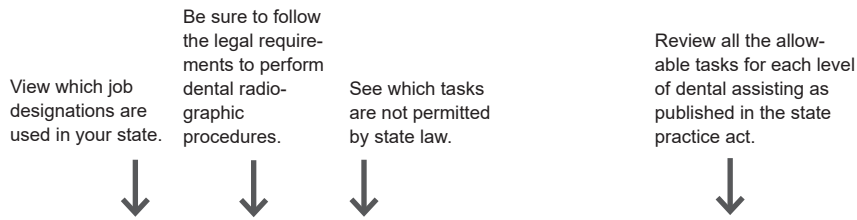




# 2019 Allowable and Prohibited Duties for Dental Assistants: Arkansas



## How to Use the Following Charts



View the education/training/credential required for each level of dental assisting.

Arizona		State approved 2/19/18	
Education/Training/Credential Required	Job Title from Board of AZ	Expanded Function Dental Assistant (EFDA)	Dental Assistant
<p>To perform specified restorative functions in a dental office, a dental assistant must hold an Arizona Expanded Function - Restorative Certificate. To qualify, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold the AZ Core Competency Restorative Certificate (see requirements below) and the AZ Restorative Certificate (see requirements in the right)</li> <li>Pass the AZ Core Competency Restorative Certificate (see requirements below) and the AZ Restorative Certificate (see requirements in the right)</li> <li>Pass the national DANB Radiation Health and Safety (RHS) exam (see requirements below) and the AZ Restorative Certificate (see requirements in the right)</li> <li>Be currently certified in another U.S. state as a dental assistant with successful completion of written and clinical dental radiography (ADR)</li> <li>Be currently certified in another U.S. state as a dental assistant with successful completion of written and clinical dental radiography (ADR)</li> <li>Be currently certified in another U.S. state as a dental assistant with successful completion of written and clinical dental radiography (ADR)</li> <li>Be currently certified in another U.S. state as a dental assistant with successful completion of written and clinical dental radiography (ADR)</li> </ul>	<p>Expanded Function Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p>	<p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Restography Procedures</p> <p>Functions NOT Permitted by Dental Assistants in AZ</p>
<p>To perform general polishing procedures in a dental office, a dental assistant must hold an AZ General Polishing Certificate. To qualify, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass DANB's General Polishing (GP) exam (see requirements below) and the AZ General Polishing Certificate (see requirements in the right)</li> <li>Pass the AZ Core Competency General Polishing Certificate (see requirements below) and the AZ General Polishing Certificate (see requirements in the right)</li> <li>Pass the national DANB Radiation Health and Safety (RHS) exam (see requirements below) and the AZ General Polishing Certificate (see requirements in the right)</li> <li>Be currently certified in another U.S. state as a dental assistant with successful completion of written and clinical dental radiography (ADR)</li> <li>Be currently certified in another U.S. state as a dental assistant with successful completion of written and clinical dental radiography (ADR)</li> <li>Be currently certified in another U.S. state as a dental assistant with successful completion of written and clinical dental radiography (ADR)</li> <li>Be currently certified in another U.S. state as a dental assistant with successful completion of written and clinical dental radiography (ADR)</li> </ul>	<p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Functions NOT Permitted by Dental Assistants in AZ</p>

Arizona		State approved 3/19/18	
Job Title from State (AZ)	Education/Training/Credential Required	Expanded Function Dental Assistant (EFDA)	Dental Assistant
<p>Expanded Function Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p>	<p>Allowable Functions</p> <p>If functions with numbers next to specific Core Competency designations (functions with numbers are in the state's practice act but are not specific matches to DANB research)</p> <p><b>Under General Supervision*</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply fluoride varnish</li> <li>Apply sealants</li> <li>Place interim restoratives</li> <li>Insertion under the direction of a licensed dentist following a consultation conducted through telehealth</li> </ol> <p><b>Level of Supervision Not Specified</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>23, 51, 70 Perform placement, contouring and finishing of direct restorations or the placement and contouring of amalgamated inlays, crowns, veneers, or onlays by a licensed dentist. The restorative materials used shall be determined by the dentist.</li> </ol>	<p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Functions NOT Permitted by Dental Assistants in AZ</p>
<p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p><b>Under General Supervision*</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove coronal polishing procedures</li> </ol> <p><b>Under Direct Supervision*</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove amalgam</li> <li>Apply dental sealants</li> <li>Apply fluoride varnish</li> <li>Apply sealants</li> <li>Place interim restoratives</li> <li>Insertion under the direction of a licensed dentist following a consultation conducted through telehealth</li> </ol> <p><b>Level of Supervision Not Specified</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>23, 51, 70 Perform placement, contouring and finishing of direct restorations or the placement and contouring of amalgamated inlays, crowns, veneers, or onlays by a licensed dentist. The restorative materials used shall be determined by the dentist.</li> </ol>	<p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Functions NOT Permitted by Dental Assistants in AZ</p>

Compare your state's job designations to those used as standardized job titles in the DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study.

If your state's dental practice act specifically defines levels of supervision, the state-specific definition is noted below the chart. See Appendix B for more information about supervision.

These data are presented for informational purposes only and are not intended as a legal opinion regarding dental practice in any state. DANB confers with each state's dental board at least annually regarding the accuracy and currency of this information. To verify, or if you have any questions, please contact your state's dental board.

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Education/Training/ Credential Required	Job Title According to State of AR	Proposed Standardized National Job Titles (see below)	Radiography Requirements	Functions NOT Permitted by Dental Assistants in AR
<p><b>A Registered Dental Assistant</b> in Arkansas is an individual who holds a permit from the Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners (ASBDE) to perform one or more of the <b>expanded functions</b> listed on the opposite page.</p> <p>To be issued a permit for any of the expanded functions (except Sedation Monitoring, which has additional requirements), one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Hold a current national DANB Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) certification <b>OR</b> Graduate from a CODA-accredited dental assisting program <b>OR</b> Complete an ASBDE-approved course in the desired expanded function(s) <b>OR</b> Receive on-the-job training from an Arkansas licensed dentist</li> <li><b>AND</b></li> <li>■ Hold current Basic Life Support-level CPR certificate</li> <li><b>AND</b></li> <li>■ Provide proof of competency in the desired expanded function(s) and apply for registration to the ASBDE</li> <li><b>AND</b></li> <li>■ Successfully complete the Arkansas jurisprudence exam</li> </ul> <p><b>Sedation monitoring:</b> Hold a current permit for nitrous oxide administration, hold current CPR certification, hold current DANB CDA certification (or be a Registered Dental Assistant, RN or LPN), successfully complete the American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Anesthesia Assistant's training program or a Board-approved equivalent course within the two years immediately preceding application, apply to the ASBDE for registration, and successfully complete the Arkansas jurisprudence exam.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> To renew a permit to perform expanded functions, Registered Dental Assistants must provide the ASBDE proof of completing two hours of continuing education in infection control every two years.</p>	<p>Registered Dental Assistant</p> <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p>Entry Level Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Expanded Functions Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p> <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p>DANB Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) or Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)</p> <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p>Entry Level Dental Assistant</p>	<p>In order to legally operate dental x-ray equipment and perform dental radiographic procedures in Arkansas, a dental assistant <b>must</b> be an RDA who holds a permit for radiography from the Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners.</p> <p>To obtain this permit, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Hold a current national DANB Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) certification <b>OR</b> Graduate from a CODA-accredited dental assisting program <b>OR</b> Successfully complete and submit a certificate of completion of a radiography course approved by the Board</li> <li><b>AND</b></li> <li>■ Hold current Basic Life Support-level CPR certificate</li> <li><b>AND</b></li> <li>■ Apply for registration to the Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners</li> <li><b>AND</b></li> <li>■ Successfully complete the Arkansas jurisprudence exam</li> </ul> <p><i>Note: A dental assistant holding a current radiography permit dated prior to 11/1/11 will not be required to complete an approved radiography course unless he or she is operating an imaging machine other than conventional flat film radiography, such as cone-beam computed axial tomography (CT) scan.</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>← The ADAA/DANB Alliance developed a listing of standardized job titles (left) based on its national Core Competencies Study conducted from 2002-2005.</p> <p>The same study utilized a list of 70 job functions which were determined to be representative of a broad range of dental assisting core competencies.</p> <p>Functions in this state that relate to the national DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study are numbered to the right, using language directly from this state's dental practice act. (The numbers correspond to the study's task numbering system.) →</p> <p>Functions listed with bullets are part of this state's practice act but are not specific matches to DANB/ADAA research.</p> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>These state templates reflect the work done by the ADAA/DANB Alliance to support a uniform national model for one set of dental assisting tasks, levels and requirements, which will serve as a viable career ladder for dental assistants.</p> </div>	<p>The following functions are <b>not</b> permitted by any level of dental assistant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20. Scaling, root planing and curettage</li> <li>29. Final placement of orthodontic brackets</li> <li>33. Placement, seating, or removal of any final or permanent restorations</li> <li>• Diagnosis and treatment planning</li> <li>• Surgical or cutting procedures on hard or soft tissue</li> <li>• Prescription, injection, inhalation, and parenteral administration of drugs (except where permitted by the Arkansas Board)</li> <li>• Any procedure that contributes to or results in irreversible alteration of the oral anatomy</li> <li>• Those functions relegated to a dental hygienist:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. Using air driven electric, sonic, ultrasonic, or otherwise powered scalers or polishers (except by dental assistants possessing an expanded duties permit for polishing)</li> <li>• Oral examination</li> <li>• Oral prophylaxis</li> <li>• Placing medicaments into the sulcus or periodontal pockets, for periodontal disease</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

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Job Title  
According to  
State of AR

Allowable Functions  
(Functions with numbers relate specifically to Core Competency designations;  
functions with bullets are in this state's practice act but are not specific matches to DANB research)

Registered  
Dental  
Assistant

**Under Personal Supervision\***

- 9. Perform coronal polishing\*\*
- 22. Operate dental radiographic equipment\*\*
- 40. Place sealants (if the dental assistant holds a coronal polishing permit)
- 59. Induce and monitor nitrous oxide/oxygen analgesia\*\*
  - Monitor patients who are under deep sedation or general anesthesia only in offices where the dentist is permitted to perform those services\*\*
  - All duties designated to Dental Assistants, under the same level of required supervision

*\*\* A dental assistant must obtain a permit in each of these expanded duties before performing the duty; see requirements for each corresponding permit on the previous page.*

Dental  
Assistant

**Under Personal Supervision\***

- Any reversible dental task or procedure assigned by the supervising dentist that does not require a permit or the professional skills of a licensed dentist or licensed dental hygienist

**\*Personal Supervision:** The dentist is in the office or treatment facility, has personally diagnosed the condition to be treated, has personally authorized the procedures, remains in the office or treatment facility while the procedures are being performed, and evaluates the performance of the Dental Assistant before the dismissal of the patient.

# Appendix A: Numbering System for Dental Assisting Functions

*The following list of 70 dental assisting tasks was developed by the ADAA/DANB Alliance as part of a study of dental assisting core competencies conducted between 2002 and 2005. These selected tasks were determined to be representative of a broad range of dental assisting core competencies.*

The **numbered functions** listed in the preceding state charts correspond to functions that were included in the DANB/ADAA core competencies study and use language directly from the state's dental practice act. The numbers are provided to facilitate comparison between and among states. Functions listed with **bullets** in the preceding charts are part of the state's practice act but are not specific matches to the functions that were included in the 2002-2005 study.

1. Perform mouth mirror inspection of the oral cavity
2. Chart existing restorations or conditions
3. Phone in prescriptions at the direction of the dentist
4. Receive and prepare patients for treatment, including seating, positioning chair, and placing napkin
5. Complete laboratory authorization forms
6. Place and remove retraction cord
7. Perform routine maintenance of dental equipment
8. Monitor and respond to post-surgical bleeding
9. Perform coronal polishing procedures
10. Apply effective communication techniques with a variety of patients
11. Transfer dental instruments
12. Place amalgam for condensation by the dentist
13. Remove sutures
14. Dry canals
15. Tie in archwires
16. Demonstrate knowledge of ethics/jurisprudence/patient confidentiality
17. Identify features of rotary instruments
18. Apply topical fluoride
19. Select and manipulate gypsums and waxes
20. Perform supragingival scaling
21. Mix dental materials
22. Expose radiographs
23. Evaluate radiographs for diagnostic quality
24. Provide patient preventive education and oral hygiene instruction
25. Perform sterilization and disinfection procedures
26. Provide pre- and post-operative instructions
27. Place and remove dental dam
28. Pour, trim, and evaluate the quality of diagnostic casts
29. Size and place orthodontic bands and brackets
30. Using the concepts of four-handed dentistry, assist with basic restorative procedures, including prosthodontics and restorative dentistry
31. Identify intraoral anatomy
32. Demonstrate understanding of the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard
33. Place, cure and finish composite resin restorations
34. Place liners and bases
35. Place periodontal dressings
36. Demonstrate understanding of the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard
37. Take and record vital signs
38. Monitor vital signs
39. Clean and polish removable appliances and prostheses
40. Apply pit and fissure sealants
41. Prepare procedural trays/armamentaria set-ups
42. Place orthodontic separators
43. Size and fit stainless steel crowns
44. Take preliminary impressions
45. Place and remove matrix bands
46. Take final impressions
47. Fabricate and place temporary crowns
48. Maintain field of operation during dental procedures through the use of retraction, suction, irrigation, drying, placing and removing cotton rolls, etc.
49. Perform vitality tests
50. Place temporary fillings
51. Carve amalgams
52. Process dental radiographs
53. Mount and label dental radiographs
54. Remove temporary crowns and cements
55. Remove temporary fillings
56. Apply topical anesthetic to the injection site
57. Demonstrate understanding of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Guidelines
58. Using the concepts of four-handed dentistry, assist with basic intraoral surgical procedures, including extractions, periodontics, endodontics, and implants
59. Monitor nitrous oxide/oxygen analgesia
60. Maintain emergency kit
61. Remove permanent cement from supragingival surfaces
62. Remove periodontal dressings
63. Place post-extraction dressings
64. Fabricate custom trays, to include impression and bleaching trays, and athletic mouthguards
65. Recognize basic medical emergencies
66. Recognize basic dental emergencies
67. Respond to basic medical emergencies
68. Respond to basic dental emergencies
69. Remove post-extraction dressings
70. Place stainless steel crown

## Appendix B: Levels of Supervision

An important consideration in the discussion of the delegation of tasks to dental assistants is that of supervision of dental assistants by their dentist-employers. The American Dental Association (ADA) has identified five levels of supervision for dental auxiliaries, including dental assistants, which it defines in its “Comprehensive Policy Statement on Allied Dental Personnel,” (2010: 505) which is part of its *Current Policies*, last updated in 2018. Note that “allied dental personnel” refers to dental assistants, dental hygienists, community dental health coordinators and dental laboratory technicians.

The five levels of supervision defined by the ADA are as follows:

**Personal supervision:** A type of supervision in which the dentist is personally operating on a patient and authorizes the allied dental personnel to aid treatment by concurrently performing a supportive procedure.

**Direct supervision:** A type of supervision in which a dentist is in the dental office or treatment facility, personally diagnoses and treatment plans the condition to be treated, personally authorizes the procedures and remains in the dental office or treatment facility while the procedures are being performed by the allied dental personnel and evaluates their performance before dismissal of the patient.

**Indirect supervision:** A type of supervision in which a dentist is in the dental office or treatment facility, has personally diagnosed and treatment planned the condition to be treated, authorizes the procedures, and remains in the dental office or treatment facility while the procedures are being performed by the allied dental personnel, and will evaluate the performance of the allied dental personnel.

**General supervision:** A type of supervision in which a dentist is not required to be in the dental office or treatment facility when procedures are provided, but has personally diagnosed and treatment planned the condition to be treated, has personally authorized the procedures, and will evaluate the performance of the allied dental personnel.

**Public Health Supervision:** A type of supervision in which a licensed dental hygienist may provide dental hygiene services, as specified by state law or regulations, when such services are provided as part of an organized community program in various public health settings, as designated by state law, and with general oversight of such programs by a licensed dentist designated by the state.

Furthermore, the ADA’s “Comprehensive Policy Statement on Allied Dental Personnel” stipulates that intraoral expanded functions should be performed by allied dental personnel “under the supervision of a dentist.”

Because the study of dental assisting core competencies undertaken by the ADA/DANB Alliance did not address the question of supervision, the ADA/DANB Alliance does not make any recommendations as to the levels of supervision that should be necessary for the delegation of the tasks included in the study to dental assistants. However, the ADA/DANB Alliance believes it is important to call attention to the fact that, while the ADA has defined supervision levels in the aforementioned policy statement, which governs the ADA’s own activities and the activities of its members, these definitions have not been uniformly adopted by the dental boards of every U.S. state or district.

**For the purposes of the attached charts, if a state’s dental practice act specifically defines levels of supervision, the state-specific definition is noted in the footer of the second page of the state chart.**



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