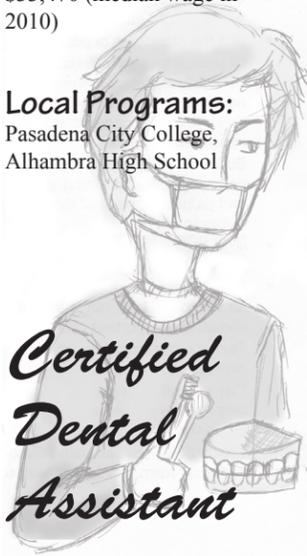


What are the options for those who are *not* four-year university bound?

Annual salary:
\$33,470 (median wage in 2010)

Local Programs:
Pasadena City College,
Alhambra High School

*Certified
Dental
Assistant*



A dental assistant's job responsibilities include sterilizing and preparing instruments for dentists, taking impressions of teeth and assisting the dentist directly at the chair with oral surgery and other procedures.

To be an unlicensed dental assistant, one must complete a California Dental Board-approved course, as well as a course in infection control. In addition, one would need to successfully complete a course in Basic Life Support.

To become a registered dental assistant, one would have to graduate from a board-approved dental assistant educational program or complete 15 months of work experience as an unregistered dental assistant. The applicant must also complete a board-approved course in radiation safety and coronal polishing to supplement courses required to become an unlicensed dental assistant.

To complete becoming registered, one must pass a state written and practical exam, along with a state written exam in law and ethics and then apply for a license as a registered dental assistant to the Dental Board of California.

If one had an interest in law, but did not wish to commit to acquiring a Juris Doctor, becoming a legal secretary might be an appropriate job.

A legal secretary's work is very similar to that of a paralegal's where the workload includes tasks such as filing and preparing legal documents pertaining to a case organizing law libraries and working closely with attorneys, judges and clients.

Acquiring a high school diploma remains a prerequisite to becoming a legal secretary, and there are various methods to become certified. One can participate in a vocational or technical school program, complete a community college program or acquire a bachelor's degree, master's degree or PhD degree.

Legal secretaries who have less than three years of experience (in an entry-level related position) can become accredited legal secretaries. Those who have more years of experience can become professional legal secretaries, given they pass the appropriate exam to gain the title.

Annual salary:
\$30,000-\$60,000 (increases with experience)

Local Program:
UCLA extension - Legal
Secretary training program

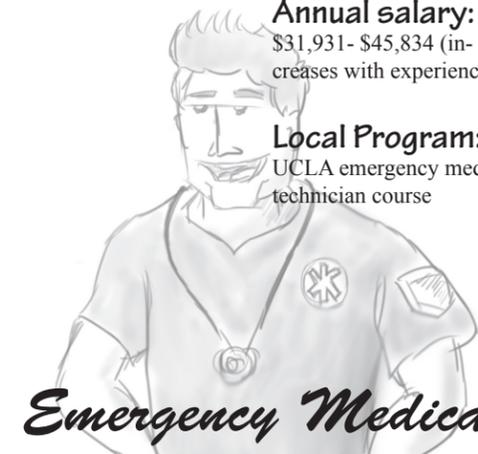
Legal Secretary



Annual salary:
\$31,931- \$45,834 (increases with experience)

Local Program:
UCLA emergency medical
technician course

*Emergency Medical
Technician*



An emergency medical technician (EMT) responds to emergency dispatches and provides advanced life support to those injured on the way to a hospital.

To gain an EMT basic certificate, one must be of at least 18 years of age with CPR certification to enroll in a paramedic-training program. Instructors educate students in skills like assessing patients' conditions, controlling bleeding, managing airways and responding to cardiac emergencies. A part of the EMT training program is completed in an ambulance or hospital emergency room. In addition to successfully completing the course, it is important for applicants to be in good physical condition.

As soon as one completes the EMT course, one must pass a state-issued exam to gain EMT-Basic credentials. After gaining the credentials, one can begin earning work experience. Upon completing around six months to a year's worth of experience, applicants who wish to become paramedics can enroll in paramedic training and obtain state licensure.

A certified nursing assistant helps patients with health care needs with the accompaniment of a registered nurse or licensed nurse. Responsibilities vary based on where the nursing assistant works, but tend to include cleaning and sanitizing patient rooms or patient areas or administering medications or treatments, directed by a nurse or physician.

Settings of a certified nursing assistant include hospitals, personal homes and assisted living facilities, which could benefit from the nursing assistants' help in mediating between registered nurses and the patient.

To become a certified nursing assistant, one can take classes offered by the Red Cross, community colleges, online schools or medical training facilities. All certified nursing assistants are required to pass an examination before they are qualified to work. By completing a course that can range from four to six weeks and passing a competency exam, one becomes a certified nursing assistant.

Annual salary: \$28,300 (median wage)

Local Program: Pasadena
City College

*Certified
Nursing
Assistant*



Certificate of Completion

CONGRATULATIONS!

For taking an
interest in:

YOUR FUTURE

For more information regarding these types of occupations, visit the Bureau of Labor Statistics website, sites pertaining to your interests, or programs offered at your local colleges and universities.

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics, The Dale Foundation (California Dental Assistance requirements), Gulf Coast State College, Salary Blog site, Dental Board of California, All about careers site, Education Portal - How to become a Paramedic, Education Portal - How to become a Legal Secretary, UCLA emt course description, UCLA legal secretary course description, Pasadena City College Course details.

Other occupations (but not limited to) that do not require a four-year college degree:

- **Phlebotomist:** \$30,081
- **Medical Assistant:** \$31,343
- **Nuclear Medicine Technologist:** \$70,558
- **Cosmetologist:** \$22,570
- **Pharmacy Technician:** \$32,203
- **Accounting Clerk:** \$32,326
- **Anesthesia Technologist/Technician—** high school degree only!: \$35,525
- **MRI Technologist:** \$66,547
- **Personal Trainer:** \$53,474
- **Radiologic Technologist:** \$49,239

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MOOR graphics by SHARON XU AND SIMON XHAO

The MOOR 101 South Second Street, Alhambra, CA 91801

The Moor serves as one of the checks and balances of district and school policies. It is an open forum for the campus population and one of the records of Alhambra High School's history. The Moor is not a vehicle for the promotion of any school organization, individual and/or activity, excluding those promoted via paid advertisement. The Moor is protected under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution and California Education Codes 48907 and 48950.

The Moor encourages students, faculty and community members to submit Letters to the Editor. Topics need not deal with stories previously published but should pertain to issues affecting the school and/or surrounding community.

Letters can be delivered to C-225, or the The Moor's suggestion box in the Activities Office at least one week in advance. For legal reasons, The Moor cannot publish letters written anonymously but can withhold the name of the writer at their request. The Moor also reserves the right to refuse publication when the opinions expressed or issues discussed have been previously addressed or are of no relevance to the campus community and/or surrounding areas as deemed by the Editorial Board.

Note: Issue reviewed and edited by adviser for content and journalism standards.

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