



## Dental Assisting Structure Effective 1/1/2010

Legislation (AB2637) provided a comprehensive approach to the duties, settings and educational requirements for five categories of dental assistants in California. In conjunction with the new duties, two new permit categories were developed specific to orthodontic functions and dental sedation functions. Each permit is renewal and continuing education is required for renewal of permits. Mandatory education requirements are required to work as an unlicensed dental assistant and dentist employers are responsible for ensuring completion of mandatory education requirements within a specified amount of time.

Dental Assisting Categories			
<i>Dental Assisting (DA)</i>	<i>Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) – Work Experience Pathway</i>	<i>Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) – Formal Education Pathway</i>	<i>Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions (RDAEF 1/2)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unlicensed healthcare provider; duties and functions may be intraoral or extraoral; basic, supportive and completely irreversible</li> <li>• Mandatory education requirements:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 8-hour Board approved course in Infection Control</li> <li>○ 2-hour Board approved course in California Dental Practice Act</li> <li>○ Completion of CPR</li> <li>○ Mandatory education must be completed within 12-months</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Employer is responsible to ensure completion and maintain training records for mandatory education requirements</li> <li>• Mandatory education is applied to those employed as a dental assistant on or after 1/1/2010</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licensed healthcare provider; performs all duties and functions of an unlicensed DA plus duties of a RDA; supervision level for RDA functions dictated by the supervising dentist</li> <li>• Completion of all DA mandatory education requirements</li> <li>• Completion of 15-months dental assisting work experience</li> <li>• Completion of Board-approved certification courses:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Radiation Safety</li> <li>○ Coronal Polishing (allowable duty after licensure)</li> <li>○ Pit &amp; Fissure Sealants (allowable duty after licensure)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Successful completion of:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ State-administered written RDA examination</li> <li>○ State-administered RDA practical examination</li> <li>○ State-administered written Law and Ethics examination</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 25-hours of continuing education biennially for licensure renewal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Licensed healthcare provider; performs all duties and functions of an unlicensed DA plus duties of a RDA; supervision level for RDA functions dictated by the supervising dentist</li> <li>• Successful completion of all educational requirements from a Board-approved/ADA CODA Accredited RDA Program, and</li> <li>• Successful completion of:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ State-administered written RDA examination</li> <li>○ State-administered RDA practical examination</li> <li>○ State-administered written Law and Ethics examination</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 25-hours of continuing education biennially for licensure renewal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of all licensure requirements for the RDA</li> <li>• Successful completion of a Board-approved post-secondary RDAEF program:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ RDAEFs licensed prior to 1/1/2010 may not perform added RDAEF2 duties without completion of new duties module from Board-approved provider</li> <li>○ RDAs completing a Board-approved RDAEF program after 1/1/2010 will complete RDAEF2 education and all allowable duties as such</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Successful completion of:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ State-administered written RDAEF examination</li> <li>○ State-administered simulation and clinical examinations</li> <li>○ State-administered written Law and Ethics Examination</li> </ul> </li> <li>• 25-hours of continuing education biennially for license renewal</li> </ul>

## Dental Assisting Specialty Permits

<i>Orthodontic Assistant Permitholder (OAP)</i>	<i>Dental Sedation Assistant Permitholder (DSAP)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced orthodontic duties not allowed by current unlicensed DA or current RDA without permit; permit is renewable consistent with licensure requirements including continuing education</li> <li>• May be obtained by an unlicensed DA, current RDA or RDAEF</li> <li>• Mandatory education requirements:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 8-hour Board approved course in Infection Control</li> <li>○ 2-hour Board approved course in California Dental Practice Act</li> <li>○ Completion of CPR</li> <li>○ Mandatory education must be completed within 12-months</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Completion of 12-months dental assisting work experience</li> <li>• Successful completion of a Board-approved 84-hour Orthodontic Assistant Permit Program which may commence after 6-months of work experience</li> <li>• Current RDAs shall successfully complete an amended Board-approved 64-hour Orthodontic Assistant Permit Program</li> <li>• Successful completion of State-administered written examination</li> <li>• 25-hours of continuing education biennially for permit renewal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sedation-related duties not allowed by current unlicensed DA or current RDA without permit; permit is renewable consistent with licensure requirements including continuing education</li> <li>• May be obtained by an unlicensed DA, current RDA or RDAEF</li> <li>• Mandatory education requirements:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 8-hour Board approved course in Infection Control</li> <li>○ 2-hour Board approved course in California Dental Practice Act</li> <li>○ Completion of CPR</li> <li>○ Mandatory education must be completed within 12-months</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Completion of 12-months dental assisting work experience</li> <li>• Successful completion of a Board-approved 110-hour Dental Sedation Assistant Permit Program which may commence after 6-months of work experience</li> <li>• Successful completion of State-administered written examination</li> <li>• 25-hours of continuing education biennially for permit renewal</li> </ul>