

Government Relations

Shari Becker, CDA, RDA, FADAA
November/2022

Directives: NA

Activities (driven by the MOP):

Description: August 25-26, 2022 DAC/DBC meeting Sacramento

August 25- DAC (Dental Assisting Council) meeting.

I introduced myself to all the council members in attendance. Am learning the ropes, the procedures, the council members. Tracy Montez is the interim ED, as Sara Wallace is no longer in that role.

Joan Greenfield asked to address the EF exam and it be added to the agenda.

Update on exam and licensing statistics.

Update on status of surveys regarding RDAEF administration of local anesthesia and nitrous oxide- OPES to do a survey in September. Survey to go to RDAEF's and supervising DDS's.

Katherine Landsberg DANB legislative representative made a presentation regarding DANB exams, possibly implementing for CA exams. Also, portability possibilities were brought up in recognizing the DANB certification as part of an alternative pathway to licensure in CA to help address the shortage. I spoke for the Alliance in favor of possible portability. Melodi Randolph also spoke virtually noting that it would be important to retain the hands-on competency certificate requirements for CA licentiates, as DANB offers only written exams. Currently there are 38 states that acknowledge DANB certifications, there are 35,000 CDA's, with over 120,000 that have taken parts of the CDA.

There are many programs being proposed-high school pilot programs, underserved populations, new paradigms for education and certification, micro credentialing, evaluation of DPA's- more congruency from state to state. There is a shift in the workforce, DSO growth, workforce development, education, leadership.

DAC created a workgroup with 2 members to review education for DA certifications, current RDA and EF courses.

August 25- Dental Board of CA (DBC) meeting.

Brian Clifford-of the DCA gave a brief report on limited activities at this time.

Mr. Blogdin of enforcement reported 45 unlicensed practices, 5 cases being prosecuted-all complaint driven.

Mr. Wilbur reported on the budget that 2.9 million dollars was transferred from the DA fund. 8.5 million dollars was collected. 16.2 million dollars was spent. Current balance is 12.4 million dollars.

Dr. Champagne reported on examinations. They are looking toward combining all exams into one written, and looking into non patient based exams starting in 2023.

Due to staff shortages, the board voted to postpone any decisions as OPES evaluates pathways to licensure and exam options.

Licensing certification and permits - due to staff shortages are postponing any decisions and will be investigating further.

August 26- Dental Board of CA (DBC) meeting reconvened.

DAC report on Aug. 25 meeting.

The diversion program has 7 participants currently. Much discussion about anesthesia and conscious sedation. Verbiage has changed, current permit holders may need to reapply for permits for OCS. Much discussion around sedation and pediatric practices.

Review of legislative calendar- most assembly bills and senate bills still in review.

Future calendar set for 2023:

2/9-10 Sacramento

5/18-19 Anaheim CDA presents

8/17-18 San Diego

11/9-10 Sacramento or Bay area

GR meetings with CADAT and RDAEF for scope of practice have been ongoing. Most recently CADAT, RDAEF and CDAA met with CDA for preliminary discussion around scope of practice and alternative pathways to licensure. The meeting was not very successful In our moving forward as CDA had not provided us with details of their proposal to ours that was previously submitted to them. We did learn that CDA is wanting to fast track a bill starting in November. Hence the need for us to recruit our lobbyist right away. We are waiting for a future meeting to be scheduled with CDAA, CADAT, RDAEF, FADE and CDA. Stay tuned.

Other Activities:

Description: The DAC/DBC will be holding its next meeting November 17-18 in Sacramento. I will be attending both days. As of this report, I have not seen the agendas for the DAC or DBC meetings.

Other Information about your committee: I am very grateful for your support as I transition into this position. There will be future communications from me and/or the committee that will need your attention and will be time sensitive, so please check your emails as regularly as possible.

Communication sent to you or by you as Committee Chair:

Multiple emails have been sent regarding the workgroup, alliance meetings and coordinating zoom meetings.

MOP: I still need to fully review the MOP regarding this position.

Strategic Plan Activity:

Objective 4-3: Monitor and interact with the Dental Board regarding matters affecting dental assisting.	2022-2023	GR/Shari Becker Chair
Objective 4-5: Attend, actively participate in and encourage member	2022-2023	GR/Shari Becker Chair-all are welcome-

attendance at DBC and DAC meetings.		
Objective 4-6: Develop and maintain relationship with other dental and/or health organizations.	2022-2023	GR/Membership/Education

Calendar of Future Events for this Committee:

Date: November 18-19, 2022

Description of Event: CDA HOD, Sacramento

Date: November 17-18, 2022

Description of event: DAC/DBC meeting Sacramento

Questions or Concerns about your committee? I continue to learn more regarding this position and the council members, etc. I appreciate your patience and support as I acclimate to this new role. I am very grateful for Claudia's support and Zena.

Suggestions / Recommendations to CDAA BOD: We need to be seriously consider any financial opportunities to assist in supporting a lobbyist over at least the next 2 years. With scope of practice, pathways to licensure, and sunset review happening within this timeframe, a lobbyist will be of great importance.