



Nova Scotia Dental Association

NSDA News Brief - June 25, 2020

Dispatch: An Important Message to Members Regarding NSCC Dental Assisting Students, No-Cost Access to Provincial PPE Supplies, NSDA Supply Hub Announcement . . . And More

An Important Message to Members Regarding NSCC Dental Assisting Students

The March 2020 closure of NSCC campuses due to COVID -19 prevented Dental Assisting students from completing their patient care requirements, delaying their work experience placement and graduation. Since that time, we have been working with various stakeholders on a completion of their required

academic program. This plan has now been approved at the regulatory and college level, with face to face classroom training slated to recommence on August 24th. At this time, we are limited to practice on mannequins. As a result, the Dental Assisting Program is asking you and the dental community to assist us and our learners by including teaching and learning experiences as part of their work experience placements.

In accordance with the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC), students completing their work experience in your dental practice must be provided a specific number of patient experiences. The skills that require a specific number of experiences are listed below. When the final practice is accomplished by the student for each of these specific skills, a separate competency document must be completed and signed by the dentist.

Skills Requiring Specific # of Experiences	Min # Req
Oral hygiene instruction.	3
Dietary counselling relative to oral health.	3
Selective rubber cup polishing.	3
Application of anticariogenic agents.	2
Application of desensitizing agents.	2
Application of pit and fissure sealants.	2

In addition to the skills requiring separate competency evaluation, a list of all other skills the student may perform in your dental practice will be provided. **The program requests that students be given as many opportunities as possible to practice all skills as outlined in the Canadian Dental Assisting Legal Scope of Practice for Nova Scotia Dental Assistants.**

The NSCC Dental Assisting program appreciates and welcomes interest from

dental practices in this student experience. It should be noted that an expression of interest does not guarantee a student placement for your office. Along with the completion of the NSCC Pre-Placement documentation forms for On-Site Work experiences, each placement requires College approval by the Dental Assisting Program. NSDA Members will be invited to a July webinar explaining the student placement process.

Dentists who are interested in providing this learning opportunity for a Dental Assisting student should forward their contact information to jacqueline.snooks@nsc.ca. After attending the webinar, interested offices will be contacted by the NSCC Dental Assisting program to complete the student placement agreement.

No-Cost Access to Provincial PPE Supplies

Below is a link to a letter sent by Dr. Kevin Orrell, Nova Scotia's deputy minister of health [offering NSDA members no-cost access to provincial PPE supplies](#). On the second page of the letter is a link to request this no-cost PPE and an email should you have any questions. The letter also advises that government will be extending its MSI tele-dentistry funding until September 30th.

Note: Although the letter is dated June 19, it was received by the NSDA yesterday.

Click [here](#) to see the attached memo.

NSDA Supply Hub Announcement

At the NSDA AGM, members in attendance heard about NSDA Supply Hub, a new member service that will be launched this summer to bring group purchasing power to NSDA members with preferred pricing on dental supplies. Sowingo, the company behind NSDA Supply Hub, is already providing Supply Hub to the member dentists of the ODA in Ontario and also in British Columbia. NSDA Supply Hub will be joining this list and offering it as a free service to NSDA members. To pre-register for the service launch that will happen later this summer, click here: <https://www.sowingo.com/nsda/>

New Buy & Sell Section on Online Member Community

You can now post items for sale and items you are looking to buy on the NSDA community site.

There is a Buy & Sell button on the main home page of the NSDA community site (you may need to scroll down if viewing via a mobile device). Click the button and complete the form, and we will post it to the community site. You can also use the same form to request an item to be removed once sold.

NSDA Membership Dues

Invoices for NSDA membership dues have been mailed and you should receive them shortly.

Relinquishing your NSDA Membership

If you are considering giving up your NSDA membership (relinquishing your license) due to retirement, maternity, or some other reason, separate notification in writing to both the NSDA and the Provincial Dental Board is

required. **If written notice is received by June 30, no dues amount will be payable**; if relinquishment date is beyond June 30, please contact the NSDA office to discuss the financial implications of your timing. Information about relinquishment is also available through the Relinquish Guide in the member section of the NSDA's website. To access the Relinquish Guide:

1. Go to www.nsdental.org
2. Click "Member Login" at the top of the page. This will take you to a login screen.
3. Enter your regular username and password.
4. Once logged in, click "Relinquish Guide" in the menu under the My Account tab.



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