# Writing Effective Learning Objective and Results Statements

## What is a Learning Objective Statement?

It is a statement you put in your online learning plan that describes what you plan to learn and why.

### FOLLOW THESE STEPS TO WRITE AN EFFECTIVE LEARNING OBJECTIVE STATEMENT

1. **Assess** your knowledge and abilities as a Dental Assistant. (Use the Self-Assessment tool to guide you.) Ask yourself: Where have I identified an opportunity or need to enhance my practice? Answer this question: **What do I plan to learn?**

2. **Assess** your learning objective choice and identify what you hope to **Achieve**. Answer these questions: **Why have I chosen this Learning Objective? Why is it important to my practice?**

3. Refer to the Competency Profile to identify the competency that your learning need relates to. (Use the list of competencies you rated yourself as DEV or DTE on your Self-Assessment.)

4. Use your information from steps 1 to 3 to write your learning objective statement.
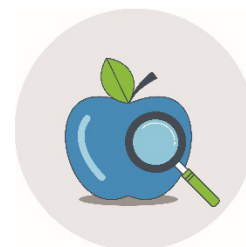
## What is A Results Statement?

It is a statement you put in your online learning plan that shows you **Achieved** your learning needs by describing how the learning impacted or enhanced your practice.

### FOLLOW THESE STEPS TO WRITE AN EFFECTIVE RESULTS STATEMENT

1. **Analyze** and review your Learning Objective.

2. Review your Learning Objective Statement.

3. **Analyze** the outcome of your learning to confirm you met the learning needs you identified in your Learning Objective Statement.

4. Answer one of these questions to help you write your Results Statement:
   - What can I do as a result of completing this Learning Objective?
   - How has completing this Learning Objective improved my practice as a Dental Assistant? (Explain or provide an example.)

166-14315 118 Ave NW, Edmonton, AB  T5L 4S6        P 780-486-2526        TF 1-800-355-8940        W abrda.ca

## EXAMPLES OF LEARNING OBJECTIVE AND RESULTS STATEMENTS

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|---|---|
| **Competency** | F-3-7   Client Education |
| **Learning Objective Statement** | My clients have different oral hygiene requirements. I want to be better informed about the oral self-care products that are available. |
| **Results Statement** | I can now confidently demonstrate and recommend products for all my clients. |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Competency** | D-1-3   Radiology and Digital Imaging |
| **Learning Objective Statement** | My office will be purchasing a new digital x-ray system. I want to learn to how to place the intra-oral sensors and use the appropriate software effectively for viewing, storing and sharing data. |
| **Results Statement** | The vendor provided our office with extensive training on the new equipment. I am now able to obtain good quality digital images and store them to the client computer files where I can easily access them. |

## CHECKLIST

❑ Does my Learning Objective relate to my role as a dental assistant? (Does it fit in the Competency Profile?)

❑ Does my Learning Objective Statement answer these questions:

- What do I plan to learn?
- Why have I chosen this Learning Objective?
- Why is this Learning Objective important to my practice?

❑ Does my Results Statement answer one of these questions:

- What can I do as a result of completing this Learning Objective?
- How has completing this Learning Objective improved my practice as a Dental Assistant? (Explain or provide an example.)