



Dental Assistant

Program No: 30-508-2

Technical Diploma—Short Term

Degree Completion Time: One Term

Degree completion time may vary based on student scheduling needs and class availability.

2010-2011

Catalog No.	Class Title	Credit(s)
Term 1		
31508302	Dental Chairside	5.00
31508304	Dental and General Anatomy	2.00
31508305	Applied Dental Radiography	2.00
31508306	Dental Assistant Clinical	3.00
31508307	Dental Assistant Professionalism	1.00
10508101	Dental Health Safety	1.00
10508113	Dental Materials	2.00
	Total	16.00
	Program Total	16.00

Note: Program start dates vary; check with your counselor for details.

Curriculum and program acceptance requirements are subject to change.

All courses must be completed with a minimum grade of "C" or better. ("C-" does not meet the minimum grade requirement.)

About the Career

Think about your last dental visit. Your dentist likely worked closely with a dental assistant to perform your exam or procedures. Dental assistants are vital to the safe and efficient operation of the dental office—they assist the dentist in the treatment room, in the lab, and with business administration. If you're interested in a career that focuses on helping people and offers plenty of variety in the workday, dental assisting is a great choice for you.

Careers

- Chairside Dental Assistant
- Dental Insurance Processor
- Dental Lab Assistant
- Dental Treatment Coordinator
- Office Manager
- Receptionist

Admissions Steps

- Application
- Application Fee
- Entrance Assessment Scores
- Transcripts
- Healthcare Provider CPR or Professional Rescuer Certification
- Program Advising Session
- Dental Exam Form
- Health/TB/Tetanus Form
- Background Check
- Essential Functions Completion

Program Goals

You'll learn to:

- Perform basic chairside skills and procedures.
- Use proper dental terminology.
- Be aware of legal, professional, and ethical responsibilities.
- Perform basic laboratory skills.

Approximate Costs

- \$107 per credit (resident)
- \$158 per credit (out-of-state resident)
- Other fees vary by program (books, supplies, materials, tools, uniforms, health-related exams, etc.)

Testing

Graduates are eligible to apply for Radiography and Infection Control, two sections of the Dental Assistant National Board Exam. The Chairside section of the exam requires two years of chairside experience.

Special Note

Hepatitis B vaccination is strongly recommended. Clinical placement may be denied to students not inoculated.

Entrance Assessment Scores

Assessment Areas	ACT	Accuplacer
Math	18	79
Read	18	74
Write	18	88

Functional Abilities

Functional abilities are the basic duties that a student must be able to perform with or without reasonable accommodations. At the postsecondary level, students must meet these requirements, and they cannot be modified.

10508101 Dental Health Safety

...prepares dental auxiliary students to respond proactively to dental emergencies, control infection, prevent disease, adhere to OSHA Standards, and safely manage hazardous materials. Students also take patient vital signs and collect patient medical/dental histories. CPR certification is a prerequisite; students will be required to show proof of certification before beginning the course.

CONDITION: 305082 Dental Asst admission requirements met or 105081S Dental Hygiene admission requirements met and COREQUISITES: 31508306 Dental Asst Clin, 31508304 Dental & Gen Anat, 31508305 Appl Dental Rad, 31508307 Dental Prof, 10508113 Dental Mtls

10508113 Dental Materials

...prepares dental auxiliary students to handle and prepare dental materials such as liners, bases, cements, amalgam, resin restorative materials, gypsum products, and impression materials. They also learn to take alginate impressions on manikins and clean removable appliances.

COREQUISITE: 10508101 Dental Health Safety and CONDITION: 305082 Dental Assistant admission requirements met or 105081S Dental Hygiene admission requirements met

31508302 Dental Chairside

...prepares dental assistant students to chart oral cavity structures, dental pathology, and restorations; assist dentist with basic dental procedures including examinations, pain control, amalgam restoration, and cosmetic restoration. Students will also develop the ability to educate patients about preventative dentistry, brushing/flossing techniques, and dental procedures using lay terminology. Students will apply decoding strategies to the correct use and interpretation of dental terminology.

COREQUISITE: 31508306 Dental Asst Clin, 31508304 DentGen Anat, 31508305 Appl Dent Radio, 31508307 Dental Prof, 10508101 Dental Hlth Sfty, 10508113 Dental Mtls and CONDITION: 305082 Dental Asst admissions requirements met

31508304 Dental & General Anatomy

...prepares dental assistant students to apply fundamentals of general and dental anatomy to informed decision-making and to professional communication with colleagues and patients.

COREQUISITES: 31508305 Applied Dental Radiography and 31508307 Dental Assistant Professionalism and CONDITION: 305082 Dental Assistant admission requirements met

31508305 Applied Dental Radiography

...prepares students to operate x-ray units and expose bitewing, periapical, extra oral, and occlusal radiographs. Emphasis is placed on protection against x-ray hazards. Students also process, mount, and evaluate radiographs for diagnostic value. In this course students demonstrate competency on a manikin. In addition, students expose bitewing radiographs on a peer and role-play as a patient.

COREQUISITES: 31508304 Dental & General Anatomy, 31508307 Dental Professionalism and CONDITION: 305082 Dental Assistant admission requirements met

31508306 Dental Assistant Clinical

...allows students to apply the skills developed in Dental Health Safety, Dental Chairside, Dental Materials, Dental Radiography, and Professionalism in a clinical setting with patients. It emphasizes the integration of core abilities and basic communication skills.

COREQUISITE: 10508113 Dental Mtls, 31508302 Dental Chairside, 31508304 Dent/Gen Anat, 31508305 Appl Dental Radio, 31508307 Dental Prof, 10508101 Dent Hlth Sfty, and CONDITION: 305082 Dental Asst admission requirements met

31508307 Dental Assistant Professional

...prepares dental assistant students for professional success in a dental practice or another dental health care environment. Students develop professional appearance and image. More importantly, they learn to work within the ethical guidelines and legal framework. In preparation for entering the work force, dental assistants customize or develop their portfolios and lay out an on-going professional development plan.

COREQUISITES: 31508304 Dental & General Anatomy, 31508305 Applied Dental Radiography and CONDITION: 305082 Dental Assistant admission requirements met