



Education/Training/ Credential Required	Job Title According to State of AL	Proposed Standardized National Job Titles (see below)	Radiography Requirements	Functions <u>NOT</u> Permitted by Dental Assistants in AL
<p><i>In 2013, the Alabama legislature passed a law authorizing the Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama to license Expanded Duty Dental Assistants. As of the date of publication, the Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama was in the process of developing rules to implement this new law. However, in 2018 the Board of Dental Examiners of Alabama is expected to introduce legislation in the Alabama legislature eliminating the Expanded Duty Dental Assistant category of licensee.</i></p>	<p>Expanded Duty Dental Assistant</p>	<p>Expanded Functions Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p>	<p>There are no radiography requirements for dental assistants in the state of Alabama.</p> <p>All dental assistants may legally operate dental x-ray equipment and perform dental radiographic procedures.</p>	<p>The following functions are not permitted by any level of dental assistant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20. Remove extrinsic stains, accretions and calcareous deposits from teeth 40. Place Pit and Fissure Sealant 70. Apply stainless steel crowns with intentions of reasonable permanency <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply oxygenating agents during endodontic therapy • Remove wire sutures • Pulp capping • Gingival curettage • Root planing • Polish completed restorations • Place resorbable chlorhexidine chips • Place topical or subgingival antimicrobial or antibacterial agents • Periodontal probing • Furnish, construct, supply or repair any prosthetic denture, bridge, appliance or structure to be worn in the mouth • Repair or fill cavities • Give interpretations or readings or x-rays or roentgenograms • Administer anesthetics • Perform bleaching of human teeth
<p>A dental assistant in Alabama 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>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>DANB Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) or Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)</p>	<p> The ADAA/DANB Alliance developed a listing of standardized job titles (left) based on its national Core Competencies Study conducted from 2002-2005.</p>	
		<p>Dental Assistant</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>Entry Level Dental Assistant</p>	<p>These state templates reflect the work done by the ADAA/ DANB Alliance to support a uniform national model for one set of dental assisting tasks, levels and requirements, which will serve as a viable career ladder for dental assistants.</p>	

Job Title
According to
State of AL

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)

Expanded
Duty
Dental
Assistant

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Dental
Assistant

Under Direct Supervision*

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| <p>1, 2. Preliminary charting and inspection of the oral cavity (final examination and diagnosis must be made by a dentist before treatment can be instituted)</p> <p>6. Place and remove gingival retraction materials</p> <p>13. Remove intraoral sutures (excluding wire sutures)</p> <p>18. Apply topical fluoride</p> <p>22, 52. Make dental radiographs</p> <p>24. Give oral hygiene instructions including plaque staining, flossing, brushing, and caries susceptibility tests</p> <p>27. Place and remove rubber dam</p> <p>29. Pre-fit and pre-contour orthodontic appliances either extraorally or intra-orally for final adaptation by the dentist</p> <p>34. Place cavity liners and bases (excluding capping of exposed pulpal tissues)</p> <p>35, 62. Place and remove periodontal dressings</p> <p>37. Take and record case history, blood pressure, pulse and oral temperature</p> <p>43. Contour stainless steel or chrome crowns but cannot cement them</p> <p>44. Make impressions for diagnostic casts or opposing casts</p> <p>45. Place, wedge, and remove matrices for operative dentistry</p> <p>46. Make final impressions for removable and fixed prostheses, orthodontic appliances, retainers, devices to treat sleep apnea or anti-snoring devices, and medicament/whitening delivery trays; however, before said impressions may be used for the manufacture of prostheses and appliances, the dentist shall examine and approve such impressions for accuracy</p> | <p>47. Construct and place temporary crowns (excluding stainless steel crowns placed with intentions of reasonable permanency)</p> <p>47, 50, 54, 55. Construct and remove with hand instruments only interim restorations (interim restorations being any restoration placed while a more permanent restoration is being completed)</p> <p>56. Apply topical anesthetics</p> <p>59. Assist in the administering of N₂O and O₂</p> <p>61. Remove excess cement with hand instruments from around permanent dental restorations and orthodontic appliances</p> <p>63, 69. Place and remove alveolar socket dressings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apply topical oxygenating agents • Apply anti-inflammatory agents • Apply astringents • Apply desensitizing agents • Apply light-cured medicinal bonding agents • Apply etchant materials • Insert into the mouth of the patient wax models of dentures, partial dentures, or any other structures and make adjustments outside the mouth of the patient to such wax models pursuant to written or verbal instructions or directions from the dentist; provided, however, (1) the dental hygienist or dental assistant shall not use these wax models or any other structure to register the jaw relationships or occlusal relationships of the patient, and (2) that before such wax models may be used for the manufacture of dentures, partial dentures or other structures the dentist shall personally consult with the patient, examine such wax models, and make such additional adjustments as may be required | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insert into the mouth of the patient dentures, partial dentures, removable orthodontic appliances, prostheses or any other structures and make adjustments outside the mouth of the patient to the dentures, prostheses (fixed or removable), removable orthodontic appliances, prosthetic appliances, bridges, or other structures pursuant to written or verbal instructions or directions from the dentist; provided, however, (1) that before such prostheses (fixed or removable), removable orthodontic appliances, or other structures are delivered to the patient leaving the dental office with such prostheses (fixed or removable), removable orthodontic appliances, or other structures the dentist shall personally consult with the patient, examine such prostheses (fixed or removable), removable orthodontic appliances, or other structures, and make such additional adjustments as may be required; and (2) that final placement and cementation of all fixed appliances, fixed prostheses and other fixed structures shall be performed by the dentist • Apply reversible liners and bases to prostheses, orthodontic appliances, or any other structures; however, the dentist shall personally consult with the patient and examine such liners and bases, and make such additional adjustments as may be necessary • Use laser and/or narrow band (light) imaging technology for preliminary diagnostic purposes only with the dentist's final examination and diagnosis |
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*Direct Supervision: Supervision by a dentist who authorizes the intraoral procedure to be performed, is physically present in the dental facility and available during performance of the procedure, examines the patient during the procedure and takes full responsibility for the completed procedure.