



cdmre

Canadian Denturist Multijurisdictional
Registration Examination

ORIENTATION MANUAL OSCE

The Canadian Denturist Multijurisdictional Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) is administered in Calgary AB. Please refer to the information in this package for more information.

Candidate Code of Conduct

- All candidates will abide by the Candidate Code of Conduct. Failure to do so will have an impact on their examination outcome.
- Candidates may not seek, nor offer, assistance to any other candidate during the examination period nor may they discuss the exam in any way. The examination period begins at check in and continues until candidates have been dismissed and leave the examination site. This includes sequestration periods, if applicable.
- Candidates will not engage in any disruptive or unprofessional behaviour during the examination period.
- Candidates will not endanger any other candidate, staff, examiner or the facilities. Any candidate found to have done so will be required to leave the premises immediately, thereby forfeiting the examination attempt.
- Candidates will not, under any circumstances, contact an examiner prior to or after an examination.
- Candidates will not take photographs and/or videography at the examination site. This is strictly prohibited and will result in the termination of the examination attempt, as well as a failing grade.
- Candidates will follow direction provided by examination staff during the examination period including, but not limited to, station location, order, and timing.
- No phones, or other electronic devices, are permitted in the examination centre with the exception of necessary medical devices that have been identified and pre-approved via an accommodation request.

About the Examination

This Objective Structured Clinical Examination, or OSCE, is a competency-based examination which tests the knowledge, skills, and abilities of denturist candidates at an entry-to-practice level in a standardized way. The exam is based on the Canadian national competency profile for the profession (2020). The structure of the examination is based on the CDMRE OSCE Blueprint (2025). Please visit the CDMRE website (www.denturistexam.ca) for more information and resources.

Format

- 12 stations of 11 minutes each. Candidates are allotted 3 minutes outside the station room to read the scenario and any additional information provided with it. An additional 8 minutes is provided inside the room to engage with the scenario. There will be an alert when there are 2 minutes remaining in the station.
- All stations have a standardized patient with which the candidate interacts. There is no physical contact between the candidate and the standardized patient.
- Depending on the number of candidates, a candidate may have break stations during the exam. The candidate must stay in the designated room during their break station.
- With station transitions, the exam is approximately 2.5 hours long.

Location

The OSCE is administered in Calgary AB.

Health Sciences Centre, University of Calgary
3330 Hospital Drive NW
Calgary AB

Parking is available for a fee.

Professional Conduct

All candidates will display professional behaviour at all times at the examination site and will adhere to the Candidate Code of Conduct. Failure to do so may have an impact on the candidate's access to the examination and/or results.

Confidentiality

All examination materials are the property of the Canadian Denturist Multijurisdictional Examination and protected by law. No material may be recorded, divulged, reproduced, or relayed in any manner at any time. Candidates must continue to maintain examination confidentiality at all times during and after the examination and must not discuss the examination content with anyone, including other candidates. Any breach of examination material confidentiality is an extremely serious event and will result in the forfeiture of the examination attempt, fees, and potential further penalties and legal proceedings as are deemed necessary by CDMRE.

All examination materials and results are strictly confidential. Only an appropriate regulatory body may report, publicize, or distribute such information.

Conflict of Interest

I agree to notify examination staff immediately of any conflicts of interest arising before or during the examination. These may be persons at the examination site and/or participating in the examination including:

- any dentist or staff from any workplace that I have attended in the past three years,
- any family members in the profession, and
- any denturists who I know or have known personally.

Candidates are obligated to report to examination or College staff any improper conduct or if a violation of examination security is suspected before, during, or after the examination.

Exam Day Check In

Dress Code

Candidates are required to wear scrubs/clinic attire and comfortable shoes. Street wear is NOT permitted. Any logos or other identifiers (school, employer, individual) must be removed or securely and fully covered with opaque (duct) tape.

PLEASE NOTE:

- There is no smoking on the examination premises.
- Please do not wear scented cosmetics, perfumes or clothing as some individuals are very sensitive to such substances and you may be refused entry to the examination.

Candidates will be required to wear an identification badge at all times during the examination process. This badge will be provided at check in.

Arrival

- Prior to the examination day, candidates will be provided with, via email, the time at which they should report to the examination site.
- Candidates will not enter the examination site before the time that they were told to report to the examination site. Candidates will not be permitted to enter early for any reason including the use of a telephone or washroom.
- If candidates arrive later than 30 minutes after their scheduled time to report for check in, they will not be permitted to enter the examination site without the discretionary consent of the Chief Examiner.
- No one may accompany the candidate to the examination site unless previously requested and permission granted by the regulatory authority.

What to bring to the exam

- Government-issued photo identification is required. Candidates are encouraged to leave all unnecessary personal belongings at home.

Secure storage of personal belongings

- Candidates will hand over all personal belongings (i.e., wallet, purse, watch, phone, jacket, papers) to examination staff upon check in. These items will be labeled with the candidate's name and kept in a secure room for the duration of the examination. Upon dismissal, at the end of the examination, candidates' belongings will be returned to them.
- Candidates are strongly encouraged not to bring or wear valuables, such as jewelry, to the examination. Examination personnel have the authority to inspect and request that you remove these items.
- Should any valuables, or other personal belongings need to be stored for you, the College, the examination site, and all examination personnel will not be responsible for the possible loss or damage to these items.
- Any materials that may compromise the administration or security of the examination, that were not handed in at check in, will be confiscated and the candidate in possession of such may not be permitted to begin the examination, or to continue if already in progress., Confiscated items together with a report of the incident will be kept until any inspection or investigation is complete.

Permitted items

- Candidates are encouraged to eat well before arriving; however, candidates may bring your own snack food into the examination with the following conditions:
 - the item(s) must be packaged in a clear plastic bag
 - any paper wrappers must be removed
 - any remaining snack foods must be turned in before leaving the examination.
- Candidates may have personal need items on their person during the examination. These include, but are not limited to, tissues, lip balm, or personal hygiene items. If needed, the following conditions must be met:
 - the item(s) must be packaged in a clear plastic bag
 - any paper wrappers must be removed
 - the item(s) must be shown to the examination personnel at check in
- If candidates must take any medication while at the examination site, they may bring it with them and show it to examination personnel at check in. Any packaging, product inserts or other related materials will be checked with other candidate belongings.
 - the item(s) must be packaged in a clear plastic bag
 - any paper wrappers must be removed (any medical packaging, inserts or written material related to medications must be left at home or checked in with personal belongings)
- if a candidate needs a mobility aid during the examination, they may be used, and the candidate should notify the College prior to the examination. These items will be inspected by examination personnel.

Provided Items

- Candidates will be provided all required materials for the examination at check in. Candidates are required to keep these in their possession during the examination. These are:
 - booklet for notes
 - pen/pencil
 - sheet of candidate labels (these will be explained during orientation)
 - candidate identification badge
- Candidates will check to make sure that the candidate number on the candidate labels matches the one on their identification badge.
- At the conclusion of the examination, all work products and examination materials will be retained by the examination team. Further instruction will be provided onsite.

Exam Day Information

Washrooms

Candidates may use the washroom prior to the commencement of the OSCE and after orientation. Candidates who require the use of the washroom during the OSCE will be escorted, one at a time, with the permission of examination personnel. A candidate's examination time allotment will not be paused for this purpose.

Candidates will also have scheduled breaks during which time they may request permission to use the washroom facilities. They will be accompanied/supervised by examination personnel.

Candidates may refer to the Exam accommodations policy should the need for additional washroom access be anticipated due to medical necessity. This must be arranged before the examination.

Examination Centre Conditions/Environment

Although all attempts are made to ensure the comfort of all candidates and personnel, conditions are sometimes beyond our control (e.g., temperature fluctuations).

Before Starting the Examination

1. Candidates will check in at the registration desk at the examination site and will be directed to a secure room where all candidates will await further orientation and instruction.
2. Candidates will receive an orientation to the examination procedures and schedule. Questions regarding possible examination content or appropriateness of responses will not be answered at this time.
3. Candidates will read, sign, hand in, and comply with the *Candidate's Agreement*. This is a legal agreement that candidates are required to uphold at all times, both during and after the examination.
4. Candidates will be instructed to sign your name on the front of your notebook.
5. There may be a wait time before starting the examination.
6. Once the check in, distribution of materials and instructions and any wait times (if applicable) are complete, you will be escorted to your first station to begin the examination.

During the Examination

- Candidates may converse with examination personnel as required, in a discrete and confidential manner.
- Candidates will not have any physical contact with the standardized patients. There are no intraoral examinations within the OSCE. All necessary material will be provided to the candidate outside or inside the examination room.
- From the time candidates check in until they leave the examination site, they must not converse or communicate with another candidate in any manner nor speak or read out loud except when interacting with standardized patients or examination personnel. Violation of this rule may result in not being permitted to finish the examination and the cancellation of the candidate's standing in the session.
- Candidates will have scheduled breaks during which time they may request permission to use the washroom facilities. Candidates will be accompanied/supervised by examination personnel.
- Candidates must not mark or deface any of the references or examination materials provided for the candidate's use at the OSCE station. Candidates who mark or deface the references or examination materials in any manner may be charged for the cost of replacement.
- Candidates may write only in the Candidate booklet provided at check in.

After Finishing the Exam

Candidates will hand in the following materials:

- Candidate Identification Badge
- Notepad and pen/pencil
- Sheet of unused labels
- Any other examination materials supplied at the examination site

Candidates will then:

- sign out on the candidates' register
- be provided with their personal belongings, if any, that were checked in
- leave the examination site promptly and only when officially instructed to do so by examination personnel
- continue to observe all procedures and the rules of conduct as outlined throughout this document the *Candidate's Agreement*, and any other instruction provided by examination or College staff.

Things to Consider

Incident Reports

- If a candidate experienced anything during the exam that they feel may have negatively affected their exam performance, they must notify examination personnel, as soon as possible, on the day of the exam prior to leaving the examination site. This allows the gathering of information while it is still fresh at mind.
- Filing an incident report is a requirement should a candidate wish to lodge an appeal after an unsuccessful exam result. The following are grounds for an appeal that require an incident report:
 - Illness on examination day
 - Personal emergency e.g. unforeseen emergency or trauma
 - Procedural irregularities

Process

- The candidate notifies staff working during the exam to fill out a report immediately and are given the opportunity to complete a report immediately following the OSCE.
- In their report, the candidate describes the situation in as much detail as possible (i.e., explain how it affected their performance negatively).

Exam Discontinuation

- In the event that a candidate begins to feel unwell during the examination, they should notify examination personnel immediately. The candidate should complete an incident report.
- If the candidate has started the examination and does not wish to continue or is unable, examination personnel will document the departure in an incident report.
- If the candidate leaves the examination for any reason, they will be required to sign an Exam Discontinuation Waiver.

Telephone Use, Messages and Transportation Arrangements

- Candidates will not be permitted to use a telephone at any time while at the examination site.
- Candidates must make all arrangements, such as transportation or meeting time and place, before entering the examination site. When arranging a meeting place, it must be outside of the examination building.

Other Extraordinary Circumstances

If at any time before an upcoming examination administration, should there arise any circumstances including such factors as weather, transportation, strikes, public health issues, or other reasons which may affect the scheduling arrangements and admission procedures for examinations, advisory information will be promptly posted on the College websites: www.denturists-cdo.com and www.abdenturists.ca. Please continue to check the websites for updates prior to the examination dates.

You will be required to comply with any health, safety, and security screening procedures, as posted in the examination centre or as verbally instructed by examination personnel.

FAQs

1. Will I be able to use the washroom during the exam?

Under dire circumstances, candidates are permitted to use the washroom. They will be accompanied by staff to and from. The examination timer will not be paused for washroom breaks.

2. Will I be able to take notes during the exam?

Yes, candidates are permitted to take notes. At exam registration onsite, candidates are provided with a booklet and pencil for this purpose. Booklets are collected and destroyed at the conclusion of the exam.

3. What is an OSCE scenario based on?

An OSCE scenario is based on what is found in the day-to-day practice of denturism. Basically, each OSCE station presents a denture problem or denture-related problem (e.g., implants) that needs to be addressed and solved. It is important to point out that denturists are an important part of a larger oral health professional community that rely on other skilled professionals to be part of the patient care team.

4. Are all the OSCE scenarios the same?

There are two types of OSCE scenarios. One that is clinical in nature, where candidates will be interacting with a patient and will need to discuss the scenario in language that the patient can understand. The second is more technical in nature, where the candidate will be expected to discuss the scenario in technical terms as best as they can. You will be advised prior to entering the station as to the type of encounter.

5. Who are the assessors in the room? And what are they looking for?

All assessors are experienced denturists who work in industry and offer denturist treatment to the public. They are volunteers who are trained to listen, observe, and assess the candidates.

In scenarios where the candidate interacts directly with a patient, the assessors are looking for the candidate to identify the problem and then offer a feasible treatment to correct the problem(s). In technical scenarios, the candidate is required to discuss the situation in "dental" terms. In both types of scenarios, the assessors are looking for proficiency and knowledge to solve the situation presented.

6. How are the OSCEs marked?

The scenarios that are presented will have situations where the candidate is to identify, discuss, and finally offer a solution. All the "points" that need to be addressed in the scenario are linked directly to the National Competency Profile. Throughout each scenario candidates are also being graded by the assessor on a communications scale which reflects the candidate's proficiency across five elements: Empathy, Coherence, Verbal Communication, Non-Verbal Communication, and Overall demonstration of knowledge. Once all scoring elements are marked, test forms are sent to an independent testing consultant who will score the exam.

7. Is there a single scenario that is more important than any other?

All stations are equally weighted in the overall scoring. There are no "drop dead" stations or "automatic fail" scenarios. In other words, candidates who feel they were not successful in one of the stations will have the opportunity to "make up for it" in other stations.

8. Is a candidate only to discuss the situation in the analogue format of the fabrication of dentures, or can they discuss treatment in the digital format?

The candidate is encouraged to offer the solution in the format they are most comfortable with.

9. Are candidates required to wear scrubs?

Yes. Due to the high volume of people on the day of the exam, candidates need to be identified quickly. Candidates will be required to surrender, before the exam, all watches, telephones, and clothing (ie: sweaters, hoodies) that are not required. Prescription eye wear (glasses) is acceptable, but any accessory may be subject to screening prior to entering the examination area.

10. Can the candidate appeal if they are not successful.

Absolutely the candidate can appeal. However, content cannot be challenged. An appeal is only accepted if a situation had occurred that impacted the candidate's ability to finish a station properly (i.e., your chair broke, a loud noise interfered with the candidate's concentration). In fact, if a candidate knows they will have difficulty during the exam (e.g., anxiety, or disability) they are encouraged to request exam accommodation. In order to file an appeal, the candidate must have completed an Incident report on the day of the exam and the appeal must be based on the events detailed in this incident report.

It is important to note, however, that the potential outcomes of a successful appeal are a nullification of the examination attempt so as to not count against the attempt limit and/or a reduction in the cost for reassessment at the discretion of the registrar of the province through which the candidate has registered for the exam. Appeals cannot result in a change in exam outcome from Fail to Pass under any circumstances.