



RADIOGRAPHY CERTIFICATION COURSE

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The Dental Radiography Certification Course is an overview of the basic principles of radiology as it applies to dental auxiliaries, including but not limited to: Purpose and Technique, Radiation Safety, and Infection Prevention and Control. This course may be offered at various times and locations around Montana.

This course will be offered over two days. The first day will consist of an 8-hour lecture including learning activities and mini quizzes. The second day a one-hour proctored, written exam will be taken.

Grading Criteria:

To earn radiography certification, a student **MUST** complete ALL 8 hours of the class and score at least an 80% on the written exam. Upon successful completion of the course, the dental auxiliary will receive a Radiology Proficiency Certificate from Salish Kootenai College. This certificate will legally qualify the individual to expose x-rays in the State of Montana (**approved by the Montana Board of Dentistry**).

Course outline:

- Dental X-ray Machine and Control Panel
 - Types of Radiation: primary and scatter
 - ALARA Concept
 - Angulation of Position Indicator Device
 - Basic Radiation Physics
 - Characteristics of X-ray Beam
 - Machine Malfunction Issues
 - *Learning activity/mini quiz*
- Image Receptor Holders, Size, and Placement
- Intraoral Imaging Techniques: Paralleling vs. Bisecting
 - *Learning activity/mini quiz*
- Purpose and Technique
 - Bitewings
 - Periapical - Anterior & Posterior
 - Occlusal
 - Imaging Technique Errors
 - *Learning activity/mini quiz*
- Basic Dental Anatomy
- Panoramic Techniques and Exposures
 - Causes and Appearance of Errors in Technique
 - *Learning activity/mini quiz*
- Radiation Safety
 - Biological Effects
 - Protective Devices
 - Patient and Operator Safety
 - Informed consent and patient refusal
 - *Learning activity/mini quiz*
- Standard Precautions
 - ADA, CDC, OSHA, & OSAP Guidelines for Infection Control
 - Patient/Operators
 - Equipment/Supplies,
 - *Learning activity/mini quiz*

Upon completion of the didactic portion of the class, a student will be eligible to take the EXAM the following day. This exam will consist of:

- A 50 question multiple choice exam
- A time limit of 60 minutes

DISCLAIMER: Attending the 8-hour didactic course does not guarantee the dental auxiliary will automatically receive a Radiology Proficiency Certificate from Salish Kootenai College. This certificate will legally qualify the individual to expose x-rays in the State of Montana (approved by the Montana Board of Dentistry) and will act as proof that the assistant has met the criteria of the course and can be deemed knowledgeable and capable of safely and accurately exposing x-rays. A student must actively participate and study to prepare effectively for the exam.

For a student to be eligible for the exam, the following criteria MUST be met:

- Registration and Payment of the appropriate fees
- Complete the pre-course checklist (sent to each student after registration)
- Must be present for the ENTIRE 8-hour didactic portion of the class

On the day of the EXAM

- Arrive early to the scheduled written exam time
Doors will be locked when the exam begins
- Picture ID required to sit for the exam
- Personal items, including cell phones, will not be permitted in the test room
- Test proctors will not be responsible for personal belongings
- Students will NOT be allowed to leave the exam room once the test has begun

Registration will be coordinated by the Montana Dental Association.