

Canadian Performance Exam in Dental Hygiene (CPEDH™)

Candidate Guide 2026 - 2027

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Federation of
Dental Hygiene
Regulators of Canada

Fédération des organismes
de réglementation en hygiène
dentaire du Canada

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Introduction

Purpose of the Guide

This guide outlines how to apply for the Canadian Performance Exam in Dental Hygiene™ (CPEDH™), the structure of the CPEDH™ what to expect on exam day, and after the exam.

The intended audience of this guide is Applicants and Candidates of the CPEDH™.

Glossary

Term	Definition
Applicant	A person who has applied to take the CPEDH™ and has not yet been approved.
Canadian Performance Exam in Dental Hygiene™	The Performance-Based Assessment that consists of two parts. Acronym: CPEDH™.
Candidate	A person who has applied, meets all the requirements for eligibility, and has been approved to take the CPEDH™.
CPEDH™	See Canadian Performance Exam in Dental Hygiene™.
Chief Examiner	The person appointed to oversee the administration and to ensure the security and oversight of the CPEDH™.
Immediate Family Member	A spouse (including common-law relationship), child (including stepchild), grandchild, sister and brother, mother and father (including step-parents), mother-in-law and father-in-law, grandmother and grandfather, brother-in-law and sister-in-law.
Non-Accredited Program	An undergraduate dental hygiene program offered by a university or other institution that, at the time of the Applicant's graduation, was/has not been accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC) or the American Dental Association Commission on Dental Accreditation (ADA/CODA).
Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE)	Testing that requires the Candidate to demonstrate their knowledge or skills in simulation-based settings or in an authentic clinical context.
Rater	A person who assesses Candidates' performance at a particular station(s) for a particular exam offering. (see Raters)



Roving Proctor	A person responsible for supporting Raters to ensure station documentation is complete and the station documents and supplies are replenished for the next Candidate.
Standardized Client	A person trained to portray the personal history, physical symptoms, emotional characteristics and everyday concerns of a real client (see Standardized Client).

Background - CPEDH Development

Purpose

The purpose of the Canadian Performance Exam in Dental Hygiene™ (CPEDH™) is to ensure that dental hygienists possess the breadth and depth of clinical skills necessary to safely and effectively enter the dental hygiene profession in Canada. The exam is dedicated to the assessment of these skills for two reasons. First, evaluating the performance of clinical skills is the most direct way in which Canadian dental hygiene regulators can determine an individual's competence and therefore readiness to practice. Second, other opportunities to assess Candidates, such as the assessment of prior learning and success on written exams, are generally focused on knowledge. Thus, the CPEDH™ represents a critical piece in the comprehensive and valid assessment of dental hygiene competence.

Overall CPEDH Exam Structure

The CPEDH™ (Canadian Performance Examination in Dental Hygiene™) is an objective structured clinical examination (OSCE) consisting of nine stations. At each station, Candidates perform tasks that a dental hygienist may encounter in clinical practice. Some stations involve interacting with a Standardized Client (SC), while others require performing procedures on manikins, or responding to scenarios without an SC or manikin.

Most stations are observed by an assessor (Rater), an experienced Registered Dental Hygienist trained to provide impartial evaluations. Candidate performance is assessed using a combination of binary checklists and four-point global rating scales with behavioural indicators (see [Grading the OSCE](#) for more details). All assessment tools are derived from the [2021 FDHRC Entry-to-Practice Competency Profile \(EPCCoDH\)](#).

PART 1 - MORNING SESSION (STATIONS 1-7)

These stations assess problem-solving and application of dental hygiene competencies.

Depending on the station, Candidates may interact with SC's, perform tasks on a manikin, or



respond to a scenario without an SC or manikin. A **30-minute lunch break** follows the morning session.

PART 2 - AFTERNOON SESSION (STATIONS 8–9)

These stations involve periodontal assessment and tooth debridement on manikins. More details are provided in the Examination Day Information document sent to Candidates prior to the exam.

Domains of Expertise

The information presented here is a summary of content from the approved FDHRC™ [CPEDH Blueprint](#). The Blueprint was developed using the [2021 EPCCoDH](#) and created by Registered Dental Hygienist Subject Matter Experts.

The EPCCoDH are grouped into seven domains of expertise for dental hygienists in Canada. The exam is developed to ensure that competencies from all domains of expertise are assessed. The table below shows the distribution of competencies from each domain across exam stations.

DOMAIN OF EXPERTISE	PERCENTAGE OF COMPETENCIES ACROSS STATIONS
A Professionalism	2–5%
B Evidence-informed Practice	2–5%
C Communication	5–15%
D Collaboration	2–5%
E Practice Management	5–15%
F Prevention, Education, and Health Promotion	3–7%
G Clinical Therapy	55–65%
<i>G.1 Assess oral and general health status</i>	15–25%
<i>G.2 Formulate a dental hygiene diagnosis</i>	5–10%
<i>G.3 Create a dental hygiene care plan</i>	5–10%
<i>G.4 Implement the dental hygiene care plan</i>	18–28%



<i>G.5 Evaluate effectiveness of dental hygiene care</i>	3–7%
TOTAL	100%

Station Descriptions:

Station	Title	Domains Evaluated
1	Client Interview	Professionalism Evidence-Informed Practice Communication Clinical Therapy
2	Evaluation of Oral Lesion	Communication Collaboration Prevention, Education, and Health Promotion Clinical Therapy
3	Radiography Exposure	Practice Management (including Infection Control) Clinical Therapy
4	Dental Hygiene Care Planning	Evidence-informed Practice Communication Clinical Therapy
5	Communication of a Dental Hygiene Care Plan	Communication Collaboration Prevention, Education, and Health Promotion
6	Evaluation of Dental Hygiene Care	Evidence-Informed Practice Clinical Therapy
7	Prevention of a Medical Emergency	Clinical Therapy



8	Periodontal Assessment and Tooth Debridement I	Practice Management (including Infection Control) Clinical Therapy
9	Periodontal Assessment and Tooth Debridement II	Practice Management (including Infection Control) Clinical Therapy

Section 1 – Before The Exam

Preparing for the CPEDH™

References:

There are several sources of information regarding the content of the exam that are authorized and that Applicants/Candidates are strongly encouraged to access in preparation for the exam. These include:

- *Canadian Performance Exam in Dental Hygiene™ (CPEDH™) Candidate Guide* (this document)
- [Canadian Performance Exam in Dental Hygiene™ \(CPEDH™\) Blueprint](#)

Prior to the exam, Candidates must review the following orientation items:

- CPEDH Exam Day Information Package
- Orientation Video about stations and rotations
- *Canadian Performance Exam in Dental Hygiene™ Candidate Guide (this document)*

The following preparation reference materials are the most current and are intended to provide Applicants/Candidates with suggestions to help prepare for the CPEDH™. The decision on what reference materials to study in for preparation for the CPEDH™ are left up to the Applicant/Candidate.

- Boyd, L.D., & Mallonee, L.F. (2023). *Wilkins' Clinical Practice of the Dental Hygienist* (14th ed.). Jones & Bartlett Learning.
- Canadian Dental Hygienists' Association (CDHA). (2024). *Dental Hygienists' Code of Ethics*. Ottawa, ON.
- Gehrig, J.S., & Shin, D.E. (2024). *Foundations of Periodontics for the Dental Hygienist* (6th ed.). Jones & Bartlett Learning.
- Gehrig, J.S., Sroda, R., & Saccuzzo, D. (2026). *Fundamentals of Periodontal Instrumentation and Advanced Root Instrumentation* (9th ed.). Jones & Bartlett Learning.



- Malamed, S.F. (2023). *Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office* (8th ed.). Elsevier.
- Miller, C.H. (2023). *Infection Control and Management of Hazardous Materials for the Dental Team* (7th ed.). Elsevier.
- Miller, C., Rhodus, N.L., Treister, N.S., Stoopler, E.T., Ross Kerr, A. (2024). *Little and Falace's Dental Management of the Medically Compromised Patient* (10th ed.). Elsevier.
- Pickett, F. A., & Gurenlian, J. R. (2020). *Preventing Medical Emergencies: Use of the Medical History in Dental Practice* (3rd ed.). Jones & Bartlett Learning.
- Pieren, J.A., & Gadbury-Amyot, C. (2025). *Darby and Walsh Dental Hygiene Theory and Practice* (6th ed.). Elsevier.
- Stabulas-Savage, J. (2019). *Frommer's Radiology for the Dental Professional* (10th ed.). Elsevier.
- Tonetti, M.S., Greenwell, H., Kornman, K.S. (2018). Staging and grading of periodontitis: Framework and proposal of a new classification and case definition. *J Periodontol.* 89(Suppl 1): S159–S172.

Instruments/Armamentarium Available during the CPEDH™

EXAM KIT

- Front surface mouth mirror
- Cotton pliers
- 11/12 Explorer
- Pigtail Explorer
- Periodontal probe CP-12
- William's Probe

SCALING KIT

- 129 E2 Nevi Scaler
- H6/H7 Sickle Scaler
- 1/2 Gracey Curette
- 5/6 Gracey Curette
- 11/12 Gracey Curette
- 13/14 Gracey Curette
- 4R/4L Columbia Curette
- 10/11 Orban File
- 12/13 Orban File
- 204S Sickle



ULTRASONIC CAVITRON INSERTS

- 1000 Triple Streamline Direct Flow, 30K
- Left Streamline Direct Flow, 30K
- Right Streamline Direct Flow, 30K
- Straight Streamline Direct Flow, 30K

Acadental Models

The CPEDH™ is administered using the **Acadental ModuPRO DH** dental hygiene model. Candidates who wish to become familiar with the examination model or practice before the examination may purchase the same model and replacement components directly from Acadental. The ModuPRO DH features realistic gingival tissue, measurable probing depths, and simulated calculus to support instrumentation and scaling practice.

For more information or to purchase the ModuPRO DH model and related products, visit:

<https://acadental.com/licensure/CPEDH-Hygiene.php>

Purchasing an Acadental model is optional and is not required to register for or complete the CPEDH™ examination. However, candidates may find it helpful to practice on the same model used during the examination.

Important Note on the models used during the CPEDH™: The ModuPRO DH models used during the CPEDH™ are calibrated specifically for the examination. Although commercially purchased models are identical in design, the location and distribution of the simulated calculus deposits will differ from those used during the CPEDH™. In addition, examination models use **white** simulated calculus, whereas commercially available practice models use **black** simulated calculus.

Important Note on ordering models: Acadental has indicated that orders typically require 2–3 business days for processing; however, candidates are encouraged to order well in advance, as models are shipped from the United States and may be subject to customs-related shipping delays. The FDHRC is not involved in the ordering, processing, or shipping of practice models and is not responsible for any processing or shipping delays that may occur.

Radiography

Details will be provided to Candidates in their Exam Day Information Package after confirmation of registration and eligibility.



Armamentarium

All dental equipment and instruments required for all station will be provided. Some PPE supplies/equipment will need to be provided by the candidate. More detailed information and checklist for equipment is provided in the Exam Day Information Package for approved candidates.

Expectations of Candidates During the CPEDH™

Confidentiality Agreement

All FDHRC™ content, including examination content, is the property of the FDHRC™. Unauthorized use, disclosure, reproduction, and publication of FDHRC™ content is against the law and is strictly prohibited.

The FDHRC™ has implemented security policies and measures to preserve the confidentiality and integrity of its examination content. These measures are in place to eliminate any unfair advantage among Candidates and to avoid the high costs associated with replacing compromised examination content.

Candidates must sign the *CPEDH Candidate Terms and Conditions* before the start of the CPEDH for each exam attempt. Candidates must read the form carefully, as they are obligated to maintain the confidentiality and security of the exam materials as set out in the following rules. Candidates will receive a copy of the form in their Exam Day Information Package once approved in order to review it before exam day. It will need to be signed prior to the start the exam. Candidates will receive a copy at registration to sign.

Exam Regulations

In applying to participate in the CPEDH™, Applicants agree to abide by the following rules:

1. All oral and written instructions regarding the exam process must be followed.
2. Recording or memorizing exam scenarios for communicating information to other Candidates, individuals or agencies, for distribution, financial gain, or any other purpose is strictly forbidden.
3. All exam content must be kept confidential, even after the exam. This includes exam scenarios and their content including script, materials, client characteristics, and any other characteristic the disclosure of which may compromise the validity of the exam.
4. Communication about the exam with anyone other than exam personnel is prohibited.
5. Candidates may converse with exam personnel if required, in a discrete and confidential manner. If Candidates need to use the washroom, they must indicate this to exam personnel.
6. Study or reference materials must not be brought into the exam.



7. Candidates cannot use or be in possession of any electronic devices (e.g., cellphones, cameras, pagers, MP3 players such as an iPod, smart watches, headphones, etc.) during the exam. Candidates will be provided with a bag/or locker in which to place all personal items during check-in. The FDHRC™ is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.
8. Candidates cannot be in possession of any study materials during the exam.
9. All notes that the Candidate is permitted to make during the exam must be surrendered to exam personnel as per instructions.
10. Candidates cannot document or otherwise create or preserve records of exam content for any reason.
11. Candidate cannot be an Immediate Family Member, spouse, or romantic partner of any Standardized Client.
12. Candidates cannot engage in behaviour before, during, or after the exam that disturbs other Candidates or causes them anxiety.
13. Candidates cannot make disruptive comments about the exam, unnecessarily question exam policies and procedures, or engage in other behaviour that disturbs other Candidates or is disrespectful of exam personnel.
14. Candidates must refrain from breaches, unethical conduct, or any attempt to subvert the exam. This includes anything that could affect their results, the results of another Candidate, or the results of a potential future Candidate. If Candidates witness such behaviour, they are obligated to report it to exam personnel as soon as possible.
15. Conduct occurring before, during, or after the exam that violates these Rules may result in, but is not limited to, the following: dismissal from the exam, invalidation of exam results, assignment of a failing grade, and/or a report provided to Canadian dental hygiene regulatory authorities.
16. Candidates must communicate with Standardized Clients, Raters, and other personnel in English at the stations.
17. Candidates are strictly prohibited from communicating with Standardized Clients and other Candidates during breaks.
18. At the end of the exam, Candidates must leave the exam premises immediately and cannot remove any exam materials from the exam site.
19. All arrangements for transportation for the end of the exam day must be made before entering the exam site. Anyone waiting for Candidates must do so away from the exam area and Candidates cannot wait within the exam area for their transportation.



Exam Policies

Accommodations

Candidates who want to apply for exam accommodations for a disability or medical condition should review the FDHRC™ Test Accommodations Policy and Procedure carefully.

All candidates requesting exam accommodations are required to submit the following documents:

- [Form A completed by the candidate.](#)
- [Form B completed by an appropriate regulated health professional](#) and submitted by the health professional directly to the FDHRC. Form B submitted by the candidate will not be accepted.
- Candidates that have received testing accommodations in dental hygiene school, must also **have the school submit their testing accommodation plan as supplemental information.** (Note that approval of testing accommodations by your institution does not guarantee accommodations will be provided by the FDHRC.)

Fully completed documents must be sent to the FDHRC™ by the exam application deadline. Any incomplete documentation or requests received after the application deadline may result in accommodations that cannot be met due to a lack of time prior to the examination. The candidate is responsible for any costs related to any supporting documentation. A new accommodation request, including submission of a new Form A and Form B, must be made with every examination application. An approved accommodation for a previous exam attempt does not guarantee it will be approved for subsequent attempts.

Requests for accommodation are reviewed and determined on a case-by-case basis. Candidates are entitled to reasonable accommodation up to the point of undue hardship; they are not entitled to their preferred form of accommodation, nor to a perfect accommodation.

All accommodation requests and plans are confidential and will only be disclosed to third parties to the extent necessary to implement or administer the accommodation plan.

Candidates with disabilities or other medical conditions who choose not to apply for accommodations or submit documentation past the registration deadline (causing the FDHRC™ to be unable to meet their accommodation needs) but still choose to proceed with challenging the CPEDH™ without accommodations, cannot use this as grounds for appeal of their results if they are not successful.



Illness or Other Extraordinary Circumstances Before or On Exam Day

Please follow local public health guidelines regarding staying home if you are sick. If unsure, please contact the FDHRC™ immediately.

Candidates are **strongly encouraged not to attempt an exam** and to make an appropriate withdrawal if, prior to the exam, they are ill or have extraordinary circumstances, including bereavement, that may affect their performance in the exam. If you choose to attempt the exam and have extenuating circumstances (such as an illness or bereavement), this is not grounds for appeal of your results if you are not successful. Please see the [fee schedule](#) regarding the refunds policy. Note that you will not forfeit your attempt.

If a Candidate is unable to attend an exam due to a matter that arises suddenly on the day of the exam, they must immediately notify the FDHRC™ by phone at 613-260-8156. Phones are monitored off business hours during the exam dates.

Contraventions

Standards and procedures for administering exams have two related objectives: giving Candidates comparable opportunities to demonstrate their abilities and preventing any one Candidate from gaining an unfair advantage over others. To uphold these objectives, exam results may be cancelled or withheld, when, in the opinion of the Incident Review Committee, a testing irregularity occurs; cheating has occurred; there is an apparent discrepancy in, or falsification of, a Candidate's identification; a Candidate engages in misconduct or plagiarism; when anomalies in performance are detected for which there is no reasonable and satisfactory explanation; or the results are believed to be invalid for any other reason.

All contraventions (i.e., irregularities, breaches, dismissals, and disqualifications) result in a forfeiture of the exam fee. Exceptions are stated below in the specific sections.

Irregularities

The standards for valid exam administration (i.e., [Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing](#) and the [National College Testing Association Professional Standards and Guidelines](#)), or 'the Standards', require that test administration is secure and that impediments are not introduced during the testing experience which can negatively impact the Candidates from demonstrating their knowledge, judgment, skills, and ability on the assessment. As much as possible, the assessment administration process should accurately reflect what the Candidate truly knows and is able to perform while limiting factors which may impede this measurement.



The exam process has been developed to ensure consistency and security during administration of the exam. Despite these efforts, certain irregularities may occur in administering the exam that have the potential to affect the validity and trustworthiness of the exam scores.

Exam irregularities are events which materially interrupt and potentially impact a Candidate's performance on an exam, and which are outside the Candidate's control. Note that all irregularities, will be recorded and included as part of the documentation of exam performance.

Candidates are provided with an Incident Report on which they can report irregularities. These will be provided to Candidates at the end of the morning and afternoon sessions and are reviewed by FDHRC™ staff (Incident Review Committee) prior to the Candidate leaving the exam centre.

EQUIPMENT MALFUNCTION

In the event of an equipment malfunction that could affect the performance of tasks in a station, the Incident Review Committee will review the situation and, if appropriate, FDHRC™ personnel will provide a reasonable accommodation to allow the Candidate to complete the station. This may include rescheduling the affected station(s) to the end of the examination session or providing additional time equivalent to the delay caused by the equipment malfunction. If the equipment in the station cannot be restored to a working state within a reasonable amount of time, another station may be set up so that all Candidates can complete the tasks for that station.

Candidates will be required to sign a form acknowledging the equipment malfunction, the accommodation provided, whether they accepted or declined the accommodation, and that they understand any conditions related to the resolution of the incident.

INTERRUPTION IN ADMINISTRATION

The Chief Examiner will address any other interruptions (specifically that are not due to equipment malfunction, such as emergencies and power failures). If the source of the interruption can be addressed within **a reasonable amount of time**, the exam will be resumed once the situation has been addressed. If the interruption cannot be addressed within a reasonable time, the exam will be rescheduled to a later time or date.

OTHER IRREGULARITIES

Every effort is made to ensure a standardized environment for each exam administration that is suitable for Candidates and personnel; for example, a well-lit area, free from extreme temperature fluctuations and other distractions; and recommending acceptable clinical attire so Candidates can adjust to minor room temperature fluctuations.

However, unforeseen circumstances, or other irregularities, may arise that are outside the exam administration personnel's control that expose Candidates to a form of testing irregularity, such as unanticipated loud construction outside the designated clinic area.



In cases of inclement weather, natural disaster, or other local conditions that may cause unavoidable interruptions to testing, the FDHRC™ will make reasonable efforts to notify Candidates and determine the best course of action.

If the source of the other irregularity can be addressed within **a reasonable amount of time**, the exam will be resumed once the situation has been addressed. If the irregularity cannot be addressed within a reasonable time, the exam will be rescheduled to a later time or date.

Misconduct

Candidates are responsible for following all written and verbal regulations, policies, and guidelines provided for the CPEDH™ before, during, and after the exam. Misconduct can be identified during the exam or after the exam via an anonymous or identified report. Misconduct may require immediate intervention from FDHRC™ personnel during the exam (such as confiscation of exam materials or any other documents, objects, or materials that could be used for misconduct) and may result in dismissal.

Examples of misconduct include (but are not limited to):

1. Copying from another Candidate during the exam.
2. Copying or memorizing test items for communicating information to other Candidates, individuals, or agencies, for distribution, financial gain, or any other purpose.
3. Receiving or distributing information about the exam either before or after the exam.
4. Receiving assistance from another Candidate, practitioner, or educator.
5. Giving help to or coaching others during the exam.
6. Engaging in any conduct before, during, or after the exam that disturbs or is disrespectful toward other Candidates, clients, or exam personnel.
7. Failing to disclose that a Standardized Client is an Immediate Family Member, etc.
8. Using unauthorized aids or reference materials, including electronic devices, at any time during the exam.
9. Having non-registered individuals pose as registered exam Candidates.
10. Beginning the exam before being instructed to do so and/or continuing the exam after being told to stop.
11. Disregarding instructions from FDHRC™ staff, Raters, or any exam personnel.
12. Modifying exam results letters to give a false impression of having passed the exam or misrepresenting the Candidate's exam status.
13. Participating in any activity that would be considered illegal such as assault, harassment, or theft.



All cases of misconduct are investigated. Possible consequences of a finding of misconduct includes (but are not limited to):

- An overall grade of fail for the examination and grant permission to retake the examination on or after a specified date,
- An overall grade of fail for the examination with loss of attempt and grant permission to retake the examination on or after a specified date,
- Assigning an overall grade of fail for the examination and prohibit the examinee from taking any future examinations,
- Reporting of misconduct finding to Canadian provincial and territorial dental hygiene regulatory bodies
- Legal action

Any finding of misconduct by the FDHRC™ can be appealed in accordance with the [Appeal Policy](#).

INAPPROPRIATE CANDIDATE COMMUNICATION

Candidates **must not** converse or communicate with one another in any manner whatsoever while the exam is underway. Depending on the severity of the breach, a Candidate may be dismissed immediately from the exam, or a Candidate may be given one verbal warning, after which continuation of the behaviour will be considered grounds for dismissal from the exam.

INAPPROPRIATE CANDIDATE BEHAVIOUR

Candidates **must not** behave in a manner that disturbs other Candidates, is disrespectful of other Candidates or exam personnel, or disrupts the administration of the exam. Depending on the severity of the behaviour, a Candidate may be dismissed immediately from the exam, or a Candidate may be given one verbal warning, after which continuation of the behaviour will be considered grounds for dismissal from the exam.

DISMISSALS

Dismissal from the exam for any reason results in an automatic failure.

IMPROPER PERFORMANCE

Dismissal from the exam may result from improper performance relative to procedural skills or clinical judgment which jeopardizes the health or safety of the standardized client, Candidate, or Rater. A Candidate may be dismissed from the exam upon agreement between the Incident Review Committee. Examples of improper performance include, but are not limited to:

1. Failure to disclose a condition which would potentially jeopardize the health or safety of the standardized client, Candidate, Raters, or exam staff.
2. Rude, abusive, uncooperative, or disruptive behaviour.
3. Failure to comply with infection prevention and control.



4. Excessive trauma to tissue and/or performance is inadequate in the validated judgment of the Raters.
5. Failure to recognize or respond to proper handling of hazardous material(s).
6. Failure to adhere to the *CPEDH™ Candidate Guide*.

Disqualifications

IMPROPER OR MISSING IDENTIFICATION

Candidates who do not have proper identification will not be allowed into the exam (see [Arrival and Registration for Orientation and Exam](#)). Improper or missing identification is deemed a disqualification and results in the forfeiture of exam fees but does not count as a failed attempt. Improper identification includes, but is not limited to, the following invalid identification: expired government-issued identification, unmatched names, not government-issued identification, identification without a photo, and identification damaged beyond legibility.

LATE ARRIVALS

Candidates who arrive after the registration closes will not be allowed into the exam (see [Arrival and Registration for Orientation and Exam](#)). A late arrival constitutes a disqualification. This disqualification results in the forfeiture of exam fees but does not count as a failed attempt.

FAILURE TO SHOW

No-shows on the date of the exam result in the forfeiture of exam fees. Failure to show for the exam will not count as an attempt towards the Candidate's attempt limit. Failure to show for two different exams requires a special request to the FDHRC for permission to apply for further attempts.

Exam Applications

Eligibility Criteria

An individual is eligible to apply for the CPEDH™ only if they have been assessed through the FDHRC™ equivalency process as a graduate of a dental hygiene program determined to be substantially equivalent and have successfully completed the National Dental Hygiene Certification Examination (NDHCE™) or an equivalent examination accepted by the relevant Canadian provincial or territorial regulatory authority.

Language Proficiency Requirements

While the CPEDH™ exam is typically offered in English, individual provincial regulatory bodies may have language proficiency registration/licensure requirements requiring evidence of proficiency in a specific language (English or French). Candidates are responsible for knowing all regulatory



requirements for the province in which they wish to register following successful completion of the CPEDH™, including language proficiency requirements.

Privacy

Please refer to the FDHRC™ privacy policy found on the [website](#) for information on the collection and security of personal information.

Exam Application Procedure

Applications can be submitted online through the FDHRC™ website's [CPEDH™ application page](#). The application and all supporting documents must be received by the application deadline for the administration the Applicant is completing the application for. Incomplete applications will be cancelled.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST:

- ☐ Completion and payment of the [online application and fee](#)
- ☐ Submission of Accommodation Forms (if applicable)
- ☐ One current digital photograph of the applicant from the shoulders up (passport style photograph). The FDHRC reserves the right to request a new notarized and signed, passport-compliant photograph from applicants if the notarized photo on file is older than 2-years or there are any significant changes in the applicant's appearance that make confirming their identity against the notarized photo on file difficult.
- ☐ Reporting of any active communicable disease/respiratory illness (e.g., TB, HBC). If a Candidate has such an illness, it must be reported in writing, and the report and any related documentation can be attached to the online application, emailed (info@fdhrc-forhdc.ca), or mailed to the FDHRC™ office. Appropriate follow-up will be completed to determine what, if any, actions are required.

Only if the FDHRC™ does not have the following documentation already on file for an Applicant, they will be required to provide it before the application deadline. Applicants do not need to submit these documents unless specifically asked by the FDHRC™.:

- a notarized or official copy of their DH diploma, and
- official transcript.

Important Note on Applicant/Candidate Name: When applying for the CPEDH™ ensure that the name submitted on the application, the first and last name entered, **exactly match** your legal name as written on the valid government-issued photo ID (e.g., driver's licence, passport) you will use on exam day. Middle names are not necessary but can be included if wanted. If your legal name does



not include either a first or last name, you can enter a '.' [period] in the corresponding box in place of a name.

Once an application is submitted, it is considered a contract. If an Applicant fails to fulfill all requirements of the application, or are unable to take the exam, the Refund Policy applies (see [Refund Policy](#)).

PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

During application, applicants must provide one (1) current digital photograph of the applicant from the shoulders up (passport style photograph). A passport-style photograph is a photograph which has a plain background, shows the full face, and with no hats/headwear (exception for religious headwear only).

Candidates need to ensure that the digital photograph is a current likeness of themselves as it will be used to identify them at the exam. The photo must be a natural and unfiltered/unaltered digitalized photograph taken within the last six-months.

The FDHRC™ reserves the right to request a new notarized and signed, passport-compliant photograph from Candidates if the notarized photo on file is older than 2-years or there are any significant changes in the applicant's appearance that make confirming their identity against the notarized photo on file difficult.

The digital photo is used in part to confirm the identity of the Candidate on exam day. Should a Candidate drastically change their appearance between when the photo was taken and the exam date, the FDHRC™ will require a new digital or notarized photograph that is a true representation of how the Candidate will look on the exam day.

NOTE: If a notarized photo is required it **MUST** be received before the application deadline. Interested individuals can find the application deadline for the next CPEDH on the [FDHRC™ website](#).

Refund Policy

Requests for withdrawal from the exam must be made online through the FDHRC™ website. A verbal request for withdrawal is not accepted. Refunds are made based on the following conditions. See the [Fee Schedule](#) on the website for a list of fees associated with the withdrawal or cancellation of an application and applicable deadlines.

Administration Fees

See the [Fee Schedule](#) on the website for a list of administration fees associated with the CPEDH™.



Section 2 – Exam Days

Arrival and Registration for Orientation and Exam

All OSCE sessions will start promptly based on the schedule. Candidates must arrive at the exam location by the designated registration time and check in with the exam receptionist. Candidates who arrive after the registration closes are considered late arrivals and will not be admitted to the exam or orientation (see [Disqualifications - Late Arrivals](#)).

Each Candidate must show identification at the check-in. Identification must be a valid government-issued identification that includes both a photo and a signature (e.g., passport, driver's licence).

Candidates who do not have proper identification will not be admitted to the exam (see [Disqualifications - Improper or Missing Identification](#)). Additionally, Candidates must sign a

Candidate Terms and Conditions form at the check-in.

Following check-in, Candidates will be given time to change into clinic attire and be provided with an area to store their personal effects. The FDHRC™ is not responsible for the loss of any personal effects.

On-Site Orientation – Prior to the Exam

There is a mandatory on-site orientation for candidates the day prior to the examination. This provides candidates an opportunity to see the clinic space and set-up prior to the examination. During the orientation, candidates will receive important information regarding examination day procedures and will have the opportunity to view the examination environment and equipment that will be used during the examination.

Candidates will rotate through a series of four orientation stations where they will be able to visually examine the equipment and materials used on the exam day, including dental units, ultrasonic devices, radiography equipment, and manikin systems. Candidates will also receive an overview of chair operations, and manoeuvring of the manikin, and may practice using manikin positioning devices.

Question-and-answer sessions will not be permitted during the orientation. Operation or handling of any other examination equipment is not permitted; viewing only is allowed unless otherwise instructed.



On-Site Orientation – Exam Day

The exam-day orientation will include a review of policies and procedures, emergency information, infection prevention and control (IPAC) requirements, and a more detailed explanation of the examination format.

The exam-day orientation sessions will be recorded (audio only) to ensure accuracy of post-exam documentation. Candidates will be required to consent to being recorded. A question-and-answer session will be permitted during the exam-day orientation. Candidates will only be allowed to ask exam related questions during the official exam-day orientation period. They will not be allowed to ask exam related questions during check-in, breaks, or any other time outside the orientation session.

Washroom Breaks

Scheduled washroom breaks

Candidates will be given the opportunity to use the washroom prior to the start of the exam, during the scheduled exam break, and at the end of the exam.

Unscheduled washroom breaks

Should a Candidate need to use the washroom during station rotations, they must request it of the Rater who will inform a Roving Proctor. Exam personnel must accompany the Candidate to and from the washroom.

All exam materials must be left at the station during a washroom break. The Candidate must not talk to any person or consult any external materials during this washroom break.

Time missed during the unscheduled washroom break cannot be made up. Time missed due to unscheduled washroom breaks is not grounds for appeal of your results if you are not successful.

Clinical Attire

Candidates must bring with them, and change into, appropriate clinical attire including scrubs, personal protective eyewear, and shoes with enclosed toe and enclosed heel. When working in Station 8 and 9, Candidates must wear over gowns, which are **not** supplied on site. Candidates are required to bring and wear their own personal protective gowns, [in accordance with current College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario \(CDHO\) infection prevention and control guidelines](#).



Any hair longer than shoulder length and any hairstyle that falls forward toward a simulator, laboratory equipment, or client when bending forward must be pulled back and fastened. Beards and moustaches need to be such that they allow the dental mask to seal tightly.

The exam is scent-free and the FDHRC™ asks that Candidates refrain from wearing perfume, colognes, aftershaves, and other scented products.

Accessories such as rings and watches are **highly discouraged** as they have the potential to harbor microorganisms. If worn, rings must be limited to a single smooth band without projections or mounted stones and watches should be covered by a glove or sleeve. Long sleeves or jewelry should not interfere with or become wet when performing hand hygiene. If watches and other wrist jewelry are present, remove or push up above the wrist before performing hand hygiene.

Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC)

At all times, Candidates—and the testing facility—must comply with the Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) guidelines in Ontario. If personal protective equipment (PPE) is required in a station, only level 3 masks will be provided by the FDHRC. All other PPE (gowns, loupes, safety glasses, gloves, face shields) must be brought by the Candidate. More information on PPE requirements for each station, including which items are supplied and which items Candidates must bring, will be included in the Examination Day Information document. For stations involving the use of a manikin, Candidates are expected to adhere to all IPAC protocols as if they were treating a real client.

Please note: Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) is assessed across three designated OSCE stations, each containing specific IPAC criteria. See [IPAC Critical Error Section](#) on how this is scored.

Candidates are expected to review and adhere to the IPAC Standards/Guidelines in the province in which the exam will occur. Links to the provincial IPAC guidelines are in the chart below.

Province	Document	Link
Ontario	College of Dental Hygienists of Ontario: Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines	https://cdho.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/GUI-IPAC.pdf https://cdho.org/cdho-resources/ipac-guidelines-and-resources/



There may be times that the exam facility's policies exceed the provincial IPAC requirements and, in these cases, the facility's policies would apply. In the confirmation of eligibility email, the FDHRC™ will provide Candidates with the facility's relevant IPAC policies.

At all times, Candidates (and the testing facility) must comply with the highest IPAC standard. The following activities must comply with the IPAC guidelines in Ontario:

- Performing hand hygiene
- Donning and doffing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Removing all PPE when leaving operatory
- Moving from station to station (e.g., washing/disinfecting protective eyewear, performing hand hygiene, doffing and donning of PPE)

Finally, Candidates may choose to wear personal protective equipment that goes above the provincial guidelines and/or facility policies. The Candidate will be responsible for providing this additional equipment for themselves.

Exam Day

Candidate's Exam Day Checklist

Candidates are required to bring the following items with them:

- ☐ CPEDH™ Candidate Identification Number
- ☐ Valid government-issued identification that includes a photo and a signature
- ☐ Clinical attire to be provided by the Candidate for themselves:
 - Scrubs
 - Latex-free gloves
 - Gown - Must be fluid resistant (Level 2 or higher), have cuffed long sleeves, cover the body front and back from the neck to the thighs, overlap in the back, fasten at the neck and back, and be easy to don and doff.
 - Eye protection (goggles or face shield)
 - Shoes with enclosed toe and enclosed heel
- ☐ A combination lock to secure personal items in an assigned locker (if lockers are available)
- ☐ Beverage (water) (optional)
- ☐ Food (optional)



- Optional: Loupes¹

Protective eyewear (face shields or goggles) is required for all aerosol producing procedures of the CPEDH™. Regular prescription eyeglasses are not considered appropriate eye protection as they do not provide protection against splashes around the top and sides of the glasses.

Protective eyewear requirements vary by station.

The FDHRC™ will provide ASTM Level 3 Masks for all candidates.

The FDHRC™ recommends that Candidates bring only the items on the list above to the exam site. A storage area will be provided for any personal items; however, the FDHRC™ is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.

Schedule

The CPEDH™ is a one-day examination consisting of nine stations delivered across two sessions. Candidates will rotate through stations in different sequences; therefore, station order will vary for each candidate.

Please note, that depending on the number of individuals registered, candidates may have a wait station(s) in either the morning or the afternoon session of the CPEDH™ and the exam day may start earlier or end later than the sample provided below.

The schedule shown below is an example of one candidate's examination day only. Each candidate will receive their individualized and accurate exam day schedule in the Exam Day Information Package sent prior to the examination.

SAMPLE CANDIDATE TIMETABLE FOR THE CPEDH (WITH TRANSITIONS)

Time	Task
7:30 – 8:00	Registration
8:00 – 8:47	On-site orientation
8:47 – 9:00	Start Exam — Rotation 1 Read Candidate Instructions and complete station tasks.
9:00 – 9:02	Transition

¹ If you plan to use Loupes during the CPEDH™ you will be required to bring your own face shield that will comfortably sit over the Loupes and provide full protection. The FDHRC™ **does not** have face shields that can be worn with Loupes.



9:02 – 9:15	Rotation 2: Read Candidate Instructions and complete station tasks.
9:15 – 9:17	Transition
9:17 – 9:30	Rotation 3: Read Candidate Instructions and complete station tasks.
9:30 – 9:32	Transition
9:32 – 9:45	Rotation 4: Read Candidate Instructions and complete station tasks.
9:45 – 9:47	Transition
9:47 – 10:00	Rotation 5: Read Candidate Instructions and complete station tasks.
10:00 – 10:02	Transition
10:02 – 10:15	Rotation 6: Read Candidate Instructions and complete station tasks.
10:15 – 10:17	Transition
10:17 – 10:30	Rotation 7: Read Candidate Instructions and complete station tasks.
10:30 – 10:32	Transition
10:32 – 10:45	Rotation 6: Read Candidate Instructions and complete station tasks.
10:45 – 11:15	Break for all
11:15 – 11:45	On-site orientation Session 2
11:45 – 12:33	Rotation 8: Read Candidate Instructions and complete station tasks.
12:33 – 13:03	Break
13:03 – 13:46	Rotation 9: Read Candidate Instructions and complete station tasks
13:46 – 14:06	End of Exam, complete survey and incident reports

BREAKS

A mandatory break is scheduled after the morning OSCE stations (1–7) and between the afternoon stations (8–9). A detailed schedule, including break times, will be provided to Candidates in the Exam Day Information Package.



Lunch and beverages will not be provided by FDHRC™. You are welcome to bring any beverages or snacks of your own, however be advised you will not have access to a refrigerator.

Throughout OSCE Stations 1–7, Candidates may encounter mandatory wait stations at various points, which may differ for each candidate. Washroom use is permitted during these wait stations if needed. Please note that using the washroom outside of these designated wait periods may result in lost time at a station, and no additional time will be granted.

You must not leave the Test Centre during your examination, including during breaks. If you leave the Test Centre at any time, you will not be permitted back into the Test Centre to complete the examination.

Station Timing

FDHRC™ personnel maintains the exam schedule, timing of the stations, and correct Candidate rotation. Support staff will clearly signal the start and end of each station as well as a time remaining warning for each station and the transition time between stations.

STATIONS 1-7 – MORNING SESSION

Upon arriving at a station, the Candidate will stand outside and wait for the timers' verbal signal indicating that the Candidate may enter the station and read the Candidate Instructions.

Candidates have **13 minutes** to read the station Candidate Instructions and complete station tasks and/or interact with the Standardized Client. **Note:** (No verbal interaction with the Rater or Standardized Client is needed until you have completed reading and are ready to perform station tasks). A warning verbal signal will indicate when **6 minutes** and **2 minutes** remain. Candidates should avoid interacting with the Rater during the Standardized Client interaction unless the Candidate Instructions requires it. Raters intervene only if necessary and are not permitted to provide feedback.

At the end of the station, a verbal signal will indicate the completion of the **13-minute** period.

Candidates then have **2 minutes** to transition to the next station. During transitions, communication between Candidates is not allowed to maintain the integrity of the assessment. Candidates are not required to use the full station time if all tasks are complete but must remain in the room until the end of the station rotation time.

STATION 8 & 9 – AFTERNOON SESSION

Upon arriving at a station, the Candidate will stand outside and wait for the timers' verbal signal indicating that the Candidate may enter the station and read the Candidate Instructions.

Candidates have **48 minutes** to read the station Candidate Instructions and complete station tasks on a manikin. A warning verbal signal will indicate when **24 minutes**, **12 minutes** and **5 minutes** remain. Candidates should avoid interacting with the Rater during the station unless the Candidate



Instructions requires it. Raters intervene only if necessary and are not permitted to provide feedback.

At the end of the station, a verbal signal will indicate the completion of the **48-minute** period. Candidates will then transition to the wait station for their break. During transitions, no communication between Candidates is allowed to maintain the integrity of the assessment.

Candidates are not required to use the full station time if all assigned tasks have been completed. However, Candidates must remain at the station until the verbal announcement indicates that the station has ended and it is time to transition.

NOTE: Raters remain at the same station for the duration of the assessment. Candidates rotate through the stations.

Roles and Accountability

Raters

FDHRC™ Raters are trained and calibrated assessors responsible for evaluating Candidate performance in the CPEDH™ OSCE. Raters are present in the station upon Candidate arrival and do not interact with Candidates during the examination.

Raters are trained assessors who apply standardized scoring criteria based on station-specific marking guides. They complete scoring in real time for CPEDH™ OSCE stations 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, and 9. They also complete post-examination scoring for stations 4 and 6, as well as designated components of stations 8 and 9.

RATER CONDUCT

Raters will not provide prompts, clarification, or feedback to Candidates at any time during the examination. They will not answer questions related to station content or scoring decisions.

All scoring is completed independently in accordance with FDHRC™ assessment standards to ensure consistency, fairness, and reliability across all Candidates.

Standardized Client

Standardized Clients are used in Part 1 of the OSCE. Standardized Clients must not be an Immediate Family Member, spouse, or romantic partner of any Candidate. If a Candidate becomes aware that a Standardized Client falls into one of these categories, the Candidate must inform FDHRC™ personnel immediately. Alternative arrangements will be made for the Candidate to complete the station(s). Failure to inform FDHRC™ personnel of a prior relationship/connection to



a Standardized Client could lead to removal from the exam and/or the nullification of the Candidate's exam results.

Standardized Clients are trained to simulate clients in a realistic and reliable manner. As much as possible, they are carefully selected to match the characteristics of the client case being portrayed, including factors such as age, gender, and appearance. Guidelines provide Standardized Clients with the instructions and processes to be adhered to during the OSCE.

STANDARDIZED CLIENT CONDUCT

Depending on the case, Standardized Clients may provide additional information as directed by the Standardized Client instructions. Candidates are to treat the Standardized Client interaction as realistically as possible and try to ignore the fact that this is a simulation. Standardized Clients will not provide any feedback. The Standardized Clients are trained to respond to the questions asked by the Candidates; however, they will not provide prompts or nudge Candidates to ask certain questions. Candidates are expected to know what they should be asking and/or doing with the client based on the station background and task list provided to them at the start of each station.

General Exam Information

- If you arrive late for either session, you will not be given extra time, and you cannot make up stations you missed.
- Your ability to read, interpret, and comply with instructions and other written material is part of the examination.
- FDHRC™ station Raters will not answer questions involving examination content.
- Timers are present to announce timing of sessions and movement between stations.
- FDHRC™ staff will be present to aid Candidates in station rotations.

Section 3 – After The Exam

Feedback

Anonymous feedback will be obtained via surveys from the following primary interest groups: Candidates, Raters, and support staff of facilities where exams are held. Data from these surveys provide pertinent information to guide perpetual monitoring and improvement of exam processes, such as improving communications and updating resources.



Grading the OSCE

All tasks are evaluated by Registered Dental Hygienist Raters who are trained and calibrated using a defined set of assessment criteria to ensure fairness, accuracy, and consistency. Stations 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 8, and 9 include an in operator rater who assesses the candidate's performance in real time. Stations 4 and 6, as well as specific components of Stations 8 and 9, are graded after the examination by FDHRC™ Raters.

Each OSCE station (Stations 1–9) is scored using both task specific checklists and a 4-point Global Rating Scale (GRS) evaluating professionalism, communication, and collaboration skills (see table below). Each station produces an individual station score.

To successfully pass the CPEDH™ OSCE, Candidates must meet two separate passing requirements:

- The combined average score for Stations 1–7 must meet or exceed the minimum passing standard.
- The combined average score for Stations 8–9 must meet or exceed the minimum passing standard established for these stations.

Candidates must successfully meet both requirements to pass the examination. **Candidates must achieve a passing result for both the combined Stations 1–7 score and the combined Stations 8–9 score to pass the CPEDH™ OSCE.**

Note: Stations 8 and 9 serve as critical assessment stations. Their combined total score must meet the defined minimum requirement. Failure to meet this minimum results in failure of the entire examination, regardless of performance in Stations 1–7. Therefore, Candidates who achieve a passing result for Stations 1–7 but do not achieve the required passing result for the combined Stations 8–9 score will not pass the CPEDH™ OSCE. Because Stations 8 and 9 are critical pass stations that use a unique performance level scoring method, a sample of the Candidate Findings Form used in these stations is provided in [Appendix A](#). This sample is intended to help Candidates understand the structure and expectations of these stations; however, it does not include the scoring rubrics or specific criteria used by Raters.

4-POINT GLOBAL RATING SCALE (GRS) – EXAMPLE

Score	Rating
0	Far Below Standard / Clear Fail
1	Below Standard / Borderline Fail



2	Meets Standard / Borderline Pass
3	Exceeds Standard / Clear Pass

Critical Error Criteria

Critical errors are evaluated in specific stations. Stations 3, 8, and 9 each include Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) critical error criteria. Candidates must achieve the required combined IPAC score across these three stations; failure to meet the minimum IPAC requirement results in failure of the entire examination.

Stations 8 and 9 also include critical error criteria related to tissue management on manikins. All manikins are inspected for minor and major soft and hard tissue damage, and specific thresholds of damage constitute critical errors that result in exam failure. See tables below for specific criteria.

IPAC Critical Error Criteria

Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) practices are assessed across the examination and are a core expectation of safe, entry-to-practice performance. Candidates are required to consistently demonstrate appropriate IPAC behaviours.

IPAC is formally assessed across three designated OSCE stations (3,8,9), each of which includes specific IPAC criteria. The scores from all three stations are combined to produce a total IPAC score. Performance on these criteria is reviewed cumulatively across the three stations.

Candidates must meet or exceed the minimum required IPAC standard across the designated stations to successfully pass this component of the examination. If a candidate's combined IPAC performance does not meet the required standard, this is considered a critical IPAC error.

A critical IPAC error results in failure of the examination, regardless of performance in other stations.

Candidates are reminded that adherence to IPAC principles is an essential competency at entry to practice and is expected throughout the entire examination.

Critical errors in Infection Prevention and Control (IPAC) involve actions or omissions that place the client, candidate, or environment at risk of contamination. The following are examples of IPAC-related critical errors, **including but not limited to**:

- Failure to perform hand hygiene
- Mask not worn correctly



- Failure to don and/or doff PPE in correct sequence
- Eye protection not worn correctly
- Hair not secured or controlled
- Using gloves that are torn or compromised
- Touching the face with treatment gloves
- Touching hair with treatment gloves
- Touching loupes or adjustment cords with treatment gloves
- Touching the mask with treatment gloves
- Touching battery packs with treatment gloves
- Touching clothing with treatment gloves
- Contaminating surfaces during treatment
- Using contaminated supplies
- Using contaminated equipment
- Using contaminated instruments
- Not treating the manikin with the same IPAC standards required for a real patient

Tissue Management Critical Error Criteria

SOFT TISSUE TRAUMA

Category	Definition	Examples	Scoring / Outcome
Minor Soft Tissue Trauma	• Laceration/abrasion $\leq$ 3 mm • Does not require sutures or follow-up • No bone exposure No papilla loss	• Small superficial abrasions at gingival margin • Minor papillary nicks	• 0–4 of 10 sites: Acceptable • $\geq$ 5 of 10 sites: FAIL – Critical Error



Category	Definition	Examples	Scoring / Outcome
Major Soft Tissue Trauma (Automatic Fail)	- Laceration/abrasion > 3 mm - Requires sutures or follow-up - Exposure of alveolar bone - Flap creation or papilla amputation - Instrument tip broken in soft tissue	Severed papillae	Any major soft tissue trauma = AUTOMATIC FAIL

HARD TISSUE TRAUMA

Category	Definition	Examples	Scoring / Outcome
Minor Hard Tissue Damage	- Unintended minor damage not requiring restoration - Small enamel chip - Surface scratch/scuff - Minor contour loss	As listed in definition	0–4 sites: Acceptable ≥ 5 sites: FAIL –Critical Error
Major Hard Tissue Damage (Automatic Fail)	- Damage requiring restorative treatment - Fracture into dentin - Broken cusp - Functional impact - Gouging requiring restoration	As listed in definition	Any major hard tissue trauma = AUTOMATIC FAIL

Exam Results

Performance Reports and Exam Results

Following the examination, Candidates will receive a performance report indicating whether they achieved a passing or failing result for the CPEDH™ OSCE. Results are based on two separate scoring components: the combined average score for Stations 1–7 and the combined average



score for Stations 8–9. Candidates must achieve a passing result on both components to successfully pass the examination.

Candidates who successfully completed the exam will receive a letter via email confirming their results and a printed certificate via mail confirming they have successfully completed the CPEDH™ 4-6 weeks following the exam dates.

Candidates who are unsuccessful will receive an email and letter with a summary of their performance by broad performance domains; however, detailed station scores, scoring rubrics, and rater comments are not provided. The performance report is intended to identify areas for further review while maintaining the integrity, fairness, and security of the examination. The candidate will receive their unsuccessful results within 4-6 weeks following the exam dates.

Unsuccessful Candidates should review the performance report carefully prior to any subsequent attempts on the exam to identify areas of study and remediation.

The CPEDH™ is used to certify competence to practise the profession at an entry-level, in the interest of the protection of the public. The exam is not intended to be educational. With respect to more detailed feedback on a Candidate's weaknesses, the FDHRC™ will not provide additional feedback or recommendations regarding individual performance or remediation further to what is provided in the detailed performance report.

If a Candidate requires any clarification of the information in their performance report, they are advised to send a written request to the FDHRC™.

Information accumulated through the exam process may be used for statistical purposes and for evaluating the exam. All individual information will be kept confidential and will not be used for any other purposes without permission.

To expedite the provincial registration/licensure of Candidates, a list of successful Candidates will be forwarded to all provincial and territorial regulatory authorities at the same time as the release of individual results.

Further, Candidate results will not to be discussed between the FDHRC™ and a third party other than a dental hygiene regulatory body unless written consent to do so has been provided by the Candidate and submitted to the FDHRC™.

Results Notification

The FDHRC™ will notify Candidates of their results within approximately 4–6 weeks. Exceptions may be made if irregularities are being investigated. For reasons of confidentiality, results and performance reports will not be released by telephone or fax. CPEDH™ policy does not permit the



release of actual exam scores or station content. Results are given as either a pass or fail; no grade is given.

Exam Attempts

A Candidate is allowed a maximum of three (3) attempts at successfully completing the CPEDH™.

Candidates should carefully assess their preparedness before attempting the exam as they are permitted a maximum number of attempts. After the second unsuccessful attempt, the Candidate is strongly recommended to review the feedback provided from their previous attempts. Completion of formal remedial or upgrading courses is strongly recommended prior to initiating the final attempt of the CPEDH™.

A Candidate who is applying for a final attempt of the CPEDH™ will be required to sign the *Final Attempt Declaration* form upon application, verifying their understanding that this latest attempt is their final attempt at the CPEDH™.

A Candidate who has failed the maximum number of attempts allowed is no longer a Candidate for the CPEDH™ unless they successfully complete, again, all of the dental hygiene course requirements of a recognized dental hygiene program and meets the eligibility criteria in effect at the time of their new application to write the CPEDH™.

All regulatory bodies in Canada recognize the results of each other's performance exams.

Therefore, Candidates may take the exam in any province. Canadian dental hygiene regulators share and confirm Candidates' successful and unsuccessful results with one another. Exams taken in any province count towards the cumulative number of performance exam attempts permitted per Candidate. This includes all attempts at dental hygiene clinical exams, including the CPEDH™ and any clinical exam preceding the CPEDH™.

Request for Appeal

See the FDHRC's [Appeal Policy](#) for more information.



Appendix A: St.8 and 9 Candidate Findings Form

STATION 8 Periodontal Assessment and Tooth Debridement I Candidate Findings Form

Candidate ID# _____ Rater ID# _____

1. Calculus Detection Findings:

- Perform tactile calculus detection on the assigned maxillary teeth and indicate the presence or absence of subgingival calculus by circling the appropriate box on the four surfaces (Distal, Mesial, Facial, Lingual). Y= Present N= Absent

Tooth #	Distal	Mesial	Facial	Lingual
	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N

2. Calculus Removal Assignment:

3. Periodontal Probing Measurement:

- For the assigned maxillary teeth, measure and record in the appropriate boxes the depth of each sulcus on the indicated surfaces to the nearest mm.

Tooth #	DF	F	MF	ML	L	DL
	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm
	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm
	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm



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STATION 9- Periodontal Assessment and Tooth Debridement II Candidate Findings Form

Candidate ID# _____ Rater ID# _____

1. Calculus Detection Findings:

- Perform tactile calculus detection on the assigned mandibular teeth and indicate the presence or absence of subgingival calculus by circling the appropriate box on the four surfaces (Distal, Mesial, Facial, Lingual). Y= Present N= Absent

Tooth #	Distal	Mesial	Facial	Lingual
	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N
	Y N	Y N	Y N	Y N

2. Calculus Removal Assignment:

3. Periodontal Probing Measurement:

- For the assigned mandibular teeth, measure and record in the appropriate boxes the depth of each sulcus on the indicated surfaces to the nearest mm.

Tooth #	DF	F	MF	ML	L	DL
	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm
	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm
	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm	____mm



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