



2022-2023

Oxnard College

Dental Assisting Program

Certificate of Achievement Program

A.S. Degree Available-See a Counselor



Dental Department
(805) 678-5823

General Information

Dental assistants are a significant and valuable member of the dental health care team. They perform a wide variety of duties including working chairside as dentists examine and treat patients, taking and developing dental x-rays, removing sutures, and applying anti-cavity agents to teeth. Some dental assistants also perform laboratory duties such as making casts of the mouth from impressions and making temporary crowns. Dental assistants may also perform office duties like scheduling and confirming patients, filing patient treatment records, billing, and ordering dental supplies. Dental assistants greatly increase a dentist's ability to efficiently deliver quality care and assist in making patients as comfortable as possible.

Upon completion of the program, the successful student will have been trained to perform chairside assisting, take impressions, expose and process x-rays, make dental models, mix cements, make provisional crowns, perform front office dental assisting, and work with a variety of dental materials. Students will also be prepped on the requirements to take the X-ray Licensure exam (California State Radiology Safety Certificate), and the California Registered Dental Assistant's Examination*.

**Graduates of the program are not guaranteed licensure or eligibility to take any licensure exam following program completion; however, several options are available with job experience.*

Career Opportunities

Dental assistants are in high demand and have a choice of work environments. Dental assistants usually work in private dental offices or clinics. However, there are opportunities for employment in alternative settings such as hospitals, community health programs, or public health institutions.

About the Program

The Dental Assisting Program begins each fall and takes one school year (about 9 months of courses) to complete.

All dental assisting instruction is taught at Oxnard College. Practical dental assisting experience is gained through a combination of patient experience at our on-site dental clinic and through off-site externships. An A.S. in Dental Assisting is available. Please see a Counselor for Information on General Education Requirements.

Job placement assistance is available upon completion of the program.

Preparation/Eligibility & Prerequisites

Students interested in the Dental Assisting Program are encouraged to take college prep courses in high school. However, there are no Dental Assisting prerequisite courses. Eligible students will have a high school diploma or equivalent. Applicants are also strongly recommended to complete a transfer level college English course.

Enrollment & Application

Applicants are not ranked by the program. Students enroll in dental assisting classes on a first come, first serve basis, so plan to register early. Each class will range from 20-22 students in size. Registration information is available at www.oxnardcollege.edu or by contacting Admissions at (805) 678-5810. A program application will be completed **after** registration, during the DA Orientation (see Applicant Requirements for more information on the DA Orientation).

Applicant Requirements

After enrolling, students will attend a mandatory orientation, which occurs on the first Thursday of the semester. During the orientation, students will complete and submit the Dental Assisting Program application.

Students will also need to have their physician complete an Oxnard College Student Health History Profile and become certified or submit proof of certification in CPR/Basic Life Support (BLS)¹. The necessary forms for the Health History Profile will be provided at the DA Orientation. Opportunities to take the CPR/BLS course are often available during the first semester of the program.

¹CPR/BLS certification must be maintained for the duration of the program

Associated Costs

The dental assisting program requires expenditures in addition to normal student expenses (textbooks, tuition, and personal expenses). These expenses are associated with uniforms, personal protective equipment, instruments, materials fees, and other miscellaneous fees. Oxnard College fees, such as health fees, parking fees, and nonresident tuition, remain in force. The total estimated cost of the program (for a resident student) is \$3,300.

The VCCCD has adopted the state-mandated enrollment fee. Please check for the current fees on www.oxnardcollege.edu. All fees are subject to change without notice.

Required Dental Assisting Courses

Once accepted into the Dental Assisting Program the following semester course sequence for a total of 27 dental assisting units (subject to change without notice).

Semester 1 FALL*			Semester 2 SPRING**		
		Units			Units
DA RO10	Introduction to Dental Assisting	3	DA RO20	Advanced Dental Assisting	2
DA RO11	Beginning Radiology	3	DA RO21	Practice Management for the Dental Asst.	3
DA RO12	Dental Materials for the Dental Assistant	3	DA RO22	Clinical Dental Experiences	3
DA RO13	Occupational Health	1	DA RO23	Ethics and Jurisprudence for the D.A.	1
DA RO14	Introduction to Chairside Dental Assisting	2	DA RO24	Dental Assisting Seminar	2
DA RO15	Dental Specialties I	2	DA RO25	Dental Health Education	2
First Semester Total		14	Second Semester Total		13
GRAND TOTAL for 2 Semesters					27

*Students must enroll in all the DA courses offered for each semester to complete the program.

**Students must successfully complete all first semester DA courses before beginning second semester DA courses and maintain a 2.00 G.P.A.

General College Information (805) 678-5800

Oxnard College is a locally controlled, public comprehensive two-year college, part of the California state system of higher education. As such, and in keeping with the policies of both the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees and the State Legislature, the college exists to serve members of the community who are high school graduates or who are over the age of 18 and capable.

Financial Services (805) 678-5828

The student who is hesitant about attending college because the financial expenses involved in obtaining a college education may prove to be too much of a personal or family burden will find a welcome campus friend in the office of the Student Financial Services. The Office of Student Financial Services provides students with a complete array of financial support services that are designed to help cover some of the expenses involved in obtaining a college education. Eligible applicants will be expected to adhere to standards of normal academic progress in order to receive the full benefits of these programs.

<https://www.oxnardcollege.edu/departments/student-services/financial-aid-office>

General Counseling (805) 678-5816 - Provides information on the program. Can also assist in creating an education plan.

<https://www.oxnardcollege.edu/departments/student-services/counseling>

Transfer Center (805) 678-5837

The Transfer Center is designed to provide assistance to students planning to transfer to a four-year college or university. The Transfer Center provides current information, reference materials, college catalogs, applications, and support services necessary for planning and achieving a smooth transition between institutions. Transfer Center activities are scheduled and distributed monthly through the "Transfer Center Calendar."

<https://www.oxnardcollege.edu/departments/student-services/transfer-center>

Career Center (805) 678-5900

Students are provided the resources and guidance necessary to make informed career and major choices through assessments, counseling, workshops, and opportunities for practical learning experiences. Our Job Placement Specialist assists students with resume support, full-time and part-time employment opportunities aligned with individual skills and program of study.

<https://www.oxnardcollege.edu/departments/student-services/career-center>