

Date: July 18, 2018
To: Stakeholders and Communities of Interest
From: Dr. Lisa Heinrich-Null, Chair, Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations
Subject: Notice of INBDE Implementation and NBDE Discontinuation

In 2009, the Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations ("Joint Commission") initiated formal efforts to begin development of an examination program that integrates content from the biomedical, behavioral, and clinical sciences, to replace National Board Dental Examination (NBDE) Parts I and II. The purpose of the Integrated National Board Dental Examination (INBDE) mirrors that of the NBDE Program: to assist dental boards in determining the qualifications of individuals who seek licensure to practice dentistry. Throughout its development the INBDE has been focused on the clinical relevance of examination content, and the corresponding clinical relevance of the biomedical sciences. The INBDE is the product of a comprehensive strategic planning process, and years of rigorous psychometric research that have resulted in a substantial amount of evidence that supports usage of this examination in the licensure decision making process of dental boards.

This communication provides the Joint Commission's official notification to your organization that the INBDE will be available for administration beginning on August 1, 2020. Concomitantly, the NBDE Part I will be discontinued as of the day prior (July 31, 2020). The NBDE Part II will be discontinued two years later, on August 1, 2022. No further administrations of the NBDE will be provided after the aforementioned dates. The Joint Commission first announced anticipated details of the INBDE Implementation Plan on March 13, 2016, and the current schedule of activity is in accordance with those announced details. The Joint Commission's website (www.ada.org/JCNDE/INBDE) contains the INBDE Implementation Plan, as well as a tremendous amount of information concerning validity evidence for the INBDE, activity timelines, etc.

The INBDE Implementation Plan provides information concerning the dates of implementation, how implementation will occur, and general guidance on how best to prepare. In reviewing this plan, the Joint Commission recommends your organization take into consideration any modifications and/or adjustments that may be necessary to accommodate the discontinuation of NBDE Parts I and II. This Implementation Plan will be updated regularly so it remains current, as the Joint Commission responds to inquiries and releases any additional information to help stakeholders and communities of interest with the transition.

The [INBDE Retest Policy and Candidate Eligibility](#) document provides an example of a document that was created to help facilitate the transition to the INBDE. This document provides additional guidance through the clarification of retest policies and unique issues that will be present during the transition period. Candidates are advised to consider their available options well in advance of testing. Dental school faculty will also find this information useful in advising students and considering administrative or academic policy changes that may be needed.

The Joint Commission requests your assistance in communicating relevant INBDE information to those who would benefit from this information. The Joint Commission will continue to provide updates to help facilitate this transition as information becomes available. Please review and monitor INBDE information on the Joint Commission's website (www.ada.org/JCNDE/INBDE). Any questions regarding this notification can also be directed to the Joint Commission via nbexams@ada.org.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa Heinrich-Null", is displayed on a light-colored rectangular background.

Dr. Lisa Heinrich-Null, Chair
Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations

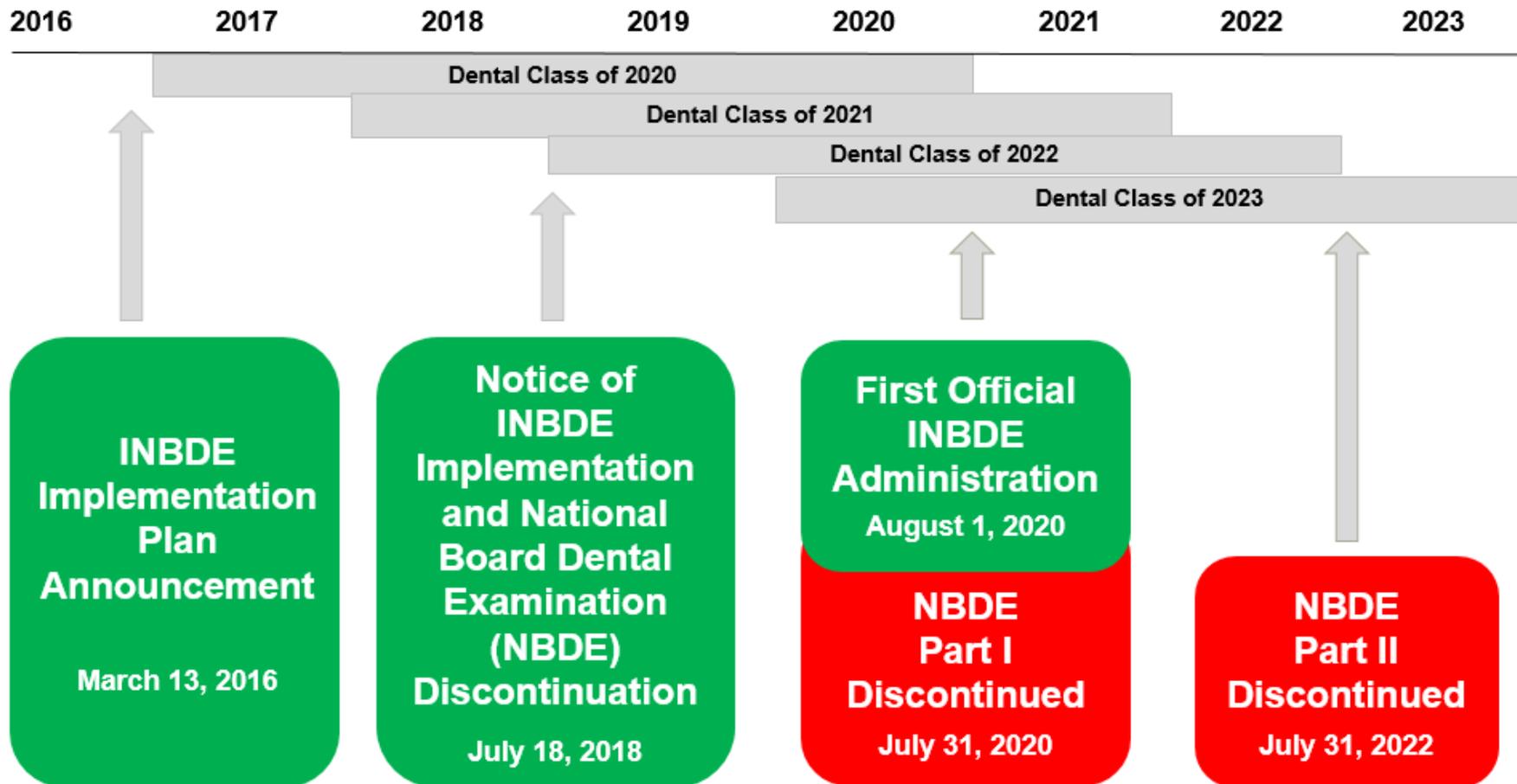
Integrated National Board Dental Examination (INBDE) Quick Facts

<p>Name of Examination</p>	<p>As presented on the JCNDE website, for purposes of administering the examination:</p> <p>Prior to Aug. 1, 2022:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The Integrated National Board Dental Examination</p> <p>Aug. 1, 2022 and beyond:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The National Board Dental Examination (NBDE)</p> <p>As presented on the Department of Testing Services' Results Reporting Hub ("DTS Hub"), for purposes of reporting candidate results to dental boards and schools:*</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The National Board Dental Examination (NBDE)</p> <p>*The DTS Hub will make no distinction between the NBDE and the INBDE.</p>
<p>First Date of Availability</p>	<p>August 1, 2020*</p> <p>*NBDE Parts I and II will be discontinued July 31, 2020 and July 31, 2022, respectively.</p>
<p>Content Domain and Test Specifications</p>	<p>The INBDE is designed to evaluate dental candidate cognitive skills based on the JCNDE's Domain of Dentistry: https://www.ada.org/~media/JCNDE/pdfs/domain_of_dentistry_july2018.pdf?la=en</p> <p>The INBDE Test Specifications can be downloaded here: https://www.ada.org/~media/JCNDE/pdfs/inbde_test_specs_july2018.pdf?la=en</p>
<p>Sample Questions</p>	<p>Sample INBDE questions can be obtained here: http://www.ada.org/~media/JCNDE/pdfs/INBDE_practice_questions.pdf?la=en</p>
<p>Eligibility</p>	<p>INBDE eligibility rules for students of U.S. dental schools accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) are determined by each dental school. Each school at its discretion may also institute its own specific requirements pertaining to the examination.</p>
<p>Administration</p>	<p>The INBDE will contain 500 questions and require 1 ½ days to administer. Administrations will occur at professional testing centers located throughout the US and Canada. The INBDE Candidate Guide will be made available December 2019. The INBDE Candidate Guide will also provide information concerning the test administration vendor.</p>
<p>Cost of Administration</p>	<p>The cost of administration will be communicated in December 2019.</p>

<p>General Policies and Procedures</p>	<p>Unless stated otherwise, INBDE policies and procedures are anticipated to be fully consistent with the policies and procedures of the National Board Dental Examination and National Board Dental Hygiene Examination. This includes, for example, policies concerning examination conduct and appeals.</p>
<p>Results Reporting</p>	<p>Candidate Results. INBDE results will be reported as Pass/Fail. For remediation purposes, candidates who fail the examination will be provided with information concerning their performance in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Overall results • Diagnosis and Treatment Planning • Oral Health Management • Practice and Profession • Molecular, biochemical, cellular, and systems-level development, structure and function • Physics and chemistry to explain normal biology and pathobiology • Physics and chemistry to explain the characteristics and use of technologies and materials • Principles of genetic, congenital and developmental diseases and conditions and their clinical features to understand patient risk • Cellular and molecular bases of immune and non-immune host defense mechanisms • General and disease-specific pathology to assess patient risk • Biology of microorganisms in physiology and pathology • Pharmacology • Sociology, psychology, ethics and other behavioral sciences • Research methodology and analysis, and informatics tools <p>School Results. Candidates' pass/fail status will be reported through the DTS Hub. Monthly and annual school reports will also be available through the DTS Hub.</p> <p>State Board Results. Candidates' pass/fail status will be reported through the DTS Hub. The DTS Hub will indicate whether a candidate has met or not met the National Board Dental Examination cognitive skills requirements for dentistry (i.e., no distinction will be made among Part I, Part II, or the INBDE).</p>
<p>Retesting Policy (Transition Policy)</p>	<p>The INBDE Retest Policy is available here: http://www.ada.org/~media/JCNDE/pdfs/inbde_retest_policy_and_eligibility.pdf?la=en</p> <p>The focal aspects of the policy are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Candidates who have passed may not retake the examination unless required by a state board or relevant regulatory agency. • Candidates who have not passed may apply for re-examination. An examination attempt is defined as any examination administration where the candidate has been seated at a computer at a test center, and electronically agreed to the confidentiality statement to start the examination. • Candidates must wait a minimum of 90 days between test attempts. • Candidates are encouraged to seek formal remediation before re-examination. • Under the JCNDE's 5 Years/5 Attempts Eligibility Rule, candidates must pass the examination within a) five years of their first attempt or b) five examination attempts, whichever comes first. Subsequent to the fifth year or fifth attempt, failing candidates may test once every 12 months after their most recent attempt.

<p>Dental Boards</p>	<p>Candidates should contact the dental boards of each state to understand state requirements and the acceptability of the INBDE. With respect to administration timing, the JCNDE has received informal feedback suggesting a general preference for candidates to complete the examination in close proximity to when they are applying for licensure.</p>
<p>History of Development</p>	<p>INBDE development was initiated in 2009 with the formation of a Committee for an Integrated Examination (CIE). The INBDE has made steady and consistent progress since that time. Background information on INBDE development is available here: http://www.ada.org/en/jcnde/inbde</p> <p>A specific timeline of activity can be found here: http://www.ada.org/en/jcnde/inbde/inbde-timeline</p>
<p>Validity and Technical Information</p>	<p>The INBDE Technical Report will be available in the coming months.</p>
<p>Additional Information</p>	<p>Please see the INBDE website: http://www.ada.org/jcnde/inbde</p> <p>The JCNDE can also be reached via the following email address: nbexams@ada.org</p>

INBDE Implementation Plan (Final)



PRT: July 2018