

313.045 Administrative regulations governing dental assistants.

- (1) The board shall promulgate administrative regulations in accordance with KRS Chapter 13A to define registration requirements, duties, training, and standards of practice that may be performed by a dental assistant who has a minimum of one (1) year of dental office experience.
- (2) The board shall approve the instructor and the courses of study for approving duties, training, and standards of practice that may be performed by a registered dental assistant.
- (3) A registered dental assistant shall practice under the supervision, order, control, and full responsibility of a dentist licensed under this chapter.
- (4) A registration issued to a registered dental assistant shall be continuously displayed in a conspicuous place in the office of the licensee.
- (5) Supervising dentists shall only assign to registered dental assistants procedures that do not require the professional competence of a licensed dentist or a licensed dental hygienist.
- (6) Registered dental assistant services may include coronal polishing, a cosmetic procedure that is not essential to therapeutic oral prophylaxis, if the following criteria are observed:
 - (a) Polishing activities are limited to the use of a rubber cap attached to a slow-speed rotary dental handpiece or dental hygiene cordless polisher;
 - (b) The assistant has received a certificate from the board's approved instructor that ensures the assistant has successfully completed a dental assisting course developed by the board and a committee of dental educators from the Kentucky institutions of dental education accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation; and
 - (c) The dental assisting course includes basic dental assisting and coronal polishing instruction that includes didactic, preclinical, clinical training, and competency testing.
- (7) Registered dental assistant services shall not include the following:
 - (a) Diagnosis;
 - (b) Treatment planning and prescription, including prescriptions for drugs or medicaments, or authorization for restorative, prosthodontic, or orthodontic appliances; and
 - (c) Surgical procedures on hard or soft tissues of the oral cavity, or any other intraoral procedure that contributes to or results in an irreversible alteration of the oral anatomy.
- (8) A licensed dentist may delegate the taking of radiographs to registered dental assistants who have completed board-approved training in radiography technique and safety. The course completion certificate shall be maintained by the supervising dentist and be made available to the board upon request.

Effective: April 13, 2026

History: Amended 2026 Ky. Acts ch. 131, sec. 8, effective April 13, 2026. -- Repealed and reenacted 2010 Ky. Acts ch. 85, sec. 8, effective July 15, 2010. -- Created 1964

Ky. Acts ch. 12, sec. 6.