

**Q. I am interested in pursuing a career in Dental Assisting, how do I get started?**

**A. It is recommended that you start by reviewing the information on the Dental Assisting web page. Go to the SRJC main page and use the pull down menu under Academics, go to certificates programs on the left side, then pull down the menu select certificate, and select dental assisting. Here you will find information on the program and can continue to explore specific questions by clicking on “more information”. Make an appointment with a Health Sciences Counselor by calling (707) 527-4451.**

**Q. Do I need to apply to the College and the Dental Assisting Program?**

**A. If you are not already a student at SRJC, you must complete an application for admission to the College. The Dental Assisting Program also requires you to complete a separate application. The program application must contain all the required documentation and be submitted to the Health Sciences Department before the deadline.**

**Q. What are the prerequisite classes required for the Dental Assisting Program?**

**A. Beginning Fall 2019, there are no prerequisite classes required for the Dental Assisting program.**

**Recommended Preparation includes: CS 5 Computer Literacy, HLC160 Medical Terminology and English 100/ESL100 or eligibility for English 1A.**

**Q. How many students will be accepted?**

**A. 24 students will be accepted each fall**

**Q. Is there any actual dental office experience?**

**A. Dental assisting students are assigned externship experience two days a week in a private general dentistry practice for 16 weeks in the Spring semester.**

**Q. How long is the program?**

**A. The dental assisting program is a 2-semester program (Fall and Spring)**

**Q. Can I take individual courses in the program without applying to the program?**

**A. No, you must be enrolled in the entire program.**

**Q. Is the Dental Assisting Program accredited?**

**A. The Registered Dental Assisting Program is accredited by the Dental Board of California. Upon completion of the program, graduates are eligible to take the California State Registered Dental Assisting examination.**

**Q. How hard is the program?**

**A. Each year many students mention that the program is more challenging than they anticipated. Quizzes in multiple classes can be given on the same day. Cumulative midterm and final exams are given for each class. The faculty is very committed to helping students succeed, we have a 90% completion rate.**

**Q. Does the program do job placement?**

**A. The program does have an online job board where dentists may place ads. The Dental Assisting program has an excellent reputation in the dental community and SRJC graduates do not usually have trouble finding jobs. Often students are offered jobs during their clinical rotations.**

**Q. Are there any scholarships or financial aid available?**

**A. Yes, there are scholarships through SRJC's Scholarship Office specifically for dental assisting students, and financial aid may be available through the Financial Aid Office.**