

Iowa Dental Board

The Iowa Dental Board meeting was held Friday, April 1, 2022 for attendance either in person at the Dental Board office or via Zoom. Attendees included representatives from the Iowa Dental Association (IDA) and IDA lobbyists; the Iowa Dental Hygiene Association (IDHA) and lobbyist; a representative from Delta Dental of Iowa; and licensees.

There were changes in the dental board members. Chair Dr. Monica Foley's term on the board ended. Dr. Thomas Peek will be a board member and will join the board at the next meeting, June 3, 2022.

The meeting primarily focused discussion on Dental Assistant Rules and Proposed Expanded Function Rules. The Dental Assistant Rules proposals involved the length of time for assistant trainee status and testing for assistant trainees.

Proposed Expanded Function Rules were presented for discussion involving expanded function categories including Basic Level 1 which allows assistants to choose specific functions and Certified Level 1 which requires assistants to be trained in all the level 1 functions.

Similarly, the proposed rules involving Expanded Function Level 2 included Basic Level 2 functions which allows assistants to train in some of the level 2 functions. Alternatively, dental assistants could choose to become Certified Level 2 which required training in all of the level 2 functions.

The lists of expanded functions for level 1 and level 2 were changed and revised. Notably, bonding systems, orthodontic procedures, and desensitizing agents were separated. Tissue conditioning a denture and intracoronal temporary fillings were moved from level 2 to level 1.

These proposals were intended for discussion only today. They have not become rules. The board will review today's discussion and comments from interested parties. These issues will be further discussed at the next board meeting.

The next dental board meeting is scheduled in June 3, 2022. Please consider attending the meeting. The meeting will be offered in person at the Iowa Dental Board office or via Zoom. Zoom makes the meetings accessible to all dentists in the state. The dental board respects and appreciates the attendance and

involvement of dental licensees. Our presence and voices absolutely, positively make a difference. Please attend in person or via Zoom to support dentistry with your presence.

Dr. Stephen R. Thies
Legislative Chair
Iowa Academy of General Dentistry