



District of Columbia (Washington, D.C) Dental Assistant Requirements

Certification or approved/accredited training is not required for entry-level Dental Assistant jobs. MedCerts graduates set themselves apart in a competitive job market by demonstrating to employers that they hold the knowledge and skills required for job - as proven through graduation and certification.

There are often additional job titles recognized by each state's board of Dentistry, each having requirements different from what is shown below. The most closely associated job title for qualified MedCerts graduates is shown within this document. For simplification and display purposes, the shortest or simplest pathway to eligibility as a MedCerts graduate is shown along with any additional requirements beyond program completion and/or certification.

Applicants are encouraged to visit the [DC Board of Dentistry](#) for additional information.

Immediate Eligibility & Scope of Practice



Is dental assisting certification REQUIRED for entry level? NO

Entry Level District of Columbia Dental Assistant Job Title: Level I Dental Assistant¹

Will I be eligible for certification after completing my program through MedCerts? YES

- MedCerts' Dental Assistant program has been reviewed and is approved by the American Medical Technologists (AMT) board, which upon completion qualifies the graduate to attempt the Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) Certification Exam.²

Can I take dental X-rays? No. In DC, Level II Dental Assistants are permitted to take dental x-rays^{3,5}

What else can I do as a District of Columbia Level I Dental Assistant? Each state develops their own State Practice Act which defines the allowable duties by title.⁴

Post-Graduate/In-Field Career Advancement Opportunities

DC Level II Dental Assistant⁵

- Complete DC-approved 24-hour dental radiography training program
- Complete DANB CDA (Certified Dental Assistant) certification

Links/Resources

1. [DC Level I Dental Assistant \(Sec. 9003.1\)](#)
2. [AMT RDA Certification Disclaimer: This is an accredited AMT-certification. This does not equate to DC dental assistant designations as defined in District of Columbia.](#)
3. [Radiation Certification \(Sec. 9005\)](#)
4. [State Practice Act \(Sec 9004\)](#)
5. [DC Level II Dental Assistant \(Sec. 9003.2\)](#)



This program is widely accepted in this state



This program has some state restrictions to consider before enrolling



This program has many restrictions or is not accepted in this state