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## OPPORTUNITY AWAITS

You will experience the joy, gratitude and respect of your patients. You will be a respected, appreciated member of a highly professional team. The work is exacting, especially relating to instrument sterilization, room preparation, instrument passes to the dentist and measuring dental materials. At the same time, you are expected to skillfully manage each patient's anxiety over treatment pain or appearance.

**Dental assistants are a vital part of a dental care community, dedicated to either administrative aspects or clinical functions of a dental office, and serving as an important care bridge between dentists and their patients.**

### Who is the face of DA?

Those who pursue this role should be detail-oriented, high-energy team players; calm under stress; have good manual dexterity; and be able to anticipate others' needs. Many dental assistants continue their education, progressing to higher levels of licensure and certification.



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**DENTAL ASSISTANT**

## Job Outlook



### BRIGHT OUTLOOK

**19% projected growth in employment**

from 2016 to 2026, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

## Job Responsibilities

### Administrative Duties

Dental assistants work on the front lines of operations in a dental office setting, supporting the following areas: Answering phones, discharging patients, maintaining patient records and billing patients.

### Clinical Responsibilities

Dental assistants who primarily serve patients in a chairside role can focus on: Greeting patients, managing patient flow to and from treatment areas, suctioning fluids, presenting instruments and materials to the dentist during treatment, removing sutures, taking x-rays and putting patients at ease.

## Did You Know?

- Most dental assistants work full time during the day, but tenure can offer greater flexibility in this schedule
- Dental assistants are generally paid hourly and are eligible for overtime
- Most employers require a diploma (nine months to one year of training) for entry-level dental assisting roles

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