

Target Group:



Occupational Profile

Dental Assistant

Standard Occupational Code 31-9091.00

What They Do

Assist dentists, set up equipment, prepare patient for treatment, and keep records.

Is This For You?

Work Interests are described in the following categories (compatible with Holland's Model). People who tend to succeed in this career are:

Conventional – Enjoy following a set of procedures and routines with a clear line of authority to follow. May include working with data and details more than ideas.

Realistic - Enjoy work activities that involve practical, hands-on problems and solutions.

Social - Enjoy working with, communicating with, and teaching people. They like helping or providing service to others.

Work Values are aspects of work that are satisfying to you. The following work values are generally associated with this career:

Relationships - Allow employees to provide service to others and work with co-workers in a friendly non-competitive environment.

Support – Offer supportive management that stands behind employees.

Working Conditions – Offer job security and good working conditions.

Abilities reflect a person's aptitude to acquire skills and knowledge. The following abilities are important for success in the career:

- Oral Comprehension
- Near Vision
- Oral Expression
- Speech Recognition
- Written Comprehension
- Arm-Hand Steadiness

Skills You Need

- Active Listening
- Reading Comprehension
- Speaking
- Critical Thinking
- Service Orientation
- Active Learning
- Monitoring
- Social Perceptiveness

Education & Training

Dental assistants require a **Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) Certificate**. They must also be registered by the South Dakota Board of Dentistry as a dental assistant.

SD Employment & Wages

2012 Workers	2022 Workers	Numeric Change	Percent Change	Average Annual Demand for Workers	Median Annual Wage
865	975	110	12.7%	29	\$32,200

Additional References

South Dakota Career InSite

www.sdjobs.org/careerinsite

Career OneStop

www.careeronestop.org

O*Net Online

online.onetcenter.org

Requirements for the National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC)

	Median Skill Level
Applied Mathematics	3
Reading for Information	4
Locating Information	4

Where They Work

The South Dakota Industries which employ the largest number of dental assistants are:

- Offices of Dentists
- Federal Government
- State Government
- General Medical and Surgical Hospitals
- Local Government

Visit www.sdjobs.org/lmic/occprofiles to obtain the most recent workforce data and trends. Also available are explanations of the terms used for work interests, work values, abilities, and skills sections of occupational profiles.