DENTAL HEALTH AIDE
RE-ENTRY GUIDELINES

Section D1.30.200

INTRODUCTION

The Community Health Aide Program recognizes the need for standardized guidelines for Dental Health Aides (DHA) after an extended absence from direct patient care. If their certification has lapsed, the applicant will also follow requirements in Section D1.30.200 [DHA Re-Entry].

GOALS

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

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Extended Clinical Absence – A Clinical Absence greater than 6 months during which the individual has not worked as a DHA doing direct patient care for a minimum of 40 hours and 20 patient encounters.

Appropriate Supervisor – See section D2.10.100 [Supervision of DHAs]

GUIDELINES FOR DHA RE-ENTRY

Training Level	Length of Clinical Absence	Guidelines
PDHA I and II EFDHA I and II DHAH, DHAT, DHATP	≤ 6 months < 2 years	-Clinical competency evaluation as defined by the recertification process in Sec. D1.30.100(c)
	≥ 2 years	-Clinical competency evaluation as defined by the corresponding preceptorship requirements for the DHA level and skillsets seeking recertification for

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. Make sure that these decisions and the supervision required are done by an Appropriate Supervisor as defined by D2.20.100 [Supervision of DHAs] who has an understanding of the DHA clinical evaluation process.
6. Develop an individualized plan based on the above guidelines.

ROLE OF DHA

1. Participate actively in her/his own learning.
2. Help select appropriate patient encounters.
3. Ensure appropriate documentation is maintained.
4. Make sure that all requirements are met.

ROLE OF APPROPRIATE SUPERVISOR COMPLETING CLINICAL EVALUATION

1. Provide adequate number of patient encounters to evaluate knowledge, skills and clinical competency as defined by their specific scope of practice as defined in the CHAPCB Standards and Procedures.
2. Observe and evaluate appropriateness of assessments and plans.
3. Observe and evaluate clinical skills.
4. Document direct supervision in chart notes.
5. Determine if DHA has met competency requirements.
6. Review the overall performance with the DHA.
7. Make any needed modifications to standing orders.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

1. DHA Preceptorship Checklist; or DHA Observation Log/Checklist for Recertification
2. DHA Application Initial/ Change in Level/ Renewal of Certification