



Assessment of Fundamental Knowledge (AFK) Protocol

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Schedule

7:30 a.m.	Check-in
8:15 a.m.	Orientation
8:30 – 11:30 a.m.	Book I
12:30 p.m.	Afternoon check-in
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Book II

Check-in

During check-in, you will be issued an NDEB ID card. To receive the ID card, you must show current government issued photo identification. Acceptable forms of government issued photo identification are:

- driver's licence,
- passport, or
- provincial photo identification card.

The ID must be in English or French.

Photo identification must show your name exactly as it appears in your online profile and must not be expired. If the photo identification does not have an expiry date, it must have been issued within the last 10 years.

If you do not provide government photo identification you will not be admitted.

Format

The AFK consists of two books. Each book contains 150 single-answer multiple choice questions. Each question has a value of one. The lowest score for any question is zero.

Sample Question

The following is an example of an AFK question.

1. The most appropriate antibiotic for infections of pulpal origin is

Value

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| 1 | A. penicillin V. |
| 0 | B. lincomycin. |
| 0 | C. erythromycin. |
| 0 | D. tetracycline. |

ANSWER A B C D E

Content

AFK items are developed based on the Competencies for a Beginning Dental Practitioner in Canada. This document is available in the [Reference Materials & Resources](#) section of the NDEB website.

Terminology

Examination questions are updated on a regular basis as new knowledge becomes available.

The NDEB is aware that the American Academy of Periodontology (AAP) published a new disease classification in the Journal of Periodontology in June 2018. All NDEB examinations and assessments will use the previous AAP classification (1999).

The NDEB will notify examinees when the new disease classification is incorporated into its examinations and assessments.

Blueprint

The blueprint below gives the content areas and approximate percentage of questions in each area.

AFK Blueprint	Approximate % of Questions
Pharmacology & Therapeutics, Local Anesthesia, Medical Emergencies, Medicine including Physiology	24
Orthodontics, Pediatric Dentistry, Geriatric Dentistry, Special Needs Patient including Oral Embryology, Growth and Development	10
Periodontics including Microbiology and Immunology	10
Endodontics	6
Oral Medicine/Oral Pathology including Histology, Oral Radiology	17
Evidenced-based dentistry, Prevention, Infection Control, Ethics & Jurisprudence	7
Oral Surgery, Trauma, Oral Facial Pain, Dental Emergencies including Applied Anatomy	10
Cariology including Microbiology, Biochemistry, Restorative, Prosthodontics, Implants	16
Total	100%

Regulations

General

- You must be punctual for all sessions. If you arrive late for a session you may be denied entry to the examination.
- You cannot bring watches and/or devices with recording or transmitting/receiving abilities into the examination room.
- Outerwear of any kind is not permitted in the examination room.
- You must empty all pockets before entering or leaving the examination room.
- You must read and sign a Confidentiality and Non-disclosure Agreement provided on the morning of the examination. This agreement must be signed to receive results. A sample Confidentiality and Non-disclosure Agreement is available in your online profile, under the "Information" tab. We recommend you review it prior to the examination. NDEB examination content is confidential. All questions are property of the NDEB. Unauthorized disclosure of examination questions is prohibited under copyright laws. By signing the Confidentiality and Non-disclosure Agreement you agree to maintain the confidentiality of NDEB questions.
- Only bottled water, in a see through, plastic bottle, with the paper label removed, is allowed in the examination. For the OSCE, water will be provided by the staff.
- Food is not allowed in the examination room. If you require food, medicine, or medical equipment in the examination room you must submit a request pursuant to the NDEB test accommodations policy.
- You are allowed to have magnification for examinations that contain images. Magnification with lights will not be allowed.
- You can use the washroom facilities during an examination. If you use the washroom during the examination, an invigilator will accompany you. No extra time is given for washroom breaks.
- You are not permitted to bring any items, including a bag or purse into the washroom.
- Once the examination is in progress, if you leave the examination room for any reason, other than to use the washroom facilities, you will not be allowed to re-enter.
- You will not be allowed to leave the examination room when there are 10 minutes remaining.

Conduct on Examination Day

Before entering the examination room:

- Remove all outerwear, including hats, scarves, and jackets.
- Empty all pockets.
- Remove all large jewelry and watches and place in your bag or jacket.
- Turn off your cell phone and place it in your bag or jacket.
- Use the washroom.

When entering the examination room:

- Place all personal items in the area designated by the Test Administrator. The NDEB and individuals administering the examination are not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items.
- Locate your seat.
- Place your NDEB ID card on your desk. You must have this visible at all times.
- Do not talk to other examinees.

During the examination:

- You must not communicate, or attempt to communicate, with other examinees.
- You must not write on anything except the materials provided by the NDEB.
- If you need to use the washroom, raise your hand and wait for the invigilator to escort you.

At the end of the examination:

- You must stop writing when the Test Administrator indicates time is up. The transfer of answers from books to answer sheets must be completed within the session time.
- Remain in your seat until all your examination material is collected.
- You must not attempt to recreate questions or share specific test items with examinees, potential examinees, or study groups.

Misconduct

You must maintain the confidentiality of all NDEB content. You cannot discuss your examination with others or communicate about questions or answers before, during or after an examination.

If at any time you are suspected of compromising the security of the examination, including not complying with the regulations, you will be subject to the NDEB's By-laws regarding misconduct. Additional information on [misconduct](#) can be found on the NDEB website.

Test Accommodations

Test accommodations are granted on an individual basis and are dependent on the nature and extent of the request, documentation provided, and requirements of the examination. Read the NDEB's policies and procedures for [Test Accommodations](#) on the NDEB website.

Compassionate Appeals

Compassionate appeals must be submitted in writing within seven days of the Assessment to appeals@ndeb-bned.ca.

Information regarding [Compassionate Appeals](#) can be found on the NDEB website and in the [NDEB By-laws](#).

Results

Results are normally released within six weeks from the date of the examination. You will receive an email notification when your results are available in your online profile.

The results of the Assessment of Fundamental Knowledge will be sent to universities in Canada offering a Qualifying or Degree Completion Program. Results cannot be obtained from educational institutions or Provincial Licensing Authorities.

Results will not be released by telephone, email, or fax.

Passing Standard

To assure a consistent level of difficulty, the NDEB uses test equating and re-scaling procedures to correlate raw scores to scores on a reference examination and to a standardized passing score of 75.

You must obtain a minimum test equated, re-scaled score of 75 to be successful on an NDEB examination.

Manual Rescore

The appeal process for written style examinations is a manual rescore.

If you have received a failing grade on an examination, you have one month from the date results are released to request a manual rescore of your examination.

A manual rescore involves two NDEB staff members comparing the answers on your answer sheet with the master answer key. The result of the manual rescore will be the final score. In most circumstances, this process confirms that no errors occurred during the scanning and electronic scoring process.

Repeats

Each of the NDEB's examinations and assessments can be taken three times, except for the DSCKE which can be taken twice.