

Palomar College Catalog 2009-2010

Dental Assisting (DA)

Contact the Dental Assisting Program for further information.
(760) 744-1150, ext. 2571
Office: AA-116

Associate in Arts Degrees -

AA Degree requirements are listed in Section 6 (green pages).

- Dental Assisting (Registered Dental Assistant)

Certificates of Achievement -

Certificate of Achievement requirements are listed in Section 6 (green pages).

- Dental Assisting (Registered Dental Assistant)

PROGRAM OF STUDY

The Dental Assisting Program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, and is approved by the Dental Board of California.

Certification and Licensing. Upon successful program completion, student will be issued a Certificate of Proficiency in Dental Radiography issued by Palomar College. Students who successfully complete the program are eligible to apply for the California Registered Dental Assistant Examination to become licensed as a California Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) with a Coronal Polishing Certificate; and are eligible to apply for the nationally recognized Certified Dental Assistant Examination offered by the Dental Assisting National Board, Incorporated (DANB).

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission to the Dental Assisting Program is by special application. To be eligible for admission, applicants must:

1. Complete Palomar College Application for Admission;
2. Attend a Dental Assisting orientation meeting;
3. Show proof of high school graduation or equivalent by submitting official transcripts, or proof of a passing score on the General Education Development test (GED);
4. Take a Palomar College English assessment test and be eligible for English 50, or demonstrate completion of a similar, equivalent college English course(s);
5. Submit medical and dental clearances including TB test results;
6. Meet academic requirements as specified in the Dental Assisting Program brochure;
7. Show proof of a valid Social Security number.

Dental assistants need to have good vision, hearing, and the ability to communicate orally. In addition, they must have the ability to comprehend and interpret written information; and the dexterity to use small dental instruments.

Dental Assisting (Registered Dental Assistant)

A.A. DEGREE MAJOR OR CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

To remain enrolled in the program, students must earn a minimum grade of 'C' (2.0) in each of the required courses. Students must pass all laboratory and clinical evaluations at 75% competency or a substandard grade will be assigned for the course. A student may fail a dental assisting course on the basis of clinical practice even though theory grades may be passing.

Program Requirements	Units
DA 50 Introduction to Dental Sciences/Occupations	3
ENG 50 or 4 ENG 100 or English Composition	4

ESL 103	Written Communication III	5
Proof of current BLS for Healthcare Providers Certificate		0

First Semester

DA 57	Dental Sciences and Anatomy	4
DA 60	Dental Materials	3
DA 65	Dental Practice Management	2
DA 70	Dental Radiography I	2.5
DA 75	Dental Operative Procedures	5
DA 82	Preventive Dentistry I	

Second Semester

DA 71	Dental Radiography II	.5
DA 83	Preventive Dentistry II	.5
DA 85	Advanced Dental Procedures	4
DA 90	Clinical Rotation	6

TOTAL UNITS **35.5 - 36.5**