This program prepares students to become competent dental assistants. It provides a solid foundation for basic and advanced clinical skills to include chairside assisting and specialty areas.

**Related Job Titles**
- Administrative Assistant
- Certified Dental Assistant
- Registered Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist
- Dental Laboratory Technician

**Skills You Will Learn**
- CPR (2nd year)
- Dentrix software
- Infection Control
- Obtaining a patient’s medical history
- Developing/mounting dental x-rays
- Performing procedural tray set-ups
- Chairside assisting/four handed dentistry
- Passing instruments throughout procedures
- Moisture control during procedures
- Mixing dental materials
- Pouring laboratory models
- Instrument processing and sterilization
- Skills and techniques used as a Registered Dental Assistant

**Preferred Skills for Career Field:**
*You should prefer:*
  - Activities involving direct contact with people
  - Activities involving practical (hands-on) skills

*You should be able to:*
  - Multitask
  - Communicate well
  - Follow specific instructions
  - Pay attention to detail
  - Use a keyboard for data entry
  - Display professional conduct and appearance

**Career Ladder**
Students may climb the dental health career ladder by passing state and national board examinations. DANB the Dental Assisting National Board administers the following board examinations: Infection Control (ICE), Radiation Health and Safety (RHS), Certified Dental Assistant (CDA), and Registered Dental Assistant (RDA). Second year students can take the infection control board examination (ICE).

**Future licensure options:**
- **NJ State of Environmental Protection**
  - Dental Radiology License

- **Dental Assisting National Board**
  - Certified Dental Assistant (CDA)

- **NJ State Dental Board**
  - Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)

**Continuing Education:**
- Ocean County Vocational Technical School
- Camden County College
- Middlesex County College
- Rowan University

Upon successful completion of this two-year program, students will have the opportunity to take a portion of the DANB CDA exam.

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