Dental Assisting

TWO-YEAR PROGRAM - 900-hour program

- Perform digital x-rays, chair-side assistance, and use advanced instrumentation and technology to work alongside a dental professional
- Develop the passion for making a difference by educating adults and children on the importance of oral health and hygiene
- Take impressions, make dental models, and create whitening trays

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS*

- Current Sophomore, Junior, and Senior students may apply
- One credit of English with a C or better
- One credit of Science with a C or better
- Students who do not meet program requirements may apply under a "Student Success Action Plan" through their high school counselor.
- Copy of unofficial transcript
- Proof of residency in West-MEC district boundaries due
- Immunizations must be up-to-date/no exemptions
- All required course hours must be completed within each semester. Limited makeup hours available

*Program requirements are subject to change per industry age restrictions, certification requirements, and administrative discretion.

Meeting application criteria does not guarantee enrollment.

COST REQUIREMENTS

Upon acceptance into the program:

- $125.00 non-refundable registration fee includes enrollment processing, supplies, leadership development, & uniform shirts. Other uniforms/supply requirements are the responsibility of the student.
- The dress code is reviewed annually to meet professional industry standards. Dress code requirements will be addressed before the start of classes.
- After Early Graduation, Graduation or GED completion, registration fee and tuition will apply*.

*Details regarding additional tuition costs are available here

INDUSTRY CERTIFICATION

TESTS SCHEDULED & FEES PREPAID BY WEST-MEC

- This industry credential is required for employment in the field most of the time.
  - Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) Radiation Health and Safety Certification
  - American Heart Association CPR/AED
  - American Dental Association (ADA) HIPAA Compliance Training Completer
  - Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) - Coronal Polish

CAREER PATHWAYS

- Dental assistant, orthodontic assistant, dental hygienist*, general dentistry*, orthodontist*, oral surgeon*, periodontist*, endodontist*, prosthodontist*, CTE teacher*
- Entry-level salary range: $13.91 - $20.34 per hour**

  *with additional education in this pathway  |  **Bureau of Labor Statistics, Occupational Employment & Wages

Program information may change as West-MEC strives to provide the best opportunities for students. Refer to www.west-mec.edu for most current information. Program is taught by industry certified instructors. West-MEC does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability in admission to its programs, services, or activities, in access to them, in treatment of individuals, or in any aspect of their operations.

Revised 9/8/2021
Dental Assisting

LOCATION & HOURS

West-MEC Northwest Campus:
13201 W. Grand Avenue
Surprise, AZ 85374
623.877.6914

Monday - Friday
1st Year:  4:00 PM – 6:30 PM
2nd Year: 1:00 PM – 3:30 PM
(Transportation provided by the student/parent)

West-MEC Southwest Campus:
500 N Verrado Way
Buckeye AZ 85326
623.872.6260

Monday - Friday
1st Year:  4:00 PM – 6:30 PM
2nd Year:  1:00 PM – 3:30 PM

NOTE: West-MEC & high school calendars may not align

ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

- West-MEC programs are competitive.
- Students may only be enrolled in one West-MEC Central Program at a time.
- The order for filling seats by grade level is as follows:
  - Current sophomores
  - Current juniors*
  - Current seniors*
- Applications are ranked, in part, by attendance, GPA, discipline, and career choice (ECAP)
- Copy of birth certificate and immunizations due at the time of registration
- Program hours are not excused for participation in extracurricular activities, athletics, or employment.
- West-MEC priority application submission date is in February. Contact your school counselors for your school’s application deadline.
- West-MEC provides accommodations and modifications identified in the IEP/504 for high school students. Students who graduate from high school or have a GED will not be eligible for IEP services. Graduated students will need to self-advocate for reasonable accommodations that are aligned to industry certifications.

STUDENT SUCCESS INDICATORS

- History of good attendance and discipline, and on track for graduation
- Strong interest in a chosen career pathway
- Completed or enrolled in Biology preferred
- Strong hand-eye coordination with fine motor skills and stamina
- Manual dexterity and physical ability to use tools, equipment, and machinery
- Ability to get along with other students and cooperate with instructor
- Ability to work accurately/follow procedures to an industry-standard
- Strong technical reading and study skills; the textbook for this course is written at the college reading level

GRADING SCALE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percent</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>90%-100%</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>80%-89%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>70%-79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>60%-69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59% or below</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

CREDITS ISSUED BY WEST-MEC

- High School - 6 elective credits (3 elective credits per year; high school credits are awarded each semester)
- This program satisfies the AZ university admissions requirement. (AZ Board of Regents CTE/Fine Arts credit)

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