

Solutions for the Dental Assistant Workforce

The Dental Assisting National Board (DANB) and the DALE Foundation are committed to developing solutions to address the shortage of qualified dental assistants. Our 2023-2028 Strategic Plan centers on addressing this issue through multiple imperatives. Already, we have several resources to support educators and employers in preparing their dental assistants for the dental practice.

Available Now

Online education



Review foundational dental assisting topics, such as dental radiography, infection control, chairside assisting, and more through the DALE Foundation's interactive, online courses. Practice tests help reinforce key concepts and serve as preparation for DANB exams and other dental assisting exams. Groups discounts available.

View the catalog.
Contact us to learn more.

Curriculum support



The DALE Foundation's Dental Assisting Curriculum Framework is designed to support educators and employers in preparing entry-level dental assistants for the dental practice. The framework includes educational outlines for 10 weeks, 6 months, and 2 years, plus recommended online courses, textbooks, links and activity resources, and competency checklists.

Learn more.

Exam outlines



DANB's exam outlines and lists of reference materials are valuable resources to help dental assistants create their study plans and identify gaps in knowledge. The exam outlines list the topics that will be covered on the exams and their percentages. The exam references list is a handy way to identify textbooks or other materials to support study plans.

Download the outlines.

In Development

DANB and the DALE Foundation have several initiatives underway to increase access to dental assisting education and exams and to support the needs of the profession, including:

- Offering Spanish-language resources, including DANB's RHS exam
- Developing a uniform professional dental assisting model
- Conducting a robust dental assisting job task analysis to ensure our exams, certifications and education meet the needs of the profession now and in the future
- Evaluating policies and processes to identify and remove biases and barriers
- Forming a coalition to address value, culture, respect, compensation and other workplace issues for dental assistants

Get involved: Learn more or get involved. Contact us at <u>communications@danb.org</u>.