

Den 302.05 Qualification in Specific Area.

(a) Any dental assistant who is 18 years of age or older, or dental hygienist shall be considered qualified in a specific area if he or she has successfully completed an expanded duty course, or successfully challenged an examination in same, or both, as stated in Den 302.05 (a) through (ag). Board approval of a course or exam given by an entity other than the board itself shall include approval of the passing grade or other standard for successful completion of said course or exam set by the entity giving said course or exam. Course records, pursuant to Den 403.06, and a certificate of course completion shall be retained by the course participant and provided to the board upon request by the board. Dental assistants, other than graduate dental assistants, before qualifying in any other area addressed in Den 302.05, shall qualify to perform a preliminary inspection of the oral cavity as stated in Den 302.05 (e), and qualify in infection control in the dental office as stated in Den 302.05 (ag).

(b) Any dental hygienist or dental assistant may petition the board for approval of an expanded duty course or equivalent training course. The petition shall include all information that the petitioner wishes the board to consider in evaluating the proposed course, such as the entity giving the course, an outline of the topics to be covered, the number of hours of lectures and hours of practical experience and the textbooks to be used.

(c) No dental hygienist or dental assistant shall be considered qualified prior to the date that he or she is officially informed by the course or examination provider that he or she has successfully completed an expanded duty course approved by the board.

(d) Any dental assistant other than a certified dental assistant or graduate dental assistant shall have 400 hours of experience in clinical dental assisting in order to qualify to take a course in preliminary inspection of the oral cavity.

(e) Any dental assistant shall be qualified in performing a preliminary inspection of the oral cavity after successfully completing an expanded duty course in preliminary inspection of the oral cavity which:

(1) Is offered by a course provider as defined in Den 403.07(a)(1);

(2) Is a minimum of 6 hours;

(3) Includes at least the following subjects:

a. The taking of medical and dental histories;

b. Obtaining and reading vital signs;

c. Oral anatomy; and

d. Charting existing restorations and teeth; and

(4) Provides to the dental assistant written evidence certifying that the course has been successfully completed and which is signed by the course provider.

(f) If qualification in inspection of the oral cavity is determined, a dental assistant shall perform preliminary inspection of the oral cavity only under the direct supervision of a dentist.

(g) Any dental assistant other than a graduate dental assistant shall have 400 hours experience in clinical dental assisting in order to qualify to take a radiology course.

(h) Any dental assistant shall be considered qualified in dental radiology after successfully completing an expanded duty course in dental radiology which:

(1) Is offered by a continuing education provider as specified in Den 403.07(a)(1);

(2) Is a minimum of 8 lecture hours and 8 laboratory hours;

(3) Includes at least the following:

a. Asepsis, radiation safety;

b. Parallel and bi-secting techniques;

c. Full mouth films, panorex, occlusal films, and extra-oral films;

d. Dark room procedures;

e. Radiographic landmarks, interpretation, and mounting; and

f. Passing the radiology written examination of the Dental Assisting National Board; and

(4) Provides to the dental assistant written evidence certifying that the course has been successfully completed and which is signed by the course provider.

(i) If qualification in dental radiology is determined, the duty shall be performed with the following conditions:

(1) A dental assistant qualified in radiology shall perform radiology services only under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist; and

(2) Dental assistants, other than graduate dental assistants, shall be qualified to perform a preliminary inspection of the oral cavity as stated in Den 302.05(e).

(j) Any dental assistant other than a graduate dental assistant shall have 400 hours experience in clinical dental assisting in order to qualify to take a course in provisional crown and bridge restorations.

(k) Any dental hygienist, or dental assistant shall be considered qualified in provisional crown and bridge restorations after successfully completing an expanded duty course in provisional crown and bridge restorations which:

(1) Is offered by a continuing education provider as defined in Den 403.07(a)(1);

(2) Is a minimum of 8 hours;

(3) Includes at least the following:

a. Provisional restoration anatomy;

b. Occlusal requirements; and

c. Cementation; and

(4) Provides to the dental hygienist or dental assistant written evidence certifying that the course has been successfully completed and which is signed by the course provider.

(l) If qualification in provisional crown and bridge restorations is determined, the duty shall be performed with the following conditions:

(1) A dental hygienist or dental assistant qualified in provisional crown and bridge restorations shall perform this service only under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist;

(2) The provisional restoration may be fabricated intraorally, however all occlusal adjustments and modifications shall be completed extraorally;

(3) The completed provisional restoration shall be examined by the dentist prior to cementation by a qualified dental assistant or qualified dental hygienist; and

(4) Dental assistants, other than graduate dental assistants, shall be qualified to perform a preliminary inspection of the oral cavity as stated in Den 302.05(d).

(m) Any dental assistant other than a graduate or certified dental assistant shall have at least 400 hours experience in clinical dental assisting in order to qualify to take a course in orthodontics.

(n) Any dental hygienist, or dental assistant shall be considered qualified in orthodontic duties after successfully completing an expanded duty course in orthodontic duties which:

(1) Is offered by a continuing education provider as defined in Den 403.07(a)(1);

(2) Is a minimum of 8 hours;

(3) Includes at least the following:

a. Placement and removal of orthodontic separators;

b. Preparation of teeth for bonding of brackets;

c. Removal of orthodontic bands or brackets;

d. Trial fitting of orthodontic bands;

e. Using hand instruments to remove excess cement from bands on the coronal surfaces of the teeth;

f. Trial fitting of head gear;

g. Simple emergency adjustment of orthodontic appliances to relieve pain;

h. Taking impressions for orthodontic appliances;

i. Attachment or tying in and removal of orthodontic wires; and

j. Bending arch wires; and

(4) Provides to the dental hygienist or dental assistant written evidence certifying that the course has been successfully completed and which is signed by the course provider.

(o) If qualification in orthodontics is determined, the duty shall be performed with the following conditions:

(1) A dental hygienist or dental assistant qualified in orthodontic duties shall perform this service only under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist; and

(2) Dental assistants, other than graduate dental assistants, shall be qualified to perform a preliminary inspection of the oral cavity as stated in Den 302.05(d).

(p) Any dental assistant other than a graduate dental assistant shall have 400 hours experience in clinical dental assisting in order to qualify to take a sealants course.

(q) Any dental hygienist or dental assistant shall be considered qualified in dental sealants after successfully completing an expanded duty course in dental sealants which:

(1) Is offered by a continuing education provider as specified in Den 403.07(a)(1);

(2) Is a minimum of 8 hours;

(3) Includes at least the following:

a. Use of chemical and light cured sealants;

b. Proper techniques of applying sealants;

c. Isolation techniques;

d. Practice in applying sealants in a laboratory setting;

e. Application of sealants on an actual patient in a clinical setting; and

f. Passing an exam administered by the continuing education provider; and

(4) Provides to the dental hygienist or dental assistant written evidence certifying that the course has been successfully completed and which is signed by the course provider.

(r) If qualification in dental sealants is determined, the duty shall be performed with the following conditions:

(1) A dental assistant qualified in sealants shall perform this service under direct supervision of a licensed dentist;

(2) A dental hygienist qualified in sealants shall perform this service under the general supervision or public health supervision of a licensed dentist;

(3) Any hygienist graduating from an accredited dental hygiene school shall comply with this rule if a dental sealant course was not a part of the school curriculum; and

(4) Dental assistants, other than graduate dental assistants, shall be qualified to perform a preliminary inspection of the oral cavity as stated in Den 302.05(d).

(s) Dental assistants, other than graduate dental assistants, shall have experience consisting of at least 400 hours in clinical dental assisting in order to qualify to take a course in coronal polishing.

(t) Any dental assistant other than a graduate dental assistant shall be considered qualified in coronal polishing after meeting the eligibility requirements and successfully completing an expanded duty course in coronal polishing which:

(1) Is offered by a continuing education provider as set forth in Den 403.07 (a);

(2) Is a minimum of 8 hours; and

(3) Includes at least the following subjects:

- a. Handpiece maintenance and sterilization;
- b. Polishing agents;
- c. Polishing techniques;
- d. Infection control;
- e. Medical and dental history indications and contraindications; and
- f. Hands-on polishing in a clinical setting; and

(4) Provides to the dental assistant written evidence certifying that the course has been successfully completed and which is signed by the course provider.

(u) If qualification in coronal polishing is determined, the duty shall be performed with the following conditions:

(1) Dental assistants, other than graduate dental assistants, shall be qualified to perform a preliminary inspection of the oral cavity as stated in Den 302.05(d);

(2) Coronal polishing by dental assistants shall be accomplished by a combination of a slow speed handpiece, not to exceed 10,000 rpm, and appropriate polishing agents with a rubber cup or bristle brush;

(3) Coronal polishing shall be accomplished by dental assistants only after a dentist or dental hygienist has determined that the teeth are free of calculus;

(4) A dental assistant qualified in coronal polishing shall perform this service only under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist or a licensed dental hygienist; and

(5) Coronal polishing shall in no way be represented as a prophylaxis unless a dentist or dental hygienist has determined the teeth are free of calculus immediately prior to the polishing.

(v) Any dental hygienist shall be considered qualified in local anesthesia only after successfully completing an expanded duty course in local anesthesia which:

(1) Is offered by an institution accredited by CODA;

(2) Is a minimum of 20 didactic hours and 12 clinical hours;

(3) Entails passing the local anesthesia examination given by the CDCA;

(4) Includes at least the following topics:

- a. Neurophysiology of pain and pain control;
- b. Pharmacology of local anesthetic solutions and drug interactions;
- c. Potential local and systemic complications;
- d. Medical and dental indications and contraindications;

- e. Medical and dental history assessment;
- f. Safely assembling and handling a syringe;
- g. Locating anatomical landmarks associated with local anesthesia;
- h. Injection techniques;
- i. Hands-on experience with maxillary and mandibular injections by administering at least 6 infiltration and 6 block injections; and
- j. Legal issues associated with local anesthesia administration by a dental hygienist; and

(5) Provides to the dental hygienist written evidence certifying that the course has been successfully completed and which is signed by the course provider.

(w) If qualification in local anesthesia is determined, the duty shall be performed with the following conditions:

(1) A dental hygienist qualified in local anesthesia shall:

- a. Administer local anesthesia only under the direct supervision of a dentist; and
- b. Display at his or her place of practice proof of anesthesia qualification approved by the board;

(2) Any hygienist graduating from a CODA accredited school of dental hygiene shall comply with (v) above if a local anesthesia course meeting the foregoing requirements was not part of the school curriculum;

(3) A dental hygienist who has qualified to administer local anesthesia in another jurisdiction may qualify for endorsement by the board to perform that function by presenting written documentation of training equivalent to (v) above and a letter from a supervising dentist attesting to the hygienist's experience administering local anesthesia within the previous 2 years; and

(4) Students enrolled in a CODA accredited school of dental hygiene, who have passed a local anesthesia course as part of the school curriculum, shall not be in violation of this rule if they administer local anesthesia as part of a dental hygiene examination.

(x) To obtain a local anesthesia permit, a dental hygienist qualified to administer local anesthesia shall provide to the board:

- (1) A written request and a certified check or money order made payable to the "Treasurer, State of New Hampshire" for the local anesthesia fee specified in Den 301.08, or if presented in person, the payment may be in cash;
- (2) Proof of course completion. Applicant's whose course was taken out of state shall also provide a copy of the course syllabus; and
- (3) His or her CDCA score.

(y) Dental assistants shall be certified or graduate dental assistants as defined in Den 401.02 or have 400 hours experience in clinical dental assisting prior to taking an expanded duty course in monitoring the administration of nitrous oxide anesthesia.

(z) Any dental hygienist or dental assistant shall be considered qualified to monitor the administration of nitrous oxide (N₂O) to patients after successfully completing an expanded duty course in monitoring the administration of nitrous oxide which:

- (1) Is offered by a course provider as defined in Den 403.07(a)(1);
 - (2) Is a minimum of 6 hours;
 - (3) Includes at least the following:
 - a. Aspects of pain and anxiety;
 - b. Anatomy and physiology of respiration;
 - c. Stages of drug induced central nervous system depression;
 - d. Pharmacology and physiological effects of nitrous oxide;
 - e. Advantages and disadvantages of inhalation sedation using nitrous oxide;
 - f. Medical assessment of patient prior to using nitrous oxide; and
 - g. Proper administration of nitrous oxide to include:
 1. Description and use of inhalation equipment;
 2. Patient monitoring;
 3. Possible reactions of patients under nitrous oxide;
 4. Hazards of nitrous oxide for patients and operator; and
 5. Management of complications;
 - (4) Requires the passing of a written test administered by the course provider; and
 - (5) Provides to the dental hygienist or dental assistant written evidence certifying that the course has been successfully completed and which is signed by the course provider.
- (aa) If qualification in monitoring the administration of nitrous oxide (N₂O) is determined, the duty shall be performed with the following conditions:

- (1) Dental assistants, other than graduate dental assistants, shall be qualified to perform a preliminary inspection of the oral cavity as stated in Den 302.05 (d);
- (2) A dental hygienist or dental assistant qualified in the monitoring of nitrous oxide shall monitor nitrous oxide only under the direct supervision of a dentist;
- (3) A dental hygienist or dental assistant qualified to monitor the administration of nitrous oxide shall monitor only after a dentist has initiated the administration and brought the patient to the intended level of nitrous oxide inhalation sedation; and

(4) A dental hygienist or dental assistant qualified to monitor the administration of nitrous oxide shall be currently certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

(ab) Any dental hygienist shall be considered qualified to administer nitrous oxide (N₂O) for minimal sedation of patients after successfully completing an expanded duty course in the monitoring and administration of nitrous oxide which:

- (1) Is offered by an institution accredited by CODA;
- (2) Is a minimum of 8 didactic hours and 6 clinical hours;
- (3) Includes at least the following:
 - a. Physiological and psychological aspects of pain and anxiety;
 - b. Stages of drug induced central nervous system depression;
 - c. Anatomy and physiology as they relate to inhalation sedation;
 - d. Indications and contraindications of inhalation sedation;
 - e. Pharmacology and physiological effects of nitrous oxide, including drug interactions;
 - f. Medical assessment of patient prior to using nitrous oxide;
 - g. Description and use of inhalation sedation equipment;
 - h. Monitoring of patient's vital functions;
 - i. Preventing, recognizing and managing possible complications of inhalation sedation;
 - j. Health hazards and techniques to limit occupational exposure;
 - k. Abuse potential of nitrous oxide; and
 - l. Maintenance of proper records;
- (4) Requires the passing of a written test administered by the course provider;
- (5) Requires successfully completing a clinical evaluation by the course provider; and
- (6) Provides to the dental hygienist written evidence certifying that the course has been successfully completed and which is signed by the course provider.

(ac) If qualification in the administration of nitrous oxide (N₂O) is determined, the duty shall be performed with the following conditions:

- (1) A dental hygienist qualified in the administration of nitrous oxide shall:
 - a. Administer nitrous oxide only under the direct supervision of a dentist; and
 - b. Display at his or her place of practice proof of a nitrous oxide qualification course approved by the board;

(2) Any hygienist graduating from an American Dental Association accredited school of dental hygiene shall comply with (z) above if a nitrous oxide course meeting the foregoing requirements was not part of the school curriculum;

(3) A dental hygienist who has qualified to administer nitrous oxide in another jurisdiction may qualify for endorsement by the board to perform that function by presenting written documentation of training equivalent to (z) above and a letter from a supervising dentist attesting to the hygienist's experience administering nitrous oxide within the previous 2 years; and

(4) Students enrolled in a CODA accredited school of dental hygiene, who have passed a nitrous oxide course as part of the school curriculum, shall not be in violation of this rule if they administer nitrous oxide as part of a dental hygiene examination.

(ad) Any dental assistant other than a graduate or certified dental assistant shall have at least 400 hours in clinical dental assisting in order to qualify to take a course in in-office whitening.

(ae) A dental hygienist or dental assistant shall be qualified to perform in-office tooth whitening after successfully completing an expanded duty course in in-office tooth whitening which:

(1) Is offered by a course provider as defined in Den 403.07(a)(1);

(2) Is a minimum of 4 hours;

(3) Includes at least the following;

a. An overview of prescription and non-prescription whitening systems;

b. Mechanisms of action;

c. Treatment methods; and

d. Safety considerations, including:

1. Contraindications; and

2. Side effects; and

(4) Provides to the dental hygienist or dental assistant written evidence certifying that the course has been successfully completed and which is signed by the course provider.

(af) If qualification in in-office tooth whitening is determined, the duty shall be performed with the following conditions:

(1) Any dental assistant qualified in in-office whitening shall perform this service only under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist;

(2) Any dental hygienist qualified in in-office whitening shall perform this service under the direct or indirect supervision of a licensed dentist; and

(3) Dental assistants, other than graduate dental assistants, shall be qualified to perform a preliminary inspection of the oral cavity as stated in Den 302.05(d).

(ag) Dental assistants other than graduate dental assistants shall qualify in infection control in the dental office after successfully completing a course in this topic as follows:

(1) The expanded duty course shall:

a. Be offered by a course provider as defined in Den 403.07 (a)(1);

b. Be a minimum of 4 hours; and

c. Pursuant to RSA 317-A:17, II (g), follow the current American Dental Association "Infection Control Recommendations for the Dental Office and the Dental Laboratory", addressing at least the following subjects:

1. Barrier techniques;

2. Limiting contamination;

3. Hand washing;

4. Handling of sharp instruments and needles;

5. Sterilization and disinfection; and

6. Disposal of waste materials; and

(2) Written evidence certifying that the infection control course has been successfully completed shall be signed by the course provider and given to the dental assistant.

Source. #6909, eff 12-9-98; amd by #7270, eff 5-12-00; amd by #7778, eff 10-10-02; amd by #7818, eff 1-9-03; amd by #7929, eff 8-6-03; amd by #7970, eff 10-10-03; amd by #8100, eff 6-11-04; amd by #8260, eff 1-19-05; amd by #8584, eff 3-16-06; amd by #8694, eff 7-27-06; ss by #8838, eff 3-9-07; amd by #8963, eff 8-16-07; amd by #9256, eff 9-10-08; ss by 9408-B, eff 3-10-09; amd by #9778, eff 9-3-10; amd by #9973, eff 8-9-11; amd by #10328-B, eff 5-7-13; amd by #10437, eff 10-8-13; ss by #10689, eff 10-7-14; ss by #10991, eff 12-9-15