



STEM Careers

Dental Assistant

Job Description: Uses math and science to assist Dentists with equipment set-up, patient care, and record keeping.

What does a Dental Assistant do?

- Cleans patient's teeth and preps patients to visit with the dentist.
- Sterilizes and cleans equipment.
- Keeps detailed records on each patient organized and up to date.
- Teaches patients about oral hygiene and instructs patients in post-operative care.
- Assists dentists in medical emergencies.

Your Interests:

- Do you like working with people?
- Do you like helping others, especially in emergencies?
- Do you like organizing and planning?
- Do you have good communication skills?

Outlook: **Bright**

Average Salary - \$16.42 hourly, \$34,140 annual

Projected Job Openings - 154,000 over the next 10 years

Education/Program of Study:

- Training in vocational schools, Related on the job training, or Associate's Degree

Sources:

O*NET Online

<http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/31-9091.00>