

FOOTHILL COLLEGE DENTAL ASSISTING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM INFORMATION SHEET SPECIALTY PRACTICE OFFICE

The Foothill College Dental Assisting program places assisting students into specialty and general practice dental offices for part of their clinical training. The dental assisting students have a limited background in actual practice settings when they are placed in the internship dental office. The program receives many phone calls from dental offices inquiring about the internship program. The internship program is not suited for every dental office because of the logistics or the labor-intensive requirements. The following is some general information concerning the internship program.

I. Goals of the internship program

The internship program is a labor-intensive program in which the dental office commits itself to training dental assisting students in clinical procedures. There are many personal rewards from participating in the program. Our participating dental offices assist in the learning process of our students, our students are very grateful to the participating offices, and many times the participating dental office may actually find and hire a dental assisting student after graduation.

The internship program is suitable for the following reasons:

- The office would like to contribute to the community through the Foothill College internship program
- The staff or dentist would like to help in the teaching process of the dental assisting student for personal rewards
- The Foothill College Dental Assisting Program has a very good reputation with the dental offices in the area and one reason is because of the quality of our internship offices- your office can be a part of this!

The internship program does not work well for the following reasons:

- A new employee has just been hired and needs to be trained along with the interning student
- The dental office is shorthanded and needs help
- The dental office is too busy to explain procedures or questions to the dental assisting intern
- The dental office needs a sterilization assistant
- The dental office is too busy to allow the student to assist the dentist

II. Schedule

The Foothill College Dental Assisting Internship program starts in September and ends in June for General Practice offices. For Specialty offices, the internship program starts in April and ends in June.

Specialty Practice Dental Offices

The dental assisting students are exposed didactically to the dental specialty areas in fall quarter. At this time, practicing specialists are invited to present information about their specialty. In Winter quarter, the dental assisting students have enough basic knowledge to go to the UCSF Dental School one day a week to assist dental students and also to either assist or observe in the specialty clinics at the dental school. By spring quarter, the assisting students are ready to intern at specialty dental offices. In Spring (April to June), the dental assisting students are placed in specialty dental offices for two days a week - Tuesdays and Thursdays. This internship may last from 5-11 weeks.

Note: From January to March, the dental assisting students will also go to the UCSF Dental School two days a week to assist dental students and also to either assist or observe in the specialty clinics at the dental school.

III. Office Training

The dental assisting students need guidance and help during their internship, some more than others. Dental assisting students are familiar with dental procedures but not the way your dentist or office performs the particular dental procedures in individual dental offices. The dentist and staff should understand having a dental assisting student may slow some procedures. If this is a concern, the internship program is not suited for that dental office.

IV. Participating office request

If your dental office is interested in participating in the Foothill College Internship program, please fill out and return the last page of this letter. We currently have a waiting list for dental offices, however, depending on the number of students we have, and the number of returning dental offices from the previous year, your office may be able to participate in the near future.

If you have any further questions, please contact Cara Miyasaki at (408) 219-7344. Thank you for your interest.

DATE _____

FOOTHILL COLLEGE DENTAL ASSISTING INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Name of Supervising Dentist: _____ DDS/DMD

Name of Office (if applicable) _____

Contact Person: _____

Telephone #: (____) _____

Address: _____

Email address _____

Office open on: M T W TH F Office Hours: _____
(Circle all that apply)

Type of practice: _____

Detach and mail to:

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