

# Texas Workforce Commission

A Member of Texas Workforce Solutions

Diane D. Rath, Chair  
Commissioner Representing  
the Public

Ron Lehman  
Commissioner Representing  
Employers

Ronald G. Congleton  
Commissioner Representing  
Labor

Larry E. Temple  
Executive Director

August 30, 2006

To The School Director Addressed:

The purpose of this letter is to notify all career schools offering Dental Assisting Programs that effective **September 1, 2006, the requirements for Registered Dental Assistants will change.** The Texas State Board of Dental Examiners will no longer use the three exam process to become a registered dental assistant. The new processes required A MANDATORY COURSE approved by the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners. The student will have to complete this course from an approved provider and pass the competency exam in order to be registered with the Board. This will enable that individual to take x-rays at a dental office. You will need to review approved providers at their website <http://www.tsbde.state.tx.us>; the link to this letters is on the homepage.

Because of this new requirement, your catalog must **delete** the information concerning the 3 exams (infection control, jurisprudence, and radiography) and **now disclose** this new information to the prospective dental assisting student. For consistency, we request that **all catalogs** read: "**Effective 09/01/06, to apply to become a registered dental assistant, a student must complete a mandatory short course approved by The Texas State Board of Dental Examiners. An approved provider list can be found on the TSBDE website: <http://www.tsbde.state.tx.us>. By law a dental assistant must be register with TSBDE in order to take x-rays at a dentist's office.**"

**Schools must submit catalog changes with a PS-04R by SEPTEMBER 30, 2006. All current students must be informed of this change.**

Please feel free to call or email one of the Program Staff if you have any questions:

Virginia Bosman at 512/936-9264 or [virginia.bosman@twc.state.tx.us](mailto:virginia.bosman@twc.state.tx.us);

Frank Hammack at 512/936-6591 or [frank.hammack@twc.state.tx.us](mailto:frank.hammack@twc.state.tx.us);

Nora Perez at 512/936-3253 or [nora.perez@twc.state.tx.us](mailto:nora.perez@twc.state.tx.us) ;

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Program Staff  
Career Schools

Enclosures  
PS-042R, Summary of Changes