



Criteria and procedures applicable to exams administered during August 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026

1) Prosthodontic, Endodontic & Periodontal Examinations

a) Exam Administration Timeline

- **Order of Exam Components updated.** The Periodontal procedures will precede the Endodontic procedures, followed by the Prosthodontic procedures.
- Each examination is timed separately.
- All procedures must be completed within the allotted timeframe for the respective examination.

Session	Time Allotted
Candidate Check-In, Clinic Entrance, Workstation Setup	
1. Periodontal Examination	1.5 hours
2. Endodontic Examination	3.0 hours
3. Prosthodontic Examination	4.0 hours

b) Periodontal Examination (1.5-hour)

- **Examination Content** will consist of:
 - calculus detection (maxillary);
 - periodontal probing depth measurements;
 - calculus removal in an assigned (mandibular) quadrant;
 - and tissue management.
- Required component of ADEX Dental Examination **beginning August 1, 2026**
- Assignment & Candidate Findings (ACF) form and electronic data entry input by candidate
- **Scoring Rubric.** Calculus Detection, Calculus Removal & Perio Probing Measurements

Skills Assessment	Criteria	Points Possible
Calculus Detection	• 4 assigned maxillary teeth • 4 surfaces per tooth (M, D, F, L) • 16 surfaces evaluated for presence or absence of subgingival calculus (1 point each)	16
Calculus Removal	• One mandibular quadrant assigned • 12 assigned key surfaces evaluated for calculus removal (5.5 points each) • Evaluation of calculus removal on all remaining surfaces within assigned quadrant. Calculus remaining: • 1 surface (-3 points) • 2 or more surfaces (-6 points)	66
Complete Calculus Removal		6
Periodontal Probing Measurement	• 2 assigned teeth (1 anterior; 1 posterior) • 6 measurements per tooth (DF, F, MF, DL, L, ML) • 12 measurements evaluated (1 point each)	12
TOTAL		100

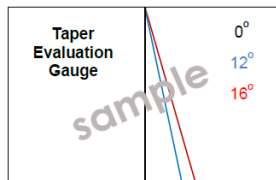
- **Additional Point Deductions.** Tissue management or other penalty points deducted from total points accrued.

c) **Endodontic Examination (3-hour)**

- Candidates will be given length of exam tooth.
- Anterior tooth length measurement by candidates discontinued.
- Examiners will use the **Hu-Freidy Colorvue™ Goldstein Probe with 0.5 mm increments** during grading of the Endodontic and Prosthodontic examination.
 - Hu-Friedy Item# PPSGKIT6

d) **Prosthodontic Examination (4-hour)**

- **Discontinued procedure materials, criteria:**
 - Cast Metal Crown
 - PFM Crown
- **New procedure materials, criteria:**
 - Molar Zirconia Crown #3;
 - Premolar Zirconia Crown #5
- Examiners will use a **Taper Gauge** during evaluation of taper.



- Examiners will use the **Hu-Freidy Colorvue™ Goldstein Probe with 0.5 mm increments** during grading of the Endodontic and Prosthodontic examination.
 - Hu-Friedy Item# PPSGKIT6

2) **Restorative Examinations**

a) **Posterior Examination – Content Update**

- Class II preparation and restoration
 - Discontinued material: Amalgam
 - All candidates will be required to complete a Class II Composite preparation and restoration

b) **Lesion Diagnosis**

- Candidates will be given only **one opportunity to diagnose** each lesion
 - **Misdiagnosis** = 100-point Penalty



c) **Anterior Composite Preparation Criteria change:**

- **Preparation: Internal Form - Axial Walls (Max Centrals)**

- **ACC | MAX CENTRALS:** The depth of the axial wall extends ≤ 2.0 mm in depth from the cavosurface margin
- **SUB | MAX CENTRALS:** The depth of the axial wall extends > 2.0 mm but ≤ 3.0 mm in depth from the cavosurface margin
- **DEF | MAX CENTRALS:** The depth of the axial wall extends > 3.0 mm in depth from the cavosurface margin

****NOTE:** All **Axial Wall Depth Criteria** to be **measured from the cavosurface margin**.

- **Preparation: Internal Form - Axial Walls (Molars)**

- **ACC | MOLARS:** The depth of the axial wall extends ≤ 2.0 mm in depth from the cavosurface margin. ≤ 1.5 mm for premolars
- **SUB | MOLARS:** The depth of the axial wall extends > 2.0 mm but ≤ 3.0 mm in depth from the cavosurface margin.
- **DEF | MOLARS:** The depth of the axial wall extends > 3.0 mm in depth from the cavosurface margin > 2.0 mm for premolars

**** NOTE:** All **Axial Wall Depth Criteria** to be **measured from the cavosurface margin**.

d) **Posterior Composite Criteria change:**

- **Preparation: Internal Form - Pulpal Floor**

- **ACC |** The pulpal floor depth is ≥ 1.0 mm but ≤ 3.0 mm in all areas; there may be remaining enamel.
- **DEF | B.** The pulpal floor depth is < 1.0 mm.

**** NOTE:** Acceptable Minimum Pulpal Floor Depth changed from ≥ 0.5 mm to ≥ 1.0 mm

e) **Anterior and Posterior Restoration:**

- **Margin Integrity and Surface Finish - Margin Excess/Deficiency (Subsection B Updates)**

- **ACC |** The restoration-tooth interface may be detectable visually or with the tine of an explorer.
- **SUB | EXCESS:** There is evidence of marginal excess ≤ 1.0 mm of thickness perpendicular to the tooth surface (overhang) and/or extending laterally beyond the margin of the preparation ≥ 1.0 mm but ≤ 2.0 mm.
- **DEF | EXCESS:** There is marginal excess > 1.0 mm in thickness perpendicular to the tooth surface (overhang) and/or extending laterally beyond the margin of the preparation > 2.0 mm (excluding bonding agent or unfilled resin).

**** NOTE:** Clarification of overhanging thickness vs. extending beyond the prep margin



Official Resources (available beginning 5/1/2026)

- **Website**
 - **Dental Exam:** adextesting.org/adex-dental/
 - Candidate Guide
 - Candidate Manual
 - Criteria Sheets, Examination Forms
 - **Test Prep**
 - Clinical Exam Overview Videos
 - Computer-based Exam Overview Video
- **Portal (login required).**
 - **Educator Portal:** educators.adextesting.org
 - **Candidate Portal:** candidates.adextesting.org