Recent and Forthcoming Updates to Examinations

Department of Testing Services

This document describes recent and forthcoming updates to examinations implemented by the Department of Testing Services (DTS). Please check back for additional updates as they become available. If you have any questions, please contact dtsonline@ada.org.

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Dental Licensure Objective Structured Clinical Examination (DLOSCE) [Last updated 09/21/2022]

Date	Topic	Notes
Implemented in 2021	Antibiotic Prophylaxis	In 2021, the American Heart Association (AHA) released a new scientific statement regarding the use of antibiotic prophylaxis. Examination questions reflect the updates provided in the 2021 scientific statement from AHA. Relevant information concerning the AHA guidelines is available here: https://www.ada.org/resources/research/science-and-research-institute/oral-health-topics/antibiotic-prophylaxis.
Implemented in 2021	Anesthesia (Physical Status Classifications)	In December 2020, the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) released an amendment to the Physical Status Classification System used to assess and communicate a patient's pre-anesthesia medical co-morbidities. Information about the amended classification system is available here: https://www.asahq.org/standards-and-guidelines/asa-physical-status-classification-system. Examination questions reflect the 2020 amended classification system.
Implemented in 2021	Dental Traumatology	In 2020, the International Association of Dental Traumatology (IADT) released updated guidelines for the evaluation and management of traumatic dental injuries. Information about the updated guidelines is available here: https://www.iadt-dentaltrauma.org/for-professionals.html. Examination questions reflect the 2020 IADT guidelines.
Implemented in 2020	Periodontal Classifications	In 2017, the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) introduced new periodontal classifications. Examination questions reflect the new classification system introduced by AAP in 2017. Periodontal educators recommend that individuals refer to the 2017 World Workshop on the Classification of Periodontal and Peri-implant Diseases and Conditions—available on the American Academy of Periodontology website—for additional information.

| Implemented in 2020 | Blood Pressure | In 2017, the American Heart Association (AHA) released new information regarding hypertension guidelines. Examination questions reflect the information provided in the 2017 update.

Relevant information concerning the AHA guidelines is available here: https://www.ada.org/resources/research/science-and-research-institute/oral-health-topics/hypertension. |

Integrated National Board Dental Examination (INBDE) [Last updated 02/27/2023]

Date	Topic	Notes
Implemented in 2023	Antibiotic Prophylaxis	In 2021, the American Heart Association (AHA) released a new scientific statement regarding the use of antibiotic prophylaxis. Relevant information concerning the AHA guidelines is available here: https://www.ada.org/resources/research/science-and-research-institute/oral-health-topics/antibiotic-prophylaxis. Examination questions reflect the updates provided in the 2021 scientific statement from AHA.
Implemented in 2023	Anesthesia (Physical Status Classifications)	In December 2020, the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) released an amendment to the Physical Status Classification System used to assess and communicate a patient's pre-anesthesia medical co-morbidities. Information about the amended classification system is available here: https://www.asahq.org/standards-and-guidelines/asa-physical-status-classification-system. Examination questions reflect the 2020 amended classification system.
Implemented in 2023	Dental Traumatology	In 2020, the International Association of Dental Traumatology (IADT) released updated guidelines for the evaluation and management of traumatic dental injuries. Information about the updated guidelines is available here: https://www.iadt-dentaltrauma.org/for-professionals.html. Examination questions reflect the 2020 IADT guidelines.
Implemented in 2023	Radiography	The term "film" is no longer used on the examination to refer to radiographs.
Implemented in 2020	Periodontal Classifications	In 2017, the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) introduced new periodontal classifications. Examination questions reflect the new classification system introduced by AAP in 2017. Periodontal educators recommend that individuals refer to the 2017 World Workshop on the Classification of Periodontal and Peri-implant Diseases and Conditions—available on the American Academy of Periodontology website—for additional information.

Implemented in 2020	Blood Pressure	In 2017, the American Heart Association (AHA) released new information regarding hypertension guidelines. Relevant information concerning the AHA guidelines is available here: https://www.ada.org/resources/research/science-and-research-institute/oral-health-topics/hypertension. Examination questions reflect the information provided in the 2017 update.

National Board Dental Hygiene Examination (NBDHE) [Last updated 02/27/2023]

Date	Topic	Notes
Implemented in 2022	Antibiotic Prophylaxis	In 2021, the American Heart Association (AHA) released a new scientific statement regarding the use of antibiotic prophylaxis. Examination questions reflect the updates provided in the 2021 scientific statement from AHA. Relevant information concerning the AHA guidelines is available here: https://www.ada.org/resources/research/science-and-research-institute/oral-health-topics/antibiotic-prophylaxis.
Implemented in 2022	Anesthesia (Physical Status Classifications)	In December 2020, the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) released an amendment to the Physical Status Classification System used to assess and communicate a patient's pre-anesthesia medical co-morbidities. Information about the amended classification system is available here: https://www.asahq.org/standards-and-guidelines/asa-physical-status-classification-system. Examination questions reflect the 2020 amended classification system.
Implemented in 2022	Dental Traumatology	In 2020, the International Association of Dental Traumatology (IADT) released updated guidelines for the evaluation and management of traumatic dental injuries. Information about the updated guidelines is available here: https://www.iadt-dentaltrauma.org/for-professionals.html. Examination questions reflect the 2020 IADT guidelines.
Implemented in 2022	Radiography	The term "film" is no longer used on the examination to refer to radiographs.
Implemented in 2021	Periodontal Classifications	In 2017, the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) introduced new periodontal classifications. Examination questions reflect the new classification system introduced by AAP in 2017. Periodontal educators recommend that individuals refer to the 2017 World Workshop on the Classification of Periodontal and Peri-implant Diseases and Conditions—available

		on the American Academy of Periodontology website—for additional information.
Implemented in 2021	Blood Pressure	In 2017, the American Heart Association (AHA) released new information regarding hypertension guidelines. Examination questions reflect the information provided in the 2017 update. Relevant information concerning the AHA guidelines is available here: https://www.ada.org/resources/research/science-and-research-institute/oral-health-topics/hypertension.

Admission Test for Dental Hygiene (ATDH) [Last updated 04/13/2023]

Date	Topic	Notes
Anticipated, Sep 1, 2023	Year-round Testing	Effective September 1, 2023, the ADA's Department of Testing Services (DTS) will implement year-round testing for the ATDH Program. This change is anticipated to provide candidates and dental hygiene programs with additional flexibility. Under year-round testing, a candidate will be permitted to attempt the ATDH on any day of the year for which they can secure a testing appointment, provided they meet established ATDH eligibility criteria. The transition to year-round testing will also be accompanied by an improvement in the speed with which ATDH results will be reported to candidates and dental hygiene programs. Under year-round testing, results will be reported within three to four weeks of the candidate's test date. In comparison, under the window-based system, results reporting can require as much as 12 weeks. Additional information is available at the ATDH website, at ada.org/atdh.

Advanced Dental Admission Test (ADAT) [Last updated 09/21/2022]

Date	Topic	Notes
Implemented in 2022	Antibiotic Prophylaxis	In 2021, the American Heart Association (AHA) released a new scientific statement regarding the use of antibiotic prophylaxis. Examination questions reflect the updates provided in the 2021 scientific statement from AHA. Relevant information concerning the AHA guidelines is available here: https://www.ada.org/resources/research/science-and-research-institute/oral-health-topics/antibiotic-prophylaxis.
Implemented in 2022	Anesthesia (Physical Status Classifications)	In December 2020, the American Society of Anesthesiologists (ASA) released an amendment to the Physical Status Classification System used to assess and communicate a patient's pre-anesthesia medical co-morbidities. Information about the amended classification system is available here: https://www.asahq.org/standards-and-guidelines/asa-physical-status-classification-system. Examination questions reflect the 2020 amended classification system.
Implemented in 2022	Dental Traumatology	In 2020, the International Association of Dental Traumatology (IADT) released updated guidelines for the evaluation and management of traumatic dental injuries. Information about the updated guidelines is available here: https://www.iadt-dentaltrauma.org/for-professionals.html. Examination questions reflect the 2020 IADT guidelines.
Implemented in 2020	Periodontal Classifications	In 2017, the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) introduced new periodontal classifications. Examination questions reflect the new classification system introduced by AAP in 2017. Periodontal educators recommend that individuals refer to the 2017 World Workshop on the Classification of Periodontal and Peri-implant Diseases and Conditions—available on the American Academy of Periodontology website—for additional information.
Implemented in 2020	Blood Pressure	In 2017, the American Heart Association (AHA) released new information regarding hypertension

		guidelines. Examination questions reflect the information provided in the 2017 update Relevant information concerning the AHA guidelines is available here: https://www.ada.org/resources/research/science-and-research-institute/oral-health-topics/hypertension.

Dental Admission Test (DAT) [Last updated 09/21/2022]

Date	Topic	Notes
Implemented 1/21/22	Biology	Changes to the DAT Biology Test Specifications were implemented on January 21, 2022. Students who plan to take the DAT are encouraged to review the updated specifications, which include several new topics that were not previously covered on the examination. Additional information about the changes is available in the DAT Candidate Guide, under "Scope of the Examination."

Optometry Admission Test (OAT) [Last updated 09/21/2022]

Date	Topic	Notes
Implemented 4/13/22	Biology	Changes to the OAT Biology Test Specifications were implemented on April 13, 2022. Students who plan to take the OAT are encouraged to review the updated specifications, which include several new topics that were not previously covered on the examination. Additional information about the changes is available in the OAT Candidate Guide, under "Scope of the Examination."