



Criteria and procedures applicable to exams administered during January 1 – July 31, 2026

1) Prosthodontic, Endodontic & Periodontal Examinations

- No changes for exams administered January 01-July 31, 2026

2) Restorative Examinations

a) Exam Administration Timeline

- **Order of Exam Components updated.** The Anterior Restorative procedures (3-hour) will precede the Posterior Restorative procedures (3.5-hour).
- 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. Anterior Restorative Examination	3.0 hours
2. Posterior Restorative Examination	3.5 hours

b) Procedure Update – Indirect Pulp Cap

- **Discontinuation of the Indirect Pulp Cap Process**
 - Indirect Pulp Cap process and form discontinued
 - Candidates are required to remove all simulated caries

c) Direct Pulp Cap

- **Pulp Exposure Diagnosis & Reporting**
 - Candidates identify/diagnose the pulp exposure right away by submitting the form electronically before completing the preparation.
 - Misdiagnosis of pulp exposure (as well as unrecognized exposure) results in 100-point penalty
- **Discontinuation of Pulp Cap Placement.** Candidates will not place the pulp cap for evaluation (preparations will be graded without a pulp cap in place and candidates may proceed to restoration after the prep has been graded).

d) Lesion Diagnosis

- **First Misdiagnosis Penalty:** -15 points deducted for that procedure
- **Second Misdiagnosis Penalty:** -100-point penalty

e) Process Update

- **Restorative Examination Forms & Tablet Entry**
 - All **official exam records** will be entered electronically using the Dental Testing System (DTS) software.



- Candidate **diagnosis, modification requests, notes**, etc. are submitted through electronic data entry to the Evaluation Area.
 - **Paper forms** are provided to help candidates draft their requests & notes to examiners and track their progress throughout the examination process.
 - **Tablet entry instructional information** regarding the process will be included in the 2026 January-July Candidate Manual and other exam preparation resources.
-

Official Resources (available as of 10/15/2025)

- **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