Why study to become a Dental Assistant?

The Dental Assisting program prepares students for work as a valuable member of the dental health care team. Dental Assisting students have access to the most modern equipment and will learn advanced treatment techniques.

Does OCC offer a Dental Assisting Certificate?

Yes. A new partnership with Rutgers University – School of Health Related Professions (SHRP) will allow OCC students to earn a Dental Assisting Certificate by completing (10) credits in prerequisite courses at OCC and take the remaining (26) clinical credits at Rutgers SHRP – Scotch Plains campus. The professional phase is a 10-month full-time program.

Do I need to be a resident of Ocean County to enter the program?

Yes. To participate, a student must be a resident of Ocean County and complete a minimum of ten (10) credits in residence at OCC.

What are the prerequisite courses needed to apply?

Prior to being admitted into the 10-month professional sequence at Rutgers SHRP, students will be required to complete the following prerequisite courses at OCC (10 credits):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General Education Requirements</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BIOL130 - Anatomy &amp; Physiology I*</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL151 - English I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSYC172 - General Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Students must complete BIOL 130 with a grade of “C” or higher, prior to the start of the Dental Assisting coursework in January; additionally, BIOL 130 must be completed within the five years prior to beginning the Dental assisting coursework.
Is there a minimum requirement to be accepted into the program?

Yes. Students must complete ten (10) credits in general education courses with a grade of “C” or higher prior to beginning the Dental Assisting professional coursework. Also, students must demonstrate that they hold a high school diploma or GED.

How far is the commute to Rutgers SHRP?

The commute time to the Scotch Plains campus is approximately one hour (59 miles) from Toms River and is 5 miles west of exit 135 of the Garden State Parkway.

Is there a deadline to apply?

The application deadline for the professional component of the Dental Assisting Certificate is April 1st.

How do I apply?

Start by applying to Ocean County College and enroll in prerequisite courses. Complete and submit the Student Information Sheet for Dental Assisting Certificate.