

# Rhode Island 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 [Rhode Island Board of Dental Examiners](#) for additional information.

## Immediate Eligibility & Scope of Practice



**Is dental assisting certification REQUIRED for entry level? NO**

**Entry Level Rhode Island Dental Assistant Job Title:** Dental Assistant<sup>1</sup>

**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.<sup>2</sup>

**Starting Day 1:** Maintain American Heart Association (AHA) CPR<sup>3</sup>

**Can I take dental X-rays? YES,** after completing a RI-approved course in dental radiology.<sup>4 5</sup>

**What else can I do as a RI Dental Assistant?** Each state develops their own State Practice Act which defines the allowable duties by title.<sup>6</sup>

### Post-Graduate/In-Field Career Advancement Opportunities

*Certified Dental Assistant<sup>7</sup>*

- Pass DANB national certifications (Certified Dental Assistant-CDA or others)

*DAANCE Certified Maxillofacial Surgery Assistant<sup>8</sup>*

- Complete an accredited program for Dental Anesthesia Assistants National Certification
- Gain DAANCE Certification
- Hold Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)

### Links/Resources

1. [RI Dental Assistant \(2.10.2 \(A\)\(4\)\)](#)
2. [AMT RDA Certification Disclaimer: This is an accredited AMT-certification. This does not equate to the Certified DA or DAANCE designations as defined in Rhode Island.](#)
3. [American Heart Association CPR](#)
4. [Dental Radiography \(2.10.3 \(A\)\(11\)\)](#)
5. [Dental Radiography \(Option\)](#)
6. [Rhode Island Practice Act](#)
7. [CDA \(2.10.2 \(A\)\(2\)\)](#)
8. [DAANCE \(Sec 2.8.1\)](#)



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