

Government Relations Report – September 2016

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There continues to be much activity relative to RDAs and RDAEFs as the work on the regulatory language continues and the Occupational Analysis is finished, moving changes to the Exam process forward. CDAA appreciates the long-standing work that has been done by our sister organizations CADAT, FADE and EFDA and the collaborative work continues between us.

Fee Increases

The Dental Board approved the following fee increases for license renewal and exams, which will take effect in the new fiscal year:

RDA Application fee: \$120

RDA Practical Exam: \$100

RDA Written/Law & Ethics: determined by testing agency

RDAEF Exam fees: \$500

RDA/RDAEF license renewal: \$100

Occupational Analysis

The RDA Occupational Analysis is complete and the results were discussed at the May meeting. OPES gave their report at the May Dental Board/DAC meeting. The results can be found on the dental board website under calendar/May meeting/supplemental materials.

Much discussion followed about the Written/Law & Ethics Exam, including the possibility of combining the two exams into one.

The RDAEF Occupational Analysis is also complete and the results were presented at the August Board meeting. The link to the report is:

http://www.dbc.ca.gov/about_us/materials/20160818mm.pdf

RDA Practical Exam

The exam is continuing, has stabilized some with pass rates in the mid-60%. The long requested Candidate Guide has been made available with some edits forthcoming. The Guide, which includes a rubric, is available on the Dental Board website at <http://www.dbc.ca.gov> (scroll to the bottom for the link)

Regulatory Workshops

The workshops have been held on the regulatory language and will continue until the end of the year. The DBC staff working on this are dedicated and working hard. The language was worked on with the DAC members, staff and stakeholders present. It will then be edited by staff and sent to stakeholders as a final draft. It will then move through the regulatory process, taking months.

The work to revise the language for the RDA Programs was begun at the July workshop and will continue at the September Workshop. Much discussion about

should RDA Programs remain at 800 hours or increase to 900; discussion also held about how often extramural sites should be visited and what that should look like.

At the September Workshop, work will begin on the RDAEF Programs.

Anesthesia Study

Senator Jerry Hill requested in Feb 2016 that the Dental Board for a subcommittee to investigate whether CAs laws and regulations are enough to provide patient safety during the use of general anesthesia, especially during the treatment of pediatric patients. In July, a child died in the Bay Area following dental treatment. The subcommittee presented a preliminary report (http://www.dbc.ca.gov/formspubs/anesthesia_study.pdf) which was discussed at the August Board meeting.

Some of the items discussed are whether there should be a specific number of personnel to be present. Another issue is that the supervising dentist is the one responsible for ensuring that assistants complete the required coursework (as opposed to an outside agency).

If anyone is interested in serving on the Committee, please let us know!