



**DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA  
DENTAL ASSISTING COUNCIL**

**NOTICE OF TELECONFERENCE MEETING  
November 17, 2022**

**Council Members**

Jeri Fowler, RDAEF, OA, Chair  
Traci Reed-Espinoza, RDAEF, Vice Chair  
De'Andra Epps-Robbins, RDA  
Cara Miyasaki, RDA, RDHEF, MS  
Rosalinda Olague, RDA, BA  
Joanne Pacheco, RDH, MAOB  
Kandice Rae Pliss, RDA

**Action may be taken on any  
item listed on the agenda.**

**The Dental Assisting Council (Council) of the Dental Board of California (Board) will meet by teleconference at 9:00 a.m., on Thursday, November 17, 2022, with the following location available for Council and public member participation<sup>1</sup>:**

Department of Consumer Affairs  
1747 N. Market Blvd., Hearing Room #186  
Sacramento, CA 95834

For technical difficulties, call the Dental Board of California Office at:  
(916) 263-2300 or (877) 729-7789

**This meeting will be accessible via WebEx Events. Instructions to connect to the meeting can be found [HERE](#).**

To participate virtually in the WebEx Events meeting on Thursday, November 17, 2022, please log on to this website the day of the meeting:

**<https://dca-meetings.webex.com/dca-meetings/j.php?MTID=m264caee51124c6410bcd10a0459d39b3>**

**Event number: 2485 175 8338**

**Event password: DBC11172022 (32211172 from phones)**

Due to potential technical difficulties, please consider submitting written comments by November 11, 2022, to dentalboard@dca.ca.gov for consideration.

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<sup>1</sup> Face masks may or may not be required at the location depending upon state and local laws and business preferences on the date of the meeting.

## AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call/Establishment of a Quorum
2. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda  
*Note: The Council may not discuss or take action on any matter raised during this Public Comment section, except to decide whether to place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting. (Government Code Sections 11125 and 11125.7(a).)*
3. Discussion and Possible Action on August 25, 2022 Meeting Minutes **[4-12]**
4. Update on Dental Assisting Examination Statistics **[13-14]**
  - a. Registered Dental Assistant General Written and Law and Ethics Examinations
  - b. Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions General Written Examination
  - c. Orthodontic Assistant Written Examination
  - d. Dental Sedation Assistant Written Examination
5. Update on Dental Assisting Licensing Statistics **[15-25]**
  - a. Registered Dental Assistant License
  - b. Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions License
  - c. Orthodontic Assistant Permit
  - d. Dental Sedation Assistant Permit
6. Update and Discussion on Status of Surveys Regarding Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions Administration of Local Anesthesia and Nitrous Oxide – *Jeri Fowler, CDA, RDAEF, OA, and Traci Reed-Espinoza, RDAEF* **[26-27]**
7. Update and Discussion on Research of Dental Auxiliary Certification and Education Requirements and Review Applicable Statutes and Regulations Regarding Board Approval of Registered Dental Assistant and Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions Educational Programs and Courses for Potential Amendments – *Joanne Pacheco, RDH, MAOB, and Cara Miyasaki, RDA, RDHEF, MS* **[28]**
8. Discussion and Possible Action on Legislative Proposal to Amend Business and Professions Code Section 1750 Regarding Unlicensed Dental Assistant Requirements to Perform Basic Supportive Dental Procedures **[29-30]**
9. Adjournment

This agenda can be found on the Dental Board of California website at [dbc.ca.gov](http://dbc.ca.gov). The time and order of agenda items are subject to change at the discretion of the Council Chair and may be taken out of order. In accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, all meetings of the Council are open to the public.

In accordance with Government Code section 11133(b)(2)(A), the teleconference locations from which Council members may participate in the meeting may not be identified in the notice and agenda of the meeting.

The meeting will be webcast, provided there are no unforeseen technical difficulties or limitations. To view the webcast, please visit [thedcapage.wordpress.com/webcasts/](http://thedcapage.wordpress.com/webcasts/). The meeting will not be cancelled if webcast is not available. Meeting adjournment may not be webcast if it is the only item that occurs after a closed session.

Government Code section 11125.7 provides the opportunity for the public to address each agenda item during discussion or consideration by the Council prior to the Council taking any action on said item. Members of the public will be provided appropriate opportunities to comment on any issue before the Council, but the Council Chair may, at their discretion, apportion available time among those who wish to speak. Individuals may appear before the Council to discuss items not on the agenda; however, the Council can neither discuss nor take official action on these items at the time of the same meeting (Government Code sections 11125, 11125.7(a)).

This meeting is accessible to the physically disabled. This meeting also is being held via WebEx Events and is accessible to the physically disabled. A person who needs disability-related accommodations or modifications to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Tracy Montez, Executive Officer at Dental Board of California, 2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 1550, Sacramento, CA 95815, or by phone at (916) 263-2300. Providing your request at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting will help ensure availability of the requested accommodations. TDD Line: (877) 729-7789



**DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA  
DENTAL ASSISTING COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES**

The Dental Assisting Council (Council) of the Dental Board of California (Board) met on August 25, 2022, at the following location:

Department of Consumer Affairs  
1747 N. Market Blvd., Hearing Room #186  
Sacramento, CA 95834

In addition to the physical location above, this meeting was accessible via WebEx Events.

**Members Present:**

Jeri Fowler, RDAEF, OA, Chair  
Traci Reed-Espinoza, RDAEF, Vice Chair  
De'Andra Epps-Robbins, RDA  
Rosalinda Olague, RDA, BA  
Joanne Pacheco, RDH, MAOB  
Kandice Rae Pliss, RDA

**Members Absent:**

Cara Miyasaki, RDA, RDHEF, MS

**Staff Present:**

Tracy Montez, Acting Assistant Executive Officer  
Jessica Olney, Anesthesia Unit Manager  
Wilbert Rumbaoa, Administrative Services Unit Manager  
Paige Ragali, Dentistry Licensing and Examination Unit Manager  
David Bruggeman, Legislative and Regulatory Specialist  
Rikki Parks, Dental Assisting Program Analyst  
Kelly Silva, Sacramento Enforcement Field Office Investigator  
Mirela Taran, Administrative Analyst  
Ann Fisher, SOLID, Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA)  
Sarah Irani, SOLID, DCA  
Cesar Victoria, Office of Public Affairs, DCA  
Tara Welch, Board Counsel, Attorney IV, Legal Affairs Division, DCA

**Agenda Item 1: Call to Order/Roll Call/Establishment of a Quorum**

Council Chair, Ms. Jeri Fowler, called the meeting to order at 9:13 a.m.; six members of the Council were present, and a quorum was established.

DRAFT - Dental Assisting Council  
August 25, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Agenda Item 2: Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

Ms. Joan Greenfield, EF Association representative, urged the Council and, particularly the registered dental assistants in extended functions (RDAEFs) members on the Council, to take a serious look at the new written examination. Ms. Greenfield stated she was contacted by many students to explain certain questions and things on the exam. She stated it appeared that not only did whoever wrote the exam not look at the educational requirements to do a program, but they got off track in a number of areas. EF Association recommended the Council consider this at some time in the future.

Agenda Item 3: Discussion and Possible Action on May 12, 2022 Meeting Minutes Motion/Second/Call the Question (M/S/C) (Reed-Espinoza/Epps-Robbins) to approve the May 12, 2022 Meeting Minutes.

Chair Fowler requested public comment before the Council acted on the motion. There were no public comments made on the motion.

Chair Fowler called for the vote on the proposed motion. Ms. Mirela Taran took a roll call vote on the proposed motion.

Ayes: Epps-Robbins, Fowler, Olague, Pacheco, Pliss, Reed-Espinoza.

Nays: None.

Abstentions: None.

Absent: Miyasaki.

Recusals: None.

The motion passed and the minutes were approved.

Agenda Item 4: Update on Dental Assisting Examination Statistics

Ms. Rikki Parks provided the report, which is available in the meeting materials.

Chair Fowler requested public comment on this item. There were no public comments made on this item.

Agenda Item 5: Update on Dental Assisting Licensing Statistics

Ms. Paige Ragali provided the report, which is available in the meeting materials.

Chair Fowler requested public comment on this item. There were no public comments made on this item.

Agenda Item 6: Update on Status of Surveys Regarding Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions Administration of Local Anesthesia and Nitrous Oxide

Chair Fowler provided the report, which is available in the meeting materials. Dr. Tracy Montez thanked the Council for working with the Department of Consumer Affairs, Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) on the survey and appreciated the collaboration.

Chair Fowler requested public comment on this item. There were no public comments made on this item.

Agenda Item 7: Presentation from Dental Assisting National Board Regarding Dental Auxiliary Certifications for Board Licensure

Ms. Ragali provided background information on the report, which is available in the meeting materials.

Ms. Katherine Landsberg, Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) Government Relations Director, Mr. Aaron White, DANB Chief Operating Officer, and Ms. Laura Skarnulis, Chief Executive Officer of DANB and the DALE Foundation, provided a presentation on DANB and the DALE Foundation, the certifications they provide, state recognition, how DANB assists State Dental Boards, the present challenges facing the dental community, and what the organization is focusing on for the future.

Council Vice Chair Traci Reed-Espinoza asked how California can get associated with the DANB certification process. Ms. Landsberg replied that the Council would need to work on this; if the Council thinks the DANB exams are a fit for the competence measurements needed, then the Council would talk to DANB, who can work with the Council in any way, administratively; however, there probably needed to be a rule or statute change worked through the Board and other channels.

Ms. Fowler stated that in California, the Veterans Affairs (VA) system requires assistants to have their Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) certification. She stated that the VA system puts more emphasis on the CDA than the registered dental assistant (RDA). She believed that was in part because of the transportability and reciprocity; an individual working in the VA system can transfer anywhere in the VA system. She stated she is a big fan of reciprocity or transportability of licensures and favors DANB certifications due to portability. She would like to see comprehensive California programs, with more allowable duties than the individual is transferring to, it would be great for the other state to accept that; there are many states, such as Tennessee, that does that.

Council Member Joanne Pacheco asked whether the examination prep is online and whether students take an exam at an exam site and whether that site is proctored. Ms. Landsberg replied that the DALE Foundation examination prep is exclusively online and that students can take the exam at a Pearson Vue testing center in-person or online via live proctoring. Ms. Pacheco asked whether there was any information on first time pass rates for exams. Ms. Landsberg replied that it is a tricky statistic to obtain from their system; however, they can provide it if needed. Council Member Epps-Robbins agreed that for the future of our programs in the state of California, it would be very beneficial having California linked into the DANB process.

Ms. Tara Welch noted that staff recommended creating a two-member working group to continue to research these issues and bring additional information to the Council at future meetings. She clarified that the Working Group would review education examination certification portability issues, research dental auxiliary certification and education requirements in other states, review the California applicable statutes and regulations regarding Board approval of RDA and RDAEF educational programs and courses for potential amendments. Ms. Welch stated that currently the Dental Practice Act limits how individuals can get registered as dental assistants in California and that the DANB certification is not one of those paths right now.

(M/S/C) (Pacheco/Pliss) to create a two-member working group, consisting of Council Member Pacheco and a second Council Member to be announced later, to review issues regarding research and dental auxiliary certification and education requirements in other states, and review the applicable statutes and regulations regarding Board approval of the RDA and RDAEF programs and courses for potential amendments.

Chair Fowler requested public comment before the Council acted on the motion. The Council received public comment.

Ms. Shari Becker, on behalf of the Alliance, stated that they support the DANB CDA portability.

Dr. Bruce Whitcher, representing California Dental Association (CDA), stated that current graduates of California dental assisting programs would not be eligible for the DANB CDA certification as they have to graduate from a CODA-approved program or meet the work experience pathway requirements. He indicated that DANB has a publication on core duties for dental assisting, which might be an attempt to rationalize dental assisting duties across the United States. Additionally, he noted that there was not a substantial amount of detail on educational standards and was pleased to hear that DANB have developed a model curriculum for the National Entry Level Dental Assistant (NELDA) exam. Dr. Whitcher stated that another interesting issue is the concept of the online proctored exam and thought that kind of exam had to meet security standards. He noted the map of acceptance of the DANB certifications spoke to a wide acceptance across the country for infection control and radiation safety. Dr. Whitcher noted that one of the great challenges for dental assisting is the lack of uniformity of scope of practice. He thought the Board and probably the Council had looked at alignment between the California duties that are allowed by the Dental Practice Act and DANB and found that there are some gaps. He noted an interesting publication that DANB put out that does a side-by-side comparison of what California requires and what DANB requires, which does not indicate alignment.

Ms. Melodi Randolph, Dental Assisting Alliance representative and President of the California Association of Dental Assisting Teachers (CADAT), stated that over the past few months, their working group has gone over the duties in California with the hope of revamping their duties table. As a CDA member and having previously taught in a

CODA-accredited program for many years, she was a great supporter of DANB exams and certifications. She mentioned that the one thing she would advise the Council to keep in mind as they develop their working group is California's requirement to do lab and clinical work in order to be certified. She stated one of the things that California enforces is a requirement to do lab and clinical work in order to be certified. Ms. Randolph strongly recommend that the Council does not do anything to remove those requirements from the certifications, as it produces well-trained and clinically proficient assistants.

Chair Fowler called for the vote on the proposed motion. Ms. Taran took a roll call vote on the proposed motion.

Ayes: Epps-Robbins, Fowler, Olague, Pacheco, Pliss, Reed-Espinoza.

Nays: None.

Abstentions: None.

Absent: Miyasaki.

Recusals: None.

The motion passed.

Agenda Item 8: Discussion and Possible Action to Amend Business and Professions Code (BPC) Sections 1752.1, 1752.4, and 1907 and Repeal BPC Section 1752.6 Relating to Registered Dental Hygienist Application Requirements to Obtain a Registered Dental Assistant License and Permitted Duties

Ms. Rikki Parks provided the report, which is available in the meeting materials.

Ms. Reed-Espinoza asked whether the proposal is that a Registered Dental Hygienist (RDH) needs to have a RDA licensure as well for sealant and coronal polishing. Ms. Parks replied that the Board has seen an increased number of RDH applicants and the existing law is shown to not specifically identify what requirements are needed for the application process. Additionally, the law does not separate the fact that an RDH, who may have already taken the pit and fissure sealants/coronal polishing through their educational portal, would not have to retake a Board-approved course in order to do those allowable duties. They would essentially have to retake the course through a Board-approved program because the Board does not list the RDH education programs as being Board approved.

Chair Fowler asked for clarification of BPC section 1752.4, subsection (c), on page 40 of the meeting materials, which states "Except as provided in Section 1777, the supervising licensed dentist shall be responsible for ensuring completion of courses to perform additional duties and determining whether each authorized procedure performed by a registered dental assistant should be performed under general or direct supervision". Chair Fowler asked for clarity on whether the Board would no longer track the ultrasonic/sealant certification, Orthodontic Assistant Permit (OAP), and Dental



Sedation Assistant (DSA) permit. Ms. Parks replied that the suggestion is that the supervising dentist would verify that the additional course was taken.

Ms. Welch clarified that effectively the proposed amendment in subdivision (c) of section 1752.4 is merely moving the current requirement under subdivision (b), which states that an RDA may only perform the additional duties under paragraphs (1)-(4) after successfully completing a Board-approved RDA educational program currently in those duties or if he or she has provided evidence, satisfactory to the Board, of having completed a Board-approved course in those duties. The Board currently cannot charge any fee to receive these additional course certificates and review them, yet the Board is expending time and money on staff to receive and review these certificates. For these four duties, the Board would like to move the requirement for ensuring compliance with taking these courses to the supervising dentist, which would be accomplished under proposed subdivision (c), and would now state the supervising licensed dentist shall be responsible for ensuring completion of courses to perform additional duties.

Chair Fowler asked how would schools and the public verify certifications permits and whether one would be able to utilize the Board's webpage to look up a licensee and see if they are licensed. Ms. Welch replied that if you have a permit, you would still be issued a permit, and the Board would be tracking the permit. Ms. Jessica Olney, Anesthesia Unit Manager, provided background that currently staff has to review the pit and fissure sealant and the ultrasonic scaling certificates and then link those to the license. She noted that a licensee can ask for printing of a new certificate that has that certification on it, but the Board is not allowed to charge a fee for it, and this Board staff review and processing is time consuming. As the Board posts the information on its website of courses that are approved, the public can go online and view a list of those courses.

Chair Fowler noted that one of the requirements for running an RDA program is that attendees have to have their sealant certification before applying to the program. She asked how she would verify that attendees have met that requirement. Ms. Olney replied that currently the certification is posted to their license and is viewable on the DCA license search. RDAs who qualify through a combination of education and work experience or just work experience have to provide those certificates by their second renewal. The supervising dentist would be responsible for verifying that the RDA has taken those courses, and the dentist can verify that the course is through an approved provider on the Board's website.

Ms. Welch added that the individuals would have to provide the dentist or perhaps an additional program that requires this additional certificate that was issued by a Board-approved program. The supervising dentist is always responsible for their RDAs, and if proof of taking these additional courses is required, the individual has that certificate. One could rely on that and double check if they were concerned whether or not the certificate was issued by a Board-approved program. She noted that the Board still maintains a list of Board-approved courses and programs. The proposal attempts to

streamline and place responsibility for ensuring completion of these courses in these four additional duties where it is more appropriate. If there is a problem with consumer protection, the supervising dentist is currently responsible for their RDA. Currently, the Board is not seeing an increase in value for the Board to receive these certificates in these four duties and then having to process them just to add an additional certification to the license shown the Board's website. If the Board could charge a fee for that perhaps that would be appropriate, but it cannot right now. Unless there is some obvious consumer protection value to maintaining the current compliance process, Board staff is recommending that the responsibility for ensuring compliance for taking courses in these four duties be placed on the supervising dentist.

Chair Fowler asked if an RDA lost or cannot find proof of their course completion, would they need to retake that course. Ms. Welch replied that they could contact the course provider, but that it is always up to the individual to figure out how they are going to substantiate their education. It is not the Board's responsibility to maintain original certificates for all of its licensees and registrants.

Ms. Welch noted that with respect to the proposed amendments to BPC section 1752.1, subdivision (d), the Board is changing up the radiation safety and coronal polishing within five years, which was already approved by the Board in November 2021. That legislative proposal was included within this legislative proposal as they affect the same code section.

Chair Fowler requested public comment on this item. The Council received public comment.

Ariane Terlet, speaking on behalf of herself, asked whether this proposal was about an RDH, who was not a DA or RDA, applying to get their RDA certificate so that they could hold two certificates. Ms. Welch stated that with respect to RDHs, this proposal is regarding a licensed RDH with the Dental Hygiene Board of California (DHBC) applying for RDA licensure with the Dental Board. She noted that the Council is merely trying to clarify that process because it is confusing for Board staff and RDH licensees applying for RDA licensure. Ms. Terlet stated that it would help if the Board could streamline this by approving the dental hygiene program certificates, and having dentists verify certificates might be problematic in the long term.

Ms. Greenfield, EF Association and the Dental Assisting Alliance representative, noted that in regard to the hygiene portion of the discussion, they would agree with Dr. Terlet's comments. For that particular portion of this bill, they would support a way to cross-pollinate licensure requirements. She noted that for hygienists in the United States, sealants, x-ray, and coronal polish are all nationally accredited at the same level. She pointed out that in regard to putting this back to the responsibility of the dentist, she would agree with Dr. Terlet. To have to keep track of someone showing up with certifications really should be the responsibility of the Dental Board. If applicants have

completed certification classes that are approved by the Dental Board and have applied for licensure, that should be part of the Board's process.

Mr. Anthony Lum, DHBC Executive Officer, stated that, in their opinion, BPC section 1907 is clear as to the dental hygienists who can perform RDA functions. As stated in the law, anyone licensed as an RDH prior to December 31, 2005, can perform the functions, and anyone after must obtain an RDA license. If anyone asks the Board about RDA functions, DHBC references them back to the Dental Board's laws that cover RDAs, so they get a clear understanding of what they can do. Mr. Lum stated that the DHBC is willing to work and collaborate with the Dental Board on any potential amendments to BPC section 1907 and asked for better communication moving forward.

Ms. Welch apologized to the DHBC as she was under the impression that they would be included in conversations about this legislative proposal before it was brought to the Council. She understood the concern about individuals who were licensed as RDHs prior to 2005 and noted that provision would remain in law under BPC section 1907, subdivision (c); all persons holding a license as an RDH as of December 31, 2005 are authorized to perform the duties of an RDA. She commented that what the proposal was trying to clarify is what happens on or after January 1, 2006, for all of those applicants. With respect to radiation safety and coronal polishing certification for individuals who completed those courses many years before for the RDH license and who are now applying for RDA licensure, BPC section 1752.1, subdivision (a)(1)-(3) establishes certain individuals who have to follow a particular path for RDA licensure. The proposed new subdivision (a)(4) would create a new paragraph for RDH licensees so that all they have to do to get RDA licensure is pass the exam. On page 38 of the meeting materials, subdivision (d) states very clearly that each applicant applying for RDA licensure pursuant to paragraphs (1)-(3) of subdivision (a) have to provide evidence of the radiation safety and coronal polishing. That would not include the RDHs who are already licensed as RDHs and applying for RDA licensure under paragraph (4) of subdivision (a). Paragraphs (1) – (3) apply to standard RDA applicants, and paragraph (4) is the RDH licensee applying for RDA licensure, and they would be applying and establishing eligibility through their RDH licensure and by taking and passing the exam. She encouraged Board staff to communicate with Mr. Lum and the DHBC before this proposal is presented to the Board, potentially at the November meeting, to make sure that there are no unintended consequences of this legislative proposal. If the DHBC has any recommended changes, those could be presented to the Board at that time.

(M/S/C) (Fowler/Pacheco) to collaborate with the DHBC to recommend to the Board a recommendation to amend BPC sections 1752.1, 1752.4, and 1907 and repeal section 1752.6 to clarify the application requirements of an RDH to obtain an RDA license and education requirements to perform additional RDA duties.

Chair Fowler requested public comment before the Council acted on the motion. There were no public comments made on the motion.

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Chair Fowler called for the vote on the proposed motion. Ms. Taran took a roll call vote on the proposed motion.

Ayes: Epps-Robbins, Fowler, Olague, Pacheco, Pliss, Reed-Espinoza.

Nays: None.

Abstentions: None.

Absent: Miyasaki.

Recusals: None.

The motion passed.

Agenda Item 9: Adjournment

Chair Fowler adjourned the meeting at 11:03 a.m.



# MEMORANDUM

<b>DATE</b>	October 17, 2022
<b>TO</b>	Members of the Dental Assisting Council
<b>FROM</b>	Rikki Parks, Associate Governmental Program Analyst Dental Board of California
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Agenda Item 4: Update on Dental Assisting Examination Statistics</b>

Background:

The following table provides the examination statistics for candidates who attempted dental assisting examinations this current fiscal year from July 1, 2022, to September 30, 2022, and the past three fiscal years (FYs).

License Type		RDA	OA	DSA	RDAEF		
		Written	Written	Written	Clinical	Practical	Written
FY 2022/23	Total 1st Time Candidates Tested	366	46	2	N/A	N/A	53
	1st Time Candidates Pass	297	36	2	N/A	N/A	33
	1st Time Candidates Pass %	81%	78%	100%	N/A	N/A	62%
	1st Time Candidates Fail	69	10	N/A	N/A	N/A	20
	1st Time Candidates Fail %	19%	22%	N/A	N/A	N/A	38%
	Total Repeat Candidates Tested	150	18	N/A	N/A	N/A	50
	Repeat Candidates Pass	62	11	N/A	N/A	N/A	22
	Repeat Candidates Pass %	41%	%	N/A	N/A	N/A	44%
	Repeat Candidates Fail	88	7	N/A	N/A	N/A	28
	Repeat Candidates Fail %	59%	%	N/A	N/A	N/A	56%
	<b>Total Candidates Tested</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>103</b>
	<b>Total Candidates Passed</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>55</b>
	<b>Total Candidates Pass %</b>	<b>70%</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>53%</b>
	<b>Total Candidates Failed</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Total Candidates Failed %</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>27%</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>47%</b>	
FY 2021/22	Total 1st Time Candidates Tested	1556	137	5	54	58	160
	1st Time Candidates Pass	1077	102	4	37	46	111
	1st Time Candidates Pass %	69%	74%	80%	69%	79%	69%
	1st Time Candidates Fail	479	35	1	17	12	49
	1st Time Candidates Fail %	31%	26%	20%	31%	21%	31%
	Total Repeat Candidates Tested	1001	130	1	14	19	108
	Repeat Candidates Pass	411	66	1	9	12	43
	Repeat Candidates Pass %	41%	51%	100%	64%	63%	40%
	Repeat Candidates Fail	590	64	N/A	5	7	65
	Repeat Candidates Fail %	59%	49%	N/A	36%	37%	60%
	<b>Total Candidates Tested</b>	<b>2557</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>268</b>
	<b>Total Candidates Passed</b>	<b>1488</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>154</b>

	<b>Total Candidates Pass %</b>	<b>58%</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>68%</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>57%</b>
	<b>Total Candidates Failed</b>	<b>1069</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>114</b>
	<b>Total Candidates Fail %</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>43%</b>
<b>FY 2020/21</b>	Total 1 <sup>st</sup> Time Candidates Tested	1665	162	3	N/A	N/A	156
	1 <sup>st</sup> Time Candidates Pass	1285	82	2	N/A	N/A	133
	1 <sup>st</sup> Time Candidates Pass %	77%	51%	67%	N/A	N/A	85%
	1 <sup>st</sup> Time Candidates Fail	380	80	1	N/A	N/A	23
	1 <sup>st</sup> Time Candidates Fail %	23%	49%	33%	N/A	N/A	15%
	Total Repeat Candidates Tested	854	184	2	N/A	N/A	28
	Repeat Candidates Pass	368	51	1	N/A	N/A	20
	Repeat Candidates Pass %	43%	28%	50%	N/A	N/A	71%
	Repeat Candidates Fail	486	133	1	N/A	N/A	8
	Repeat Candidates Fail %	57%	72%	50%	N/A	N/A	29%
	<b>Total Candidates Tested</b>	<b>2519</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>184</b>
	<b>Total Candidates Passed</b>	<b>1653</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>153</b>
	<b>Total Candidates Pass %</b>	<b>66%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>85%</b>
	<b>Total Candidates Failed</b>	<b>866</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Total Candidates Fail %</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>17%</b>	
<b>FY 2019/20</b>	Total 1 <sup>st</sup> Time Candidates Tested	2122	213	6	56	64	96
	1 <sup>st</sup> Time Candidates Pass	1416	110	6	29	35	71
	1 <sup>st</sup> Time Candidates Pass %	67%	52%	100%	52%	55%	74%
	1 <sup>st</sup> Time Candidates Fail	706	103	N/A	27	29	25
	1 <sup>st</sup> Time Candidates Fail %	33%	48%	N/A	48%	45%	26%
	Total Repeat Candidates Tested	1481	225	N/A	24	21	53
	Repeat Candidates Pass	635	91	N/A	11	7	30
	Repeat Candidates Pass %	43%	40%	N/A	46%	33%	57%
	Repeat Candidates Fail	846	134	N/A	13	14	23
	Repeat Candidates Fail %	57%	60%	N/A	54%	67%	43%
	<b>Total Candidates Tested</b>	<b>3603</b>	<b>438</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>149</b>
	<b>Total Candidates Passed</b>	<b>2051</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>101</b>
	<b>Total Candidates Pass %</b>	<b>57%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>49%</b>	<b>68%</b>
	<b>Total Candidates Failed</b>	<b>1552</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>48</b>
<b>Total Candidates Fail %</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>54%</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>32%</b>	

The Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) monitors the passing rates for the dental assistant examinations. OPES works with subject matter experts (i.e., actively practicing licensees who are in good standing) to build a bank of quality questions that adhere to professional guidelines and technical standards for use on occupational licensing examinations. OPES believes the passing rates are consistent with expectations for the current phase of development for the examinations.

Additional information regarding written examination statistics for the Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) General and Law and Ethics Written Examination, the Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions (RDAEF) Written Examination, the Orthodontic Assistant (OA) Permit Written Examination, and the Dental Sedation Assistant (DSA) Permit Written Examination are available on the Board's website located here:

[https://dbc.ca.gov/applicants/rda\\_written\\_exam\\_stats\\_2021.shtml](https://dbc.ca.gov/applicants/rda_written_exam_stats_2021.shtml)

**Action Requested:**

Informational only. No action required.



# MEMORANDUM

<b>DATE</b>	October 12, 2022
<b>TO</b>	Members of the Dental Assisting Council
<b>FROM</b>	Paige Ragali, Licensing and Examination Manager Dental Board of California
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Agenda Item 5: Update on Dental Assisting Licensing Statistics</b>

## Dental Assistant License Application Statistics

The following tables provide monthly dental assistant application statistics for fiscal years (FY) 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, and 22/23. The data provided for FY 22/23 is through September 30, 2022.

Dental Assistant Applications Received by Month													
	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
RDA 19/20	325	204	320	328	131	326	204	153	273	47	42	100	<b>2,453</b>
RDA 20/21	128	120	288	409	134	210	263	120	215	239	195	340	<b>2,661</b>
RDA 21/22	212	220	246	256	176	174	172	159	222	199	278	331	<b>2,645</b>
RDA 22/23	519	425	344	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1,288</b>
RDAEF 19/20	9	11	11	1	0	5	45	1	69	6	1	3	<b>162</b>
RDAEF 20/21	3	13	17	2	4	0	1	11	12	36	13	14	<b>126</b>
RDAEF 21/22	4	7	27	14	21	13	9	9	5	42	10	29	<b>190</b>
RDAEF 22/23	4	15	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>30</b>
OA 19/20	20	31	31	47	14	42	19	18	17	6	2	11	<b>258</b>
OA 20/21	14	16	15	21	9	25	10	15	28	21	23	29	<b>226</b>
OA 21/22	14	24	26	25	30	28	18	14	25	26	22	20	<b>272</b>
OA 22/23	16	28	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>67</b>
DSA 19/20	0	0	5	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	0	2	<b>12</b>
DSA 20/21	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	4	<b>7</b>
DSA 21/22	0	0	1	5	0	2	0	1	2	6	1	0	<b>18</b>
DSA 22/23	0	4	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>7</b>
Dental Assistant Applications Approved by Month													
	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
RDA 19/20	339	316	213	235	195	216	126	239	80	209	106	105	<b>2,379</b>
RDA 20/21	65	47	248	188	69	89	261	239	219	244	146	92	<b>1,907</b>
RDA 21/22	225	273	225	209	176	108	71	118	114	139	118	121	<b>1,897</b>
RDA 22/23	258	542	846	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>1,646</b>

Agenda Item 5: Update on Dental Assisting Licensing Statistics  
 Dental Assisting Council Meeting  
 November 17, 2022

<b>Dental Assistant Applications Approved by Month – Cont'd</b>													
	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Totals</b>
RDAEF 19/20	2	0	11	20	2	1	17	31	1	6	0	0	<b>91</b>
RDAEF 20/21	36	19	23	17	1	5	2	3	19	10	23	20	<b>178</b>
RDAEF 21/22	18	1	4	22	25	12	3	11	9	7	24	35	<b>171</b>
RDAEF 22/23	25	20	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>45</b>
OA 19/20	26	19	37	26	23	17	23	24	7	25	10	5	<b>242</b>
OA 20/21	0	4	22	12	13	7	18	28	17	31	14	7	<b>173</b>
OA 21/22	20	18	13	6	23	12	10	10	7	13	11	14	<b>157</b>
OA 22/23	21	22	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>79</b>
DSA 19/20	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	<b>6</b>
DSA 20/21	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>3</b>
DSA 21/22	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	<b>6</b>
DSA 22/23	2	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>3</b>
<b>Dental Assistant Licenses Issued by Month</b>													
	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Totals</b>
RDA 19/20	217	184	245	252	248	294	185	146	104	27	51	81	<b>2,034</b>
RDA 20/21	179	19	263	90	215	67	87	124	204	167	137	181	<b>1,733</b>
RDA 21/22	244	151	126	149	155	181	79	97	99	97	121	100	<b>1,599</b>
RDA 22/23	115	126	117	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>358</b>
RDAEF 19/20	7	20	3	12	7	2	2	12	11	0	1	1	<b>78</b>
RDAEF 20/21	1	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>5</b>
RDAEF 21/22	0	46	1	1	0	0	262	0	2	6	7	4	<b>329</b>
RDAEF 22/23	39	20	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>78</b>
OA 19/20	18	28	18	25	29	17	19	12	16	5	8	10	<b>205</b>
OA 20/21	11	7	9	16	9	5	8	10	11	12	22	9	<b>129</b>
OA 21/22	10	17	2	0	32	19	22	13	15	17	11	11	<b>169</b>
OA 22/23	18	20	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>50</b>
DSA 19/20	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	3	<b>7</b>
DSA 20/21	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>3</b>
DSA 21/22	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	1	<b>5</b>
DSA 22/23	0	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>2</b>
<b>Cancelled Dental Assistant Applications by Month</b>													
	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Totals</b>
RDA 19/20	3	0	4	1	1	1	2	2	4	0	0	1	<b>19</b>
RDA 20/21	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	1	2	0	3	1	<b>11</b>
RDA 21/22	0	1	4	2	0	6	1	0	0	2	4	5	<b>25</b>
RDA 22/23	1	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>7</b>
RDAEF 19/20	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	<b>5</b>
RDAEF 20/21	0	1	0	0	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	2	<b>8</b>
RDAEF 21/22	8	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	<b>10</b>
RDAEF 22/23	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

Agenda Item 5: Update on Dental Assisting Licensing Statistics  
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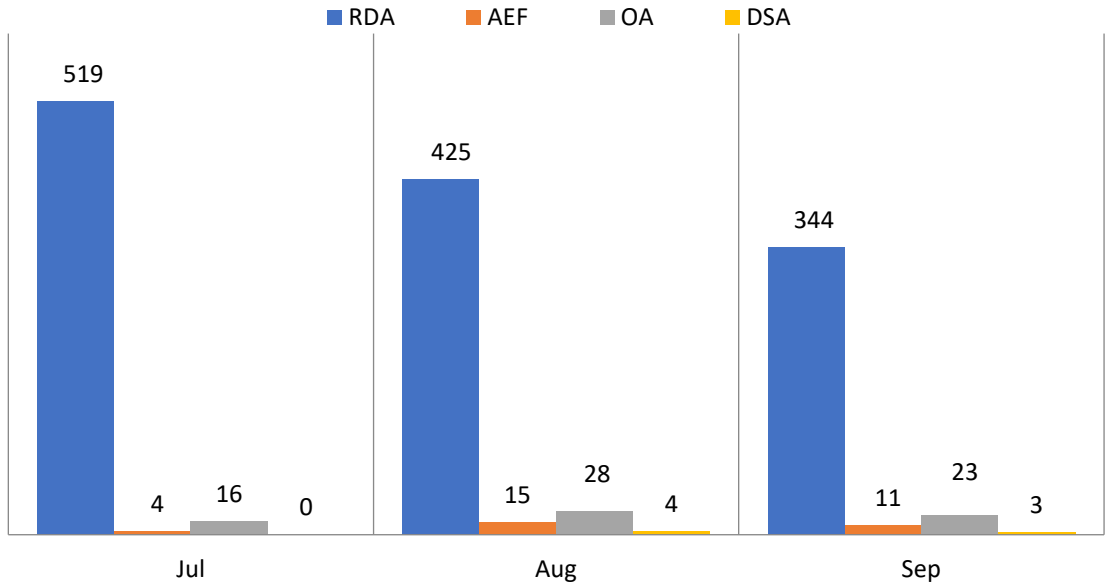
<b>Cancelled Dental Assistant Applications by Month – Cont'd</b>													
	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
OA 19/20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OA 20/21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OA 21/22	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
OA 22/23	2	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
DSA 19/20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DSA 20/21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DSA 21/22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DSA 22/23	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
<b>Withdrawn Dental Assistant Applications by Month</b>													
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
RDA 19/20	7	1	6	3	7	0	6	0	7	1	1	1	40
RDA 20/21	0	3	7	2	1	3	1	1	2	0	0	1	21
RDA 21/22	3	2	0	0	4	3	4	5	4	2	1	5	33
RDA 22/23	4	8	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
RDAEF 19/20	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
RDAEF 20/21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
RDAEF 21/22	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	4
RDAEF 22/23	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
OA 19/20	1	2	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	7
OA 20/21	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
OA 21/22	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	1	1	1	10
OA 22/23	0	0	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
DSA 19/20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DSA 20/21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
DSA 21/22	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
DSA 22/23	1	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
<b>Denied Dental Assistant Applications by Month</b>													
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Totals
RDA 19/20	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1	1	9
RDA 20/21	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	2	0	2	9
RDA 21/22	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	0	6
RDA 22/23	2	1	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
RDAEF 19/20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RDAEF 20/21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RDAEF 21/22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
RDAEF 22/23	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0
OA 19/20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OA 20/21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
OA 21/22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
OA 22/23	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0

Agenda Item 5: Update on Dental Assisting Licensing Statistics  
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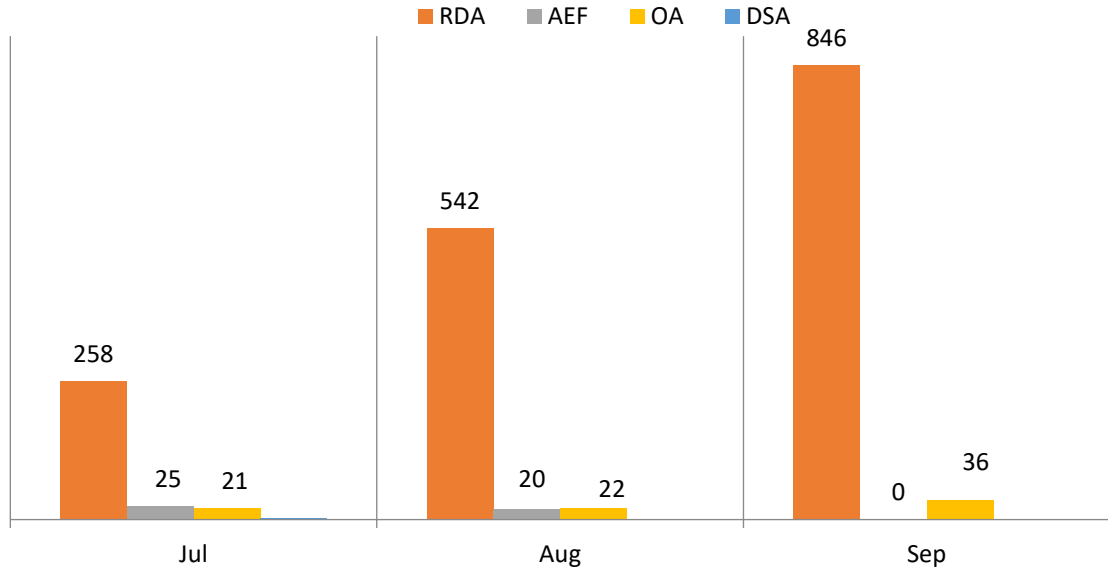
<b>Denied Dental Assistant Applications by Month – Cont'd</b>													
	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sept</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Totals</b>
DSA 19/20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
DSA 20/21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
DSA 21/22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
DSA 22/23	0	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>0</b>

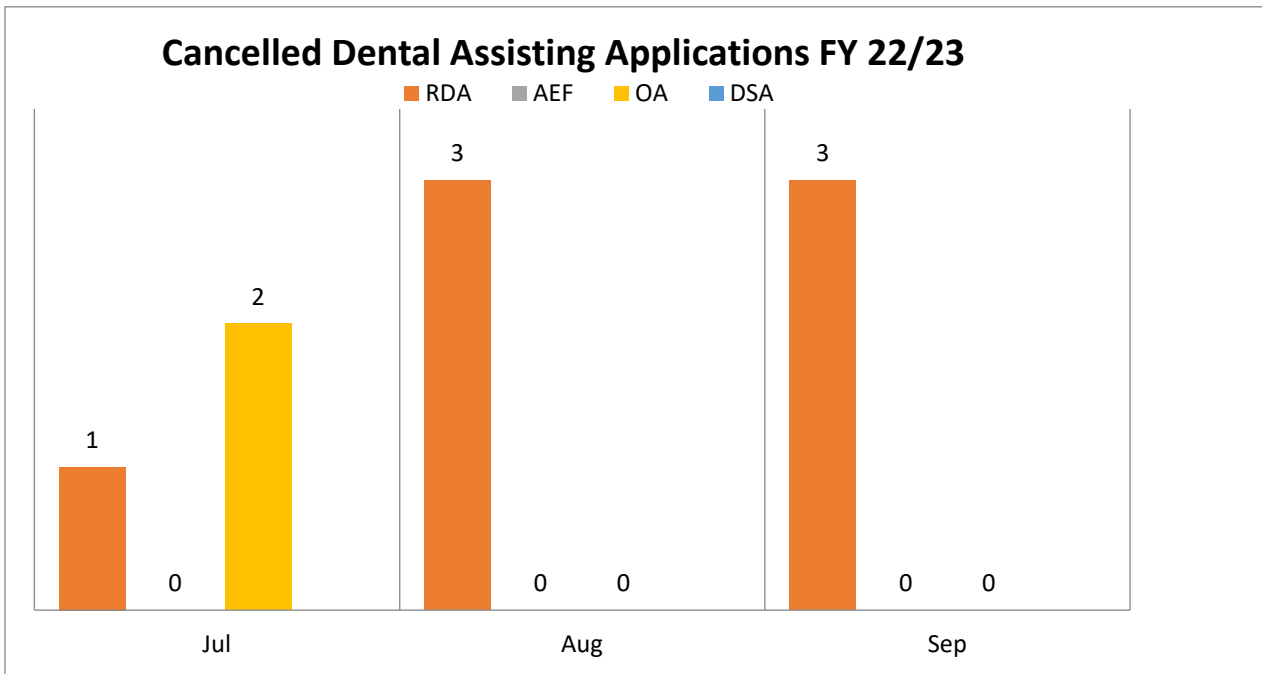
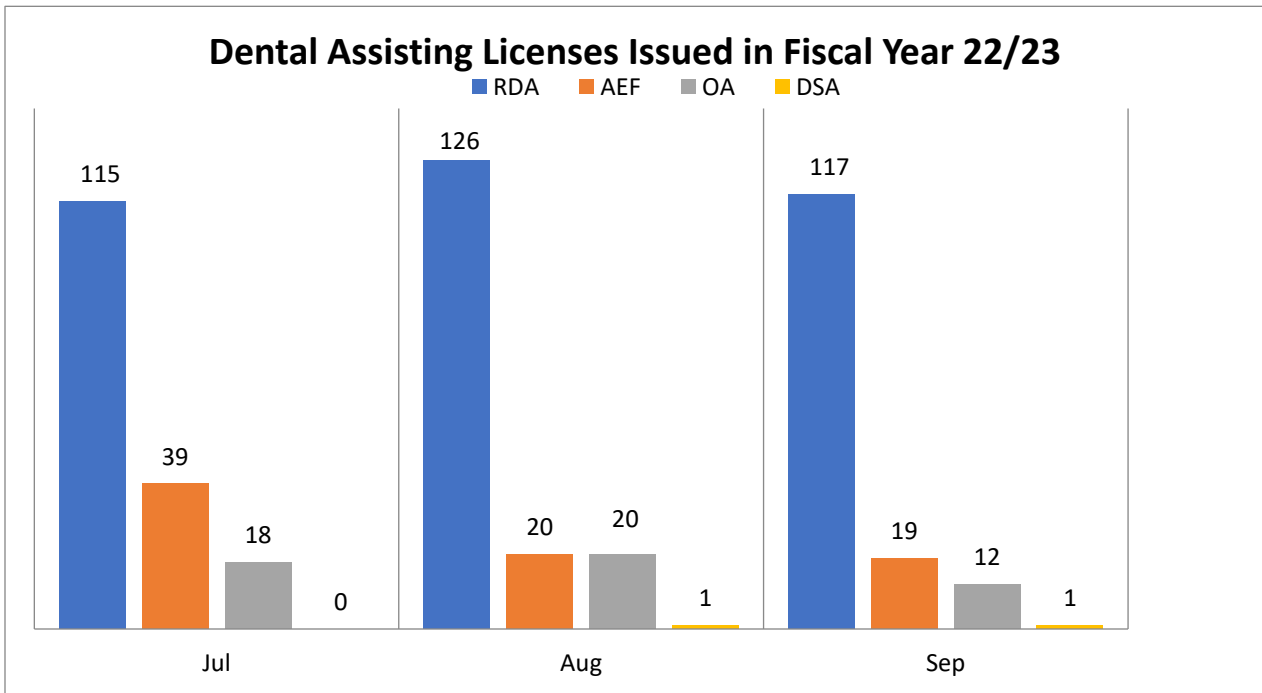
<b>Application Definitions</b>	
<b>Received</b>	Application received in paper format or electronically through BreEZe system.
<b>Approved</b>	Application for eligibility of licensure processed with required documentation and examination eligibility issued.
<b>License Issued</b>	Final application including examination results approved and license issued.
<b>Cancelled</b>	Board requests staff to remove application (i.e. duplicate).
<b>Withdrawn</b>	Applicant requests Board to remove application for eligibility of licensure.
<b>Denied</b>	The Board denies an application on the on the grounds that the applicant has been convicted of a crime or has been subject to formal discipline; in accordance with Business and Professions Code, Division 1.5, Chapter 2, Denial of Licenses.

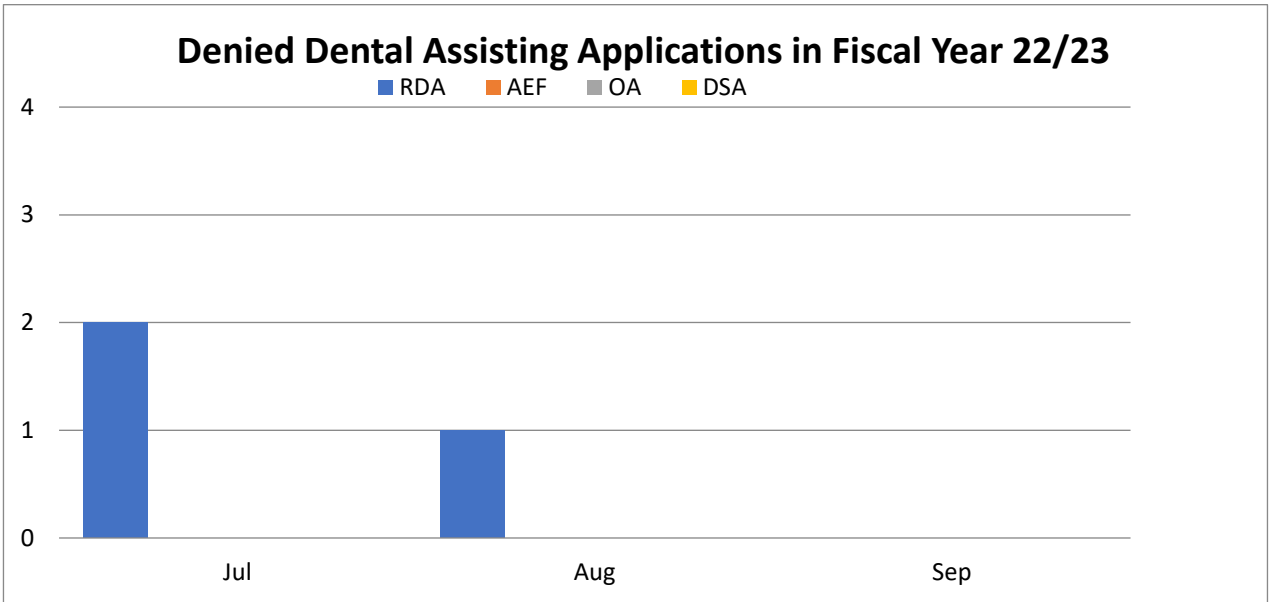
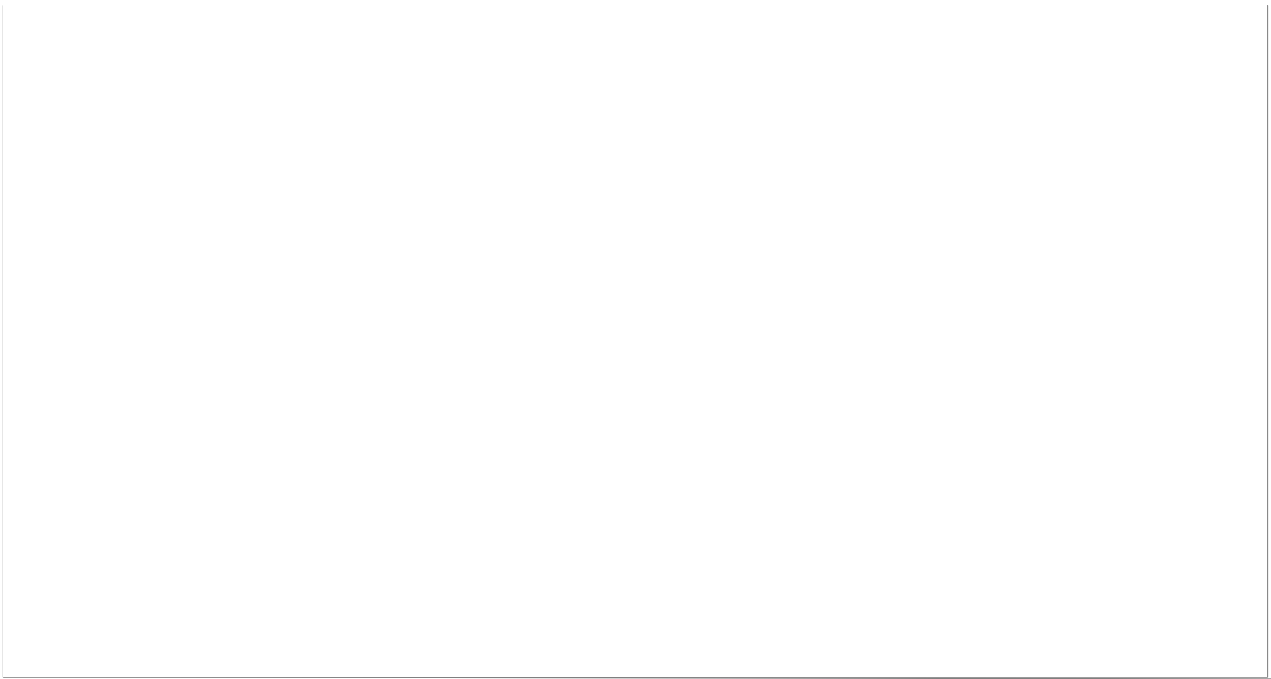
### Dental Assisting Applications Received in Fiscal Year 22/23



### Dental Assisting Applications Approved FY 22/23







## Dental Assistant License Status Statistics

The following table provides dental assistant license and permit status statistics for fiscal years (FY) 19/20, 20/21, 21/22, and for 22/23.

License Type	License Status	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	FY 21/22	FY 22/23
Registered Dental Assistant	Active	30,465	30,317	28,902	28,690
	Inactive	4,321	4,155	3,991	3,942
	Delinquent	11,636	11,802	12,992	13,013
	Cancelled	47,759	49,700	51,512	52,210
License Type	License Status	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	FY 21/22	FY 22/23
Registered Dental Assistant in Expanded Functions	Active	1,584	1,522	1,756	1,831
	Inactive	75	74	75	72
	Delinquent	213	251	298	294
	Cancelled	350	379	420	431
License Type	License Status	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	FY 21/22	FY 22/23
Orthodontic Assistant	Active	1,281	1,340	1,407	1,443
	Inactive	23	34	44	48
	Delinquent	158	211	286	299
	Cancelled	4	13	27	31
License Type	License Status	FY 19/20	FY 20/21	FY 21/22	FY 22/23
Dental Sedation Assistant	Active	36	38	38	42
	Inactive	2	3	2	1
	Delinquent	15	13	16	14
	Cancelled	2	4	7	8

Definitions	
Active	An individual who has an active status and has completed all renewal requirements receives this status.
Inactive	An individual who has an inactive status; has paid the renewal fees but cannot perform the duties of the license unless the license is re-activated. Continuing education units are not required for inactive license renewal.
Delinquent	An individual who does not comply with renewal requirements receives this status until renewal requirements are met.
Cancelled	An individual who fails to comply with renewal requirements by a set deadline will receive this status. Total number of licenses / permits cancelled to date.

The following table provides statistics on population, current and active Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) licenses by county, and population per RDA license by county for fiscal years (FY) 20/21, 21/22, and for 22/23.

County	RDA 20/21	Pop. 20/21	Pop. per RDA 20/21	DDS 20/21	RDA to DDS Ratio 20/21	RDA 21/22	Pop. 21/22	Pop. per RDA 21/22	DDS 21/22	RDA to DDS Ratio 21/22	RDA 22/23	Pop. 22/23	Pop. per RDA 22/23	DDS 22/23	RDA to DDS Ratio 22/23
Alameda	1,252	1,670,834	1,334	1,497	1:1	1,185	1,651,979	1,394	1,492	1:1	1,162	1,651,979	1,421	1,519	0
Alpine	0	1,142	N/A	1	0:1	0	1,200	N/A	1	0:1	0	1,200	-	1	0
Amador	57	37,676	660	23	2:1	55	40,297	732	22	2:1	57	40,297	706	21	2
Butte	267	210,291	787	126	2:1	250	201,608	806	124	2:1	260	201,608	775	123	2
Calaveras	61	45,023	738	18	3:1	55	40,297	732	18	3:1	55	45,049	819	18	3
Colusa	28	21,902	782	6	5:1	28	21,807	779	6	4:1	27	21,807	807	6	4
Contra Costa	1,285	1,153,561	897	1,123	1:1	1,224	1,156,555	944	1,098	1:1	1230	1,156,555	940	1,100	1
Del Norte	29	27,298	941	15	2:1	26	27,218	1,046	13	2:1	27	27,218	1,008	12	2
El Dorado	220	193,227	878	161	1:1	205	190,465	929	157	1:1	209	190,465	911	156	1
Fresno	907	1,023,358	1,128	622	1:1	884	1,011,273	1,143	613	1:1	877	1,011,273	1,153	615	1
Glenn	49	29,400	600	10	5:1	46	28,750	625	6	7:1	49	28,750	586	6	8
Humboldt	170	133,302	784	68	2:1	162	135,168	834	64	2:1	154	135,168	877	64	2
Imperial	85	188,777	2,220	38	2:1	83	179,329	2,161	38	2:1	84	179,329	2,134	37	2
Inyo	11	18,584	1,689	9	1:1	9	18,978	2,109	8	1:1	9	18,978	2,108	7	1
Kern	624	917,553	1,470	350	2:1	601	909,813	1,513	340	1:1	598	909,813	1,521	343	1
Kings	139	153,608	1,105	64	2:1	134	152,023	1,135	49	2:1	138	152,023	1101	59	2
Lake	90	64,040	711	45	2:1	80	67,407	842	26	3:1	79	67,407	853	43	1
Lassen	48	28,833	600	24	2:1	40	30,274	756	23	1:1	38	30,274	796	25	1
Los Angeles	4,748	10,172,951	2,142	8,502	1:2	4,503	9,861,224	2,189	8,418	1:2	4476	9,861,224	2,203	8,499	0
Madera	137	158,147	1,154	43	3:1	135	157,396	1,165	45	3:1	132	157,396	1,192	46	2
Marin	183	260,831	1,425	304	1:2	174	257,135	1,477	308	1:2	167	257,135	1,539	306	0
Mariposa	15	18,067	1,204	7	2:1	12	17,045	1,420	7	1:1	11	17,045	1,549	7	1
Mendocino	103	87,946	853	52	2:1	97	89,999	927	54	1:1	94	89,999	957	53	1

County	RDA 20/21	Pop. 20/21	Pop. per RDA 20/21	DDS 20/21	RDA to DDS Ratio 20/21	RDA 21/22	Pop. 21/22	Pop. per RDA 21/22	DDS 21/22	RDA to DDS Ratio 21/22	RDA 22/23	Pop. 22/23	Pop. per RDA 22/23	DDS 22/23	RDA to DDS Ratio 22/23
Merced	252	283,521	1,125	91	3:1	240	284,338	1,184	97	2:1	241	284,338	1,179	94	2
Modoc	4	9,570	2,392	5	1:1	2	8,690	4,345	3	1:2	2	8,690	4,345	2	1
Mono	5	13,464	2,692	3	2:1	6	13,379	2,229	5	1:1	6	13,379	2,229	5	1
Monterey	392	441,143	1,125	259	2:1	380	433,716	1,141	257	1:1	374	433,716	1,159	253	1
Napa	137	139,088	1,015	113	1:1	127	136,179	1,072	112	1:1	129	136,179	1,055	111	1
Nevada	96	98,114	1,022	77	1:1	88	101,242	1,150	77	1:1	88	101,242	1,150	74	1
Orange	1,823	3,194,332	1,752	4,005	1:2	1,742	3,162,245	1,815	4,044	1:2	1702	3,162,245	1,857	4,092	0
Placer	507	403,711	796	471	1:1	465	409,025	879	466	1:1	468	409,025	873	474	0
Plumas	19	18,260	961	15	1:1	19	18,942	996	14	1:1	19	18,942	996	14	1
Riverside	2,126	2,442,304	1,148	1,111	2:1	1,982	2,435,525	1,228	1,122	1:1	1959	2,435,525	1,243	1,139	1
Sacramento	1,662	1,555,365	935	1,159	1:1	1,619	1,576,618	973	1,175	1:1	1599	1,576,618	986	1,191	1
San Benito	106	62,353	588	23	5:1	111	65,479	589	24	4:1	115	65,479	569	25	4
San Bernardino	1,567	2,180,537	1,391	1,381	1:1	1,505	2,187,665	1,453	1,370	1:1	1497	2,187,665	1,461	1,409	1
San Diego	2,659	3,343,355	1,257	2,779	1:1	2,541	3,287,306	1,293	2,764	0:1	2519	3,287,306	1,305	2,817	0
San Francisco	437	897,806	2,054	1,225	1:3	416	842,754	2,025	1,175	1:3	422	842,754	1,997	1,196	0
San Joaquin	792	773,632	976	371	2:1	777	784,298	1,009	371	2:1	765	784,298	1,025	377	2
San Luis Obispo	222	277,259	1,248	225	1:1	206	280,721	1,362	207	1:1	211	280,721	1,330	207	1
San Mateo	605	773,244	1,278	858	1:1	561	744,662	1,327	853	1:1	551	744,662	1,351	848	0
Santa Barbara	352	451,840	1,283	324	1:1	352	445,164	1,264	312	1:1	358	445,164	1,243	316	1
Santa Clara	1,673	1,961,969	1,172	2,292	1:1	1,598	1,894,783	1,185	2,284	1:1	1557	1,894,783	1,216	2,313	0
Santa Cruz	234	271,233	1,159	170	1:1	214	266,564	1,245	166	1:1	215	266,564	1,239	172	1
Shasta	189	178,045	942	115	2:1	174	180,531	1,037	107	1:1	178	180,531	1,014	105	1
Sierra	5	3,201	640	1	5:1	2	3,229	1,614	0	4:0	2	3,229	1,614	0	0
Siskiyou	34	44,461	1,307	24	1:1	29	43,830	1,511	21	1:1	27	43,830	1,623	23	1
Solano	641	440,224	686	287	2:1	621	447,241	720	282	2:1	589	447,241	759	281	2
Sonoma	671	492,980	734	393	2:1	656	482,404	735	383	1:1	627	482,404	769	385	1



County	RDA 20/21	Pop. 20/21	Pop. per RDA 20/21	DDS 20/21	RDA to DDS Ratio 20/21	RDA 21/22	Pop. 21/22	Pop. per RDA 21/22	DDS 21/22	RDA to DDS Ratio 21/22	RDA 22/23	Pop. 22/23	Pop. Per RDA 22/23	DDS 22/23	RDA to DDS Ratio 22/23
Stanislaus	594	557,709	938	273	2:1	587	549,466	936	271	2:1	588	549,466	934	276	2
Sutter	124	100,750	812	56	2:1	120	99,145	826	52	2:1	120	99,145	826	52	2
Tehama	87	65,129	748	29	3:1	83	65,052	783	31	2:1	83	65,052	783	29	2
Trinity	4	13,548	3,387	4	1:1	5	16,023	3,204	3	1:1	5	16,023	3,204	3	1
Tulare	451	479,977	1,064	227	2:1	425	475,014	1,117	218	1:1	445	475,014	1,067	220	2
Tuolumne	75	54,917	732	47	2:1	69	55,291	801	48	1:1	67	55,291	825	49	1
Ventura	550	842,886	1,532	666	1:1	513	833,652	1,625	666	1:1	514	833,652	1,621	665	0
Yolo	196	221,705	1,131	114	2:1	190	221,165	1,164	118	1:1	186	221,165	1,189	117	1
Yuba	88	78,887	896	7	13:1	90	82,275	914	6	15:1	89	82,275	924	7	12
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29,887</b>	<b>39,782,870</b>	<b>65,490</b>	<b>32,308</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>30,119</b>	<b>39,371,318</b>	<b>1,307</b>	<b>32,034</b>	<b>1:1</b>	<b>28,250</b>	<b>39,185,605</b>	<b>72,916</b>	<b>32,407</b>	<b>N/A</b>

\*Population data obtained from Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit as of 7/1/2022

\*\*Ratios are rounded to the nearest whole number

Counties with the Highest Population per RDA:	Modoc County (1:4,345)	Counties with Lowest Population per RDA:	Alpine County (No RDAs)
	Trinity County (1:3,204)		San Benito County (1:569)
	Mono County (1:2,229)		Glenn County (1:586)
	Los Angeles County (1:2,203)		Amador County (1: 706)
	Imperial County (1:2,134)		Solano County (1:759)



## MEMORANDUM

<b>DATE</b>	October 28, 2022
<b>TO</b>	Members of the Dental Assisting Council (Council)
<b>FROM</b>	Mirela Taran, Administrative Analyst Dental Board of California (Board)
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Agenda Item 6:</b> Update and Discussion on Status of Surveys Regarding Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions Administration of Local Anesthesia and Nitrous Oxide – <i>Jeri Fowler, CDA, RDAEF, OA, and Traci Reed-Espinoza, RDAEF</i>

### Background

Background At its November 2018 meeting, the Council heard a presentation from Joan Greenfield, RDAEF, MS, regarding a proposal to add the administration of local anesthesia and nitrous oxide to the scope of practice of registered dental assistants in extended functions (RDAEFs) licensed on or after January 1, 2010, as an optional post-licensure permit with conditions determined by the Board. During this meeting, the Council discussed the necessity of adding the administration of local anesthesia and nitrous oxide to the scope of practice for RDAEFs and expressed concern for public protection.

The Council directed staff to survey both dentists and a larger sample of RDAEFs to solicit their judgments on adding the administration of local anesthesia and nitrous oxide to the RDAEF scope of practice. In addition, the Council directed the formation of a working group, consisting of dentists, hygienists, RDAEFs, and other interested stakeholders, to research and evaluate the proposal. Further, the Council recommended the Board consider exploring the possibility of eliminating the multiple layers of RDAEF certifications by incorporating all of them under one general RDAEF license.

At the August 2021 meeting, staff advised the Board that it does not have sufficient staff resources to carry out the Council’s directive regarding the development of a survey and the formation of a working group. Board staff determined that to move forward with the Council’s request, a Board member would be needed to assist staff with the surveys and working groups. The Board members held a robust discussion, considering whether to move forward with developing a survey and forming a working group to study expanding the RDAEF scope of practice for allowing administration of local anesthesia and nitrous oxide. Board members expressed concern that it was unclear as to what the Council wanted to be studied. Some Board members favored moving forward with the Council’s

Agenda Item 6: Update and Discussion on Status of Surveys Regarding Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions Administration of Local Anesthesia and Nitrous Oxide – *Jeri Fowler, CDA, RDAEF, OA, and Traci Reed-Espinoza, RDAEF*  
 Dental Assisting Council Meeting  
 November 17, 2022

recommendation but would need additional information from the Council. A motion failed that would have moved forward with the Council's recommendation to survey both dentists and a larger sample of RDAEFs to assess their judgments on adding the administration of local anesthesia and nitrous oxide to the RDAEF scope of practice.

At the November 2021 meeting, the Council was asked to reevaluate whether a survey and study of these issues needed to be performed, and if so, the Council was asked to define the specific issues to be studied and surveyed, with a list of pertinent survey questions, regarding allowing RDAEF administration of local anesthesia and nitrous oxide. Given the lack of Board staff resources and complexity of these issues, the Council established a two-member working group consisting of Jerri Fowler, DA, RDAEF, OA, Council Chair, and Traci Reed-Espinoza, RDAEF, Council Vice Chair (Working Group), to discuss the specific issues to be studied, create relevant survey questions, and return to the Council with a list of the specific issues to be studied and survey questions.

At the January 2022 meeting, the Working Group presented their proposed survey questions to the Council. After a robust discussion, the Council made a motion to delegate authority to the Working Group to continue working with the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA), Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) to finalize the surveys and bring them back at a future DAC meeting and the motion passed.

The Working Group reviewed OPES' recommendations to the surveys and brought their revised draft back to the Council at the May 2022 meeting, for their consideration and feedback. At that meeting, the Council delegated authority to the Working Group to work with OPES to finalize the surveys and distribute to stakeholders.

On August 8, 2022, the Working Group and Board staff met with OPES to discuss the next steps in the finalization and distribution of the survey. It was determined that the anticipated release date of the survey would be early September 2022. The survey was open for licensees for a period of one month.

### **Update**

OPES has compiled and analyzed the data from the survey and is currently completing the report. A summary of the data analysis will be presented. The complete results and full report, however, will be presented in February.

### **Action Requested**

No action requested.



## MEMORANDUM

<b>DATE</b>	October 28, 2022
<b>TO</b>	Members of the Dental Assisting Council (Council)
<b>FROM</b>	Joanne Pacheco, RDH, MAOB, and Cara Miyasaki, RDA, RDHEF, MS Dental Board of California (Board)
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Agenda Item 7:</b> Update and Discussion on Research of Dental Auxiliary Certification and Education Requirements and Review Applicable Statutes and Regulations Regarding Board Approval of Registered Dental Assistant and Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions Educational Programs and Courses for Potential Amendments

### Background

Board staff have identified inefficiencies in the regulations for approving, inspecting, and evaluating Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) and Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions (RDAEF) educational programs and courses. Further, recent trends suggest a decline of licensed dental auxiliaries, which impacts consumer access to dental care. Board staff seek Council review of dental auxiliary education requirements to determine if legislative or regulatory amendments may improve dental auxiliary licensure, education and/or licensure portability, and Board program/course approval.

At the August 2022 meeting, the Council moved to create a two-member working group, consisting of Council Member Pacheco and a second Council Member which was announced later, to review these issues.

Members Pacheco and Miyasaki will provide an update on the research conducted thus far on dental auxiliary certification and education requirements in other states. Next steps will include reviewing applicable statutes and regulations regarding Board approval of the RDA and RDAEF programs courses and potential amendments.

### Action Requested

No action requested.

Agenda Item 7: Update and Discussion on Research of Dental Auxiliary Certification and Education Requirements and Review Applicable Statutes and Regulations Regarding Board Approval of Registered Dental Assistant and Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions Educational Programs and Courses for Potential Amendments  
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## MEMORANDUM

<b>DATE</b>	October 12, 2022
<b>TO</b>	Members of the Dental Assisting Council
<b>FROM</b>	David Bruggeman, Legislative and Regulatory Specialist Dental Board of California
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>Agenda Item 8:</b> Discussion and Possible Action on Legislative Proposal to Amend Business and Professions Code Section 1750 Regarding Unlicensed Dental Assistant Requirements to Perform Basic Supportive Dental Procedures

### Issue

In reviewing Business and Professions Code section 1750, staff noted a potential issue with the language concerning the responsibilities of the employers of unlicensed dental assistants to confirm the course completion requirements for those dental assistants. Board staff request that the Council review the language and determine if legislative amendments are needed to clarify the language.

### Discussion

BPC section 1750(c) sets requirements for the employer of an unlicensed dental assistant to verify course completion for that dental completion within a specified timeframe.

(c) The employer of a dental assistant shall be responsible for ensuring that the dental assistant who has been in continuous employment for 120 days or more, has already successfully completed, or successfully completes, all of the following within a year of the date of employment:

It could be assumed that the 120-day and one-year periods referenced in the law start on the same date – the date of employment. However, as currently written an unlicensed dental assistant could be a seasonal or other temporary employee, never working 120 days continuously for an employer, and therefore they would not trigger the requirement for the employer to verify course completion.

Agenda Item 8: Discussion and Possible Action on Legislative Proposal to Amend Business and Professions Code Section 1750 Regarding Unlicensed Dental Assistant Requirements to Perform Basic Supportive Dental Procedures  
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Clarifying language in statute could eliminate this possibility and reinforce the idea that the 120 day and one-year clocks start at the same time – the first date of employment.

Suggested language to address this issue follows (changes to existing text in underline and ~~strikethrough~~):

(c) The employer of a dental assistant shall be responsible for ensuring that the dental assistant who has been ~~in continuous employment~~ employed with that employer for 120 days or more, has already successfully completed, or successfully completes, all of the following within a year of the date of employment. The date of employment shall be the first day for counting both the 120-day and one-year requirements described in this subsection:

### **Action Requested**

Board staff is requesting that Council members discuss the 120-day requirement and consider the recommendation of a legislative proposal and the suggested text to clarify the requirement. If the Council agrees that a legislative proposal is needed, staff is requesting that the Council consider a motion. The motion would be to include in the Board's Sunset Review report to the California State Legislature a legislative proposal to amend Business and Professions Code section 1750 to clarify the timing of the 120-day employment requirement for the employer of an unlicensed dental assistant to ensure the completion of necessary courses within one year of employment.