



Allied Health

2164 Linn Hall

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allied.health@kirkwood.edu

Dental Assisting

Department: Allied Health

Degree: Diploma

Entry time: Fall, Spring

Length: 1 year (3 semesters, including 1 summer)

- The program boasts consistent pass rates that meet and **exceed the national average**.
- Those in the program have the chance to **attend state and local professional association meetings**.
- Students will receive **more clinical hours of experience than is required** from accreditation.
- The program features **great, caring faculty** in a progressive institution that allows for use of creative talent.
- The program stays on the **cutting edge** with state-of-the-art equipment.
- A **modern lab space** simulates the exact environment students will be in after graduating.
- **Kibbie Grant:** Students in this program may be eligible to have half their tuition paid for by the Kibbie Grant. Go to www.kirkwood.edu/Kibbie for more details.

Program Description

Dental assistants help the dentist at chairside and also perform functions such as polishing teeth, taking X-rays, mixing materials, and sterilizing instruments. Some assistants also manage the office and patient accounts, schedule appointments, and purchase supplies.

During this program, students will gain classroom, laboratory, and hands-on experience by working with patients at the College of Dentistry at the University of Iowa and in private dental offices.

This Allied Health program has a mandatory background check for clinical purposes.

Career Opportunities

Private dental office/Clinics
Research/Teaching
Consulting
Hospitals
Sales and insurance claims
Specialty practices such as orthodontics or children's dentistry

Sample Classes

Dental Materials
Fundamentals of Dentistry
Dental Terminology
Dental Anatomy
Oral Pathology for Dental Assisting
Dental Assisting Clinic
Specialty Dentistry
Head and Neck Anatomy
Preventive Dentistry
Dental Radiography

Dental Office Procedures
Dental Nutrition

A.A.S. Option

An A.A.S. in Dental Assisting is available to students upon completion of additional coursework.

Dental Assisting A.A.S.

2 years (4 semesters, including 1 summer)

Accreditation

The Dental Assisting program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation and has been granted the accreditation status of compliance with reporting requirements. The Commission is a specialized accrediting body recognized by the United States Department of Education. Successful completion of the program entitles graduates to take the National Dental Assistant Certification Examination.

The Commission on Dental Accreditation
211 East Chicago Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611-2678
312-440-4653
<https://coda.ada.org>

Scholarships

Kirkwood awards more scholarships than any other community college in Iowa. For more information and to apply, visit www.kirkwood.edu/scholarships.

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