

NORTHWOOD TECHNICAL COLLEGE
DENTAL ASSISTANT
STUDENT POLICIES

CLINICAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Evaluation of students in the DA program at Northwood Tech is a continuous process which involves assessment of student performance in all aspects of the DA program. Clinical performance evaluation provides documentation of student progression in the DA curriculum and is the ongoing assessment of the student through:

- 1) Demonstration of skill competency
- 2) Application of problem-solving ability
- 3) Integration of knowledge, attitudes, skills, and core abilities

Clinical course competencies are progressive and expand over the course of the DA program. Performance evaluation measures this progression. Review of the clinical performance is the mutual responsibility of the student and instructor with a summation completed at midterm and the end of the course.

Components of the clinical performance evaluation process are as follows:

1. **Skill Competency Assessment**
The Skill Competency Assessment form includes specific criteria and depth of understanding for all competencies in the DA program. The student is rated according to grading standards provided with each competency.
2. **Instructor/Student conferences**
Regularly scheduled conferences are held at the beginning of the DA program, midterm, and end of each semester, to assist in the achievement of course competencies. Additional conferences may be scheduled as student concerns or deficiencies occur.
3. **Improvement Plan**
Improvement Plans are used to indicate area(s) of deficiency that place the student at risk of not meeting course competencies. The Improvement Plan includes a summary of the areas of concern, student and instructor recommendations for improvement and criteria to be used for evaluation. The Improvement Plan is signed by both the student and instructor as acknowledgement of the meeting. A copy of the signed Improvement Plan is given to the student at the time of the completion of the conference. The original Improvement Plan is kept in the student file that is in a secure location in the faculty office.
4. **Referrals**
Students who may require assistance with cognitive skills (grammar, reading, mathematics, spelling, test-taking, etc.) should be referred to the Academic Support Center. Students who may require counseling should be referred to Student Services.

Conferences are scheduled involving the student, instructor, counselor, and/or Student Success Center personnel as appropriate. When the remedial activity is concluded, outcomes of the referral process are shared with the instructor. Additionally, documentation of the referral process may be made on the campus student referral form ("Early Alert" form).