

# MEET OUR CREW!



Allison

How far are you into the class and how has your experience been?

- I am currently going into week 8, I never thought I could be excited to get up and go to school but every week is a new, exciting skill to learn. I'll be honest, I'm going to be sad when I graduate because it's become a part of my week. I love that it's broken up into lecture and clinical, as it makes for an effective learning style.

What does a typical day in class look like for you? What has been your favorite thing/skill that you have learned so far?

-A typical day for me is getting to school in the morning, Diana immediately asks how my week went and then we begin lecture. After lecture we have a break and then begin clinical and hands on work. I would have to say that my favorite thing thus far has been being able to make my own bleaching tray. From pouring up the model to making the tray itself, is a really interesting process!

Do you think that NDA is adequately preparing you for your new career?

- I think I have a slight advantage over others, as I've worked as a dental assistant previously. I went in with quite a bit of knowledge. I have gained so much more knowledge than I thought I would however. I definitely think that NDA has prepared me to be an exceptional dental assistant.

What was the enrollment process like for you?

-The enrollment process was incredible. I wasn't too sure if I was going to commit to the program at first, but Lindsay answered every question that I had and ultimately won me over with her passion for the program leading me to believe I was going to get a genuine education

How was your instructor? What does she do to help you be successful in class?

-My instructor Diana is out of this world knowledgeable in everything dental assisting. She has been able to answer every question I have and give me tips on how to be a better dental assistant. She does everything in her power to make sure I succeed with every skill I learn, every week. She will go over every skill until I nail it, no matter how long it takes. It is obvious that she loves what she does.

Have you started looking for a job yet?

-I have taken a look at job boards, but nothing too serious yet. I know I will start seriously looking within the next couple weeks here. It's interesting to browse possible office.



### *Jade*

My experience with the National Dental Academy (NDA) was nothing but enjoyable. Not only did I meet some very cool girls during class, but my instructor was dedicated to making our ten weeks fun and a good learning experience. I think NDA gave me a great foundation for what I needed to know for my job. Each lesson went into depth and prepared you for what's to come.

The enrollment process was so easy; I almost couldn't believe it!

My instructor was amazing and I wouldn't be where I am right now without her! Not only did she genuinely care about her students, but she never stopped explaining and reiterating things we needed to know until it stuck. She was very hands on and did an awesome job.

I found a job two weeks prior to graduating! My office I work for was aware of the NDA and knew what I'd know right when I started and they were more than happy to have me! To anyone thinking about being a Dental Assistant, I'd go for it. Not only does it give you a good foundation for the workforce, but it's fun! Happy patients or grumpy patients, it's rewarding to see them leave the office happy, and it's your job to make that happen. For new students/graduates, I would apply for any and all jobs that are open and spark an interest. You never know unless you try! So job shadow, apply, ask questions, it'll all be worth it in the end!

Yes, I would recommend NDA to anyone looking for a career change. It gave me experience and taught me the things I'd need to know. We can never have enough dental assistants!

### *Allison H.*

My experience with National Dental Academy was great! I was very pleased that I was able to go to school and work a full time job at the same time and make time for both! My instructor was phenomenal and the ladies I had class made it super fun!

I feel like NDA helped me prepare for my career in many ways. I went into my first assisting job knowing the basics of instruments, procedures and how to handle patients. I couldn't have transitioned into my job without the help of NDA.

The enrollment for NDA was really easy. From the beginning folder of information, to talking to Lindsay over the phone she was most helpful. Any question I had for her was answered well and in a timely manner. My instructor Andrea was amazing! She was ready to help all of us girls learn from day one. She worked with us as a group as well as individually. When any



one of us was stuck on something, or needed it further explained she was always willing to help with a smile on her face until we felt confident in what we were doing. I would recommend Andrea to anyone!

I found a job halfway through assisting school. I found a job at a pediatric dental office working with children and special needs patients. I loved it then, and still love it!

Any advice I could give to anyone pursuing a career in Dental Assisting would be to just do it! It is a lot of fun. All the things you learn about teeth and the mouth are way cool. It's rewarding knowing you made a difference for a person. Whether it be cosmetic work and they're happy about their new smile, or being there helping a patient through their anxieties of being in the chair. I always feel like I made a difference to each and every patient I see. Advice for new grads trying to find a job would be don't be afraid to go out of your comfort zone and try new things. Don't be afraid to try all the specialties out there like pediatrics, endodontics, orthodontics, oral surgery. Don't be afraid to show your new office what skills you are bringing to them.

I would recommend NDA to friends and family for a few reasons. They are very easy to work with and it works with a busy lifestyle and schedule. I honestly wouldn't have gone to assisting school or considered a career change if it wasn't for NDA. I wasn't able to switch around my schedule to attend a traditional year course would be. So thankful for NDA, best choice I ever made!!



### Natalie

I had an amazing experience with the National Dental Academy; the instructors and people taking the classes were very friendly. I had two instructors, Cailli and Amanda, and it was because of them that I knew becoming a dental assistant was the right choice for me. They brought so much energy and liveliness to the class; they really made learning enjoyable for everyone. It was very clear that they both loved their careers and had a strong passion for creating knowledgeable dental assistants that feel the same way. Cailli is now my coworker and someone I consider to be a really great friend to me. She helped

me find my career at Quirt and has continued to train me and help me in my dental assisting career; one day I hope to be as superb at dental assisting as she is.

The instructors would go above and beyond to make sure that everyone understood the content that was being discussed and helped us instill confidence in ourselves while training to become a dental assistant. The class was face paced, fun, and packed full of valuable information that every dental assistant should know. My advice for new grads that are currently looking for a position is to apply, apply, and apply!

The National Dental Academy does a stellar job at helping you prepare your resume and job hunt. A lot of the smaller clinics do not post applications online, so it is a great idea to take a day and go around to the smaller clinics to hand them your resume. Also, do not be afraid to ask your instructors if you can list them on your resume, or if they know of any places that are hiring.

## Ryan

Meet Ryan, a graduate of our Fall 2018 class in Edgerton, WI! We sat down and asked Ryan a few questions about his classes. How would you describe your overall experience with the National Dental Academy of WI(NDA)? Why did you choose an accelerated program?

"My experience in the NDA was nothing less than exceptional. The classroom we studied in was clean and quiet being one of the most comfortable settings I have ever had class in. The course instructors were always helpful and they always were happy to teach the class material in more depth when we had questions!"



Do you feel that NDA prepared you for your new career in the dental field?

"Since I would like to ultimately become a dental laboratory technician the course was not 100% focused on my direct career path but that means that I got an immense amount of knowledge in the pre-lab processes. With that point of view, I gained a better understanding between Doctor - lab relationships which I know will help me a lot."

What was the enrollment process like for you?

"The enrollment process was stress free and straight forward in every step that you take to start your career in the dental field. I always had help from an enrollment officer who took the time to explain and help me with all my questions."

Did you find a job after you graduated or where are you at in the process?

I am currently looking for a job and have multiple job interviews (including in dental labs!!) due to the great help from the NDA helping me create a resume that catches the eyes of potential employers in the dental field.

Do you have any advice for new grads who are currently looking for positions?

"The one thing I would like to give advice on is to be involved and ask questions even if the questions may seem trivial. You may be surprised of the answer you get back from your well-rounded instructor and also the help in getting a nice job after graduation if you just ask!"

Would you recommend NDA to friends/family that are thinking about making a career change? Why?

"Yes, I would recommend NDA to anyone. Throughout the course I had nothing to say but good words about my experiences."

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