

About This Program

Dental assistants perform a wide range of duties in dental care facilities from patient care to office tasks and laboratory procedures¹. Students become skillful at taking X-rays and impressions, as well as performing coronal polishing and assisting with an array of dental procedures. The program covers patient preparation, charting, administrative duties and office administrative functions. Students gain hands-on experience during lab class sessions and clinical experience.

Careers in Dental Assisting²

It takes a lot of different people to keep a dental office running smoothly. Dental Assistants are among the most crucial; their work ranges from patient care to office tasks and laboratory procedures. Their career path can lead to employment in a variety of health care environments such as:

- Dental offices
- Physician's offices
- Government

Knowledge and Skills

Upon completion of the Dental Assisting program, graduates will be able to:

- Complete all dental assisting duties competently for a broad scope of dental specialties in a professional setting.
- Utilize infection control and safe practice techniques in a variety of clinical settings.
- Establish optimum Radiation Health and Safety practices to ensure high quality diagnostic images.

General Education Coursework

Students in our certificate programs complete technical coursework and participate in a career development seminar.

¹Individuals seeking to enter this career field may be subject to screenings such as, but not limited to, criminal background checks and drug/alcohol testing prior to externship, to attain occupational licensure/certification or employment, and throughout their careers.

²Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/dental-assistants.htm#tab-3>

Technical Coursework

Our Dental Assisting curriculum begins with a broad base of knowledge on subjects ranging from the anatomy of the head and mouth to sterilization techniques to front-office operations. Students' progress to learning specific skills and building their understanding of dental procedures performed in dental offices. As they near the end of their studies, Dental Assisting students complete an externship. Carrington College uses technologies and equipment to support the learning process such as: dental chairs, dental stools, x-ray machines, air-water syringe, stethoscope, training manikin, manual blood pressure machine, teeth models, dental materials and additional supplies.

Carrington's academic catalog, available at carrington.edu/catalog, provides the most current and detailed program information, including admission and graduation requirements.



The program
culminates in
a Certificate of
Achievement.

DENTAL ASSISTING



Campus Based: Albuquerque, Las Vegas, Mesa, Phoenix, Pleasant Hill, Portland, San Jose, San Leandro, Spokane, Stockton, and Tucson

Dental Assisting Campus-Based Certificate Requirements

TECHNICAL COURSES		LECTURE HOURS	LAB HOURS	EXTERN HOURS	SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
DA21.3	Dental Science	60	0	0	4
DA22.3	Dental Office Protocols	60	0	0	4
DA23.3	Dental Radiology	60	0	0	4
DA24.3	Preventive Dentistry	60	0	0	4
DA25.3	Dental Specialties	60	0	0	4
DA201.3	Dental Assisting Procedures 1	0	60	0	2
DA202.3	Dental Assisting Procedures 2	0	60	0	2
DA203.3	Dental Assisting Procedures 3	0	60	0	2
DA204.3	Dental Assisting Procedures 4	0	60	0	2
DA205.3	Dental Assisting Procedures 5	0	60	0	2
CDV198.2 ¹	Career Development Seminar	30	0	0	2
DA502.3	Externship	0	0	180	4
TOTAL FOR CERTIFICATE		330	300	180	36²

¹Online general education course, ²810 Contact hours

Approximate time to complete certificate program: 36 weeks (not including breaks)

Blended: Albuquerque, Boise, Glendale Learning Center, Las Vegas, Mesa, Phoenix, Pleasant Hill, Portland, Sacramento, San Jose, San Leandro, Spokane, Stockton, and Tucson

Dental Assisting Blended Certificate Program Requirements

TECHNICAL COURSES		LECTURE HOURS	LAB HOURS	EXTERN HOURS	SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS
DA21.3.H ³	Dental Science	60	0	0	4
DA22.3.H ³	Dental Office Protocols	60	0	0	4
DA23.3.H ³	Dental Radiology	60	0	0	4
DA24.3.H ³	Preventive Dentistry	60	0	0	4
DA25.3.H ³	Dental Specialties	60	0	0	4
DA201.3	Dental Assisting Procedures 1	0	60	0	2
DA202.3	Dental Assisting Procedures 2	0	60	0	2
DA203.3	Dental Assisting Procedures 3	0	60	0	2
DA204.3	Dental Assisting Procedures 4	0	60	0	2
DA205.3	Dental Assisting Procedures 5	0	60	0	2
DA502.3	Externship	0	0	180	4
CDV198.2 ⁴	Career Development Seminar	30	0	0	2
TOTAL FOR CERTIFICATE		330	300	180	36

³Blended course

⁴Online general education course

Approximate time to complete certificate program: 36 weeks (not including breaks)

Accreditation and Disclosures

Carrington College is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges, 428 J Street, Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95814, (415) 506-0234, an institutional accrediting body recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation and the U.S. Department of Education.

Additional information about accreditation, including the filing of complaints against member institutions, can be found at accjc.org.

For comprehensive information on Carrington's accreditation and approvals, visit carrington.edu/accreditation. Visit carrington.edu/sci for important information on program outcomes.

Program availability varies by location. Carrington College reserves the right to update information as it becomes available. For the most updated information, visit carrington.edu.