

# Standards for Radiation Safety

## Statutes:

### **313.045 Administrative regulations governing dental assistants.**

- (1) The board shall promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A to define registration requirements, duties, training, and standards of practice that may be performed by a dental assistant who has a minimum of one (1) year of dental office experience.
- (2) The board shall approve the instructor and the courses of study for approving duties, training, and standards of practice that may be performed by a registered dental assistant.
- (3) A registered dental assistant shall practice under the supervision, order, control, and full responsibility of a dentist licensed under this chapter.
- (4) The registration for each registered dental assistant shall be continuously displayed in a conspicuous place in the office of the licensee.
- (5) Supervising dentists shall only assign to registered dental assistants procedures that do not require the professional competence of a licensed dentist or a licensed dental hygienist.
- (6) Registered dental assistant services may include coronal polishing, a cosmetic procedure that is not essential to therapeutic oral prophylaxis, if the following criteria are observed:
  - (a) Polishing activities are limited to the use of a rubber cap attached to a slow-speed rotary dental handpiece;
  - (b) The assistant has received a certificate from the board's approved instructor that ensures the assistant has successfully completed a dental assisting course developed by the board and a committee of dental educators from the Kentucky institutions of dental education accredited by the Council on Dental Accreditation; and
  - (c) The dental assisting course includes basic dental assisting and coronal polishing instruction that includes didactic, preclinical, clinical training, and competency testing.
- (7) Registered dental assistant services shall not include the following:
  - (a) The practice of dental hygiene or the performance of the duties of a licensed dental hygienist that require the use of any instrumentation which may elicit the removal of calcareous deposits or accretions on the crowns and roots of teeth;
  - (b) Diagnosis;
  - (c) Treatment planning and prescription, including prescriptions for drugs or medicaments, or authorization for restorative, prosthodontic, or orthodontic appliances;
  - (d) Surgical procedures on hard or soft tissues of the oral cavity, or any other intraoral procedure that contributes to or results in an irreversible alteration of the oral anatomy; and
  - (e) The making of final impressions from which casts are made to construct any dental restoration.
- (8) A licensed dentist may delegate the taking of radiographs to registered dental assistants who have completed a board-approved course in radiography technique and safety. The course completion certificate shall be maintained by the supervising dentist and be made available to the board upon request.

**Effective:** July 15, 2010

**History:** Repealed and reenacted 2010 Ky. Acts ch. 85, sec. 8, effective July 15, 2010. -- Created 1964 Ky. Acts ch. 12, sec. 6.

Course outline:

- 1) Historical perspective and introduction to the legislation on Dental Radiography in the Commonwealth of KY
- 2) Basic principles and concepts of radiation
- 3) Components of the x-ray equipment and effect of alteration of exposure factors on image production and patient radiation dose.
- 4) Chemical and electronic processing of image receptors
- 5) Fundamentals of intra-oral (bitewing/periapical/occlusal) and extra-oral (panoramic/cephalometric) radiographic technique
- 6) Principles of radiation measurement and radiation biology and Radiation Safety
- 7) Radiation safety for both patient and operator
- 8) Radiographic Film Mounting, Labeling & Record Keeping
- 9) Principles of Quality Assurance and Implementation into Clinical Practice
- 10) Occupational Considerations including: Infection Control Principles & Legal Concerns
- 11) Extraoral Radiography

Completion of this course must be verified by certificate or other proof of attendance.

## **DENTAL AUXILIARY RADIOGRAPHY TECHNIQUE TRAINING**

In addition to the six (6) hour course in dental radiation safety approved by the Kentucky Board of Dentistry, the following requirement must be filled. Fulfillment of this requirement can be accomplished in one of the following two ways:

- A minimum of four (4) hours of instruction by the dentist in dental radiography technique while under the employment and supervision of the dentist in the office where the dentist practices

**OR**

- Maintain written documentation that the dental auxiliary personnel has completed a minimum of a four (4) hour course in radiography technique approved by the Kentucky Board of Dentistry.

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I, \_\_\_\_\_ attest that \_\_\_\_\_ is under my employ and has satisfied one of the aforementioned training requirements by the Kentucky Board of Dentistry regarding instructions in dental radiography technique.

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*Should you choose the first option, please document the information below:*

<b>Date of Instruction</b>	<b>Duration of Instruction</b>	<b>Top of Instruction (Periapical, Bitewings, Panelipse)</b>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Date of completion of requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Dentist's Signature**

License #

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**Dental Assistant's Signature**

**Requirement check list:**

- Under direct supervision of a dentist
- 6 hr didactic course in Radiation Safety
- 4 hrs in radiography technique:
  - (a) 4 hr course in radiography technique OR
  - (b) 4 hrs of documented dental radiography technique while under the employment and supervision of the dentist in the office and the completion of the Dental Auxiliary Radiography Technique Training form

**Radiation Technique Course**

Training in radiation technique can be verified by a dentist's written documentation of a student's completion of four

(4) hours of instruction in dental radiography technique in the practice or by attending a four hour (4) continuing education course in radiography technique approved by the Board before being allowed to expose radiographs.

**Dental Assistant Radiology Certificate:**

The Kentucky Board of Dentistry recently has amended the minimal educational requirements for dental auxiliary personnel prior to taking dental radiographs under a licensed dentist's direct supervision (KRS 313.345 and 201 KAR 8:571, Section 4, amended 7-15-10). All dental auxiliary personnel must satisfy the educational requirements and receive certification before taking x-rays in a dental office under a licensed dentist's direct supervision.

No form must be submitted to the Board.

The course completion certificate shall be maintained in the dental auxiliary's personnel file by the supervising dentist and be made available to the board upon request.

**Required documents for dental radiology safety certification:**

1. Name of the Individual trained
2. Name and license number of the Licensee (Dentist) attesting to the competency of the Dental Assistant
3. A copy of the certificate of completion issued for the completion of a six (6) hour course in dental radiography safety (Radiation Safety Course)
4. A copy of the certificate of completion issued for the completion of the Radiation Techniques Course. This shall include either: documentation from employer that shows four (4) hours of instruction in dental radiography technique while under the employment

and supervision of the dentist in the office; or a four (4) hour course in radiography technique.

5. Documentation, other than a certificate, which verifies the completion of the above requirements.

### **Course Approval Guidelines:**

Proof of successful completion of the Radiography Section of the Dental Assistants National Board Examination (DANB) will satisfy the dental auxiliary training requirements for both radiation safety and radiation technique. Proof of successful completion of a CODA approved course will satisfy the dental auxiliary training requirements for both radiation safety and radiation technique.

### **Regulations:**

#### **201 KAR 8:571. Registration of dental assistants.**

RELATES TO: KRS 214.615, 313.030, 313.045, 313.050, 313.080, 313.130

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: KRS 214.615(2), 313.021(1)(a), (b), (c), **313.030(3)**, 313.045

NECESSITY, FUNCTION, AND CONFORMITY: KRS 313.045(1) requires the board to promulgate administrative regulations relating to requirements and procedures for registration, duties, training, and standards of practice for dental assistants. This administrative regulation establishes the requirements and procedures for registration, duties, training, and standards of practice for dental assistants.

Section 4. X-rays by Registered Dental Assistants. A registered dental assistant may take x-rays under the direct supervision of a dentist licensed in Kentucky. If a registered dental assistant takes x-rays under the direct supervision of a dentist licensed in Kentucky, the dental assistant shall have completed:

- (1) A six (6) hour course in dental radiography safety; and
- (2) Four (4) hours of instruction in dental radiography technique while under the employment and supervision of the dentist in the office; or a four (4) hour course in radiography technique.