

# Dental Assisting

*Health immunizations and uniform required  
Transportation required for clinical externship*

Toms River Center

1 Year Program  
(Second Year Optional)

Ms. Roxanne Beers

**D**ental assistants aid dentists as they examine and treat patients. They prepare the patient for treatment and hand the proper instruments to the dentist. They may also act as receptionists and perform routine clerical functions in the office.

## Related Job Titles

Dental Hygienist  
Dental Laboratory Technician  
Dental Receptionist

## Skills You Will Learn

- CPR
- Taking patient's medical history and vital signs
- Mixing dental materials
- Passing instruments and suctioning
- Pouring laboratory models
- Taking and developing dental x-rays
- Sterilization of instruments
- Performing instrument set-ups
- Showing patients how to brush/floss
- Basic dental computer skills

## Worker Requirements

*You should prefer:*

- Activities involving direct contact with people
- Activities involving processes and machines

*You should be able to:*

- Use a keyboard for data entry
- Perceive detail in objects, pictures and charts
- Follow specific instructions
- Communicate well, put people at ease
- Display professional manner and appearance

*Physically you must:*

- Stand for long periods of time
- Move hands easily and skillfully
- Reach for, handle and feel small objects

## Special Requirements

Certain functions can only be performed by a registered dental assistant under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist.

## Career Ladder

Students may climb the health career ladder by passing challenging state and national board examinations.

The licensure options include:

- NJ State Dental Radiology License  
X-Ray License
- Dental Assisting National Board  
Certified Dental Assistant
- NJ State Dental Board Expanded  
Functions License

Some dental assistants go for additional college level education and become dental hygienists.

## Continuing Education

Bergen County College  
Camden County College  
Middlesex County College  
Essex & Union County Colleges  
University of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ

## Additional Information

American Dental Assistants Association  
9129 North Michigan Ave, Suite 3400  
Chicago, IL 60611

Dental Assisting National Board, Inc.  
216 East Ontario Street  
Chicago, IL 60611