



# RULE-MAKING ORDER PERMANENT RULE ONLY

## CR-103P (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.360)

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

DATE: April 08, 2021

TIME: 11:55 AM

WSR 21-09-011

**Agency:** Department of Health- Dental Quality Assurance Commission

**Effective date of rule:**

**Permanent Rules**

- 31 days after filing.
- Other (specify) (If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)

**Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?**

- Yes  No If Yes, explain:

**Purpose:** WAC 246-817-120 Examination content. The Dental Quality Assurance Commission (commission) adopted permanent rule amendments to add the Joint Commission's Dental Licensure Objective Structured Clinical Examination (DLOSCE) to the list of allowable practical/clinical examinations and to allow an applicant the option to pass components of the practical examination using a maximum of two testing agencies administering all the practical examination sections in coordination with each other.

The commission adopted an emergency rule to add the Joint Commission on National Dental Examination's Dental Licensure Objective Structured Clinical Examination (DLOSCE) to the list of allowable practical/clinical examinations; and to allow an applicant to pass components of the practical examination using one or more testing agencies, rather than only one agency. When this permanent rule becomes effective, it will supersede the existing emergency rule.

In response to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), all regional, patient-based clinical dentist examinations were cancelled for 2020 in the United States. Examination restrictions have continued into 2021. Prior to COVID-19, the commission was evaluating the new DLOSCE as it was being developed. The pandemic caused the Joint Commission to publish the DLOSCE one year earlier than anticipated.

The commission received a request from the University of Washington School of Dentistry and other dental organizations to approve a new simulated-based clinical exam. The DLOSCE is a practical/clinical examination that is computer-based and does not use patients. Adding DLOSCE to the list of allowable practical/clinical examinations will allow graduates an additional examination option to obtain Washington State dentist licensure.

Regional examination testing agencies have developed simulated-based clinical dentist examinations to replace patient-based examinations. However, one or more of the testing agencies are unable to offer all required sections through simulated-based examination. Removing the requirement for all examination content sections to be passed with a single testing agency will provide additional options for new graduates to obtain clinical examinations for Washington State dentist licensure.

**Citation of rules affected by this order:**

- New: none
- Repealed: none
- Amended: WAC 246-817-120
- Suspended: none

**Statutory authority for adoption:** RCW 18.32.002 and RCW 18.32.0365

**Other authority:** RCW 18.32.040

**PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)**

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 21-04-024 on 01/25/2021 (date).

Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: The adopted rule does not differ from text of the proposed rule as published. The text does differ from the emergency rule filed. The commission determined during collaborative rule making that allowing two or more testing agencies was too broad and limited the number of testing agencies an applicant can use to two that have coordinated with each other. When this permanent rule becomes effective, it will supersede the existing emergency rule.

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

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**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.  
No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.  
A section may be counted in more than one category.**

**The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:**

Federal statute:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Federal rules or standards:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>

**The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:**

New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
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**The number of sections adopted in the agency's own initiative:**

New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>1</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
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**The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:**

New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
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**The number of sections adopted using:**

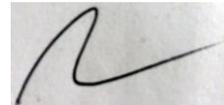
Negotiated rule making:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Pilot rule making:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Other alternative rule making:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>1</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>

**Date Adopted:** 03/12/2021

**Name:** Aaron Stevens, D.M.D.

**Title:** Dental Quality Assurance Commission Chairperson

**Signature:**



**WAC 246-817-120 Examination content.** (1) An applicant seeking dentist licensure in Washington by examination, must successfully pass a written and practical examination approved by the Dental Quality Assurance Commission (commission).

The examination will consist of:

(a) A written examination. The Integrated National Board Dental Examination, Parts I and II of the National Board Dental Examination, or the Canadian National Dental Examining Board examination will be accepted, except as provided in subsection (4) of this section.

(b) A practical examination containing at least the following sections:

- (i) Restorative;
- (ii) Endodontic;
- (iii) Periodontal;
- (iv) Prosthodontic; and
- (v) Comprehensive treatment planning or diagnostic skills.

(2) (a) The commission accepts the following practical examinations provided the testing agency offers at least the sections listed in subsection (1) (b) of this section:

(i) The Western Regional Examining Board's (WREB) clinical examination;

(ii) The Central Regional Dental Testing Services (CRDTS) clinical examination;

(iii) The Commission on Dental Competency Assessments (CDCA) formally known as Northeast Regional Board (NERB) clinical examination;

(iv) The Southern Regional Testing Agency (SRTA) clinical examination;

(v) The Council of Interstate Testing Agency's (CITA) clinical examination;

(vi) U.S. state or territory with an individual state board clinical examination;

(vii) The Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations dental licensure objective structured clinical examination (DLOSCE); or

(b) The commission will accept the complete National Dental Examining Board (NDEB) of Canada clinical examination as meeting its standards if the applicant is a graduate of an approved dental school defined in WAC 246-817-110 (2) (a).

(3) The applicant must pass all practical examination sections listed in subsection (1) (b) of this section (~~(of the practical examination)~~) with the following:

(a) The same testing agency; or

(b) A maximum of two testing agencies listed in subsection (2) (a) of this section administering all the practical examination sections in coordination with each other.

(4) The commission will only accept results of approved practical examinations taken within the preceding five years from the date of an application for licensure.

(5) The commission may, at its discretion, give or require an examination in any other subject under subsection (1) (a) and (b) of this section, whether in written or practical form or both written and practical.