



2017 Allowable and Prohibited Duties for Dental Assistants: Nebraska



How to Use the Following Charts

- View which job designations are used in your state.
- Be sure to follow the legal requirements to perform dental radiographic procedures.
- See which tasks are not permitted by state law.
- Review all the allowable tasks for each level of dental assisting as published in the state practice act.

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



Arizona			
<p>Education/Training/Credential Required</p> <p>To perform specified restorative functions in Arizona under the supervision of a licensed dentist, a dental assistant must hold an Arizona Registered Function or Restorative Certificate. To qualify, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pass the Arizona Council on Dental Practice (ACDP) Restorative Functioning Certificate (see requirements to candidates). Successfully complete an EFDA training course approved by the Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners (ASBDE) or a Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA)-accredited program. AND DANB's AMP, TMP and TAMP. AND the supervision of a licensed dentist, perform restorative procedures equivalent to the ASBDE, unless the dentist and dentist 20 select restorations and other restorative procedures, including the preparation of the tooth by a licensed dental professional and the placement of the tooth by a licensed dentist. Employment from AND the DANB for the Arizona Restorative Certificate. <p>To perform general polishing procedures in Arizona under the general supervision of a licensed dentist, a dental assistant must hold an Arizona General Polishing Certificate.</p> <p>To qualify, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pass the Dental Council of Public Health (DCPH) Exam for Arizona Restorative Certificate. AND the Arizona Council on Dental Practice (ACDP) General Polishing Certificate. AND the Arizona Council on Dental Practice (ACDP) Restorative Certificate. <p>Functions in this state that require the national DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study are indicated by the right arrow.</p> <p>Functions in this state that require the national DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study are indicated by the right arrow.</p>	<p>Job Title Assigned by State (P.A.)</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Proposed Restorative Job Title</p> <p>Restorative Dental Assistant</p> <p>Restorative Dental Assistant</p> <p>Restorative Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Radiography Requirements</p> <p>In order to legally operate under a job requirement and perform dental radiographic procedures in Arizona, a dental assistant must hold an Arizona Restorative Certificate in radiography. To obtain a certificate, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pass the national DANB Radiation Safety and (RHS) exam. AND the Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners (ASBDE) Restorative Functioning Certificate, issued by the ASBDE. AND be currently certified in another ASBDE Restorative Functioning Certificate, issued by the ASBDE. <p>Restorative procedures require dental assistants to use the Arizona Central Radiography Program (ARC) as a requirement for operating an X-ray unit. The ARC is a web-based system that allows dental assistants to request X-ray units and to track the status of their X-ray units.</p> <p>The ADA/DANB Alliance on the Restorative Certificate Study conducted from 2002-2003.</p> <p>The same study offered a list of 70 restorative tasks with a corresponding range of dental assisting core competencies.</p> <p>Functions in this state that require the national DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study are indicated by the right arrow.</p> <p>Functions in this state that require the national DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study are indicated by the right arrow.</p>

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

The numbers next to each task correspond to the 70 numbered tasks that were identified and used in the DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study. Tasks that are not numbered do not directly match one of the 70 tasks, yet are identified by the state in the practice act. A full list of those tasks follow your state's chart.



See Appendix A for more information about the task numbering system.

Arizona	
<p>Job Title Assigned by State (P.A.)</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Allowable Functions</p> <p>If functions with numbers relate specifically to Core Competency designations, functions with numbers are in the state's practice act but are not specific matches to DANB research.</p> <p>Under General Supervision*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15. Apply fluoride varnish 40. Apply sealants 41. Place interim restoratives 42. Perform coronal polishing in the direction of a licensed dentist following a consultation conducted through radiography. <p>Level of Supervision Not Specified</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12, 23, 51, 70. Perform placement, contouring and finishing of direct restoratives or the placement and contouring of amalgamated crowns, including the placement of the tooth by a licensed dentist. The restorative materials used will be determined by the dentist. <p>Under General Supervision*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 31. Perform coronal polishing procedures. <p>Under Direct Supervision*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Remove sutures 23. Apply topical fluoride 24. Apply dental cements and restorative materials 25. Apply restorative cements 26. Apply restorative composites 27. DR restorative and temporary cement 28. Remove and replace temporary restorations 29. Remove and replace temporary restorations 30. Place dental material into a patient's mouth in response to a licensed dentist's instruction. 32. Remove excess cement from trays, crowns, bridges, and orthodontics 33. Prepare a patient for retentive resin and complete denture impressions using a dental 34. Place dental material into a patient's mouth in response to a licensed dentist's instruction. <p>Under General Supervision*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 21. Perform coronal polishing procedures 22. Perform coronal polishing procedures 24. Perform coronal polishing procedures 25. Perform coronal polishing procedures 26. Perform coronal polishing procedures 27. Perform coronal polishing procedures 28. Perform coronal polishing procedures 29. Perform coronal polishing procedures 30. Perform coronal polishing procedures 31. Perform coronal polishing procedures 32. Perform coronal polishing procedures 33. Perform coronal polishing procedures 34. Perform coronal polishing procedures 35. Perform coronal polishing procedures 36. Perform coronal polishing procedures 37. Perform coronal polishing procedures 38. Perform coronal polishing procedures 39. Perform coronal polishing procedures 40. Perform coronal polishing procedures 41. Perform coronal polishing procedures 42. Perform coronal polishing procedures 43. Perform coronal polishing procedures 44. Perform coronal polishing procedures 45. Perform coronal polishing procedures 46. Perform coronal polishing procedures 47. Perform coronal polishing procedures 48. Perform coronal polishing procedures 49. Perform coronal polishing procedures 50. Perform coronal polishing procedures 51. Perform coronal polishing procedures 52. Perform coronal polishing procedures 53. Perform coronal polishing procedures 54. Perform coronal polishing procedures 55. Perform coronal polishing procedures 56. Perform coronal polishing procedures 57. Perform coronal polishing procedures 58. Perform coronal polishing procedures 59. Perform coronal polishing procedures 60. Perform coronal polishing procedures 61. Perform coronal polishing procedures 62. Perform coronal polishing procedures 63. Perform coronal polishing procedures 64. Perform coronal polishing procedures 65. Perform coronal polishing procedures 66. Perform coronal polishing procedures 67. Perform coronal polishing procedures 68. Perform coronal polishing procedures 69. Perform coronal polishing procedures 70. Perform coronal polishing procedures

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 NE	Proposed Standardized National Job Titles (see below)	Radiography Requirements	Functions <u>NOT</u> Permitted by Dental Assistants in NE
<p>To perform coronal polishing procedures under the indirect supervision of a licensed dentist in the state of Nebraska, a dental assistant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Be at least 18 years of age ■ AND Graduate from a CODA-accredited dental assisting program which includes a coronal polishing course ■ OR Complete one year (1,500 hours minimum) of clinical work experience as a dental assistant and a Nebraska Board-approved course in polishing procedures 	<p>Dental Assistant <i>qualified in coronal polishing</i></p>	<p>Expanded Functions Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p>	<p>To legally operate dental x-ray equipment and perform dental radiographic procedures in the state of Nebraska, a dental assistant must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Successfully complete a two-day course approved by the Nebraska Board of Dentistry and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure OR Pass the national DANB Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) exam OR Successfully complete a dental assisting course from a CODA-approved technical program or community college which provides training in dental radiography as part of its curriculum 	<p>The following functions are not permitted by any level of dental assistant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12. 33. Placing or contouring of a final restoration 20. Scaling of teeth, including subgingival regions and root planing with hand and ultrasonic instruments • Diagnosis and treatment planning • Surgery on hard or soft tissue • Administering of local or general anesthetics • Any other irreversible dental procedure or procedures which require the professional judgment and skill of a licensed dentist • Any intraoral procedure which would lead to the fabrication of any prosthesis • Chemical curettage
<p>A dental assistant in the state of Nebraska may perform basic supportive dental procedures specified by the state dental practice act (see opposite page) under the supervision of a licensed dentist.</p> <p>There are no education or training requirements for this level of dental assisting.</p> <p>Dental assistants who assist in the administration of general anesthesia, deep sedation, moderate sedation or minimal sedation must be currently certified in basic life support skills (BLS) or the equivalent.</p> <p>Note: All dental assistants must be at least 18 years of age.</p>	<p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>DANB Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) or Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <p>Entry Level Dental Assistant</p>	<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 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>	

Job Title According to State of NE	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)
<p>Dental Assistant <i>qualified in coronal polishing</i></p>	<p><u>Under Indirect Supervision*</u></p> <p>9. Coronal polishing</p>
<p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p><u>Under Indirect or General Supervision**</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A licensed dentist may delegate to dental assistants only those procedures for which the dentist exercises supervision and assumes full responsibility <p><u>DANB's Note on Allowable Dental Assisting Functions</u></p> <p>In the state of Nebraska, all dental assistants may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform infection control and occupational safety procedures Perform other duties not specified by this state's dental practice act <p>At this time, DANB cannot list all allowable dental assisting functions for each state because some states' dental practice acts outline very specific allowable functions, while others outline only prohibited functions and some contain minimal or no regulation of dental assisting duties.</p>

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*Indirect Supervision: The licensed dentist authorizes the procedure to be performed by a dental auxiliary and is physically present on the premises when such procedure is being performed.
 **General Supervision: The directing of activities of a dental auxiliary by a licensed dentist, not construed to require the physical presence of the supervisor when directing such activities

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 2015. 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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