

Dear Senators,

I'm Nicole Michelle Champoux. I am currently the Dental Assisting Program Director at Concorde Career College. I wanted to write and tell you about my career path and journey. In 1998, I was going through a divorce with a young child. I wanted to be in a Career that would provide stable daytime employment. I was currently making minimum wage and tips at Supercuts. I worked nights/weekends and it was hard to pay the bills as well as spend time with my son. I was interested in the dental field and seen a Concorde Commercial about dental assisting. I called them and set up an appointment to tour the campus and enrolled. I was able to finish my schooling in less than 9 months and was hired by Kaiser Permanente Dental. As a DA at Kaiser Permanente Dental, I worked chairside using my skills learned from Concorde. I also learned great job skills, and professionalism to prepare me for career development. In 2008, I graduated from Warner Pacific College and earned my Bachelor's Degree. Then, I applied to be a Part time DA instructor at Concorde Career College in 2009. I worked my way up the to a Fulltime Dental Assisting instructor and now Program Director. My journey in the dental field started as a Dental Assisting student at Concorde. I look back and I would not change a thing about my career path. I am thankful that I can inspire others to become dental assistants in the community and beyond. It is my drive and Concorde that gave me the opportunity to do what I do. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Nicole Champoux: BS, CDA, EFDA Dental Program Director 503-281-4181 nchampoux@concorde.edu