

**153.39 Dental assistants — registration requirements, renewal, revocation, or suspension — exceptions.**

1. A person shall not practice on or after July 1, 2001, as a registered dental assistant unless the person has registered with the board and received a certificate of registration pursuant to [this chapter](#).

2. Education requirements shall be determined by the board by rule, according to standards to be determined by the board. A person shall be registered upon the successful completion of either of the education and examination requirements established in paragraph “a” or “b”:

a. Successful completion of a course of study and examination approved by the board and sponsored by a board-approved postsecondary school.

b. Successful completion of on-the-job training and examination consisting of all of the following:

(1) Completion of on-the-job training as specified in rule.

(2) Successful completion of an examination process approved by the board. A written examination may be waived by the board pursuant to [section 17A.9A](#), in practice situations where the written examination is deemed to be unnecessary or detrimental to the dentist’s practice.

3. The education requirements in [subsection 2](#), paragraphs “a” and “b” may include possession of a valid certificate in a nationally recognized course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation. Successful passage of an examination administered by the board under [subsection 2](#), paragraph “a” or “b”, which shall include sections regarding infection control, hazardous materials, and jurisprudence, shall also be required.

4. The board shall establish continuing education requirements as a condition of renewing registration as a registered dental assistant, as well as standards for the suspension or revocation of registration.

5. A person may practice as a dental assistant without receiving a certificate of registration as described in [this section](#) if the person successfully completes a term of practical training under the supervision of a dentist. The board shall adopt rules pursuant to [chapter 17A](#) for the implementation of [this subsection](#).

[2000 Acts, ch 1002, §6](#); [2002 Acts, ch 1108, §23](#); [2005 Acts, ch 28, §1, 2](#); [2007 Acts, ch 22, §39](#); [2009 Acts, ch 133, §201](#); [2025 Acts, ch 41, §5, 6](#)

Referred to in [§153.14](#)

Subsection 1 amended

Subsection 5 stricken and rewritten