

Requirements for Dental Assistants in Florida



There is no licensure or registry 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 or countries. Dental assistants who possess a license or registration from another state or hold the Dental Assisting National Board CDA credential must still meet the Florida Formal Training requirement.

Graduates from CODA Accredited dental assisting programs in Florida are issued a certificate listing all Florida Expanded Functions for which they were trained, including dental radiography. This formal training is accepted by the Florida Board of Dentistry and assistants may post the expanded functions training certificate(s) earned from the CODA program listing the duties for which they were trained and legally be assigned those duties.

Assistants who were previously trained in dental radiography by an out-of-state CODA Accredited Program may be eligible to apply for the dental radiographer certificate issued by the Board of Dentistry. The application can be found in the “PDF Applications” section on the Board of Dentistry Website. [The link to the application is here.](#)

Non-CODA Accredited graduates may enroll in a course or program approved by the Florida Board of Dentistry to earn the required training certificates for expanded functions and dental radiography. Currently approved courses and programs can be found in the “Helpful Links” section of the Board of Dentistry Website and can be found by clicking this link: [FL Approved EF & Rad Programs.](#)

Certificates issued by Board approved courses or programs MUST list all expanded duties for which the assistant was trained. A copy of this certificate must be posted in a conspicuous place in the practice where the duties are performed.

64B5-9.011 Radiography Training for Dental Assistants.

(1) Dental assistants may position and expose dental radiographic images only if they have been certified by the Department as dental radiographers or have graduated from a Board-approved dental assisting school or program.

(2) Dental assistants, who have not graduated from a Board-approved dental assisting school or program, may be certified as dental radiographers if they comply with the following requirements:

(a) Apply for certification on DH-MQA 1202, Dental Radiography Certification Application (Rev. 05/2025), incorporated herein by reference and available at

<http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-18390>, and available on the Department of Health's website at <http://floridadentistry.gov/licensing/dental-radiographer/>, and submit the nonrefundable fee prescribed by Rule 64B5-15.015, F.A.C.;

(b) Document having completed at least 3 months of continuous on-the-job training through assisting in the positioning of digital radiographic sensors and positioning and exposing of dental radiographic images under the direct supervision of a Florida licensed dentist; and,

(c) Document successful completion of a Board-approved course which meets the requirements of subsection 64B5-9.011(3), F.A.C., within 12 months of completion of the on-the-job training required by subsection 64B5-9.011(2), F.A.C.

(3) Only courses which provide training in the following areas may receive Board approval:

(a) Dental radiography practice and equipment;

(b) Radiation biology and radiation safety techniques;

(c) Hands-on instruction in the positioning of digital radiographic sensors and films through the use of appropriate mannequins that will provide the didactic objectives;

(d) Radiographic anatomy;

(e) Radiographic images, films, and processing;

(f) Intra-oral radiographic techniques;

(g) Supplemental techniques of dental radiography; and,

(h) Infection control and sterilization techniques.

(4) A dental assistant's certification as a dental radiographer must be conspicuously displayed to the public in any dental office where these services are performed.