

Dental Assistant Training

MICROCREDENTIAL



DELIVERY:

Online and hands-on clinical components; 5 sessions over 12 weeks

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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NHTI.edu/btc

This microcredential is for dental assistants who are already working in dental practices and have 400+ hours of chairside experience but not formal training. By completing this microcredential, students earn stackable badges and a verified badge for completing the training.

To address the current workforce demands for trained dental assistants, NHTI's dental assistant training provides a faster, more cost-effective path for dental practices to secure training for dental assistants. The result is more highly trained dental assistants who can increase capacity in dental practices through the online and hands-on clinical training they receive from experienced clinical instructors.

Accurate and Proven Methodology

Upon completion of this microcredential, students will be prepared to take the Radiation Health and Safety exam and, once successfully passed, will have complied with the New Hampshire Board of Dental Examiners (NHBODE) rules. After completing 3,500 hours of on-the-job training at dental practices, dental assistants will then be eligible to take additional Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) testing.

About the Instructors

The instructors are highly qualified, clinical instructors from NHTI's Allied Dental Education program. They are committed to ensuring the integrity of the dental profession by producing professionally trained dental assistants that are knowledgeable of and in compliance with the N.H. Board of Dental Examiners rules.

Microcredential Topics and Schedule

Session 1 POI/Introduction to Dental Assisting

This course is designed to prepare dental assistants to perform a preliminary oral inspection (PIO) on patients and includes taking

medical and dental histories, obtaining and reading vital signs, basic oral anatomy and terminology, and dental charting. CEUs: 6 hours

Prerequisites and required documents: Employment Verification Form confirming 400 hours of chair-side experience

Session 2 Infection Control Practice

Course topics include barrier techniques, limiting contamination, hand washing, handling of sharps, sterilization, disinfection, and disposal of waste materials. CEUs: 6 hours

Session 3 Techniques in Radiology for the Dental Assistant

Online lectures and demonstrations are coordinated with lab practice on manikins and patients to develop mastery of digital dental radiographic techniques, including mounting and evaluating images. Emphasis is placed on patient and operator protection and equipment function. CEUs: 12 hours

Prerequisites and required documents: Completion of POI and ICP courses; proof of liability insurance

Session 4 Individual Excellence

This course teaches 12 vital career-enhancing skills to establish a clear career path and use skills like interpersonal communication and time management to achieve goals. Students learn how to use creativity and problem-solving skills to work through adversity. 24 course hours

Session 5 Career Pathways and Exam Prep for Dental Assistants

This course will cover the legal requirements set forth by the NH Board of Dental Examiners (NHBODE), career options and how to become qualified in other areas, and study and exam preparation for the DANB Radiology Health and Safety exam. 4 course hours

Prerequisites and required documents: Employment Verification Form confirming 400 hours of chair-side experience; completion of radiology course approved by NHBODE

NHTI – Concord's Community College

NHTI is a dynamic public institution of higher learning that provides accessible, rigorous education for students, businesses, and the community. We create pathways for lifelong learning, career advancement, and civic engagement, offering 80+ academic programs to 4,600+ students annually. NHTI is a member of the Community College System of New Hampshire and since 1969 has been accredited by the New England Commission of Higher Education, a nongovernmental, nationally recognized accrediting agency.

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