Members of organized dentistry in 47 states can now save significantly on dental supply purchases through The Dentists Supply Company. The national presence for TDSC follows three phased rollouts that started in late 2018 and marks the latest move to extend tdsc.com’s savings to all 50 states by the end of the year.

CDA formed TDSC to answer members’ calls for more efficient and competitive supply purchasing for practices of every size. While the vision began with California dentists, tens of thousands of association members across the U.S. are now able and ready to embrace it.

“This is an exciting time for organized dentistry and dentists served by associations that are looking after their members’ best interests,” said Walt Weber, DDS, TDSC board chair. “Saving on supplies through tdsc.com is a member benefit that dentists from Maine to California have been eager to experience.”

Shoppers have saved more than $4 million since tdsc.com first launched in mid-2017. Savings on a broad selection of products available for purchase through tdsc.com are negotiated with the strength of membership’s collective buying power. While savings vary on a product-by-product basis, with average savings of 20% compared to MSRP, dentists can save the cost of their association membership many times over and invest back into their practices and patient care.

Among the newest tdsc.com shoppers are two New York dentists, who shared their experiences with the CDA Update.

What exactly is an alternative workweek schedule, and is it good news for employees and employers?

Labor Code section 511 and Wage Order 4 both provide regulations for alternative workweek schedules defined as “any regularly scheduled workweek schedule requiring an employee to work more than eight hours in a 24-hour period.”

While an employer may desire an alternative workweek schedule, the schedule must be presented to and approved by employees in any identified “work unit.”
Dentists say new process for reporting dental benefits issues is easy, convenient, fast

If you haven’t heard, CDA on April 1 launched a new process for members to report issues and questions related to dental benefits. Although CDA members have had access to a dedicated dental benefits analyst and Practice Support resources since 2009, the online submission form makes it easier for dentists to quickly reach out for assistance and submit their issues 24/7. In the short time since the online form was deployed, CDA members have remarked that the form is easy to use, fast and convenient.

In my column last month, I described the top 10 calls Practice Support receives that end with the dentist saying they wished they’d known about or contacted Practice Support before they made a decision about a dental benefits issue. We’re now hearing from members that, due to the ease of submitting the new online form, they can more readily get the guidance they need to make informed practice decisions about dental benefit plans. The following is a recent example case:

A member submitted an online form with questions about incorporating their practice. Even though the process of incorporating was simplified by the dentist’s CDA, they still had questions about whether there was a need to inform the dental benefit plans and, if so, how to go about doing it.

After the member submitted their question to Practice Support using the online submission form, I reviewed the question and contacted the staff member the dentist noted as their contact person on the form to explain all that needed to be done to make the incorporation a smooth transition. I provided them with step-by-step guidance on how to inform the dental benefit plans of this change.

By contacting Practice Support using the online submission form, this member likely avoided claim delays and denials and claim payment issues. Had they not reached out for guidance on the proper way to inform the plans of this type of change, the practice could have found itself in a financial bind.

Do you have a question about a dental benefit issue? You too can receive the same kind of assistance described above. Simply submit your issue electronically using the form available online within your cda.org account. Visit My Account, click the link for Dental Benefits Issue Submission and follow the prompts.

The intake form collects basic information about your issue. The form is secure, HIPAA-compliant and only takes about two minutes to complete. Once submitted, Practice Support will analyze your issue, evaluate it for possible resolution and clearly communicate your next steps. You can expect to receive a return phone call or email from me within 72 hours. If I need specific claim information about your issue, you can reach out for guidance on the proper way to inform the plans of this change.

Simply submit your issue electronically using the form available online within your cda.org account.

By CINDY HARTWELL

Practice Support Analyst

Cindy Hartwell has over 20 years of experience in the dental industry. After careers as an RDA and office manager in private practice, she joined a large dental benefit organization where she worked 16 years in both commercial and state government divisions. She held roles in customer service, claims processing, administration, training and professional relations.
Dental board’s sunset review bill includes clarifications on licensure

CDA has particular interest in three areas of the board’s sunset review bill, including clarifying how an applicant can obtain a new license after their initial license has expired.

The Dental Board of California is undergoing its sunset review in the state Legislature. In Assembly Bill 1519, authored by the Assembly Business and Professions Committee, the dental board provides a status update to the Legislature and identifies opportunities for improvement.

CDA has particular interest in three areas of the dental board’s sunset review bill: clarifying how long successful completion of the WREB, ADEX or a qualified residency program will be valid for initial licensure; clarifying how an applicant can obtain a new license after their initial license has expired; and specifying the topics to be covered in all licensure examinations.

Additionally, AB 1519 seeks to establish an alternative process by which foreign dental schools can obtain approval in California in order to relieve the board of this responsibility.

The bill passed out of the Assembly Appropriations Committee May 16 and is expected to be heard in the Senate by early June. CDA will continue to work closely with the dental board and the committee as the bill moves through the legislative process.

The dental board was created by the California Legislature in 1885 and was originally established to regulate dentists. Today, the board’s primary responsibility is to protect the public. It is composed of 15 members, including eight practicing dentists, one registered dental hygienist, one registered dental assistant and five public members. The board is responsible for regulating the practice of approximately 91,000 licensed dental health care professionals in California, including but not limited to 43,663 dentists, 45,975 registered dental assistants and 1,778 registered dental assistants in extended functions. The board is additionally responsible for setting the duties and functions of approximately 50,000 unlicensed dental assistants.

The entire board meets at least four times throughout the year to address work completed by the various committees. Every four years, the board goes through a sunset review process to prove to the Legislature that it is functioning properly. Budgeting, staffing, customer satisfaction and the enforcement program are all part of the report and process.

CDA will keep members informed about this process in the Update and on cda.org.

To learn more or submit an issue for resolution, visit cda.org/dentalbenefits.
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ADA Member Advantage is a program brought to you by ADA Business Enterprises, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of the American Dental Association.
C.E. certificates available soon for completed CDA Presents Anaheim 2019 courses

CDA Presents The Art and Science of Dentistry concluded May 18 in Anaheim with thousands of dentists, dental team members and students attending for the continuing education courses and workshops, West Coast product launches and opportunities to connect with mentors and peers.

C.E. certificates will be available within three weeks after the convention. Everyone who completed C.E. courses at the convention should expect to receive an email notification that they can log in with their CDA user ID and password to access their certificates. The notifications will be sent to the email address attendees used for convention registration. Those who do not have a CDA user ID and password will simply need to sign up as a new user and may want to get a head start by signing up now.

Until attendees have their certificates in hand, they should hold onto the three-digit code that hosts provided at the end of every C.E. course (with the exception of The Spot lectures, for which codes were not provided). The codes simply verify course attendance in the unusual case of electronic error.

Attendees will also be able to obtain their certificates directly by following a link on the cdapresents.com homepage. Non-licensed attendees or those who prefer to have their C.E. certificates mailed may contact 800.232.7645 after certificates are available.

Post-convention special pricing continues

Many exhibitors honor the special pricing on products and services offered during the convention. A list of companies and their products is available at cdapresents.com and in the exhibitor index in the on-site program.

The next CDA Presents will be held again in Anaheim, May 14-16, 2020. CDA will not host a convention in San Francisco this fall due to the ADA holding its annual meeting in San Francisco in September.

Watch for an email notification when C.E. certificates are available for download approximately three weeks after the convention or look for the link at cdapresents.com.

Fatal anaphylaxis occurs following ingestion of milk protein in toothpaste

The death of an 11-year-old California girl in early April from an anaphylactic reaction to Recaldent — an ingredient in the toothpaste recommended by her dentist to strengthen her tooth enamel — serves as a thoughtful reminder for health care providers as well as patients. Recaldent is a milk-derived protein that triggered the girl’s severe dairy allergy.

“Read everything. Don’t get comfortable, just because you’ve been managing for several years,” the girl’s mother told Allergic Living magazine.

Health care providers, too, should ensure they are working with patients to keep medical histories up to date and are discussing all allergies prior to providing treatment.

The girl’s mother said the MI Paste One toothpaste packaging did contain a warning, but that after years of reading toothpaste labels and teaching her daughter to do the same, she didn’t think to look at the ingredients. She promptly administered an EpiPen and called 911, but her daughter died at the hospital that day.

CDA Practice Support’s sample “Confidential Health History Form” instructs each health care provider to review the form, which includes information about known allergies and reactions, in advance of treating the patient and to “be certain to allow time in your schedule to review” the form and any allergies as well as have active patients complete a new form every two years.

Allergic Living magazine in an article published in April added, “We hope allergists and pediatricians will inform patients of any food or latex allergen risks at the dentist’s office or of other unexpected exposures.”

CDA Presents attendees complete C.E. courses and explore the exhibit hall at the Anaheim Convention Center May 16-18.
“I compared the TDSC prices to what I was paying to my usual suppliers and I estimated that I’ll save roughly $10,000 a year by switching to TDSC,” said David Delaney, DMD, of Albany. “I wish we had this program years ago.”

Payam Goudarzi, DDS, a practice owner in Johnson City, New York, echoed his colleague’s sentiment.

“My office has used TDSC on five different occasions and found the prices were very competitive. We were able to get better pricing on almost all items compared to the competition,” said Dr. Goudarzi.

In a nod to organized dentistry, TDSC has signed affiliation agreements with 30-plus state dental associations that have chosen to promote tdsc.com as a member benefit.

“TDSC is giving dentists the option to enjoy significant savings while buying from manufacturers they know and trust.”

Vaughn Collins, Executive Director, Vermont State Dental Association

“We’re proud of our partnership with TDSC and thrilled to offer this exciting new benefit to our members,” said Vaughn Collins, executive director of the Vermont State Dental Association. “TDSC is giving dentists the option to enjoy significant savings while buying from manufacturers they know and trust.”

In addition to free shipping and 24/7 access to tdsc.com, shoppers can request a product-by-product price comparison of what they’ve been paying with other suppliers to learn their potential savings through TDSC.

A recent price comparison study not only confirmed that dentists continue to see the 20% average savings through tdsc.com compared to the MSRP but revealed that tdsc.com prices can be lower and more stable than invoiced prices from other suppliers. Several other case studies completed this year indicate that a practice’s annual savings through tdsc.com could be tens of thousands for the same quality products from authorized vendors. Together the studies point to a favorable trend: CDA members benefit from increased savings as tdsc.com shoppers are added on a national scale. That benefit is only expected to grow as the site’s shopper base expands.

For more information, including a supply price comparison, visit tdsc.com.

The alternative workweek schedule must be presented to and approved by employees in any identified “work unit” through a secret-ballot election. A work unit is defined in the California wage orders to include all employees in a readily identifiable unit, such as a division, department, job classification, shift, separate physical location or a recognized subdivision of any such unit. A work unit may consist of one employee as long as the requirements for an identifiable work unit are met. For example, a single front-office employee could be identified as a work unit.

Beyond reducing overtime costs, an alternative workweek schedule offers additional advantages. It increases

**Workweek**

Through a secret-ballot election, a work unit is defined in the California wage orders to include all employees in a readily identifiable unit, such as a division, department, job classification, shift, separate physical location or a recognized subdivision of any such unit. A work unit may consist of one employee as long as the requirements for an identifiable work unit are met. For example, a single front-office employee could be identified as a work unit. Beyond reducing overtime costs, an alternative workweek schedule offers additional advantages:

- **Flexible Work Hours:** Employees have the flexibility to work hours that better suit their personal and professional needs.
- **Improved Work-Life Balance:** Employees can manage their work and personal responsibilities more effectively, leading to reduced stress and increased job satisfaction.
- **Increased Productivity:** With more control over their work schedules, employees may experience an increase in productivity and creativity.
- **Lower Overtime Costs:** Employers can reduce the expenses associated with overtime payments.

By providing employees with a choice in their work schedules, an alternative workweek schedule can enhance employee engagement, loyalty, and overall job satisfaction, ultimately contributing to a positive work environment.
practice owners’ ability to provide extended patient hours, extended employee pre- and post-patient prep time, flexibility for a four-day workweek and reduced commute time for employees. However, although an alternative workweek can reduce overtime costs, it should never be used solely to avoid paying overtime to employees.

Steps to implementing an alternative workweek
An employer cannot choose to implement an alternative workweek without prior consideration and approval by employees. The employer must follow a specific set of steps, described below, and failure to comply with even one requirement may invalidate the schedule and result in noncompliance with overtime wages:

1. Provide written notice to all affected employees of the employer’s intent to adopt an alternative workweek schedule that is no more than 10 hours a day or 40 hours in a workweek.
2. Conduct a vote only by secret ballot at the workplace.
3. Disclose in writing and hold a meeting to discuss, at least 14 days prior to a vote, the effects of the alternative workweek on the employees’ wages, hours and benefits.
4. Get approval of the proposed alternative schedule by a two-thirds vote of the affected employees in the work unit.
5. Notify the employees of the results of the vote.
6. Send a written report to register the approved alternative workweek schedule to the Department of Labor Standards Enforcement (DLSE) within 30 days of the results in order for the vote to be valid.
7. Do not require the employees affected by the change to work the new hours for at least 30 days after the announcement of the final results.
8. Maintain records of all schedule proposals, meeting communication, supporting information and documentation and election results.

Pitfalls and best practices
Consistency is key when adopting an alternative workweek. The elected schedule must be supplied to employees consistently year over year for employers to avoid the risk of noncompliance with overtime law. If a practice does not consistently follow the submitted schedule, employees may be owed overtime.

An employer is required to work fewer hours than they would normally be scheduled under an adopted alternative workweek schedule, the employer must pay overtime after eight hours in a workday. If an employee is provided the scheduled alternative workweek hours and chooses to clock out early, only straight time wages for time worked are owed, even if they surpass eight hours.

Here are best practices for being consistent:

- Plan carefully and retain excellent records.
- Follow all applicable meal- and rest-break laws. Alternative workweek employees are generally entitled to the same meal and rest breaks as those on a traditional schedule.
- Reasonably accommodate an employee whose religious beliefs conflict with the schedule.
- Create a work schedule (up to eight hours per workday) to accommodate employees who are unable to work the alternative schedule.
- When hiring new employees, discuss the alternative workweek schedule prior to the onset of employment to ensure they understand the extended work hours. An employer is permitted but not required to provide a work schedule of up to eight hours per day to accommodate someone hired after the election who cannot work the alternative schedule.
- Periodically audit the practice schedule to ensure that the submitted alternative workweek schedule is provided to affected employees. If a new schedule is necessary, repeal by election (described below) and hold a new election to adjust the alternative workweek schedule.
- Occasional changes to the schedule are acceptable with a reasonable one week’s notice.

Repealing the schedule
To repeal an alternative workweek schedule, an employer would typically go through the same steps identified above. If two-thirds of employees vote to reverse the alternative workweek schedule, an employer has 60 days to comply. Employers can also eliminate alternative workweek arrangements on their own long as they provide reasonable prior notice to employees before ending the alternative workweek. Repeals or reversals cannot occur until at least 12 months after the original employee vote.

Checking schedule registration
Once the employer has registered their alternative workweek schedule with the DLSE, they can verify that their elected schedule is on file by checking the alternative workweek elections database (www.dir.ca.gov/databases/oprl/dlsw-awe.html). It provides a listing of all California employers who have filed alternative workweek election results with the DLSE pursuant to California Labor Code section 51(e).

CDA Practice Support has a guide and templates available on cda.org/practicesupport that can assist employers with this process. Look for “Alternative Workweek” under the Employment Practices tab in the resource library.

The elected schedule must be supplied to employees consistently year over year to avoid the risk of noncompliance with current overtime law.

1. Provide written notice to all affected employees of the employer’s intent to adopt an alternative workweek schedule that is no more than 10 hours a day or 40 hours in a workweek.
2. Conduct a vote only by secret ballot at the workplace.
3. Disclose in writing and hold a meeting to discuss, at least 14 days prior to a vote, the effects of the alternative workweek on the employees’ wages, hours and benefits.
4. Get approval of the proposed alternative schedule by a two-thirds vote of the affected employees in the work unit.
5. Notify the employees of the results of the vote.
6. Send a written report to register the approved alternative workweek schedule to the Department of Labor Standards Enforcement (DLSE) within 30 days of the results in order for the vote to be valid.
7. Do not require the employees affected by the change to work the new hours for at least 30 days after the announcement of the final results.
8. Maintain records of all schedule proposals, meeting communication, supporting information and documentation and election results.

Repeals or reversals of alternative workweek schedules cannot occur until at least 12 months after the original employee vote.
TDIC earns endorsements from state and local dental organizations

Altogether, 11 dental associations and societies endorse TDIC, which has earned the A.M. Best Company’s “A” rating for 25 consecutive years.

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Dental board seeks subject matter experts

The enforcement unit of the Dental Board of California is seeking qualified, knowledgeable licensees to serve as subject matter experts. Subject matter experts are practicing dentists who review pending-investigation cases in an effort to evaluate and/or determine whether violations of the Dental Practice Act have occurred. The experts are utilized on an as-needed basis.

To learn more, visit www.dbc.ca.gov/about_us/employment_opp_dexpert.
As of May 13, 2019, only individuals with a tax identification number — either a Social Security number or an individual taxpayer identification number — may request an employer identification number, according to a new IRS requirement. An EIN is a nine-digit tax identification number that identifies sole proprietors, corporations, partnerships and other business entities and is assigned for tax-filing and reporting purposes. The EIN is also known as a federal tax identification number.

The new requirement is intended to “provide greater security to the EIN process by requiring an individual to be the responsible party” and to prohibit “entities from using their own EINs to obtain additional EINs,” the IRS stated in the May 7 issue of the IRS Newswire.

Entities may apply for an EIN online (www.irs.gov/businesses/small-businesses-self-employed) or with the paper Form SS-4.
Members can now create a customized employee manual — online

CDA members have long been able to use the Sample Employee Manual template, available through CDA Practice Support, to build a customized employee manual. Now, they can also go online to generate one of the most essential HR tools for every practice — a manual that both informs employees about workplace rules and helps to protect dentists from potential lawsuits.

The new CDA Employee Manual Generator guides users through the online development of a manual that custom fits any dental office and is compliant with federal and state employment laws.

Users simply answer a series of guided questions to produce a customized employee manual with policies that cover introductory periods, harassment and discrimination prevention, corrective action, mandatory paid sick leave, vacation, personal leaves of absence and everything in between. Answers to “yes/no” questions prompt the generator to ask more specific questions along a topic to create each compliant policy, but users will also have the option to write in details, such as who to contact and at what number in the event of an emergency, or to choose a specific pathway, such as whether to offer a general attendance policy or a detailed one that outlines punctuality and excessive absenteeism, for example.

A complete manual can be generated online in as little as two hours; however, to shorten time spent online and ensure the manual’s accuracy, before they get started, users will want to have decided on the details of protocols and current employee benefit offerings such as in-house dental treatment, holiday pay, vacation and medical plan eligibility requirements.

Answers are automatically saved (for 60 days) as users progress through the questions, but answers can be altered by selecting the “previous” button. Helpful on-screen information about laws and requirements is provided along the way.

Once all guided questions have been answered, the user simply presses the “submit” button to receive by email a PDF of their complete manual, which can be downloaded, printed and distributed in the practice.

CDA strives to provide legally compliant information in the manual generator. However, it is recommended that employers have an attorney who specializes in the employment laws and regulations of the employer’s city, county and state review the manual before it is distributed to employees.

As a best practice, employers should annually review their employment practices and policies with their attorney to ensure they are in compliance with the law. While an employee manual is designed to protect employers from potential problems in the workplace, it is not a guarantee of prevention of future lawsuits that may arise out of employment practices.

The CDA Employee Manual Generator is powered by HR for Health, one of CDA’s newest Endorsed Program offerings.

To create your employee manual online, visit cda.org/member-resources/practice-support/employee-manual-generator. CDA members will first need to log into their cda.org account.
Dentists should prepare for a quality assessment review, says Delta Dental

Delta Dental of California on April 9, 2019, notified California dentists in its FYI newsletter that dentists should be prepared for a quality assessment review. CDA members are encouraged to review the on-site QA review checklist provided in the newsletter to ensure compliance. On-site reviews are part of Delta Dental’s quality assessment program for contracted dentists in California, mandated by the California Department of Managed Health Care. These reviews evaluate many components of a practice compared to the expectations of dental professionals, regulatory agencies and Delta Dental. State regulators, such as the Department of Managed Health Care and Department of Insurance, require dental benefit plans to have quality management, utilization and anti-fraud policies and procedures in place to protect plan enrollees. Performing these post-pay chart audits or reviews is one way dental plans comply with this requirement. The reviews verify that dental procedures reported by a dental office on behalf of an enrollee are rendered consistent within the provisions of the dental benefit plan and the participating provider agreement. Additional information is available in Section 6 of the Delta Dental Provider Handbook accessible within the provider portal area of Delta Dental’s website: www.deltadentalins.com/dentists (login required).

Find more information on dental plan quality assessment audits in chapter 11 of the CDA Dental Benefit Plan Handbook or contact Practice Support for assistance at 800.232.7645.

Review the on-site QA review checklist in Delta Dental’s FYI newsletter at fyionline.com/2019/04/on-site-qa-review-checklist.

Journal reviews endo-ortho treatment of avulsed teeth

The June issue of the Journal of the California Dental Association presents a case report on a patient with avulsion of her maxillary central incisors who received a less than ideal replantation and failed to obtain timely endodontic treatment. Other articles spotlight the treatment of a patient with a large mandibular osteoma, a study on the effects of miniscule occlusal interference on adults and a pilot program that provides one-visit dentures to the homeless.

The Journal is an award-winning peer-reviewed scientific publication that keeps dentists up to date about scientific advances, business management strategies and new products.

Find this issue and archived issues of the Journal at cda.org/journal.
Fake invoices from at least one company are making the rounds in California, with several dentists contacting CDA for advice on how to handle the scam.

The dentists, including CDA members in Bakersfield, Fresno and Los Angeles, report receiving invoices from Pinnacle Medical Supply for products that neither they nor any of their staff members ordered. One dental practice received an invoice for $252 for a three-pack of glucose test strips. Seven fake invoices from Pinnacle Medical or Pinnacle Medical Supply were reported in April using the Better Business Bureau’s online BBB Scam Tracker, and reports of the scam have also made it into Dentaltown Magazine’s message boards.

The “fake invoice” is one of the more common scams targeting dental offices and other small businesses, according to the Federal Trade Commission. But dental practices and others on the receiving end of the scam can take simple steps to both report the scam and avoid falling victim to it.

“Sending a letter to the invoicing company is not required, but it is usually the fastest way to put a stop to the company’s practice,” says Teresa Pichay, CDA regulatory compliance analyst.

Dentists can use a sample letter available from CDA Practice Support to notify the company that practice staff were able to determine, after reviewing records, that they did not order the invoiced material that was delivered to them. The letter further advises the company that because they received unordered merchandise, they are allowed by federal and state law to use or dispose of the merchandise as they see fit and are not obligated to pay for it.

“If the dental practice sends this letter but continues to receive invoices for the unordered product, the practice may choose to file a formal complaint with the FTC (ftc.gov/complaint) or the California Office of the Attorney General (https://oag.ca.gov/contact/consumer-complaint-against-business-or-company). Additionally, as in the case of the Pinnacle Medical Supply invoices — and for any unordered merchandise sent via the U.S. Postal Service, dentists also have the option of filing a complaint directly with the USPS by phone (800.275.8777) or online (https://postalinspectors.uspis.gov/contactus/filecomplaint.aspx).

Inspect invoices, train staff

Pichay says dental practices can take steps to avoid falling victim to the fraud.

“Sending a letter to the invoicing company is not required, but it is usually the fastest way to put a stop to the company’s practice.”

“This isn’t the look your practice is going for.

Make sure you’re using safe water.

Get your free water test: ProEdgeDental.com/CDA

Put a stop to fake invoices with sample letter from CDA Practice Support

Sending a letter to the invoicing company is not required, but it is usually the fastest way to put a stop to the company’s practice.

“The scammers hope that the busy dental office will see familiar product names or product types, assume they were ordered — by someone — and pay the invoice,” Pichay says.

FTC guidance encourages small businesses to always inspect their invoices and to train their staff to recognize the scam. Practices might, for example, compile a list of companies they typically order supplies from, which will be especially helpful if they don’t have a purchase order system in place. They might also designate one or two specific employees to approve purchases and pay bills since these staff would be most likely to recognize an unfamiliar supplier or questionable order.

Access the resource “Receipt of Unsolicited Products or Services,” which includes the sample letter referenced in this article, at cda.org/practicesupport.
Enjoy wine, music, historic home and vineyards in support of Foundation

Wine and history enthusiasts and all those who relish the California outdoors are invited to the home of Philip Abeldt, DDS, and Cami Abeldt on Saturday, Aug. 24, for Vines for Smiles, an afternoon of savoring local wines and great food accompanied by live music. Guests will also have an opportunity to tour the Abeldts’ home and surrounding vineyards in Lodi, Calif.

Located in the Lodi appellation wine grape area just 34 miles south of Sacramento, the Abeldts’ home, built in the 1920s, has been in the family for generations. Guests and history buffs will take a “walk back in time” that leads to the secret prohibition room in the basement while hearing about wine production in the region and the joys and challenges of being a small vintner.

Vines for Smiles, which raises funds for the Foundation’s Disaster Relief Grant and CDA Cares, the Foundation’s volunteer dental program, starts at 2 p.m., after the CDA Board of Trustees meeting in Sacramento, and will go until 5 p.m. Trustees who want to attend can make the short drive to Lodi after the meeting. The cost is $100 per individual, $150 per couple and $500 per CDA Cares San Bernardino chair sponsor. The $500 ticket registers three guests and includes a CDA Cares scrub jacket.

Register for Vines for Smiles 2019 at cdafoundation.org/events or contact Karen Palmiter, CDA Foundation development manager, at karen.palmiter@cda.org or 916.554.5951 for more information.

Costs, controlled.

Member-exclusive savings from The Dentists Supply Company through a shopping site designed to help your practice be competitive and efficient. Just one of the limitless member benefits at cda.org

CDA. THIS IS WHERE VISION MEETS VALUE.
Update

CDA Practice Support has identified two misprints in the 2019-20 Required Employment Poster Sets that were recently mailed to CDA members who are practice owners. The California Minimum Wage notice wage table contains a duplication of “Employers with 26 or more employees” for both large and small employers (25 or fewer employees).

The Table of Permitted Duties – Dental Assisting contains a duplication of “Archwires – place ligature ties and archwires.” The table should indicate both placement and removal of archwires under Dental Assisting.

CDA has worked quickly to address these misprints and help practice owners stay in compliance with California regulations. Members who received 2019-20 poster sets prior to June 1 will receive instructions from CDA to make the corrections.

In addition to poster sets, Practice Support provides members a full suite of resources to navigate regulatory and compliance requirements in dentistry.

To explore tools or connect with an expert analyst, visit cda.org/practicesupport.

Give health, hope and happiness.

CDA Cares San Bernardino
September 27–28, 2019
National Orange Show Events Center

Join us. cdafoundation.org/cdacares

Corrections to 2019-2020 Required Employment Poster Sets

CDA Cares, dental professionals: Registration open for CDA Cares San Bernardino

The CDA Foundation’s volunteer-run dental program, CDA Cares, is coming to San Bernardino, Calif., Sept. 27-28, and online registration for the clinic is now open. Around 1,950 people who experience barriers to dental care receive no-cost services and oral health education at each CDA Cares. The September clinic will take place at the National Orange Show Events Center.

General dentists, oral surgeons, dental hygienists, dental assistants and lab technicians are needed to provide extractions, fillings, cleanings and a limited number of root canals, dentures and partial dentures.

The Foundation additionally seeks community volunteers who can guide patients to different areas of the clinic, assist with language translation and help with clinic set-up and tear-down. All interested volunteers can read more about the clinic philosophy and treatment approach at cdafoundation.org/cares.

In addition to providing oral health services, CDA Cares events aim to educate the public and policymakers about the importance of good oral health and the ongoing need for an adequately funded dental safety net.

Register to volunteer or learn more through the volunteer FAQ at cdafoundation.org/cares.

Dentists, dental professionals: Registration open for CDA Cares San Bernardino
Recent dental school graduates and students who will soon graduate from dental school can apply now through July 31 for the CDA Foundation’s 2019 Student Loan Repayment Grant.

Awarded annually, the grant provides up to $35,000 per year for a maximum of $105,000 in exchange for the recipient’s three-year commitment to care for the underserved.

Student loan debt is one of the largest financial hurdles a dentist may face. The average educational debt for all indebted graduates in the class of 2018 for public and private dental schools was $251,869 and $326,133, respectively, according to the American Dental Education Association.

Andrea Ustarez, DDS, a 2016 graduate of the UCSF School of Dentistry, was awarded the 2018 Student Loan Repayment Grant. She is currently working at AltaMed in Los Angeles — a health clinic with the mission to provide care to underserved communities. Dr. Ustarez credits her personal experiences with oral health care disparities as the driving force behind her interest in community dentistry.

Since 2002, the grant has enabled 19 dentists to pursue their passion of working in public health where they have helped nearly 100,000 patients and provided more than $27 million in care.

Grant application guidelines

To be eligible for the Student Loan Repayment Grant, applicants must have either graduated from an ADA-accredited dental school with a DDS or DMD degree no more than three years prior to the year they apply or be positioned to graduate in the next three months at the time of application. Applicants must also be eligible to practice dentistry in California and have secured employment with an eligible work site. The complete application criteria are available on the CDA Foundation website.

The application period closes at 11:59 p.m., Wednesday, July 31.

The selected runner-up for the Student Loan Repayment Grant will receive the Webb Family Grant, which provides an award of up to $5,000 toward the recipient’s educational loan.

More information about the Webb Family Grant, named for Russell Webb, DDS, and Kathi Webb, is available on the CDA Foundation website.

To apply for and learn more about the grant at cdafoundation.org/grants-awards. Learn more about all Foundation grants and awards, which are available throughout the year and have various deadlines and submission periods, at cdafoundation.org/receive.
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