The American Dental Association (ADA) has announced an exclusive endorsement with DRB (Darien Rowayton Bank), a leader and one of the fastest marketplace lenders to $1 billion originations in student loan refinancing. The endorsement allows ADA member dentists the opportunity to refinance existing federal and private undergraduate and graduate school loans at a lower rate to save tens of thousands of dollars, on average.

“We’ve listened carefully to our members, particularly those in the early stages of their dental careers, and many have indicated that paying off student loan debt is one of their greatest concerns,” said ADA President Maxine Feinberg, DDS. “By teaming up with DRB, the ADA provides our members with lower rates that translate into greater peace of mind and substantial savings at a pivotal point in their careers. This is just one of the ways that we are investing in the future of dentistry.”

The ADA is committed to working with new dentists who are in the most challenging stage in their career. The DRB low rate student refinance loan, offered at both fixed and variable rates, is one of the many resources the ADA provides to new dentists. The ADA endorsement not only gives ADA members access to one of the lowest student loan refinance lenders in the country, but the ADA has also secured from DRB preferential interest rates for its members who qualify.

“We are thrilled to work with the ADA to offer its members some of the lowest student loan rates in the industry,” said Gary Lieberman, chairman of the board at DRB. “The average dentist graduates with $247,000 in student loan debt, and dentists who refinance with DRB can save an average of $38,000* with a fixed-rate refinance loan. With these savings, they can focus on their patients and not on their student debt.”

The endorsement is effective immediately. Only ADA member dentists are eligible for this exclusive offer from DRB, and annual renewal of ADA membership is a requirement to receive the lower rates per the terms of the agreement.

Available now from the ADA is the “ADA Practical Guide to Substance Use Disorders and Safe Prescribing.” This publication is designed to assist the dental team in dealing with complicated pain/sedation management and opioid abuse issues. It also addresses regulations dentists must follow regarding the storage and recordkeeping of controlled substances.

Topics include drug diversion; understanding the disease of substance use disorders (SUD); detection and deterrence of SUD and drug diversion; office management of controlled substances; and addiction and impairment in the dental professional. The guide also covers commonly used illicit, prescription and over-the-counter drugs, in addition to alcohol and tobacco.

Alison Bramhall, manager of dentist health and wellness for the ADA Council on Dental Practice, stated: “This guide is the first of its kind to address the many issues of substance use disorders in the dental practice. It provides practical information to guide the decision making of the dental practitioner in order to protect their patients, their staff and the public.”

The guide can be ordered at adacatalog.org or by calling the ADA Member Service Center at (800) 947-4746. ADA member price is $59.95, and retail price is $89.95.