

New Mexico Advanced Certification Information

This form is valid through Dec. 31, 2024.

Congratulations on passing one or more of the expanded functions exams for New Mexico residents! You are now one step closer to earning state certification in expanded functions. Please note: Any enclosed certificates of knowledge-based competence do not qualify you to perform expanded functions in the state of New Mexico.

The New Mexico Board of Dental Health Care (NMBDHC) certifies dental assistants in expanded functions in the State of New Mexico. The NMBDHC recognizes the Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. (DANB) Coronal Polishing (CP) exam as its certification exam in rubber cup coronal polishing, the DANB Topical Fluoride (TF) exam as its certification exam in application of topical fluoride, and the DANB® Sealants (SE) exam as its certification exam in application of pit and fissure sealants.

In order to legally perform expanded functions under the general supervision of a licensed dentist in the state of New Mexico, a dental assistant must earn state certification in each of the desired expanded functions.

To obtain each New Mexico expanded functions certification, one must complete all of the following requirements:

Rubber Cup Coronal Polishing and Application of Topical Fluoride

1. Study by independent preparation or in a training course in the functions and assist with/observe five cases of rubber cup coronal polishing on children and/or adults and five applications of topical fluoride
2. Pass the DANB Coronal Polishing (CP) exam and the DANB Topical Fluoride (TF) exam
3. Apply to the NMBDHC for advanced certification in coronal polishing and application of topical fluoride
4. Pass the New Mexico take-home jurisprudence exam
5. Perform rubber cup coronal polishing on five adults and children and application of topical fluoride on five children while being personally observed by a dentist, dental hygienist, or dental assistant certified in rubber cup coronal polishing and topical fluoride

Application of Pit and Fissure Sealants*

1. Have 2,080 hours of dental assisting chairside experience in the two years prior to application
2. Study by independent preparation or in a training course in the function
3. Assist with/observe 12 pit and fissure sealant applications
4. Pass the DANB Sealants (SE) exam
5. Apply to the NMBDHC for advanced certification in pit and fissure sealants
6. Pass the New Mexico take-home jurisprudence exam
7. Perform application of pit and fissure sealants on five patients while being personally observed by a licensed dentist or dental hygienist

Apply for certification from the NMBDHC after completing all the above requirements.

All inquiries regarding certification, eligibility requirements and requests for certification applications should be addressed to: New Mexico Board of Dental Health Care, P.O. Box 25101, Santa Fe, NM 87504, or call 505-476-4680.

*The NMBDHC will issue a certificate to DANB Certified Dental Assistant™ (CDA®) certificants for rubber cup coronal polishing and application of topical fluoride, and application of pit and fissure sealants, without being required to meet the other requirements of this section. To request a current DANB CDA exam application packet, visit www.danb.org to download a copy or call 800-367-3262.

To apply for the CP, SE or TF exam(s), apply online at www.danb.org. You may also download DANB's Certified Preventive Functions Dental Assistant (CPFDA®) exam application packet at www.danb.org or call 800-367-3262. Exam candidates will be responsible for reading, understanding and complying with the policies and procedures in the *Candidate Handbook*, available at <https://www.danb.org/exams/forms-and-policies>.

Direct all questions regarding DANB exams to DANB at 800-367-3262 or danbmail@danb.org.