

TABLE OF PERMITTED DUTIES (Rev. 3/4/11)

Following is a table of duties which Dental Assistants (DA), Registered Dental Assistants (RDA), Registered Dental Assistants in Extended Functions (RDAEF), Orthodontic Assistants (OA) and Dental Sedation Assistants (DSA) are allowed to perform in California. This table is intended to provide summary information to interested parties. It is not intended to cover all aspects of applicable laws or provide a substitute for reviewing the laws that are cross-referenced below. It is highly recommended that applicants and licensees review the actual text of the laws cited at the link provided below. If a duty is not listed in the sections of law cited below, assistants are NOT allowed to perform the duty. Under each category of assistant is one of the following notations: "N", "D", "C" or "G".

"N" = means that the assistant is NOT permitted to perform the duty.

"D" = means that the assistant may perform the duty under the Direct supervision of a dentist, which means supervision of dental procedures based on instructions given by a licensed dentist who must be physically present in the treatment facility during the performance of those procedures. The duty must be performed pursuant to the order, control and full professional responsibility of the supervising dentist. Such procedures must be checked and approved by the supervising dentist prior to dismissal of the patient from the office of said dentist.

Note: Dental Sedation Assistant permit holders may also perform the listed duty under a licensed health care professional authorized to administer conscious sedation or general anesthesia in the dental office.

"C" = means that the assistant may perform the duty in the specified setting under the supervision of a dentist, Registered Dental Hygienist, or Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice .

"G" = means that the assistant can perform the duty under the General supervision of a dentist, which means based on instructions given by a licensed dentist, but not requiring the physical presence of the supervising dentist during the performance of those procedures.

"DD" = The supervising licensed dentist shall be responsible for determining whether each authorized procedure performed by a registered dental assistant should be performed under general or direct supervision, except as provided in Section 1777.

The sections of law noted below are contained in the Dental Practice Act located in Chapter 4 of Division 2 of the California Business and Professions Code (BPC). For the actual text of the laws, the following link will take you to the page on the Dental Boards web site <http://www.dbc.ca.gov/lawsregs/laws.shtml>.

Duty	Section of Law (Statute or Regulation)	D A	R D A	R D A E F	O A	D S A
Add drugs, medications, and fluids to intravenous lines using a syringe, provided that a supervising licensed dentist is present at the patient's chairside, limited to determining patency of intravenous line, selection of injection port, syringe insertion into injection port, occlusion of intravenous line and blood aspiration, line release and injection of drugs for appropriate time interval. The exception to this duty is that the initial dose of a drug or medication shall be administered by the supervising licensed dentist.	BPC1750.5	N	N	N	N	D
Adjust and cement permanent indirect restorations. (Licensed after 1/1/10 or completed additional course and examination after 1/1/10.)	BPC1753.5 1753.6	N	N	D	N	N
Adjust dentures extra-orally.	BPC1752.4	N	DD	DD	N	N
After adjustment by the dentist, examine and seat removable orthodontic appliances and deliver care instructions to the patient.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Application of pit and fissure sealants. (Must complete course prior to performing function).	BPC1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	DD	DD	N	N
Apply and activate bleaching agents using a nonlaser light-curing device.	BPC1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	DD	DD	N	N
Apply nonaerosol and noncaustic topical agents.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Apply topical fluoride. (May operate under general supervision when operating in a school-based setting or government run public health program, see section 1750.1(c))	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Assist in the administration of nitrous oxide when used for analgesia or sedation. A dental assistant shall not start the administration of the gases and shall not adjust the flow of the gases unless instructed to do so by the supervising licensed dentist who shall be present at the patient's chairside during the implementation of these instructions. This paragraph shall not be construed to prevent any person from taking appropriate action in the event of a medical emergency.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Cement endodontic master points and accessory points. (Licensed after 1/1/10 or completed additional course and examination after 1/1/10.)	BPC1753.5 1753.6	N	N	D	N	N
Chemically prepare teeth for bonding.	BPC1752.4	N	DD	DD	N	N

	1753.5 1753.6					
Conduct preliminary evaluation of the patient's oral health, including, but not limited to, charting, intraoral and extra-oral evaluation of soft tissue, classifying occlusion, and myofunctional evaluation. (Licensed after 1/1/10 or completed additional course and examination after 1/1/10.)	BPC1753.5 1753.6	N	N	D	N	N
Cord retraction of gingiva for impression procedures	BPC1753.5 1753.6	N	N	D	N	N
Cure restorative or orthodontic materials in operative site with a light-curing device.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Drug identification and draw, limited to identification of appropriate medications, ampule and vial preparation, and withdrawing drugs of correct amount as verified by the supervising licensed dentist.	BPC1750.5	N	N	N	N	D
Dry endodontically treated canals using absorbent paper points.	BPC1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	DD	DD	N	N
Examine orthodontic appliances.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Extra-oral duties or procedures specified by the supervising licensed dentist provided that these duties or procedures meet the definition of a basic supportive procedure specified in Section 1750.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	G	G	G	G	G
Fabricate, adjust, cement, and remove indirect provisional restorations, including stainless steel crowns when used as a provisional restoration.	BPC1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	DD	DD	N	N
Fit trial endodontic filling points. (Licensed on or before January 1, 2010.)	BPC1753.6	N	N	D	N	N
Formulate indirect patterns for endodontic post and core castings. (Licensed on or before January 1, 2010.)	BPC1753.6	N	N	D	N	N
Monitor patient sedation, limited to reading and transmitting information from the monitor display during the intraoperative phase of surgery for electrocardiogram waveform, carbon dioxide and end tidal carbon dioxide concentrations, respiratory cycle data, continuous noninvasive blood pressure data, or pulse arterial oxygen saturation measurements, for the purpose of interpretation and evaluation by a supervising licensed dentist who shall be at the patient's chairside during this procedure.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D

Monitor patients undergoing conscious sedation or general anesthesia utilizing data from noninvasive instrumentation such as pulse oximeters, electrocardiograms, capnography, blood pressure, pulse, and respiration rate monitoring devices. Evaluation of the condition of a sedated patient shall remain the responsibility of the dentist or other licensed health care professional authorized to administer conscious sedation or general anesthesia, who shall be at the patient's chairside while conscious sedation or general anesthesia is being administered.	BPC1750.5	N	N	N	N	D
Mouth-mirror inspection of the oral cavity, to include charting of obvious lesions, existing restorations, and missing teeth.	BPC1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	DD	DD	N	N
Obtain intraoral images for computer-aided design (CAD), milled restorations.	BPC1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	DD	DD	N	N
Operate dental radiography equipment for the purpose of oral radiography if the dental assistant has complied with the requirements of Section 1656.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	G	G	G	G	G
Perform intraoral and extraoral photography.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	G	G	G	G	G
Perform measurements for the purposes of orthodontic treatment.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Perform oral health assessments in school-based, community health project settings under the direction of a dentist, registered dental hygienist, or registered dental hygienist in alternative practice. (Licensed after 1/1/10 or completed additional course and examination after 1/1/10.)	BPC1753.5 1753.6	N	N	C	N	N
Place and ligate archwires.	BPC1750.3	N	N	N	D	N
Place and remove orthodontic separators.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Place and remove rubber dams or other isolation devices.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D

Place bases, liners, and bonding agents.	BPC1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	DD	DD	N	N
Place ligature ties and archwires.	BPC1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	DD	DD	N	N
Place patient monitoring sensors.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Place periodontal dressings.	BPC1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	DD	DD	N	N
Place post-extraction dressings after inspection of the surgical site by the supervising licensed dentist.	BPC1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	DD	DD	N	N
Place, adjust and finish direct provisional restorations.	BPC1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	DD	DD	N	N
Place, contour, finish, and adjust all direct restorations. (Licensed after 1/1/10 or completed additional course and examination after 1/1/10.)	BPC1753.5 1753.6	N	N	D	N	N
Place, wedge, and remove matrices for restorative procedures.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Polish and contour existing amalgam restorations. (Licensed after 1/1/10 or completed additional course and examination after 1/1/10.)	BPC1753.5 1753.6	N	N	D	N	N
Polish coronal surfaces of the teeth.	BPC1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	DD	DD	N	N
Prepare teeth for bonding, and select, preposition, and cure orthodontic brackets after their position has been approved by the supervising licensed dentist.	BPC1750.3	N	N	N	D	N
Pulp vitality testing and recording of findings.	BPC1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	DD	DD	N	N
Removal of intravenous lines.	BPC1750.5	N	N	N	N	D
Remove excess cement from surfaces of teeth with a hand instrument.	BPC1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	DD	DD	N	N
Remove excess cement with an ultrasonic scaler from supragingival surfaces of teeth undergoing orthodontic treatment. (RDAs and RDAEFs must have completed a board-approved registered dental assistant educational program or course in these duties.)	BPC1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	D	D	D	N
Remove excess cement from subgingival tooth surfaces with a hand instrument.	BPC1753.6	N	N	D	N	N

(Licensed on or before January 1, 2010.)						
Remove ligature ties and archwires.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Remove only orthodontic brackets and attachments with removal of the bonding material by the supervising licensed dentist.	BPC1750.3	N	N	N	D	N
Remove orthodontic bands and remove excess cement form supragingival surfaces of teeth with a hand instrument.	BPC1750.3	N	N	N	D	N
Remove orthodontic bands.	BPC1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	N	DD	DD	N	N
Remove periodontal dressings.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Remove post-extraction dressings after inspection of the surgical site by the supervising licensed dentist.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Remove sutures after inspection of the site by the dentist.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Size and fit endodontic master points and accessory points. (Licensed on or after 1/1/10.)	BPC1753.5	N	N	D	N	N
Size, fit, and cement orthodontic bands.	BPC1750.3	N	N	N	D	N
Take facebow transfers and bite registrations.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Take final impressions for permanent indirect restorations.	BPC1753.5 1753.6	N	N	D	N	N
Take final impressions for tooth-borne removable prosthesis. (Licensed after 1/1/10 or completed additional course and examination after 1/1/10.)	BPC1753.5 1753.6	N	N	D	N	N
Take intraoral impressions for all nonprosthodontic appliances.	BPC1750.1 1750.5 1750.3 1752.4 1753.5 1753.6	D	DD	DD	D	D
Use of automated caries detection devices and materials to	BPC1752.4	N	DD	DD	N	N

gather information for diagnosis by the dentist.	1753.5					
	1753.6					