

New Horizons Career and Technical Center
Dental Assisting I & II
Ms. Cynthia White, Instructor
cynthia.white@nhrec.va.tec.us
757-766-1100 ext. 3333

Office Hours: 7:00-7:15 AM and 2:35-2:45 PM

Course Description:

The Dental Assisting I & II programs provides an opportunity for the student to obtain multiple clinical skills along with sound theory based in Dental Sciences. This course is designed to prepare students for entry level positions as Dental Assistants. This includes skills necessary for them to provide competent patient care as a chair side Dental Assistant. Successful students will have an opportunity to engage in clinical experiences at various local dental clinics during the second year of the program. Upon successful completion of the course, students will become X-Ray Certified, CPR Certified and may sit for the National Registered Dental Exam.

Required Textbook:

Moderen Dental Assisting, 12th Edition ISBN 978-0-323-43030-2
Authors, Doni L. Bird, Debbie S. Robinson

Materials for Class:

Included in packet/students will receive handout

Evaluation for Student performance/Grading:

Employability Skills 34% (participation, supplies attendance)
Related Instruction 33% (class assignments, quizzes, test, projects)
Competencies 33% (hands on skills/labs)

Skills and Focus:

Attention to detail
Teamwork/individual/dedication
Responsibility/Initiative
Sensitivity to patient needs
Working within precise limits/standards of accuracy
Punctuality/regular attendance
Being consistently pleasant and polite
Maturity

Topics of Study:

The Dental Assistant Profession	Sciences in Dentistry
Oral Health and Prevention of Dental Disease	Infection Control in Dentistry
Patient Information and Assessment	Dental Materials
Foundation of Clinical Dentistry	Comprehensive Dental Care
Dental Radiology	Occupational Health and Safety

Administrative and Communication
Internships

Competencies

Gaining Skills for Success in the workplace:

Improve writing skills
Improved speaking and listening skills
Exhibit desirable work habits
Show respect for individual diversity

Career Opportunities

Dental Hygienist
Dental Laboratory Technician
Dental Sales
Administrative Assistant
Dental Equipment Technician
Sterilization Assistant
Circulation Assistant
Chair Side Assistant
Detail Person

Certifications:

Dental Assistant CDA
National Registered Dental Assistant
Dental Practice Management Assistant
Orthodontic Assistant
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Assistant
Dental Laboratory Assistant

Job Outlook and Earnings:

Employment of dental assistants is projected to grow 18 percent from 2014 to 2024, much faster than the average for all occupations. Ongoing research linking oral health and general health will likely continue to increase the demand for preventive dental services. Dentists will continue to hire more dental assistants to complete routine tasks, allowing the dentist to see more patients in their practice and to spend their time on more complex procedures. As dental practices grow, more dental assistants will be needed. As the large baby-boom population ages, and as people keep more of their original teeth than did previous generations, the need to maintain and treat teeth will continue to increase the need for dental care. In addition, the number of individuals who have access to health insurance is expected to continue to increase because of federal health insurance reform. People with new or expanded dental insurance coverage will be more likely to visit a dentist than in the past. This will increase the demand for all dental services, including those performed by dental assistants.

The median annual wage for dental assistants was \$35,980 in May 2015
SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment Projections program

