



**Extended Studies & Workforce Education Division
Norwalk Community College
Dental Assistant
Certificate Program**



The Dental Assistant Certificate Program consists of five courses that will prepare students for an interesting career as a Dental Assistant.

<u>Course</u>	<u>Total Hours</u>	<u>Total Sessions</u>	<u>Tuition*</u>	<u>Textbook</u>
1. Dental Assistant I	39	13	\$499	Additional Fee
2. Dental Assistant II	39	13	\$499	Additional Fee
3. Dental Assistant III - Clinical	30	7	\$499	N/A
4. Dental Radiology	30	10	\$499	Additional Fee
5. Customer Service for Health Care Professionals	15	5	\$149	N/A

*Tuition subject to change.

Please refer to the Extended Studies & Workforce Education current catalog for course specifics (tuition, start date, class time slot and location).

Entrance Requirements:

- High School diploma or GED
- Proof of medical exam

Course Descriptions

Dental Assistant I

This course will introduce students to the profession of Dental Assisting. It will cover dental terminology and some of the most important skills and instruments used by the Dental Assistant professional.

Entrance Requirements:

- A high school diploma or GED is required
- Students are required to submit a health form to the instructor prior to starting the Dental Assisting III Clinical course. Health forms are available online at: www.norwalk.edu/dept/extstudies.

Dental Assistant I (Continued)

- The Customer Service for Health Care Professionals course may be taken concurrently. (This class may be taken at anytime during the student's course of study).
- Students must bring their textbook to the first session and read chapters 1-2 prior to the first session.

Entrance Requirements: High school diploma or GED

Co-requisite: Customer Service for Health Care Professionals

Dental Assistant II

This course will expand upon the basic knowledge obtained in Dental Assisting I. Students will begin dental charting and learn to take models and instrument tray set-ups. Instruction will concentrate on developing skills needed for working in a dental office.

In preparation for the first night of class, students must read textbook chapters 1-3

Prerequisite: Dental Assistant I

Co-requisite: Customer Service for Health Care Professionals

Dental Assistant III

Students will spend a total of 30 hours in a private dental clinical training to be dental assistants. Hours worked per week will be determined by the student and work site. Students will be supervised by dental assistants and staff in the workplace and their progress will be monitored by the Program Coordinator.

Scrubs are required. There is a mandatory meeting for students enrolled in the class (Please refer to the Extended Studies & Workforce Education current catalog for course specifics (date, time and place).

Prerequisite: Dental Assistant I and II

Dental Radiology

This course will provide dental assistant students with the fundamental principles upon which dental radiology is based. Content will focus on preparing the student to sit for the "Radiation Health & Safety" (RHS) portion of the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) Certification as required by law in the state of Connecticut in order to expose radiographs in a dental setting. Students are required to wear scrubs.

Prerequisite: Dental Assistant I or on-the-job experience as a Dental Assistant.

Important Information

Immunization and Physical Requirements

- Must show proof of medical physical examination within the last 12 months completed by the student's personal healthcare provider.

Important Information (Continued)

- Hepatitis B vaccine not required, strongly recommended.

Program Contents

Introduction to Dental Assisting	Disease Transmission	Radiography
Dental Anatomy	Infection Control & Hazardous Material	Specialists in Dentistry
Dental Charting & Terminology	Treatment Room Preparation	Preparing for Job search

Tests

- There will be a Midterm and Final in every class.
- A passing grade of at least 70% is required to pass all courses.

Attendance

It is important that students attend all classes.

Available Jobs:

- Dental Schools
- Hospitals
- Private Practice
- Public Health and Government Programs
- Sales Representative

Employment Related Information

- Certificate holders can expect to find a position as a Dental Assistant for a Dentist or Orthodontist.
- Job Search Keywords:

dental assistant, orthodontic assistant

- O*NET: A tool for career exploration and job analysis!

O*NET OnLine has detailed descriptions of the world of work for use by job seekers, workforce development and HR professionals, students, researchers, and more! <https://www.onetonline.org/>
Type in Dental Assistant in "Keyword or O*NET-SOC Code"

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