

Success Spotlight: Samantha Etter

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Program: OCTS, dental assisting certification

Location: Shelbyville

Wage prior to certification: \$12 per hour

Wage after earning certification: \$22 per hour



STORY

Growing up Samantha always knew she wanted to work in a dentist office. After graduating from high school, Samantha headed off to college to major in pre-hygiene, but she decided it wasn't for her. She shifted her training path to still pursue her dream job and enrolled in a non-credit bearing, non-degree granting dental assisting institution and earned her x-ray license. "I passed that on my first try," she said.

It took her between 8 and 10 weeks to complete the certification, with classes taking place two days a week. She has now been working in dental and orthodontic offices for the past three and a half years.

Today, she is an orthodontic assistant and says she sees opportunities in the future to move up in the industry by becoming an office manager in a dental office or lead a team of dental assistants.