

How long will it take to earn a degree?

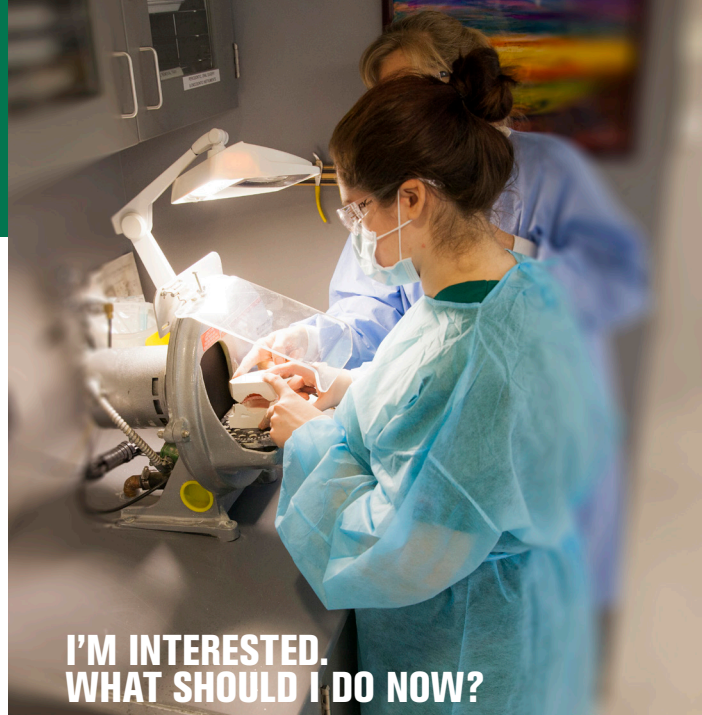
The 10 month program is scheduled to begin each fall semester with courses being completed by the middle of May. This is a consecutive two term program. In addition, this certificate program requires nine units of specific general education courses that must be completed before you apply to take the state licensing examination. These units may be taken before or at the same time you are enrolled in your dental assisting courses. To be eligible for enrollment in the dental assisting program, students must complete the specified prerequisite course DENTL-120 which is offered in the spring semester. Associate degree requirements generally can be completed in two years of full-time study.



**YOUR FUTURE
BEGINS
HERE!**

MISSION STATEMENT Diablo Valley College is passionately committed to student learning through the intellectual, scientific, artistic, psychological, and ethical development of its diverse student body. Diablo Valley College prepares students for transfer to four-year universities; provides career and technical education; supports the economic development of the region; offers pre-collegiate programs; and promotes personal growth and lifelong learning.

PERKINS STATEMENT This project was funded fully or in part by Carl D. Perkins Career Technical Education Act of 2006, awarded to Diablo Valley College and administered by the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office. It is the policy of Diablo Valley College not to discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex or disability in all of its educational and employment programs and activities.



**I'M INTERESTED.
WHAT SHOULD I DO NOW?**

Call the Dental Division Office at:
925-969-2692

or visit www.dvc.edu/programs

www.dvc.edu
ADMISSIONS OFFICE: 925-685-1310
COUNSELING OFFICE: 925-969-2140

Last updated: 11-30-16

PLEASANT HILL CAMPUS
321 Golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

SAN RAMON CAMPUS
1690 Watermill Road, San Ramon, CA 94582

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT The district shall not discriminate based on ethnic group identification, race, color, age, citizenship, ancestry, religion, marital status, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, mental or physical disability, medical condition, veteran status, parental status, or because a student is perceived to have one or more of these characteristics

DENTAL ASSISTANT

CERTIFICATE DEGREE
PROGRAM



DVC
DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE

Most career paths for a dental assistant will involve working with people on a day-to-day basis, which can be very rewarding.



What is the dental assisting program?

Diablo Valley College's Dental Assisting Program is a great option for anyone interested in one of the many careers in the dental field. This 10 month program includes the classes needed to gain an associate degree or a certificate of achievement in dental assisting and valuable hands-on experience in our Community Dental Clinic.

Students will learn:

- knowledge to pass the national and state boards,
- to perform skills allowed by the State of California after passing State Boards,
- to assist with a wide range of general and specialty proactive dental procedures,
- to place leads and monitor electrocardiogram and pulse oximeter,
- x-ray including digital technology,
- Intraoral and interoral photographs,
- dental instruments used in general and specialty dental practices,
- instrument sterilization process,
- Dental Board of California minimum Infection Control Standards/Center for Disease Control (CDC) Guidelines,



- OSHA's Bloodborne Pathogen Standard,
- to perform coronal polish,
- to apply pit and fissure sealants,
- to manipulate various dental materials,
- to take and pour impressions including study models,
- basic laboratory procedures,
- office management skills including computer software used in dental practices,
- appointment scheduling,
- preparation of insurance claims,
- dental office inventory,
- face bow transfer,
- to take and record health history and vital signs.

If you are admitted into the Dental Assisting Program, you must complete your course work in two semesters, beginning with the fall semester and ending in the spring.

Upon completion of this program, students will be prepared to take the required California State written and practical exam to receive their Registered Dental Assisting (RDA) license and take their national Certified Dental Assistant examination to become a Certified Dental Assistant (CDA).

The DVC Dental Assisting Program is approved by the Dental Board of California and accredited by the American Dental Association (ADA).

What can I do with a dental assisting certificate/degree?

There are many career options and paths to take with a dental assisting degree or certificate. People who work in the dental field can often enjoy part time or flexible work hours. Dental assistants are a very important member of any dental team and often experience very high job satisfaction.

Career options:

- Chairside assistant
- Front office administrator
- X-ray technician
- Dental insurance agent
- Lab technician
- Dental product sales representative

Career options with additional education:

- Orthodontic assistant
- Dental sedation assistant
- Registered dental hygienist
- Dentist

When are classes offered?

The required Dental Assisting Program classes are taught only during the day, however, the general education courses required for the certificate or degree may be taken in the evening or at an alternate location.

"The DVC dental assisting program was the best decision I've made. Not only did I gain an incredible dental family, I now have an amazing career!"

Heather O'Drobinak – former DVC dental assisting student