

Dental Assisting Expanded Functions, Requirements, and Restrictions in Selected States

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The following table contains information about delegation of expanded functions to dental assistants (analogous, we believe, to Virginia’s DA II level), including delegable duties, educational requirements for delegation of expanded duties, and duties that are restricted from delegation to dental assistants in 10 states. These 10 states were selected for comparison because they each explicitly recognize two levels of dental assistant and each state’s dental board has promulgated regulations for the second or expanded functions level that, in DANB’s judgment, are in accord with the dental board’s public protection mission. In addition, information about a new proposal for dental assisting regulations in Nebraska is presented at the end of the table. *Please note: This table contains no information about the entry level duties allows in these states (analogous, we believe, to Virginia’s DA I level).*

State	DA II-Level Duties	DA II-Level Requirements	Restricted Duties
Florida	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charting • Retraction cord • Polish clinical crowns • Suture removal • Sealants • Impressions for study casts and bleaching trays • Fabrication and cementation of temporary crowns • Placing or removing temporary restorations • Removing excess cement from restorations with hand instruments • Monitoring nitrous • Inserting or removing dressings from alveolar sockets • Apply topical fluoride • Dental radiography • Place and remove rubber dams • Apply cavity liners, varnishes, or bases • Place periodontal dressings • Place and remove matrices • Remove periodontal or surgical dressings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduate from a CODA-accredited dental assisting program, provided that it included appropriate training in the function <u>OR</u> • Successfully complete a Board-approved EFDA training program <u>OR</u> • Hold a current DANB CDA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gingival curettage and root planning • Taking impressions for the purpose of fabricating any intraoral restorations or ortho appliances • Initial access preparation

State	DA II-Level Duties	DA II-Level Requirements	Restricted Duties
Iowa*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place and remove gingival retraction cord Apply cavity liners and bases Apply desensitizing agents Apply bonding systems Place periodontal dressings Take final impressions Fabricate and remove temporary restorations Test pulp vitality Monitor nitrous oxide Place and remove dry socket medication Take occlusal registrations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hold CDA or complete a minimum of two years of work experience as an RDA (RDAs must have worked as a dental assistant for at least 6 months or have graduated from a CODA-accredited dental assisting program, and then must take infection control course, pass DANB ICE exam, take jurisprudence course) <u>AND</u> Complete Board-approved education in each RDAEF function 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removal of any plaque, stain, or hard natural or synthetic material except by toothbrush, floss, or rubber cup coronal polish, or removal of any calculus Place sealants Diagnosis, examination, treatment planning or prescription, including prescription for drugs and medicaments or authorization for restorative, prosthodontic, or orthodontic appliances Surgical procedures on hard and soft tissues within the oral cavity and any other intraoral procedure that contributes to or results in an irreversible alteration to the oral anatomy Administration of local anesthesia Procedures that require the professional judgment and skill of a dentist
Maryland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Place and remove retraction cord Remove sutures Dry a root canal Apply topical fluoride Place or remove a rubber dam Remove or place periodontal dressing Prepare and fit stainless steel crowns Take alginate impressions for intraoral appliances Place and remove matrices Prepare temporary crowns Cement temporary crowns or restorations Perform vitality tests Remove temporary crowns Remove excess cement Etching Fabricate indirect restorations Apply desensitizing agents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete a training program (minimum of 35 hours) approved by the Board AND pass the Maryland General Dental Assisting Expanded Functions exam developed and administered by DANB <u>OR</u> Pass the CDA exam 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oral prophylactic procedures, including scaling, root planing, and polishing teeth Condensing, carving, or finishing any restoration Placing an initial surgical dressing Applying pit and fissure sealants Examination, diagnosis, and treatment planning Surgery on hard or soft tissues Administering injectable local anesthesia Initiating treatment at any time for the correction of malocclusions and malformations of the teeth and jaws Adjusting occlusion of natural teeth, restorations, or appliances Registration of jaw relations Adjusting prosthetic appliances Cementing permanent crowns or restorations

* The State of Iowa actually has a three-tiered dental assistant career ladder, but the first rung is a Dental Assistant Trainee level; a Dental Assistant Trainee can only remain at this level for up to 12 months, during which time he or she must pass DANB's Infection Control (ICE) and Radiation Health and Safety (RHS) Exams, and then apply for a Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) certificate.

State	DA II-Level Duties	DA II-Level Requirements	Restricted Duties
Massachusetts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place and remove retraction cord • Place amalgam in tooth for condensation by the dentist • Irrigate and dry root canals • Apply cavity varnish • Place surgical dressings • Apply dental sealants • Select and try stainless steel or other preformed crowns for insertion by dentist • Place and remove matrices and wedges • Perform vitality testing • Remove temporary restorations with hand instrument • Assist in administration of nitrous oxide • Chart • Polish teeth after dentist determination that they are free of calculus • Remove sutures • Apply anti-cariogenic agents • Give oral health instruction • Place and remove rubber dam • Place and remove periodontal dressing • Take and record vital signs • Take impressions for study casts, athletic mouthguards, custom trays • Place temporary restorations • Cement and remove temporary crowns and bridges • Irrigate and aspirate the oral cavity • Retract lips, cheek, tongue, and other oral tissue parts • Isolate the operative field • Apply topical anesthetic agents • Remove surgical dressings • Perform dietary analysis for dental disease control • Take intraoral photos • Take wax bite registrations for identification purposes • Take oral cytologic smears • Insert and/or perform minor adjustment of athletic mouthguards and custom fluoride trays 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successfully complete a CODA-accredited dental assisting program that has included a course in radiological techniques and safeguards <u>OR</u> • Hold a current DANB CDA certification 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place permanent or bonded restorations in or on natural teeth • Apply cavity liner or base • Take impressions for fabrication of restorations, appliances, or prostheses • Condense or carve amalgam or composite restorations • Diagnose oral conditions • Develop treatment plans for dental services • Surgically cut or remove hard or soft tissue (not to include gingival curettage) • Prescribe medications or drugs • Administer general anesthesia, parenteral sedation, or conscious sedation • Administer local anesthesia • Perform extractions • Place sutures • Perform endodontic therapy • Intraorally finish margins or adjust the occlusion of restorations • Fabricate or adjust dentures • Permanently cement or recement cast crowns or stainless steel crowns • Perform orthodontic therapy • Apply finish composite or bonding materials for restorative or cosmetic procedures • Perform any other procedure prohibited by the Board

State	DA II-Level Duties	DA II-Level Requirements	Restricted Duties
<p>Missouri</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place retraction cord • Polish the coronal surfaces of teeth • Place and condense amalgam for Class I, V, and VI restorations • Place periodontal dressings • Size stainless steel crowns • Make impressions for the fabrication of removable and fixed prostheses • Carve amalgam • Monitor nitrous oxide • Place post-extraction and sedative dressing • Place composite for Class I, V, and VI restorations • Place sedative filling for palliative care in dental emergencies • Extraoral adjustment of removable prosthesis during and after insertion • Extraoral adjustment of fixed prosthesis • Final cementation of any permanent appliance or prosthesis • Placement of temporary soft liners in a removable prosthesis 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass the Missouri Basic Dental Assisting Skills exam administered by DANB AND Complete the appropriate Board-approved expanded functions course(s) <u>OR</u> • Graduate from a CODA-accredited dental assisting program and hold a current DANB CDA certification • CDAs who were Certified prior to 6/1/1995 or who have graduated from programs (what type of programs?) outside of Missouri may perform expanded functions if they complete a Board-approved expanded functions course and pass and can provide proof of competence • To monitor nitrous oxide, EFDA must complete a formal training course approved by the Board and pass an approved competency exam in both clinical and didactic areas OR hold certification in another state to assist in the administration and monitoring of nitrous 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scaling of teeth • Diagnosis, including interpretation of dental radiographs and treatment planning • Cutting of tooth structure • Surgical procedures on hard and soft tissues including, but not limited to, the removal of teeth and the cutting and suturing of soft tissues • Prescription, injection, and parenteral administration of drugs • Administration of nitrous oxide/oxygen analgesia • Final bending of archwire prior to ligations

State	DA II-Level Duties	DA II-Level Requirements	Restricted Duties
New Jersey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place and remove retraction cords and medicated pellets • Place amalgam, composite, and gold foil in a tooth for condensation by a dentist • Remove sutures • Isolate the operative field, including placement and removal of rubber dam • Place and remove periodontal and other surgical dressings • Take alginate impressions • Place and remove matrices and wedges • Fabricate and cement temporary crowns and bridges after preparation of tooth (teeth) by a dentist. This does not include intra-oral occlusal adjustment • Perform hand removal of crowns and bridges that have been temporarily cemented • Remove excess cement from crowns or other restorations • Perform hand removal of soft temporary restorations • Monitor nitrous oxide (no other functions are allowed to be performed simultaneously and patient cannot be taking any other medication, and assistant must hold current Cardiac Life Support CPR certification) • Take impressions for and perform laboratory fabrication of athletic mouthguard • Perform bite registrations • Place temporary sedative restorations • Place caries detecting agents and use instruments for caries detection (not including laser) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduate from high school or equivalent <u>AND</u> • Pass DANB's CDA or COA exam within 10 years of applying for RDA <u>AND</u> • Graduate from a CODA-accredited dental assisting program within 10 years of applying for RDA OR Obtain at least two years' work experience as a dental assistant (within 5 years prior to application) AND pass the New Jersey Expanded Duties –General exam administered by DANB 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None specified

State	DA II-Level Duties	DA II-Level Requirements	Restricted Duties
<p>New York</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove sutures • Apply topical anticariogenic agents • Provide patient education • Place and remove rubber dams • Take preliminary medical histories and vital signs • Place and remove temporary separating devices • Take impressions for study or diagnostic casts • Place and remove matrices • Select and pre-fit temporary crowns • Remove temporary cement • Remove periodontal dressing • Apply desensitizing agents • Perform other dental supportive services authorized by the licensed dentist while under direct personal supervision of the licensed dentist, providing that such other dental supportive services are not excluded 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 17 years of age • High school graduate or equivalent • Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a Board-approved one year dental assisting course in a degree-granting institution or a board of cooperative educational services program that includes at least 200 hours of clinical experience (CODA-accredited programs meet this requirement) <u>OR</u> • Complete an alternate course of study in dental assisting acceptable to the New York State Education department that includes at least 1,000 hours of relevant work experience in accordance with the Commissioner's regulations • Examination <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pass all three components of DANB's CDA exam (RHS, ICE, and GC) <u>OR</u> • Pass the New York Professional Dental Assistant exam plus DANB's RHS and ICE exams (NYPDA is the GC exam without any eligibility requirements) • A person who has met the age, high school and advanced education requirements can apply for a Limited (one-year) Permit in order to take one year to pass the examination requirement; Limited Permit holders may perform all expanded duties under the direct personal supervision of a licensed dentist; Limited Permits expire after one year and may be renewed for one additional year. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnosing • Performing surgical procedures • Performing irreversible procedures • Performing procedures that would alter the hard or soft tissue of the oral and maxillofacial area • Removing calcareous deposits, accretions, and stains, including scaling and planning of exposed root surfaces indicated for complete dental prophylaxis • Applying topical agents indicated for a complete dental prophylaxis • Removing excess cement from tooth surfaces • Providing patient education • Polishing teeth, including existing restorations • Charting caries and periodontal conditions as an aid to the dentist • Applying pit and fissure sealants • Applying desensitizing agents to the teeth • Applying a topical medication not related to a complete dental prophylaxis • Placing periodontal dressings • Such dental supportive services that a New York State licensed "certified dental assistant" would not reasonably be qualified to perform based upon meeting the requirements for licensure as a New York State licensed "certified dental assistant" and/or obtaining additional legally authorized experience in the practice of licensed dental assisting

State	DA II-Level Duties	DA II-Level Requirements	Restricted Duties
North Carolina	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place retraction cord • Polish coronal surfaces of teeth by hand or with a slowspeed handpiece • Remove sutures • Flush, dry, and temporarily close root canals • Place and remove rubber dams • Place cavity bases and liners • Apply sealants after dentist has examined patient and prescribed procedure • Insert interdental spacers • Take impressions for study models or opposing casts • Insert matrices and wedges • Place and remove temporary restorations • Remove excess cement • Monitor nitrous oxide • Remove periodontal dressings • Cement temporary restorations with temporary cement • Apply acid etch materials/rinses • Apply bonding agents • Apply desensitizing agents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold a current CPR certification <u>AND</u> • Successfully complete a CODA-accredited dental assisting program or one academic year or longer in a CODA-accredited dental hygiene program OR Complete two years (3,000 hours) of full time employment and experience as a chairside dental assistant, radiography training as required by law AND a 3-hour course in dental office emergencies AND a 3-hour course in sterilization and infection control OR Pass DANB's CDA examination • To perform coronal polishing, a DA II must also successfully complete a 7 hour Board-approved coronal polishing course (3 hours didactic, 4 hours clinical) • To monitor patients under nitrous oxide, a DA II must successfully complete a 7 hour Board –approved course in nitrous oxide-oxygen conscious sedation (DA I's are also allowed to monitor patients under nitrous if they complete this course.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking impressions for final fixed or removable restorations or prostheses • Prophylaxis • Periodontal screening • Periodontal probing • Subgingival exploration for or removal of hard or soft deposits • Sulcular irrigation • Comprehensive examination, diagnosis, and treatment planning • Surgical cutting procedures on hard or soft tissues, including laser, air abrasion, or micro-abrasion procedures • Placement or removal of sulcular nonresorbable agents • The issuance of prescription drugs, medications, or work authorizations • Final placement or intraoral adjustment of a fixed or removable appliance • Intraoral occlusal adjustments which affect function, fit, or occlusion of any temporary or permanent appliance • Performance of direct pulp capping or pulpotomy • Placement of sutures • Final placement or cementation of orthodontic bands or brackets • Placement or cementation of final restorations • Administration of any anesthetic except the administration of topically applied agents intended to anesthetize only cutaneous tissue • Intraoral use of a highspeed handpiece

State	DA II-Level Duties	DA II-Level Requirements	Restricted Duties
<p>Oregon</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polish coronal surfaces of teeth that a dentist or hygienist has determined to be free of calculus • Apply pit and fissure sealants • Place and remove matrices • Fabricate and cement temporary crowns with temporary cement • Place temporary restorative material • Remove temporary crowns for final cementation and clean teeth for final cementation • Remove excess supragingival cement from crowns, bridges with hand instruments • Preliminarily fit crowns to check contacts or adjust occlusion outside of the mouth • Polish amalgams with a slowspeed handpiece • Apply temporary soft relines to full dentures • For palliative relief, EFDA may recement temporary crown or permanent crown with temporary cement • Dental assistants who have completed specific OBD-training and exam can apply to receive a Restorative Endorsement and are allowed to place and finish direct alloy or direct anterior composite restoration under direct dentist supervision, after dentist has prepared the tooth (teeth) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold an Oregon Certificate of Radiological Proficiency (requires taking Board-approved course, passing DANB's RHS exam, and passing DANB's Clinical Radiological Proficiency exam) <u>AND</u> • Complete a CODA-accredited dental assisting program OR Pass the Oregon Basic Dental Assisting exam administered by DANB or the CDA exam <u>AND</u> the Oregon EFDA exam administered by DANB <u>AND</u> • Provide certification from a licensed dentist that the assistant has completed clinical requirements • EFDAs may also earn State Certification by Credentials if they are certified in another state that has training and certification requirements substantially similar to Oregon's OR be certified by an employer dentist that the assistant has been employed as a dental assistant for at least 1,000 hours in the past two years in a State other than Oregon, and is competent to perform all of the Oregon expanded functions. • Note that in order for an EFDA to be qualified to apply pit and fissure sealants and temporary soft relines to full dentures, he/she must complete a specific course of instruction in a CODA-accredited program or such course approved by the Board. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place any type of cord subgingivally • Condense and carve permanent restorative material (except as provided in OAR 818-04200095) • Place periodontal packs • Take jaw registrations or oral impressions except for diagnostic or opposing models to fabricate temporary restorations or appliances • Diagnose or plan treatment • Cut hard or soft tissue • Adjust or attempt to adjust any ortho wire, fixed or removable appliance while it is in the patient's mouth • Administer or dispense any drug except fluoride, topical anesthetic, or desensitizing agent • Prescribe any drug • Start nitrous oxide • Use high speed handpiece or any device intraorally that is operated by a highspeed handpiece • Use lasers, except for laser-curing lights • Use air abrasion or air polishing • Remove teeth or parts of tooth structure • Apply denture relines • Use Hand Over Mouth or Hand Over Mouth Airway Restriction technique for behavior management • Use ultrasonic equipment intraorally • Correct or attempt to correct the malposition or malocclusion of teeth or to take any action related to the movement of teeth (excluding those Expanded Orthodontic Functions expressly permitted) • Cement or bond any fixed appliance, including bands, brackets, retainers, tooth moving devices, or orthopedic appliances (excluding those Expanded Orthodontic Functions expressly permitted) • Apply denture relines, excluding those functions expressly permitted • Remove stains or deposits

State	DA II-Level Duties	DA II-Level Requirements	Restricted Duties
<p>Washington</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coronal polishing • Apply topical fluoride • Apply sealants • Place and expose dental radiographic film • Provide oral health instruction • Place and carve direct restorations • Take final impressions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete an EFDA course approved by the Washington Dental Quality Assurance Commission <u>AND</u> • Pass the Washington State Restorative Exam developed by DANB <u>AND</u> • Pass the Western Regional Examining Board's clinical restorative exam <u>AND</u> • Make application to DQAC for a license 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scaling procedures • Removal of or addition to the hard or soft natural tissue of the oral cavity • Diagnosis of or prescription for treatment of disease, pain, deformity, deficiency, injury, or physical condition of the human teeth or jaws, or adjacent structure • Administration of general or injected local anesthetic • Oral prophylaxis (except coronal polishing) • Intraorally adjust occlusion of inlays, crowns, and bridges • Intraorally finish margins of inlays, crowns, and bridges • Cement or recement, permanently, any cast restoration or stainless steel crown • Incise gingiva or other soft tissue • Elevate soft tissue flap • Luxate teeth • Curette to sever epithelial attachment • Suture • Establish occlusal vertical dimension for dentures • Try-in of dentures set in wax • Insertion and post-insertion adjustment of dentures • Endodontic treatment (open, extirpate pulp, ream and file canals, establish length of tooth, fill root canal)

State	DA II-Level Duties	DA II-Level Requirements	Restricted Duties
Nebraska (Proposed)	<p>Proposed LDAEF Duties (* see current NE restrictions, in last column):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place and remove retraction cord* • Place, cure and finish composite or glass ionomer restorations* • Place, condense, and carve amalgams* • Polish and contour restorations for preventive purposes • Take final impressions for restorations and removable prostheses • Remove temporary fillings with hand instruments • Remove excess cement from coronal surfaces of the teeth with ultrasonic scaler • Remove excess cement from supragingival surfaces with hand instruments or floss (other than for temporary restorations) • Make minor adjustments to removable dentures, partial dentures, after dentist examination of patient • Take bite registrations for final prosthetic devices 	<p>Proposed LDAEF Requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 18 years of age • CPR certification • Successfully complete an LDAEF course taught at a CODA-accredited dental assisting program; minimum course requirements proposed include 64 hours of laboratory and didactic curriculum, plus an externship in which the dentist will evaluate the LDAEF candidate to clinic competency; externship may extend up to one year after LDAEF coursework completion. • Pass a written LDAEF exam developed by DANB. • Complete 30 hours of continuing dental education every 2 years, with 6 hours in infection control and 4 hours in jurisprudence 	<p>Current Nebraska Restrictions (duties marked with an asterisk [*] are listed as proposed LDA or LDAEF duties):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placing and packing retraction cords * • Placing and condensing amalgam restorations * • Performing supragingival scaling • Placing and finishing composite resin restorations* • Applying cavity liners or bases* • Applying pit and fissure sealants* • Taking final impressions for dentures* • Taking final impressions for crown and bridge • Carving amalgams* • Remove excess cement from coronal surfaces of teeth with an instrument * • Polish amalgams* • Place tetracycline periodontal fibers • Place dentinal bonding agents • Apply enamel/dentin etching agents • Cement permanent restorations • Atraumatic restorative therapy (ART) • Adjustments to dentures and/or partials • Apply bleaching products