

# Dental Assisting

9200 Valley View St. Cypress, CA 90630-5897 (714) 484-7270

The Dental Assisting Program is a two-semester program that includes patient care experiences in a fully equipped on-site facility, with students assigned to clinics or dental offices for their clinical externship experiences. Course content provides the academic knowledge necessary for the competent practice of dental assisting and registered dental assisting.



## Division of Health Science

The Cypress College Dental Assisting program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and has been granted the accreditation status of Approval without reporting requirements. The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation and by the United States Department of Education. The Cypress College Dental Assisting Program is also accredited by the Dental Board of California, the Accrediting body for the dental professionals (Auxiliaries) in California through the Department of Consumer Affairs.

At the completion of the program the student will have satisfied the requirements set forth by the Dental Board of California to be eligible for the California Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) examination and the National Certification Examination for Dental Assistants. These requirements include satisfactory completion of course work in Radiation Safety, Coronal Polish, Dental Sealants, Infection Control, the Dental Practice Act, CPR, and all the duties for the Dental Assistant and Registered Dental Assistant. Upon satisfactory completion of the Registered Dental Assistant examination, the student will be licensed to perform all functions set forth in the Dental Practice Act by the Dental Board of California.

There is a profound shortage of qualified Registered Dental Assistants and our program prepares the students to satisfy this need. Registered Dental Assistants are not only supportive members of the dental team but they also perform important procedures in patient's mouth under the supervision of a licensed dentist.

# CYPRESS COLLEGE DENTAL ASSISTING PROGRAM

## PROGRAM GOALS

The goal of the Dental Assisting Program is to provide the student with the educational opportunity to attain the academic knowledge and competence necessary to qualify for both the National Certification Examination and the California State Registered Dental Assistant Examination, and to prepare the student for dental assisting entry-level employment as an integral member of the dental health team.

## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

1. To provide a dental assisting program to meet challenges presented by demographic changes of the current decade.
2. To promote a dental assisting curriculum that helps build student's educational and career goals in a success-oriented learning environment.
3. To provide students with the academic resources and clinical experiences to perform the functions approved by the California Dental Practice Act for a Dental Assistant and a Registered Dental Assistant with competence and judgment.
4. To provide students with academic knowledge and clinical skills in the Dental Practice Act, infection control and CPR.
5. To prepare the student to qualify for certification in Radiology Safety, Coronal Polishing and Dental Sealants.
6. To maintain a positive communication network between the advisory committee, dental community, and dental assisting program alumni.
7. To create a safe learning environment in compliance with federal and California state standards and regulations.

### **In Compliance with the Dental Board of California and the Dental Practice Act, all applicants for the Registered Dental Assistant Examination must:**

1. Graduate from a Board-approved RDA educational Program minimum of 800 hours (approximately 8 months); or take an alternate pathway provided by the board.
2. Complete Board-approved courses in coronal polishing, radiation safety and dental sealants before a license will be issued.
3. Applicants must successfully pass the RDA and Law & Ethics written examinations and a hands-on practical examination performed on a typodont.

*The applicant must have no criminal record, or the board must determine that a past record poses no threat to the public and or the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The applicant must report on the application for licensures, any convictions or pleas of nolo contendere, even if the conviction was dismissed. Making false statement on an application regarding past conviction is cause for denial of a license, regardless of the nature of the crime or how long ago it occurred. Finger printing is required and checked through the Department of Justice and or the Federal Bureau of investigation.*

## MINIMUM STANDARDS

1. Eligibility for admission to Cypress College.
2. High School graduation, or passing of the General Education Development (GED) or high school proficiency test, or an Associate's degree or higher from a regionally accredited college/university.
3. Minimum age of 17 to apply. Must be 18 years old by the end of the program.
4. Evidence of good physical and mental health as determined by medical examination upon admission to the program and prior to enrollment.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE

1. Applications must be completed **online** starting the month of **February**. Applications will be accepted until the program is full or the fall semester begins.

Please see the "How to Apply" link on the Health Science home page.

<http://www.cypresscollege.edu/academics/divisions-special-programs/health-science>

2. Applicants will be officially notified by email when they have satisfied the application procedure.
3. Enrollment is limited to the first 24 qualified applicants.

\* Please note that F-1 Visa Students will not be accepted for admission into any program when applications by qualified U.S. citizens exceed space available.

SUBMIT THE FOLLOWING IN PERSON OR VIA U.S. MAIL:

**Health Science Applications Office**  
Health Science Building/TE3-217  
Cypress College  
9200 Valley View St.  
Cypress, CA 90630-5897

- Signature page of the application
- Copy of high school diploma, GED, High School Proficiency or college degree
- Be prepared to present photo ID.

## SELECTION PROCEDURES

Qualified applicants will be accepted into the program first come first serve based on the date of a completed Dental Assisting application and supporting documents.

**DENTAL ASSISTING CERTIFICATE**

This program is designed to enable a student to receive a certificate in Dental Assisting. To earn a certificate, students must complete the required courses as listed with a minimum grade of "C." At least 50% of all course work must be completed at Cypress College.

**Curriculum**

**Fall Semester**

DA 16C	Dental Materials.....	3.0
DA 61C	Oral Anatomy - Dental Assisting.....	3.0
DA 62C	Preventive Dental Health - Basics.....	3.0
DA 63C	Chairside Assisting I.....	3.0
DA 65C	Radiology/Dental Assisting.....	3.0
DA 66C	Clinical Dental Radiology.....	1.0
		<b>16.0</b>

**Spring Semester**

DA 58C	Clinical Externship I.....	2.0
DA 59C	Clinical Externship II.....	3.5
DA 67C	Dental Specialties.....	3.0
DA 68C	Chairside Assisting II.....	3.0
DA 69C	Clinical Externship III.....	2.5
DA 70C	Dental Office Procedures.....	2.0
		<b>16.0</b>

**TOTAL UNITS: 32.0**

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*All courses listed must be completed with a minimum grade "C" to earn the certificate and eligibility for the National Certification Examination.*