

Requirements for Dental Assistants in Florida



There is no license or registry required for dental assistants in Florida, however, to perform dental radiography and the expanded functions allowable by law, dental assistants must have a certificate of formal training for those duties. Formal training must have occurred in a course or program approved by the Florida Board of Dentistry.

Florida does NOT recognize credentials earned in other states, territories, or countries. Florida does NOT recognize any certification or certificate of competency issued by the Dental Assisting National Board. Dental assistants who possess a license, certificate, or registration from another state or hold the Dental Assisting National Board CDA credential or RHS certificate must still meet the ***Florida Formal Training Requirement***.

Graduates of CODA Accredited Programs of study and Board of Dentistry approved dental assisting course or program meet the formal training requirement for dental radiography and expanded functions as long as the course/program issued a certificate listing all Florida Expanded Functions for which the individual was trained, including dental radiography.

Dental Radiography: Dental assistants who are not graduates of any CODA accredited program or Florida approved course/program must complete the following within 1 year of employment: 1. after 3 month continuous employment by a Florida licensed dentist, complete a Florida Board of Dentistry approved dental radiography course, and 2. Submit application and fee for the dental radiographer certificate issued by the Board of Dentistry.

[The link to the application is here.](#)

Expanded Functions: Dental assistants who need to obtain Florida Expanded Functions certificate(s) may enroll in a course or program approved by the Florida Board of Dentistry. Current board-approved courses and programs can be found by clicking this link: [FL BOD Approved EF Programs](#) or the individual may choose to enroll and graduate from any CODA accredited assisting/hygiene program.

Certificates issued by CODA programs and Board approved courses and programs MUST list all expanded duties for which the assistant was trained, including dental radiography. A copy of all certificates earned must be posted in a conspicuous place in the practice where the duties are performed.