The Dental Assistant Certificate of Achievement is designed to prepare students to work successfully as a member of a dental team. Dental Assistants can work in various settings, such as dental offices of general dentists and dental specialists, dental schools, private and government hospitals and clinics, state, and local public departments. Dental Assisting is an entry-level career in the dental field.

Dental Assistants work as team members along with dentists and dental hygienists and perform a variety of patient care, front office, and laboratory duties. Assistants prepare patients for treatment and examinations and assure supplies, dental records, and instruments are ready for use by the dentists. Assistants also prepare patients for x-rays, take x-rays, process films, sterilize and disinfect instruments and equipment, take impressions, and instruct patients in post-treatment care.

Classes can be taken in any order and a CPR certificate (BLS for Health Care providers with American Heart Association/Red Cross Healthcare Provider) must be taken prior to starting DA 3A. Current required vaccinations will be explained once classes are started and are required to be completed before starting WKEXP 19/DA 19 are scheduled Tuesday/Thursday evenings and Saturdays.

The Certificate of Achievement requires completion of the major (9 units) with a “C” or better grade in each course.