

New Mexico 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 [New Mexico State Board of Dental Health Care](#) for additional information.

Immediate Eligibility & Scope of Practice



Is dental assisting certification REQUIRED for entry level? NO

Entry Level New Mexico Dental Assistant Job Title: 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? YES, after completing New Mexico state-certification requirements.³

What else can I do as a NM 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

Dental Assistant with State Certification in Expanded Functions⁵

- Complete training requirements in specific expanded functions as defined by NM Statutes
- Pass required certifications expanded duties
- Pass New Mexico Jurisprudence exam
- And perform duties as directed by licensed professional while under observation

Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary (EFDA)⁶

- Complete NM-approved EFDA course and all additional requirements as described in NM statutes.

Links/Resources

1. [NM Dental Assistant \(Sec. 16.5.39.8\)](#)
2. [AMT RDA Certification Disclaimer: This is an accredited AMT-certification. This does not equate to the dental assistant or dental auxiliary designations as defined in New Mexico.](#)
3. [Dental Radiography \(Sec. 16.5.33.9\)](#)
4. [NM State Practice Act](#)
5. [Dental Assistant with State Certification in Expanded Functions \(Sec. 16.5.33.10&11\)](#)
6. [Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary \(Sec. 16.5.33.12\)](#)



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