

Dental Assistant

INDUSTRY FACTS



What do dental assistants do?

Within the large and growing healthcare industry, dental assistants play a key role in keeping a healthcare facility running smoothly. They perform general patient care and handle routine administrative responsibilities that frequently include the following:

- Assist the dentist during dental procedures
- Sterilize instruments
- Take dental impressions
- Manage office records, including billing and paperwork
- Greet and care for patients
- Schedule and confirm patient appointments
- Manage dental records
- Instruct patients on proper oral care

Where do they work?

Dental assistants work with dentists and dental hygienists to provide care to patients. Most dental assistants work full-time, standard schedules, but parttime work is also available.

How much do dental assistants earn?

With opportunities nationwide, dental assistants can earn competitive salaries. The U.S. Department of Labor reports that the middle 50% of professionals in the field earn \$37,630* a year.

How's the job outlook?

The healthcare industry is growing rapidly due to the country's aging population and new healthcare laws. As practices expand, dental assistants will take on more routine duties, so dentists and orthodontists can see more patients. Employment for dental assistants is expected to grow by 19%, or over 64,000 jobs, by 2026.*

*U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics

I am currently in the Dental Assistant program with CareerStep, and I absolutely love it! If I have any questions, there is always someone I can contact to help...CareerStep is helping to change my life and career!

TANEKA JONES, CAREERSTEP LEARNER

FEBRUARY, 2020

Dental Assistant Entry Level

PROGRAM DETAILS

Improve Your Life

When it comes to career training, you'll find a lot of con artists that'll try to impress you with fancy hyperbole. But through all the noise, the distinct sound of success can be heard. Your success. All it takes is a little push. A nudge in the right direction—and your whole life could change. New doors opened. New worlds discovered. New opportunities explored.

Prepare For A Better Job

As the primary point of contact for patients, dental assistants play a critical role in the day-to-day operations of the office. They manage patient records, schedule appointments, take X-rays and imprints, and even help the dentist during procedures.

A good dental assistant provides professional and courteous customer care that makes every patient feel comfortable and informed. This program will arm you with the technical and soft skills you need to succeed.

Learn Your Way (From Home)

With online training, you can absorb more knowledge and learn more skills—fast.

- Train on a schedule that fits your life
- Progress at a pace that matches your learning style
- Adjust the time and effort you devote to your coursework each day

Receive Coaching and Guidance

When you train with CareerStep, we back you every step of the way—from sign-up through course completion.

- Learner support
- Technical support
- Career support

Get Certified

Completion of the Dental Assistant program will prepare you for the National Entry Level Dental Assistant (NELDA) component exams and the RDA exam. We'll even throw in a voucher for either three NELDA component exams (RHS, ICE, and AMP) OR the RDA exam — a \$550 value! (clinical experience required).

- NELDA Component Exams
- Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)

Program Outline

Courses

Program Orientation: Dental Assistant Entry Level

Introduction to Dental Assisting

Dental Infection Control

Basic Dental Sciences

Oral Health and Nutrition

Tooth Morphology and Dental Charting

Dental Pharmacology and Med Emergencies

Dental Radiology

Preparation for Dental Patient Care

Fundamentals of HIPAA

Dental Office Management and Employment

Externship Readiness Skills

Dental Office and Basic Chairside Assisting

Dental Restorative and Laboratory Materials

Clinical Dental Procedures

Dental Specialities

Career Success in Healthcare

Dental Assistant Entry Level Final Exam

Initiating Your Externship

Clinical Externship

Program Completion: Dental Assistant Entry Level

TOTAL HOURS: 460

**300 Coursework, Simulations, and
Experiential + 160 Clinical Externship**