



West Los Angeles College
Advisory Board Meeting
Dental Assistant Program
2/24/2021
12:30-1:30pm

In attendance: Sam Hansen, Pacific Dental Services; Rosalinda Olague, Pacific Dental Services, Dental Board of CA; Angela Martin, Pacific Dental Services; Tod Legassick, UCLA Pre-Hospital Ambulatory Care; Luis Moran, Pacific Dental Services; Tiffany Miller, Dean of Apprenticeship; Raquel Medina, Program Director Dental Assisting; Aaron Benitez, Articulation Officer; Carlos Sermeno, Chair of Health Sciences, Chanel Nungaray Pacific Dental Services; Carmen Dones, Dean of Academic Affairs.

Welcome and Introductions

Internship Partnership:

an internship partnership was established to provide internship opportunities for WLAC students in dental facilities across the Greater Los Angeles Area. Document, such as rubrics and sign-off forms need to be sent to Rosalinda to review, with a list of students. Rosalinda will send instructions on signing up on the PDS application page.

Internship Contract:

According to Mr. Legassick, the partnership contract has finally been approved by the LACCD and Pacific Dental Legal and is in the final review and signature stage.

Certificate of Achievement:

Discussion on developing a low-unit stackable certificate of achievement in basic or fundamentals in dental assisting for the high school students who currently complete 9-units and don't receive a certificate. Discussion on the need for more dental assistants with insurance knowledge pursued and there was consensus on developing the CoA. Courses suggested for the certificate included insurance and billing, Ca practice act, infection control, basic life support and possibly radiation safety. Ms. Medina stated she will align the courses accordingly. A vote was taken and was unanimous to develop a certificate of achievement in Fundamentals of Dental Assisting.

A discussion on the need for more orthodontist assistants occurred and whether a certificate of achievement for Orthodontist Assistant is needed. The consensus of the group was that a certificate of achievement would ensure competency. The recommendation was to develop the certificate using the program requirements from the dental board of CA so that the student receive an industry certification. The group voted unanimously to develop a CoA in Orthodontist Assistant.

Supplies and Materials:

Ms. Olague stated that PDS will send masks and other items to WLAC for the dental assisting students and requested a photo with students in the masks. She also stated that they will



provide all materials and supplies for clinical rotations for students during perspective clinical rotations.

Continuing Education Courses: Mr. Benitez informed the group that WLAC provide CE courses. A list of course offerings will be provided to Ms. Olague. Ms. Hansen identified the need for Pit and Fissure Sealants and Infection Control needed for some staff members. Further discussions will need to be had with PDS management for logistics.

Follow Up Meetings:

To ensure arrangements of student internships are fulfilled, regular meetings will be held with the Ms. Medina and managers from various PDS facilities where students are interning. The focus of the meetings will be on students who lack competency and need support from the college to be successful. Ms. Medina and Ms. Olague agreed to have regular meeting before the start of internships and during.

Mr. Benitez will send the list of CE courses to Ms. Olague to review. She will work with connect with Mr. Benitez after talking to management to discuss courses and schedule.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45.