

**Unofficial Report of Major Actions  
Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations  
April 6, 2011**

The Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations met at the American Dental Association Headquarters on Tuesday and Wednesday, April 5-6, 2011, and took the following actions.

1. Approved the 2012 budget proposal, including increases in the 2012 application and score report fees and the addition of assessments for research and development activities.
2. Approved the proposed 2011-2012 research and development projects and related expenditures for the National Board Dental and Dental Hygiene Examination programs and the pending and proposed projects supported by the IDEA small grants program with associated expenses.
3. Affirmed policies and procedures for granting permission for use of the JCNDE/ADA intellectual property by dental and dental hygiene educational programs, individuals, and external organizations.
4. Adopted a policy on conflict of interest for addition to the *Standing Rules* to address potential conflicts relating to policy decisions and decisions on candidate appeals.
5. Adopted revisions to the *Examination Regulations*, including shortening the application eligibility period to six months and limiting candidates to successful completion of an examination within five years or five attempts, whichever comes first. The JCNDE also adopted a policy specifying that in cases where it has determined that a candidate engaged in irregular behavior, the Joint Commission may elect to send a summary report documenting a candidate's irregular behavior, with a brief statement provided by the candidate, to legitimately interested parties. Finally, the JCNDE determined that all score reports will include a history of scores for all examination attempts.
6. Approved a list of 65 competencies that define the domain of general dentistry, as well as the methodology, survey instrument and rating scales for the 2011 practice analysis for Part II.
7. Directed staff to conduct a follow-up survey to determine the potential impact of the change to the pass/fail reporting policy on the states that did not respond to the survey and to follow up with states that indicated potential problems.

8. Approved the following language to be suggested to state boards that may need to update their statutes:

*Prior to issuance of a license, a dental or dental hygiene applicant shall successfully complete the National Board Dental Examinations or the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination by achieving a standard score of 75 or higher, where 75 is designated as the minimum passing standard score by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations.*

9. Approved revised language for the proposed new score report formats for the National Board Dental Examination Part I and Part II and the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination for examinations administered beginning January 1, 2012. Additional language will be incorporated as appropriate for the intended recipient, e.g., candidate, state board, or educational program.

*Candidate has achieved a standard score of 75 or higher on the [name of test] and has therefore successfully completed requirements for the National Board Certificate.*

*Candidate has achieved a standard score below 75 for [name of test] and is required to repeat the examination.*

10. Approved the proposed new monthly school report format and the new annual school profile format to provide information to aid schools in identifying areas of relative strength and weakness.
11. Adopted the new standard for the National Board Dental Hygiene examinations beginning 2011.
12. Adopted new formats for reporting the trends in candidate performance and the statistics related to the quality of recent examinations to the communities of interest.
13. Approved the appointment of primary and alternate candidates for new test constructor positions for the National Board Dental and Dental Hygiene Examinations and the appointment of test constructors eligible for reappointment in 2012. The JCNDE also approved the addition of a consultant review TCC whose primary responsibility would be to review the entire Part I exam for cohesion and comprehensiveness.
14. Adopted proposed revisions to the dental candidate survey questions for both the National Board Dental and Dental Hygiene Examinations.
15. Approved the 2010 editions of the National Board Dental Examinations Technical Report and the National Board Dental Hygiene Examination Technical Report.
16. Approved April 24 as the date for the 2013 Joint Commission meeting.
17. Elected Dr. Peter Trager as chair and Dr. Stephen Sill as vice chair of the Joint Commission for terms beginning October 2011.

Dr. Andrew Spielman, NY (ADEA), Chair  
Dr. George D. Conard, Jr., WV (AADB), Vice Chair  
Dr. Bridget Ellen Byrne, VA (ADEA)  
Mr. Richard Carlile, VA (ASDA)  
Dr. Jeri Ann Donahue, WY (AADB)  
Dr. Birgit J. Glass, TX (ADEA)  
Ms. Tamara J. Grzesikowski, FL (ADHA)  
Dr. Lorin D. Peterson, WA (ADA)  
Dr. LeeAnn Podruch, WI (AADB)  
Dr. Stephen T. Radack, III, PA (ADA)  
Dr. Guy Shampaine, MD (AADB)  
Ms. Kelly Shannon, DC (Public)  
Mr. Adam Shisler, TX (ASDA, student observer)  
Dr. J. Stephen Sill, NV (AADB)  
Dr. Peter S. Trager, GA (ADA)  
Dr. Samuel A. Trinca, LA (AADB)

ADA Board Liason: Dr. A.J. Smith, UT