



Assessment of Fundamental Knowledge (AFK) Protocol

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Check-in

Prior to the examination, read [Prometric's test centre policies](#) including arrival and check-in procedures. These procedures may change at any time. It is your responsibility to know the test centre policies prior to your examination. If you do not comply with Prometric's policies, you may be refused access to the test centre.

During check-in at the Prometric test centre you must present 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.

During check-in, you will be scanned with a metal detector wand, fingerprinted, required to raise your pant legs above your ankles, empty and turn all pockets inside-out, and raise shirt sleeves above your wrists prior to entry into the test room.

Prometric staff will inspect eyeglasses, jewelry, and other accessories. These inspections will occur each time you enter the testing room.

You are advised to refrain from wearing jewelry besides wedding rings. Any other jewelry including ornate hair accessories will need to be removed and placed in the locker provided.

You will be provided with scratch paper and a pencil. These items will be collected at the end of the examination.

Format

The AFK is a 6 ½ hour examination with one scheduled 30-minute break. The AFK consists of 300 single-answer multiple-choice type questions. Each question has a value of one. The lowest score for any question is zero.

The examination will be administered electronically at Prometric test centres. The [NDEB's e-Exam Orientation](#) should be viewed prior to taking the AFK.

Sample Question

The following is an example of an AFK question.

The most appropriate antibiotic for infections of pulpal origin is

- penicillin V.
- lincomycin.
- erythromycin.
- tetracycline.

Content

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

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
Evidence-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

Failure to comply with any regulation may result in an accusation of misconduct.

General

- You must be punctual for all sessions. If you arrive late for a session you may be denied entry to the examination.
- Cell phones are prohibited in the examination room.
- All watches are prohibited in the examination room.
- Devices with recording or transmitting and/or receiving abilities are prohibited in 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 will be required to read and agree to a Confidentiality and Non-disclosure Agreement before you can begin the examination. If you do not agree, you will not be able to start the examination.
- You will have one scheduled break during the examination to use the washroom. If you take an unscheduled break it will be reported to the NDEB and may be considered misconduct.
- You will not have access to your locker during the scheduled break.

Due to public health orders, the NDEB may find it necessary to introduce new regulations or modify existing regulations for specific examination administrations. Any new or modified regulations will supersede regulations published in the protocol.

Misconduct

NDEB examination content is confidential. All questions are property of the NDEB. Unauthorized disclosure of examination questions is prohibited under copyright laws.

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. You cannot attempt to recreate questions.

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 examination to info@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 10 weeks 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.

Rescore

If you receive a failing grade, you have one month from the date results are released to request a verification of your score.

NDEB staff members confirm the score produced from the electronic examination matches the score provided to the examinee. The examinee's answers are then compared to the master answer key. NDEB staff also confirms the test equating and re-scaling (if applicable) has been calculated correctly.

Repeats

The AFK can be taken a maximum of three times.