

EFDA (EXPANDED FUNCTIONS DENTAL ASSISTANT) TOOLKIT

EFDA GUIDELINES & STATUTES IN CONNECTICUT



Abbreviated Credentials

CDA= *Certified Dental Assistant*

COA= *Certified Orthodontic Assistant*

CRFDA= *Certified Restorative Functions Dental Assistant*

CPFDA= *Certified Preventative Functions Dental Assistant*

EFDA= *Expanded Functions Dental Assistant*



EFDA Requirements in Connecticut

What does CT require to become certified?

Connecticut requires a current **CDA**, completion of an approved expanded function dental assistant education program, and the required DANB exams.

Certification Requirements

- **CDA certification:** Pass the Dental Assisting National Board's Infection Control, Radiology, and General Chairside Exam.
- **Education program:** Successfully complete an expanded function dental assistant education program meeting Connecticut state requirements.
- **Professional status:** A CDA is required before becoming an EFDA.

CPFDA Exams Required (through DANB):

- **CP** — Coronal Polishing
- **SE** — Sealants
- **TF** — Topical Fluoride

CRFDA Exams Required (through DANB):

- IM — Impressions
- SE — Sealants
 - If passed as part of CPFDA, candidate will not have to retake to earn CRFDA certification if they passed the SE exam within 3 years preceding completion of all other CRFDA certification exams.
- TMP — Temporaries
- RF — Restorative Functions

Insurance requirement: Maintain professional liability insurance or other indemnity against liability for professional malpractice in an amount not less than five hundred thousand dollars for one person, per occurrence, with an aggregate liability of not less than one million five hundred thousand dollars while employed as an expanded function dental assistant.

Connecticut EFDA Education Program Requirements

Be a
certified
dental
assistant
with 2 years
experience

Complete an
expanded functions
dental assisting
program offered by
a CODA accredited
institution in any
state aligning with
CT requirements

Pass the
DANB
preventative
functions
exam

EFDA programs
offer the hands-
on portion and
are not required
to prepare the
student for any of
the above exams

Pass the
DANB
restorative
functions
exam

Can be
done in
any order

CT law specifies that the education for EFDAs must:

1. **Institution of higher education:** Consist of an expanded function dental assistant program at an institution of higher education.
2. **CODA accreditation:** Be offered at a Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA)-accredited dental assisting, dental hygiene or dental program.
3. **Didactic and laboratory training:** Include educational courses relating to didactic and laboratory preclinical objectives for skills used by an EFDA and require demonstration of such skills prior to advancing to clinical practice.
4. **Ethics education:** Include not less than four hours of education in the area of Ethics and Professional Standards for Dental Professionals.
5. **Clinical examination:** Include a comprehensive clinical examination administered by the institution of higher education at the conclusion of such program.

Documentation of Completed EFDA Requirements

- **Current CDA or COA certificate** issued by DANB
- **Certificate of completion or transcript** showing completion of EFDA Program meeting CT requirements issued by DANB
- **CPFDA or CPFDA component exam certificates** issued by DANB
- **CRFDA or CRFDA component exam certificates** issued by DANB
- **Infection Control continuing education:** As of July 1, 2018, the state of CT requires EFDAs to complete 1 hour of education in Infection Control in a dental setting every 2 years.

** Employer must maintain copies of documents and have available for DPH**

Continuing Education

- **DANB certification:** Maintain DANB CDA or COA certification and complete DANB's Recertification Requirements annually.
- **CDE credits:** Including 12 CDE credits for certificants who hold one DANB certification.
- **CPR/BLS/ACLS:** Maintain DANB-accepted hands-on CPR, BLS, or ACLS.

Connecticut Statutes: Duties an EFDA May Perform

- **Fluoride varnish treatments:** Provision of fluoride varnish treatments under the direct supervision of a licensed dentist.
- **Temporary restorations:** The placing, finishing and adjustment of temporary restorations and long-term individual fillings, capping materials and cement bases.
- **Oral health education:** Oral health education for patients.
- **Coronal polishing:** Coronal polishing; not represented or billed as prophylaxis.
- **Topical anesthetic:** Administration of topical anesthetic under the direct supervision of the dentist prior to the administration of local anesthetic by a dentist or dental hygienist.
- **Alginate impressions:** Taking alginate impressions of teeth, under the direct supervision of the dentist, for use in study models, orthodontic appliances, whitening trays, mouth guards or fabrication of temporary crowns.
- **Dental sealants**

Prohibited Activities

Under no circumstances may a dental assistant or EFDA engage in:

- **Diagnosis:** Diagnosis for dental procedures or dental treatment.
- **Tissue removal:** The cutting or removal of any hard or soft tissue or suturing.
- **Prescribing medications:** Prescribing of medications that require the written/oral order of a licensed dentist or physician.
- **Anesthetic agents:** Administration of local, parenteral, inhalation or general anesthetic agents; connected to operative procedures.
- **Final impressions:** Taking of any final impression; for the purpose of fabricating any appliance or prosthesis.
- **Dental hygiene practice:** The practice of dental hygiene as defined in section 20-126l.

It's all on the dentist...

- The State of Connecticut does not issue a state certificate of certification to dental assistants who have met all EFDA requirements.
- **It is the supervising dentist's responsibility, before delegating any EFDA functions to any dental assistant, to verify that the dental assistant has met ALL of the state's EFDA requirements.**

