



STATE OF IOWA

IOWA DENTAL BOARD

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR
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PHIL MCCOLLUM
INTERIM DIRECTOR

IOWA DENTAL BOARD DENTAL ASSISTANT COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

January 24, 2014
Conference Room
400 SW 8th Street, Suite D
Des Moines, Iowa

Committee Members

George F. North, D.D.S.
Steven C. Fuller, D.D.S.
Thomas M. Jeneary, D.D.S.
Denise L. Bell, Dental Assistant
Steve Bradley, D.D.S., Member
Diane Meier, Public Member

January 24, 2014

Present
Present
Present
Present*
Absent
Absent

Staff Members

Janet Arjes, Phil McCollum

Other Attendees

Dr. Steven Rabedeaux, D.D.S.*

*Those, who were unable to attend in person, were allowed to participate by telephone.

I. CALL TO ORDER FOR JANUARY 24, 2014

Dr. George North called the Dental Assistant Registration Committee to order at 1:00 p.m. on Friday, January 24, 2014. A quorum was established with four members present.

II. PROGRAM UPDATE

Ms. Arjes reported on the current status of the program. The number of dental assisting applications received between 2007 and 2013 ranged from a low of approximately 610 in 2009 to a high of 736 in 2012. The number of dental assistants in the profession remains constant. The total number of dental assistants issued a registration in 2013 was approximately 529 which breaks down to: 274 trainees; 211 registered and radiography qualified; 17 registered dental assistants, 8 qualified/non-registered and 19 reinstatements. Currently, we have approximately

258 active dental assistant trainees. Approximately 1200 dental assistant examinations were received and scored in 2013. In 2013, there were approximately 260 graduates of dental assistant schools accredited by the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation.

III. REQUEST FOR CONSIDERATION

Dr. Carol Moreno asked that the committee consider the request for review of the Muscatine Assist to Succeed School. The committee reviewed how they had previously dealt with other programs that were not accredited by the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation. Examples of similar programs included the Mentoring Dentist, the Iowa Methodist Dental Assisting School, Northwest Iowa School of Dental Assisting and Midwest Technical Institute.

Dr. Moreno requested that the final decision be made after she submitted additional information. Dr. North asked that we honor Dr. Moreno's request and table the decision until such a time as Dr. Moreno could forward her program information to Ms. Arjes. The committee agreed to table further discussion until Dr. Moreno submitted additional program information.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Dr. Steven Rabedeaux submitted a request to the Board in regards to the two-year requirement to be eligible for training in expanded function duties. In order to be eligible to train for in expanded functions, a dental assistant must have the pre-requisite of two years of experience as a registered dental assistant, or be DANB certified.

Dr. Rabedeaux participated by conference call. Dr. North discussed the reason for the two-year pre-requisite for the expanded function training. This two-year requirement was in place for the on-the-job trained dental assistant to have a baseline of experience. Dr. Rabedeaux discussed the difficulty in finding dental assistants in rural Iowa and the limitations to deliver dental care.

Mr. McCollum asked that this matter be deferred to the Educational Standards for Expanded Functions Training Task Force for further consideration.

Ms. Arjes was contacted by Dr. Tom Rundle, Ottumwa. He had a dental assistant quit unexpectedly, and was left with a dental assistant trainee who has only been in the practice a very short time. He was unable to do any restorative work. His wife, Lynn is a past dental assistant and has not worked since around 2000. He wanted to get Lynn reinstated to keep his practice functioning in an efficient and professional manner.

The committee discussed this situation, the fees, continuing education hours required and the need for a dental assistant to get to work. These situations are more of an issue in rural Iowa, where dental assistants are not as readily available in an emergency. There was another similar situation in north central Iowa that simulated this situation for an immediate need for a dental assistant.

Ms. Denise Bell stated that if a dental assistant left the profession to raise a family and was to return to the profession, there was a financial burden imposed upon that dental assistant with reinstatement fees required and the costs of continuing education. Dr. Fuller expressed concern about the continuing education course availability in an off season, making it difficult to meet the continuing education requirement. Ms. Arjes stated that with the reinstatement process, the dental assistant, historically, would be required to retest if she or he were out of practice for ten years or more. The committee discussed the mission of the Board, which is the protection of the public. The committee discussed the option of placing such persons back on trainee status to work under the supervision of a dentist, since they would need to test again anyway. Ms. Arjes was directed to bring back information to the next meeting showing the costs and continuing education that would be required for dental assistants to reinstate based on how long their registration/qualification had been lapsed. The members will revisit this at their next meeting.

The committee discussed the two expanded functions courses submitted in October 2013 by Dr. Beattie and Dr. Joseph Tesene. In the past all such courses were reviewed by the Dental Assistant Registration Committee's dentist members.

Mr. McCollum reported that these courses were to be referred to the Educational Standards for Expanded Functions Training Task Force as the Board has created this new task force to review such courses. The members of the Dental Assistant Committee are also on this new task force.

Dr. Fuller suggested that the radiography examination be updated to include a digital radiography component. Ms. Arjes stated that she had already reached out to the dental assistant program chairs to assist her in this process.

Dr. Fuller suggested that a dental assistant from a teaching institution be added as a member of this committee. Ms. Arjes will follow-up on this request.

V. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:00 p.m.

These minutes are respectfully submitted by Janet Arjes, Executive Officer, Iowa Dental Board.