

Government Relations

Claudia Pohl, CDA, RDA, FADAA
March 2021

Directives: None at this time.

Activities (driven by the MOP):

As per the MOP:

- Maintained information about current bills on the website
- Served as spokesperson to represent the legislative interests of CDAA
- Served as contact person with other individuals and organizations
- Presented a report after each meeting for which there is funding or representation
- Reviewed legislation affecting dental assisting and report to the Board
- Approved related expenses and bills prior to submission for payment
- Provided a report for the Newsletters
- Provided legislative representation at the following meetings:
- Provided legislative representation at the following meetings:
 - May 14, 2020 DBC Meeting, Virtual
 - May 15, 2019 DAC Meeting - Cancelled, Sacramento
 - July 24, 2020 DBC Meeting, Virtual
 - August 14, 2020 DBC Meeting, Virtual
 - December 3, 2020 DAC Training Session, Virtual
 - December 4, 2020 DBC Meeting, Virtual
 - February 25, 2021 DAC Meeting, Virtual
 - February 26, 2021 DBC Meeting, Virtual

Other Activities – Dental Board / DAC Report:

Request – Infection Control

A request was made at the July 2020 Dental Board meeting 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). It was discussed by the DAC at its February 2021 meeting, but they requested information from staff; it will be placed on the next agenda for action.

Dental Assisting Licensing Statistics

As of October 2019, these are the number of current license/permit holders.

Registered Dental Assistant (RDA): 30,386

Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions (RDAEF): 1552

Orthodontic Assistant (OA): 1311

Dental Sedation Assistant (DSA): 37

Online-Only Renewals Effective July 2021

The Dental Board approved the move to *online-only renewals effective July 2021*. A notice was sent by the DBC to stakeholders and posted on its website. If you do not yet have a BreZE account, you will need to [set one up](#).

Dental Assisting Programs / Courses

There are currently:

Table 4 Total Approved DA Program and Courses

RDA Program	RDAEF Program	RDAEFITR	Radiation Safety	Coronal Polishing	Pit & Fissure Sealant	Ultrasonic Scaling	Infection Control	DSA Permit	OA Permit
89	11	4	153	70	83	19	78	25	112

Dental Assisting Examination Statistics

There is continuing conversation about the pass rates for the RDA Combined Exam as well as the permits and RDAEF exam.

The pass rates for the written exams for dental assisting are listed below.

RDA Combined Exam	Overall	First-Time	Repeat Candidates
FY 2020-2021	69%	81%	49%
Oct-Sept 2019	55%	64%	39%
June-July 2019	55%	59%	47%
Jan-Dec 2018	55%	56%	54%
Sept-Oct 2018	54%	54%	51%
April 2017-March2018	56% / 62% L&E	59% / 59% L&E	45% / 49% L&E

RDAEF Written Exam	Overall	First-Time	Repeat Candidates
FY 2020-2021	87%	89%	75%
Oct-Sept 2019	65%	74%	54%
June-July 2019	63%	71%	51%
Jan-Dec 2018	60%	73%	42%
Sept-Oct 2018	61%	78%	39%
April 2017-March2018	57%	100%	33%

Orthodontic Assistant	Overall	First-Time	Repeat Candidates
FY 2020-2021	36%	52%	25%
Oct-Sept 2019	50%	40%	33%
June-July 2019	43%	57%	31%
Jan-Dec 2018	48%	63%	34%
Sept-Oct 2018	49%	63%	34%
April 2017-March2018	43%	63%	43%

Dental Sedation Exam	Overall	First-Time	Repeat Candidates
FY 2020-2021	60%	67%	50%
Oct-Sept 2019	78%	100%	50%
June-July 2019	89%	88%	NA
Jan-Dec 2018	80%	80%	NA
Sept-Oct 2018	100%	100%	NA
April 2017-March2018	100%	0%	0%

Election of 2021 Dental Board Officers

The Dental Board elected officers for the 2021 year. Joanne Pacheco, RDH was elected President and Rosalinda Olague, RDA was elected Vice President.

Congratulations to these two women!!

Dental Assisting Educational Program Regulation Package

The Dental Board approved the regulatory package and the related forms and initiated the rulemaking.

Communication (eg. invitations, requests specific to this position . . .):

- Weekly conference call through May with 'workgroup' of CADAT, DAEGRs and CDAA
- Conference call with Bridget Gramme at Center for Public Interest Law re mandatory infection control prior to exposure
- In conjunction with CADAT and DAEGRs, an educational waiver was sent to the DCA for RDA Programs. Denied
- Phone call to Senator Morrell's office, the author of SB1168 to add in a provision for mandatory infection control prior to exposure.
- Variety of emails, though I did receive one from the DBC requesting dates for our meetings for 2021 so there would be no conflict.

Calendar of Future Events:

The Dental Board will continue to meet virtually for at least the first six months of 2021. The meeting dates are:

Date: May 12-13, 2021 – Virtual

Description of Event: Dental Assisting Council (DAC) ? / Dental Board (DBC)

Date: August 19-20, 2021 – Virtual?

Description of Event: Dental Assisting Council (DAC) ? / Dental Board (DBC)

Date: November 18-19, 2021 – Virtual?

Description of Event: Dental Assisting Council (DAC) ? / Dental Board (DBC)

Suggestions / Recommendations to CDAA BOT:

Consider setting aside funds to legislative aid (lobbyist . . .)

Dental Assisting Council (DAC) 2021 (Standing Committee of the Dental Board)

Melinda Cazares, RDA, Chair
Jeri Fowler, CDA, RDAEF2, OA, Vice Chair
Cara Miyasaki, RDA, RDHEF
Michele Jawad, RDA, MAEd
Rosalinda Olague, RDA, BA
Tracy Reed Espinoza, RDAEF2
Joanne Pacheco, RDH, Board Member

Dental Board Members 2020

Board President: Joanne Pacheco, RDA (2018-1/2021)
Vice President: Rosalinda Olague, RDA, (2018-1/2021)
Secretary: Alan Felsenfeld, DDS (1/2020-1/2024)
Fran Burton, Public member (2009-1/2021)
Ross Lai, DDS (2013-1/2021)
Lilia Larin, DDS (2018-1/2021)
Meredith McKenzie, ESQ, Public member (2013-1/2024)
Mark Mendoza, Public member (2020-1/2024)
Sonia Molina, DMD (2020-1/2024)
Alicia Montell, DDS (2019 - 1/2023)
Steve Morrow, DDS (2010-1/2022)
Thomas Stewart, DDS (2013-1/2021)
James Yu, DDS (2018-1/2024)