

**650—20.4(153) Categories of dental assistants.** There are two categories of dental assistants. Both the supervising dentist and dental assistant are responsible for maintaining documentation of training. Such documentation must be maintained in the office of practice and shall be provided to the board upon request.

**20.4(1) Dental assistant trainee.** Dental assistant trainees are all individuals who are engaging in on-the-job training to meet the requirements for registration and who are learning the necessary skills under the personal supervision of a licensed dentist. Trainees may also engage in on-the-job training in dental radiography pursuant to 650—22.3(136C,153). The dental assistant trainee shall meet the following requirements:

*a.* Within 12 months of employment, the dental assistant trainee shall successfully complete a course of study and examination in the areas of infection control, hazardous materials, and jurisprudence. The course of study shall be prior approved by the board and sponsored by a board-approved postsecondary school.

*b.* Prior to satisfactorily completing 12 months of work as a dental assistant, the trainee must apply to the board to be reclassified as a registered dental assistant.

*c.* Dental assistant trainee status is valid for practice for a maximum of 12 months. If trainee status has expired, the trainee must meet the requirements for registration and receive a certificate of registration in order to practice as a dental assistant.

*d.* Notwithstanding paragraphs “*b*” and “*c*,” the expiration date for dental assistant trainee status for a person enrolled in a cooperative education or work-study program through an Iowa high school shall be extended until the trainee is 17 years of age and a high school graduate or equivalent. However, a trainee under 18 years of age shall not participate in dental radiography.

**20.4(2) Registered dental assistant.** A registered dental assistant may perform under general supervision dental radiography, intraoral suctioning, and all extraoral duties that are assigned by the dentist and are consistent with these rules. During intraoral procedures, the registered dental assistant may, under direct supervision, assist the dentist in performing duties assigned by the dentist that are consistent with these rules. The registered dental assistant may take radiographs if qualified pursuant to 650—Chapter 22.

**20.4(3) Expanded function dental assistant.** Rescinded IAB 9/17/03, effective 10/22/03.