
 - d. There is no fee for this test and you do not need to study for it.
- 3. Complete BCI/FBI Background Check**

Go to: <https://www.starkstate.edu/about/security/background-check-information/> to schedule your appointment.
- 4. Make an Academic Advising Appointment**
 - If you have never taken a credit course at Stark State College, make an appointment with an Admissions Counselor at 330-494-6170 or 800-797-8275.
 - If you are a current student at the College, make an appointment with the EFDA program coordinator by calling 330-494-6170 ext. 4384.

We look forward to your continued interest in Stark State College's EFDA Program.

Sincerely,

The Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary Program Coordinator

EFDA Program Purpose and Philosophy

EFDA Program Purpose

The Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary (EFDA) Program will prepare students to provide comprehensive restorative services (metallic, non-metallic, and sealants) under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist. Upon successful completion of the program, students are eligible for the state certification exam provided by the Commission on Dental Testing in Ohio. The program provides an environment for learning the knowledge, skills and behaviors necessary for professional practice. Program curriculum is based upon biological, physical, behavioral, dental sciences, and general studies. The program promotes directed, self-directed, and service learning for personal and professional growth and development, and serves as a foundation for continued learning in an ever-changing field of dentistry.

Graduates are prepared to practice in a variety of settings within the legal, ethical and social framework of EFDA and dentistry. The certified/registered Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary (EFDA) provides quality restorative care to clients and the community, and serves to uphold the practice of his/her profession.

EFDA Program Philosophy

The Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary Program will prepare students to demonstrate knowledge and clinical skill essential for the delivery of restorative services. Upon completion, students will understand the role of the EFDA as well as that of all other members of the dental health team, and will be prepared to adapt to the changing demands of the oral health care profession.

The Program at Stark State College seeks to develop EFDAs who view their profession with confidence and pride, those who understand its territory and scope of practice, and those who are able to influence the factors that affect the advancement of the profession.

EFDA Program Goals

1. Learn to perform restorative functions in accordance with the State Dental Practice Act and current theory of practice.
2. Use ethical judgment in the delivery of restorative services.
3. Interact in a professional manner with patients, families, dentists, other health care providers, and community groups.
4. Seek opportunities for continuing personal and professional development.

Stark State College (SSC)
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for
Prospective Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary (EFDA) Students

Q1. Who can apply for admission into the EFDA program?

A1. *Any individual who holds a current CDA certification (Ohio CODA or DANB), RDA certification (American Medical Technologists), or RDH licensure (or a dental hygiene student participating in a CODA-accredited dental hygiene program who has successfully completed the first year of coursework) may apply for EFDA training at Stark State College (SSC).*

Q2. How long is the EFDA program at Stark State College?

A2. *Students participating as part of the Career Enhancement Certificate (CEC) program track may finish the program in as little as two semesters. Degree-seeking individuals should expect to complete five semesters as a full-time student to achieve an Associate of Science (AS) degree. Many students choose to complete the CEC, then continue (part-time or full-time) to obtain the degree at their own pace.*

Q3. Are there any pre-requisites prior to applying for admission into the EFDA program?

A3. *Other than proper professional certification/licensure (see Q1), the only other requirement (for CDA, RDA candidates) is that one must have practiced for one full year as a chair-side dental assistant. A letter from the dentist/employer documenting this work history is required when submitting the EFDA Program Application Checklist. Candidates with less than one year of chairside experience must complete Stark State College's Dental Assisting program and hold RDA certification (American Medical Technologists) prior to starting the EFDA Program.*

- Must pass and complete the CEC or Associate Degree Dental Assisting Program at Stark State College. *

Q4. Are the BCI/FBI background checks necessary prior to applying to the program?

A4. *YES. Both BCI/FBI background checks must be completed (eligibility verified). The cost for the background checks is currently \$70.00 for both.*

Q5. Are there other college requirements that I must complete prior to applying to the EFDA program?

A5. *YES. New students must register to become a student of the college prior to applying to any program. Steps include (but are not limited to):
(content retained as-is)*

Q6. Do I have to complete the Accuplacer exam if I am only interested in the Career Enhancement Certificate for EFDA?

A6. *YES. Because all EFDA program courses are offered for college credit, one must have either a current ACT score within two years or take the Accuplacer exam to enroll. The Accuplacer exam scores will not impact your admission into EFDA program courses, however if you choose to continue your education to earn an Associate of Science (AS) degree, your placement in other general education courses will be based on the scores earned on the Accuplacer exam.*

Q7. Is there any type of practice test to prepare for the Accuplacer exam?

A7. *YES. Copy and paste this link to find sample Accuplacer exam questions:*

<https://Accuplacer.collegeboard.org/sites/default/files/Accuplacer-sample-questions-for-students.pdf>

Q8. What is the cost of the program?

A8. *Cost will depend on the level of education completed. Please see the information packet for details.*

Q9. Are there any specific technical standards associated with EFDA training at SSC?

A9. *YES. (content retained as-is)*

Q10. Do I need to be certified in CPR?

A10. *YES. All students in the Allied Dental Health Professions at SSC are required to hold CPR certification. Additionally, because of direct contact with dental patients in a clinical setting, it is required that you participate in a face-to-face delivery of the Healthcare Provider CPR training program. Web-based CPR training must be in addition to CPR requirements for any dental program at SSC.*

Q11. Is this a full-time or part-time program?

A11. *This program is designed for working professionals.*

Q12. Is there an application deadline?

A12. *No. Applicants will be accepted when a candidate completes the eligibility (pre-application) requirements.*

Q13. When should a student apply to the program?

A13. *After a student has met the special pre-application requirements listed on the Checklist/Application.*

Q14. Do all applicants who have met the special pre-application requirements get accepted into the program?

A14. *Yes. Acceptance to the program is based solely on meeting the requirements and submitting a complete application. Applicants are not placed in competition with one another. However, admission is granted on a space-available basis. Applicants are guaranteed admission but may be admitted to a succeeding class.*

Q15. How many students are in each class?

A15. *Typically, a full class consists of 18 students.*

Q16. When do students start the EFDA program?

A16. *Students are accepted into the program in the fall semester.*

Q17. What hours will I attend school while enrolled in the EFDA Program?

A17. *The schedule varies during the year. Courses are offered during the day only. Classes meet once per week.*

Q18. Can credits earned in the program be transferred or applied to a bachelor's degree?

A18. *Yes. Many courses included in the curriculum are transferable. Technical courses must be evaluated by the receiving institution.*

Q19. Are EFDAs at risk for infectious diseases, such as AIDS?

A19. *EFDAs who follow CDC infection control guidelines are at no greater risk than any other health care professional.*

Q20. Can out-of-state students apply and be accepted?

A20. *Yes. The same criteria and procedures apply.*

Q21. How do I apply to the EFDA program?

A21. *Students must register to become a student of the college PRIOR to applying to any program at Stark State College.*

Initial steps include:

- *Complete the college application*
- *Complete the Accuplacer exam*
- *Submit official high school and/or college transcripts to the college*
- *Complete BCI/FBI background checks in the SSC security office*
- *Complete the program application and meet the eligibility requirements*

Q22. Do I need health insurance to participate in service-learning activities?

A22. *You may or may not need health insurance to participate, as each site has individual requirements.*

Q23. What kinds of jobs can I get with this degree or certificate?

A23. *Students can continue to work as Certified Dental Assistants. Upon successfully completing the EFDA program and passing the Board exam, students can work as EFDAs in Ohio.*

Q24. What's the job outlook for graduates or certificate completers?

A24. *Most students are able to find work after the program.*

Q25. Where have recent graduates found employment?

A25. *Most graduates continue to work in their current offices but are eligible to work anywhere in Ohio as an EFDA.*

Q26. How many credit hours are required to complete the program?

A26. *62–63 for the Associate's degree; 21 credit hours for the Career Enhancement Certificate (CEC).*

Q27. How long does it take to complete the program?

A27. *Five semesters for the Associate's degree; two semesters for the CEC.*

Q28. Is it possible to work full-time while going to school?

A28. *Yes.*

Q29. Are there scholarships or financial aid options specifically for this program?

A29. *Financial aid is available to those who qualify. Annual scholarships are also available.*

Q30. Do my credits from this program transfer to other colleges or universities?

A30. *Non-technical coursework transfers.*

Q31. Does this program have any specific transfer partnerships?

A31. *No, it does not at this time.*

Q32. Can I get credit for any of my current certifications or prior work experience?

A32. *Yes. You must hold a current CDA, RDA, or RDH license along with one year of work experience.*

Q33. What's the average class size, and what's the typical student-to-faculty ratio?

A33. *Class size is 18 students; during lab classes, the student-to-faculty ratio is 6:1.*

Q34. Are there opportunities for internships, co-ops, or hands-on experience?

A34. *The Ohio State Dental Board requires every EFDA student to complete 80 hours of clinical experience.*

Q35. What are the course requirements?

A35. *Successful completion of DAS225, DAS226, DAS227, and DAS228 with a 70% or higher.*

Q36. Are classes in-person, online, or both?

A36. *Both.*

Q37. Are there additional costs outside of tuition, books, and other college fees?

A37. *Yes, there are other fees. Please see the information packet for details.*

Q38. What resources are available to help me succeed in this program (e.g., tutoring, career services)?

A38. *The Program Coordinator is available for tutoring. Career services and other college resources are also available to students.*

Q39. Who should I contact for more information?

A39. *Contact the Program Coordinator:*

Jordan Kalaitsides, MBA, EFDA, CDA

jkalaitsides@starkstate.edu

330-966-5458 ext. 4384

NOTE:

- The College reserves the right to change, without notice, statements concerning rules, policies, fees, curricula, courses, or other matters.
- Stark State College is committed to equal opportunity for all and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, gender, national origin, military status, pregnancy, disability, age, genetic information, or sexual orientation.
- SSC strives to enroll a diverse representation of students within the Health Sciences programs. Members of underrepresented groups are encouraged to apply.

EXPANDED FUNCTION DENTAL AUXILIARY PROGRAM COURSE SEQUENCE and DESCRIPTIONS

Required Curriculum Sequence

EFDA courses must be taken in a designated sequence of the curriculum plan. All required non-EFDA courses can be taken prior to, concurrently, or after the completion of the EFDA specific curriculum plan. Dental Morphology for the EFDA (DAS225), Expanded Dental Assisting I (DAS226, and Expanded Dental Assisting II are co-requisite courses, and as such, must be completed concurrently. All three courses must be completed successfully prior to admission in the capstone course (Directed Clinical Practice). These three courses are pre-requisites for Directed Clinical Practice (DAS228).

Student Success Seminar (Web-delivered Lecture 1/Lab 0). This course is designed to aid students in gaining the skills necessary for academic success at Stark State College (SSC). Topics include learning styles, critical thinking, time management, study and test-taking techniques, communication skills, and a variety of personal development strategies. Students will learn how to access and use SSC resources such as mystarkstate, the College's Learning Management System (LMS), Digital Library, Writing Center, Career Development, advising, tutoring, and other College support services. This course also fosters connections between students, their respective academic divisions, and their classmates. Upon completion of this course, students should be able to incorporate into their degrees or certificate programs the tools and skills necessary to be academically and professionally successful.

Computer Applications for Professionals (Lecture 2/Lab 2). Computer Applications for Professionals familiarizes students with major Windows-based applications software and introduces the Windows operating system, the Windows networking environment, and practices file and folder maintenance. The focus of the course is to provide students with basic understanding and competence in industry-standard word processing, spreadsheet, database, and presentation software applications that are used to solve scientific, business, and engineering problems. TAG OBU003 approved, effective summer 2021.

DAS225: Dental Morphology for the EFDA (Web-delivered Lecture 2/Lab 0). This course will introduce EFDA students to the specific morphology associated with reproducing proper dental form and function during restorative dental procedures, while communicating appropriately with other dental professionals utilizing proper terminology.

DAS226: Expanded Dental Assisting I (Lecture 3/Lab 0). This course will cover basic concepts in head, neck and basic dental anatomy, terminology, tooth physiology/morphology to support the restorative dental auxiliary functions. Additional topics include laws and ethics, ergonomics, instrumentation/application techniques, isolation, occlusion, dental materials (including amalgam, resins, bases/liners, and intra-coronal temporary materials/ procedures).

DAS227: Expanded Dental Assisting II (Lecture 2/ Lab 6). This course serves to teach competency in various aspects of restorative procedures and safe use of applicable dental materials, instruments, and equipment by the expanded function dental auxiliary candidate.

DAS228: Directed Clinical Practice (Lecture 2/Lab 8/ Directed Practice 7). This course is a directive practice course, where under the supervision of a dentist, expanded functions auxiliary students provide restorative patient care as allowed by the EFDA certification. Students participate in off-site clinical experiences.

PROJECTED COST OF THE EFDA PROGRAM
25-26 SCHOOL YEAR – updated May
Degree Type (AAS, AS, CERT, CEC)

COST ITEM	EFDA	AMOUNT
Tuition - \$209.60 per credit hour	62-63 AS 21 CEC	Total credit hours AS = \$12,995.20-13,204.8 Total credit hours CEC = \$4401.60
Processing Fee – charged at the time of admission to the College		\$95.00
Security and Maintenance Fee – charged each semester, if taking 4 credit hours or more	\$35.00/semester	\$175.00/for 5 semesters
Uniforms (scrubs, shoes, stethoscope) – estimated amount, purchased for 2 nd semester of program		\$67.00-98.00
ID badges – purchased upon admission to the program		\$15.00/2 badges
Textbooks/course access – estimated total amount	EFDA AS EFDA CEC	\$3,846.50 \$488.00
Typodont Kit-first semester		\$525.00
Tooth Kit-second semester		\$420.00
Lab supplies/course materials – estimated total amount <i>Allied Dental Health Professions Facility fee</i>	\$700.00/semester	\$1,400.00
Health Requirements (physical, immunizations, drug screen, BLS Certification) will vary based on student immunization status and health insurance coverage		\$500.00*
BCII/FBI fingerprinting – must be updated yearly	\$70.00/year	\$140.00
Liability Insurance – charged per academic year	\$15.00/year	\$15.00
Personal Protective Equipment		\$85.00-94.00**
Equipment rental fee for board exam		\$150.00***
Graduation Expenses		\$0
Distance Learning fee W3 and W4 \$10.00 per credit hour W2 \$5.00 per credit hour	DAS225 DAS226 DAS227 DAS228	\$20.00 \$30.00 \$50.00 \$70.00
Estimated Total	EFDA AS EFDA CEC	\$20,488.7-\$20,698.30 \$8431.60

This is an estimate of program costs and is subject to change.

**This is an estimate only. Each student may have different insurances, co-pays, etc. Students should expect to obtain a physical and maintain immunizations as applicable for the state licensure/certification process, as well as meeting any conditions set forth through the clinical placement process. These may differ depending on the site you are placed with for clinical training.*

***PPEs are a required part of both pre-clinical and clinical attire, and students should expect to incur expenses related to proper dress for each pre-clinical and clinical course. Similarly, CPR and Radiographers certification should already be in place for the EFDA candidates as well, therefore the total cost to acquire these items cannot be ascertained for the purpose of this estimation.*

****Equipment rental fee for board exam is optional*

EFDA APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Have you included the following with your application?

1. _____ A copy of your current CDA certificate (CODA or DANB), RDA certificate (AMT), RDH license, or proof of one year of dental hygiene course work.
2. _____ A copy of your current radiology certificate/card
3. _____ A current copy of your CPR certificate/ card
4. _____ Letter on company letterhead from dentist/employer demonstrating minimum of one-year consecutive chairside experience (or schedule to take DAS125 during first semester).
5. _____ Hep-B verification (immunization record or titer)
6. _____ Printed email (sent to your SSC student email account) stating you are BCI/FBI eligible to participate in a health-related program.

If you are new to Stark State College and have questions about the program admissions process, contact an admissions counselor. If you are a current student and have questions about the admissions process, contact your assigned academic advisor (refer to the “My Stuff” tab on mystarkstate). You may also contact the Program Coordinator for the EFDA program.

***Jordan Kalaitsides, MBA, EFDA, CDA
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