

2021

Assessment of Fundamental Knowledge (AFK) Protocol

Revised April 2021



Contents

About the AFK.....	3
Check-in	3
<i>Additional check-in information for Prometric test centres.....</i>	<i>3</i>
Question Format	4
<i>Sample Question</i>	<i>4</i>
Content.....	4
<i>Blueprint.....</i>	<i>5</i>
Reference Materials.....	6
<i>Reference Texts.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Released Questions</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Tooth Numbering System</i>	<i>6</i>
Regulations	7
<i>General</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Booklet Examinations</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Electronic Examinations.....</i>	<i>7</i>
Misconduct.....	8
Test Accommodations	8
Compassionate Appeals.....	8
Results	9
Passing Standard	9
Rescore	9
Repeats	9



About the AFK

The purpose of the Assessment of Fundamental Knowledge (AFK) is to test biomedical science and applied clinical science knowledge. A passing grade is required before a participant can continue to the other examinations in the Equivalency Process.

The AFK is offered in two formats, electronic delivery at Prometric test centres and booklet format offered at select exam sites. Examinees will not be able to select the format.

The AFK consists of 200 single answer multiple-choice questions, delivered in two parts. You will have two hours to complete each part.

Specific format and schedule information will be provided when registration is confirmed.

Check-in

During check-in 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 staff may inspect eyeglasses, jewelry, and other accessories. These inspections will occur each time you enter the examination room. You are advised to refrain from wearing jewelry besides wedding rings as you may be asked to remove other jewelry including ornate hair accessories.

Additional check-in information for Prometric test centres

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.

Question Format

The AFK uses single answer multiple-choice type 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.

What is the most appropriate antibiotic for infections of pulpal origin?

- 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%

Reference Materials

Reference Texts

A list of reference materials recommended in Faculties of Dentistry in Canada can be found in the [Reference Materials and Resources](#) section of the NDEB website. The NDEB also references journal articles, clinical guidelines, and practice standards issued by specialty organizations.

Released Questions

The NDEB publishes many released questions which are available in the [Reference Materials and Resources](#) section of the NDEB website.

You are encouraged to use the resources available, including the released examination materials, on the NDEB website to prepare for the AFK. These resources are for personal use only.

The NDEB is aware of third-party providers of test preparation courses. Be advised that the NDEB is not affiliated with nor does it endorse any third-party providers of test preparation courses. The disclosure, distribution, solicitation and reconstruction of NDEB examination content is strictly prohibited, as is the use for commercial purposes of NDEB examination content, including the released examination material on the NDEB website.

Tooth Numbering System

The FDI two-digit tooth numbering system is used in all examinations.

FDI / UNIVERSAL NUMBERING SYSTEM

PERMANENT DENTITION

FDI	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	1.1	2.1	2.2	2.3	2.4	2.5	2.6	2.7	2.8	FDI
Universal	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Universal
Universal	32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	Universal
FDI	4.8	4.7	4.6	4.5	4.4	4.3	4.2	4.1	3.1	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.7	3.8	FDI
						RIGHT										LEFT	

PRIMARY DENTITION

FDI	5.5	5.4	5.3	5.2	5.1	6.1	6.2	6.3	6.4	6.5	FDI
Universal	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	Universal
Universal	T	S	R	Q	P	O	N	M	L	K	Universal
FDI	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.2	8.1	7.1	7.2	7.3	7.4	7.5	FDI
								LEFT			
						RIGHT					

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.
- Food is not allowed in the examination room.
- Water is not allowed in the examination room.
- If you require water, food, medicine, or medical equipment in the examination room you must submit a request pursuant to the NDEB test accommodations policy.
- You cannot leave and re-enter the examination room once the examination has started.

Booklet Examinations

- Your NDEB ID card must always be visible.
- You cannot write on anything other than the materials provided by the NDEB.
- You will not be allowed to leave the examination room when there are 10 minutes remaining.
- You must stop writing when directed by the Test Administrator.

Electronic Examinations

- You cannot write on anything other than the scratch paper provided. The scratch paper and pencil must be submitted to Prometric staff at the end of the examination.
- You can only use the washroom 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 AFK 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.

Visit [Appeals](#) for information on the process for verifying scores.

Repeats

The AFK can be taken a maximum of three times.