



Dental Assistant

Youth Apprenticeship

DENTAL ASSISTANT

Dental Assistant youth apprentices prepare patients, sterilize, or disinfect instruments, set up instrument trays, prepare materials, and assist the dentist during dental procedures.

Length of Apprenticeship: One or two years

OCCUPATIONAL COMPETENCIES

Youth apprentices work with a job site mentor to demonstrate the following competencies.

Year 1: Youth apprentices must complete a **total of 9** competencies. **Eight** must be from the list below. If necessary, employers can substitute **1** competency with another occupationally appropriate skill. That skill should be added to the competency list for assessment.

Year 2: Youth apprentices must complete a **total of 9** competencies. **Eight** must be from the list below. If necessary, employers can substitute **1** competency with another occupationally appropriate skill. Those skills should be added to the competency list for assessment.

YEAR 1 Occupational Competencies	YEAR 2 Occupational Competencies
1. Use standard precautions and infection prevention strategies	1. Complete lab forms
2. Create and maintain client records	2. Apply topical anesthetic to the injection site
3. Assist to maintain emergency kit	3. Assist with common clinical procedures
4. Clean removable appliances	4. Chart dental conditions
5. Prepare procedural trays and set-ups	5. Transfer dental instruments
6. Perform sterilization and disinfection procedures	6. Operate water and air syringe and suction
7. Prepare room for procedures	7. Process dental radiographs
8. Receive and prepare client for treatment	8. Assist to evaluate radiographs for diagnostic quality
9. Provide client education and instructions	9. Mix dental materials

POST-SECONDARY PATHWAY OPPORTUNITIES

There are several post-secondary pathway opportunities in this area. The following is a partial list.

- Dental Assistant
- Dental Hygienist