

**NOTICE OF INTENT TO AMEND RULE OF THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF
DENTISTRY
RULE 150-9-.02 EXPANDED DUTIES OF DENTAL ASSISTANTS**

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS AND PARTIES:

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the authority set forth below, the Georgia State Board of Dentistry (hereinafter "Board") proposes amendments to Georgia Board of Dentistry Rule 150-9-.02 EXPANDED DUTIES OF DENTAL ASSISTANTS (hereinafter "proposed amendments").

This notice, together with an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments, is being forwarded to all persons who have requested, in writing, that they be placed on an interested parties list. A copy of this notice, an exact copy of the rule including the proposed amendments, and a synopsis of the rule including the proposed amendments may be reviewed during normal business hours of 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except official State holidays, at the Department of Community Health at 2 Peachtree Street, NW, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303. These documents will also be available for review on the Georgia State Board of Dentistry's web page at <http://gbd.georgia.gov/>.

A public hearing is scheduled to begin at 10:00 AM on January 12, 2018 at the Department of Community Health at 2 Peachtree Street, NW, 5th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303 to provide the public an opportunity to comment upon and provide input into the proposed amendments. At the public hearing, anyone may present data, make a statement, comment or offer a viewpoint or argument whether orally or in writing. Lengthy statements or statements of a considerable technical or economic nature, as well as previously recorded messages, must be submitted for the official record. Oral statements should be concise and will be limited to 5 minutes per person. Additional comments should be presented in writing. Written comments are welcome. To ensure their consideration, written comments must be received prior to January 5, 2018. Written comments should be addressed to Executive Director of the Georgia State Board of Dentistry at 2 Peachtree Street NW, Atlanta, Georgia 30303 FAX: 678-717-6435. You may email your comments to tbattle@dch.ga.gov.

The proposed rule amendments will be considered by the Georgia State Board of Dentistry during its meeting scheduled to begin at 1:15 PM on January 24, 2018 at the Department of Community Health at 2 Peachtree Street, NW, 6th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia, 30303. According to the Department of Law, State of Georgia, the Georgia State Board of Dentistry has the authority to adopt the proposed rule amendments pursuant to authority contained in O.C.G.A §§ 43-11-7, 43-11-9, 43-11-80, and 43-11-81.

At its meeting on December 1, 2017, the Board voted that the formulation and adoption of these amendments do not impose excessive regulatory cost on any licensee and any cost to comply with the proposed amendments cannot be reduced by a less expensive alternative that fully accomplishes the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 43-11-7, 43-11-9, 43-11-80, and 43-11-81.

At its meeting on 12/1/2017, the Board also voted that it is not legal or feasible to meet the objectives of O.C.G.A §§ 43-11-7, 43-11-9, 43-11-80, and 43-11-81 to adopt or implement differing actions for businesses as listed at O.C.G.A§ 50-13-4(a)(3)(A), (B), (C) and (D). The formulation and adoption of these amendments will impact every licensee in the same manner, and each licensee is independently licensed, owned and operated and dominant in the field of dentistry.

For further information, contact the Board office at 404-651-8000.

This notice is given in compliance with O.C.G.A. §50-13-4.

This 22nd day of December, 2017.

Tanja D. Battle

Tanja D. Battle
Executive Director
Georgia Board of Dentistry

Posted: December 22, 2017

**SYNOPSIS OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS OF THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY
150-9-.02 Expanded Duties of Dental Assistants.**

Purpose of amendment: The purpose of this amendment is to expand the list of expanded duties a dental assistant is allowed to perform.

Main Features: The main feature of this amendment is to add ten (10) additional duties.

**DIFFERENCES OF PROPOSED AMENDMENTS OF THE
GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF DENTISTRY
150-9-.02 Expanded Duties of Dental Assistants.**

Note: Struck through text is proposed to be deleted. Underlined text is proposed to be added.

150-9-.02 Expanded Duties of Dental Assistants.

(1) To meet the requirements of an expanded duty dental assistant, a dental assistant must have a high school diploma, or the equivalent thereof, proof of current CPR certification and a certificate documenting that he or she has successfully completed the course pertaining to the specific duties outlined in that certificate. Only those expanded duties, which are listed on the certificate(s), may be performed by an expanded duty dental assistant. An expanded duty dental assistant certificate may be issued by an accredited dental assisting program, a dental hygiene school, a dental school or a professional association recognized and approved by the Georgia Board of Dentistry to a candidate who has successfully completed the required certificate courses (each of which must be a minimum of four hours) from an accredited dental assisting program, a dental hygiene school, a dental school or professional association recognized and approved by the Georgia Board of Dentistry and met all other requirements of an expanded duty assistant; and completed an examination demonstrating competency in specific duties that is administered by a licensed dentist on behalf of the accredited dental assistant program, dental hygiene school, dental school or professional association recognized and approved by the Georgia Board of Dentistry.

(2) Eligibility for taking said courses requires that the candidate meet at least one of the following criteria:

(a) Possess current certification that the candidate is a Certified Dental Assistant.

(b) Be a graduate of a one (1) year accredited dental assisting program or a dental assisting program approved by the Board or be eligible for graduation.

(c) Have been employed as a chair side assistant by a licensed dentist for a continuous six (6) month period within the previous three (3) years. (Note: An expanded duties certificate would be issued to a candidate only upon proper proof of graduation.)

(3) The employer of the expanded duty assistant shall have readily available in the dental office a copy of the certificate(s) issued from the sponsor of the accredited course(s) of study to the expanded duty dental assistant. The expanded duties specific to the course(s) taken and in which [a] certificate(s) [has/have] been issued may be delegated to dental assistants, who are performing their duties under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist. The following expanded duties may be delegated to those assistants meeting the educational requirements established by Board Rule 150-9-.02(1) and possessing a certificate(s) of the course(s) taken delineating the duties specific to that course~~:-~~:

(a) Apply desensitizing agents to root surfaces of teeth and prepared dentinal surfaces of teeth prior to cementation of temporary restorations and crowns, bridges, or inlays.

(b) Place cavity liner, base or varnish over unexposed pulp.

(c) Intraoral fabrication of temporary crowns and bridges. All such adjustments must be performed extraorally.

(d) Perform face bow transfer.

- (e) Make impressions to be used to repair a damaged prosthesis.
- (f) Place periodontal dressing.
- (g) Redressing (not initial placement of dressing) and removing dressing from alveolar sockets in post-operative osteitis when the patient is uncomfortable due to the loss of dressing from the alveolar socket in a diagnosed case of post-operative osteitis.
- (h) Make impressions to be used to fabricate a night guard (bruxism or muscle relaxation appliance). All adjustments must be performed extraorally. Final adjustment must be made by the dentist.
- (i) Monitor the administration of nitrous oxide/oxygen; turn off nitrous oxide/oxygen at the completion of the dental procedure and make adjustments to the level of nitrous oxide/oxygen, but only following the specific instructions of the dentist.
- (j) Apply topical anticariogenic agents.
- (k) Apply pit and fissure sealants, and primer and bonding agents to etched enamel or dentin; and light-cure with a fiber-optic light source (not to include the use of a laser device).
- (l) Packing and removing retraction cord, as prescribed by the dentist, so long as said cord is used solely for restorative dental procedures.
- (m) Changing of bleaching agent, following initial applications by the dentist, during the bleaching process of vital and non-vital teeth after the placement of a rubber dam; and applying the fiber-optic light source of a curing light for activation of the bleach (not to include the use of a laser device).
- (n) Rebond brackets after a licensed dentist has examined the affected tooth and surrounding gingiva and found no evidence of pathology.
- (o) Remove bonded brackets with hand instruments only.
- (p) Make impressions for passive orthodontic appliances.
- (q) Apply primer and bonding agents to etched enamel or dentin; and light cure with fiber-optic light source (not to include use of a laser device).
- (r) Take and record vital signs.
- (s) Size and fit stainless steel crowns on a primary tooth only.
- (t) Place springs on wires.
- (u) Place hooks on brackets.
- (v) Remove loose or broken bonds.
- (w) Remove ligature and arch wires.
- (x) Band, select, and pre-size arch wires and place arch wires after final adjustment and approval by the dentist.
- (y) Select, pre-fit, cement, cure, and remove ortho bands or brackets.
- (z) Place and remove pre-treatment separators.
- (aa) Scan and Digital scans for fabrication orthodontic appliances and models.

Authority: O.C.G.A. §§43-11-7 to 43-11-9, 43-11-80, and 43-11-81.