

Monthly Newsletter

Community Connections

Hiring for a new Medical Assistant instructor and new class subjects coming in 2027, stay tuned!

Campus News

Pinnacle Institute just had it's first ever graduation! Check it out now!

Student Spotlight

Congratulations to Casandra Coney! From our Dental Assistant class at our Alamogordo location!

A Special Thank You to Mayor Eric Enriquez

Pinnacle Institute extends its sincere thanks to Mayor Eric Enriquez for serving as the guest speaker at our 2026 Graduation Ceremony. His inspiring words and support helped make this special milestone even more memorable for our graduates. We are grateful for his encouragement and for celebrating this important achievement with our students, families, and staff. On behalf of our students, faculty, staff, and families, thank you, Mayor Enriquez, for helping make this milestone a memorable and inspiring celebration.



Welcome to our August Newsletter!

Welcome to the August edition of Pinnacle Institute Newsletter! As summer comes to a close, we are excited to reflect on a season filled with achievement, growth, and new opportunities. This month, we celebrate the accomplishments of our graduates, welcome new students beginning their healthcare journeys, and highlight the continued impact our faculty, staff, and community partners have made throughout Southern New Mexico.

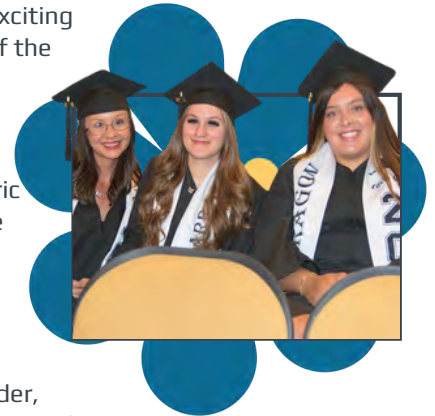
Follow us on our social media pages!



A Day of Pride and Achievement

On August 1, Pinnacle Institute proudly celebrated the accomplishments of the Class of 2026 for its first-ever Graduation Ceremony. It was a memorable afternoon filled with pride, gratitude, and celebration as students crossed the stage to mark the completion of their healthcare training and the beginning of exciting new careers. Surrounded by family, friends, faculty, clinical partners, and members of the community, our graduates were recognized for their perseverance, dedication, and commitment to achieving their goals.

The ceremony was made even more meaningful by the inspiring remarks of Mayor Eric Enriquez, whose words of encouragement reminded graduates of the important role they will play in strengthening the health and well-being of our communities. His support for education and workforce development served as a fitting tribute to the accomplishments of this year's graduating class.



We would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to Dr. Mathew Petersen, Founder, Co-Owner, and Director of Education, and Christopher Rodriguez, Co-Owner and Director of Operations, whose vision and unwavering commitment have helped shape Pinnacle Institute into a place where students are empowered to succeed. Their dedication to providing quality, hands-on healthcare education continues to open doors for students across Southern New Mexico and beyond.

Finally, we offer our heartfelt thanks to the families, friends, and loved ones who have supported our graduates throughout their educational journey. Your encouragement, patience, and belief in their potential have been an invaluable part of their success. Together, we celebrate not only the achievements of our graduates but also the community of support that helped make this milestone possible.



To the Class of 2026, congratulations on this incredible accomplishment. As you begin the next chapter of your professional journey, carry forward the knowledge, compassion, and determination you have developed at Pinnacle Institute. We are proud of all you have achieved and look forward to the positive impact you will make in the healthcare profession. Your future is bright, and this is only the beginning.



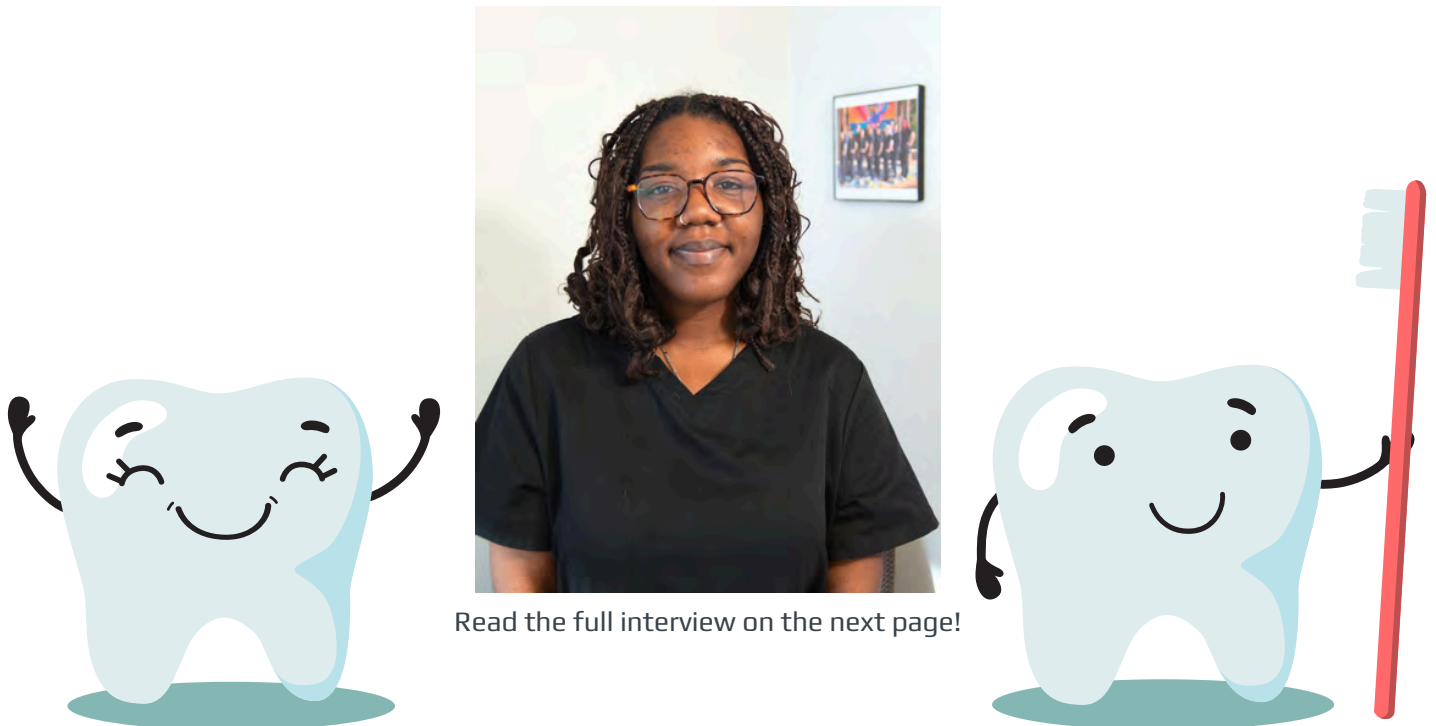
A Heartfelt Thank You to Our Clinical Partners & Sponsors

Pinnacle Institute extends our deepest gratitude to all of our clinical partners and sponsors who helped make our 2026 Graduation Ceremony a memorable celebration. Your continued support, collaboration, and commitment to our students play an important role in their education and professional development. Through clinical experiences, mentorship, resources, and opportunities to connect with the healthcare community, you help our students gain the confidence and real-world experience they need to succeed. We are incredibly grateful for the time, dedication, and trust you continue to invest in our students and in the future of healthcare throughout Southern New Mexico. Thank you for being an essential part of the Pinnacle Institute family and for celebrating this milestone with us.

We want to congratulate this our student of the month: Casandra Coney

A big congratulations to Cassandra, our August Student of the Month at Pinnacle Institute's Alamogordo satellite location! Recognized for her outstanding attendance, work ethic, and dedication, Cassandra was inspired by family in the dental field to take the leap into dental assisting.

"Pinnacle Institute is a great stepping stone—it guides you through the process so you're never lost," says Cassandra. When she isn't mastering dental instruments, she enjoys practicing new hairstyles. We're so proud of your hard work and can't wait to see your future in dentistry unfold!



Cassandra Coney Interview

Interviewer: So, you are this month's student of the month here at the Alamogordo location. How do you feel?

Cassandra: I'm happy about it. I think it's really exciting.

Interviewer: Excellent. Thank you so much. Can you just tell us a little bit about yourself where you're from and such?

Cassandra: Yeah, I'm from Alamogordo, New Mexico. I'm 22, and yeah, I've been living here my entire life.

Interviewer: Oh, okay. Excellent. How did you hear about Pinnacle Institute, if you don't mind me asking?

Cassandra: I heard about it through a friend, actually. She had a friend who works at the Workforce, and she told me that you guys were having this opportunity to learn to be a dental assistant. And I have a lot of family in dental, so I thought it sounded really cool to try out.

Interviewer: Do you feel like your family being in dental is kind of giving you like a nice bridge into dental assisting?

Cassandra: Oh, definitely. Yes, cause my brother's in it, my aunt, so I grew up around and hearing like them talk about it. So it was definitely—it helped me get in the door more.

Interviewer: What's been the most challenging thing for you?

Cassandra: The most challenging? Probably remembering all the instruments. It's just a lot to remember and learn, but it's fun.

Interviewer: What do you hope to take away from Pinnacle Institute?

Cassandra: Well, I hope to further on being a dental assistant really. My brother's been doing it for a while and he really enjoys it, and I've been learning a lot already, so if I could step up and learn more, even like to become a hygienist, I think that'd be really cool.

Interviewer: What's like a little fun fact about yourself that you can tell us just so we can get to know you more?

Cassandra: Oh gosh, let me think. I'm also learning how to do hair, a little more hairstyles, so yeah, just for fun.

Interviewer: Do you have any advice for anyone who's interested in Pinnacle Institute?

Cassandra: Oh, I would absolutely sign up for it. I think it's a great stepping stone, and it helps so you're not all over the place and you don't know where to start. It's a like a great guide to show like the process of getting into dentistry, so it's a really big help.

Interviewer: Perfect. Thank you so much, Cassandra. We really appreciate your time.

Cassandra: Yeah, thank you.



Now Hiring: Medical Assistant Instructor

Pinnacle Institute is expanding our team and is currently seeking a part-time Medical Assistant Instructor to help prepare the next generation of healthcare professionals. This role offers an opportunity for an experienced Medical Assistant to share their knowledge, lead hands-on clinical training, and make a meaningful impact on students pursuing careers in healthcare. The ideal candidate will have at least five years of clinical experience as a Medical Assistant, hold a current national certification, and have strong communication, organizational, and teaching skills. If you're passionate about healthcare and enjoy helping others succeed, we would love to hear from you!

Interested in joining the Pinnacle Institute team? Call (575) 650-7831 to apply!



NOW HIRING!

MEDICAL ASSISTANT INSTRUCTOR

PART-TIME

 **Call us today
to apply!**
(575) 650-7831

*Help train the next generation of **healthcare professionals!***

 WHAT YOU'LL DO	 QUALIFICATIONS
• Deliver engaging classroom lectures. • Lead hands on clinical lab training. • Cover vital signs, phlebotomy, EKG, patient intake and health records. • Evaluate student progress learning environment. • Ensure lesson plans align with national certification standards.	• Minimum of 5 years of clinical field experience as a Medical Assistant. • Must possess a current, active national certification in good standing with an accredited agency. • Highschool diploma or equivalent is required; associates or formal medical assistant training preferred. • Prior teaching skills are helpful as well as public speaking and organizational skills.



Upcoming Class Start Dates

Las Cruces

- August 20: Medical Assistant
- September 21: Dental Assistant
- January 2027:
 - 14: EKG Technician
 - 19: Phlebotomy Technician
 - 21: Dental Assistant
 - 27: Pharmacy Technician
 - 28: Medical Assistant
 - 29: Medical Billing & Coding

Alamogordo

- September:
 - 22 Phlebotomy Technician
 - 23 Medical Billing & Coding
- January 2027:
 - 26: Dental Assistant
 - 26: Medical Billing & Coding

Deming

- August 5: Phlebotomy Technician
- September 22: EKG Technician
- January 2027:
 - 26: Dental Assistant
 - 27: Medical Billing & Coding
 - 27: Phlebotomy Technician

Santa Teresa

- January 26, 2027: Phlebotomy Technician



Coming in 2027: New Healthcare Programs

Pinnacle Institute is growing! As we look toward 2027, we're excited to introduce four new healthcare education opportunities designed to give students even more pathways into the healthcare field. These programs will expand our hands-on training options and help prepare students for a variety of roles within today's healthcare workforce.

Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA):

CNAs play an essential role in patient care, providing hands-on support while helping patients with comfort, hygiene, daily activities, and basic healthcare needs. This program is a great opportunity for compassionate individuals who enjoy working directly with patients and want to make a meaningful difference in their lives.

Patient Care Technician (PCT):

Patient Care Technicians work alongside nurses and other healthcare professionals to provide direct patient support. Students will develop skills related to patient care, monitoring vital signs, providing basic medical assistance, and helping maintain patient comfort and safety in a variety of healthcare settings.

Limited Scope X-Ray Technician:

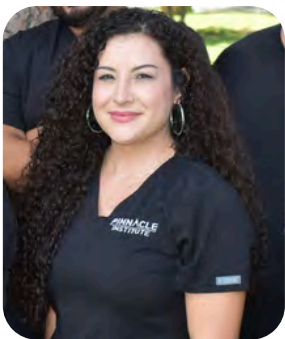
Interested in medical imaging? Our upcoming Limited Scope X-Ray Technician program will introduce students to the fundamentals of X-ray procedures, including patient positioning, equipment operation, imaging safety, and proper documentation. This career path offers an exciting opportunity to combine patient care with diagnostic technology.

IV Certification:

Our upcoming IV Certification program will provide an opportunity for healthcare professionals, including Medical Assistants where permitted by applicable requirements, to expand their clinical skill set. Training may cover areas such as vein assessment, IV equipment, catheter insertion, fluids, and safe IV practices. This program can be a valuable addition for professionals looking to strengthen their hands-on clinical abilities.

With these four programs on the horizon, Pinnacle Institute continues to expand the educational opportunities available to students throughout Southern New Mexico. Stay tuned for official program details, enrollment information, and start dates as we get closer to 2027!

Staff & Faculty Intros



DeAndrea Trujillo

Hi, I'm DeAndrea Trujillo, the Front Desk Liaison here at Pinnacle Institute! I've been proudly part of this wonderful school and team for nearly three years, and one of my favorite parts of my role is being the friendly face and welcoming smile students see when they walk through our doors. My journey in healthcare has also included completing the Medical Assistant program and earning my certification, an accomplishment I'm incredibly proud of. Being part of the Pinnacle team allows me to combine my passion for healthcare with my love of helping and connecting with students every day. Outside of Pinnacle, my greatest joy is being a mother to my three handsome sons, who bring so much love and happiness into my life.

When I'm not working or spending time with my family, I enjoy cooking and baking, two hobbies that allow me to get creative and try new things.

I'm grateful to be part of the Pinnacle family and look forward to continuing to welcome, encourage, and support our students every day!