

## **Government Relations**

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Well, in our last report to you, the Dental Board discussed the OPES recommendation relative to options about the Practical Exam. After much discussion and input from stakeholders, the decision was delayed until they could appoint a subcommittee and hold a workshop for stakeholders. The subcommittee was appointed (Whitcher and Forsythe) and the workshop was held. The subcommittee brought forward their recommendation to the Dental Assisting Council and the Dental Board at its November 2 meeting and it was approved. That recommendation was to accept the written exam only for RDA licensure and not create a replacement of any kind for the practical exam.

The reasoning, as per the memo is that “A RDA performs the procedures under the order, control and full professional responsibility of the supervising dentist. These procedures are checked and approved prior to dismissal of the patient from the office. In effect, the dentist certifies that procedures performed by RDA’s in their practice are clinically acceptable on a case-by-case basis. Measures such as completion of a certification course or dentist certification by affidavit would provide little additional public protection.” The subcommittee further stated that this option will not introduce barriers to RDA licensure.

So, the pathway to RDA licensure will not consist of successful completions of a written exam.

### **Calendar of Future Events:**

Date: Feb 8-9, 2018 – Location TBA

Description of Event: Dental Board (DBC) / Dental Assisting Council (DAC)

Date: May 17-18, 2018 – Location TBA / SoCal

Description of Event: Dental Board (DBC) / Dental Assisting Council (DAC)

If you have an understanding of dental assisting education and/or legislative language and are willing to read and give feedback – no attendance at meeting required, we would love to have you participate in this with us! Contact [claudiapohl@cdaaweb.org](mailto:claudiapohl@cdaaweb.org)