



# 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 significant and valuable members of the dental health care team. They perform a wide variety of duties which include preparing the patients and work area for treatment and procedures, assisting dentists chairside as they examine and treat patients, taking dental radiographs, and ensuring proper infection control which includes the sterilization of instruments. 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 two semester program, the successful student will have been trained to perform chairside assisting, take impressions and make dental models, mix cements, make provisional crowns, take dental radiographs, perform select front office dental duties, and work with a variety of dental materials.

#### **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. Classes are held on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays.

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 during the spring semester. An A.S. in Dental Assisting is now available. Please consult with an Academic Counselor for information on General Education Requirements.

#### **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 must 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 is on a first-come, first serve basis, so plan to register early. Each class will range from 20-24 students in size. Registration information is available at [www.oxnardcollege.edu](http://www.oxnardcollege.edu) or by contacting Admissions at (805) 678-5810. A program application will be completed **after** registration, during the Dental Assisting Orientation which takes place on the first day of class.

#### **Applicant Requirements**

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)<sup>1</sup>. 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.

<sup>1</sup>CPR/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, materials fees, and other miscellaneous fees. Oxnard College fees, such as health fees, parking fees, and non-resident 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](http://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*			Units	Semester 2 SPRING**			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 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 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 and requirements with review of transcripts. They 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 aid 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."

Oxnard College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age or sexual orientation.  
Oxnard College no discrimina por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo, discapacidad, edad u orientacion sexual.