



DENTAL ASSISTING

• College Certificate

About The Program

The Dental Assistant program provides students with the necessary training to perform the duties of a dental assistant, including assisting the dentist (chair side), providing patient education, performing laboratory procedures, exposing and processing x-rays and performing office management tasks such as billing and scheduling appointments. In addition, the dental assistant who becomes licensed can provide expanded functions such as pit and fissure sealants and fluoride treatments. Classroom instruction runs concurrently with the laboratory instruction. Students gain clinical experience in clinical facilities and dental offices.

Aptitudes that will be helpful to students are attention to details, following instructions, working quickly and independently, being responsible for personal and office organization, interacting well with people and being able to manage stress.

Upon completion of the program, students are eligible to take the Dental Assisting National Board Examination to become a Certified Dental Assistant (CDA). In addition, they are eligible to take the State of Michigan's Registered Dental Assistant Examination to become a licensed Registered Dental Assistant (RDA).

Career Potential

- Chair Side Assistants
- Laboratory Assistants
- Receptionists/Office Assistants

Admission Requirements

Admission is based upon a "first-come" basis and spaces are limited. The program begins each Fall semester and part-time students are accepted on a space availability basis.

To be admitted into the Dental Assistant Program students must

- Fulfill all WCCCD admission requirements.
- Possess a high school diploma or GED.
- Declare intent to enter the Dental Assistant Program by submitting an Allied Health Application.

After acceptance and before clinical participation students must show:

- Documentation of current immunizations.
- Receive the Hepatitis B vaccination or declare intent to receive or decline the vaccination.
- Must test negative on a TB test.
- Documentation of current medical examination.
- Complete CPR training (A CPR course is offered by the College).

WCCCD Central Administration Building

801 West Fort Street
Detroit, MI 48226

General Information Number
(313) 496-2600

Career Program Hotline
1-800-300-2118

Information Website:
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Northwest Campus

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College Certificate Requirements

CAREER COURSES REQUIRED

DA 104	Dental Materials	3
DA 106	Applied Sciences	4
DA 107	Introduction to Expanded Functions	2
DA 110	Clinical Dental Assisting	3
DA 115	Preventive Dentistry	1
DA 117	Clinical Practice I	4
DA 120	Dental Specialties	2
DA 125	Clinical Practice II	5
DA 126	Pathology, Pharmacology and Medical Dental Emergencies	3
DA 127	Dental Office Management	2
DA 129	Legal, Ethical and Communication Issues	2
DA 202	Expanded Functions for the Dental Assistant	3
DEN 200	Dental Radiology Lecture	2
DEN 201	Dental Radiology Lab	1

CERTIFICATE TOTAL CREDITS 37

* Certificate totals may not include prerequisite work.

** This number may be less. Graduates of high school vocational-technical dental assisting programs and on-the-job trained dental assistants are eligible for advanced standing credit hours through the Prior Experience and Required Knowledge program (PERK). Contact the program office for additional information.

It is the policy of WCCCD that no person, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex, height, weight, marital status, disability, or political affiliation or belief, shall be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination in employment or in any program or activity for which it is responsible or for which it receives financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Education.

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