



## DENTAL ASSISTING



SkillsUSA Championships Technical Standards

### PURPOSE

To evaluate each competitor's preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in the field of dental assisting.

### ELIGIBILITY

Open to active SkillsUSA members enrolled in programs with dental assisting as an occupational objective. Each state may send one high school and one college/postsecondary competitor.

### CLOTHING REQUIREMENT

#### **Class B: Healthcare Attire**

- Official SkillsUSA blue scrubs
- White socks or white seamless/nonpattern hose visible above the top of the shoe
- Health-professionals white or black work shoe

**Note:** Scrubs should fit appropriately for all health competitions and should be properly hemmed and wrinkle-free. Only plain, white, collarless T-shirts may be worn underneath the scrubs. Hair must be pinned up and off the collar.

**Note:** Shoes must be all-white or black (no canvas/mesh) and completely enclosed (no open-toe or open-heel). Athletic-style shoes that meet the criteria are acceptable.

These regulations refer to clothing items that are pictured and described at [www.skillsusastore.org](http://www.skillsusastore.org). If you have questions about clothing or other logo items, call 1-888-501-2183.

**Note:** Competitors must wear their official competition clothing and bring all supplies to the competition orientation meeting and competition.

## Appearance Requirement

A white T-shirt with crew neck may be worn under the scrub top, as long as the shirt is not visible from either the sleeve or the hem areas. Conservative hairstyle — long hair should be styled up and away from the face and neck. Nails should be cleaned, short, and without nail polish. No artificial nails (which can harbor bacteria), no heavy makeup, no heavy body scents and no jewelry other than a watch and/or a wedding ring may be worn. Competitors should exhibit professional appearance and conduct during the competition.

## EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

1. Supplied by the technical committee:
  - a. All instruments, equipment, and materials required for the competition
2. Supplied by the competitor:
  - a. Watch with a second hand
  - b. Pencil
  - c. Red and blue pencil
  - d. Pen with black ink
  - e. Masks, 10 pair gloves, safety glasses with side shield, goggles or face shield
  - f. Disposable gown (no lab coats)
  - g. All competitors must create a one-page resume. See “Resume Requirement” below for guidelines.

## RESUME REQUIREMENT

Competitors must create a one-page resume to submit online. SkillsUSA South Carolina competitors should submit their resume by the deadline published on the competition updates page of our website. Failure to submit a resume will result in a 10-point penalty.

Your resume must be saved as a PDF file type using file name format of “Last Name\_First Name.” For example, “Amanda Smith” would save her resume as Smith\_Amanda. If you need assistance with saving your file as a PDF, visit the Adobe website for more information.

Note: Check the Competition Guidelines and/or the updates page on the state website.

## PROHIBITED DEVICES

Cellphones, electronic watches and/or other electronic devices not approved by a competition’s national technical committee are **NOT** allowed in the competition area. Please follow the guidelines in each technical standard for approved exceptions. Technical committee members may also approve exceptions onsite during the SkillsUSA Championships if deemed appropriate.

## Penalties for Prohibited Devices

If a competitor’s electronic device makes noise or if the competitor is seen using it at any time during the competition, an official report will be documented for review by the Director of the

SkillsUSA Championships. If confirmed that the competitor used the device in a manner which compromised the integrity of the competition, the competitor's scores may be removed.

## SCOPE OF THE COMPETITION

The competition is defined by the ability to perform the procedures specified by the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB). [Dental Assisting National Board | DANB](#) and [2021 DANB Exam Content Validation Study Summary Reports](#).

Competitors may view the exam outline resource at the following link:  
[www.danb.org/Become-Certified/Prepare-for-DANB-Exams/Exam-Outlines.aspx](http://www.danb.org/Become-Certified/Prepare-for-DANB-Exams/Exam-Outlines.aspx)

### **Additional Resource:**

Modern Dental Assisting, 13th Edition, by Doni L. Bird, CDA RDA RDH MA and Debbie S. Robinson CDA MS

## KNOWLEDGE PERFORMANCE

The competition will include a written knowledge exam assessing knowledge of dental foundations, communication skills, safety, infection control and asepsis (core and advanced), ethics/law and employment skills. Competitors are required to take the SkillsUSA Professional Development Test.

## SKILL PERFORMANCE

The competition will consist of simulated dental office situations and demonstrations.

## COMPETITION GUIDELINES

1. Competitors will be rated on personal appearance, the degree of work skills, and speed used in the performance of the assigned task. The use of safety measures and the degree of effective personal interaction with the patient will also be rated, when appropriate.
2. All procedures for the simulations will be selected from the latest edition of *Modern Dental Assisting* (Torres and Ehrlich) by Elsevier Publishing.
3. The skills included in the competition will be selected from the Standards and Competencies listed below and may involve total procedures or tasks that are a part of the procedures.

## STANDARDS AND COMPETENCIES

### **DA 1.0 — Monitor and manage safety and infection control using procedures specified by the Dental Assisting National Board Inc. (DANB) for examinations and as determined by the SkillsUSA health occupations technical committee**

- 1.1. Report and/or record safety hazards in the workplace
- 1.2. Apply principles of body mechanics
- 1.3. Perform maintenance on equipment to keep in proper working order
- 1.4. Demonstrate and maintain a safe client environment
- 1.5. Interpret and respond to medical emergency protocol
- 1.6. Verify identity of client

- 1.7. Use precautions in the presence of ionizing radiation
- 1.8. Manage hazardous materials and use standard precautions of the workplace following EPA, OSHA, CDC, and ADA guidelines.
- 1.9. Perform correct handwashing techniques
- 1.10. Use appropriate personal protective equipment
- 1.11. Identify modes of pathogen transmission
- 1.12. Apply principles of sterilization, disinfection and ultrasonic preparation for equipment, instruments and supplies in the workplace

**DA 2.0 — Assess the client's condition following good practices based on guidelines as specified by the Dental Assisting National Board Inc. (DANB) for examinations and as determined by the SkillsUSA health occupations technical committee**

- 2.1. Measure and record blood pressure, respirations, oral temperature and pulse
- 2.2. Perform CPR for adult, child and infant
- 2.3. Demonstrate knowledge of basic dental emergencies
- 2.4. Demonstrate knowledge of pre- and post-operative instructions

**DA 3.0 — Apply preventive procedures using guidelines specified by the Dental Assisting National Board Inc. (DANB) for examinations and as determined by the SkillsUSA health occupations technical committee**

- 3.1. Instruct client in use of dental floss and Bass tooth-brushing method
- 3.2. Identify food groups and their importance in relation to proper oral health
- 3.3. Assist with oral prophylaxis
- 3.4. Demonstrate proper oral appliance use and care
- 3.5. Demonstrate application of topical fluoride

**DA 4.0 — Apply chair-side assisting procedures using guidelines specified by the Dental Assisting National Board Inc. (DANB) for examinations and as determined by the SkillsUSA health occupations technical committee**

- 4.1. Demonstrate seating, dismissing, positioning client in treatment chair and placing of patient napkin
- 4.2. Demonstrate knowledge of operator and assistant working positions inside the treatment area
- 4.3. Demonstrate transfer of instruments to operator during various procedures such as sealants, operative or specialty
- 4.4. Demonstrate the use of various restorative materials and their applications during the chair-side procedure
- 4.5. Demonstrate use of high-volume evacuation
- 4.6. Identify and use instruments properly
- 4.7. Demonstrate and assist with area isolation and moisture control
- 4.8. Demonstrate knowledge of local anesthesia application and armamentarium
- 4.9. Demonstrate the use of various specialty materials and their applications during chair side procedures
- 4.10. Demonstrate field of operation during dental procedures using retraction, suction, irrigation, placing and removing cotton rolls, etc.
- 4.11. Identify features of rotary instruments
- 4.12. Demonstrate cleaning and polishing of removable appliances and prostheses

**DA 5.0 — Apply dental laboratory procedures using various dental materials using the guidelines specified by the Dental Assisting National Board Inc. (DANB) for examinations and as determined by the SkillsUSA health occupations technical committee**

- 5.1. Demonstrate mixing various gypsum products and construct study models
- 5.2. Demonstrate mixing various cements and demonstrate their applications
- 5.3. Demonstrate mixing various restorative materials along with their applications
- 5.4. Demonstrate and prepare various impression materials and their applications
- 5.5. Demonstrate and assist with oral sealants
- 5.6. Construct temporaries/provisionals using various methods
- 5.7. Construct mouth guard/bleaching tray/whitening tray using various methods

**DA 6.0 — Apply radiology procedures using the guidelines specified by the Dental Assisting National Board Inc. (DANB) Examinations and as determined by the SkillsUSA health occupations technical committee**

- 6.1. Demonstrate knowledge of radiation safety
- 6.2. Demonstrate knowledge of intraoral and extraoral radiography films
- 6.3. Identify radiographic processing errors
- 6.4. Demonstrate mounting and labeling of intraoral radiographic films
- 6.5. Demonstrate knowledge of processing radiographic films either manually or automatically
- 6.6. Demonstrate knowledge of intraoral radiographic equipment such as “XCP”
- 6.7. Demonstrate knowledge of methods of exposing radiographs

**DA 7.0 — Manage the office using guidelines specified by the Dental Assisting National Board Inc. (DANB) Examinations and as determined by the SkillsUSA health occupations technical committee**

- 7.1. Complete written client materials such as registration, charts and documents
- 7.2. Complete written office materials such as insurance forms, inventory, ordering supplies and recordkeeping procedures
- 7.3. Complete client oral charting (universal) from oral or written communication.
- 7.4. Complete various computer assignments including word processing, financial and/or office management software
- 7.5. Demonstrate oral and written communication skills with clients, families and staff using HIPAA regulations
- 7.6. Demonstrate various types of filing used to preserve client records
- 7.7. Demonstrate professional telephone etiquette
- 7.8. Record messages both written and verbally

**DA 8.0 — Demonstrate employability skills using guidelines specified by the Dental Assisting National Board Inc. (DANB) Examinations and as determined by the SkillsUSA health occupations technical committee**

- 8.1. Apply ethical and legal standards using a state dental practice act
- 8.2. Prepare resume and job application
- 8.3. Participate in an interview for a job
- 8.4. Demonstrate ability to create a positive teamwork environment in the workplace
- 8.5. Demonstrate and exhibit professional appearance and conduct

## DA 9.0 —SkillsUSA Framework

The SkillsUSA Framework is used to pinpoint the Essential Elements found in Personal Skills, Workplace Skills and Technical Skills Grounded in Academics. Students will be expected to display or explain how they used some of these Essential Elements. Please reference the graphic, as you may be scored on specific elements applied to your project. For more, visit: [www.skillsusa.org/who-we-are/skillsusa-framework/](http://www.skillsusa.org/who-we-are/skillsusa-framework/).



## COMMITTEE IDENTIFIED ACADEMIC SKILLS

The technical committee has identified that the following academic skills are embedded in this competition.

### Math Skills

- Simplify numerical expressions.
- Solve practical problems involving percentages.

### Science Skills

- Use knowledge of physical properties (shape, density, solubility, odor, melting point, boiling point, color).
- Use knowledge of chemical properties (acidity, basicity, combustibility, reactivity).
- Use knowledge of temperature scales, heat and heat transfer.

### Language Arts Skills

- Provide information in conversations and in group discussions.
- Provide information in oral presentations.
- Demonstrate use of verbal communication skills: word choice, pitch, feeling, tone and voice.
- Demonstrate use of nonverbal communication skills: eye contact, posture and gestures using interviewing techniques to gain information.
- Edit writing for correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure and paragraphing.

## CONNECTIONS TO NATIONAL STANDARDS

State-level academic curriculum specialists identified the following connections to national academic standards.

### Math Standards

- Numbers and operations
- Measurement
- Problem solving
- Communication
- Connections
- Representation

*Source: NCTM Principles and Standards for School Mathematics. For more information, visit: [www.nctm.org](http://www.nctm.org).*

### **Science Standards**

- Understands the principles of heredity and related concepts
- Understands the structure and function of cells and organisms
- Understands relationships among organisms and their physical environment
- Understands the structure and properties of matter
- Understands the sources and properties of energy
- Understands forces and motion
- Understands the nature of scientific inquiry

*Source: McREL compendium of national science standards. To view and search the compendium, visit: [www2.mcrel.org/compendium/](http://www2.mcrel.org/compendium/).*

### **Language Arts Standards**

- Students adjust their use of spoken, written and visual language (e.g., conventions, style, vocabulary) to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and for different purposes.
- Students employ a wide range of strategies as they write and use different writing process elements appropriately to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes.
- Students use spoken, written and visual language to accomplish their own purposes (e.g., for learning, enjoyment, persuasion, and the exchange of information).

*Source: IRA/NCTE Standards for the English Language Arts. To view the standards, visit: [www.ncte.org/standards](http://www.ncte.org/standards).*