



Education/Training/ Credential Required	Job Title According to State of TX	Proposed Standardized National Job Titles (see below)	Radiography Requirements	Functions NOT Permitted by Dental Assistants in TX
<p>To perform expanded functions under the general or direct supervision of a licensed dentist in Texas, a dental assistant must complete the following:</p> <p><u>Monitor the administration of nitrous oxide:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Completed a minimum of 8 hours of didactic education and testing in monitoring the administration of nitrous oxide taken through a CODA-accredited dental, dental hygiene or dental assisting program, approved by the TSBDE AND Complete a current course in Basic Life Support AND Apply to the TSBDE for a nitrous oxide monitoring certificate <p><u>Perform coronal polishing procedures:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work at least two years as a dental assistant Complete a minimum of eight hours clinical and didactic education in coronal polishing taken through a dental school, dental hygiene school or dental assisting program accredited by CODA and approved by the TSBDE OR Earn DANB's Coronal Polish (CP) certificate of knowledge-based competence OR Graduate from a CODA-accredited dental assisting program approved by the TSBDE that includes clinical and didactic education in coronal polishing <p><u>Perform pit and fissure sealant procedures:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work at least two years as a dental assistant AND Complete a current course in Basic Life Support AND Complete a minimum of eight hours clinical and didactic education in pit and fissure sealants taken through a CODA-accredited dental, dental hygiene, or dental assistant program and approved by the TSBDE 	<p>Note: Effective September 1, 2017, the pit and fissure sealants certificate and coronal polishing certificate, formerly required for dental assistants to qualify to perform these functions in Texas, have been discontinued. Effective March 18, 2018, the Texas Board has passed new requirements for dental assistants to be eligible to perform these functions.</p> <p>Dental Assistant qualified to perform expanded functions</p>	<p>Expanded Functions Dental Assistant (EFDA)</p>	<p>To legally operate dental x-ray equipment and perform dental radiographic procedures in the state of Texas, one must be a Registered Dental Assistant (see requirements to the left).</p> <p>A dental assistant will not be considered to be positioning, exposing, or otherwise making dental x-rays if the dental assistant only performs radiological procedures in the course of training (or for other educational purposes) and is at all times under the direct supervision of the employer dentist. A dental assistant performing radiological procedures in the course of on-the-job training may only do so for a period of one year.</p>	<p>The following functions are not permitted by any level of dental assistant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20. The removal of calculus, deposits or accretions from the natural and restored surfaces of exposed human teeth and restorations in the human mouth 33. The placement of any final restoration 46. The taking of an impression for a final restoration, appliance or prosthesis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Root planing or the smoothing and polishing of roughened root surfaces or exposed human teeth Comprehensive examination or diagnosis and treatment planning Surgical or cutting procedure on hard or soft tissue The prescription of a drug, medication or work authorization The making of an intraoral occlusal adjustment Direct pulp capping, pulpotomy or any other endodontic procedure The final placement and intraoral adjustment of a fixed or removable appliance The authority to an individual to administer a local anesthetic agent, inhalation sedative agent, parenteral sedative agent or general anesthetic agent Diagnosis, treatment planning, prescription of therapeutic measures and reevaluation Placement of site-specific subgingival medicaments Any other act the delegation of which is prohibited by board rule
<p>A dental assistant in Texas can earn status as a Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) by formally registering with the TSBDE. To qualify, one must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete a current course in basic life support AND Complete a mandatory course of training specified by the TSBDE that includes procedures for positioning and exposing dental x-rays, jurisprudence and infection control OR Earn the national DANB CDA certification and successfully complete the TSBDE jurisprudence assessment. AND Apply to the TSBDE for registration <p>A dental assistant in the state of Texas may perform basic supportive dental procedures specified by the state dental practice act under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist (see opposite page).</p> <p>There are no education or training requirements for this level of dental assisting.</p>	<p>Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p>	<p>DANB Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) or Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)</p> <p>Dental Assistant</p> <p>Entry Level 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>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 TX

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)

Dental
Assistant
*qualified
to perform
expanded
functions*

Under Direct Supervision*

- 9. Coronal polishing (*see requirements on previous page*)
- 40. Apply pit and fissure sealants, to include the use of a rubber prophylaxis cup and appropriate polishing materials to cleanse the occlusal and smooth surfaces of teeth that will be sealed or to prepare teeth for application of orthodontic bonding resins (*see requirements on previous page*)
- 59. Monitor nitrous oxide (*see requirements on previous page*)

Under General Supervision*

- 22. Expose radiographs (*see "Radiography Requirements" on previous page*)

Registered
Dental
Assistant
(RDA)

Under General Supervision*

- The provision of interim treatment of a minor emergency dental condition to an existing patient of the treating dentist; the treating dentist must delegate the procedure orally or in writing before the dental assistant performs the procedure, must retain responsibility for the procedure, and must schedule a follow-up appointment with the patient within a reasonable time

Under Direct Supervision*

- 18. Apply fluoride varnish
 - Reversible acts and procedures

DANB's Note on Allowable Dental Assisting Functions

In the state of Texas, all dental assistants may:

- Perform infection control and occupational safety procedures
- Perform other duties not specified by this state's dental practice act

At this time, DANB cannot list all allowable dental assisting functions for each state because some states' dental practice acts outline very specific allowable functions, while others outline only prohibited functions and some contain minimal or no regulation of dental assisting duties.

Dental
Assistant

***Direct Supervision:** The dentist who employs the dental assistant or is in charge of the dental assistant must be physically present in the dental office when the dental assistant performs a delegated dental act.
General Supervision: The dentist who employs or is in charge of the dental assistant is responsible for supervising the services to be performed by the dental assistant. The dentist may or may not be present on the premises when the dental assistant performs the procedures.