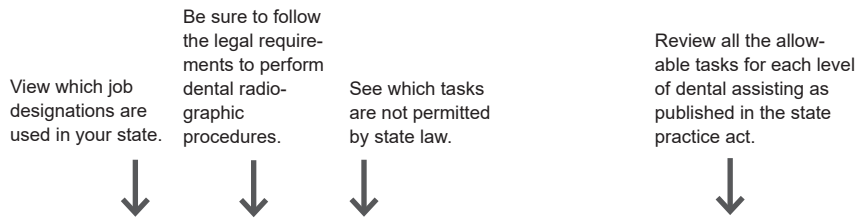




# 2019 Allowable and Prohibited Duties for Dental Assistants: Maryland



## How to Use the Following Charts



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

Arizona		State approved 2/19	
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 report)</li> <li>Hold the AZ Core Competency Restorative Certificate (see requirements below) and the AZ Restorative Certificate (see requirements in the report)</li> <li>Pass the national DANB Radiation Health and Safety (RHS) exam</li> <li>Pass the national DANB Restorative Certificate, issued by DANB</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 an Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners (ASBDE) member in good standing and have the Arizona Restorative Proficiency Certificate, issued by the ASBDE</li> </ul> <p>Arizona no longer requires dental assistants to take the Arizona Clinical Radiography Reference Exam as a requirement for holding a Restorative Certificate. Dental Assistants who passed the exam prior to 10/1/11, but have not passed the exam, may not call Dental as a job title for information purposes only.</p> <p>The ADAN/DANB Alliance has a list of 70 job functions which cover a broad range of dental assisting core competencies. Functions in this state that require the national DANB ADAA Core Competencies qualify and are marked by the right arrow in the adjacent practice act. (The functions correspond to the state's list of permitted tasks.)</p> <p>Functions listed with double arrows are part of the state's permitted tasks and are not specifically mentioned in DANB/ADAA restorative certificate.</p> <p>These state templates reflect the current state of the ADAN/DANB Alliance to support an uniform national model for the set of dental assisting tasks, levels and requirements, which will be used in a wide range of states for dental assistants.</p>	<p>Expanded Function Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <p>Entry Level Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Restography Procedures</p> <p>Functions NOT Permitted by Dental Assistants in AZ</p> <p>The following functions are not permitted by any level of dental assistant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>46. Taking final impressions for any advancing orthodontic appliances, fixed or removable prosthesis.</li> <li>51. Introral carriage of dental radiograph or prosthesis.</li> <li>A procedure which by use of radiographic techniques, or certified dental assistants can perform.</li> <li>Final job requirements.</li> <li>Activating orthodontic appliances.</li> <li>An irreversible procedure.</li> </ul> <p>* Under a new Arizona law passed in the 2019 legislative session, a dental assistant who has met the requirements for an Expanded Function Dental Assistant listed in the dental practice act may perform placement, contouring and finishing of direct restorations.</p>	<p>Education/Training/Credential Required</p> <p>Job Title from Board of AZ</p> <p>Expanded Function Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <p>Entry Level Dental Assistant</p>

Arizona		State approved 2/19	
Job Title from Board of AZ	Education/Training/Credential Required	Expanded Function Dental Assistant (EFDA)	Dental Assistant
<p>Under General Supervision*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15. Apply fluoride varnish</li> <li>40. Apply sealants</li> <li>Final job requirements</li> <li>Instructions under the direction of a licensed dentist following a consultation conducted through telemedicine</li> </ul> <p>Level of Supervision Not Specified</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12, 23, 51, 70. Perform placement, contouring and finishing of direct restorations or the placement and contouring of unattached crowns, inlays or veneers, as directed by a licensed dentist. The restorative materials used shall be determined by the dentist.</li> </ul> <p>Under General Supervision*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. Perform coronal polishing procedures.</li> </ul> <p>Under Direct Supervision*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. Remove sutures</li> <li>23. Apply topical anesthetics</li> <li>27, 31, 35, and remove dental debris and matrix bands</li> <li>42. Remove periodontal dressings with care</li> <li>43. Apply temporary crowns</li> <li>47, 52. Fabricate and place interim crowns with temporary cement</li> <li>48. Perform radiograph control and interim modification with hand</li> <li>50. Perform radiograph control and interim modification with hand</li> <li>53. Perform radiograph control and interim modification with hand</li> <li>54. Place dental material into a patient's mouth in response to a patient's dentist's instruction.</li> </ul> <p>Under General Supervision*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>21. Collect and record information pertaining to dental conditions</li> <li>22. Collect and record information pertaining to existing dental conditions</li> <li>24. CE courses</li> <li>26. Take or instruct patients in oral hygiene techniques, preventive procedures, dietary counseling and oral cancer, periodontal and prosthodontic and orthodontic education relative to specific office treatment</li> </ul> <p>61. Remove excess cement from trays, crowns, bridges, and orthodontics <li>62. Remove periodontal dressings with care</li> <li>63. Prepare a patient for retentive resin and complete denture construction with care</li> <li>64. Perform restorative and preventive dental</li> <li>65. Place dental material into a patient's mouth in response to a patient's dentist's instruction.</li> <p>66. Cleanse the supragingival surface of the teeth in preparation for the placement of veneers, crowns, dental core appliances <li>67. Acid etch procedures</li> <li>68. Removal of dressings and packs</li> </p></p>	<p>Expanded Function Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Education/Training/Credential Required</p> <p>Job Title from Board of AZ</p> <p>Expanded Function Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Allowable Functions</p> <p>If functions with numbers relate specifically to Core Competency designations, functions with double arrows in this state's practice act but are not specific matches to DANB restorative certificate.</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 MD	Proposed Standardized National Job Titles (see below)	Radiography Requirements	Functions <u>NOT</u> Permitted by Dental Assistants in MD
<p>To perform <b>expanded functions</b> in the state of Maryland (see listing on opposite page), a dental assistant <b>must</b> register as a <b>Dental Assistant Qualified in General Duties</b>.</p> <p>To qualify, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete a Board-approved course of at least 35 hours related to Maryland general duties dental assisting</li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass the Maryland General Dental Assisting Expanded Functions (MDG) exam administered by DANB</li> </ul> <p><b>OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold the national DANB Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) certification</li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply to the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners for state recognition as a Maryland Dental Assistant Qualified in General Duties</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> While not required by law, it is recommended that a Dental Assistant Qualified in General Duties also earn status as a Dental Radiation Technologist (see requirements to the right).</p>	<p>Dental Assistant Qualified in General Duties</p>	<p>Expanded Functions Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p> <hr/> <p>DANB Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) or Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)</p>	<p>A dental assistant in the state of Maryland <b>must</b> be state certified as a <b>Dental Radiation Technologist</b> in order to operate dental x-ray equipment and perform dental radiographic procedures. This must be performed under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist. To obtain this state certification, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be at least 18 years of age</li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be of good moral character</li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold a high school diploma or its equivalent</li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Successfully complete a Board-approved course of at least 24 hours related to Maryland dental radiology</li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass the national DANB Radiation Health and Safety (RHS) exam or Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) exam</li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply for state certification to the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> An individual holding an active radiology license or certification in another state may apply for Maryland certification if he or she has engaged in practicing dental radiation technology for at least 150 hours in the three years preceding application and meets any ADA or federal requirements. In addition, beginning in 2011, all Dental Radiation Technologists seeking to renew or reinstate their certificates shall have completed a two-hour, Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners-approved course in infection control.</p>	<p>The following functions are <b>not</b> permitted* by a Dental Assistant Qualified in General Duties or a non-registered Dental Assistant:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oral prophylactic procedures, including scaling, root planing and polishing teeth</li> <li>Placing or removing an arch wire</li> <li>Placing elastics or ligatures</li> <li>Preparing or fitting orthodontic bands</li> <li>Condensing, carving or finishing any restoration</li> <li>Placing an initial surgical dressing</li> <li>Apply pit and fissure sealants</li> <li>Monitoring nitrous oxide             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examination, diagnosis and treatment planning</li> <li>Surgery on hard or soft tissues</li> <li>Administering injectable local anesthesia</li> </ul> </li> <li>Initiation of treatment at any time for the correction of malocclusions and malformations of the teeth or jaws</li> <li>Adjusting occlusion of natural teeth, restorations or appliances</li> <li>Registration of jaw relations</li> <li>Selecting headgear</li> <li>Adjusting prosthetic appliances</li> <li>Cementing of orthodontic bands, placement of bonded attachments or the removal of cement or bonded orthodontic bands and attachments</li> <li>Cementing permanent crowns or restorations</li> <li>Administering nitrous oxide</li> <li>Apply silver diamine fluoride</li> </ol>
<p>A <b>dental assistant</b> in the state of Maryland may perform basic supportive dental procedures specified by the state dental practice act (see opposite page) under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist.</p> <p>There are no education or training requirements for this level of dental assisting.</p> <p>A <b>dental assistant working under general supervision for a sealant program</b> must do all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain American Heart Association Basic Life Support for Healthcare Providers (BLS) or American Red Cross CPR for Professional Rescuers</li> <li>Have at least 400 hours of dental assisting clinical practice in dental patient care</li> <li>Successfully complete a Board-approved course of at least two hours in infection control with OSHA protocol, <b>or</b> be Qualified in General Duties (see requirements above) or Orthodontic Duties (see requirements on p. 62), <b>or</b> hold current DANB CDA or COA certification</li> <li>Enter into a written agreement with the supervising dentist setting forth the terms and conditions of practice under general supervision</li> </ul>	<p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Dental Assistant</p> <hr/> <p>Entry Level Dental Assistant</p>	<p>The ADA/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>	<p>*Some of these functions <b>may</b> be permitted by Dental Assistants Qualified in Orthodontics; see the Maryland (Orthodontic) template on pp. 62-63.</p>

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Job Title  
According to  
State of MD

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)

Dental  
Assistant  
Qualified  
in General  
Duties

**Under Direct Supervision\***

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Placing or removing retraction cord</li> <li>13. Removing sutures</li> <li>14. Drying a root canal</li> <li>18. Applying topical fluoride</li> <li>27. Placing or removing a rubber dam</li> <li>35, 62. Removing or placing a periodontal dressing (except placing the original periodontal dressing)</li> <li>43. Preparing and fitting stainless steel crowns</li> <li>44. Taking alginate impressions for intraoral appliances</li> <li>45. Placing or removing a matrix band</li> <li>47. Preparing temporary crowns</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>47. Cementing temporary crowns or restorations</li> <li>49. Performing vitality tests</li> <li>54. Removing temporary crowns</li> <li>54. Removing excess cement                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Etching</li> <li>• Fabricating indirect restorations in a dental office</li> <li>• Applying desensitizing agents</li> <li>• All duties designated to non-registered Dental Assistants, under the same level of required supervision</li> <li>• Any other duty approved by the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners (see DANB's 2019 State Fact Booklet or the "Dental Auxiliaries Procedures Chart" on the Maryland Board of Dental Examiners' website at <a href="https://health.maryland.gov/dental">https://health.maryland.gov/dental</a> for additional duties)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
|--|--|

**Note:** This state allows dental assistants qualified in orthodontics to perform a separate set of **orthodontic functions**. Please see the separate chart for Maryland orthodontic functions on the pages that follow.

**Under Direct Supervision\***

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24. Instructing on oral hygiene</li> <li>27, 25, 48. Placement and removal of materials for the isolation of the dentition, provided that the material is not retained by the dentition</li> <li>44. Taking impressions for study models or diagnostic casts</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>48 Rinsing and aspiration of the oral cavity</li> <li>48. Retraction of the lips, cheek, tongue and flaps</li> <li>56. Applying topical anesthesia</li> <li>64. Constructing athletic mouth guards on models</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performing intraoral photography</li> <li>• Curing by the use of halogen light</li> <li>• Checking for loose bands</li> <li>• Any other duty approved by the Board (see DANB's 2019 State Fact Booklet or the "Dental Auxiliaries Procedures Chart" on the Maryland Board of Dental Examiners' website at <a href="https://health.maryland.gov/dental">https://health.maryland.gov/dental</a> for additional duties)</li> </ul> |
|--|--|--|

**Under General Supervision\* for a dental sealant program\*\***

*(See requirements on opposite page)*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>24. Instructing on oral hygiene</li> <li>25. Cleaning and disinfecting environmental surfaces and equipment</li> <li>25. Sterilizing instruments</li> <li>27, 45, 48. Placing and removing materials for the isolation of the dentition, if the material is not retained by the dentition</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30. Transferring instruments and sealants to a dentist or dental hygienist</li> <li>41. Preparing materials for the application of sealants</li> <li>48. Retracting lips, cheek, and tongue</li> <li>48. Rinsing and aspirating the oral cavity</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

**\*\* A dental assistant may only perform these duties under general supervision of a dentist for a facility that has been granted a waiver of onsite supervision for a dental hygienist or while assisting a dental hygienist who has received a waiver of onsite supervision, pursuant to applicable Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners regulations.**

Dental  
Assistant

**\*Direct Supervision:** The supervising dentist is in the dental office; personally diagnoses the condition to be treated; personally authorizes the procedure; and, before dismissal of the patient, personally evaluates the performance of the dental assistant.  
**General Supervision:** The supervision of a dental assistant by a dentist where the dentist may or may not be present when the dental assistant performs the dental assisting procedures.

Education/Training/ Credential Required?	Job Title According to State of MD	Proposed Standardized National Job Titles (see below)	Radiography Requirements	Functions <b>NOT</b> permitted by orthodontic assistants in MD
<p>To perform <b>orthodontic functions</b> in the state of Maryland, a dental assistant <b>must</b> register as a <b>Dental Assistant Qualified in Orthodontics</b>.</p> <p>To qualify, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Complete a Board-approved course of at least 35 hours related to Maryland orthodontic dental assisting</li> </ul> <p><b>AND</b> Pass the Maryland Orthodontic Assisting Expanded Functions (MDO) exam administered by DANB</p> <p><b>OR</b> Hold the national DANB Certified Orthodontic Assistant (COA) certification</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ <b>AND</b> Apply to the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners for state recognition as a Maryland Dental Assistant Qualified in Orthodontics</li> </ul>	<p>Dental Assistant Qualified in Orthodontics</p>	<p>Expanded Functions Orthodontic Assistant (EFOA)</p> <hr/> <p>DANB Certified Orthodontic Assistant (COA) or Registered Orthodontic Assistant (ROA)</p> <hr/> <p>Orthodontic Assistant</p>	<p>A dental assistant in the state of Maryland <b>must</b> be state certified as a <b>Dental Radiation Technologist</b> in order to operate dental x-ray equipment and perform dental radiographic procedures. This must be performed under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist. To obtain this state certification, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Be at least 18 years of age</li> <li>■ <b>AND</b></li> <li>■ Be of good moral character</li> <li>■ <b>AND</b></li> <li>■ Hold a high school diploma or its equivalent</li> <li>■ <b>AND</b></li> <li>■ Successfully complete a Board-approved course of at least 24 hours related to Maryland dental radiology</li> <li>■ <b>AND</b></li> <li>■ Pass the national DANB Radiation Health and Safety (RHS) exam or Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) exam</li> <li>■ <b>AND</b></li> <li>■ Apply for state certification to the Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> An individual holding an active radiology license or certification in another state may apply for Maryland certification if he or she has engaged in practicing dental radiation technology for at least 150 hours in the three years preceding application and meets any ADA or federal requirements. In addition, all Dental Radiation Technologists seeking to renew or reinstate a certificate shall have completed a two-hour, Maryland State Board of Dental Examiners-approved course in infection control.</p>	<p>The following functions are <b>not</b> permitted by a Dental Assistant Qualified in Orthodontics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6. Placing or removing retraction cord</li> <li>9, 20. Oral prophylactic procedures, including scaling, root planing and polishing of teeth with rotary instruments</li> <li>14. Drying a root canal</li> <li>27. Placing or removing a rubber dam</li> <li>33. Condensing, carving or finishing any restoration</li> <li>35, 62. Removing or placing a periodontal dressing</li> <li>40. Applying pit and fissure sealants</li> <li>43. Preparing and fitting stainless steel crowns</li> <li>45. Placing or removing a matrix band</li> <li>47. Preparing temporary crowns</li> <li>49. Performing vitality tests</li> <li>54. Removing temporary crowns</li> <li>59. Monitoring nitrous oxide</li> <li>63. Placing an initial surgical dressing             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examination, diagnosis and treatment planning</li> <li>• Surgery on hard or soft tissues</li> <li>• Administering injectable local anesthesia</li> <li>• Initiation of treatment at any time for the correction of malocclusions and malformations of the teeth or jaws</li> <li>• Adjusting occlusion of natural teeth, restorations or appliances</li> <li>• Cementing temporary or permanent crowns or restorations</li> <li>• Adjusting prosthetic appliances</li> <li>• Administering nitrous oxide</li> <li>• Apply silver diamine fluoride</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
<p>There are no specified education or training requirements in Maryland for any level of orthodontic assisting other than Dental Assistant Qualified in Orthodontics.</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Entry Level Orthodontic Assistant</p>	<p>The ADAA/DANB Alliance developed a listing of standardized job titles based on its national Core Competencies Study conducted from 2002-2005, for <b>general</b> chairside assistants only. Currently, only four states (CA, MD, NJ, and OR) recognize one or more separate levels of orthodontic assisting.</p> <p>← If the ADAA/DANB Alliance were to attempt to replicate the general chairside assistant Core Competencies Study for orthodontic assistants, the templates would contain the proposed standardized job titles that appear at left.</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.) Functions listed with bullets are part of this state's practice act but are not specific matches to DANB/ADAA research.</p>	

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Job Title According to State of MD	Allowable functions (Functions with numbers relate specifically to Core Competency designation, functions with bullets are not a specific match to the list.)
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Dental Assistant Qualified in Orthodontics

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N/A

<p><b><u>Under Direct Supervision*</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15. Placing and removing arch wires</li> <li>15. Placing elastics and ligatures</li> <li>18. Applying topical fluoride</li> <li>24. Instructing on oral hygiene</li> <li>29. Preparing and fitting orthodontic bands</li> <li>44. Taking impressions for study models or diagnostic casts</li> <li>44. Taking alginate impressions for intraoral appliances</li> <li>48. Rinsing and aspiration of the oral cavity</li> <li>48. Retraction of the lips, cheek, tongue and flaps</li> <li>48. Placement and removal of materials for the isolation of the dentition, provided that the material is not retained by the dentition</li> <li>56. Applying topical anesthesia</li> <li>61. Removing excess cement from around orthodontic bands</li> <li>64. Constructing athletic mouth guards on models                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Performing intraoral photography</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Curing by the use of halogen light</li> <li>• Checking for loose bands</li> <li>• Etching</li> <li>• Cementing of orthodontic bands, placement of bonded attachments, or the removal of cemented or bonded orthodontic bands and attachments</li> <li>• Selecting headgear</li> <li>• Applying desensitizing agents</li> <li>• Any other duty approved by the Board (see DANB's 2019 State Fact Booklet or the "Dental Auxiliaries Procedures Chart" on the Maryland Board of Dental Examiners' website at <a href="https://health.maryland.gov/dental">https://health.maryland.gov/dental</a> for additional duties)</li> </ul>
<p>No allowable functions are specified in the Maryland dental practice act for any level of orthodontic assisting other than Dental Assistant Qualified in Orthodontics.</p>

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\*Direct Supervision: The supervising orthodontist is in the office; personally diagnoses the condition to be treated; personally authorizes the procedure; and, before dismissal of the patient, personally evaluates the performance of the dental assistant.

# 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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444 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 900, Chicago, IL 60611 • 1-800-367-3262 or 312-642-3368 • Fax: 312-642-8507  
danbmail@danb.org • www.danb.org