INBDE (Integrated National Board Dental Exam)

Purpose

The purpose of the Integrated National Board Examination is to assist jurisdictional boards in determining the qualifications of those who seek licensure to practice dentistry.

- Acceptance of the INBE is at the discretion of individual licensing jurisdictions. Currently, all United States licensing jurisdictions recognize the INBDE, these jurisdictions include all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the US Virgin Islands.
- Additional information regarding licensure and licensure requirements can be found at the following links:
  - https://www.ada.org/resources/licensure
  - https://www.ada.org/resources/licensure/dental-licensure-by-state-map

Components of the INBDE

1. **Standalone Component**
   - 300 questions
   - 60% of the exam
2. **Case-Based Component**
   - 200 questions
   - 40% of the exam

The questions in each component are followed by a list of possible answers. Each question will have at least three and not more than five possible answer choices. All of the questions on the INBDE are multiple choice, and only one of the responses is considered to be the correct, or best, option.

Examples of INBDE item formats:

Some questions require you to complete a sentence:

- The crista terminalis is a smooth muscular ridge in superior portion of the:

    A. Right atrium

    B. Left atrium

    C. Right ventricle

    D. Left ventricle

- The thick myofilaments are located in the:

    A. H zone

    B. I band

    C. A band

    D. All of the above

Some questions require you to directly answer them:

- Which heart valve is located between the left atrium and the left ventricle?

    A. Tricuspid valve

    B. Mitral valve

    C. Pulmonary valve

    D. Aortic valve

- Which of the following supplies secretomotor fibers to the parotid gland?

    A. Masseteric nerve

    B. Auriculotemporal nerve

    C. Facial nerve

D. Trochlear nerve

Some questions are negatively-worded and include a word such as EXCEPT or NOT. These key words are capitalized to alert you to the negative wording of the question.

- All of the following are intraperitoneal organs EXCEPT one. Which one is the EXCEPTION?

    A. Stomach

    B. Gallbladder

    C. Liver

    D. Pancreas

- Which of the following statements is NOT true regarding erythrocytes? They:

    A. Are biconcave in shape

    B. Have a lifespan of 30 days

    C. Have no nucleus

    D. Are disposed of by the spleen

Case-based Question Component

Case-based questions involve a **Patient Box**. The **Patient Box** presents information available to the dentist at the time of the dental visit. If no information is presented in each area of the **Patient Box**, assume the information is either unknown or is not available. For example, if no allergies are listed, assume the patient has no known allergies at the time of dental visit. Always consider information presented in the **Patient Box** when answering these questions and pay close attention to all provided patient information.

Example of a Patient Box

Patient
Male, 43 years old
Chief Complaint
"My tooth hurts sometimes."
Background and/or Patient History
Medical History: • Well-controlled asthmatic • Well-controlled hypertension **Current Medications:** • Montelukast (Singulair®) 10 mg daily • Losartan (Cozaar®) 25 mg daily • Albuterol inhaler prn **Allergies:** No known drug allergies **Dental History:** Non-contributory **Social History:** The patient is a social drinker and denies tobacco use
Current Findings
BP: 130/83 Height: 5'10" Weight: 190 lbs

Note: In addition to the patient box, some cases may have dental charts, x-rays or photos. The Universal Numbering System for teeth is used for the INBDE.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

Commonly used acronyms and abbreviations may appear on the INBDE. Please refer to the Acronyms and Abbreviations document posted at:

https://jcnde.ada.org/-/media/project/ada-organization/ada/jcnde/files/common_acronymsandabbreviations.pdf

to review a list of acronyms and abbreviations that might appear on your exam.

INBDE Schedule:

The total time given for the exam is twelve hours and 30 minutes, this includes the optional tutorial, scheduled breaks, and post-examination survey. The exam occurs over two days. The second day of the exam must occur within seven (7) days of the first day. **Note:** The exam does not need to occur over two consecutive days. Both days must occur at the same test center. If you do not test on two days within a 7-day period and at the same test center, you will be required to retest at your own expense.

Day 1		
Sections	**Content**	**Time allowed**
Tutorial (optional)		15 minutes
Section 1	100 standalone questions	1 hour and 45 minutes
Break		15 minutes
Section 2	100 standalone questions	1 hour and 45 minutes
Break		30 minutes
Section 3	100 standalone questions	1 hour and 45 minutes
Break		15
Section 4	60 case-based questions	1 hour and 45 minutes

Day 1 total Time = 8 hours 15 minutes

Day 2		
Sections	**Content**	**Time allowed**
Tutorial (optional)		15 minutes
Section 5	70 case-based questions	1 hour and 45 minutes
Break		15 minutes
Section 6	70 case-based questions	1 hour and 45 minutes
Post-Exam Survey		15 minutes

Day 2 total Time = 4 hours 15 minutes

Total Time = 12 hours 30 minutes

For information regarding eligibility requirements, examination content and specifications, examination information, results information, application procedures, test center procedures, identification policy, examination regulations and rules of conduct please click on the link below:

https://jcnde.ada.org/-/media/project/ada-organization/ada/jcnde/files/inbde_candidate_guide