



# 2018 Allowable and Prohibited Duties for Dental Assistants: Arizona



## How to Use the Following Charts

- View which job designations are used in your state.
- Be sure to follow the legal requirements to perform dental radiographic procedures.
- See which tasks are not permitted by state law.
- Review all the allowable tasks for each level of dental assisting as published in the state practice act.

View the education/training/credential required for each level of dental assisting.

Arizona			
<p><b>Education/Training/Credential Required</b></p> <p>To perform specified restorative functions in Arizona under the supervision of a licensed dentist, a dental assistant must hold an Arizona Registered Function or Restorative Certificate. To qualify, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass the Arizona Council on Dental Practice (ACDP) Restorative Functioning Certificate (see requirements to candidates)</li> <li>Successfully complete an EFDA training course approved by the Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners (ASBDE) or a Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA)-accredited program</li> <li>AND DANB's AMP, TMP and TAMP</li> <li>AND have the supervision of a licensed dentist, perform restorative procedures equivalent to the ASBDE criteria, and have 20 direct restorations and other restorative procedures, including the preparation of the tooth by a licensed dentist and document these procedures on a Licensed Dental Employment form</li> <li>AND be DANB for the Arizona Restorative Certificate</li> </ul> <p>To perform central polishing procedures in Arizona under the general supervision of a licensed dentist, a dental assistant must hold an Arizona Central Polishing Certificate. To qualify, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass the Dental Council of Public Health (DCPH) Exam for Arizona Restorative Certificate</li> <li>AND be an Arizona Council on Dental Practice (ACDP) Restorative Functioning Certificate holder in AZ</li> <li>AND have the supervision of a licensed dentist or a central polishing instructor course instruction in DANB</li> <li>AND Pass the Arizona Council on Dental Practice (ACDP) Restorative Functioning Certificate</li> <li>AND Pass the Arizona Council on Dental Practice (ACDP) Restorative Functioning Certificate</li> </ul> <p>A dental assistant in Arizona who performs restorative dental procedures under the state dental practice act has extensive responsibilities. The direct supervision of a licensed dentist.</p> <p>There are no education/training requirements for this level of dental assisting.</p>	<p><b>Job Title Assigned by State (AZ)</b></p> <p>Registered Function or Restorative Certificate</p> <p>Central Polishing Certificate</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <p>Central Dental Assistant</p>	<p><b>Proposed Restorative Job Title</b></p> <p>Restorative</p> <p>Central Polishing</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <p>Central Dental Assistant</p>	<p><b>Radiography Requirements</b></p> <p>In order to legally operate dental x-ray equipment and perform dental radiographic procedures in Arizona, a dental assistant must have a current approved certificate in radiography.</p> <p>To obtain a certificate, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass the national DANB Radiation Safety and (RHS) exam</li> <li>AND Pass the Arizona Restorative Functioning Certificate, issued by the ACDP</li> <li>AND Be currently certified in another U.S. state with a Restorative Functioning Certificate, issued by the ASBDE</li> </ul> <p>Restorative dentistry requires dental assistants to use the Active Central Restorative Functioning Certificate, which is not available in other states. If you are not currently certified in another U.S. state, you may not be able to obtain an Active Central Restorative Functioning Certificate.</p> <p>The ADA/DANB Alliance on the Restorative Functioning Certificate Study conducted from 2002-2003.</p> <p>The same study offered a list of 70 restorative tasks with a corresponding range of dental assisting core competencies.</p> <p>Functions in this state that relate to the national DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study are supported by the right, state dental practice act. (The numbers correspond to the study's task numbering system.)</p> <p>Functions listed with italics are part of the state's practice act but are not specific to the DANB/ADAA.</p> <p>These tasks typically reflect the work done by the ADA/DANB Alliance to support a uniform dental practice act across all dental assisting tasks, roles and requirements, which will serve as a model center for dental assistants.</p>

Arizona	
<p><b>Job Title Assigned by State (AZ)</b></p> <p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p><b>Allowable Functions</b></p> <p>If functions with numbers relate specifically to Core Competency designations, functions with italics are in the state's practice act but are not specific matches to DANB research.</p> <p><b>Under General Supervision*</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>15. Apply fluoride varnish</li> <li>40. Apply sealants</li> <li>* Place interim restorations under the direction of a licensed dentist following a consultation conducted through radiography</li> </ul> <p><b>Level of Supervision Not Specified</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12, 23, 51, 70. Perform placement, contouring and finishing of direct restorations or the placement and contouring of amalgamated crowns, inlays or veneers; do not use a licensed dentist; the restorative materials used will be determined by the dentist.</li> </ul> <p><b>Dental Assistant qualified in certain polishing procedures</b></p> <p><b>Under General Supervision*</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9. Perform central polishing procedures</li> </ul> <p><b>Under Direct Supervision*</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. Remove amalgam</li> <li>23. Apply dental finishes, crowns, bridges, and orthodontic appliances with hand instruments</li> <li>42. Remove periodontal dressings with hand instruments</li> <li>47. DR. Remove and replace crown and interim restorations with hand instruments</li> <li>49. Remove with temporary cement and interim restorations with hand instruments</li> <li>61. Remove excess cement from trays, crowns, bridges, and orthodontic appliances with hand instruments</li> <li>62. Remove periodontal dressings with hand instruments</li> <li>* Prepare a patient for retentive resin and complete denture impressions using a dental chair</li> <li>* Place dental material into a patient's mouth in response to a licensed dentist's instruction</li> </ul> <p><b>Under General Supervision*</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Collect and record information pertaining to dental conditions</li> <li>3. Collect and record information pertaining to existing restorations</li> <li>14. Take or instruct patients in oral hygiene, restorative preventive procedures, dietary counseling for caries and periodontal, and provide oral and dental hygiene education relative to specific office treatment</li> <li>* Cleanse the supragingival surface of the tooth in preparation for the placement of veneers, crowns, and partial dentures</li> <li>* The placement of veneers, crowns, dental core appliances</li> <li>* Acid etch procedures</li> <li>* Removal of dressings and packs</li> </ul>

Compare your state's job designations to those used as standardized job titles in the DANB/ADAA Core Competencies Study.

If your state's dental practice act specifically defines levels of supervision, the state-specific definition is noted below the chart. See Appendix B for more information about supervision.

These data are presented for informational purposes only and are not intended as a legal opinion regarding dental practice in any state. DANB confers with each state's dental board at least annually regarding the accuracy and currency of this information. To verify, or if you have any questions, please contact your state's dental board.

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Education/Training/ Credential Required	Job Title According to State of AZ	Proposed Standardized National Job Titles (see below)	Radiography Requirements	Functions <u>NOT</u> Permitted by Dental Assistants in AZ
<p>To perform <b>specified restorative functions</b> in Arizona under the supervision of a licensed dentist, a dental assistant must hold an Arizona Expanded Function – Restorative Certificate. To qualify, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold the AZ Coronal Polishing certificate (see requirements below) and the AZ Radiologic Proficiency certificate (see requirements to the right) <b>AND</b> Successfully complete an EFDA training course approved by the AZ State Board of Dental Examiners (ASBDE) at a Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA)-accredited program <b>AND</b> Pass DANB's AMP, TMP and RF exams <b>AND</b> Under the supervision of a licensed dentist, perform restorative procedures required by the ASBDE (place, contour and finish 20 direct restorations and place and cement five prefabricated crowns, following the preparation of the tooth by a licensed dentist) and document these procedures on a Licensed Dentist Endorsement form</li> </ul> <p><b>OR</b> Provide evidence of currently holding or having held within the previous 10 years a license, registration, permit or certificate authorizing the performance of the specified expanded functions (place, contour and finish direct restorations and place and cement prefabricated crowns) issued by another state <b>AND</b> Document clinical experience in the specified expanded functions on a Licensed Dentist Endorsement form</p> <p><b>AND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply to DANB for the Arizona Expanded Functions – Restorative Certificate</li> </ul>	<p>Expanded Function Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p>	<p>Expanded Functions Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p>	<p>In order to legally operate dental x-ray equipment and perform dental radiographic procedures under the general supervision of a licensed dentist in Arizona, a dental assistant <u>must</u> hold a current Arizona board-approved certificate in radiography.</p> <p>To obtain a certificate, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass the national DANB Radiation Health and Safety (RHS) exam <b>AND</b> Receive the Arizona Radiologic Proficiency Certificate, issued by DANB</li> <li><b>OR</b> Be currently certified in another U.S. jurisdiction that requires successful completion of written and clinical dental radiography exam(s) <b>AND</b> Apply to the Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners (ASBDE) for Dental Assistant Radiography Certification by Credential and receive the Arizona Radiologic Proficiency Certificate, issued by the ASBDE</li> </ul> <p><b>Note:</b> Arizona no longer requires dental assistants to take the Arizona Clinical Radiologic Proficiency Exam as a requirement for earning the Arizona Radiologic Proficiency Certificate, effective Jan. 1, 2011. Dental Assistants who passed the RHS exam prior to Jan. 1, 2011, but have not passed the clinical exam may call DANB at 1-800-367-3262 for information on how to obtain an Arizona Radiologic Proficiency Certificate.</p>	<p>The following functions are <b>not</b> permitted by any level of dental assistant:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Taking final impressions for any activating orthodontic appliance, fixed or removable prosthesis</li> <li>Intraoral carvings of dental restorations or prostheses*             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A procedure which by law only licensed dentists, licensed dental hygienists, or certified denturists can perform</li> <li>Final jaw registrations</li> <li>Activating orthodontic appliances</li> <li>An irreversible procedure</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>* Under a new Arizona law passed in the 2015 legislative session, a dental assistant who has met the requirements for an Expanded Function Dental Assistant listed in the first column on this page may perform placement, contouring and finishing of direct restorations.</p>
<p>To perform <b>coronal polishing procedures</b> in Arizona under the general supervision of a licensed dentist, a <b>dental assistant</b> must hold an AZ Coronal Polishing Certificate.</p> <p>To qualify, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pass DANB's Coronal Polish (CP) exam found in the "Coronal Polish Exam for AZ Residents" application packet <b>AND</b></li> <li>Submit an AZ Coronal Polishing Clinical Skills Affidavit (completed by a licensed dentist or a coronal polishing educator/course instructor) to DANB <b>AND</b></li> <li>Receive the AZ Coronal Polishing Certificate, sent upon successful completion of the DANB CP exam and submission of the Arizona Coronal Polishing Clinical Skills Affidavit to DANB</li> </ul>	<p>Dental Assistant qualified in coronal polishing procedures</p>	<p>DANB Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) or Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)</p> <p>Dental Assistant</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>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>A <b>dental assistant</b> may perform basic supportive dental procedures specified by the state dental practice act (see opposite page) under 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>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>	

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Job Title According to State of AZ	Allowable Functions <small>(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)</small>
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Expanded Function Dental Assistant (EFDA)

**Under General Supervision\***

- 18. Apply fluoride varnish
- 40. Apply sealants
  - Place interim therapeutic restorations under the direction of a licensed dentist following a consultation conducted through teledentistry

**Level of Supervision Not Specified**

- 12, 33, 51, 70. Perform placement, contouring and finishing of direct restorations or the placement and cementation of prefabricated crowns following the preparation of the tooth by a licensed dentist; the restorative materials used shall be determined by the dentist

Dental Assistant qualified in coronal polishing procedures

**Under General Supervision\***

- 9. Perform coronal polishing procedures

Dental Assistant

**Under Direct Supervision\***

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>13. Remove sutures</li> <li>18. Apply topical fluorides</li> <li>27, 45. Place and remove dental dams and matrix bands</li> <li>40. Apply sealants</li> <li>47, 50. Fabricate and place interim restorations with temporary cement</li> <li>54, 55. Remove temporary cement and interim restorations with hand instruments</li> <li>59. Observe a patient during nitrous oxide and oxygen analgesia as instructed by the dentist</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>61. Remove excess cement from inlays, crowns, bridges, and orthodontic appliances with hand instruments</li> <li>62. Remove periodontal dressings with hand instruments                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare a patient for nitrous oxide and oxygen analgesia administration upon the direct instruction and presence of a dentist</li> <li>• Place dental material into a patient's mouth in response to a licensed dentist's instruction</li> </ul> </li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cleanse the supragingival surface of the tooth in preparation for:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The placement of bands, crowns, and restorations</li> <li>b. Dental dam application</li> <li>c. Acid etch procedures</li> <li>d. Removal of dressings and packs</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
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**Under General Supervision\***

- 2. Collect and record information pertaining to extraoral conditions
- 2. Collect and record information pertaining to existing intraoral conditions
- 24, 26. Train or instruct patients in oral hygiene techniques, preventive procedures, dietary counseling for caries and plaque control, and provide pre- and post-operative instructions relative to specific office treatment

**\*Direct supervision:** "Direct Supervision" means, for purposes of Article 7 only, that a licensed dentist is present in the office and available to provide immediate treatment or care to a patient and observe a dental assistant's work.  
**General supervision:** "General Supervision" means, for purposes of Article 7 only, a licensed dentist is available for consultation, whether or not the dentist is in the office, regarding procedures or treatment that the dentist authorizes and for which the dentist remains responsible.