

# DENTAL HEALTH AIDE RE-ENTRY GUIDELINES

## INTRODUCTION

The Dental Health Aide (DHA) Program recognizes the need for standardized guidelines for Dental Health Aides after an extended absence but unexpired certification. If the certification has expired the applicant will also follow 2.50.300.

## GOALS

To maintain Dental Health Aide clinical competency and ensure the delivery of quality health care to Alaska Native residents.

## DEFINITION OF TERMS

**Extended absence**--a period greater than six months during which the individual has not worked as a DHA.

### **Guidelines for Re-entry of DHA**

Training Level	Length of Absence	Guidelines
PDHA I and II EFDHA I and II	≤ 6 months	-Discretion of supervising dentist
DHAH DHAT	> 6 months < 2 years	-Clinical competency evaluation as defined by the Recertification Process Sec. 3.10.050
	≥ 2 years	-Clinical competency evaluation as defined by the Preceptorship Process Sec. 2.30.020(a)(2)

## RESPONSIBILITIES

### ROLE OF EMPLOYER

1. Coordinate the Re-entry process.
2. Provide orientation to the staff and DHA involved in the re-entry process.
3. Obtain copies of certification documents.
4. Facilitate BLS training as needed.
5. The clinical evaluation component will be overseen by the appropriate preceptor 2.30.010(a) who has an understanding of the DHA clinical evaluation process.
6. Develop an individualized plan based on the above evaluation (see guidelines grid).
7. Standing orders and clinical practice restrictions are determined by the supervising dentist.

## ROLE OF DHA

Complete a clinical evaluation experience during which the DHA will:

1. Participate actively in her/his own learning.
2. Select, with the preceptor, appropriate patient encounters to meet DHA's learning needs.
3. Ensure appropriate documentation is maintained based on above evaluation (see guidelines grid).

## ROLE OF PRECEPTOR COMPLETING CLINICAL EVALUATION

1. Provide adequate number of patient encounters to evaluate clinical skills competency.
2. Observe and evaluate appropriateness of assessments and plans.
3. Observe and evaluate clinical skills.
4. Co-sign completed chart notes.
5. Determine if DHA has met competency requirements.
6. Review the overall performance with the DHA.

## RE-ENTRY PACKET CONTENTS

DHA Re-entry Guidelines (this document)

DHA/T Preceptorship Checklist; or

DHA/T Observation Log/Checklist for Recertification

DHA Application Initial/ Change in Level/ Renewal of Certification

<http://www.akchap.org/html/chapcb/dha---certification-board-documents.html>