



<sup>†</sup> DANB has not received confirmation that the information in this state's overview has been reviewed and approved by the appropriate state office. The charts in this volume contain summaries reflecting DANB's understanding of the state dental practice act and administrative rules. For authoritative information, please contact this state's dental board (contact information is on the last page of this volume).

State Job Titles

## State Career Ladder

There are two recognized levels of dental assistants in Michigan. See the following pages for details about requirements and allowed functions for each level. Numbers for each level are provided for internal reference and do not correspond to specific state designations.



2 Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)

1 Unregistered Dental Auxiliary (UDA)

State Radiography Requirements

## State Radiography Requirements

To legally operate dental x-ray equipment and perform dental radiographic procedures in the state of Michigan, a dental assistant must successfully complete a course in dental radiography that is substantially equivalent to a course taught in a CODA-accredited program.

Prohibited Duties

## Functions NOT Permitted by Dental Assistants in Michigan

*Functions with numbers correspond to functions included in a 2002-2005 study of dental assisting core competencies. See page 11 for more information.*

The following functions are not permitted to be delegated or assigned to any level of dental assistant unless authorized by rules or code:

- 46. Taking impressions for any purpose other than study or opposing models
  - Diagnosing, or prescribing for, any of the following: disease, pain, deformity, deficiency, injury, or physical condition
  - Cutting of hard and soft tissue
  - Removal of any of the following: accretions, stains, or calculus deposits
  - Deep scaling
  - Root planing
  - Any intra-oral restorative procedures
  - Administration of any of the following: local anesthesia, nitrous oxide analgesia, or acupuncture
  - Irrigation and medication of root canals, try-in of cones or points, filling, or filling of root canals
  - Permanent cementation of any restoration or appliance
  - A licensee shall not delegate an act, task, or function to a dental assistant if the act, task, or function, under standards of acceptable and prevailing practice, requires the level of education, skill, and judgment required of the licensee



## 1 Unregistered Dental Auxiliary (UDA)

Requirements

### Education, Training and Credential Requirements

A UDA in Michigan may perform basic supportive dental procedures (see below) specified by administrative rules under the direct or general supervision of a licensed dentist.

Before a dentist may delegate a function to a UDA, the UDA must:

- I. Submit proof of current certification in BLS or ACLS for healthcare providers with a hands-on component from an agency or organization that grants certification in accordance to AHA standards earned within the previous two years, AND
- II. Submit proof of at least 1 hour of training in infection control, which must include sterilization of hand pieces, personal protective equipment, and the CDC's infection control guidelines.

A licensee may delegate to an unlicensed dental assistant otherwise qualified by education, training, or experience the performance of selected acts, tasks, or functions where the acts, tasks, or functions fall within the scope of practice of the licensee's profession and will be performed under the licensee's supervision.

Allowable

### Allowable Functions

*Functions with numbers correspond to functions included in a 2002-2005 study of dental assisting core competencies. See page 11 for more information.*

#### Under Assignment\*

22. Operating dental radiographic equipment (see "Radiography Requirements" on previous page)

- Providing commonly accepted emergency procedures

#### Under Direct Supervision\*

- 1, 2. Inspecting and charting the oral cavity using a mouth mirror and radiographs including the classifying of occlusion †
15. Placing, removing, and replacing orthodontic elastic or wire separators, arch wires, elastics, and ligatures
18. Applying anticariogenic agents including, but not limited to, sealants, fluoride varnish, and fluoride application. UDAs may not place sealants †
24. Providing nutritional counseling for oral health and maintenance †
29. Cementing orthodontic bands or initial placement of orthodontic brackets and attachments for aligners †
44. Taking impressions for intraoral appliances including bite registrations †
46. Taking digital scans for final restorations or intra-oral appliances
54. Temporarily cementing and removing temporary crowns and bands †
  - Dispensing aligners
  - Polishing assigned teeth with a slow-speed rotary hand piece immediately before an acid etch procedure †
  - Etching and placing adhesives before placement of orthodontic brackets and attachment for aligners †
  - Removing orthodontic bands, brackets, and adhesives with non-tissue cutting hand instruments only. Use of high-speed rotary instruments is not in the scope of practice of a UDA, RDA, or RDH.

#### Under General Supervision\*

26. Instructing in the use and care of dental appliances
29. Trial sizing of orthodontic bands
44. Taking impressions or digital scans for study and opposing models and matrices for temporary crowns and bridges.
56. Applying nonprescription topical anesthetic solutions

‡ *A dentist shall delegate these procedures to a UDA only if the UDA has successfully completed an in-person or virtual training with performance evaluations on these functions*

\***Assignment:** A dentist has designated a patient of record upon whom services are to be performed and describes the procedures to be performed. The dentist need not be physically present in the office at the time the procedures are being performed

**Direct Supervision:** A dentist complies with all of the following: designates a patient of record upon whom the procedures are to be performed and describes the procedures to be performed; examines the patient before prescribing the procedures to be performed and upon completion of the procedures; and is physically present in the office at the time the procedures are being performed.

**General Supervision:** A dentist complies with both of the following: designates a patient of record upon whom services are to be performed; and is physically present in the office at the time the procedures are being performed.



## Registered Dental Assistant (RDA)

### Education, Training and Credential Requirements

To become licensed as a Registered Dental Assistant (RDA) in the state of Michigan, one must:

- I. Be of good moral character, **AND**
- II. Receive a degree or certificate from a CODA-accredited dental assisting program or a school of dental assisting meeting board requirements, which includes required instruction in Michigan expanded functions (Note: Individuals who earned the RDA credential prior to March 22, 2004 must complete additional expanded functions training courses before performing the functions marked with \*\* or ‡ below.), **AND**
- III. Pass the Michigan board comprehensive and clinical exam or pass an equivalent exam in another state (proof of out-of-state licensure required), **AND**
- IV. Submit proof of current certification in BLS or ACLS for healthcare providers with a hands-on component from an agency or organization that grants certification in accordance with AHA standards earned within the previous two years, **AND**
- V. Complete two hours of implicit bias training within the five years prior to registration, **AND**
- VI. Complete a one-time training in identifying victims of human trafficking, **AND**
- VII. Complete the fingerprinting/criminal background check process, **AND**
- VIII. Apply for a license to the Michigan Board of Dentistry

*Additionally, to receive an RDA license, an applicant must demonstrate a working knowledge of the English language. See Section R.338.7002b of the Michigan Administrative Rules for further details.*

### Allowable Functions for Registered Dental Assistant, continued

*Functions with numbers correspond to functions included in a 2002-2005 study of dental assisting core competencies. See page 11 for more information.*

#### Under Direct Supervision\*

- 12, 51. Placing, condensing and carving amalgam restorations<sup>‡</sup>
13. Removing sutures
29. Cementing orthodontic bands or initial placement of orthodontic brackets and attachments for aligners
33. Placing Class I resin bonded restorations, occlusal adjustment, finishing and polishing with non-tissue cutting slow-speed rotary hand pieces<sup>‡</sup>
46. Taking final impressions for indirect restorations and prosthesis including bite registration, intra-oral imaging, and in-office fabrication of restorations<sup>‡</sup>
59. Assisting and monitoring the administration of nitrous oxide analgesia by a dentist or RDH\*\* (The levels must be preset by the dentist or RDH and must not be adjusted by the RDA except in case of an emergency, in which case the RDA may turn off the nitrous oxide and administer 100% oxygen. As used in this subdivision, "assisting" means setting up equipment and placing the face mask. Assisting does not include titrating and turning the equipment on or off, except in the case of an emergency in which circumstances the RDA may turn off the nitrous oxide and administer 100% oxygen)
- Removing orthodontic bands, brackets, and adhesives with hand instruments only. Use of high-speed rotary instruments is not in the scope of practice of a UDA, RDA, or RDH
- Applying and dispensing in-office bleaching products

#### Under General Supervision\*

6. Placing and removing nonepinephrine retraction cords or materials\*\*
14. Drying endodontic canals with absorbent points\*\*
34. Applying cavity liners and bases\*\*
44. Taking impressions for intraoral appliances including bite registrations\*\*
45. Placing and removing matrices and wedges\*\*
46. Taking digital scans for final restorations or intra-oral appliances
49. Preliminary examination including performing pulp vitality testing\*\*
  - Before cementation by the dentist, adjusting and polishing contacts and occlusion of indirect restorations
  - Applying desensitizing agents\*\*
  - Etching and placing adhesives before placement of orthodontic brackets and attachments for aligners\*\*

#### Under Assignment\*

- 1, 2. Inspecting and charting the oral cavity using a mouth mirror and radiographs including the classifying of occlusion
15. Placing, removing, and replacing orthodontic elastic or wire separators, arch wires, elastics, and ligatures
- 18, 40. Applying anticariogenic agents including, but not limited to, sealants, fluoride varnish, and fluoride applications
22. Operating of dental radiographic equipment (see "Radiography Requirements" on page 85)
24. Instructing in the use and care of dental appliances
27. Placing and removing dental dam
29. Trial sizing of orthodontic bands
- 29, 47, 54. Temporarily cementing and removing temporary crowns and bands
44. Taking impressions or digital scans for study and opposing models and matrices for temporary crowns and bridges
47. Fabricating temporary restorations, temporary crowns, and temporary bridges
- 50, 54. Placing a nonmetallic temporary restoration with non-tissue cutting instruments
56. Applying nonprescription topical anesthetic solution
61. Removing excess temporary cement from supragingival surfaces of a tooth with hand instruments only
  - Polishing assigned teeth with a slow-speed rotary handpiece immediately before an acid etch procedure
  - Polishing and contouring of sealants with a slow-speed rotary hand piece immediately following a procedure for occlusal adjustment
  - Providing nutritional counseling for oral health and maintenance
  - Providing commonly accepted medical emergency procedures
  - Dispensing orthodontic aligners

*‡RDAs must first complete an approved course followed by a comprehensive clinical experience of sufficient duration that validates clinical competence through a criterion-based assessment instrument before performing these functions*

*\*\*RDAs must first complete an approved course before performing these functions*

**Assignment:** A dentist has designated a patient of record upon whom services are to be performed and describes the procedures to be performed. The dentist need not be physically present in the office at the time the procedures are being performed

**Direct Supervision:** A dentist complies with all of the following: designates a patient of record upon whom the procedures are to be performed and describes the procedures to be performed; examines the patient before prescribing the procedures to be performed and upon completion of the procedures; and is physically present in the office at the time the procedures are being performed.

**General Supervision:** A dentist complies with both of the following: designates a patient of record upon whom services are to be performed; and is physically present in the office at the time the procedures are being performed.