

EC2023-156

**REGULATED HEALTH PROFESSIONS ACT
DENTAL ASSISTANTS REGULATIONS**

Pursuant to sections 2 and 96 of the *Regulated Health Professions Act* R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap. R-10.1, Council made the following regulations:

PART 1 - INTERPRETATION AND ADMINISTRATION

1. Definitions

In these regulations

- (a) “**Act**” means the *Regulated Health Professions Act* R.S.P.E.I. 1988, Cap. R-10.1, except where otherwise indicated;
- (b) “**Council**” means the Council of the Prince Edward Island Dental College;
- (c) “**dental assistant**” means a person who is registered in the register for dental assisting;
- (d) “**dental assisting**” means the health profession in which a person applies particular knowledge, skills and judgment in
 - (i) promoting oral health,
 - (ii) assisting other dental professionals in providing preventative and therapeutic treatment for teeth and adjacent tissues,
 - (iii) conducting research, education, management or administrative activities incidental to those described in subclauses (i) to (ii);
- (e) “**refresher program**” means a refresher program in dental assisting consisting of a formal curriculum, a set of individualized assignments of studies and experiences, a set of continuing education credits, a practicum or a combination of these elements.

2. Designation

Dental assisting is designated as a regulated health profession.

3. College

The Prince Edward Island Dental College continued under the *Regulated Health Professions Act* Dentists Regulations is designated as the college for dental assisting.

PART 2 - REGISTRATION

Register

4. Parts of register

The register for dental assisting is divided into the following parts:

- (a) general registration;

- (b) special registration.

General Registration

5. General registration

- (1) The registrar shall register an applicant in the general registration part where
 - (a) the registrar is satisfied that the applicant meets all the requirements for registration set out in subsection 12(2) of the Act and these regulations and registers the applicant pursuant to subsection 12(3) of the Act; or
 - (b) the Council directs the registrar to register the applicant pursuant to subsection 12(6) of the Act or reinstate the registration of the applicant pursuant to subsection 24(4) of the Act.

Reinstatement period

- (2) For the purpose of subsection 24(1) of the Act, a dental assistant may apply for reinstatement of registration in the general registration part within three years after a lapse in the registration.

6. Education

For the purpose of clause 12(2)(c) of the Act, an applicant shall have successfully completed

- (a) a certificate or diploma program in dental assisting accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada; or
- (b) a program in dental assisting approved by the Council.

7. Examinations

For the purpose of clause 12(2)(d) of the Act,

- (a) an applicant referred to in clause 6(a) shall have successfully completed the written examination administered by the National Dental Assisting Examining Board; and
- (b) an applicant referred to in clause 6(b) shall have successfully completed
 - (i) the written examination administered by the National Dental Assisting Examining Board, and
 - (ii) the clinical practice examination administered by the National Dental Assisting Examining Board.

8. Currency of professional knowledge and skills

- (1) For the purpose of clause 12(2)(f), subclause 22(2)(a)(ii) and clause 24(4)(c) of the Act, an applicant shall have done one of the following within the three years preceding the application to demonstrate currency of professional knowledge and skills:
 - (a) successfully completed the educational requirement set out in section 7;
 - (b) actively practised dental assisting, as a dental assistant authorized by the laws of the jurisdiction where he or she is practising to practise without any restrictions, for at least 140 hours;
 - (c) successfully completed a refresher program satisfactory to the registrar.

Failure to demonstrate currency

- (2) Where an applicant fails to demonstrate currency under subsection (1), the Council may require the applicant to successfully complete a refresher program approved by the Council within the time period specified by the Council.

9. Insurance

- (1) For the purpose of clause 12(2)(j), subclause 22(2)(a)(v) and clauses 24(4)(f) and 25(3)(c) of the Act, an applicant or dental assistant, as the case may be, is required to hold or be covered by professional liability insurance under a policy that provides coverage of not less than \$1,000,000 per claim or occurrence and an aggregate limit of not less than \$3,000,000, excluding legal or court costs.

Valid certificate required

- (2) An applicant or dental assistant shall provide or ensure the registrar is provided with the most current certificate of professional liability insurance issued by the insurer that confirms the applicant or dental assistant is insured under a policy that meets the requirements of subsection (1).

10. Continuing competency

- (1) For the purpose of subclause 22(2)(a)(i) of the Act, an applicant shall meet the requirements of any continuing education and competency programs established by the Council pursuant to section 60 or 60.1 of the Act

Record

- (2) A dental assistant shall
- (a) keep a record in a form satisfactory to the registrar of the activities that the dental assistant undertakes for the purpose of this section; and
 - (b) provide copies of the record referred to in clause (a) on the request of and in accordance with the directions of the registrar.

11. Additional requirements

For the purpose of clause 12(2)(k), subclause 22(2)(a)(v.1) and clause 24(4)(g) of the Act, an applicant or dental assistant, as the case may be, shall hold current certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid.

Special Registration**12. Special registration**

- (1) Where the Council directs the registrar to register an applicant pursuant to subsection 13(3) of the Act, the registrar shall register the applicant in the special registration part.

No renewal or reinstatement

- (2) Special registration may not be renewed or reinstated.

PART 3 - DESIGNATIONS AND RESERVED ACTIVITIES**13. Designations of a member**

For the purpose of subsection 89(1) of the Act, the designations of a dental assistant include the following titles, abbreviations or initials:

- (a) dental assistant or DA;
- (b) registered dental assistant or RDA.

14. Reserved activities

Subject to any terms or conditions imposed on the dental assistant's registration, a dental assistant is authorized to perform the following reserved activities on the order or under the supervision of a dentist:

- (a) performing a procedure on the surfaces of the teeth;
- (b) applying or ordering the application of electrical energy to conduct an X-ray for the purpose of dental screening, diagnosis or treatment;
- (c) administering anticariogenic agents, bleaching agents, desensitizing agents and pit and fissure sealants;
- (d) administering a local anesthetic drug topically.

PART 4 - GENERAL**15. Name of corporation**

- (1) For the purpose of clause 15(1)(d) of the Act, the name of a corporation applying for a permit to carry on the business of providing the professional services of a

dental assistant shall be, in the opinion of the registrar, in good taste, dignified and professional.

Change of name

- (2) Before changing its name, a health profession corporation shall obtain written confirmation from the registrar that the proposed name meets the requirements of subsection (1).

16. Commencement

These regulations come into force on March 1, 2023.