

## Testimonials

“As a Dental Assisting student at College of San Mateo, I highly recommend this program to anyone who is looking for a new direction in their career. The curriculum and hands-on training are preparing me with the knowledge that I will need to begin my career path. My teachers are very knowledgeable, and show an incredible amount of encouragement and support along the way.”

–Cathy Kuehnis, *Present Student*

“CSM’s Dental Assisting Program has an outstanding reputation. The labs are small which provides plenty of time to practice the skills you are learning and get individualized attention. Upon graduation, you will be prepared to find employment in a variety of dental specialties and become licensed.”

–Allison Friedlander, *Present Student*

“College of San Mateo offers a wonderful Dental Assisting Program that fully prepares you for a great career in the healthcare field. The in-depth hands-on training gave me the confidence and skill level needed to become an efficient registered dental assistant. The instructors were very helpful and friendly, which made the curriculum fun and easy to understand.”

–Yvette Arguello, *Past Student*



## About College of San Mateo

College of San Mateo is located at the northern corridor of Silicon Valley and situated on a beautiful 153-acre site in the San Mateo hills that provides a panoramic view of San Francisco Bay. Since 1922, CSM has been a gateway to higher education leading to university transfer, career preparation and advancement, and professional and personal development.



The College currently serves approximately 10,000 day, evening and weekend students. CSM students reflect the diversity of the Bay Area and have a range of educational goals. To best serve our students, the curriculum offers a wealth of programs that include traditional, semester-length and short courses in addition to distance learning options.

Students can experience a vibrant campus life to complement classroom learning and will find there are many ways to participate in the life of the college. CSM has more than 30 student clubs and organizations that provide an opportunity to be involved with other students in activities related to majors, special interests, cultures or community service. The college also offers a full calendar of athletic, educational and cultural activities throughout the year.

To ensure student success, CSM offers a comprehensive selection of academic and student support services. Resources include financial aid and scholarships, counseling, transfer services, tutoring, employment assistance, health services and child care.

We invite visitors to the campus to schedule a tour, please go to [collegeofsanmateo.edu/tour](http://collegeofsanmateo.edu/tour). Also, we encourage you to visit [collegeofsanmateo.edu/contactcsm](http://collegeofsanmateo.edu/contactcsm) with any questions.



**College of San Mateo**  
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[collegeofsanmateo.edu](http://collegeofsanmateo.edu)

Michael Claire, *CSM President*

**Board of Trustees - San Mateo County Community College District**  
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# Dental Assisting Program



College of San Mateo



## Introduction

The Dental Assisting Program has existed at College of San Mateo for more than 50 years, offering you an opportunity to earn a comfortable living while providing dental health services to a wide variety of patients.

In just two semesters, you can graduate with a Certificate in Dental Assisting—prepared to pass the licensing examinations and then ready to enter a rewarding job market.

Additionally, you can obtain an associate in science degree in dental assisting by completing certificate and general education courses (60 units) with a minimum of a “C” average in the major.

## Special Notes

- CSM offers a dental radiology course that allows the student to obtain a California Radiology license in only one semester. CSM is the only college in the county that offers a one semester radiology course.
- CSM’s Dental Assisting Program offers X-rays (full-mouth surveys) by appointment for \$25 for patients who obtain written permission from their dentists.

## The Program

CSM’s Dental Assisting Program is the only accredited program in San Mateo County.

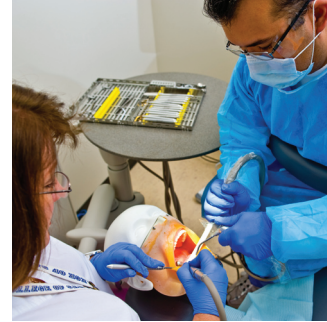
As someone who has earned a high school degree or its equivalent, you may attend full-time or part-time. Classes are offered during the day in CSM’s fall and spring semesters.

Upon completion of CSM’s Dental Assisting Program, you will be fully prepared to sit for both the State (Registered Dental Assistant) and National (Certified Dental Assistant) examinations. CSM students’ pass rate is 85 percent.

Starting salaries for dental assistants are excellent and job availability and stability high.

The approximate cost for program materials and supplies is \$2,500–3,000.

Another requirement is that all dental assisting students obtain and stay current with certain vaccinations and lab tests. Please be aware that this career involves exposure to bloodborne pathogens and diseases.



## Getting Started

Becoming a student in CSM’s Dental Assisting Program at CSM is fast and easy.

### Step 1

Apply to the College to be admitted as a student. If you have been a student at CSM, Cañada or Skyline College in the past two semesters, you are already an active student. If not, you will need to reapply for admission at [collegeofsanmateo.edu/apply](http://collegeofsanmateo.edu/apply).

### Step 2

Once admitted, you will need to take the CSM’s English Placement Test. The testing schedule varies from semester to semester. Please check the current schedule of classes for the most recent testing dates and times.

### Step 3

Enroll in classes. The dental assisting classes are listed in CSM’s Schedule of Classes under “Dental Assisting.” Visit “Schedule Options” at [collegeofsanmateo.edu/dental](http://collegeofsanmateo.edu/dental) assisting to help you decide which schedule is right for you. You may sign up for all of the classes if you would like to be a full time student, or a few classes if you would like to be a part-time student.

### Step 4

For guidance, or if you have additional questions, please contact the Director of Dental Assisting Colleen Kirby-Banas at (650) 574-6211 or [kirbyc@smccd.edu](mailto:kirbyc@smccd.edu).

## Questions

CSM’s Dental Assisting Program has numerous ways to be contacted.

**Dental Assisting Phone Number:** (650) 574-6212

During holiday or summer breaks the phone has a voicemail system which is checked by the program director one or two times per week. Please leave a message and the director will contact you.

**Location on Campus:** Health and Wellness Building 5, Third Floor

**Dental Assisting Fax Number:** (650) 574-6325

**Program Director E-mail Address:** [kirbyc@smccd.edu](mailto:kirbyc@smccd.edu)