

Dental Assisting Program

go.chemeketa.edu/dental

The Dental Assisting program offers technical training to people who want to work in dental offices and clinics. The program is accredited by the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation, 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611-2678. The telephone number is 312.440.2500. The Web site is www.ada.org.

The program includes instruction in assisting dentists in private offices or dental health clinics plus clinical and field trip experiences. Typical duties of dental assistants include preparing patients for treatment, mixing dental materials, taking impressions, sterilization and infection control, exposing and processing radiographic images, assisting with clinical procedures, expanded functions, and inventory control. Laboratory duties include pouring study models of teeth and fabrication of custom trays, temporary crowns, and small appliances. As office manager, a dental assistant acts as a receptionist, schedules appointments, keeps accounts and records, prepares statements and insurance billings, and is responsible for the general appearance of an office.

Program Outcomes

Students completing the certificate should be able to:

- Perform basic and expanded chairside functions to facilitate the completion of restorative and advanced operative procedures.
- Manipulate dental materials to support chairside and laboratory procedures.
- Perform basic office procedures necessary to assist in managing a dental practice.
- Demonstrate proficiency in exposing, processing, and mounting dental radiographic images.
- Practice professional behaviors as applied to the workplace environment.
- Manage asepsis, infection control, and hazard control protocol to promote a safe work environment.

Getting Started

This program has special admission requirements and enrollment limits. The first step to entering this program is to take part in an assessment process, which includes taking the college's free placement test and meeting with Chemeketa's Advising and Counseling Services staff. You may need to complete program entry requirements. Then your advisor will

help you develop an individualized program of study, which may include one or more of the following:

BI060	Basic Science for Dental Assistants	3
CIS101	Computing Concepts.....	3
COMM111	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	4
FYE105	Creating College Success	2
RD115	Academic Thinking and Reading (or higher).....	3
SSP112	Effective Learning (If placement test score below RD120).....	3

If you have questions about the requirements, contact the Health Sciences Department at 503.399.5058 or email healthsciences@chemeketa.edu.

For admission to the program, an application is required. This is a separate step from the testing and assessment steps. Applications are available on the Chemeketa website (www.chemeketa.edu).

To enroll, you must have a high school diploma or GED certificate. Once accepted into the program, students are required to submit a copy of their current CPR card and immunizations prior to fall registration. You must also pass a criminal background check and a drug test. Successful completion of the Dental Assisting program requires that you earn a grade of "C" or better in all courses. As a graduate, you are eligible to take the Dental Assisting National Board examinations, including infection control, general chairside, and radiation health and safety.

Dental Assisting Certificate of Completion

In addition to tuition, estimated costs for students who complete the courses listed below are books, \$800; lab fees, \$820; universal fee, \$784; dental kit, \$434; uniform and shoes, \$350; exam fees, \$725; immunizations, \$150; criminal background check and drug testing, \$90; CPR certification, \$80; professional membership fee, \$45 Contact the Financial Aid Office at 503.399.5018 to find out if you qualify for help with these costs. Students are responsible for costs related to practicum travel.

You may earn a certificate of completion by successfully completing the required 57 credit hours with a grade of "C" or better in all courses:



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Course	Title	Credit Hours
Term 1		
DEN150	Dental Sciences.....	3
DEN151	Introductory Concepts in Dental Assisting.....	3
DEN153	Dental Materials 1	3
DEN156	Dental Anatomy	4
DEN165	Dental Office Emergency Management.....	2
MTH060	Introductory Algebra+ (or higher)	4
Term 2		
DEN160	Dental Specialties.....	3
DEN161	Dental Assisting Practicum 1	3
DEN162	Intermediate Clinical Skills	2
DEN163	Dental Materials 2	3
DEN164	Dental Radiology 1.....	3
DEN170	Dental Office Management.....	2
PSY101	Psychology of Human Relations+ (or higher)	4
Term 3		
DEN171	Dental Assisting Practicum 2.....	9
DEN172	Expanded Functions.....	3
DEN174	Dental Radiology 2.....	2
WR121	The College Essay+.....	4