

DENTAL ASSISTING - REGISTERED, ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE DEGREE

Financial Aid Eligible
Banner Code: 1_AS_DENA
Control Number: 04006

Dental assisting is a challenging field requiring skills in chairside assisting, which includes manual dexterity, dental radiology, preventive therapy, patient management, receptionist duties, expanded functions and office management.

Qualified dental assistants find employment opportunities in a variety of settings such as private dental offices, specialty practices, federal or state dental programs and dental schools.

The Dental Assisting program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and has been granted the accreditation status of approval. The commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education.

The Commission on Dental Accreditation can be contacted at (312) 440-4653 or at 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, IL 60611. The program is also approved by:

The State of California Department of Consumer Affairs, Dental Board of California
2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 1550
Sacramento, CA 95815

RDA functions are taught to laboratory competency and clinical competency where applicable. A list of laboratory and clinical competencies are available upon request.

Program application process is accomplished by taking program prerequisite, Allied Health A010. This short-term course is mandatory for all prospective program applicants. See current class schedule for specific course meeting times. The Dental Assisting Registered program starts only in the fall semester of every school year.

This program is a sequential program. All fall semester courses must be taken concurrently in the fall semester. All spring semester courses must be taken concurrently in the spring semester.

Complete the Dental Assisting - Registered Certificate of Achievement and the Associate in Science graduation requirements as outlined in the Graduation Requirements section of the catalog.

Program Outcomes

1. The outcome of the program is to meet the needs of the local health care community by preparing students for employment as a professional and competent registered dental assistant.

Associate in Science Degree Requirements

1. **UNIT REQUIREMENT** - 60 UNITS, with at least a 2.0 grade point average. At least 12 of the units must be earned at OCC, with a minimum of one course taken for a letter grade. At least 3 units in an advanced course from the program must be completed at OCC.

A student must be enrolled at the time of application for graduation. Units earned at an accredited college or university on a credit/no credit basis will be counted toward the degree requirements of the college, to a maximum of 15 units.

2. **MAJOR REQUIREMENT** - Complete the AA or AS major requirements as detailed in the Degree and Certificate section of this catalog.
3. **MATHEMATICS REQUIREMENT** - Demonstrate competence in mathematics by either obtaining a satisfactory grade (grade of "C" or better or "pass") in a mathematics course at or above the level of Intermediate Algebra as demonstrated by prior coursework, or by demonstrating competency that is comparable through the completion of a college-level math course that has Intermediate Algebra as a prerequisite: Psychology A160 or Math A100 or higher, with the exception of Math A220.
4. **GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENT** - Students may choose to complete Option 1 (OCC AA GE) (<https://catalog.cccd.edu/orange-coast/general-education-patterns/associate-arts-general-education-option-1/>), Option 1 (OCC AS GE) (<https://catalog.cccd.edu/orange-coast/general-education-patterns/associate-science-general-education-option-1/>), Option 2 (CSU GE) (<https://catalog.cccd.edu/orange-coast/general-education-patterns/associate-degree-general-education-option-2/>), or Option 3 (IGETC (<https://catalog.cccd.edu/orange-coast/general-education-patterns/associate-degree-general-education-option-3/>)) (<https://catalog.cccd.edu/orange-coast/general-education-patterns/associate-degree-general-education-option-3/>)) to satisfy the general education requirement. See the General Education Patterns section of this catalog for more information.

Required Prerequisites

Course	Title	Units
ALH A010 or ALH A012	Health Occupations Health Occupations for Dental and Medical Assisting	0.5
ALH A111	Medical Terminology	3
Total Units		3.5
Course	Title	Units
Year 1		
Fall		
DA A100	Dental Anatomy	2
DA A101	Patient Care for Dental Assistants	2
DA A110	Chairside Techniques 1	3
DA A120	Dental Materials	3
DA A130	Preventive and Community Dentistry	1
DA A140	Dental Radiography 1	3
DA A160	Clinical Experience 1	1
	Units	15
Spring		
DA A115	Chairside Techniques 2	2
DA A125	Expanded Functions	2
DA A145	Specialized Practices	1.5
DA A150	Biomedical Sciences	2
DA A163	Clinical Experience 2	1
DA A165	Clinical Experience 3	2.5
DA A168	Clinical Experience 4	1
DA A175	Principles of Business and Practice Management	1.5
	Units	13.5
	Total Units	28.5

Dental Assisting – Registered Suggested Electives

Course	Title	Units
CIS A100	Introduction to Computer Applications	3
CMST A100	Interpersonal Communication	3
CMST A110	Public Speaking	3
COUN A105	Strategies for College Success	3
ENGL A100	Freshman Composition	3
PHIL A120	Ethics	3
PSYC A100	Introduction to Psychology	3

Program approved by the American Dental Association. Graduates are eligible to take the California Registered Dental Assistant Exam and the National Certification Exam upon program completion and qualify for their State radiation license and coronal polishing, pit and fissure sealant and ultrasonic scaling for cement removal certificates.

Requirement	Units
Program Major Units	32
AS General Education Option 1, 2, or 3	Varies
Transferable electives to satisfy unit requirement	Varies
Total Degree Units	60