Vancouver Community College’s (VCC) Certified Dental Assisting program is optionally offered in a distance delivery format. Term 1’s clinical course focuses primarily on the chairside dental assisting aspects of practice, while terms 2 and 3 build on certified skills and independent practice.

Theory courses are offered through independent study with tutor support via telephone, skype or email. Theory courses are presented by the MOODLE learning management site with learning activities, self-assessments, study questions and assignments. Final exams are offered monthly at VCC or can be supervised (student arranged) off-site. Clinical courses are taught in modern clinical facilities shared with other VCC dental programs.

Upon completion of the program, graduates are eligible to write the national Dental Assisting Board examination, required for registration and certification as a practising Certified Dental Assistant with the College of Dental Surgeons of BC.

Most graduates find employment in private practice dental offices (including specialty practice) and clinics. Opportunities also exist for Certified Dental Assistants in university, college and hospital settings, public health and dental sales positions.

Program information
- Credentials: Certificate
- Length: 1.5-5 years, part-time, self-paced
- Start: Continuous intake

Program admission requirements
- Grade 12 or equivalent
- Either Biology 11 or Biology 12 (human biology recommended)
- English 12 with a B and proof of English language proficiency*

Upon acceptance the following will be required:
- Criminal record check**
- Proof of a negative TB skin test or chest xray
- Signed agreement with a dental office offering a minimum of 14 hours per week of dental assisting experience

*Students who have completed the College of Dental Surgeons of B.C. Radiography Certificate are exempt from this requirement.

**The College of Dental Surgeons of B.C. may not register or license any individual who has been convicted of an indictable offense.

More information
Contact Program Advising:
By phone: 604.871.7000, option 2
In person: 1155 E. Broadway, or 200-block Dunsmuir at Hamilton

For the most up-to-date program info, check vcc.ca.