



# Dental Admission Test (DAT) 2019 Candidate Guide

**Read this *Guide* before submitting an application to test.**

At the time of application, you will be required to acknowledge that you have read and understood this *Guide* and the policies and procedures contained within.

Print this *Guide* for your records.



**ADA** American Dental Association®

America's leading advocate for oral health

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**You are required to read this document before you apply to take the examination.**

**At the time of application, you will be required to confirm that you have read this document, understood its contents, and agree to the policies and procedures contained herein.**

**Changes to the DAT Program might occur after publication of this Guide and will be posted at [ADA.org/DAT/guide](https://ada.org/DAT/guide). You will be subject to the policies and procedures currently in effect at the time of your test administration.**



## ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This document is the official guide to policies and procedures for the Dental Admission Test (DAT). It provides information such as application and testing procedures, examination content, test security, the consequences of rules violations, and scoring.

## ABOUT THE DAT

The DAT is conducted by the American Dental Association (ADA) to understand the skill levels of applicants seeking admission to dental school. Dental schools use this information to inform admissions decisions. The DAT is designed to measure general academic ability, comprehension of scientific information, and perceptual ability. The DAT is administered year-round at test centers operated by Prometric, Inc.

While all dental schools require applicants to participate in the DAT Program, DAT results are just one factor considered in evaluating applicant admission potential. Validity studies have shown that test scores in conjunction with academic performance are useful in predicting success in dental school. The relative importance of these predictors in the admission process is determined by each dental school.

## INFORMATION FOR DENTAL SCHOOL APPLICANTS

A common educational requirement for admission to dental school is completion of at least two academic years of liberal arts study; however, many dental schools in the United States require three or more years of college.

First-year dental school students typically have completed four years of pre-professional education and received a baccalaureate degree prior to their admission to dental school.

There are specific pre-dental courses that must be completed prior to dental school admission. Dental schools vary in the required prerequisite courses. Applicants should contact individual schools to understand admission requirements.

## ETHICAL CONDUCT IN APPLYING TO DENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The ADA Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct states the following:

The dental profession holds a special position of trust within society. As a consequence, society affords the profession certain privileges that are not available to members of the public at large. In return, the profession makes a commitment to society that its members will adhere to high ethical standards of conduct. These standards are embodied in the ADA Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct (ADA Code). The ADA Code is, in effect, a written expression of the obligations arising from the implied contract between the dental profession and society.

The above statement is pertinent for all individuals seeking admission to pre-doctoral dental education programs. The application process is the time to understand and begin to adhere to the ethical obligations of dentists.

Members of the dental profession voluntarily abide by the ADA Code in the interest of protecting patients and maintaining the trust of society as a whole.

Submission of an application to a dental education program is the first step in the process of becoming a member of the dental profession. With the application comes the obligation to uphold the highest standards for honesty and ethical behavior. An applicant is held to the same high standards for truth, full disclosure, and accuracy in the application process to which a member of the dental profession is held in their capacity as a member of the profession.

Each applicant to pre-doctoral dental education programs is expected to understand and comply with the standards expressed in this statement in their application to take the DAT.

Behavior that results in misconduct or irregularity in the dental education program admission process is a very serious matter. An applicant who acts unethically risks being denied admission to dental education programs. Moreover, such unethical actions can result in more serious outcomes if they are discovered after enrollment in a dental program or at the beginning of dental practice.

It is important that applicants understand the significance of exhibiting professional behavior throughout their careers, beginning with the application process.

The ADA and the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) have developed the ADA Code in collaboration, as both organizations play important roles in the admission process. The ADA sponsors the DAT, and the ADEA sponsors the Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (ADEA AADSAS). The ADEA AADSAS is a centralized, pre-doctoral application service in which the U.S. and Canadian dental schools participate.

The ADA and ADEA expect strong ethical behavior in all current and aspiring dental professionals.

# TESTING CONTENT AND PREPARATION MATERIALS

## SCOPE OF THE TEST

The DAT is composed of multiple-choice test items presented in the English language. The test is developed according to established test specifications. The DAT consists of four sections: Survey of the Natural Sciences, Perceptual Ability, Reading Comprehension, and Quantitative Reasoning.

In the DAT, both the U.S. customary system and the metric system (Imperial System, International System) of units are used. Additional information on test content is provided below.

### Survey of the Natural Sciences (100 Items)

- Biology (40 items)
  - **Cell and Molecular Biology:** origin of life, cell metabolism (including photosynthesis/enzymology), cellular processes, thermodynamics, organelle structure and function, mitosis/meiosis, cell structure, experimental cell biology, biomolecules, and integrated relationships
  - **Diversity of Life:** Biological Organization and Relationship of Major Taxa (Six-Kingdom, Three-Domain System) – plantae, animalia, protista, fungi, eubacteria (bacteria), archaea, and integrated relationships
  - **Structure and Function of Systems:** integumentary, skeletal, muscular, circulatory, immunological, digestive, respiratory, urinary, nervous/senses, endocrine, reproductive, and integrated relationships
  - **Developmental Biology:** fertilization, descriptive embryology, developmental mechanisms, and integrated relationships
  - **Genetics:** molecular genetics, human genetics, classical genetics, chromosomal genetics, and genetic technology, and integrated relationships
  - **Evolution, Ecology, and Behavior:** natural selection, population genetics/speciation, population and community ecology, ecosystems, and animal behavior (including social behavior), and integrated relationships
- General Chemistry (30 items)
  - **Stoichiometry and General Concepts:** percent composition, empirical formulae, balancing equations, moles and molecular formulas, molar mass, density, and calculations from balanced equations
  - **Gases:** kinetic molecular theory of gases, Dalton's, Boyle's, Charles's, and ideal gas law
  - **Liquids and Solids:** intermolecular forces, phase changes, vapor pressure, structures, polarity, and properties
  - **Solutions:** polarity, properties (colligative, noncolligative), forces, and concentration calculations
  - **Acids and Bases:** pH, strength, Brønsted-Lowry reactions, and calculations
  - **Chemical Equilibria:** molecular, acid/base, precipitation, calculations, and Le Chatelier's principle
  - **Thermodynamics and Thermochemistry:** laws of thermodynamics, Hess's law, spontaneity, enthalpies and entropies, and heat transfer
  - **Chemical Kinetics:** rate laws, activation energy, and half-life
  - **Oxidation-Reduction Reactions:** balancing equations, determination of oxidation numbers, electrochemical calculations, and electrochemical concepts and terminology
  - **Atomic and Molecular Structure:** electron configuration, orbital types, Lewis-Dot diagrams, atomic theory, quantum theory, molecular geometry, bond types, and sub-atomic particles
  - **Periodic Properties:** representative elements, transition elements, periodic trends, and descriptive chemistry
  - **Nuclear Reactions:** balancing equations, binding energy, decay processes, particles, and terminology
  - **Laboratory:** basic techniques, equipment, error analysis, safety, and data analysis
- Organic Chemistry (30 items)
  - **Mechanisms:** Energetics and Structure - elimination, addition, free radical, substitution mechanisms, and other mechanisms and reactions
  - **Chemical and Physical Properties of Molecules:** Spectroscopy (1H NMR, 13C NMR, infrared, and multi-spectra), structure (polarity, intermolecular forces (solubility, melting/ boiling point, etc.), and laboratory theory and techniques (TLC, separations, etc.)
  - **Stereochemistry (structure evaluation):** Chirality, isomer relationships, and conformations
  - **Nomenclature:** IUPAC rules and functional groups in molecules
  - **Individual Reactions of the Major Functional Groups and Combinations of Reactions to Synthesize Compounds:** Alkene/alkyne, aromatic, substitution/elimination, aldehyde/ketone, carboxylic acids and derivatives, and other. For each area listed above, the following sub-areas apply: general, one-step, and multi-step
  - **Acid Base Chemistry:** Ranking acidity/basicity (structure analysis and pH/pKa data analysis), and prediction of products and equilibria
  - **Aromatics and Bonding:** Concept of aromaticity, resonance, atomic/molecular orbitals, hybridization, and bond angles/lengths

# TESTING CONTENT AND PREPARATION MATERIALS

- **Perceptual Ability (90 Items)**

- The Perceptual Ability Test is comprised of six subtests:
  1. apertures
  2. view recognition
  3. angle discrimination
  4. paper folding
  5. cube counting
  6. 3D form development.

- **Reading Comprehension (50 items)**

- The Reading Comprehension Test contains three reading passages on various scientific topics. Prior understanding of the science topics is not a prerequisite to answering the test items. The reading passages require the ability to read, comprehend, and thoroughly analyze basic scientific information.

- **Quantitative Reasoning (40 items)** a basic four-function calculator is available on the computer screen during this section

- **Mathematical Problems:** algebra (equations and expressions, inequalities, exponential notation, absolute value, ratios and proportions, and graphical analysis); Data Analysis, Interpretation, and Sufficiency; Quantitative Comparison; and Probability and Statistics
- **Applied Mathematics (Word) Problem**

## TEST PREPARATION

The Department of Testing Services offers a computer-based DAT practice test to help you prepare. The questions on the practice test previously appeared on the actual test but have been retired from active tests.

The computer-based DAT practice test is timed and reflects the actual DAT testing time (4 hours and 30 minutes). Upon completion of the computer-based practice test you will receive a report indicating the number of questions that you answered correctly. The practice test provides an opportunity to become familiar with the DAT format through experience with sample questions. The DAT practice test is not designed to provide information on how well you are likely to perform on the DAT and as such DAT practice test scores are not included in the aforementioned report.

Visit the [DAT page](#) and look under Test Preparation Material to purchase the DAT practice test.

**The DAT Program does not endorse any specific test preparation courses and has no data on the content or efficacy of test preparation courses designed to prepare you for the DAT.**

The DAT Program urges individuals considering participating in test preparation courses to carefully review course materials to ensure those materials reflect the current content of the DAT.

A [tutorial](#) to acquaint you with DAT administration procedures is available from a link on [ADA.org/DAT](#) under Test Preparation Material. The tutorial includes sample DAT items, and allows you to become familiar with the basic steps involved in proceeding through the test. At the Prometric test center, you will also be given an opportunity to take a brief tutorial before taking the test.

**You can become familiar with the testing experience through [Prometric's Test Drive on Prometric.com](#).** In 30 minutes, you will experience an overview of the testing experience you will encounter on the actual testing day. During the overview, you participate in:

- The scheduling and registration process
- The complete check-in process
- Introduction to test center staff and surroundings
- A 15-minute sample test (a generic test, not DAT specific) demonstrating the testing process

Visit Prometric's [Test Drive](#) on [Prometric.com](#) for further details and pricing.

# TESTING CONTENT AND PREPARATION MATERIALS

## TEST PREPARATION TUTORIAL

Test items represent confidential, copyrighted intellectual property. Obtaining, using, or distributing test items is strictly prohibited regardless of the method employed (whether by memorization, recording, copying, or other means). This prohibition includes the discussion, distribution, or online posting of remembered test questions or answers, in whole or in part.

The use or sharing of current test content violates the Test Regulations and Rules of Conduct of this testing program. Such activities could provide an unfair advantage to individuals or groups of individuals and threaten the validity and credibility of the test. These prohibited activities also violate federal copyright laws since all DAT items are copyrighted property of the ADA.

**The DAT Program investigates all reports and allegations associated with the generation, misuse, or sharing of current test materials, and will pursue formal action against anyone who violates the Test Regulations or federal copyright law. Violations could result in the voiding of test results and legal action.**



## SCORING OF TEST

DAT results are reported in terms of scale scores. These scale scores are neither raw scores (i.e., the number of questions answered correctly) nor percentiles. The conversion of raw scores to scale scores is accomplished using equating procedures. Using scale scores, it is possible to meaningfully compare the performance of one applicant with the performance of all applicants. Scores used in the testing program range from 1 to 30. The DAT program does not publish formal passing or failing scores; a scale score of 19 typically signifies average performance on a national basis.

DAT scores are based on the number of correct responses obtained; applicants are not penalized for guessing.

Each test includes questions that enable the DAT Program to place different forms of the test on a common measurement scale, thereby adjusting the forms for differences in form difficulty level. Because of this adjustment, applicant scores have the same meaning regardless of the test form that was administered.

Other questions on the test are experimental and are not scored. The data collected on unscored questions may be used in later test construction procedures, to ensure that these questions are appropriate before they become scored items. Unscored questions are presented in the same manner as scored questions.

## TEST VALIDITY AND SCORE RELIABILITY

Reliability and validity are two means by which users can evaluate how well a test is performing relative to its purpose.

Reliability refers to the degree to which test scores are free from random sources of measurement error. Studies clearly demonstrate that DAT scores are highly reliable.

Validity refers to the extent to which available evidence supports the interpretation and use of test results for their intended purpose. Biennial validity studies examining the relationship between DAT scores and dental school grades have provided strong evidence supporting use of the DAT as an admission tool for dental programs. The most recent validity study is available under DAT Newsletters and Resources on [ADA.org/DAT](https://ada.org/DAT).

A number of procedures are used to ensure that tests are fair to all applicants regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or regional background. The test construction process involves a review of questions to ensure that they are not differentially familiar to any groups of individuals. Additionally, data is analyzed from a fairness perspective. Any questions that could appear differentially familiar are evaluated and, if appropriate, modified or removed.

## SCORE REPORTS

After your DAT appointment is completed, you will receive an unofficial score report at the Prometric test center. In the unofficial score report, scale scores are reported.

This report is your personal copy. If you do not receive your unofficial score report after completing the DAT, please notify the DAT Program within five days via an email sent to [datexam@ada.org](mailto:datexam@ada.org).

After you have taken any part of the DAT, those scores cannot be voided at your request.

Your personal copy of the score report issued by the Prometric test center is an unofficial report that is subject to audit as part of the quality review process. Falsification of score reports or misrepresentation of a score report could result in cancellation of your scores, the imposition of a mandatory two-year wait period to retest, or the possibility of a lifetime ban from the DAT Program.

## SCORE REPORTS (continued)

All U.S. dental schools require official DAT scores. Official scores are reported electronically within three to four weeks of your test date to your “My Account” and to the dental schools you select on your DAT application. You can review your scores and the schools you have requested by logging into the My Account page at [ADA.org/DAT](https://ada.org/DAT). When you select dental schools to receive your official scores, you grant the Department of Testing Services permission to release your official scores to the dental schools selected on your DAT application. Scores will not be released without authorization. If you test more than once, a history of your testing attempts is reported.

Please confer with your pre-dental advisor regarding test results. You can request that your scores be made available to your pre-dental advisor at no charge at the time of application. These reports are sent to pre-dental advisors on a periodic basis.

If your application requests that scores be sent to dental schools that participate in a standardized application service (ADEA AADSAS or Texas Medical & Dental Schools Application Service [TMDSAS]), then the DAT Program will report your official scores to both the schools and the application services (within three to four weeks of your test date). You must select at least one AADSAS or TMDSAS participating school to have your scores sent to the corresponding service.

**If your application has no dental schools selected, then you have not granted permission to release your official scores. Schools selected at the time of application are included in the DAT fee, regardless of the number of schools selected.**

**Requests for additional score reports must be submitted using the score report request form available at [ADA.org/DAT](https://ada.org/DAT). Additional fees apply when sending reports to dental schools or other recipients not selected at the time of application (see the Testing Fees section of this Guide).**

**Your DAT application includes a list of potential results recipients. Once you have submitted your DAT application your list of designated recipients is considered final. The list cannot be edited or cancelled after it has been submitted.**

**Fees associated with additional service requests are nonrefundable and nontransferable.** DTS suggests you send official scores to every dental school at the time of your application. your applications to these programs.

## ADEA AADSAS APPLICATIONS

Your DAT scores will be imported into your ADEA AADSAS application if:

- you indicated on your DAT application that you wanted your DAT scores sent to at least one ADEA AADSAS participating dental school, and
- the name, DENTPIN® and date of birth entered in your ADEA AADSAS application matches the information associated with your DENTPIN®.

You can check to see if your DAT scores are available in your ADEA AADSAS application by:

- Logging into your ADEA AADSAS application
- Clicking on “Official DAT Scores” in the “My Application Status section
- Next to DAT, there will be a date indicating when your scores were imported into your ADEA AADSAS application

**It could take three to four weeks from the date that you take the DAT for your scores to be transmitted to ADEA AADSAS.**

ADEA AADSAS receives DAT scores on a daily basis and will import them into your application within one week of receipt.

**Did you select one or more dental schools among the ADEA AADSAS participating dental schools when you completed the DAT application?**

If you did not but would now like your scores sent to ADEA AADSAS, then you must request that a score report be sent to at least one ADEA AADSAS-participating dental school. This request form is available on ADA.org/DAT. Your scores will then be sent to ADEA AADSAS and imported into your application. Additional fees apply for reports not requested at the time of application (see the Testing Fees section of this Guide).

**Did you record your DENTPIN® correctly in your ADEA AADSAS application?**

The DENTPIN® you used in your DAT application must match the DENTPIN® you reported in your ADEA AADSAS application. If your DENTPIN® is not reported correctly, you must log in to your ADEA AADSAS application, go to the “Account Information” section, enter the correct DENTPIN®, and click “Save.”

**Did you record your name correctly in your ADEA AADSAS application?**

The name you used in your DAT application must match the name you reported in your ADEA AADSAS application. If your name is not reported correctly, you must log in to your ADEA AADSAS application, go to the “Account Information” section, enter the correct name, and click “Save.”

**Did you record your date of birth correctly in your ADEA AADSAS application?**

ADEA AADSAS matches your DENTPIN® and date of birth to import your DAT scores. Be sure that your date of birth is entered correctly in the “Biographical Information” section of your application.

It could take up to five business days for your results to be available from the time you update your DENTPIN® or date of birth information in your ADEA AADSAS application.

### **ADEA AADSAS APPLICATIONS**

Before official DAT scores are reported, the DAT Program conducts a quality review of all results in order to confirm their accuracy. The DAT Program also reviews test center reports regarding irregularities and violations of Test Regulations.

For a period of 30 days after your scores are made available, you can request an official audit of your DAT scores. There is an additional charge for this service (see the Testing Fees section of this Guide) and the process can take six to eight weeks. To request an audit of your results, you must login with your DENTPIN and follow the audit request instructions.

# ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

**The DAT Program does not discriminate on the basis of race, ethnicity, religion, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, or marital status.**

Successful participants in the DAT Program typically complete at least one year of college education, including courses in biology, and general and organic chemistry. Advanced level biology and physics are not required. Most applicants complete two or more years of college before taking the test.

Dental school applicants are encouraged to take the DAT well in advance of the dental school admission cycle. Applicants seeking admission to Canadian dental schools should confirm the acceptability of the DAT by Canadian schools prior to applying for the test.

## **ELIGIBILITY TO RETEST**

Candidates are required to submit a new application and fee for each testing attempt. A testing attempt is defined as any test administration where the candidate has been seated at a computer at a test center and electronically agreed to the confidentiality statement to start the test.

Candidates must wait at least 90 days from their last attempt, before retaking the DAT.

Candidates who have had three or more DAT attempts must apply for permission to test again. From that point forward, they may retest only once per 12-month period.

Candidates who are requesting additional testing beyond three attempts must submit their request in writing to [datexam@ada.org](mailto:datexam@ada.org) and must include one of the following acceptable forms of evidence of their demonstrated intent to apply to dental school within the previous 18 months:

- Copy of a completed and submitted ADEA AADSAS application
- Letter of rejection from a dental school
- Letter on school letterhead from a dental school admission officer encouraging the applicant to retest
- Letter on school letterhead from a college or university health profession advisor or instructor verifying the applicant is applying to dental school

## **PARTIAL TESTING**

Partial testing is not permitted. Applicants are required to take all four sections of the DAT. The lowest possible scale score is reported for any assigned test not taken. Individuals unable to complete the DAT must submit a new application and fee to retest.

# ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION AND SCHEDULE

## TEST CENTERS

The DAT is administered by Prometric, Inc. at Prometric test centers in the United States and its territories, including Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The DAT is also administered in Canada. A list of test centers is available at [Prometric.com](http://Prometric.com).

If your application is approved, you will receive an email with scheduling instructions. You can visit [Prometric.com](http://Prometric.com) or call 800.688.5804 to schedule a testing appointment.

The Prometric contact center will NOT schedule your appointment before receiving authorization from the DAT Program. Additionally, local test centers cannot schedule, reschedule, or cancel appointments.

## TESTING SCHEDULE

The table below identifies the DAT testing schedule. The total administration time is five hours, including the tutorial, scheduled break, and survey. You have four hours and 15 minutes to respond to DAT questions. You must report to the testing center at least 30 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment.

The optional break after the first two tests is the only scheduled break. When you take the scheduled break, the testing session will resume automatically after 15 minutes have elapsed.

**If you take a break at any other time, it will be considered an unscheduled break. During an unscheduled break, you may NOT access personal belongings or prohibited items, study, refer to notes or texts, use a telephone, eat or drink any food or beverages, or leave the test center.**

**Locker access during an unscheduled break is strictly prohibited.**

DAT ADMINISTRATION SCHEDULE	
Optional Tutorial	15 minutes
<b>Survey of Natural Sciences</b>	<b>90 minutes</b>
<b>Perceptual Ability Test</b>	<b>60 minutes</b>
Scheduled Break (optional)	30 minutes
<b>Reading Comprehension Test</b>	<b>60 minutes</b>
<b>Quantitative Reasoning Test</b>	<b>45 minutes</b>
Optional Post Test Survey	15 minutes
<b>Total Time</b>	<b>5 hours</b>

# ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION AND SCHEDULE

## APPLY TO TEST

Before you can apply to take the DAT or apply for admission to a dental school, you must obtain a Dental Personal Identification Number (DENTPIN®). You can register for a new DENTPIN® or retrieve an existing DENTPIN® at [ADA.org/DENTPIN](https://ada.org/DENTPIN).

The DENTPIN® is a unique personal identifier for individuals involved with the U.S. dental education system and standardized testing programs, such as the DAT and ADAT, the American Dental Education Association Postdoctoral Application Support Service (ADEA PASS), the ADEA's Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS), Texas Medical & Dental Schools Application Service (TMDSAS), and ADEA Centralized Application for Advanced Placement for International Dentists (ADEA CAAPID). These programs use the DENTPIN® to uniquely identify individuals, and for the confidential and secure reporting, transmission, and tracking of test scores and academic data.

Once you have a DENTPIN®, you can submit a DAT application from [ADA.org/DAT](https://ada.org/DAT). **A new application must be submitted each time you wish to take the DAT.**

If you meet the eligibility requirements for testing, your application will be processed. This processing takes place Monday through Friday during normal business hours.

**The successful processing of your paid application enables you to complete one DAT administration during the testing window. If you do not schedule a testing appointment and take the DAT during this period, you will have to submit a new application and fee in order to take the test.**

**The six-month eligibility period will not be extended, and you will forfeit your testing fee if you do not test within the six-month period.**

All information you provide on your application must be accurate. You must use your legal name. When including a middle name, use either your full middle name or your middle initial.

**If the name on your DAT application and your IDs do not match exactly, you will be denied admission to test. As a result, you will forfeit your testing appointment and application fee. You will be required to submit a new application and fee.**

Changes and corrections to your application (name, birthdate, etc.) must be completed at least two weeks prior to your scheduled testing appointment. You are responsible for identifying any corrections or omissions and must notify the DAT Program at [dentpin@ada.org](mailto:dentpin@ada.org).

If you modify your contact information (address, email address, etc.) by using the Update Your DENTPIN® feature at [ADA.org/DENTPIN](https://ada.org/DENTPIN), please note that any existing test applications and score report requests are not automatically updated.

During the application and testing process, you will be required to provide your name, DENTPIN®, address, date of birth, and other requested information to allow the DAT Program to identify you. The information you provide must be accurate. If it is determined that you have provided false information to the DAT Program or to the test center, your scores will be voided and all dental schools will be notified. You could be required to wait two years before retaking the test or you could be permanently banned from retaking the DAT.

## PRIVACY AND SECURITY

The ADA Department of Testing Services uses commercially reasonable methods to secure and protect your confidential information.

The Department of Testing Services (DTS) collects and retains personal information for activities such as administering the DAT, fulfilling DAT program responsibilities, maintaining the integrity of the test, detecting and preventing unlawful activity, and fulfilling legal requirements. DTS may retain DAT scores retained indefinitely, along with testing records and corresponding personal data. Records of your individual results are released or reported to education programs or other entities on your written authorization or designation by electronic means, through the application or score report requests. **Scores will not be reported to you or others by telephone, fax, email, or in person.**

Before the test is administered, you will be required to execute a written release to the collection of your fingerprints. Fingerprints are collected for purposes of verifying identity and detecting and preventing unlawful activity; the data is securely stored.

The Department of Testing Services may use test data for research purposes and to enhance the testing program. In such instances, the data are confidential and individual candidates are not identified in published results. Research of this type is reviewed by an institutional review board as appropriate.

DTS uses data security procedures to protect the integrity of personal and test information. Security safeguards include administrative, technical, and physical safeguards over data and data processing systems. For additional information, please refer to the [Privacy Policy](#) on [ADA.org/DAT](#) and the [ADA.org Privacy Notice](#) and [Terms of Use](#).

By registering for the test, you consent to the collection, processing, use, and transmission of your personal information in accordance with the statements outlined in this Guide.

## SCHEDULE A TESTING

If you wish to reschedule a testing appointment, please visit [Prometric.com](#) or call 800.688.5804; additional fees apply (see the Testing Fees section of this Guide). The local test center cannot schedule, reschedule, or cancel your appointment. Appointments must be canceled or rescheduled by the business day prior to the test, at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled appointment.

## NO SHOW POLICY

If you do not appear for your scheduled testing appointment and you do not cancel or reschedule your appointment in advance of the test date, you will forfeit all testing fees. You will be required to submit a new application and pay the fee to schedule a new appointment. Be sure that you receive a confirmation notification when rescheduling your testing appointment. Retain a copy of this confirmation for your records.

## EMERGENCIES ON THE DAY OF THE TESTING APPOINTMENT

If an emergency on the day of the testing appointment prevents you from keeping your testing appointment, you may submit a written request for relief to the DAT Program. This request should include applicable documentation and be sent to [testingproblems@ada.org](mailto:testingproblems@ada.org) within five business days of the appointment.

Examples of emergencies and applicable documentation include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Sudden illness on the test day: Provide a doctor's note or hospital records confirming you were treated on the day of the test.
- Death in the family on the test day: Provide a copy of an obituary, program from funeral service, or death certificate confirming that the relative passed away or services were held on the day of the test.

Testing appointments affected by emergencies occurring prior to the day of the actual testing appointment should be handled through the rescheduling and cancellation process indicated above.

## RESCHEDULE OR CANCEL A TESTING APPOINTMENT

If you wish to reschedule a testing appointment, please visit [Prometric.com](http://Prometric.com) or call 800.688.5804; additional fees apply (see the Testing Fees section of this Guide). The local test center cannot schedule, reschedule, or cancel your appointment. Appointments must be canceled or rescheduled by the business day prior to the test, at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled appointment.

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Testing appointments affected by emergencies occurring prior to the day of the actual testing appointment should be handled through the rescheduling and cancellation process indicated above.

## TESTING PROBLEMS ON THE DAY OF THE TESTING APPOINTMENT

**If you experience problems with testing conditions during administration of the test, you must stop testing and notify the test center administrator immediately.**

Testing should not be resumed until the issue has been documented and resolved by the test center administrator. Unresolved concerns must be submitted in writing within five business days of the testing appointment to [testingproblems@ada.org](mailto:testingproblems@ada.org).

Upon receipt of the information, we will conduct an investigation and notify you of the outcome. Candidates with documented, unresolved testing issues may be offered the opportunity to retest within 30 days.

Scores cannot be canceled or adjusted under any circumstances.



## TESTING FEES

**Fees are non-refundable and non-transferable.** All fees are in US dollars. The following indicates DAT 2019 testing fees:

FEE TYPE	DESCRIPTION	FEE AMOUNT
DAT Fee	This fee includes administration and official score reporting to all of the dental schools you have selected at the time of application, an unofficial score report issued at the testing center (no other report will be sent to you), and score reporting to your pre-dental advisor (if selected on your application).	\$475
Score Report Fee (optional)	This fee covers score report requests made after the time of application. There is no additional charge for score report requests received at the time of application.	\$40 per score report/school
Score Audit Fee (optional)	For a period of 30 days after your testing appointment, the DAT Program is willing to audit your DAT results.	\$65

The fee to reschedule a testing appointment is determined by the amount of notice provided. Rescheduling fees are as follows:

NUMBER OF DAYS PRIOR TO TESTING APPOINTMENT	RESCHEDULE FEE
1 to 5 business days* prior to the testing appointment, and at least 24 hours before the appointment is scheduled to begin.	\$100
6 to 30 business days prior to the testing appointment.	\$60
31 or more business days prior to the testing appointment.	\$25

\*Saturdays and Sundays are **NOT** business days

### PARTIAL FEE WAIVER

A limited number of partial fee waivers are available per calendar year (January-December) to DAT candidates, in cases of severe financial hardship. The waiver covers 50% of the DAT fee, which includes the fee for the test and any official score reports requested at the time of application. The waiver does not apply to any charges associated with rescheduling or score reporting after the time of initial application.

Fee waivers are granted on a first-come, first-served basis at the beginning of each calendar year to eligible candidates who have submitted the required documents. Fee waivers will be granted beginning on January 1.

You can obtain the forms from [ADA.org/DAT](http://ADA.org/DAT). The DAT Program will review all fee waiver requests and make final decisions regarding fee waivers. Candidates must register for a DENTPIN® prior to submitting a fee waiver request.

Candidates could qualify for a partial fee waiver if the following requirements are met:

- Demonstrated financial hardship
- First time taking the DAT
- U.S. citizen or resident alien
- Received financial aid at his/her educational institution

**Applicants who have previously received a fee waiver or who have already taken the DAT are not eligible.**

Required Documents:

- Fee waiver financial information form ([ADA.org/DAT](http://ADA.org/DAT))
- Educational institution financial aid award letter
- Completed DAT application (submitted after approval/denial decision)

## TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS

The DAT Program provides reasonable and appropriate accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act for individuals with documented disabilities or a medical condition who demonstrate a need for accommodations and request accommodations prior to testing.

An individual is considered to have a disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act if he or she has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, has a record of such an impairment, or is regarded as having such an impairment. Major life activities include seeing, hearing, speaking, walking, breathing, performing manual tasks, learning, caring for oneself, and working.

English as a second language, test anxiety or difficulty reading without an identified underlying physical or mental deficit, or failure to achieve a desired outcome are not generally covered by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Testing accommodations are offered to those with a qualified disability or medical condition. **Candidates must request testing accommodations with each application, but will not be required to submit additional documentation for the same disability with subsequent retests.** Candidates requesting the same accommodations offered previously by the DAT program need only submit the testing accommodations form.

Information concerning testing accommodations will not be shared outside of the DAT Program and test center, and will not be indicated on test results, reported to dental schools, or provided to additional report recipients.

## REQUEST FOR TESTING ACCOMMODATIONS AND APPROPRIATE DOCUMENTATION

The following documentation will be used to help determine whether you qualify for accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act, or whether you qualify for accommodations as a result of a medical condition.

The DAT Program requires a complete evaluation of the candidate, as well as a completed and signed Testing Accommodations Request Form. A health care professional appropriately qualified to evaluate the disability or medical condition must conduct the evaluation.

If you have a documented disability recognized under the Americans with Disabilities Act or a medical condition and require testing accommodations, you must submit the following prior to testing: an application to test, the testing accommodations request form from ADA.org/DAT, and the supporting documentation. **Your submission is not complete until you have provided all three components.**

To receive testing accommodations, schedule a testing appointment after a decision has been made concerning your request for testing accommodations. **Testing accommodations cannot be added to a previously scheduled testing appointment. If you schedule a testing appointment before the Department of Testing Services has approved the testing accommodations, you will be required to cancel the appointment and pay a rescheduling fee.**

Procedures for submitting a testing accommodations request are as follows:

- Select 'Yes' from the dropdown box on the DAT application requesting testing accommodations. You must receive your eligibility email (with approved accommodations) before you can schedule a testing appointment.
- Submit the following documents to [testingaccommodations@ada.org](mailto:testingaccommodations@ada.org).
  - Testing Accommodations Request Form, which can be found on the Apply to Take the DAT page on the [ADA.org/DAT](https://ada.org/DAT) website. This form must be signed and dated, indicating the disability or medical condition and the request for accommodations. Accommodations should align with the identified functional limitation, so the adjustment to the testing procedure is appropriate.
  - Current evaluation report (within the past five years) from an appropriate health care professional. The document must be on official letterhead and must include the professional's credentials, signature, address, and telephone number. The report must indicate the candidate's name, date of birth, and the date of evaluation. The report should include:
    - Information concerning the specific diagnostic procedures or tests administered. Diagnostic methods used should be appropriate to the disability or medical condition and in alignment with current professional protocol.
    - The results of the diagnostic procedures or tests and a comprehensive interpretation of the results.
    - The specific diagnosis of the disability or medical condition, with an accompanying description of the candidate's limitations due to the disability or medical condition.
  - Documentation of any previous accommodations provided by educational institutions or other testing agencies. If no prior accommodations were provided, the licensed professional should include a detailed explanation as to why no accommodations were given in the past and why accommodations are needed now.

### UNACCEPTABLE FORMS OF DOCUMENTATION

Please do not submit the following documents as they will not be accepted:

- Handwritten letters from health care professionals
- Handwritten patient records or notes from patient charts
- Diagnoses on prescription pads
- Self-evaluations
- Research articles
- Original documents (submit copies only)
- Previous correspondence to the JCNDE or the Department of Testing Services; we maintain copies of all correspondence
- Correspondence from educational institutions or testing agencies not directly addressed to the JCNDE

# TESTING REGULATIONS AND RULES OF CONDUCT

## RULES OF CONDUCT

Under the auspices of the ADA's Council on Dental Education and Licensure (CDEL), the DAT Program has established rules that govern the administration of the DAT to ensure that test results accurately reflect candidates' skills and that no candidate receives an unfair advantage.

Test Regulations and Rules of Conduct help preserve the integrity of the testing process and provide standardized test administration conditions that support accurate skills measurement.

Accessing test content prior to testing, breaching the confidentiality of test content, or any attempt to subvert the testing process represent violations of test regulations. Conduct occurring before, during, or after testing that violates the Test Regulations and Rules of Conduct could result in the invalidation of test results and other penalties.

You must be truthful in completing your application and must abide by all instructions regarding testing conduct.

**Failure to comply with the Test Regulations and Rules of Conduct could result in a determination of the presence of an irregularity, and your test results could consequently be voided. If your results are voided as a result of an irregularity, you could be prohibited from testing for a specified time period or, in egregious cases, from retesting at all. Additionally, you could face civil or criminal prosecution.**

By applying for the DAT, you agree to abide by the following Rules of Conduct:

1. You certify that you are the person who has registered for the test for the purpose of gaining admission to dental school or another health profession education program. You may not take the test for someone else, someone else may not take the test for you, nor may you take the test for any reason other than for the purpose of gaining admission to a dental or health profession education program. **You may not take the test to practice or to obtain an advance review of test content.**
2. You will not give, receive, or obtain any form of unauthorized assistance prior to the test, during the test (e.g. in the testing room or when on a break), or subsequent to the test.
3. You will maintain the confidentiality of test content at all times. You will not reproduce or attempt to reproduce test materials through memorization, recording or other means. You will not provide information relating to current test content that might affect the test's ability to accurately assess candidates' skills, or that might provide an unfair advantage to other candidates. **For example, you will neither make use of nor participate in the sharing or distribution of information regarding test content or answers (via electronic means or otherwise).**
4. You will not bring any unauthorized materials, as listed in the Test Regulations and Prohibited Conduct section of this Guide, into the secure testing area. All unauthorized materials must be placed in your assigned locker and may not be accessed while you are testing.
5. You will not remove information about the test (written, printed, recorded, or other) from the test center.
6. You will comply with test center policies and procedures. You will not create a disturbance in the testing center.
7. You will not tamper with the computer testing equipment and facilities.
8. You will cooperate fully with any investigations involving test irregularities. You agree to have your test analyzed to detect aberrances.
9. The DAT is a secure examination protected by U.S. copyright laws. Any unauthorized disclosure of the test's contents could result in civil liability, criminal penalties, voiding of test results, or other appropriate penalties.

# TESTING REGULATIONS AND RULES OF CONDUCT

**You may not disclose any test content (in whole or in part) before, during, or after the test to anyone, including but not limited to family, friends, classmates, colleagues, or test preparation organizations. This applies to any content disclosed through discussions, emails, in writing, online (e.g., blogs, social media, websites), or otherwise.**

Candidates who receive unreleased test content should immediately forward it to [testsecurity@ada.org](mailto:testsecurity@ada.org) without reviewing it. Candidates who have been found to be in possession of such information—or to have participated in the distribution of this information—may have their test results voided. Penalties could be imposed subsequent to discovery and investigation of the original incident, which could occur years after the incident itself.

You are encouraged to report activities that disclose information about test content so that the DAT Program can investigate and take necessary action. Report such activity to the DAT Program at [testsecurity@ada.org](mailto:testsecurity@ada.org).

## TEST CENTER PROCEDURES

Report to the test center at least 30 minutes prior to your scheduled appointment time. If you report late, you might not be allowed to take the test, depending on the time of your arrival and the scheduling of other testing appointments. Prometric test center administrators will determine whether there is sufficient time and space to administer the test. **If you arrive late and the test center cannot seat you, you will forfeit the test fee. You must submit a new application and fee if you wish to test.**

In cases of inclement weather, a natural disaster, or other local conditions that could cause unavoidable interruptions to testing, Prometric will make reasonable efforts to notify you and reschedule your testing appointment.

You are expected to understand and comply with the [Prometric](#) test center regulations. You can review test center information on the [Prometric website](#).

**When you arrive at the Prometric test center to take the test, two original, current (not expired) forms of identification (ID), – one primary and one secondary, – will be required. An expired ID that is accompanied by temporary identification or documentation that a new, valid ID has been requested WILL NOT be accepted.**

The primary ID must be a government-issued ID, with your photograph, name, and signature. A government ID missing a photograph, name, or signature is unacceptable. Examples of acceptable primary IDs are a driver's license, or a passport, or a passport card. All IDs, with the exception of passports, must be in English.

The secondary ID must contain your name and signature. Examples of secondary IDs are a debit card, library card, or a credit card, etc.

**The name on your IDs must match exactly the name you entered on your DAT application. If the names on your IDs and your DAT application do not match exactly, you will be denied admission to testing, and you will forfeit your scheduled testing appointment and your application fee. You will be required to submit a new application and fee to test.**

If you are including a middle name, either the full name or initial is acceptable.

# TESTING REGULATIONS AND RULES OF CONDUCT

## TEST CENTER PROCEDURES (continued)

If you have a name change request, use the [DENTPIN® Form](#) available online at [ADA.org](#) and email the request to the attention of DAT Name Change Request to [dentpin@ada.org](mailto:dentpin@ada.org) with appropriate documentation. Include your DENTPIN®, a copy of your government issued photo ID, and a copy of the legal name change documents such as a marriage license or court documents. Your request and the required documentation must be received at least five business days before your testing appointment.

**If you have any questions concerning the types of acceptable identification, please call the Department of Testing Services DAT Program at 800.232.1694.**

The Prometric test center will electronically capture the identity of each candidate by means of a fingerprint and photograph before candidates can proceed with testing. Electronic capture of this biometric data allows for an easier and quicker return to testing after breaks. Biometric and other identification information will be retained by Prometric and will be utilized for identity verification at potential future test administrations related to dental education and licensure.

Additionally, the test center will visually inspect eyeglasses and hair accessories for cameras as part of the check-in procedures. It may use a detection wand to scan for electronic devices as part of the check-in procedures. Jewelry, except for wedding and engagement rings, is prohibited. You can view the Prometric check-in procedures at [Prometric.com](#).

You will have an opportunity to become familiar with the operation of the testing computer by taking a brief tutorial before the test.

You will be observed at all times while testing. This observation will include test center staff walking through the secure testing lab, as well as video recording of your testing session. Test center staff are required to report behavior that might be a violation of the rules and regulations.

Test center staff are not authorized to answer questions from candidates regarding test content, testing software, or scoring.

The test administrator is responsible for the operation of the test facility, maintaining order, and administering the test according to established procedures. The test center administrator is authorized to dismiss candidates from a testing session for violating the rules or regulations.

If you experience problems with testing conditions, stop testing and notify the test administrator immediately; do not proceed with testing unless the problem is resolved.

Unresolved concerns should be reported to [testingproblems@ada.org](mailto:testingproblems@ada.org) within five business days of your testing appointment.

# TESTING REGULATIONS AND RULES OF CONDUCT

## TEST REGULATIONS AND PROHIBITED CONDUCT

The Test Regulations are in place to ensure test results can be interpreted with confidence as an accurate reflection of candidates' skills. This is particularly important given the role of the test in helping to understand the cognitive skills and aptitude of individuals seeking to become health professionals. Violations of the Test Regulations undermine the test's ability to accurately assess candidates' skills and fulfill the purpose of the test. As a result, the DAT Program treats violations extremely seriously.

You must comply with the Test Regulations, Rules of Conduct, and test center procedures. They preserve the integrity of the testing process, and provide standardized testing conditions that help to ensure no candidate receives an unfair advantage on the test.

**It is your personal responsibility to understand and comply with the Test Regulations indicated in this Guide.**

Test administrators at test center facilities work with a large number of testing programs covering many fields and occupations. Each of those programs has adopted its own Test Regulations and corresponding Rules of Conduct. If you are unsure of what would be considered appropriate and inappropriate (i.e., prohibited) conduct during test administration, please seek clarification directly from the DAT Program in advance of testing. **The DAT Program bears no responsibility for inaccurate information or inappropriate permissions received from test center administrators. If a candidate's conduct is determined to violate the terms set forth in this Guide, the DAT Program will act to strictly enforce its policies and procedures.**

- No personal items are permitted in the secure testing area. Any personal belongings brought to the test center must be stored in a designated locker; storage is limited. Your personal belongings might be inspected. Notes or any materials accessed during testing, or during an unscheduled break, could be confiscated.

**Accessing personal belongings or your locker during an unscheduled break violates Test Regulations. Test administrators are NOT authorized to provide you with permission to access personal belongings or your locker during an unscheduled break.**

- Items that are prohibited from the secure testing area include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - Books, notes, study materials, scratch paper, tissues, markers, personal earplugs, and headphones not provided by the testing center
  - Dental instruments, models, and materials
  - Slide rules, paper, calculating devices, rulers, and other measuring devices
  - Electronic devices such as cell phones, recording devices, iPods, tablets, and headsets
  - Tote bags, purses, wallets, backpacks, and briefcases
  - Highlighters, pens, erasers, pencils, dictionaries, and translators
  - Food, candy, gum, water, and other beverages
  - Outerwear such as coats, jackets, gloves, and head coverings (except for religious purposes)
  - Good luck charms, statues, religious or spiritual items, and similar objects
  - Medicinal items (except those items approved in advance under testing accommodations)
  - Watches (digital, analog, or smart) and timing devices (a timer is provided on the computer screen during the test)
  - Magnifying devices
  - Jewelry (except for wedding and engagement rings)

# TESTING REGULATIONS AND RULES OF CONDUCT

## TEST REGULATIONS AND PROHIBITED CONDUCT (continued)

- The test center will provide two note boards and two low-odor fine tip markers to use during the test. **Used note boards will be replaced by test center staff upon request.** Scratch paper, pencils, and markers not furnished by the testing center are prohibited.

You may not write on the note boards before the test begins or during scheduled breaks. The note boards should not be used as measuring devices and should not be folded, bent, distorted, erased, or modified in any manner. You may not remove the note boards from the secure testing area. You may not use the markers on any surface other than the note boards. You may not touch the monitor during testing. All items provided must be returned to the test administrator before leaving the test center.

- Do not engage in conversation with others during testing or while on an unscheduled break. You are strictly prohibited from discussing the test.
- Test center administrators will report the activity of candidates who take unscheduled breaks.

**During an unscheduled break, you may NOT access personal belongings or prohibited items, study or refer to notes or texts, use a telephone, eat or drink any food or beverages, or leave the test center. Test administrators are not authorized to provide you with permission to engage in these activities.**

- Although the test is administered under strict supervision and security, testing irregularities sometimes occur. Test results could be voided based upon a breach of test security, invalid testing conditions, or candidate violations of the Test Regulations, Rules of Conduct, or test center procedures as described in this Guide.

If irregularities are detected during the test, or evidence of irregular behavior is disclosed when the test is scored or afterward, those involved will have their test results voided and face appropriate penalties.

If you think you might require any medicinal items during the testing session (such as aspirin or ibuprofen), you must receive permission from the DAT Program in advance of the testing session. This permission is obtained by following the DAT Program's testing accommodations procedures.

**Failure to comply with the Test Regulations, Rules of Conduct, and test center procedures could result in a determination of the presence of an irregularity, and your test results could be withheld, canceled, considered invalid, or another appropriate penalty could be imposed. You might also be directed to leave the test center before you have completed the test. If your results are withheld or invalidated, or you are otherwise penalized as the result of an irregularity, you could be prohibited from testing and/or other appropriate penalties.**



# TESTING IRREGULARITIES AND MISCONDUCT

The DAT Program strives to report results that accurately reflect the skill and knowledge of each candidate. The standards and procedures for administering each test are intended to provide candidates a comparable opportunity to demonstrate his or her abilities, and to prevent any candidate from gaining an unfair advantage over others.

## REASONS FOR WITHHOLDING, VOIDING OR INVALIDATING SCORES

The DAT Program reserves the right to withhold, void, or invalidate any result when, in the Program's judgment, it is reasonable to question the validity of the result. Reasons for withholding, voiding, or invalidating results, or for imposing other appropriate penalties, could include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Unusual answer patterns
- Atypical score increases from one testing attempt to another
- Discrepancy in, or falsification of, a candidate's identification
- Information indicating a candidate has engaged in misconduct or a violation of the Test Regulations, Rules of Conduct, or test center procedures
- Sharing of remembered test questions or answers. This includes sharing through social media platforms, online discussion forums, or other means
- Taking a test on behalf of another individual, or having another individual take a test on your behalf
- Falsification of application information or supporting documents
- Falsification of the candidate's score report
- Inconsistent performance on different sections of the test from one testing attempt to another
- Improper access to secure test content
- Indication a test administration irregularity has occurred
- Any other information indicating results might not be valid.

## CANDIDATE NOTIFICATION AND APPEAL PROCESS

When the DAT Program voids or invalidates test results, it notifies the candidate in writing. This notice includes information about the decision and the procedure for appeal. Results will remain voided until the appeal process has been completed, or the time for appeal has expired.

When the DAT Program voids a previously reported result, it notifies score report recipients that the result has been voided.

## CONSEQUENCE OF IRREGULARITY

If it is determined a candidate has engaged in irregular behavior, information regarding this determination becomes a part of the candidate's DAT record. At its sole discretion, the DAT Program may elect to send a summary report documenting the incident to legitimately interested parties. This would include all parties to whom you have instructed results be sent (both currently and in the future).

In situations where an irregularity has occurred, individuals who are involved or implicated with respect to the occurrence of the irregularity, or who are reasonably believed to have witnessed the irregularity, could be asked and may be required to provide information concerning the irregularity.

The DAT Program reserves the right to pursue other remedies, including prosecution of anyone whose conduct unlawfully undermines the security of the DAT or the integrity of the testing process.

# TESTING IRREGULARITIES AND MISCONDUCT

## IRREGULARITIES AND APPEALS

An irregularity is defined as a situation in which there is a question about the validity of test results in accurately reflecting the ability and skills of a candidate.

For example, such questions could be raised when

- there is communication between candidates during the testing session.
- unauthorized assistance occurs.
- candidates have inappropriate access to current test content (e.g. remembered test questions or answers are shared by email, online posting, or other means).
- conduct prohibited by the Test Regulations, Rules of Conduct, or test center procedures occurs, or test administration disruptions are present, including natural disasters and other emergencies.

When an irregularity is identified, results for the candidate(s) involved will be voided pending resolution of the corresponding appeal(s). If an appeal is denied or no appeal is filed, the results of the candidate(s) involved could remain voided and/or other appropriate remedies imposed.

Candidates whose results are subject to being voided are notified by written correspondence and provided with a copy of the Dental Admission Test Appeal Process. **Appeals must be submitted in writing within 30 days of notification of the irregularity. Appeals must clearly state the specific relief being requested and include corresponding arguments, evidence, and documentation in support of their request.**

The candidate will be notified of the appeal decision approximately 60 days after receipt of the appeal.

When considering an appeal, the DAT Program strives to ensure that test results accurately reflect candidates' skills, and that all candidates have an opportunity to demonstrate their ability and potential for success in dental school that is equal to, but not greater than, the opportunity provided to other candidates.

The DAT Program will void DAT results when there is a reasonable and good faith basis to do so. If the DAT Program determines that voiding results is not warranted under the circumstances, the results will be released.

Candidates should be aware that the DAT Program considers irregularities, other than natural disasters and emergencies beyond the control of the candidate, to be a serious breach of the testing process.

The DAT Program strives to handle irregularities and their investigation in a professional, fair and objective manner.

The DAT Program strives to handle irregularities in a confidential manner.

Candidates should be aware that reports of irregularities may have consequences beyond the voiding of scores or other appropriate penalties, if information regarding the irregularities is brought to the attention of school authorities, regulatory agencies, or other entities by other sources, or if information surfaces within the context of an investigation into the irregularity.

Candidates are encouraged to report suspicious activity or observations of violations of Test Regulations to the DAT Program at [testsecurity@ada.org](mailto:testsecurity@ada.org).

# TESTING IRREGULARITIES AND MISCONDUCT

## ARBITRATION REQUIREMENT

Arbitration has become an increasingly common way to resolve legal differences. Generally speaking, the advantages of arbitration over traditional lawsuits are that arbitration is less expensive and issues are resolved in less time. If a candidate wishes to pursue a dispute that has not been resolved by the appeal process mentioned above and detailed in the Limited Right of Appeal for Examination Candidates, the candidate must use the procedure described in the following Agreement to Arbitrate.

## AGREEMENT TO ARBITRATE

1. In the event that any legal dispute arises between you and the American Dental Association in connection with your participation in the Dental Admission Test where that dispute is not resolved by the appeals process detailed in the DAT Guide and elsewhere, you agree that the exclusive means for resolving the dispute shall be Binding Arbitration as described by the terms of this Agreement. This means that you waive the rights you may have to resolve the dispute in a court of law, or by any other means that might otherwise be available to you.
2. The American Dental Association (“ADA”) agrees to be similarly bound except that the ADA reserves its full rights to pursue injunctive and other appropriate relief in any state or federal court in cases of unfair competition or violations of, or threats to violate, any intellectual property rights of the ADA. With respect to any action filed by the ADA pursuant to this paragraph 2, you consent to submit to the jurisdiction of the state or federal court in which the ADA seeks relief.
3. Arbitration proceedings initiated pursuant to this Agreement to Arbitrate shall be conducted in accordance with the then current Consumer Arbitration rules of the American Arbitration Association. The Arbitration and any proceedings relating to it shall be held in Chicago, Illinois. The arbitrator’s award shall be binding and may be entered as a judgment in any court of competent jurisdiction. Information about the American Arbitration Association, its rules, and its forms are available from the American Arbitration Association, 335 Madison Avenue, New York, New York 10017-4605.
4. In the event of Arbitration, the parties shall bear their own costs and attorneys’ fees associated with the Arbitration proceedings, unless the arbitrator directs one of the parties to pay the other’s costs, or attorneys’ fees, or both.
5. To the fullest extent permitted by law, no Arbitration brought pursuant to this Agreement shall be joined to any Arbitration involving any other party whether through “Class Arbitration” proceedings or otherwise.
6. This Agreement is part of the Application to take the Advanced Dental Admission Test. Your assent to be bound by it is a requirement for taking the test, but you can only sit for the test if you also fulfill all other conditions imposed by the American Dental Association.