

Dental Assisting (DA)

Contact the Dental Assisting Program for further information.
(760) 744-1150, ext. 2571
Office: AA-116

Associate in Arts Degrees -

AA Degree requirements are listed in Section 6 (green pages).
• Dental Assisting (Registered Dental Assistant)

Certificates of Achievement -

Certificate of Achievement requirements are listed in Section 6 (green pages).
• Dental Assisting (Registered Dental Assistant)

PROGRAM OF STUDY

The Dental Assisting Program is accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, and is approved by the Dental Board of California.

Certification and Licensing. Upon successful program completion, student will be issued a Certificate of Proficiency in Dental Radiography issued by Palomar College. Students who successfully complete the program are eligible to apply for the California Registered Dental Assistant Examination to become licensed as a California Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) with a Coronal Polishing Certificate; and are eligible to apply for the nationally recognized Certified Dental Assistant Examination offered by the Dental Assisting National Board, Incorporated (DANB).

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission to the Dental Assisting Program is by special application. To be eligible for admission, applicants must:

1. Complete Palomar College Application for Admission;
2. Attend a Dental Assisting orientation meeting;
3. Show proof of high school graduation or equivalent by submitting official transcripts, or proof of a passing score on the General Education Development test (GED);
4. Take a Palomar College English assessment test and be eligible for English 50, or demonstrate completion of a similar, equivalent college English course(s);
5. Submit medical and dental clearances including TB test results;
6. Meet academic requirements as specified in the Dental Assisting Program brochure;
7. Show proof of a valid Social Security number.

Dental assistants need to have good vision, hearing, and the ability to communicate orally. In addition, they must have the ability to comprehend and interpret written information; and the dexterity to use small dental instruments.

Dental Assisting (Registered Dental Assistant)

A.A. DEGREE MAJOR OR CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

To remain enrolled in the program, students must earn a minimum grade of 'C' (2.0) in each of the required courses. Students must pass all laboratory and clinical evaluations at 75% competency or a substandard grade will be assigned for the course. A student may fail a dental assisting course on the basis of clinical practice even though theory grades may be passing.

Program Requirements		Units
DA 50	Introduction to Dental Sciences/Occupations	3
ENG 50 or	Introductory Composition	4
ENG 100 or	English Composition	4
ESL 103	Written Communication III	5
Proof of current BLS for Healthcare Providers Certificate		0

First Semester

DA 57	Dental Sciences and Anatomy	4
DA 60	Dental Materials	3
DA 65	Dental Practice Management	2
DA 70	Dental Radiography I	2.5
DA 75	Dental Operative Procedures	5
DA 82	Preventive Dentistry I	1

Second Semester

DA 71	Dental Radiography II	.5
DA 83	Preventive Dentistry II	.5
DA 85	Advanced Dental Procedures	4
DA 90	Clinical Rotation	6

TOTAL UNITS **35.5 - 36.5**

COURSE OFFERINGS

Courses numbered under 50 are non-degree courses.

Courses numbered under 100 are not intended for transfer credit.

DA 47 Dental Assisting Topics (.5 - 4)
Units awarded in topics courses are dependent upon the number of hours required of the student. Any combination of lecture, laboratory, or lecture/laboratory may be scheduled by the department. Refer to Class Schedule.

Note: Pass/No Pass grading only; may be taken 4 times

Non-degree Applicable

Topics in Dental Assisting. See Class Schedule for specific topic offered. Course title will designate subject covered.

DA 50 Introduction to Dental Sciences and Dental Occupations (3)

3 hours lecture

Note: Graded only

General orientation to dental assisting. Introduction to basic oral anatomy, oral hygiene techniques and prevention, human behavior, dental nomenclature, dental assisting, history of dentistry, ethics, role of the dental assistant and other auxiliary personnel; licensing and certification of dental assistants; dental jurisprudence and malpractice; psychology and observation in dental offices.

DA 57 Dental Sciences and Anatomy (4)

4 hours lecture

Prerequisite: Admission to the Dental Assisting Program

Note: Graded only

Introduction of dental terminology, histology, embryology, tooth growth, eruption, and anatomy; head and neck anatomy, and physiology of the body. Form and function of individual teeth, occlusion, oral pathology, diet and nutrition, relation of oral health to general health, microbiology, disease control and dental pharmacology.

DA 60 Dental Materials (3)

3 hours lecture - 1 hour laboratory

Prerequisite: Admission to the Dental Assisting Program

Note: Graded only

Chemical properties and uses of dental materials and solutions; manipulative techniques and methods of preparation.

DA 65 Dental Practice Management (2)

2 hours lecture - 1 hour laboratory

Prerequisite: Admission to the Dental Assisting Program

Note: Graded only

Reception and care of the patient in the dental office, communication skills, telephone techniques, appointment scheduling, dental records (charting health and dental history), filing, recalls, bookkeeping, accounts receivable and accounts payable, purchasing inventory, principles of and use of insurance forms and collections.

DA 70 Dental Radiography I (2.5)

2 hours lecture - 1 1/2 hours laboratory

Prerequisite: Admission to the Dental Assisting Program

Note: Graded only

Theory and technique of oral radiography, radiation hygiene, anatomical landmarks, and methods and materials for processing radiographs. The laboratory portion will provide the student with knowledge concerning film placement, cone angulation, exposing and developing radiographs, and mounting and evaluating processed films.

DA 71 Dental Radiography II (5)
 1½ hours laboratory

Prerequisite: A minimum grade of 'C' in DA 50 and 70, and proof of Hepatitis B Immunization; and EME 55 or current BLS for Healthcare Providers Certificate

Note: Graded only

Advanced experience regarding film placement, cone angulation, exposing and developing radiographs, mounting and evaluating films to further enhance the student's patient management skills.

DA 75 Dental Operative Procedures (5)
 3 hours lecture-6 hours laboratory

Prerequisite: Admission to the Dental Assisting Program

Note: Graded only

Applications of and introduction to preclinical dental assisting in operative and specialty dental procedures, care of equipment, instrumentation, sterilization techniques, disease transmission, charting, utilization of dental materials, dental office emergencies, and functions delegated to the California Registered Dental Assistant.

DA 82 Preventive Dentistry I (1)
 1 hour lecture-1 hour laboratory

Prerequisite: Admission to the Dental Assisting Program

Note: Graded Only

This course teaches laboratory and clinical applications of coronal polishing, periodontics, preventive dentistry and placement of pit and fissure sealants.

DA 83 Preventive Dentistry II (5)
 2 hours laboratory

Prerequisite: A minimum grade of 'C' in DA 50, DA 82, proof of Hepatitis B Immunization, and current BLS for Healthcare Providers Certificate

Note: Pass/No Pass grading only

Application of concepts and skills from DA 82. Emphasis is on the coronal polishing procedure and pit and fissure sealants as applied to clinical patients.

DA 85 Advanced Dental Procedures (4)
 2 hours lecture-6 hours laboratory

Prerequisite: A minimum grade of 'C' in DA 50, 60 and 75, and proof of Hepatitis B Immunization; and EME 55 or current BLS for Healthcare Providers Certificate

Note: Graded only

Advanced laboratory and clinical experience focusing on basic skills previously learned. Emphasis is placed on 1) clinical use of impression materials for obtaining study models, 2) pouring and trimming plaster and stone models, 3) fabrication of custom trays for preliminary impressions, 4) fabrication of provisional restorations, and 5) advanced prosthodontic and orthodontic instruction.

DA 90 Clinical Rotation (6)
 19 hours laboratory/clinical

Prerequisite: A minimum grade of 'C' in DA 50 and 75, and proof of Hepatitis B Immunization; and EME 55 or current BLS for Healthcare Providers Certificate

Note: Pass/No Pass only

An intensive program of practical dental experiences, working with patients and staff at the Camp Pendleton Naval Dental Clinic and/or private dental offices. Students will assist the dentists in specialized and operative procedures and duties delegated to the California licensed Registered Dental Assistant.

DA 97 Dental Assisting Topics (.5 - 4)

Units awarded in topics courses are dependent upon the number of hours required of the student. Any combination of lecture, laboratory, or lecture/laboratory may be scheduled by the department. Refer to Class Schedule.

Note: Pass/No Pass only; may be taken 4 times

Topics in Dental Assisting. See Class Schedule for specific topic offered. Course title will designate subject covered.

Diesel Mechanics Technology (DMT)

Contact the Trade and Industry Department for further information.

(760) 744-1150, ext. 2545

Office: T-1

Associate in Arts Degrees -

AA Degree requirements are listed in Section 6 (green pages).

- Diesel Technology

Certificates of Achievement -

Certificate of Achievement requirements are listed in Section 6 (green pages).

- Diesel Technology

PROGRAM OF STUDY

Diesel Technology

The Diesel Technology program at Palomar College gives the student an opportunity to gain the skills and knowledge needed for success in the challenging field of Diesel Technology, learning about servicing and maintaining diesel powered highway trucks, off-road heavy equipment, and stationary engines. The two-year program which leads to a Certificate of Achievement can also be applied towards an Associate in Arts Degree in Diesel Technology.

A.A. DEGREE MAJOR OR CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Program Requirements		Units
AT 160	Associated Studies in Automotives	3
AT 197	Topics in Automotive	3
DMT 50	Introduction to Diesel Mechanics	4
DMT 54	Heavy-Duty Electricity	4
DMT 55	Heavy-Duty Diesel Tune-Up/Analysis	4
DMT 61	Diesel Engine Rebuilding I	4
DMT 62	Diesel Engine Rebuilding II	4
DMT 65	Air Brake Systems	4
DMT 66	Truck Transmission and Drive Lines	4
IT/WELD 108	Technical Mathematics	3
Electives (Select 6 units)		
AT 105	Automotive Electricity	2
AT 125	Automotive Machining	3
DMT 56	Alternative Fuels	4
DMT 70	Med-Duty Diesel Engine Tune-Up	4
DMT 81	Basic Hydraulics	4
DMT 96	Special Problems in Diesel Technology	.5 - 3
DMT 97	Diesel Mechanics Tech Workshop	.5 - 3
WELD 100	Welding I	3
CE 100	Cooperative Education	1, 2, 3, 4
TOTAL UNITS		43

COURSE OFFERINGS

Courses numbered under 100 are not intended for transfer credit.

DMT 50 Introduction to Diesel Mechanics (4)
 3 hours lecture- 3 hours laboratory

Theory and practice of fundamental skills for the maintenance and operation of basic diesel engines. Topics for study include: basic theory of operation; engine applications; engine lubricating and cooling; intake, exhaust and fuel systems; and electronic control.

DMT 54 Heavy-Duty Electricity (4)
 3 hours lecture- 3 hours laboratory
Note: May be taken 2 times

Heavy-duty electricity systems principles and service. Topics of study include electrical theory, batteries, wiring diagrams, 12V and 24V starters, alternators and electrical troubleshooting, and test equipment.