



Your Quarterly News & Updates

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Greetings, Washington State Dental Laboratory members and friends! The 2021 4th Quarter Contact newsletter is filled with information about our upcoming events, Scholarship Opportunities, Industry News and much more.

President's Message - Gary Smotherman

As we transition from summer to fall, more changes are in the air for our association. Although, a lot has already happened this year with the WSDLA!

The Washington State Department of Health launched the new lab registration process in January 2021. We have been working hard to keep you, our members, updated on deadlines and details related to this new process. Stay tuned to our Facebook group, The Contact e-newsletter, and the WSDLA website for up to date information.



To read the full President's Message, please [click here](#).

Meetings

2021 WSDLA NW Lab Forum - Thanks for Attending!

Thanks to everyone that attended the **2021 NW Laboratory Forum** from June 25 - 27, 2021 at the Embassy Suites - Seattle/Bellevue. Check out some photos from the event below. From hands-on to awards, and from presentations to trade show, it was a great success! Your WSDLA Board is already hard at work planning 2022 NW Laboratory Forum! See below and stay tuned for more information.




Thank you to attendees, our excellent speakers, knowledgeable exhibitors, and generous sponsors!

Upcoming Meetings

2021 Roundtable Retreat & Annual Membership Meeting

This valuable event will be held in conjunction with the Washington State Dental Association (WSDA) Pacific Northwest Dental Conference (PNDC) 2021 onsite dental conference on **Friday, November 12, 2021 from 12:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.** at the Hyatt Regency Seattle, 808 Howell Street, Seattle, Washington. Representatives from the WA Department of Health will be present to discuss dental lab registration for 2022 and answer any questions from laboratory professionals. Please see WSDLA's event schedule on the attached registration form.



Health & Safety Policies
Oct. 7, 2021

COVID-19 Vaccine/Test Policy
A King County-issued order requires proof of vaccination or negative test for conferences/conventions, effective Oct. 25, 2021. In accordance with this mandate, **attendance at PNDC 2021 will require proof of vaccination or a negative PCR COVID test administered within 72 hours of arrival at registration.**

Mask Policy
Based on the current requirements set forth by Washington state, **both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals are required to wear masks while indoors at PNDC 2021.**

[Learn More at wsda.org/pndcsafety](https://www.wsda.org/pndcsafety)

For more information about the PNDC meeting: <https://www.wsda.org/continuing-education/pacific-northwest-dental-conference>

Please note that there are some safety policies currently in place for the PNDC 2021:

- **COVID-19 Vaccine/Test Policy:** A King County-issued order requires proof of vaccination or negative test for conferences/conventions, effective Oct. 25, 2021. In accordance with this mandate, attendance at PNDC 2021 will require proof of vaccination or a negative PCR COVID test administered within 72 hours of arrival at registration.
- **Mask Policy:** Based on the current requirements set forth by Washington state, both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals are required to wear masks while indoors at PNDC 2021.
- Learn more at [wsda.org/pndcsafety](https://www.wsda.org/pndcsafety).

Space is limited so please register today to ensure your spot at this important event!

2022 WSDLA NW Lab Forum

Save the Date for **March 18-20, 2022**. WSDLA will host the upcoming 2022 NW Lab Forum at the Embassy Suites Seattle-Bellevue. More details to come!

Member News

Get to Know Your New Board Member: Bob Hayes, CDT

How did you get into the dental laboratory industry?

I started in the dental lab industry by getting a job as a delivery driver for a denture lab in Everett in 1997. Dale Sperry, the owner, would let me look over his shoulder between deliveries and I was fascinated by the artistic nature of the work. He soon trained me to set teeth and process dentures. Soon after I decided to make this my career and enrolled in the Bates Technical College Dental Lab Tech program, graduating in 2000.

To read the full interview with Bob, [click here](#).



WSDLA - Welcome New Student Members!



WSDLA is delighted to welcome new student members to our organization!

The WSDLA Board approved the following new members:

Ashley Blake
Benjamin Niu
Brenda Miles
Cassandra Trimble
Darren TyRon Vaught, Jr.
Darryl Kelleher
Eri Waggoner
Graham Babbitt
Heather Choi
Jess Kelley
Kayla Van Horn
Lilly Le
Madeline Slabaugh
Suet Ling Chan
Woorim Kim

A Call for WSDLA Board Member Nominations

WSDLA is currently accepting nominations for the 2022 Board of Directors. Elected individual(s) will serve a 1-year term beginning January 1, 2022.

To make a nomination, please complete the nomination form below with the name and company name of a WSDLA member who you think will be a good addition to the WSDLA Board of Directors. Directors going off the Board may be re-nominated to serve an additional term, and you may also nominate yourself.

Staff will verify that the nominee is a current member in good standing. And a *Letter of Willingness to Serve on the Board of Directors* will be forwarded to each candidate. Per our bylaws, a ballot listing all candidates that are willing to serve will be sent to all current WSDLA board members. Votes will be

tallied by staff and any new board members will be announced to the board and notified of their appointment to the board by staff. All other nominees will be added to a list of future WSDLA board members that the board can utilize as new slots come open.

Once completed, the nomination form should be emailed to wsdla@executiveoffice.org. All nomination forms must be received by the WSDLA Office by end of day Friday, 10/29/2021.

2022 WSDLA Board Nomination Form

Classified Ads

NOW HIRING: Experienced Ceramist Wanted!

Experienced Ceramist Wanted! – Protea Dental Studio – Redmond, WA

Whether you are a talented ceramist or growing and developing your skills, we invite enthusiastic, self-motivated technicians to apply for our available full-time position. At Protea Dental Studio in Redmond WA we enjoy an international reputation for excellence. Our team incorporates the latest technology and strives for the highest quality of work over quantity. We look forward to discussing the opportunities that are available for you today, you may reach us at info@proteadental.com or call 877-568-6181

Free Classified Ads! - WSDLA Member Benefit

Post your FREE classified ads for equipment, job openings, etc on the WSDLA website. As a member benefit, all WSDLA members receive free classified ad posting for up to 30 days. For more information and to send a request for a classified ad, please visit www.wsdla.com.



Industry News

State of the Union WSDA (House of Delegates)

Each year WSDA invites WSDLA to submit a report for their House of Delegates. The WSDLA report this year covers many topic areas, such as;

Our Mission: Washington State Dental Laboratory Association integrates education and communication to enable laboratories to operate with a competitive edge.

Our Vision: WSDLA is committed to assisting our members in planning and preparing for the future of their businesses to help them become more successful in the dental laboratory industry.

- WSDLA membership totals and description
- WSDLA support of continued education and certification of dental laboratories and dental technicians
- Lab registration legislation update, including 2020, 2021, and 2025 deadlines
- Plans for our upcoming Annual Meeting
- Challenges faced in recruiting dental technicians and our mutually beneficial relationship with Bates Technical College
- Our continued partnership with WSDA

Washington State Department of Health Newsletter & Updates


There have been some recent changes in staffing the the Washington State Department of Health. Trina Crawford, Executive Director for the Office of Health Professions, Health Systems Quality Assurance Division, with Washington State Department of Health is now the interim Executive Director for the Pharmacy Commission. Jennifer Santiago assumed the Executive Director position for Trina's professions in August. Bruce Bronoske, Jr. will maintain his role with Dental Hygiene Examining Committee (DHEC) as program manager; as well as becoming the program manager for DQAC, and Becky McElhiney will be serving as the program manager for dental labs in the interim. This staffing change is temporary until the Pharmacy Commission hires a permanent replacement. If you attended the 2021 WSDLA NW Lab Forum, you may remember Bruce's presentation about dental lab registration in the state of Washington. Even with the above mentioned changes, Bruce will still be available to assist Becky as she begins working with dental labs. Bruce's contact information remains the same:

BRUCE BRONOSKE, JR.
Program Manager – Athletic Training / Dental Hygiene / Dental Laboratories
Office of Health Professions
Health Systems Quality Assurance
Washington State Department of Health
bruce.bronoske@doh.wa.gov
360-236-4843 | www.doh.wa.gov
Deaf or hard of hearing call 711


Bruce was also kind enough to provide a copy of the recent DOH newsletter, as it contains an article about dental labs.

[Dental Quality Assurance Commission Newsletter - July 2021](#)


Dental Quality Assurance Commission – July 2021 Newsletter




E-Prescribing
The electronic prescribing rules will be in effect January 2022. [See what that means for you as a provider here.](#)




Licensure Renewal
[See reminders and tips for renewing your dental license here.](#)



Continuing Education
Dr. Aaron Stevens shared some information and tips about dental continuing education. [Read more here.](#)



Dental Labs
[Read reminders and best practices regarding utilizing dental labs here.](#)



Article Quick Links

- [E-prescribing](#)
- [Licensure Renewal](#)
- [Continuing Education](#)
- [Dental Labs](#)
- [Legal Actions](#)
- [Continuing Education Quiz](#)

Dental Rules and Laws

- [RCW 18.32](#)
- [WAC 246-817](#)
- [RCW 18.280](#)
- [RCW 18.350](#)
- [RCW 18.130](#)
- [WAC 246-12](#)
- [WAC 246-16](#)
- [RCW 70.02](#)

Technical Article

2021 Grant and Scholarship Opportunities!



The Mark Jackson Memorial Education Grant will award up to \$2,500 to supplement expenses related to an approved continuing education program the recipients wish to attend.

Application Deadline: November 15

[Apply Online Here](#)

[Download Application Here](#)



Created for 2021 in an effort to ensure the negative impacts of COVID-19 do not hinder the importance of maintaining the CDT designation, CDT Hardship Grant recipients will have their CDT renewal fee of \$170 covered.

Application Deadline: November 30 (for December CDT renewals)

[Apply Online Here](#)

[Download Application Here](#)

Vaccine Proclamation Summary

Governor Jay Inslee announced in August that workers in private health care (including dental offices) and long-term care settings, will be required to be fully vaccinated with a recommended COVID-19 vaccine by October 18, 2021. Please see below for an initial analysis and copy of the proclamation document.

[Read Proclamation Here](#)

Question

Whether in Washington State, Dental Laboratory Technicians or Denturists are subject to the vaccination requirement established by Proclamation 21-14?

Conclusion

Based on review of the proclamation and absent any additional currently available guidance, while dental laboratory technicians are not generally subject to the vaccination requirement, it appears that dental offices that engage a dental laboratory technician to perform services in-person and on-site (ie. chairside) are required to obtain proof that the dental laboratory technician is fully vaccinated. The vaccination requirement established by Proclamation 21-14 does apply to denturists.

Analysis

Proclamation 21-14 establishes a vaccination requirement for workers for state agencies and health care providers and prohibits:

Any individual or entity that operates a Health Care Setting from permitting a Health Care Provider to engage in work for the individual or entity as an employee, contractor, or volunteer after October 18, 2021 if the Health Care Provider has not been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and provided proof thereof to the individual or entity. Providers who do not work in a Health Care Setting must provide proof of vaccination to the operator of the facility in which the Provider works, if any, or, if requested, to a lawful authority. A lawful authority includes, but is not limited to, law enforcement, local health jurisdictions, and the state Department of Health.

The proclamation specifically applies the vaccination requirement to the health care providers included in the list of those subject to Healthcare Professional Credentialing Requirements. Denturists are among those listed and thus subject to the vaccination requirement.

Dental laboratory technicians are not included in those list of those subject to Healthcare Professional Credentialing Requirements, and unless dental laboratory technicians are otherwise deemed to be "Health Care Providers", the proclamation's vaccination requirement does not appear to directly apply to dental laboratory technicians.

However, the proclamation also applies to, "Individuals who are permitted by law to provide health care services in a professional capacity without holding a credential". Thus if a dental office engages a dental laboratory technician to perform services in-person and on-site (ie. chairside), and if the services provided are deemed health care services, the dental office will be required to obtain proof that the dental laboratory technician is fully vaccinated.

Note: The above analysis is based on the guidance available as of 8-10-21. Additional guidance is likely to be provided by rule or the courts and may impact the analysis contained herein.

Analysis provided by Eric Thorn, Esq., NADL

STAY CONNECTED

