

# DENTAL ASSISTANT

## Campus Location

Lemley Campus, Health Sciences Center

## Occupational Focus

More than ever before, dentists are relying on dental assistants to perform critical tasks at the patient chair side, in the laboratory, and in managing the dental office. If you are interested in dentistry, want a good-paying job in a high-demand area, and want to build a foundation for advancement in the profession, Tulsa Tech's Dental Assistant program will give you those opportunities. In addition to an overview of dental specialties, you will learn the structure of the head and neck, the form and function of teeth, front office and chair side procedures, and radiographic or "x-ray" and laboratory techniques. You will be a vital link with the patient in handing the dentist materials and instruments and keeping the mouth dry and clear for dental work. You will also be prepared to do some procedures as well as handle the business end of the dental office. You may elect satisfying work as a dental assistant, build on credit earned for an associate degree or choose more intensive study to become a dental hygienist or a dentist. Whatever your choice, you will be prepared for work that pays well in a high-demand area.

For information concerning working conditions, physical requirements, employment and job outlook please refer to the 2008-09 Occupational Outlook Handbook (OOH) at <http://www.bls.gov/oco/>.

## Who Can Attend?

High school students  
Adults

## Scheduling Information

One year program beginning in August  
High School -- 7:55am - 10:55am or  
--11:55am - 2:55pm, Monday through Friday  
Adults -- 7:55am - 2:55pm, Monday through Thursday  
-- 7:55am - 10:55am, Friday

## Entrance Requirements

- Adult students (age 18 or older) - Students must show verification of high school diploma or GED to enroll in Certified Dental Assistant career major
- High school seniors
- Basic computer literacy

## Additional Requirements

- Prior to the start of the clinical practicum, students must:
- Undergo a criminal background check including sex offender registration as required by the Oklahoma Child Care Facilities Licensing Act that requires individuals providing care to children under the age of 18 to be free of any criminal history that would indicate a potential for violent abuse against another person. There is a \$15 fee for adults and no charge for high school students.
  - Provide verification of immunizations through vaccination records, titer (blood test) results, or declination statements. A list of specific immunizations may be obtained through the Health Sciences Center by calling 828-1216.
  - Have a current American Heart Association CPR for the Healthcare Provider card -or- a current American Red Cross CPR for the Professional Rescuer card.
  - Provide transportation to clinical sites.
  - Adult students must pay a \$22 liability insurance fee for clinicals.

## Career Majors

### Dental Assistant (High School & Adult) - 600 Hours \*

Students in this major will learn how to perform patient care, front office and laboratory duties. They will practice infection control, use dental materials, perform dental charting and chairside functions. The major includes clinicals in a professional office. Core First Aid and Healthcare Provider CPR is included in this career major. This career major is for students who have an accredited Dental Assistant career major option available on their campus.

### Certified Dental Assistant (Adult) - 975 Hours \*

Students in this major will learn how to perform patient care, front office and laboratory duties for the dental office. They will practice infection control, use dental materials, perform dental charting and chairside functions. The major includes clinicals in a professional office. Core First Aid and Healthcare Provider CPR is included in this career major.

*\*Career major, courses and hours are subject to change without notice*

## Tuition

No charge for high school students within Tulsa Tech District.

Adult -\$2.50/hour\*

*\*Tuition subject to change without notice.*

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## Books/Supplies

- Additional costs approximately \$400 (subject to change)
- Uniform required - approximately \$175
- Lab fees - \$75 (no charge for high school students)

## College Credit

College credit is available for the majority of Tulsa Tech's full-time programs through Rogers State University, Oklahoma State University-IT or Tulsa Community College. Advanced standing credit may also be granted for some of our programs. The number of hours varies depending on the program length, the college granting the credit, and the student's plan of study. Check with your Tulsa Tech counselor for more information.

## Credentials/Industry Certifications

To become a Certified Dental Assistant (C.D.A.), graduates of this program must:

- Have two years of full-time work experience (3,500 hours) as a dental assistant, along with a recommendation from the dentist employer
- Hold current CPR certification with the American Heart Association or the American Red Cross
- Pass the Dental Assisting National Board exam

## Employment Opportunities

Dental Assistant

## Tulsa-Area Salary

\$11.23 - \$15.55/hour\*

\*Students obtaining full certification (s) often earn salaries toward the higher salary range.

## Financial Aid

Scholarships are available for eligible students. Call 918.828.5280 or email [financialaid@tulsatech.org](mailto:financialaid@tulsatech.org) for detailed information.

## Application Process

High school students see Tulsa Tech career counselor or sending school counselor.

Adults contact Tulsa Tech Admissions and Enrollment office at 918.828.5260, email [admissions@tulsatech.org](mailto:admissions@tulsatech.org) or check out our website at [www.tulsatech.edu](http://www.tulsatech.edu).

## Courses by Career Majors

### Dental Assistant (High School & Adult) - 600 Hours\*

Core Healthcare Provider CPR and First Aid  
Foundations of Dental Assisting  
Dental Science (CDA-0159B)  
Clinical Sciences for the Dental Assistant  
Internship in the Dental Office (CDA-0110B)

### Certified Dental Assistant (Adult) - 975 Hours\*

Core Healthcare Provider CPR and First Aid  
Foundations of Dental Assisting  
Biomedical Sciences for the Dental Assistant  
Dental Sciences for the Dental Assistant I  
Dental Sciences for the Dental Assistant II  
Clinical Sciences for the Dental Assistant  
Clinical Practice for the Dental Assistant I  
Clinical Practice for the Dental Assistant II

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