

## **Government Relations Report**

The Dental Board has been meeting virtually since the COVID-19 pandemic, meeting in May, July and August. The Dental Assisting Council has not met since February 2020

### **Dental Hygiene**

It was reported by the Dental Hygiene Board of CA that there are many hygienists leaving the field because of the pandemic and the risks involved, especially given that many offices want to resume practice like pre-pandemic (volume of patients, expectations).

### **Appointments**

Dr Alicia Montel has been appointed by the Governor to replace Dr Hong???  
Dr Yu and McKensie were reappointed

The following were appointed by the Dental Board to the Dental Assisting Council:

#### Educators

Cara Miyasaki, RDA  
Jeri Fowler, RDAEF

#### Clinical

Tracy Reed Espinoza, RDAEF  
Michelle Jawad, RDA

### **Program Re-Evaluations**

The forms and application is being developed and they are hoping to have it done by the end of the year and will be submitted with the rulemaking.

The updated material relative to program re-evaluations was omitted from the board materials, but is to be included with the next meeting materials.

### **Request**

A request was made by CDAA, CADAT and the DAEGRs for the Board to re-evaluate the minimum qualifications relative to infection control for dental assistants as found in BPC 1750. This language allows an on-the-job trained dental assistant to have a full year from the date on employment to complete the 8-hour Infection Control course (as well as CPR, and the DPA).

### **RDAEF Exams**

At the August DBC meeting, the following was approved by the Dental Board:

1. Direct staff to submit a waiver request to the Director of the Department of Consumer Affairs that would suspend the requirement for a specified amount of time for RDAEFs to successfully pass the clinical and practical examinations;

2. Direct staff to work with OPES to immediately begin written examination development for the RDAEF general written examination to ensure skills identified in the June 2016 RDAEF Validation Report, currently assessed in the clinical and practical examinations, are measured as application of those knowledges on the written examination;
3. Direct staff to work with OPES to develop a RDAEF licensing model that includes a combination of dentist verification and certified course work; and,
4. Direct staff to seek an author to carry legislation to repeal the requirements of the RDAEF clinical and practical examinations permanently.

The next scheduled Dental Board meeting is December 3-4 and will be held virtually.