Dental Assisting Committee

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY • GOVERNOR EDMUND G. BROWN JR
DENTAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA
2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 1550, Sacramento, CA 95815
P (916) 263-2300 F (916) 263-2140 www.dbc.ca.gov

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING – Notice is hereby given that a public meeting of the Dental Assisting Committee of the Dental Board of California will be held as follows:

NOTICE OF DENTAL ASSISTING COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, May 19, 2011
Upon Conclusion of Licensing, Certification and Permits Committee Meeting
Embassy Suites SFO - 150 Anza Blvd.
Burlingame, CA 94010
650-342-4600/916-263-2300

DENTAL ASSISTING COMMITTEE
Chair – Judith Forsythe, RDA, Chair
Vice Chair – Bruce Whitcher, DDS
Fran Burton, Public Member
Luis Dominicis, DDS
Huong Le, DDS
Tom Olinger, DDS

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

DA 1 – Approval of the February 24, 2011 Dental Assisting Committee Meeting Minutes

DA 2 – Update Regarding Status of Dental Assisting Programs and Courses

DA 3 – Update on Examination Dates and Sites for the Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) Practical Exam

DA 4 – Dental Assisting Forum (DAF) Report and Recommendations

(A) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the DAF recommended Scope of Responsibility as stated in the DAF's April 7, 2010 minutes

(B) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the DAF Recommendation to Consider Adding Administration of Local Anesthesia as a New Allowable Duty for Registered Dental Assistants in Extended Functions (RDAEF) Licensed after January 1, 2010

(C) Discussion and Possible Action to Consider the DAF's Request to Correct Prior Recommendation Regarding Changes to the Outline for the RDA Written Examination.

(D) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the DAF Recommendation to Split the RDAEF Examination into two Separate Parts

DA 5 – Staff Update on the Possibility of having the RDA and RDAEF Examinations at the same time, date and location. (Information only)

DA 6 – Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Feasibility of Conducting a Survey of RDAEF Licensees for the Purpose of Analysis of Workforce and Barrier to Care Issues

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT

Public comments will be taken on agenda items at the time the specific item is raised. The Committee may take action on any item listed on the agenda, unless listed as informational only. All times are approximate and subject to change. Agenda items may be taken out of order to accommodate speakers and to maintain a quorum. The meeting may be cancelled without notice. Time limitations for discussion and comment will be determined by the Committee Chair. For verification of the meeting, call (916) 263-2300 or access the Board's Web Site at **www.dbc.ca.gov**. The meeting facilities are accessible to individuals with physical disabilities. Please make any request for accommodations to Richard DeCuir at 2005 Evergreen Street, Suite 1550, Sacramento, CA 95815, no later than one week prior to the day of the meeting.

DA 1

Feb. 24, 2011 Minutes

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DENTAL ASSISTING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, February 24, 2011
San Diego

DRAFT

Members Present:
Judith Forsythe, RDA, Chair
Bruce Whitcher, DDS, Vice Chair
Fran Burton, Public Member
Luis Dominicis, DDS
Huong Le, DDS
Thomas Olinger, DDS

Members Absent:

Staff Present:
Richard DeCuir, Executive Officer
Donna Kantner, Licensing & Examination Unit Manager
Kim A. Trefry, Enforcement Chief
Jocelyn Campos, Enforcement Coordinator
Karen Fischer, Administrative Analyst
Sarah Wallace, Legislative/Regulatory Analyst
Linda Byers, Executive Assistant
Kristy Shellans, DCA Senior Staff Counsel
Greg Salute, Deputy Attorney General

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM
Ms. Judith Forsythe, Chair, called the committee meeting to order at 8:47 a.m. Roll was called and a quorum was established.

DA 1 – Approval of the November 4, 2010 Dental Assisting Committee Meeting Minutes
M/S/C (Dominicis/Burton) to accept the November 4, 2010 Dental Assisting Committee meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

DA 2 – Update Regarding Course Approvals for Registered Dental Assistant (RDA), Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions (RDAEF), Radiation Safety, Coronal Polish, Pit & Fissure Sealants, Infection Control, Ultrasonic Scaler, Dental Sedation Assistant, and Orthodontic Assistant. (Information Only)
Ms. Forsythe reported that the staff had supplied the committee with the list of approved, pending, withdrawn and denied courses per their request. Since May 6, 2010 when the Board delegated authority to staff to grant approval for these courses, the average length of time to process an application has gone from 7.5 months to 30-45 days. She commended staff on their efforts. Dr. Whitcher asked staff to check the number of approved Sedation Assistant Courses; he believes the number should be nine. Guy Atchison representing the California Academy of General Dentistry commented that there are problems with regulations regarding SERP and PACE approved Continuing Education Courses as being listed as delinquent. Kristy Shellans, legal counsel, stated that she and staff may look at this internally but it is not on the agenda and therefore may not be discussed.

DA 3 – Dental Assisting Forum (DAF) Report: Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the DAF's Recommendation for Changes to the Current Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) Examination Outline.

Ms. Forsythe gave an overview of the last DAF meeting in January and what was accomplished. She stated that the minutes from that meeting are available on the Dental Board's website. M/S/C (Burton/Dominicis) to accept the Dental Assisting Forum's recommendation to consider changes to the examination outline to include Infection Control, Dental Radiation Safety, and preventative procedures after the current examination review is complete and ask staff to incorporate a review. The motion passed unanimously.

DA 4 – Report on Southern Testing Sites for the Registered Dental Assistant Practical Exam

Ms. Forsythe reported that staff is very close to securing a site for the exam. She explained that there are usually 170 applicants per session, 3 sessions per day and 2 days of exams so a fairly large space is needed.

DA 5 – Discussion and Possible Action Regarding CADAT's Request:

(A) To consider allowing Board-approved RDA programs to submit a written request to the Board staff to review/approve, as equivalent, a CPR provider utilized for RDA program graduate qualification for the exams;

Lori Gagliardi, Director of CADAT, reported that all of the courses have a CPR requirement which has usually been taught by the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, or any other program approved by the Board. CADAT is asking the committee to recommend to the Board that they approve the attached list of CPR courses recognized through the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB). Kristy Shellans stated that the Board has the authority to approve a course if it is deemed equivalent but the Board has not developed any standards to determine if a course is equivalent or not. Ms. Shellans cautions against approving courses without some standards of equivalency being in place. Ms. Shellans recommends deferring this until some standards of equivalency are in place. Fran Burton asked how great the need is. Ms. Gagliardi stated that 1 student was denied licensure. Kristy Shellans stated that in order to determine criteria it must be done through regulation. Ms Burton stated her concern that we already have many regulations in queue. Dr. Olinger motioned to eliminate the phrase "or equivalent." He would like only American Red Cross or American Heart Association to be acceptable. Kristy Shellans stated that right now that is the case because the Board hasn't clarified what "equivalent" is. M/S/C (Whitcher/Olinger) to have staff develop equivalency standards for CPR courses. The motion passed unanimously.

(B) To consider approval of RDA programs to use CPR providers recognized by the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) for certification; and

Due to the motion in Agenda Item 5(A), to develop equivalency standards this item was not discussed or voted on.

(C) To Consider Whether Board action is needed regarding the use of clinical hours for Coronal Polish, Pit & Fissure Sealants and Radiology in the school setting as clinical hours if not performed in an extramural facility

Lori Gagliardi explained the differences in clinical hours and settings. CADAT would like a clarification regarding the counting of these hours toward clinical experience. Kristy Shellans commented that this is really a comment directed at the current rulemaking and that as such, if accepted, would require reopening the comment period. This could potentially push the date past the deadline. Dr. Olinger suggested dealing with this problem when and if it actually occurs, not hypothetically. M/S/C (Olinger/Burton) to not reopen the comment period to make changes for this request. The motion passed unanimously. Ms. Gagliardi asked if the Board would accept clinical hours as clinical hours no matter where they were. Dr. Morrow stated that all the Board can do is review applications after they have been submitted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT

The committee adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

DA 2

Status of DA Programs

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MEMORANDUM

DATE	April 29, 2011
TO	Dental Assisting Committee Dental Board Members
FROM	Tanya Webber, Associate Governmental Program Analyst Dental Board of California
SUBJECT	**Agenda Item DA 2:** Update Regarding Status of Dental Assisting Programs and Courses

Background

Since the beginning of the year, the Dental Board of California has not had statutory authority to approve the following: Registered Dental Assistant Educational Programs, Infection Control Courses, Orthodontic Assistant Permit Courses, Dental Sedation Assistant Permit Courses, and Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions Programs. Applications of the stated courses and programs received prior to January 1, 2011, were reviewed and processed. Applications received after January 1, 2011 are being reviewed by Board staff, but the approval/denial of applications is being withheld until the new regulations are adopted.

All other course applications, including those for Radiation Safety, Coronal Polishing, Pit and Fissure Sealants and Ultrasonic Scaler, are continuing to be reviewed and processed.

As of April 29, 2011, there are 14 pending applications for review and approval. The following is a list of the approved, declined and pending dental assisting programs and courses.

APPROVED PROGRAMS AND COURSES
(as of 4/29/11)

Provider	Application Received	Approval Date	[redacted]	[redacted]	Radiation Safety	Coronal Polish	Pit & Fissure Sealants	Ultrasonic Scaler	Injection Control	Dental Sedation Assistant	Orthodontic Assistant
University of the Pacific	8/5/10	3/3/11		X							
Charter College - Lancaster	11/2/10	2/24/11				X					
Dental Courses For You	3/9/11	4/11/11				X					
Charter College - Lancaster	11/2/10	3/25/11					X				
Four-D College - Victorville	4/8/11	4/29/11					X				
Charter College - Lancaster	11/2/10	2/24/11							X		
Charter College - Canyon Country	11/2/10	3/3/11							X		
San Bernardino County ROP	12/31/10	3/11/11							X		
Capital Oral Surgery	11/3/10	4/5/11								X	

DENIED PROGRAMS AND COURSES
(as of 4/29/11)

							Radiation Safety	Coronal Polish	Pit & Fissure Sealants	Ultrasonic Scaler	Infection Control	Dental Sedation Assistant	Orthodontic Assistant
North-West College - Pomona	7/21/09	2/25/11							X				
North-West College - West Covina	7/21/09	2/25/11							X				

PENDING PROGRAMS AND COURSES (as of 4/29/11)

Provider	Application Received	[redacted]	[redacted]	Radiation Safety	Coronal Polish	Pit & Fissure Sealants	Ultrasonic Scaler	Infection Control	Dental Sedation Assistant	Orthodontic Assistant
UEI College - Anaheim*	1/31/11									
UEI College - San Marcos*	2/7/11	X								
UEI College - San Bernardino*	2/8/11	X								
Cerritos College Community Education*	3/22/11				X					
San Bernardino County ROP/Hesperia*	4/4/11				X					
Make a Smile	4/4/11							X		
Four-D College - Victorville	4/8/11							X		
Health Quest Academy LLC	4/11/11					X				
Charter College - Long Beach	4/18/11			X						
Charter College - Long Beach	4/18/11							X		
Joel F. Brodsky DDS Inc.	4/18/11									X
Health Quest Academy LLC	4/26/11							X		
Dr. Ihab M. Hanna	4/26/11				X					
Orange Coast College	4/26/11				X					

Note: The applications of these providers have been reviewed by staff, and deficiencies have been sent. Staff is currently waiting to receive the provider's corrections to their deficiencies.

DA 3

Examination Dates and Sites for Practical Exam

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MEMORANDUM

DATE	April 25, 2011
TO	Dental Assisting Committee Dental Board of California
FROM	Dawn Dill, Manager, Dental Assisting Program
SUBJECT	**Agenda Item DA 3 – Update on Examination Dates and Sites for Registered Dental Assistant Practical Examination**

Below is the schedule of RDA Practical examination for the remainder of the year.

Examination Date	Examination Location	Filing Period
April 30 and May 1, 2011	Carrington College, Pomona	March 17 to 25, 2011
August 6 and 7, 2011	UC, San Francisco	May 1 to June 1, 2011
August 20 and 21, 2011	Carrington College, Pomona	
November 5 and 6, 2011	Carrington College, Pomona	Aug. 3 to Sept. 3, 2011
November 19 and 20, 2011	UC, San Francisco	

The examination site in Southern California was confirmed on March 16, 2011.

Because the filing period for the April examination had closed, examination staff called all candidates living in Southern California to let them know about the new site and offer them the opportunity to change their examination site without penalty. Approximately 100 candidates were moved to the southern site. A new filing period was also opened for those candidates who had not previously applied for the northern site. There are 329 candidates scheduled for the Pomona location.

DA 4(A)

Scope of Responsibility

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MEMORANDUM

DATE	April 29, 2011
TO	Dental Assisting Committee Dental Board of California
FROM	Dawn Dill, Manager, Dental Assisting Program
SUBJECT	**Agenda Item DA 4 (A) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Dental Assisting Forum Recommended Scope of Responsibility as stated in the DAF's April 7, 2010 minutes.**

Background:

The Dental Assisting Forum (DAF) met on January 21, 2011, in Sacramento, CA. Because the packets had not been sent to the members in advance of the meeting, approval of the minutes was tabled until the April 8, 2011 meeting. At that meeting, the minutes were approved.

The following is a list of the suggested parameters regarding scope of responsibility for the Dental Assisting Forum:

1. Public outreach to reach all dental assistants, licensed or unlicensed.
2. A single member of the forum to act as a liaison for the RDA Practical and RDAEF Examinations, Site Evaluations, Enforcement and Licensing committees.
3. Evaluating and updating regulations for dental assisting related to all aspects of dental assisting.
4. Review and suggest changes or updates for dental assistant licensure and renewal.
5. Review and suggest changes or updates for allowable duties, settings and supervision.
6. Review and suggest changes or updates for appropriate standards of conduct and enforcement for dental assistants.

Action:

The Board may choose to accept, reject, or table the Dental Assisting Forum's list of suggested parameters pending passage of SB 540.

DA 4(B)

Local Anesthesia

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MEMORANDUM

DATE	April 29, 2011
TO	Dental Assisting Committee Dental Board of California
FROM	Dawn Dill, Manager, Dental Assisting Program
SUBJECT	**Agenda Item DA 4 (B) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Dental Assisting Forum Recommendation to Consider Adding Administration of Local Anesthesia as a New Allowable Duty for Registered Dental Assistants in Extended Functions Licensed after January 1, 2010.**

Background:

The Dental Assisting Forum (DAF) has been reviewing the current allowable duties for Dental Assistants (DA), Registered Dental Assistants (RDA), Registered Dental Assistants in Extended Functions (RDAEF), Orthodontic Assistants (OA) and Dental Sedation Assistants (DSA) in anticipation of the duties being moved from Statute to Regulation and the time involved in the rulemaking process.

At the April 8, 2011 meeting the DAF voted to ask the Board to consider the concept of initiating a rulemaking to add administration of local anesthesia as an additional certification, after post-secondary training to the duties of the RDAEF licensed after January 1, 2010. The vote was unanimous.

Action:

The Board may choose to accept, reject, or table the Dental Assisting Forum's request to consider the concept of initiating a rulemaking to add local anesthesia as an additional certification after post-secondary training to the duties of the RDAEF licensed after January 1, 2010.

DA 4(C)

Correct Changes to RDA Written Exam

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MEMORANDUM

DATE	April 28, 2011
TO	Examination Committee Dental Board of California
FROM	Dawn Dill, Manager, Dental Assisting Program
SUBJECT	**Agenda Item DA 4 (C) Discussion and Possible Action to Consider the DAF's Request to Correct Prior Recommendation Regarding Changes to the Outline for the RDA Written Examination.**

Background:

The Dental Assisting Forum (DAF) met on January 21, 2011, in Sacramento, CA. The DAF discussed the Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) written examination and concerns regarding the examination outline. Specifically, concerns have been raised in the dental assisting community pertaining to the percentage of exam questions that are rudimentary or require certification to qualify for licensure within the areas of Infection Control, Coronal Polish, and Pit and Fissure Sealants.

During the meeting, the DAF voted to recommend that the Board consider changes to the examination outline to include Infection Control, Dental Radiation Safety, and preventative procedures after the current examination review is complete. The recommendation of the DAF was approved by the Dental Assisting Committee and the full Board.

At the April 8, 2011, meeting of the DAF, the members were concerned that their prior recommendation regarding the Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) was not accurately conveyed to the Board.

During the meeting, the DAF voted to recommend to the Board to reconsider the Dental Assisting Forum prior recommendation and that upon review of the examination, the Board consider changes in the following content areas to exclude or reduce the quantity of questions for Infection Control, Dental Radiation Safety and preventative procedures.

I was advised by Executive Officer, Richard DeCuir that he has entered into a contract with Applied Measurements to review the RDA Written examination. He has advised me that despite previous practices, the development and update of the written examination must closely follow the requirements outlined in Section 139 of the Business and Professions Code. Mr. DeCuir will further elaborate on this requirement at the Board meeting.

Action:

The Board may choose to accept, reject, or table the Dental Assisting Forum's recommendation to the Board to reconsider the Dental Assisting Forum prior recommendation and that upon review of the examination, the Board to consider changes in the following content areas to exclude or reduce the quantity of questions for Infection Control, Dental Radiation Safety and preventative procedures.

DA 4(D)

Split RDAEF Exam

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MEMORANDUM

DATE	April 29, 2011
TO	Dental Assisting Committee Dental Board of California
FROM	Dawn Dill, Manager, Dental Assisting Program
SUBJECT	**Agenda Item DA 4 (D) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Dental Assisting Forum Recommendation to Split the RDAEF Examination into two Separate Parts.**

Background:

The examination is essentially two components at this time, a clinical component requiring two procedures to be performed on a patient and a laboratory component requiring two procedures be performed on a manikin. If an applicant fails any of the four procedures, the candidate must retake the entire examination.

The current examination format creates an undue burden on candidates if they need to bring a patient for re-examination after having passed that component. Splitting the examination into two (2) separate parts will streamline the examination and benefit both the candidates and the Board.

The DAF are requesting consideration, if statutorily possible, to split the existing RDAEF examination into two separate components, the clinical portion of the exam would be considered Part I and the practical portion would be considered Part II. If a candidate fails either test component, Part I or Part II, then that one component should be retested. The vote was unanimous.

Legal counsel will need to determine if separating the exam into two components is allowable under current statute. If legally possible, parity issues will need to be addressed between the dentist and dental assisting examinations.

Action:

The Board may choose to accept, reject, or table the Dental Assisting Forum's request for consideration, if statutorily possible, to split the existing RDAEF examination into two separate components, the clinical portion of the exam would be considered Part I and the practical portion would be considered Part II. If a candidate fails either test component, Part I or Part II, then only that one component should be retested.

DA 5

Combining RDA & RDAEF Exams

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MEMORANDUM

DATE	April 29, 2011
TO	Dental Assisting Committee Dental Board of California
FROM	Dawn Dill, Manager, Dental Assisting Program
SUBJECT	**Agenda Item DA 5:** Staff Update on the Possibility of having the RDA and RDAEF Examinations at the same time, date and location. (Information only)

Background:

Dr. Le at the February 25 and 26, 2011 Board Meeting asked if the Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) and the Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions (RDAEF) examinations could be combined due to the issues involved with securing examination locations. Staff was requested to provide an update at the May meeting.

The RDA Practical consists of three (3) procedures, fabricate a temporary crown, cement a temporary crown and place a temporary restoration. Candidates are allowed 90 minutes to perform all procedures. We currently test about 80 candidates per session and have three (3) sessions per day. Licensed RDA's grade the candidates work.

The RDAEF examination consists of four (4) procedures, cord retraction and taking a final impression on a patient, place, condense, and carve an amalgam restoration and place and contour a nonmetallic direct restoration on a typodont in an enclosed environment. Candidates are allowed 75 minutes to perform the patient based procedures and 90 minutes for the restorations. We are currently scheduling the patient based procedures in the morning and the manikin based procedures in the afternoon. Licensed dentists grade the candidates work.

Although the examinations may appear to be very similar, the location in which the examinations are administered can be very different. Typically the RDA examination is administered for two days, four times per year at two different locations each time. The RDAEF examination is given at the same location where the candidates graduated. If a candidate fails the examination they have the option to retake the exam at the same location or the next available site. The examination is normally a one day examination.

A short orientation is given to the RDA candidates at the beginning of their examination and all candidates begin and end the examination at the same time. The RDAEF candidates are given an orientation for the patient based procedures and the candidates starting and ending times are staggered. There is also an orientation for the typodont portion of the examination. Candidates are allowed 30 minutes to set-up and have their typodont approved and mounted to either the dental chair or in a manikin.

The equipment utilized for each examination varies. Candidates for the RDAEF examination are using amalgamators, handpieces and curing lights for the practical portion. RDA candidates are not allowed to use curing lights or handpieces. The RDA applicants are only using dremel tools during the temporary crown portion.

Staff believes given the differences in the RDA and RDAEF examinations, administering the examinations simultaneously may not be a feasible alternative.

DA 6

RDAEF Survey

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MEMORANDUM

DATE	May 5, 2011
TO	Dental Assisting Committee Dental Board of California
FROM	Linda Byers Executive Assistant
SUBJECT	**Agenda Item DA 6:** Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Feasibility of Conducting a Survey of RDAEF Licensees for the Purpose of Analysis of Workforce and Barrier to Care Issues

Background:

Dr. Bettinger asked that this item be placed on the agenda. He may appoint a subcommittee to develop questions for a survey of RDAEF's regarding workforce and barrier to care issues and research which pathways may be a feasible route to disseminate these surveys.