What can a career in Dental Assisting offer you?

Service to Others • Future Opportunities • Variety and Responsibility

What does a dental assistant do?
• Assists the dentist with a variety of treatment procedures—works with dental instruments and materials
• Helps patients feel comfortable before, during and after dental treatment
• Takes and processes x-rays
• Prepares and sterilizes instruments and equipment
• Communicates with patients, other health professionals, dental suppliers, business contacts and insurers
• Performs a variety of office management tasks

Where do dental assistants work?
• Dental offices of general dentists and dental specialists
• Dental schools
• Private and government hospitals and clinics
• State and local public health departments

What training is needed?
• College-level education is encouraged, but careers can begin without college-level courses through on-the-job-training in a dental office or high school work study programs
• There are approximately 270 ADA accredited dental assisting education programs in community and technical colleges in U.S., a minimum of one academic year in length

What are future opportunities?
• The demand is currently excellent
• Flexible work schedules are often available
• Dental assisting offers excellent career opportunities for nontraditional students including individuals who are over 23 years of age and those seeking a career change
• Compensation depends on responsibilities, geographic location and other factors

To request the brochure Dental Assisting: Something to Smile About—Careers in the Dental Profession call 312.440.2390 or email skoogb@ada.org

Visit ada.org/careers for more information.
Or contact the American Dental Assistants Association at dentalassistant.org or 312.541.1550