

RCDC is assuming responsibility for the National Dental Specialty Examination

This note will provide you with a preliminary update on the National Dental Specialty Examination (NDSE) on behalf of the National Dental Examining Board of Canada (NDEB) and The Royal College of Dentists of Canada (RCDC, the College).

The June 2023 administration of the NDSE was the last one to be administered by the NDEB. Over the last year the NDEB has been working closely with RCDC to transition the NDSE back under the College's responsibility.

The NDEB and RCDC continue to collaborate as specifics for the 2024 NDSE administration are refined. However, some information regarding the 2024 administration can be confirmed at this time. In consideration of future candidates, and to ensure a smooth future examination experience, the 2024 RCDC NDSE will contain similar content and be administered in the same format as the 2023 NDEB NDSE.

Additionally, this year RCDC intends to initiate a review of the current NDSE competency profiles and blueprints for all specialties. This 3-year process, which will feature significant involvement of a psychometrician, will include key stakeholders that are subject matter experts, and will allow the NDSE to continue to be a fair, reliable, and sound examination of entry-level dental specialists.

On the communications front, RCDC will be launching a website solely dedicated to the NDSE. In October 2023, this website will contain the examination protocols, eligibility requirements, examination fees, application process, and other relevant information. In the meantime, questions regarding the NDSE can be directed to ndse@rcdc.ca.

Furthermore, RCDC will be holding its first virtual information session the evening of July 26, 2023, to provide additional information on the NDSE. A reminder for this event, along with a link to register, will be sent in two weeks' time. The College intends to hold another such session in October 2023.

We acknowledge that there are still many details left to provide and we look forward to sharing updates once these are more concrete. We appreciate your ongoing support of an assessment as part of the licensing process for dental specialists in Canada.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Amarjit Rihal
President, NDEB



Dr. Izchak Barzilay
Chair, RCDC