



As the Washington chapter of the American Student Dental Association (ASDA), a student-run organization that represents the rights, interests and welfare of 22,000 dental students across the country, we urge you to change the requirements for initial dental licensure. Currently there are 72 dental school graduates in Washington that cannot get licensed.

Dental students are required to take an exam that involves performing procedures on patients. As a result of dental school clinic closures due to COVID-19, students are unable to take the exam.

Thank you for accepting the non-patient based Dental Licensure Objective Structured Clinical Exam (DLOSCE). We are asking you to change licensure requirements further to allow for the following exams to be accepted as new alternatives to current licensure requirements.

- American Board of Dental Examiners (ADEX) CompeDont DTX. It is a non-patient-based restorative examination that utilizes the CompeDont™ DTX, a new manikin tooth technology developed by the CDCA and Acadental, Inc.
- Central Regional Dental Testing Services (CRDTS) all manikin exam. This exam is an option for the Periodontal and Restorative procedures traditionally administered on a patient.
- Western Regional Examining Board (WREB) manikin simulation exam.
- ASDA recommends the manikin-based alternatives are adopted in lieu of the patient based restorative and periodontal (if required in your state) portions.

Recent dental school graduates can play a critical role in helping address the wide-ranging impacts of COVID-19. They cannot do this without licenses.

We urge you to make these changes now to expedite the licensing process for 2020 graduates and ensure they can begin serving communities as soon as possible.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'PC', written in a cursive style.

Portia Cao, University of Washington ASDA President