



Dental Assisting National Board, Inc.

Measuring Dental Assisting Excellence®

CRFDA®

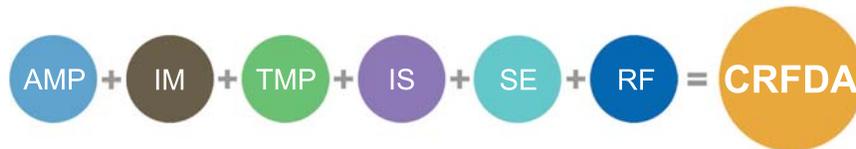
Certified Restorative Functions Dental Assistant Certification Program Overview

DANB's Certified Restorative Functions Dental Assistant (CRFDA) certification and component exams are an objective measure of knowledge-based competency in the critical restorative functions that qualified dental assistants regularly perform in states that allow such duties to be delegated. CRFDA certification consists of the following component exams:

CRFDA Component Exam	Number of Questions	Allotted Time
Anatomy, Morphology and Physiology (AMP)	105 multiple-choice questions	80 minutes
Impressions (IM)	80 multiple-choice questions	60 minutes
Temporaries (TMP)	80 multiple-choice questions	60 minutes
Sealants (SE)	50 multiple-choice questions	45 minutes
Isolation (IS)	60 multiple-choice questions	45 minutes
Restorative Functions (RF)	105 multiple-choice questions	80 minutes

Candidates may take each component exam separately or in the following groupings:

- Group 1 — Anatomy, Morphology and Physiology (AMP)
- Group 2 — Impressions (IM); Temporaries (TMP)
- Group 3 — Isolation (IS); Sealants (SE); Restorative Functions (RF)



Eligibility Requirements

There are no eligibility requirements to take five of the six components of the CRFDA certification program. However, a candidate must meet eligibility requirements and submit required documentation to take the Restorative Functions (RF) component exam and to earn CRFDA certification.

All of the CRFDA component exams must be passed within three years to earn CRFDA certification, and candidates must hold a current CPR card. The eligibility pathways are as follows:

- Pathway I** Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) (must be current or lapsed no more than 2 years)
- Pathway II** Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA)-accredited dental assisting program graduate *(See note at the end of this document for information on a proposed change.)*
- Pathway III** Successfully complete an EFDA or restorative course/program from an institution with a CODA-accredited dental assisting or dental school program; dentist must verify individual's employment as a dental assistant for a minimum of 3,500 hours within the previous 2-4 years

Exam Administration

CRFDA component exams are administered six days a week at more than 250 secure, proctored computerized testing centers nationwide.

Background

Recognizing that many states are expanding the duties that may be delegated to qualified dental assistants in the areas of preventive and restorative functions, in February 2011, DANB's Board of Directors approved the development of the Certified Restorative Functions Dental Assistant (CRFDA) certification. DANB staff compiled and analyzed information about state requirements for delegating restorative functions to dental assistants and then used this information to propose functions to be tested on the CRFDA exam, the grouping of functions within individual component exams, and CRFDA certification program eligibility requirements.

Program Development and Launch

DANB held webinars and forums with representatives of its communities of interest in fall 2011. Proposals were developed and provided to DANB's Expanded Functions Dental Assistant (EFDA) Exam Committee, which made recommendations to DANB's Examination Programs Committee. DANB's Examination Programs Committee then made CRFDA program recommendations to DANB's Board of Directors, which approved the CRFDA program at the Board's February 2012 meeting.

The CRFDA component exams were pretested from August 1, 2012, through November 30, 2012. DANB's Board reviewed the DANB Examination Programs Committee's CRFDA pretest data and approved the committee's recommended passing standards. CRFDA component exam results, certificates and certifications, if earned, were mailed to pretest candidates at the end of January 2013. DANB officially launched the CRFDA certification program in April 2013, with the publication of the CRFDA exam application packet on its website. Administration of the CRFDA component exams began May 1, 2013.

About DANB

DANB is recognized by the American Dental Association as the national certification board for dental assistants. DANB's mission is to promote the public good by providing credentialing services to the dental community. For those dental assistants who meet the eligibility and exam requirements, DANB certification may be earned in the areas of Certified Dental Assistant (CDA), Certified Orthodontic Assistant (COA), Certified Preventive Functions Dental Assistant (CPFDA) or Certified Restorative Functions Dental Assistant (CRFDA). In addition to these national certifications, DANB offers certificates of knowledge-based competency in Radiation Health and Safety (RHS); Infection Control (ICE); Coronal Polish (CP); Sealants (SE); Topical Anesthetic (TA); Topical Fluoride (TF); Anatomy, Morphology and Physiology (AMP); Impressions (IM); Temporaries (TMP); and Isolation (IS).

DANB's CDA and COA certification programs are accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies. Currently, there are more than 35,000 DANB certificants nationwide, and DANB certifications and certificates of knowledge-based competency are recognized or required in 38 states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Air Force and the Department of Veterans Affairs. Passing DANB's exams demonstrates a dental assistant's competency in areas that are important to the health and safety of oral healthcare workers and patients alike.

(Note: At its January 30-31, 2015 meeting, DANB's Board of Directors will be considering whether to modify eligibility requirements for the RF exam to make it easier for licensed/registered dental hygienists to meet prerequisites.)