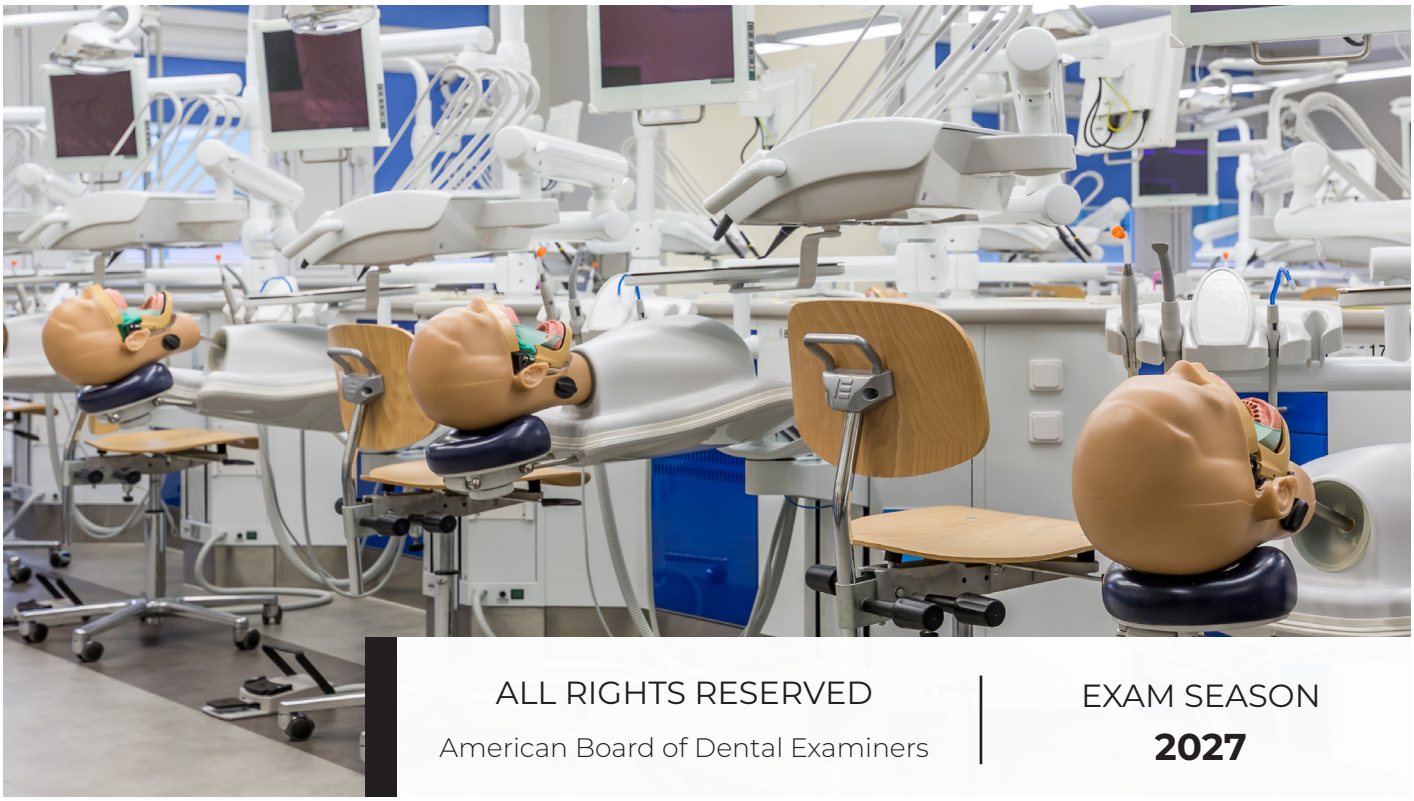
The Local Anesthesia Examination Series

LOCAL ANESTHESIA CANDIDATE MANUAL

Computer Examination



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American Board of Dental Examiners

EXAM SEASON
2027

Version 20261030

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ADDENDUM

Candidates are responsible for understanding content included in the Candidate Guide, Candidate Manuals, forms and website regarding simulated-patient examination procedures, protocols and processes applicable at the time of testing during the **January 1, 2027 through December 31, 2027 exam season**. Candidates are encouraged to periodically review these publications for changes or updates.

Any additions or modifications after initial publication will be noted below

EXAMINATION OVERVIEW

The American Board of Dental Examiners administers computer-based and clinical exam components. All examinations are based on specific performance criteria, developed by subject matter experts, used to measure clinical competency.

The American Board of Dental Examiners Local Anesthesia Examination series offers separate exam components as a pathway to licensure or endorsement in the administration of local anesthesia where allowed by licensing jurisdiction.

In conjunction with this manual, refer to the Candidate Guide available on the ADEXtesting.org website for information regarding education requirements, registration, and other administrative policies.

A. The **Local Anesthesia Computer-based Examination** is an assessment of candidate knowledge, application, and problem-solving skills regarding the safe and appropriate use and administration of local anesthetic drugs.

B. The **Local Anesthesia Clinical Examination** is an evaluation of a candidate's clinical knowledge, judgment and skill to manage treatment to safely and competently administer both **Inferior Alveolar (IA) and Posterior Superior Alveolar (PSA) nerve block injections** on a simulated patient manikin (typodont) in adherence to the published criteria. Refer to the separate Clinical Candidate Manual for more information.

A note about licensing or endorsement requirements. Candidates need only attempt those components required by the licensing jurisdiction. Before registering for any exam component, candidates should confirm the testing requirements of the jurisdiction in which they are seeking licensure or endorsement. The onus is on the Candidate to ensure that all requirements are met for a given state.

In those **jurisdictions that require completion of a clinical exam** for local anesthesia licensure or endorsement, the Local Anesthesia Examination is comprised of both Computer-based and Clinical exam components. All components of the Local Anesthesia Examination series must be successfully completed (passing scores) within 18 months of the initial attempt of any component of the series. Refer to the Candidate Guide (policies) for more information regarding the ***ADEX 18-Month Rule.***

Standards of Conduct

Integrity of the examination depends on fairness, accuracy and consistency. Established standards of conduct ensure that these principles are adhered to by examiners, candidates, and all individuals and entities involved in examination administration.

Dismissal, failure of the examination or a reduction in an examination score may result from unethical and/or unprofessional conduct (misconduct).

Candidates are required to adhere to these standards of conduct while participating in any examination administered by the American Board of Dental Examiners. Refer to the Candidate Guide for conduct and examination guidelines resulting in penalties or automatic failure of the examination and/or examination series (e.g. use of prohibited electronic devices, etc.).

During exam registration, and prior to beginning computer-based exam administration, candidates must consent to abide by the code of conduct agreement. Violating the code of conduct during (e.g., using unauthorized assistance) or after (e.g., disclosing exam content to others) examination will result in failure and denial of re-examination for one year. See the **Professional Conduct** and **Candidate Attestation** sections of the Candidate Guide for more information.

EXAM CONTENT & SCORING

LOCAL ANESTHESIA COMPUTER

The 60-minute Local Anesthesia Computer Examination is an assessment of candidate knowledge, application, and problem-solving skills regarding the safe and appropriate use and administration of local anesthetic drugs.

Subject matter includes:

- Anatomy (head and neck) and physiology.
- Pharmacology of anesthetic agents and vasoconstrictors, clinical actions and maximum recommended doses of specific agents.
- Method of delivery of local anesthesia, including armamentarium, selection of injection type, and administration technique.
- Medical history interpretation; prevention, recognition, and management of possible complications, and basic life support.

Multiple test forms are used to ensure the integrity and security of the examination. To address any possible variation in difficulty level among the various examination forms, equating procedures are used to ensure candidates of comparable competency will be equally likely to pass the examination.

Candidates may face up to 60 test items, however, the total number of test items varies per test form. A small number of unscored pilot items (up to 5) are embedded throughout the examination that do not affect the candidate's final score.

A minimum score of 75 or higher (up to 100 points possible) is required to pass the Local Anesthesia Computer Examination. However, results are reported as Pass/Fail only, not numeric values, to Candidates and licensing jurisdictions.

Exam Appoinment Scheduling. The Local Anesthesia Computer Examination is administered at **Prometric Test Center** locations where available.

Notification of Results. Provisional results are displayed on the screen immediately upon exam completion. Official results are available within the candidate's online Candidates.ADEXtesting.org portal within 2-3 business days of exam completion.

10-Day Retake Waiting Period. A 10-day waiting period is required between the date of failure and the re-attempt of any American Board of Dental Examiners administered computer-based or clinical examination.

Exam Retakes. Eligible candidates may apply for a fee-based retake of the Local Anesthesia Computer-based Examination via their online Candidates.ADEXtesting.org portal.

Official Results Reporting for Licensure Application. American Board of Dental Examiners is a testing agency, not a licensing authority. Successful completion of an examination does not constitute licensure. It is illegal to render patient treatment until a license or endorsement is issued by the state or jurisdiction. Contact the respective licensing authority directly for their reporting requirements. See Candidate Guide and Scores page of ADEXtesting.org website for additional information.

Exam Development & Resources

Examination content is developed by a committee of subject matter experts who draw on practice surveys, current curricula, standard of competency, and guidance for clinical licensure examinations in dentistry from the American Association of Dental Boards (AADB) to ensure that the content and protocol of the examination are current and relevant. Examination content and evaluation methodologies are reviewed annually and are updated periodically to reflect current best practices..

Because of the broad-based approach to test development, no single textbook or publication can be used as a reference. The examination is based on concepts taught and accepted by educational institutions accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA). Any current textbook relevant to the subject matter of the examination utilized in such institutions is suitable as a study reference.

The American Board of Dental Examiners does not offer any study material for this exam. The American Board of Dental Examiners does not sponsor nor endorse examination preparation courses. Candidates bear all risk of any misunderstanding resulting from the use of or reliance on unofficial, non-authorized or third-party information or materials.

The following texts were referenced when developing Local Anesthesia exam content.

- Bassett, Kathy B., et al. Local Anesthesia for Dental Professionals. Pearson Education, Inc, 2022.
- Logothetis, Demetra Daskalos. Local Anesthesia for the Dental Hygienist. Mosby, an Imprint of Elsevier, 2022.
- Malamed, Stanley. Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office. Elsevier Science, 2023.
- Malamed, Stanley F. Handbook of Local Anesthesia. Elsevier, 2019.

CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION & EXAM ADMINISTRATION

Candidate Identification Requirements

Your **profile name** must reflect your **legal First and Last names** as displayed on your primary form of U.S. government-issued identification.

- **Name Change.** Upload a copy of the supporting name change document (e.g. marriage certificate, dissolution decree, naturalization document, or court order) to your online Candidate Account **at least 10 business days prior** to your scheduled examination. Once uploaded, Contact Us for further assistance. Take your official name change document with you to the test center.

Identification, as described below, is required for admittance to any American Board of Dental Examiners administered examination. Your **profile name** must accurately reflect your **legal First and Last names** as displayed on your **primary form of U.S. government-issued identification**.

Candidates who do not present the **required valid form(s) of identification** will forfeit their examination attempt and registration fees (see "Candidate Attendance & "No Show" Policy" on page 8).

- **COMPUTER-BASED EXAMS.** Upon arrival at the **Prometric Test Center location**, you must present **two (2) original forms** of identification—**one primary ID AND one secondary ID**—as described below.

VALID FORMS OF IDENTIFICATION

PRIMARY ID REQUIREMENTS

Must be a valid form of **U.S. government-issued photo ID** containing your name, photograph, and signature. All IDs, except passports, must be in English.

- Examples include:
  - Driver license
  - Military ID
  - Passport or Passport card

SECONDARY ID REQUIREMENTS

Must contain your name and signature.

- Examples include:
  - Credit card
  - Debit card
  - Library card

IMPORTANT ID REMINDERS

Applicable to ALL Identification Forms

- IDs must be current and unexpired.
- Original physical forms of identification only.

NOT Acceptable

- Expired IDs (e.g. driver license) are **not** valid for testing purposes, even if accompanied by temporary renewal documentation.
- Digital IDs, photographs or paper copies of IDs are **not** valid for testing purposes.

Special Accommodations for Computer-based Exams

The American Board of Dental Examiners will provide reasonable and appropriate accommodations for candidates with documented disabilities or medical condition in those cases where the requested accommodations would not fundamentally alter the measurement of the skills or knowledge the exam is intended to test. The American Board of Dental Examiners reserves the right to authorize the use of any modifications in such a way as to maintain the integrity and security of the computer-based examination.

Refer to the **Special Accommodation: Computer-based Exams** section of the Candidate Guide for eligibility and documentation requirements. Note that any granted time extensions are calculated based on the actual test time. Any granted special accommodations are non-transferable and must be requested for each computer-based exam registration.

Exam Appointment Scheduling, Rescheduling or Cancellation

Once registered and authorized, Candidates manage their computer-based Prometric exam appointment scheduling through the green "**Schedule My Exam**" button of their online Candidate Portal.

Once scheduled, Candidates will receive an **"Appointment Confirmation" email** directly from **donotreply@prometric.com** indicating their appointment time, date and location in addition to Prometric Test Center policies.

Cancellation or Reschedule & Refund Eligibility. Candidates may reschedule or cancel their computer-based exam appointment via their Candidate Portal with the noted exceptions. Once the exam appointment has been scheduled at a Prometric Test Center location, the following Prometric cancellation/reschedule policies apply.

- **<24 hours prior to exam appointment** = not permitted; forfeiture of exam attempt and registration fee; no refund
- **1-5 days prior to exam appointment** = incurs $100 fee
- **6-30 days prior to exam appointment** = incurs $50 fee

Candidate Attendance & "No Show" Policy

Computer-based Examination. Candidates are expected to arrive onsite—timely and prepared—**at least 30 minutes in advance** of the scheduled check-in/start of their computer-based examination appointment.

- **Late Arrival.** Candidates late for the scheduled start of their computer-based examination appointment will be recorded as a "No Show" and forfeit their examination attempt and registration fees.
- **Missing Items.** Candidates who do not have the required valid, **non-expired** forms of signature-bearing **U.S. government-issued photo identification** are recorded as a "No Show" and forfeit their examination attempt and registration fees. (See "Candidate Identification Requirements" on page 7 for more information.)

Scheduling, rescheduling and cancellation of computer-based exam appointments is managed exclusively through your online **Candidate Portal**.

Exam Administration

The Local Anesthesia Computer Examination is administered at **Prometric Test Center** locations where available. The appointment seat time is up to 60 minutes in length, which includes a non-disclosure agreement and an introduction. Candidates do not need to be proficient in computer operations to attempt the computer-based examination.

Test Center Check-In & Security Procedures. Candidates should plan to arrive at the Prometric Test Center location at least 30 minutes in advance of their scheduled computer-based exam appointment to accommodate check-in procedures. During the check-in process, Prometric staff will verify your two forms of identification (ID). Candidates who do not present the **required valid forms of identification** will forfeit their examination attempt and registration fees (see "Candidate Attendance & "No Show" Policy" on page 8).

As part of the check-in process, Prometric staff will inspect your eyewear, headwear, jewelry and other accessories for prohibited devices that would violate security protocols. Violation of security protocol may result in the termination of your exam. Candidates are subject to Prometric Test Center rules and regulations in addition to the American Board of Dental Examiners professional conduct policies as defined in the Candidate Guide.

Calculators. Upon check-in at the Prometric Test Center location, the candidate may request an erasable note board, marker and hand-held calculator, if necessary. All items must be returned to the onsite proctor at the conclusion of the exam.

Exam Introduction. An introduction page describing features and navigation preceeds the test start. You may return to the introduction page at any time throughout the exam by clicking the question mark (?) icon at the bottom of the screen.

- **Test Items.** Question or test item types include multiple choice (one correct answer) or multiple-response (more than one correct answer).
- **Countdown Timer.** An onscreen countdown timer indicating the overall time allotted and time remaining appears for each applicable section of the examination.
- **Flagging Items for Review.** In each section, candidates may skip or flag items for further consideration and review. Candidates are prompted to review flagged items before completing a section. Once a section is completed, further review or marking is not permitted.
- **Filtering Items for Review.** Click the grid icon at the bottom of the screen to view or filter by Unattempted, Attempted or Flagged test items.
- **Final Test Item**. The "Next" button of the final test item displays gray (inactive). At this point, you may review items or finish the test. Once a section is completed, further review or marking is not permitted.
- **Finishing the Test**. After completing and reviewing all questions within the exam, click the “Finish Test” button in the upper-right corner of the screen to submit your responses. Confirmation is required to close the exam and submit your responses

Technical Difficulties. The testing area is continuously monitored. Notify the onsite proctor immediately for assistance with any computer-related issues.

A Note about Breaks

Scheduled breaks are not included in this test type. Candidates may take unscheduled breaks at their discretion; however, the exam is not stopped and the timer will continue to countdown the allotted time remaining for the section and/or exam. Onsite time adjustments or extensions are not permitted.

Restrictions. Locker access is restricted during discretionary breaks (as indicated during check-in). Candidates are prohibited from leaving the testing center during any scheduled or unscheduled break. Leaving the test center prior to exam completion will result in forfeiture of the examination attempt and registration fee.



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