

HB 2996

State Representative Hai Pham, HD 36

Current Oregon Rules

- Dentist and Hygienist are currently able to attest that dental assistants are proficient at taking radiographs.
- Obtain verification of competence from a licensed dentist of having been employed for at least 1,000 hours (outside the state of Oregon) in the past two years as a dental assistant taking radiographs
- Those coming from another state with 1,000 hours of radiologic experience can get a certificate.
- 13 other States don't require a Radiologic Proficiency Certificate (WA, Idaho, Alaska, New York...)

Eligibility Pathways for Radiologic Proficiency Certificate in Oregon

Performance of radiography procedures by dental assistants is regulated by the Oregon Board of Dentistry (OBD) and requires that dental assistants earn a certificate in radiologic proficiency. The Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. (DANB), on behalf of the OBD, administers the Radiologic Proficiency Certificate program, a service that includes providing information regarding exams and certificates, distributing materials, administering the required exam, and issuing certificates.

A dental assistant must meet the following requirements to earn an Oregon Radiologic Proficiency Certificate:

Pathway I

1. Complete an Oregon Board of Dentistry-approved course of instruction in radiography

Acceptable documentation includes:

- Copy of transcript, diploma, radiology course completion certificate OR
- Signed and dated letter (on letterhead) from the approved school/course provider verifying completion of the radiology course

AND

2. Pass the DANB Radiation Health and Safety (RHS®) exam

Documentation of passing is already on file with DANB and does not need to be submitted.

AND THEN

3. Obtain verification from an Oregon licensed dentist or dental hygienist that the dental assistant is proficient to take radiographs within six months of first being authorized to take radiographs*

**A dentist or dental hygienist may authorize a dental assistant who has completed the course and written exam requirements to perform radiographic procedures under the indirect supervision of a dentist, dental hygienist or dental assistant who holds an Oregon Radiologic Proficiency Certificate; the dental assistant must submit verification of proficiency within six months of first being authorized to perform radiography.*

AND THEN

4. Apply to DANB for the Oregon Radiologic Proficiency Certificate.

Pathway II

1. Be certified in radiography in another state that has training and certification requirements substantially similar to Oregon's requirements

OR

Obtain verification from a licensed dentist of having been employed for at least 1,000 hours (outside the state of Oregon) in the past two years as a dental assistant taking radiographs

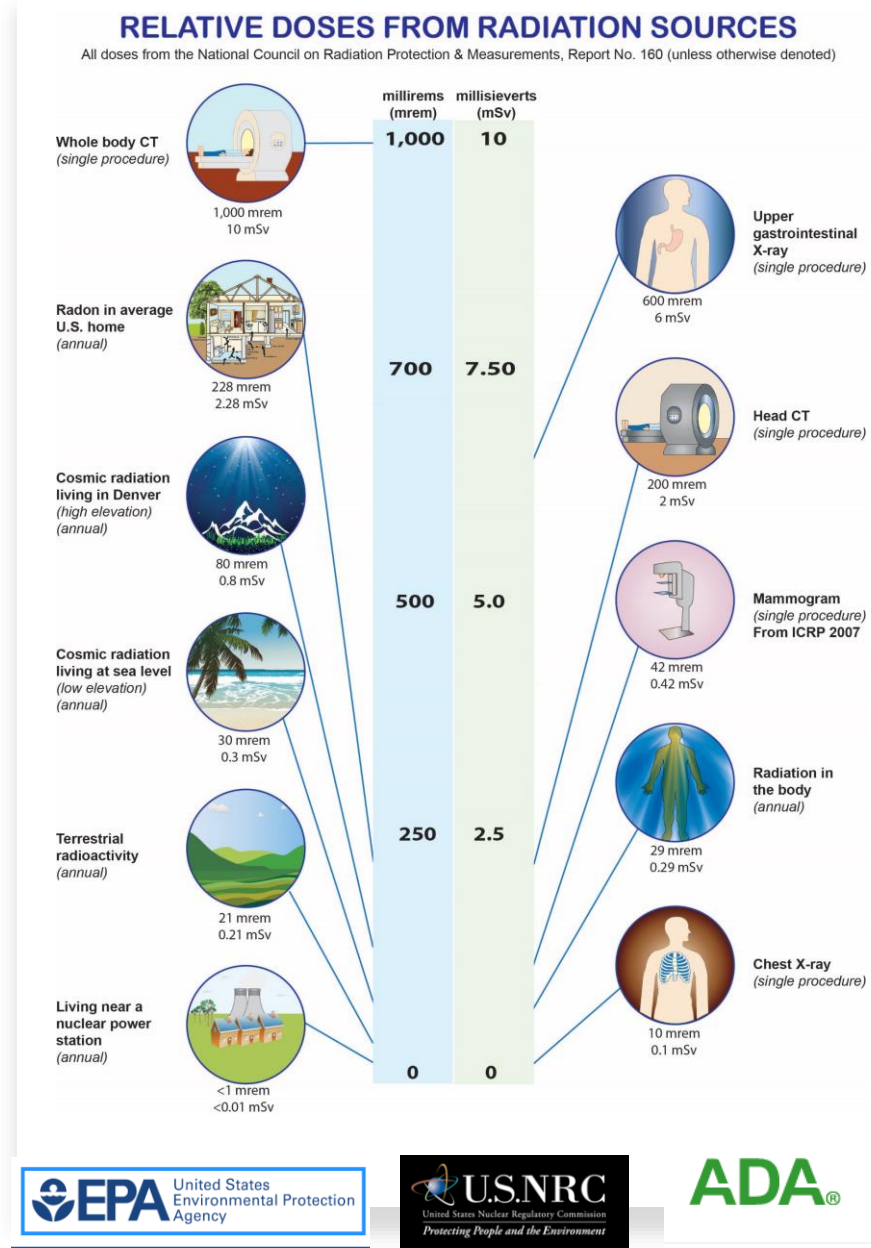
AND THEN

2. Apply to DANB for the Oregon Radiologic Proficiency Certificate.

Inquiries regarding exams, certificates, eligibility requirements and applications should be addressed to DANB.

Dental X-rays

- Single chest x-ray: 0.02 millisieverts (mSv) (2 mrem)
- Dental x-ray (four bitewings): 0.005 mSv (0.5 mrem)
- Panoramic x-ray: 0.026 mSv (26mrem)
- Cone-Beam Computed Tomography (CBCT): 0.011-1.073mSv (1.1mrem-107.3 mrem)
- Trans-Atlantic Flight (2.5 mrem)
- Mammogram (four images): 0.13 mSv (13 mrem)
- 620 mrem a year
- 310 mrem from Cosmic and Terrestrial sources.



Oregon Health Authority

- Lead aprons can be used as a precautionary measure if a facility chooses to use them for adult patients.
- Radiation Protection Services: Lead apron for pregnant patients.
- Individuals who want to remain in the room for during exposure
- Thyroid collars for Pediatric patients.



PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION
Center for Health Protection, Radiation Protection Services
Kate Brown, Governor


Oregon
Health
Authority

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Informational Bulletin 2016-02

February 18, 2016

To: Dental Facilities X-ray Machine Registrants and Interested Parties

From: David M. Howe, Program Director 
Radiation Protection Services

Subject: Use of Lead Aprons on Patients during Dental X-Ray Procedures

The Center for Health Protection, Radiation Protection Services (RPS) is releasing this informational bulletin to notify dental facilities they are no longer required to provide the patient with a lead apron while taking patient dental X-rays.

Oregon regulations have been repealed relating to the requirement of providing shielding to the adult patient during dental x-ray procedures. Over the last 50 years, X-ray equipment and procedures have been optimized with improved technology thereby significantly reducing radiation exposure to the patient. Lead aprons can be used as a precautionary measure if a facility chooses to use them.

RPS does recommend providing lead aprons to pregnant patients, individuals who choose to remain in the exam area during the exposure, and to any patient who requests the use of an apron. The International Atomic Energy Association (IAEA) does recommend providing a lead apron in vertex occlusal examinations which may provide some additional protection to the patient.

Thyroid collars should be provided to pediatric dental patients during x-ray examinations, especially if the thyroid could be in the direct beam. The thyroid gland, especially in children, is among the most sensitive organ to radiation which can induce both benign and malignant tumors. RPS is currently considering amending its regulations to require dental facilities to provide the pediatric patient with thyroid shielding when it will not interfere with the examination.

RPS based the above recommendations on dental lead apron use from guidance provided by the IAEA and the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements. If you would like further clarification, please feel free to contact Todd S. Carpenter, Radiation Protection Services, (971) 673-0500; email: Todd.s.carpenter@state.or.us.



How common are head and neck cancers?

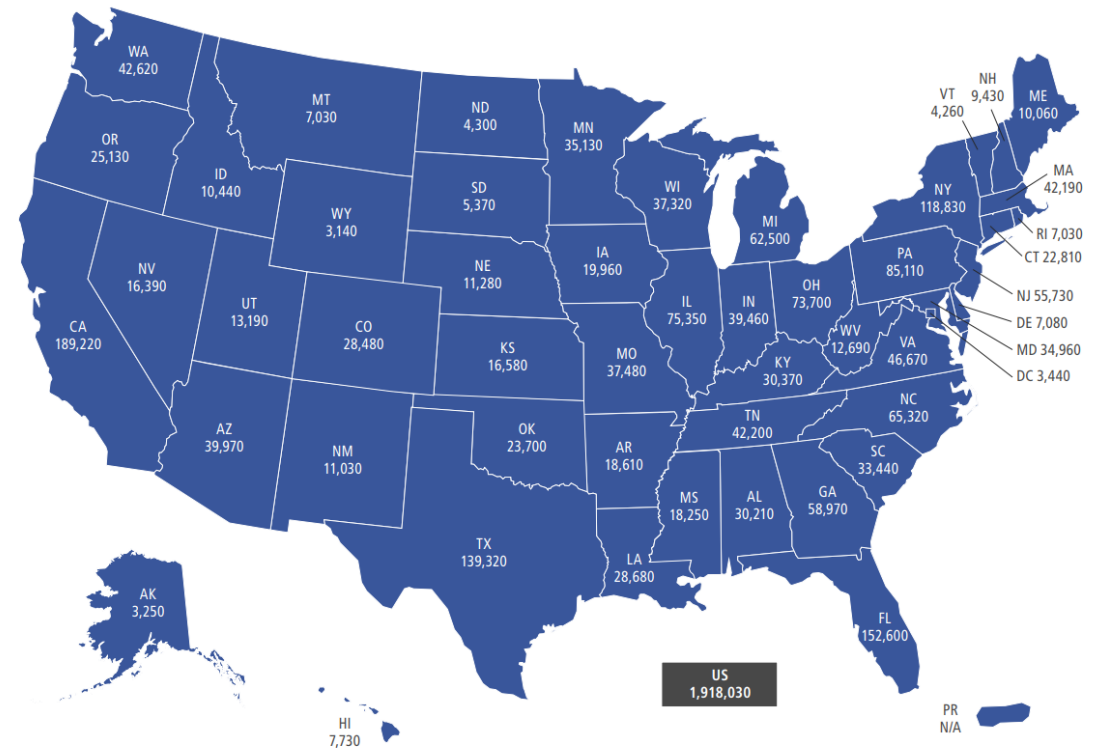
- [Alcohol](#) and [tobacco](#) are major risk factors for cancers of the head and neck.
- About 70% of cancers in the oropharynx (which includes the tonsils, soft palate, and base of the tongue) are linked to [human papillomavirus](#) (HPV), a common sexually transmitted virus.
- Thyroid cancer is linked with a number of inherited conditions, but the exact cause of most thyroid cancers is not yet known.

In 2022, 1,918,030 New Cancer Diagnosis Occurred

Thyroid Cancers accounted for 2.2 %



Cancer Facts & Figures 2022



ADA's Council on Dental Education and Licensure (CDEL)

Radiation Health and Safety Exam Test Results

2019-2020 69% pass rate

2020-2021 63% pass rate

DANB Exam Results

DANB will continue to monitor GC pass rates by eligibility pathway at its Winter Board meetings and will discuss what, if any, actions to take, and will once again report to CDEL in Fall 2022.

Pass/fail results for DANB national exams

Pass/Fail results for DANB national exams administered from 9/1/20 – 8/31/21

GC	FY 19-20	FY 20-21
Total candidates	2,732	3,990
Pass	2,220	3,085
Fail	512	905
Pass rate	81%	77%

RHS	FY 19-20	FY 20-21
Total candidates	9,246	12,648
Pass	6,361	7,972
Fail	2,885	4,676
Pass rate	69%	63%

ICE	FY 19-20	FY 20-21
Total candidates	5,025	6,481
Pass	3,835	4,595
Fail	1,190	1,886
Pass rate	76%	71%

OA	FY 19-20	FY 20-21
Total candidates	80	95
Pass	44	59
Fail	36	36
Pass rate	55%	62%

CP	FY 19-20	FY 20-21
Total candidates	398	442
Pass	250	307
Fail	148	135
Pass rate	63%	69%

SE	FY 19-20	FY 20-21
Total candidates	61	90
Pass	41	56
Fail	20	34
Pass rate	67%	62%

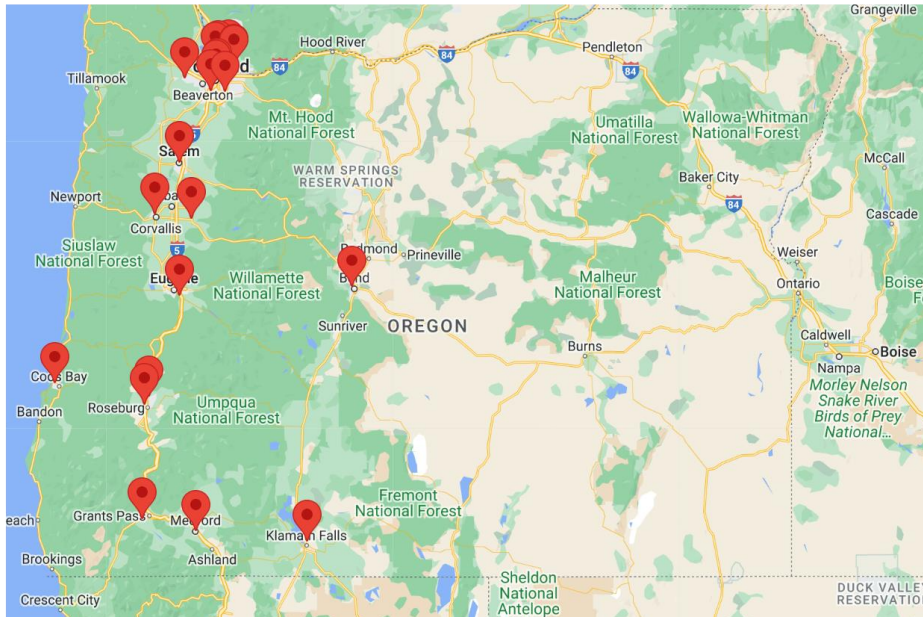
CDEL Report

Pass/fail results for DANB national exams

RHS	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	AMP	FY 18-19	FY 19-20
Total candidates	12,642	9,170	Total candidates	323	255
Pass	8,651	6,284	Pass	220	133
Fail	3,991	2,886	Fail	103	122
Pass rate	69%	69%	Pass rate	68%	52%
ICE	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	IM	FY 18-19	FY 19-20
Total candidates	6,976	4,495	Total candidates	16	21
Pass	5,286	3,755	Pass	15	18
Fail	1,690	1,190	Fail	1	3
Pass rate	76%	76%	Pass rate	94%	86%
GC	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	TMP	FY 18-19	FY 19-20
Total candidates	3,797	2,732	Total candidates	101	70
Pass	3,216	2,220	Pass	84	51
Fail	581	512	Fail	17	19
Pass rate	85%	81%	Pass rate	83%	73%
OA	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	RF	FY 18-19	FY 19-20
Total candidates	87	81	Total candidates	96	58
Pass	62	45	Pass	75	46
Fail	25	36	Fail	21	12
Pass rate	71%	56%	Pass rate	78%	79%
CP	FY 18-19	FY 19-20	The total number of DANB national exams administered in FY 19-20 was 17,831.		
Total candidates	504	399			
Pass	313	251			
Fail	191	148			
Pass rate	62%	63%			
SE	FY 18-19	FY 19-20			
Total candidates	72	61			
Pass	40	41			
Fail	32	20			
Pass rate	56%	67%			
TF	FY 18-19	FY 19-20			
Total candidates	40	39			
Pass	22	15			
Fail	18	24			
Pass rate	55%	38%			

Barriers to the Workforce & Access to Care

Sites that offer Courses



Oregon

- 0737 Central Oregon Community College
- 0664 Chemeketa Community College
- 0665 Lane Community College
- 0632 Linn-Benton Community College
- 0668 Portland Community College
- 0202 Umpqua Community College

6 Testing Centers or Proctored Online

