

CHAPTER 577
EXPANDED FUNCTIONS

Chapter rescission date pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.7: 4/9/30

481—577.1(153) Expanded function requirements and eligibility.

577.1(1) Dental hygienists or dental assistants may only perform expanded function procedures upon successful completion of a board-approved course of training. Dental assistant trainees are not eligible to receive training in or perform expanded function procedures.

a. This shall not preclude dental hygienists or dental assistants from practicing expanded function procedures for training purposes while enrolled in a board-approved course of training.

b. Expanded function procedures must be delegated by and performed under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist unless otherwise specified in this chapter.

c. Services that are therapeutic or preventive in nature and are within the scope of practice for dental hygienists are not deemed to be expanded functions.

577.1(2) To be eligible to train in expanded function procedures, dental hygienists must hold an active dental hygiene license in Iowa.

577.1(3) To be eligible to train in expanded function procedures, dental assistants must comply with one of the following:

a. Be a graduate of an accredited school;

b. Be currently certified by the Dental Assisting National Board (DANB); or

c. Have at least three months of clinical practice as a dental assistant.

577.1(4) A dentist who delegates expanded function procedures to dental hygienists or dental assistants under direct supervision must examine the patient to review the quality of work prior to the conclusion of the dental appointment. The following expanded function procedures are exempt from this requirement and may be performed under general supervision:

a. Recementation of a provisional restoration.

b. Taking occlusal registrations for purposes other than mounting study casts by dental hygienists only.

[ARC 8991C, IAB 3/5/25, effective 4/9/25; ARC 0247D, IAB 4/29/26, effective 6/3/26]

481—577.2(153) Expanded function categories. Dental hygienists and dental assistants must be issued a certificate of completion for the corresponding function in which board-approved training has been completed before performing a specific expanded function procedure. A dentist may delegate to dental hygienists or dental assistants only those expanded function procedures in which training has been successfully completed.

577.2(1) Level 1 expanded functions may be taught by board-approved training providers using curriculum prior-approved by the board.

577.2(2) Training in Level 2 expanded functions must be completed at the University of Iowa College of Dentistry or another accredited school using curriculum approved by the board. Before beginning Level 2 training, dental hygienists and dental assistants must complete all prerequisites for the Level 2 training established by the accredited school.

[ARC 8991C, IAB 3/5/25, effective 4/9/25]

481—577.3(153) Level 1 expanded function procedures.

577.3(1) Level 1 expanded function procedures include:

a. Taking occlusal registrations;

b. Placement and removal of gingival retraction material;

c. Fabrication, temporary cementation, and removal of provisional restorations following review of the fit and function by the supervising dentist, and temporary recementation of provisional restorations;

d. Applying cavity liners and bases and desensitizing agents;

- e. Applying bonding systems, which may include the placement of the attachments used in clear aligner systems, following review of the fit and function by the supervising dentist;
- f. Placement, bonding, and removal of provisional orthodontic restorations as follows:
 - (1) Placement or bonding of orthodontic brackets and bands or provisional orthodontic appliances following review of the fit and function by the supervising dentist; and
 - (2) Removal of adhesive, orthodontic brackets and bands, or provisional orthodontic appliances using nonmotorized hand instrumentation;
- g. Taking final impressions for fixed restorations or dental prosthetics;
- h. Placement of temporary restorative materials following preparation of the tooth by a dentist;
- i. Extraoral adjustment to acrylic dentures without making any adjustments to the prosthetic teeth;
- j. Tissue conditioning (soft reline only); and
- k. Placement, management, and removal of an intravenous (IV) infusion line for moderate sedation, deep sedation, or general anesthesia. Placement of an IV may include the administration of saline. Placement of an IV does not include the administration of any drugs or medications.

577.3(2) The following procedures are Level 1 expanded functions only for dental assistants and are within the scope of practice for dental hygienists:

- a. Monitoring of patients receiving nitrous oxide inhalation analgesia, which may include increasing oxygen levels as needed, pursuant to the following:
 - (1) A dentist shall induce a patient and establish the maintenance level;
 - (2) A dental assistant may make adjustments that decrease the nitrous oxide concentration during the administration of nitrous oxide; and
 - (3) A dental assistant may turn off the oxygen delivery at the completion of the dental procedure.
- b. Removal of adhesives using nonmotorized hand instrumentation.

[ARC 8991C, IAB 3/5/25, effective 4/9/25]

481—577.4(153) Level 2 expanded function procedures for dental hygienists and dental assistants.

577.4(1) Level 2 expanded function procedures for dental hygienists and dental assistants include:

- a. Placement and shaping of amalgam following preparation of a tooth by a dentist;
- b. Placement and shaping of adhesive restorative materials following preparation of a tooth by a dentist;
- c. Polishing of adhesive restorative material using a slow-speed handpiece; and
- d. Fitting of stainless-steel crowns on primary posterior teeth and cementation after fit verification by a dentist.

577.4(2) Level 2 expanded function procedures for dental assistants include the placement of sealants. The placement of sealants is included in the scope of practice for dental hygienists and is not considered an expanded function for dental hygienists.

577.4(3) These Level 2 expanded function procedures refer to both primary and permanent teeth except as otherwise noted. Training in Level 2 expanded functions may be separated between application of the services on primary or permanent teeth as determined by the accredited training provider.

[ARC 8991C, IAB 3/5/25, effective 4/9/25]

481—577.5(153) Expanded function training.

577.5(1) *Approved expanded function training programs.* Training programs for Level 1 and Level 2 expanded function procedures must be board-approved. Training programs for Level 2 expanded function procedures are limited to the University of Iowa College of Dentistry or another accredited school.

577.5(2) *Certificates of completion.* All board-approved training programs are authorized and required to issue certificates to dental hygienists and dental assistants who successfully complete expanded function training. A certificate shall be issued for one or more of the expanded function procedures completed. Dental hygienists and dental assistants shall prominently display the expanded functions certificate in each dental facility where services are provided.

577.5(3) *Training.* Training may be completed in one or more of the listed expanded function procedures. Clinical training in expanded function procedures must be completed under observational supervision. Level 1 expanded function training includes the following:

- a. An initial assessment to determine the base entry level of all participants;
- b. Completion of the minimum standards for each function as specified in this rule; and
- c. A post-course written examination at the conclusion of the training program, with a minimum of ten questions per function. A score of 75 percent or higher is deemed to be a passing score.

577.5(4) *Minimum training standards.* Every expanded function procedure requires the completion of clinical training that includes a minimum of five patient experiences per procedure under observational supervision unless stated otherwise.

a. Taking occlusal registrations. In addition to the required clinical training, a minimum of one hour of didactic training.

b. Placement and removal of gingival retraction material. In addition to the required clinical training, a minimum of two hours of didactic training and the equivalent of one hour of laboratory training that includes three experiences.

c. Fabrication, temporary cementation, temporary recementation, and removal of provisional restorations. A minimum of four hours of didactic training, the equivalent of four hours of laboratory training that includes five experiences, and clinical training that includes a minimum of ten patient experiences under observational supervision.

d. Applying cavity liners and bases and desensitizing agents. In addition to the required clinical training, a minimum of one hour of didactic training and the equivalent of one hour of laboratory training that includes a minimum of two experiences.

e. Applying bonding systems, which may include the placement of the attachments used in clear aligner systems, following review of the fit and function by the supervising dentist. In addition to the required clinical training, a minimum of two hours of didactic training and the equivalent of one hour of laboratory training that includes a minimum of two experiences.

f. Placement, bonding, and removal of orthodontic brackets and bands or provisional orthodontic appliances pursuant to paragraph 577.3(1)“f.” For each procedure, in addition to the required clinical training, a minimum of two hours of didactic training and the equivalent of one hour of laboratory training that includes a minimum of two experiences.

g. Monitoring of patients receiving nitrous oxide inhalation analgesia, pursuant to paragraph 577.3(2)“a.” In addition to the required clinical training, a minimum of two hours of didactic training and one hour of laboratory training in the office where the dental hygienist or dental assistant is employed.

h. Taking final impressions. A minimum of three hours of didactic training, and the equivalent of clinical training that includes a minimum of six patient experiences under observational supervision.

i. Removal of adhesives using nonmotorized hand instrumentation. In addition to the required clinical training, a minimum of one hour of didactic training.

j. Placement of temporary restorative materials following preparation of the tooth by the dentist. In addition to the required clinical training, a minimum of two hours of didactic training and the equivalent of one hour of laboratory training that includes a minimum of two experiences.

k. Extraoral adjustment to acrylic dentures without making any adjustments to the prosthetic teeth. In addition to the required clinical training, a minimum of one hour of didactic training and the equivalent of one hour of laboratory training that includes a minimum of two experiences.

l. Tissue conditioning (soft reline only). In addition to the required clinical training, a minimum of one hour of didactic training and the equivalent of one hour of laboratory training that includes a minimum of two experiences.

m. Placement, management, and removal of an IV infusion line for moderate sedation, deep sedation, or general anesthesia. A minimum of 12 hours of didactic training or current Dental Anesthesia Assistant National Certification Examination (DAANCE) certification; and eight hours of laboratory and clinical training that includes a minimum of six venipunctures, two of which are completed on human subjects. Supervision for the clinical experiences shall be completed under the supervision of a dentist with a current sedation or anesthesia permit, or a licensed sedation provider.

577.5(5) *Acceptance of previously completed board-approved training.* Any dental hygienist or dental assistant who previously completed board-approved expanded function training can continue to perform expanded function procedures for which training has been completed and documentation is available. For

any expanded function procedures that are new, in whole or in part, additional training to satisfy the minimum training requirement is required of the dental hygienist or dental assistant prior to performing the new expanded function procedure.

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These rules are intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 153.

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