



The National Exam Standard

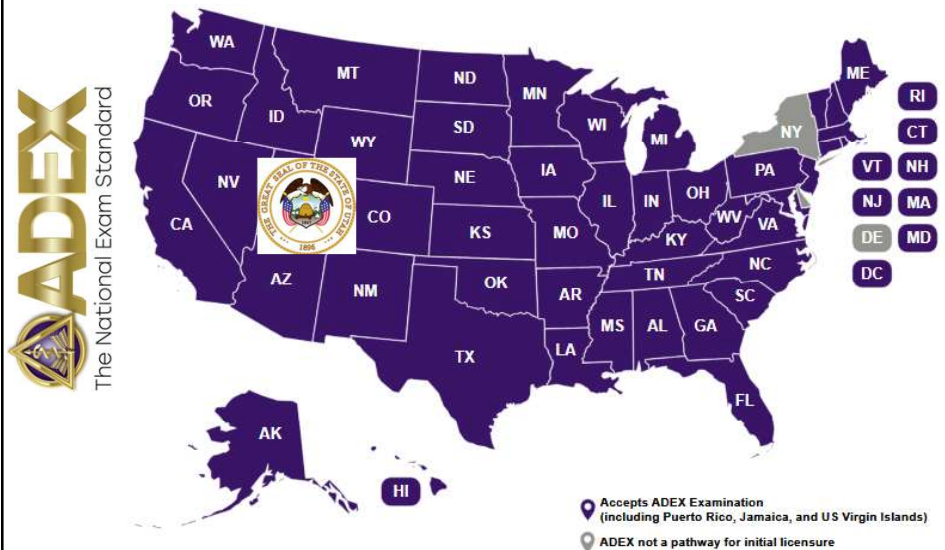
Prepared for the
Utah Dentist and Dental Hygienist Licensing Board

Stephen Prisby, ADEX Regulatory and Educational Affairs Director

June 5, 2026

1

National Dental Portability



2

What this Means for Candidates & Licensing

Reduced Travel Burden More testing sites across the U.S. to minimize travel distance and expenses, making examinations more accessible to candidates the state and area.	Enhanced Scheduling Flexibility Expanded geographic coverage reduces scheduling conflicts and provides more options for candidates to complete their licensure examinations at convenient times and locations.
Fully Equipped Facilities All testing locations are equipped with necessary clinical resources, functional equipment and comprehensive protocols to ensure optimal examination conditions.	Accelerated Workforce Growth Improved access to examinations supports timely licensure, helping address the growing demand for qualified oral healthcare professionals.



The National Exam Standard

5



AMERICAN BOARD of DENTAL EXAMINERS

Our Merger: What You Need to Know

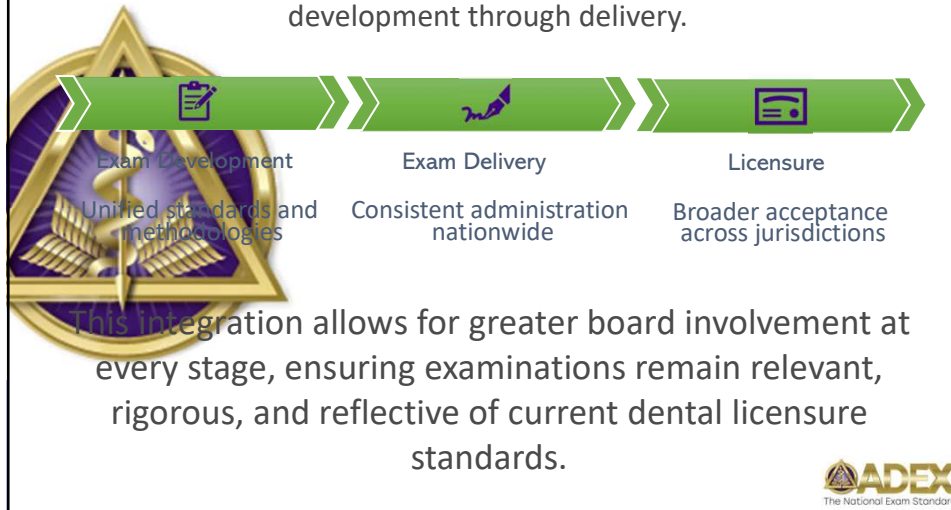
 Who CDCA-WREB-CITA (the nation's leading dental exam administrator) and the American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX), developer of the national ADEX licensure exam	 What Official merger into one organization: American Board of Dental Examiners	 What's Next Now operating and initiating Council on Examinations appointment process and engagement opportunities
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This strategic merger combines the strengths of both organizations to better serve dental professionals and regulatory boards across the nation.

6

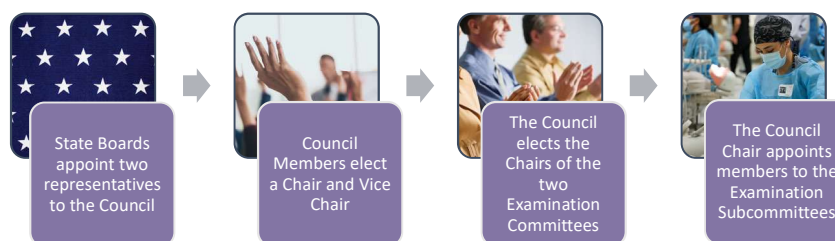
Streamlined Examination Process

The merger unites the entire examination lifecycle under one organization, creating a more efficient and cohesive process from development through delivery.



7

Council on Examinations Structure



How Utah contributes – scoring, content & criteria of the ADEX Exams

All members of the Council appointed by Dental Boards must be: (a) an active member of their Dental Board at the time of their appointment or have served on their Dental Board within the five-year period prior to their appointment, and (b) an Active Member of ADEX.

Dentists on the Council serve on the Dental Exam Committee.

Dental Hygienists on the Council serve on the Dental Hygiene Exam Committee.



8

Appointees on the Council on Examinations



Utah

Dr. Kel Faddis (Term Ends: 2028)

Mrs. Kathleen Harris (Term Ends: 2028)

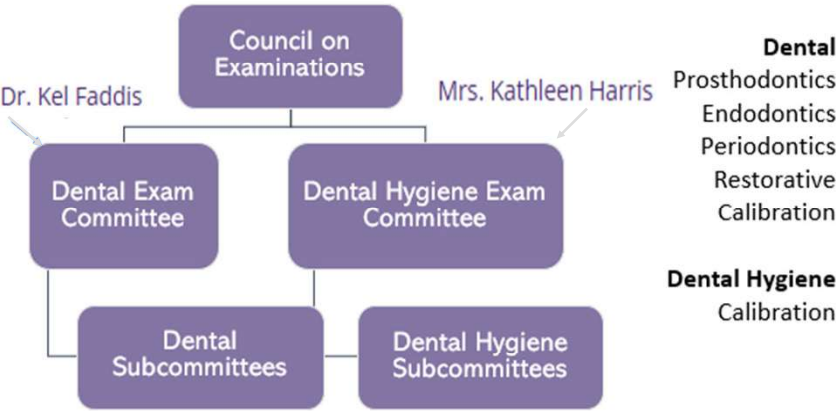
All Utah Dental Board Members are invited & encouraged to participate as Examiners.

The Public Members may participate in the examination process as well, but not as Examiners. They would have roles as Observers.

Council on Examinations Structure



Subcommittees support exam sections and special needs:



SHARED STANDARDS FOR PUBLIC PROTECTION



United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE – Medicine)

- ✓ National Licensure Exam for physicians
- ✓ Protection of Public through Standardized Exams
- ✓ Portability of Licensure
- ✓ Continuous Evolution with Modern Healthcare

American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX – Dentistry)

- ✓ National Licensure Exam for Dentist & Dental Hygienist
- ✓ Protection of Public through Standardized Exams – a single nationally recognized examination ensures consistent competency measures across all national candidates
- ✓ Portability of Licensure – Removes barriers to mobility increasing access to care nationally
- ✓ Continuous Evolution with Modern Healthcare – OSCE and Patient Simulations

11

2026

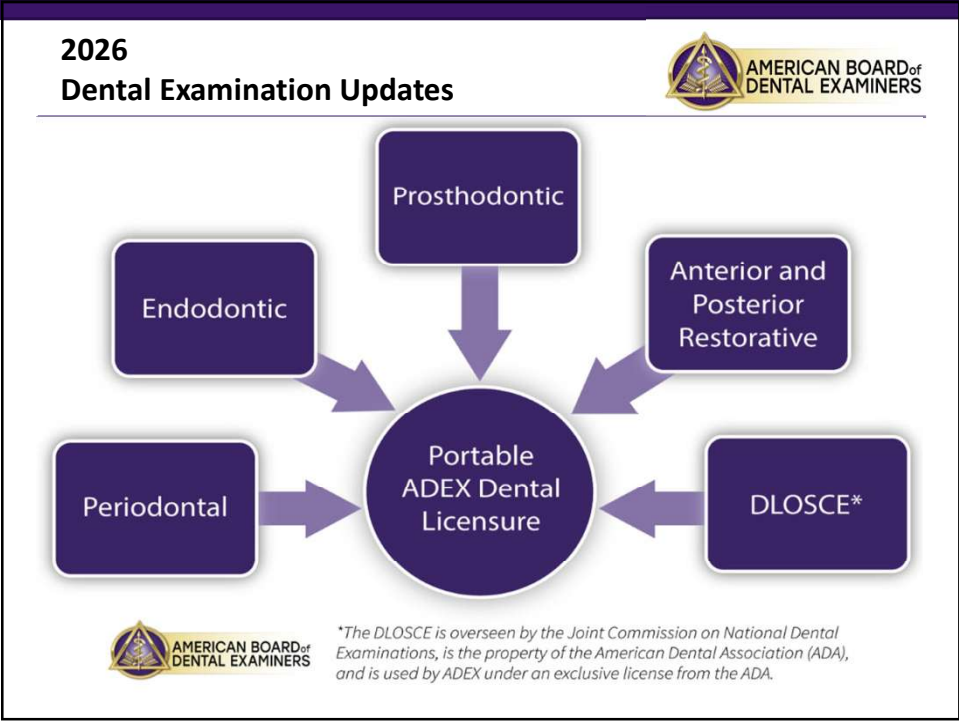
Dental Examination Updates



- **Periodontal Examination will be Required (August 2026)**
- Adding Calculus Detection
- Adding Pocket Depth 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 for scaling • 12 assigned key surfaces evaluated for calculus removal (5.5 points each)	66
Complete Calculus Removal	• Evaluation of calculus removal on all remaining surfaces within assigned quadrant. Calculus remaining: • 1 surface (-3 points) • 2 or more surfaces (-6 points)	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

12



13

**2026
Dental Examination Updates**

ADA American Dental Association®

April 14, 2026

American Dental Association and American Board of Dental Examiners Advance Dental Licensure Examinations Through New Agreement

ADEX to Incorporate the Dental Licensure Objective Structured Clinical Examination (DLOSCE) into the ADEX Dental Examination no later than Aug. 1, 2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ADA American Dental Association®

AMERICAN BOARD of DENTAL EXAMINERS

Dental Association and American Board of Dental Examiners Advance Dental Licensure Examinations Through New Agreement

On April 14, 2026, the American Dental Association (ADA) and the American Board of Dental Examiners (ABDE) announced a new agreement to incorporate the Dental Licensure Objective Structured Clinical Examination (DLOSCE) into the ADEX Dental Examination no later than Aug. 1, 2026.

The agreement represents an important milestone for the dental profession, as it aligns pathways to licensure and advancing patient care. By aligning pathways to licensure and advancing patient care, we are strengthening licensure portability, supporting a more mobile and flexible workforce, and ensuring that patient safety remains paramount. The ADA has long advocated for modernizing licensure while protecting the public, and this collaboration represents a significant step forward in modernizing dental licensure and advancing patient care.

The ADA's DLOSCE simplifies licensure pathways and supports licensure for candidates seeking to practice in 48 states and other jurisdictions—including C, Puerto Rico, Jamaica, and the U.S. Virgin Islands—that currently accept or require the ADEX Dental Examination.

The ADEX Dental Examination with its DLOSCE component represents a modernized, efficient approach to evaluating clinical competence and readiness for practice. The examination will continue to assess candidates' clinical hand skills alongside their judgment and decision-making abilities. Through inclusion of the DLOSCE, the ADEX Dental Examination will benefit from the DLOSCE's extensive use of images and 3D models that allow candidates to demonstrate their clinical judgment in scenarios that closely mirror real-world practice.

"ADEX has long served state dental boards to support licensure processes that reflect both public protection and clinical competence," said Dr. Mark Armstrong, Chair of ADEX. "This agreement

14

Dental Examination Updates



Question: What is changing?

Answer: The American Dental Association (ADA) and the American Board of Dental Examiners (ABDE) have reached an agreement for ABDE to license and incorporate the Dental Licensure Objective Structured Clinical Examination (DLOSCE) into the ABDE Dental Examination.

The updated model will:

- Maintain the assessment of clinical hand skills
- Continue evaluating treatment planning and decision-making
- Incorporate DLOSCE components that assess clinical judgment through case-based scenarios

15

Dental Examination Updates



Question: Why is this happening?

Answer: This agreement reflects a shared commitment to advancing clinical licensure in a way that supports public health, strengthens consistency in assessment, and ensures that dentists demonstrate the competence required for safe and effective practice.

It also supports ongoing efforts to align licensure assessments with current clinical practice, education, and technology.

16

Dental Examination Updates



Question: **When** does it take effect?

Answer: Scheduling for the updated ADEX Dental Examination will open in June 2026 for candidates testing in 2027.

- The DLOSCE will no longer be offered or administered as a standalone examination to new DLOSCE candidates, except in conjunction with the ADEX Dental Examination, after August 1, 2026.
- All standalone administrations of the DLOSCE will cease after October 9, 2026

17

Dental Examination Updates



Question: **How** will this support license portability?

Answer: This change is intended to support greater consistency and portability in licensure pathways.

The ADEX Dental Examination is currently accepted or required in 48 states and additional jurisdictions, including Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, Jamaica, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Incorporating the DLOSCE supports further alignment in how clinical competence is assessed across jurisdictions.

18


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**AMERICAN BOARD of
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Dental Licensure Objective Structured Clinical Examination

(DLOSCE™)



DLOSCE is overseen by the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations, is the property of the ADA, and is used under an exclusive license from the ADA.

19


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- Candidates registered for the ADEX exam after June 1, 2026, will take the DLOSCE
- 150 questions administered at the Prometric Testing Center
- 75 or greater to pass
- Scores release timing will be announced in June

DLOSCE CONTENT	
Restorative	24%
Diagnosis, Preparations, Restorations	
Direct and Indirect	
Prosthodontics	19%
Removable, Fixed and Implants	
Oral Pathology, Pain Management, and Temporomandibular Dysfunction	13%
Oral Pathology/Oral Medicine & Orofacial Pain and TMD	
Periodontics	10%
Diagnosis, Treatment Planning and Etiology	
Oral Surgery	9%
Diagnosis, Treatment Planning and Extractions	
Endodontics	8%
Diagnosis, Treatment Planning, Emergency Management & Post-Treatment Evaluation	
Orthodontics	6%
Treatment Screening, Space Management	
Medical Emergencies	6%
Diagnosis, Management	
Prescriptions	5%
Antibiotic and Analgesic	

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20

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DLOSCE Administration Schedule	Section Minutes
Tutorial (optional)	25
Section 1 (37 Questions)	75
Scheduled Break (optional)	10
Section 2 (37 Questions)	75
Section 3 (2 Prescription Tasks)	10
Scheduled Break (optional)	30
Section 4 (37 Questions)	75
Scheduled Break (optional)	10
Section 5 (37 Questions)	75
Post-examination Survey	20
Total Time	6 hours 45 minutes

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21

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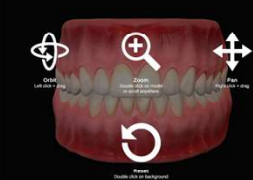
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☒ Maxillary

☒ Mandibular







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22

11

Dental Examination Updates



[JCNDE.org](https://jcnde.org): DLOSCE Technical Report



23

ADEX Dental Statistics



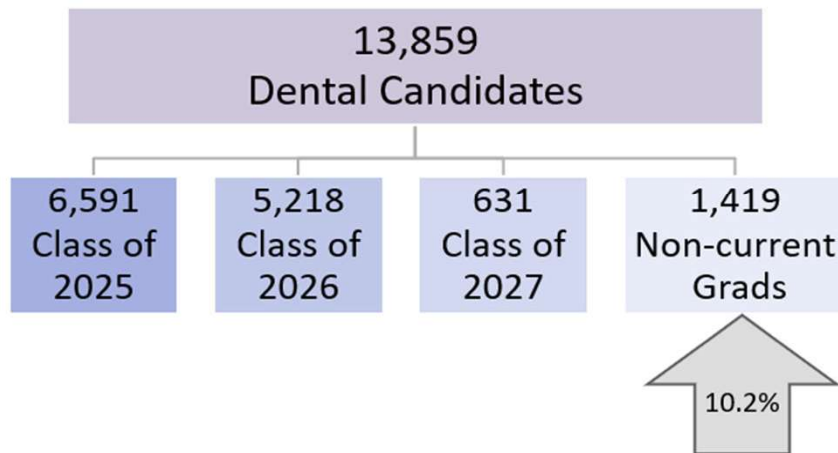
78 Dental Schools Offered ADEX

2024: 13,077 candidates

2025: 13,859 candidates

24

Exam Year 2025 only



25

Dental Class
of 2025Initial and
End of Year Pass Rate**2025 Graduates**

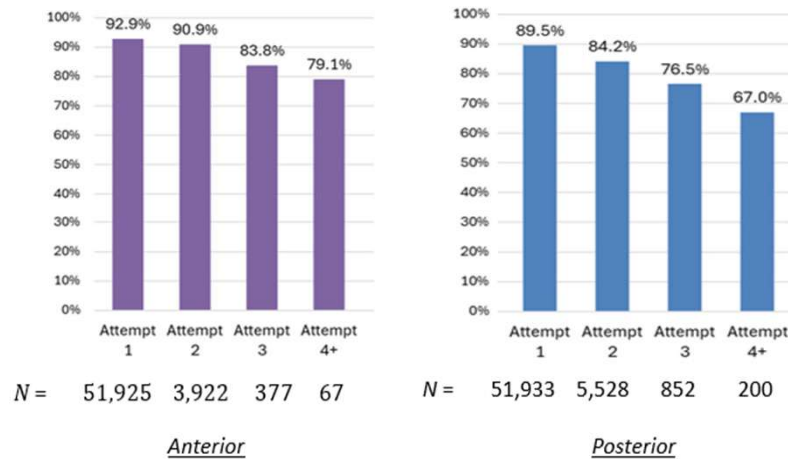
	# Cands	First Attempt	End of Year
Endodontics	6,750	77.10%	99.29%
Prosthodontics	6,752	87.81%	99.50%
Periodontics	6,738	99.23%	99.99%
Anterior Restorative	6,725	93.77%	99.69%
Posterior Restorative	6,726	88.91%	99.49%

26

Anterior & Posterior Restorative 2015 to 2025 Passing Percentages by Attempt Number



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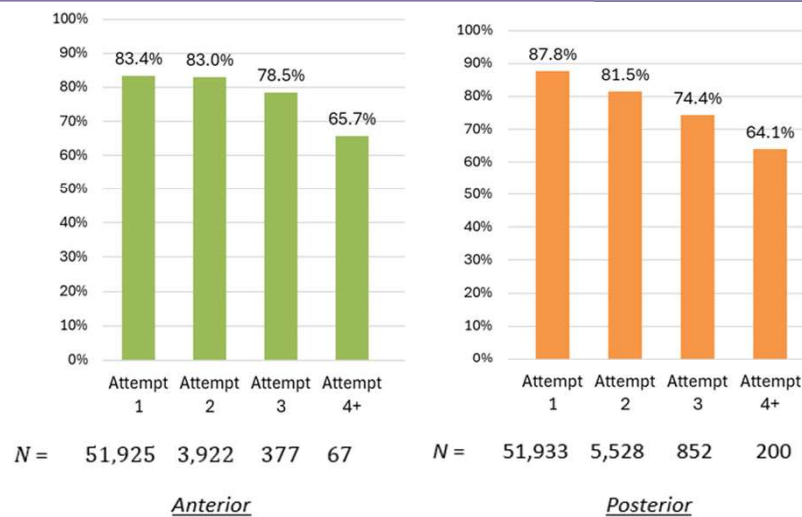


27

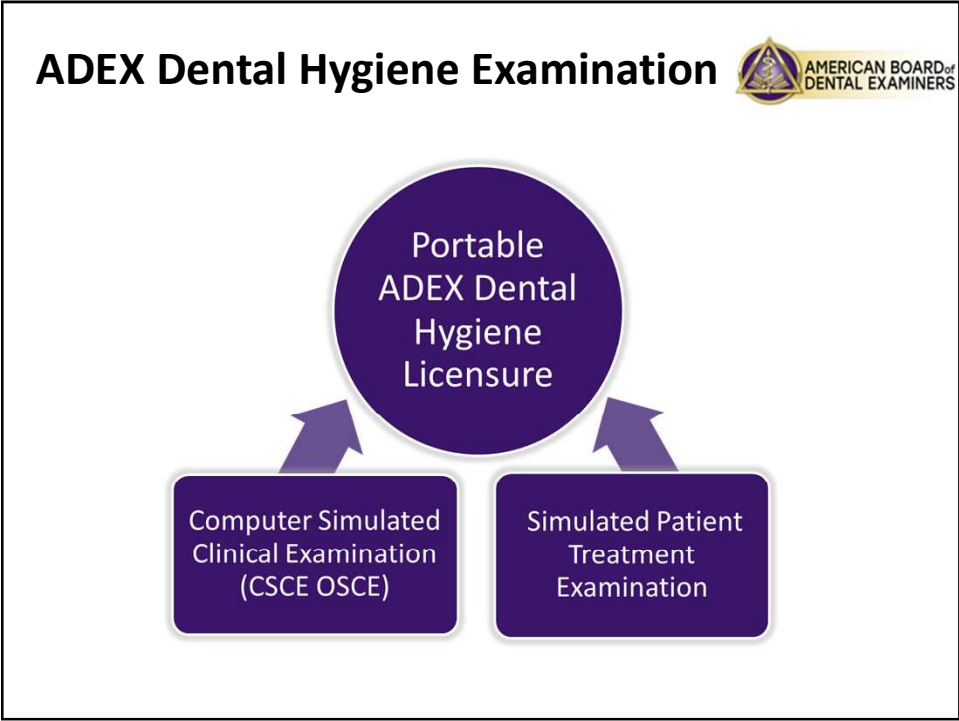
Endodontics & Prosthodontics 2015 to 2025 Passing Percentages by Attempt Number



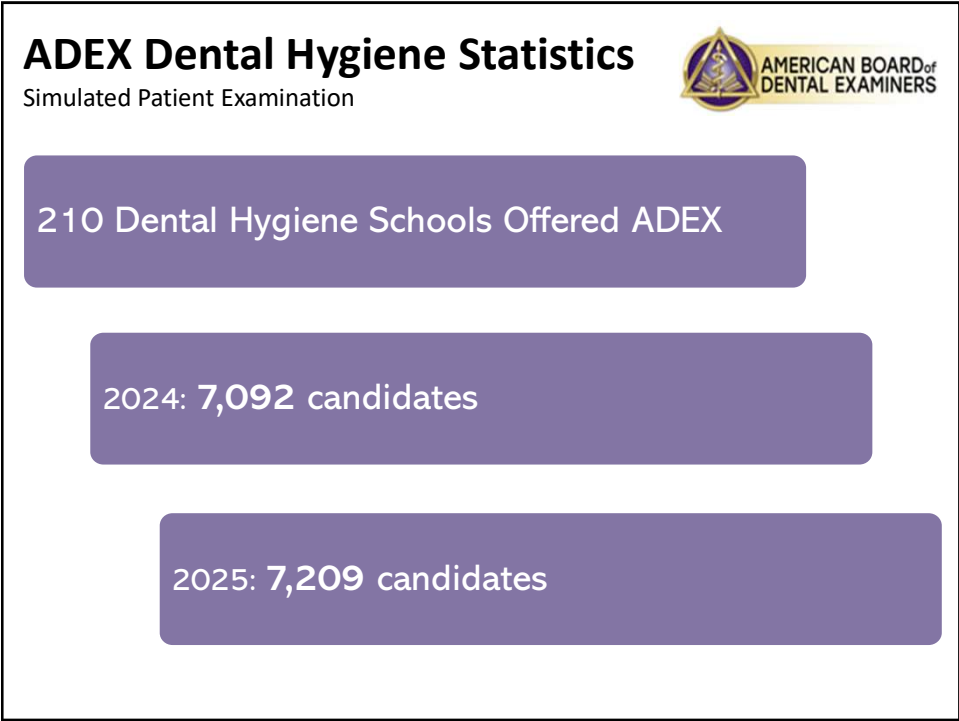
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28

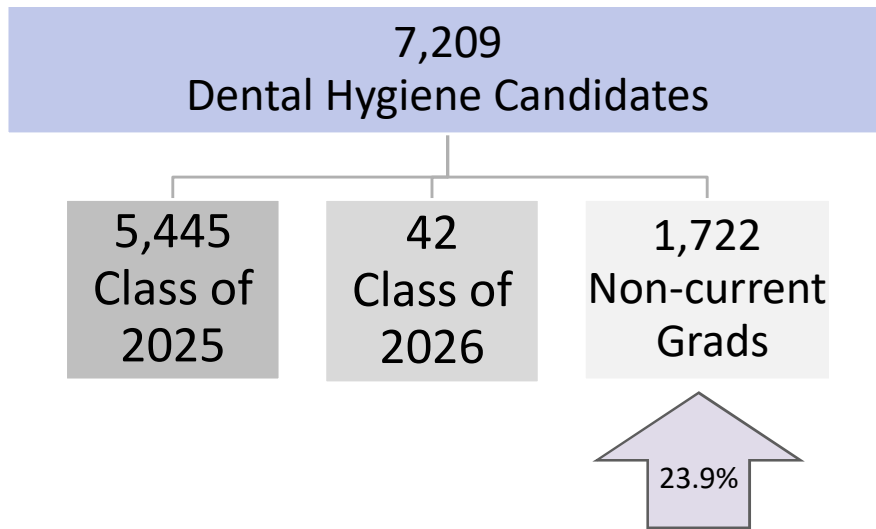


29



30

2025 Dental Hygiene Candidates
Exam Year 2025 only

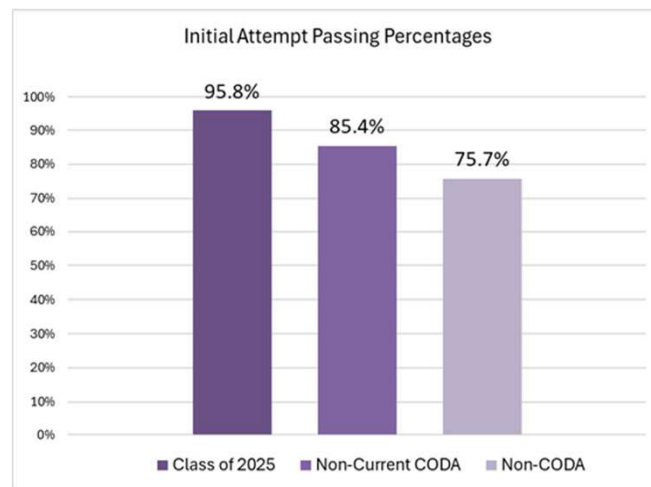


31

Clinical Exam - Initial Attempt Passing



Class of 2025, CODA Non-Current, Non-CODA



32

Dental Hygiene
Class of 2025

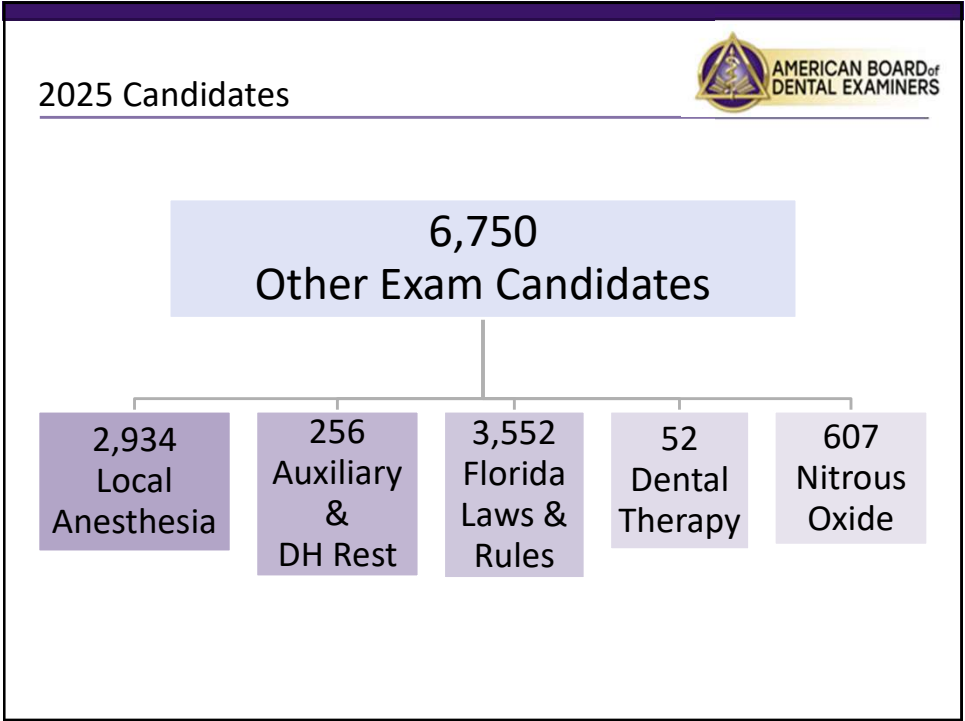
Initial and
End of Year Pass Rate



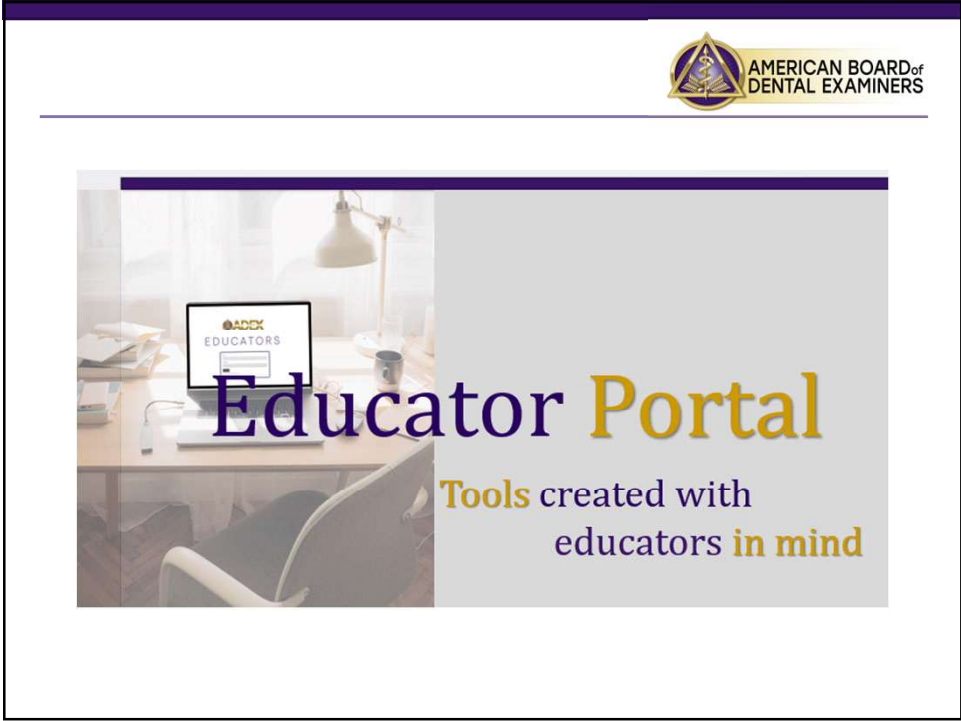
2025 Graduates

	# Cands	First Attempt	End of Year
CSCE OSCE	5,330	99.47%	99.77%
Dental Hygiene Clinical Examination (SPTCE)	5,470	95.76%	99.63%

33



34



35



36


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Faculty & Student Webinars available

37


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<https://adextesting.org>



OTHER EXAMS

Dental (ADEX)

- Dental Hygiene (ADEX)
- Dental - Sedation
- Dental Therapy
- Dental Hygiene - Nitrous Oxide
- Local Anesthesia
- EFDA - Expanded Function Dental Auxiliary
- Dental Hygiene Restorative
- Florida Laws & Rules
- Computer-Based Examinations
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38

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I have a Question I have a Question

Examiners **State Board Members / Representatives**
I have a Question I have a Question

39

Highlights and Strategic Initiatives

**AMERICAN BOARD of
DENTAL EXAMINERS**

- **Dental Testing Summit – ADEX Annual Meeting Oct 15 - 17 at the Gaylord National Harbor outside Wash D.C.**
- **ADEX Exam in Saudi Arabia Jan 2026 – offered at first CODA- Accredited school in the Eastern Hemisphere**
-
- **Licensure Compact Monitoring**
- **ADA DLOSCE integration into ADEX Dental Exam**
- **ADEX is currently conducting an Occupational Job Task Analysis (OJTA) for the ADEX Dental Hygiene Exam**
- **ADEX Website updated**

40



The National Exam Standard

Thank You for your time today.

Stephen Prisby, ADEX Regulatory and Educational Affairs Director
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