

# Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners

## NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY

2003

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If you have moved or are planning to move, please inform the board office in writing by mail, fax, or email as soon as possible to ensure that you receive your DDS or RDH renewal form in November.

**Dentists:** all new corporations must be registered with the Board prior to renewing your dental license.

### BOARD APPROVES CHANGES TO ARTICLE

*In August 2002, the Board approved several changes to Article XVII on dental assisting. The following changes became effective January 1, 2003:*

- **There is no separate form, fee, or jurisprudence test for an RDA permit.** When the first expanded duty has been earned, the Board office will award an RDA permit. A letter will be sent followed by a wall certificate.
- **The supervising dentist will both administer and grade the tests for x-ray and polishing.** No grading fee or test will be sent to the Board office. The dentist will send in a completed Certificate of Competency form to notify the Board office that one or both of these expanded duties have been earned. An RDA permit will be awarded if the person is not already an RDA; a sticker will be sent if already an RDA.
- **Board approved nitrous oxide instructors will complete a Certificate of Competency**

*form for each person who successfully completes his/her course and submit these to the Board office. An RDA permit will be awarded if the person is not already an RDA; a sticker will be sent if already an RDA.*

- **The supervising dentist determines the experience requirement for each expanded duty.**
- *Persons who have passed either an x-ray or polishing test but are not yet an RDA may become an RDA if the supervising dentist submits a **Certificate of Competency form.***
- **Registered dental assistant renewals for 2003-04 will be \$10 and Healthcare Provider CPR will be mandatory.**

*Copies of the Article may be obtained from the Board office or Board website. Call 501-682-2085 if you have questions.*

### Biennial Renewals May Be Coming

The Board has proposed changes to the Dental Practice Act that will require dentists, registered dental hygienists, and registered dental assistants to renew their licenses/permits biennially (every 2 years) rather than annually. If these changes are approved in this year's legislative session, this means that:

- ♦ Time and paperwork for the licensee and the office will be reduced.
- ♦ Continuing education hours and CPR will be due each time that a dental or dental hygiene license is renewed.
- ♦ The renewal fee for dentists will be \$300.
- ♦ The renewal fee for hygienists will be \$100.

Dental and dental hygiene licenses will be due in even-numbered years and registered dental assistants will renew in odd-numbered years.

According to the *American Association of Dental Examiners (AADE) Composite*, 25 states had two-year renewals, 5 states had three-year renewals, and 19 states had one-year renewals (with one state not reporting).

The Board hopes that these changes will cause less confusion. Dentists and hygienists will no longer wonder when their continuing education hours are to be reported.

## Home Study Courses for

2003 is the year for all dentists and registered dental hygienists to report CE hours. Listed below are some companies with home study courses. If the course is clinical in content, it may be acceptable for CE credit with our Board:

GSC-Home Study Courses for Dental Personnel  
8960 Bluff Lane  
Fair Oaks, CA 95628  
(800) 231-7159  
www.gscee.com

HSE-Home Study Educators, Inc.  
PO Box 561715  
Miami, FL 33256  
(800) 294-4473  
www.hsego.com

HIS-Health Studies Institute, Inc.  
PO Box 6808  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442-6808  
(800) 700-3454  
www.healthstudies.com

Here are some other websites that offer continuing education courses:

Word Wide Learn: [www.worldwidelearn.com](http://www.worldwidelearn.com)  
Continuing Education for the Dentist: [www.dentalsite.com](http://www.dentalsite.com)  
Arc Mesa Educators: [www.arcmesa.com](http://www.arcmesa.com)  
DDS Online: [www.dds-online.com](http://www.dds-online.com)  
Foundations in Continuing Education: [www.fice.com](http://www.fice.com)

The Dental Hygiene program at UAMS will hold a course in local anesthesia for the dental hygienist in July. Upon successful completion of the course, a dental hygienist would be eligible to obtain a permit from the Board to administer local anesthesia.

The four day course will be held July 17-18 and July 21-22, 2003 at the UAMS campus in Little Rock. For more information, call 501-686-5734.

## Listing of Fees

<b>APPLICATIONS</b>	
Dentists license with SRТА exam	\$ 150
Hygienist license with SRТА exam	100
Specialty license	300
License by Credentials-RDH	350
License by Credentials-DDS	2,250
Corporation or LLC Registration fee	25
General anesthesia permit	500
Conscious sedation permit	150
Local anesthesia permit-RDH	25
Request for a fictitious name	25

<b>RENEWALS</b>	
Dentist	\$ 150
Dentist with 1 corporation	160
Dentist with 2 corporations	170
Dental hygienist	50
Dental assistant	10
Anesthesia permit-DDS	40

<b>OTHER</b>	
RDA Educational Packet	\$ 50
Dental Practice Act/R&R	15
DDS/RDH: Lists, labels, or disks	50
License verification	25
Wall certificate remake for RDA	20
Wall certificate remake for DDS/RDH	25
Reprocessing fee for renewals	25
NSF (returned) check fee	20

# The **NEW** Steps to Become a Registered Dental Assistant

Now, becoming a Registered Dental Assistant is easier than ever. On August 23, 2002, the Board approved some important changes to the Rules and Regulations concerning dental assistant functions (more specifically, Article XVII).

Dental assistants must hold a current permit issued by the Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners if they perform dental radiography, coronal polishing, or administer/monitor nitrous oxide in the dental office. If a dental assistant is performing any of these duties without a permit, they are doing so illegally. Listed below are the new steps a dental assistant must complete in order to become a Registered Dental Assistant (RDA).

All RDA permits expire June 30 and must be renewed annually on forms provided by the Board of office. The renewal fee will be \$10.

Please note: A Certified Dental Assistant, or an assistant who is a graduate of a school which is accredited or provisionally accredited by the Council on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association, need only submit proof of graduation or certification to the Board and a permit will be issued for any expanded duty requested.

## **PROCESS FOR OBTAINING A PERMIT FOR RADIOGRAPHY AND/OR CORONAL POLISHING**

A dental assistant desiring to obtain an expanded duty permit for radiography and/or coronal polish-

ing from the Board must do the following:

- Use the educational packet provided by the Board. If not available, one may be purchased for \$50.
- Successfully complete the examination or clinical checklist administered by the supervising dentist as provided by the Board.
- Have the supervising dentist complete and submit the Certificate of Competency to the Board office.

## **PROCESS FOR OBTAINING A PERMIT TO ADMINISTER NITROUS OXIDE**

A dental assistant desiring to obtain an expanded duty permit for nitrous oxide/oxygen analgesia from the Board must do the following:

- Successfully complete a nitrous oxide administration and monitoring course as approved by the Board.
- The instructor will submit a copy of the Certificate of Competency to the Board office.

A letter, indicating receipt of the certificate(s) of competency and issuing a permit number, will be sent once one of the above expanded duties has been completed. A wall certificate, to be displayed at all times in the dental office, will soon follow.

Be sure to familiarize yourself with Article 17 to ensure compliance with the Rules and Regulations of the Board.

Effective January 1, 2003, each registered dental assistant must take a Healthcare Provider level CPR course and



## Upcoming Meeting Dates

The next meetings of the Board will be held:

February 21, 2003	August 15, 2003
April 18, 2003	September 26, 2003
June 27, 2003	November 21, 2003

All meetings are open to the public, held in the Conference Room on the basement level of MainStreet Mall, and start at 8:30 am.

## Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners

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**We're on the Web!**  
**[www.asbde.org](http://www.asbde.org)**

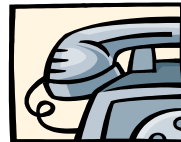
### Statistics

Dentists licensed in Arkansas: 1270  
Dentists practicing in Arkansas: 1088  
Specialists: 184

Prosthodontists: 8  
Periodontists: 20  
Pediatric Dentists: 34  
Orthodontists: 65  
Oral Surgeons: 39  
Endodontists: 18

Hygienists licensed in Arkansas: 1012  
Hygienists practicing in Arkansas: 909  
Hygienists with local anesthesia permits: 618

Registered dental assistants licensed in Arkansas: 2386  
Registered dental assistants practicing in Arkansas: 2247  
Registered dental assistants with-  
-radiography permits: 2300  
-nitrous oxide permits: 1826  
-polishing permits: 1617  
-all of the above expanded duties: 1280



### Helpful Phone

#### **AR State Board of Dental Examiners**

Office: 501-682-2085

Fax: 501-682-3543

**AR State Dental Association:** 501-771-7650

**UAMS Dental Hygiene School:** 501-686-5733

**Medicaid Providers:** 501-682-8292

**American Dental Association:** 312-440-2500

**DEA:** 1-800-882-9539

**OSHA:** 214-767-4731 or 800-621-8099

**AR Division of Radiation Control:** 501-661-2301

**AR Medical Waste Disposal Regulations:**

501-661-2201

**National Boards exams:** 312-440-2500

**AR State Dental Hygiene Assn.:** 501-327-1159

**Dental Assisting National Board:** 312-642-3368

**AR Dept. of Health:** 501-661-2000

**AR Dept. of Health Radiation Control:**

501-661-2378

**Pharmacy Services:** 501-661-2325

**American Dental Hygiene Assn.:** 312-440-8900