

Technical Certificate in Dental Assisting

Program Overview:

Accredited by the Commission on Dental

Accreditation of the American Dental Association

The Dental Assisting program provides a background in basic studies as well as directed dental assisting experience, acquired in off-campus dental facilities. The student will develop knowledge and skills needed for assisting the dentist or the dental hygienist in providing oral health care to the public under the supervision of the dentist and within the limits of the laws of the state in which he/she practices. A minimum grade of "C" is required in all courses required for the major. Graduates are prepared to become Registered as dental assistants (RDA) in Tennessee with certification in Dental Radiology, Sealants, and Monitoring Nitrous Oxide. Graduates are also eligible to take the Dental Assisting National Board to become a Certified Dental Assistant (CDA).

How Much Can I Earn?

Tennessee Annual Salary Range

*\$19,620 - \$35,100

*Wages and salary data provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, Tennessee Department of Labor

Need More Information?

Visit these websites to learn more!

<http://catalog.chattanoogastate.edu/>

http://www.chattanoogastate.edu/allied_health/dental_assisting/

http://dentalassistant.org/adaa_multimedia.htm

What Will I Do On The Job?

Dental assistants are trained to assist the dentist or the dental hygienist in providing comprehensive dental health services to the public. Dental Assisting duties include taking dental x-rays, making molds of the patient's teeth, assisting chairside with a variety of dental procedures including braces and surgery, sterilizing instruments, applying topical fluoride and dental sealants, and performing business office procedures.

What Skills Will I Use On The Job?

Dental Assistants must have good manual dexterity and be able to put people at ease with good communication skills. They must be flexible and willing to learn new techniques in a rapidly changing field. Dental assistants must be able to follow directions, have excellent organizational skills, and possess basic computer skills.

Possible Job Titles:

Dental Assistant, Orthodontic Assistant, Oral Surgery Assistant, Pediatric Assistant, Sterilization Technician, Laboratory Assistant, Business Office Assistant, Dental Hygiene Assistant, Patient Co-coordinator

Who Will Hire Me?

General dentists; dental specialists including Orthodontists, Oral Surgeons, Pediatric Dentists, Periodontists, Prosthodontists, and Endodontists; health departments; special needs centers; dental claims departments of insurance companies; sales representative dental products. Chattanooga State graduates work with such organizations as: general and specialty dental offices in Tennessee and other states; Erlanger Medical Center; the Veteran's Administration; dental insurance companies; educational institutions.

Need More Information? www.bls.gov ▪ tcids.tbr.edu/index.html

Career Services & Counseling Center Student Center Room 137 ▪ 423-697-4421