

# Dental Assistant

**Aliases:** Dental Receptionists, Chair-side Assistant, Dental Surgery Assistant, Dental Nurse

**Industry/Sector(s):** Healthcare

## JOB DESCRIPTION <sup>1</sup>

The tasks a Dental Assistant is expected to perform include:

- Supporting dentists to perform dental procedures
- Preparing patients for oral examinations
- Carrying out reception and administration duties

## WORK ENVIRONMENT

- It is not a desk job
- Work from home option is not available
- Part-time jobs maybe available
- Need not handle a team
- Travelling is not a part of this job role

### Working hours

- Companies usually work for 5/6 days a week and 9/10 hours everyday. This may vary from clinic to clinic
- Shift system maybe available

### Is the job suitable for a candidate with special needs?

No

## HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS/RISKS

- This job is considered mildly dangerous or hazardous
- Occupational hazards include damage to vision, injuries to the body and exposure to infectious body fluids such as blood and saliva
- Health risks include loss of memory and fatigue due to high levels of mercury exposure used in dental filling materials

## EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS AND TRAINING <sup>1</sup>

- Minimum –12<sup>th</sup>

- Certified training for Dental Assistant (programme aligned to HSS/Q 2401 released by Healthcare Sector Skill Council)

## KEY COMPETENCIES <sup>1</sup>

- Knowledge of chemical disinfectants used in dental procedures
- Knowledge of selecting and preparing dental equipment, instruments and materials
- Knowledge of preparing and sterilizing required instruments and equipment
- Well versed with pre-procedural rinsing
- Knowledge of how to perform anti-bacterial rinses
- Competent in adjusting the dental chair

## DESIRABLE COMPETENCIES <sup>1</sup>

- Knowledge of dental conditions and their treatment
- Equipped to obtain and record accurate medical/dental histories accurately
- Relevant professional qualifications

## PERSONALITY TRAITS <sup>1</sup>

- Good team player
- Good communication skills
- Patient and calm composure
- Ethical behavior
- Result oriented

## AVAILABLE SKILL TRAINING AND LEARNING INSTITUTES

- Indian Dental Academy
- Government Dental College &Hospital
- Government Dental College And Hospital
- Don Bosco Tech
- Meghna Institute of Dental Sciences

## AVAILABLE SKILL TRAINING SCHEMES/SCHOLARSHIPS

<http://vivohealthcare.com/all-programs/career-oriented-programs/dental-assistant/>

## SAMPLE OF TRAINING AND LEARNING COURSES

- <http://dental.dpu.edu.in/CourseDORA.aspx>
- <http://vivohealthcare.com/wp-content/uploads/pdf/career-oriented/VIVO-Dental-Assistant.pdf>

## CAREER PROGRESSION PATH

**Dental Assistant** → Dental Assistant Instructor → Dental Consultant

### Transfer option

- India: Yes
- Abroad: Yes  
(\*This field to open the relevant job title when clicked)

## EXPECTED EARNINGS <sup>2</sup>

- For freshers - ₹ 8,000 to ₹ 9,500 per month
- For candidates with 1- 3 years' experience - ₹ 9,500 to ₹ 10,500 per month  
(These figures are indicative and subject to change)

## REQUIRED WORK EXPERIENCE <sup>1</sup>

Preferred relevant work experience

## CURRENT MARKET TRENDS <sup>4</sup>

## Growth and Development in the Healthcare Sector in India

Healthcare sector is one of the fastest-growing sectors today in terms of revenue and employment-generation in India. The sector consists of various segments viz. medical devices, hospitals, outsourcing, medical tourism, health insurance, medical equipment, and many more. The sector is broadly divided into two delivery systems –private and public. Government i.e. public healthcare system consists of basic healthcare and primary services in rural areas and limited secondary and tertiary services in cities. Public healthcare on the other hand comprises majority secondary, tertiary services, and quaternary care institutions in metro cities, Tier I and II cities.

One of the biggest advantages that India has over other countries is its cost competitiveness and pool of well-trained and work-ready professionals. Despite its well-developed position, this sector is yet to achieve its full potential. To boost the growth of this sector the government has taken many initiatives. India plans to provide universal healthcare programme to one sixth of the world's population, which will ensure basic health benefits. India had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Sweden about five years ago, which has helped bring in technological advancement in the field of healthcare. SEHAT (Social Endeavour for Health and Telemedicine) will help rural population gain information, knowledge, and other services that will help them come closer to better health benefits in this digital world. National Deworming initiative aims are deworming over 24 crore children between the ages of 1-19.

Apart from government initiatives, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has also helped boost the growth and development of this sector. International companies like IBM, IHH Healthcare Berhad, CDC, FitBit are just some of the players that have invested heavily in the India healthcare market. Many Indian companies also aim at increasing the number of hospitals or care institutes in India. Some of them are also going to add more beds to their existing hospitals in the next few years. These factors will not only help the sector grow, but will also positively affect the job market in India.

## PROBABLE EMPLOYERS

- Dental hospitals across India
- Medical research institutes across India

## JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN INDIA

- Dental clinics
- Public and private hospitals in towns and cities across India

## PEOPLE'S CORNER

Coming Soon

## KEYWORDS

- Dental Receptionists
- Chair-Side Assistant
- Dental Surgery Assistant
- Dental Nurse
- Dental Assistant

## OCCUPATIONAL CODES AND STANDARDS

Standard	Code	Description
NCO 2015	3251.0101	Dental Assistant
ISCO 2008	321	Dental Assistants and Therapists
NIC 2008	86202	Dental practice activities
QP Reference	HSS/ Q 2401	Dental Assistant
NSQF	4	NA

## REFERENCES

1	Qualifications Pack – Dental Assistant
2	<a href="http://www.payscale.com">www.payscale.com</a>
3	Adapted from A Report on Human Resource and Skill Requirements for the Healthcare Services Industry Sector (2022) by NSDC
4	<a href="http://www.ibef.org/industry/healthcare-india.aspx">http://www.ibef.org/industry/healthcare-india.aspx</a>