

Welcome to Futuro Health! Where the Future of Care Begins

The Dental Assistant Program



The Student Journey:

What you Need to Know



I'm Ro! I'll be your guide!

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About Futuro Health

Futuro Health is a new non-profit organization established through a commitment of \$130 million from Kaiser Permanente and SEIU-United Healthcare Workers West (SEIU-UHW). Our mission is to increase the wealth and health of all communities by growing the largest network of credentialed allied healthcare workers in the nation, starting in California. We believe that investing in education, skills training, and retraining results in better paying jobs for workers, better care for patients, and better workers for employers to hire.

Starting in California and scaling up to additional states, Futuro Health is pursuing a new and affordable education-to-work model. We offer adults who are interested in allied health with career exploration opportunities, education financing options, and support towards a credential or licensure attainment. We do the work to evaluate and pre-select education partners, courses, and programs so that your training is related to the skills and occupations that are in demand.

Our goal is to graduate 10,000 new licensed and/or credentialed allied healthcare workers by 2024. We want you to be one of them. Futuro Health is committed to your success, and we are excited to be a part of your education and career journey! Are you ready?

The Futuro Health Difference



The healthcare field provides many opportunities for people interested in being of service to others. Futuro Health can help you take your first (or next) step in the world of healthcare in a variety of ways. We offer student support, education financing, and the interpersonal "Human Touch Healthcare[™], skills training to ensure that you have the best experience during your education and throughout your career. We also connect you to a large network of healthcare workers (SEIU-UHW) who can support you through your studies and into your first (or next job) in the healthcare industry. For all these reasons, we hope you agree that Futuro Health is a great opportunity for you!

Student Support

Futuro health provides you with a support coach to help guide you along your education journey. We call them Futuro Health Navigators. For many adults, it has been a while since they have last been in school, and while some things have stayed the same, other aspects of being a student have changed.

Preparing for a career in healthcare will require time and commitment from you and the support of those around you. Your Futuro Health Navigator can guide you on how to talk with your family or supervisor, how to apply and get enrolled, how to make time for your studies, and more.

Once you've enrolled in a program or course, you will receive support from a Futuro Health Navigator or directly from your education provider. They will provide support as you undertake your coursework, including any lab or clinical work, and cheer you on towards attaining your healthcare credential. You are not alone. Outside of your Futuro Health Navigator, you will meet fellow students, current healthcare workers, and future colleagues who also have a passion for



the healthcare field. They can help you think through questions specific to success in your studies as well as how to navigate your healthcare career.

Education Financing

At Futuro Health we believe that cost should not be a barrier to quality education. In recognition of the hardship brought on by the pandemic, Futuro Health is waiving tuition cost for all students admitted into a course or program during our first year of operation (2020). This is quite an opportunity for you and allows you to complete your education without taking on significant debt for tuition payments. Space is limited. If you are among the lucky ones invited to take the next step, act quickly to complete the enrollment steps and relay your commitment to your Navigator. Note that while tuition is waived, there are still small out-of-pocket student costs to consider. See <u>"Program Specific Cost"</u> section for more information.

Human Touch Healthcare Skills

Healthcare employers report that students who have strong interpersonal or "soft" skills do better on the job. As part of your journey towards earning your credential, we will help you be more competitive for high demand allied health jobs by developing your interpersonal Human Touch Healthcare skills. The Human Touch Healthcare training is designed to make you proficient in skills such as communication, teamwork and collaboration, cultural competence, emotional intelligence, ethics and integrity, and more. Development of soft skills is highly valued when working with patients and care teams -- and essential for in-person and telehealth interactions with patients. Employers tell us that excellent soft skills are often the difference between a good employee and a GREAT employee.

Our Partners

Our list of partners continues to grow everyday as we look for organizations who are good at what they do. Visit <u>Our Partners page</u> for the most updated list of partners.



What is Allied Health?

The Allied Health sector includes a wide range of clinical, administrative, and support positions -- from Licensed Vocational or Practical Nurses (LVN/LPNs) to Medical Assistants (MA's) and Health information technicians. The services that allied healthcare workers provide are critical to the care team and the patients they serve. Whether you are interested in working directly with patients or working behind the scenes, there are many career options available in the allied health field.

Why Allied Health?

2.3 million new Healthcare Workers to be hired in the U.S. by 2025.

By 2030, California's population is projected to reach 44.1 million, and the total number of adults 65 years of age and older is projected to grow from 5 million in 2014 to 8.6 million in 2030. ⁽¹⁾

The U.S. will need to hire 2.3 million new healthcare workers by 2025 in order to adequately take care of its aging population. But a persistent shortage of skilled workers will mean hundreds of thousands of positions will remain unfilled. ⁽²⁾

⁽¹⁾ Employment Development Department, ⁽²⁾ EMSI

Demand of Allied Healthcare Workers

65K+ Annual Demand for Allied Health workers in California.

There is an expected annual demand for 65K+ allied healthcare workers in California through 2024, resulting in a total of ~500K new workers by then.⁽¹⁾ The supply of allied health professionals has been shrinking over the past five years and is projected to continue shrinking through 2024.⁽²⁾

⁽¹⁾ Employment Development Department, ⁽²⁾ EMSI

What if English Is Not My Primary Language?

Allied health professionals need clear and concise communication skills to work with and meet the needs of patients, doctors, nurses, and the rest of the care team. If you indicated that English is not your primary language spoken at home while completing your Futuro Health profile, you will be prompted to complete a set of questions to determine your eligibility for the English Readiness for Allied Health course. We can initially serve Spanish speakers, but plan to add more courses over time to the catalog. Employers are looking for bilingual speakers so do take advantage of this course to improve your English language skills for the workplace.



Student Orientation

As a new student with Futuro Health, some of you will need to complete our student orientation course depending on which program or course you enroll in. This orientation is online and refreshes you on the knowledge, skills, and behaviors that can help you find success in your educational journey. You will also gain tips and tools designed to make you more ready for your educational journey.

Student Agreement

Students enrolled in an education program are required to complete a student agreement. The student agreement outlines student responsibilities and expectations, steps for conflict resolution, and executes an authorization for release/disclosure of information and records.

The Dental Assistant Program

Dental Assistant Overview

Dental assistants are a vital part of the dental team. They are responsible for providing patients with high quality care by performing a variety of office, laboratory, and patient care duties. This usually entails assisting the dentist with patient procedures, including handling instruments, and supplies during the treatment of the teeth, mouth, and gums.

Dental assistants need strong attention to detail, critical thinking skills, the ability to multitask, and strong organizational skills.



Duties of a Dental Assistant

Dental assistants record treatment information in patient records. They operate high-tech dental lab and diagnostic tools including performing dental x-rays; dental impressions; providing patients information on dental hygiene, oral health care, and plaque control programs; collecting and recording patient information; taking dental histories and patient vital signs; assisting the dentist during a dental procedure.

Career Progression

Dental assistants can advance to dental hygienist, laboratory technologist, dental sales, or office manager.

Job Outlook & Salary

Employment in California of dental assistants is projected to increase by 7% from 2019-2029. Ongoing research linking oral health and general health will continue to increase the demand for preventive dental services. There are 44,800 projected job openings for dental assistants in California.

The median annual wage for dental assistants was \$40,080, \$19.79 per hour, in May 2019. The median annual wage for in California was \$43,280, \$20.81 per hour, with employment of 56,840 dental assistants in May 2019.

Where Do Dental Assistants Work?

Dental assistants typically work in dental offices under the supervision of a dentist. In 2019, approximately 90% of employed dental assistants worked in a dental office.

Qualifications and Eligibility Requirements

What are the Minimum Qualifications for the Dental Assistant Program?

There are minimum qualifications set forth by Futuro Health and our education partners to be eligible for admittance into the Dental Assistant Program. Please read more on minimum and preferred qualifications in the <u>Futuro Health Course Catalog</u>.

What are the Eligibility Requirements for Enrollment in the Dental Assistant Program?

There are enrollment requirements set forth by Futuro Health and our education partners to finalize admittance into the Dental Assistant Program. The following items can cause a candidate to become ineligible if they do not meet or cannot complete the following:

- 1. Be 18 years of age or older.
- 2. Be a California resident.
- 3. Ability to work in the U.S.
 - a. Candidate must be a citizen, permanent resident, or eligible noncitizens of the United States. Documentation of eligibility status may be required.
- 4. Obtain high school diploma or GED prior to program enrollment (details below)

- 5. Complete required enrollment steps of the educational institution, such as completing a FASFA form, initial assessments, and/or orientation.
- 6. Be computer and internet proficient.
- 7. Have home access to reliable high-speed internet
- 8. Have a working computer.
- 9. Be willing to commit 3-4 hours per day (estimated at 20+ hours per week) of study time.
- 10. Ability to commute to Concorde and/or FADE campuses for in person instruction.
- 11. Have no felony conviction on record. (for employment)
- 12. Able to pass drug screening. (for employment)
- 13. Ability to obtain fingerprint clearances, required for certification exam.
- 14. Comfort with managing small amounts of bodily fluids such as blood, saliva, and mucus.
- 15. Ability to stand on your feet for long periods of time.
- 16. Interest in a career that works directly with patients.

Additional Requirements

- Attention to detail.
- Critical thinking skills.

- Ability to multitask.
- Strong organizational skills.

Diploma or GED and Transcripts

As a part of the enrollment process to an education institution for a Dental Assistant Program, you will need to provide two copies of your high school diploma or GED as well as transcripts for any prerequisite coursework you completed to your educational provider.

Candidates who have received their high school diploma or GED credential outside of the United States will need to submit an application through the International Education Resource Foundation (IERF) to complete a credential evaluation. Please contact the admissions office at your assigned education provider for details on which report is required.

Program Details

The dental assistant program prepares you for jobs that are in-demand right now and will provide you with a stepping-stone to many dental careers. The dental assistant program is designed to be completed in approximately 9-10 months.

Financial Aid

You may be requested to complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FASFA) form, as it is required by select education partners. Completing the FAFSA form ensures that you are taking advantage of federal grants, such as the Pell Grant. If you are assigned to an education provider with this requirement and are not willing to complete the form, an appeal must be submitted to Futuro Heath Navigator stating the reasons you will not be completing a FAFSA form.

Student Loan Default

Most education providers require students to be current with existing federal student loans. If you are assigned to an education provider in which you are in loan default, you will not be able to complete your program with that education provider. Your Futuro Health navigator will work with you to explore alternative options, if available.

Program Specific Costs

We know that student debt is a barrier to many who want to start or return to school. Futuro Health is pursuing a new, affordable education-to-work model to ensure that cost is not a barrier in receiving quality education. While we are still evolving this model and the information below is subject to change, here is what you can expect in terms in 2020.

<u>Tuition</u>

At Futuro Health we believe that cost should not be a barrier to quality education. In recognition of the hardship brought on by the pandemic, Futuro Health is waiving tuition cost for all students admitted into a course or program during our first year of operation (2020). A financial aid application may be required for select education providers prior to beginning the Dental Assistant Program.

Registration Fees

All courses and programs have a nonrefundable registration fee which is used to cover administrative costs. The registration fee for the Dental Assistant Program is \$100. These fees are subject to change.

Membership for Education and Training

To ensure that you are successful in navigating the journey ahead, you will be connected to a large network of healthcare workers – through the SEIU-United Healthcare Workers West -- dedicated to making sure that all communities have access to affordable, high-quality care provided by valued and respected caregivers. This community of healthcare professionals will support you through your education and training into your first (or next) job in the healthcare industry. Joining this community costs \$20 per month and is part of your

enrollment process. This is a unique benefit that sets Futuro Health apart and gets you connected to a community of healthcare workers who are dedicated to helping you advance in your career. You will work with your Futuro Health Navigator to complete the payment process.



Credential(s) Earned

Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) Exam

After successfully completing the dental assistant program, students receive a certificate and will be eligible to take the Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) exam for licensure.

To qualify for RDA examinations, candidates must:

• Graduate from a Board-approved RDA educational program

- Complete Board-approved courses in coronal polishing and radiation safety.
- Complete and show proof of completion of a Board-approved course in the <u>Dental</u> <u>Practice Act</u>, as well as an eight (8)-hour course in <u>infection control</u>, completed within five (5) years of application.
- Complete and show proof of completion of a basic life support (BLS) course offered by an instructor approved by the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association.
- Submit fingerprint clearances from both the DOJ and FBI.
- Pass a State computerized RDA General and Law and Ethics Written examination.

Once this process is completed and a candidate is qualified for licensure, a pocket identification card and wall certificate are issued. There is no license fee required for the initial license other than the initial application and examination fees.

How do I keep my license current?

The registered dental assistant license must be renewed every two years. Satisfactory completion of twenty-five (25) continuing education units, completion of a renewal form and renewal payment are required for license renewal. You can find more information on license requirements <u>here</u>.

Failure to Complete or Pass a Program or Course

The Futuro Health team is rooting for you to succeed. We provide you with the information and support needed to reach your education goals. However, we know that going back to school is an adjustment that may take some trial and error. If you are experiencing an extreme circumstance that requires you to drop or suspend your studies, your situation will be reviewed on case by case basis. Review our policy below as it applies to program and course completion:

Education Journey Options

Our catalog includes programs and courses. You are welcome to take more than one course from Futuro Health as long as you meet eligibility requirements. Candidates are also welcomed to participate in courses while enrolled in a program. Futuro Health wants to provide education opportunities to as many students as possible, for this reason candidates can express interest for <u>one program</u> at a time.

Program Completion

If you have recently completed a program with Futuro Health, we encourage you to practice your new skillsets for three years before applying for an additional program. Because we want to offer opportunity to as many people as possible, there will be a 3-year hold on reapplying for another program. Once the 3 years have passed, you will be eligible to reapply to another Futuro Health program.