

# Metro Atlanta TOP JOBS

## HEALTHCARE



## Dental Assistants

**Standard Occupational Classification Code: [319091](#)**

**Also known as:** Certified Dental Assistant (CDA), Certified Registered Dental Assistant, Dental Assistant (DA), Expanded Dental Assistant, Expanded Duty Dental Assistant (EDDA), Oral Surgery Assistant, Orthodontic Assistant, Registered Dental Assistant, Surgical Dental Assistant

### Are you good at ...

- Paying attention to detail?
- Being reliable, responsible, and dependable?
- Keeping your emotions in check?
- Accepting criticism and dealing calmly with high-stress situations?
- Being honest and ethical?

### A Day in the Life

Dental Assistants perform limited duties under the direction of a dentist. They clean and prepare medical instruments and equipment for use. They maintain medical records and explain technical medical information to patients. They operate medical equipment and interview patients to gather medical information. They process billing and schedule patient procedures or appointments. They make and fit patients for assistive devices.

As a Dental Assistant you generally work regular shifts in a dentist's office. You will have to deal with people face-to-face daily and to wear protective gear. You will have work with a group or teams to provide patient care. You need to speak and write clearly in order to convey information effectively. Dental Assistants require the person to be reliable, responsible, and dependable. You must give full attention to what other people are saying taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and not interrupting at inappropriate times. You must monitor and/or assess the performance of yourself, other individual, or organization to make improvement or take corrective actions.

### How do I get into this top job?

The fastest way to obtain this job is to graduate from an ADA accredited dental assisting or dental hygiene program, obtain CPR certification, and pass the exam. Training programs and tests may be expensive, but you might not have to pay for all of it yourself. If you are low income, ask your job coach, career counselor, training program, or workforce development specialist about assisting you with your training expenses. It might be free!



### What they earn in Metro Atlanta:

Entry Wage: **\$13.49**  
Median Wage: **\$17.67**



### What makes this a Top Job?

They're in high demand. The Georgia Dept. of Labor estimates there will be over 600 openings per year through 2026! Additionally, this job pays above average wages.



### Educational Requirement



Some college, no degree



### On-the-Job Training



None



### Related Occupations

Check out these similar careers on O\*NET online:

- [Dental Hygienists](#)
- [Radiologic Technologists and Technicians](#)
- [Critical Care Nurses](#)

## CONTACT US FOR MORE INFORMATION!

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Metro Atlanta Top Jobs is a project of **CareerRise** and **WorkSource Metro Atlanta** (Atlanta, Cobb, DeKalb, Fulton, and Atlanta Regional which serves Cherokee, Clayton, Douglas, Fayette, Gwinnett, Henry, and Rockdale counties).



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