

CORONAL POLISHING COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Course outline, objectives, evaluation mechanism and curriculum vitae of the faculty member must be submitted to the Board at least thirty (30) days before date of scheduled course for approval.

The program of education shall include a minimum of three (3) hours of coursework and successful completion of a written examination by a score of at least 75%. Clinical competence will be assessed through documented clinical experiences by the supervising dentist.

Objectives for the course must include:

- Review of patient's medical history to determine any contraindications;
- Review of infection control, standard precautions and transfer of diseases;
- Dental tissues surrounding the teeth and dental anatomy and nomenclature;
- Rationale for performing coronal polishing and selective polishing theory;
- Beneficial and adverse effects of coronal polishing;
- Definition of plaque, types of stain, calculus, and related terminology and topics;
- Principles of selecting abrasives and polishing agents and their effect on tooth structure and restorative materials;
- Types of equipment and materials used and proper maintenance of equipment;
- Proper use of auxiliary polishing aids, their functions and correct flossing technique;
- Correct technique for coronal polishing to include: correct positioning for patient/operator (ergonomics), grasp, use of fulcrum, use of dental light and mirror vision, speed of handpiece, use of rheostat and correct rubber cup stroke and procedure;
- Procedures to follow in case of medical emergencies; and
- Dental ethics, jurisprudence and legal understanding of procedures allowed by each dental team member.

Requirement for clinical competency assessment:

- After successful completion of the coronal polishing course and exam by the candidate, the supervising dentist shall personally observe the following successful tasks by a dental assistant on five (5) separate patients.
 - Identifying calculus, plaque, intrinsic and extrinsic stains;
 - Selection of appropriate abrasives and polishing agents;
 - Polishing exposed surfaces of the teeth;
 - Evaluate the extent of plaque and stain removal; and
 - Adherence to infection control protocols.

DENTAL ASSISTANTS FROM ANOTHER STATE

Dental Assistants from another state with prior education and training, equivalent to the program and education as outlined above in these guidelines, may submit their certification and application to the Board office for review. Documented clinical experiences by the supervising dentist are required.