



Dental Chairside Assisting

Approved by New York State Education Department (NYSED)



DENTAL CHAIRSIDE ASSISTING - is designed to help develop the skills and knowledge necessary to work chairside with the dentist. Training will include the preparation of dental materials for radiology and four-hand dentistry, performing basic business procedures, and processing insurance forms along with subsequent documentation. The classroom has been equipped to replicate a dental office with the most current apparatus for practical application of the course instruction. A strong emphasis is placed on both patient care and business application. Second year students will also be awarded the opportunity to participate in off-site clinical practice.

**Additional medical requirements are necessary for full participation in this program including, but not limited to, vaccinations beyond what the school requires i.e. Hepatitis B. These requirements are subject to change as per current health guidelines.*

Work Environment

Dental Assistants typically work in pleasant, technology rich, air-conditioned surroundings alongside a dentist or dental hygienist. The ability to interface one-on-one with patients require communication skills, professional demeanor, attention to details, and personal appearance. General responsibilities for Dental Assistants are: ensure that patients are comfortable in the dental chair, prepare patients and the work area for treatments and procedures, sterilize dental instruments, hand instruments to dentists or dental hygienists during procedures, dry patients' mouths using suction hoses and other equipment, instruct patients in proper oral hygiene, process x rays and complete lab tasks under the direction of a dentist, keep records of dental treatments, schedule patient appointments and work with patients on billing and payment.

Career Opportunities

Dental Assistant
Dental Receptionist
Dental Office Manager
Dental Hygienist
Lab Technician
Dentist

Advanced Standing Available*

*College credits may be earned by meeting the criteria of articulation agreements (see listing in Handbook) Tech has established with SELECT colleges. In addition, check directly with the post-secondary institutions for any additional credits they may offer.

Helpful Preparatory Courses

- Living Environment

Academic Credits integrated:

Phys Sci, Eng. 12, Health, CFM, Comp App

CTE Endorsement

Students must successfully meet the academic and attendance criteria for a two-year Wilson Tech Certificate of Completion, be High School diploma eligible, and pass the following exam: Nat'l Occupational Competency Testing Exam (NOCTI) - Dental Assisting Exam.

Student Supplies

Additional supplies will need to be purchased for this program including a uniform.

Average Annual Wage

Salaries are subject to market fluctuations.

For the most current updates on local & national wages go to job search engines on the internet and www.careerzone.ny.gov

Course Requirements

Students must meet all health requirements in order to participate in the clinical component.

Course Outline

- Intro to Dental Assisting
- Basic Dental Science
- Basic Laboratory Skills
- Professional & legal aspects of dental assisting
- Preventive dentistry
- Nutrition
- Dental anatomy
- Infection control/hazardous waste
- Clinical dentistry and moisture control
- Instrument care
- Film exposure & X-Ray processing.
- X-Ray Mounting & Digital Technology
- Chairside procedures
- Dental Examination
- Patient care and emergency management
- First Aid and Emergency Treatment
- Dental office management
- Dental materials
- Dental specialties
- Pre-Clinical Science