



WREB

A National Dental and Dental Hygiene Testing Agency

Dental Student Newsletter

www.wreb.org

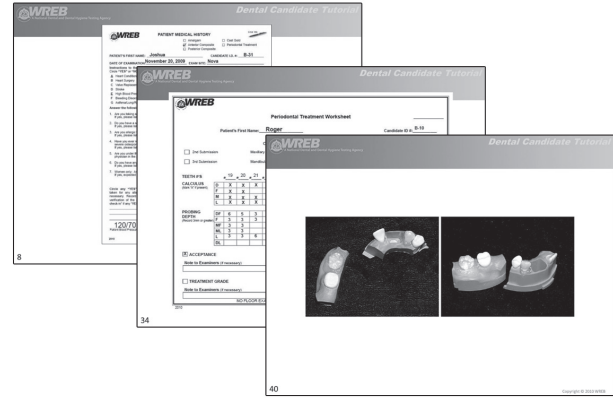
Fall 2011



Tip #1 for a Successful Exam

BE SURE TO REVIEW THE DENTAL CANDIDATE TUTORIAL ONLINE at www.wreb.org!

This important 48 slide presentation provides invaluable information about the various components of the Dental Exam. You are advised to first read through the Candidate Guide and then view the "Tutorial". You will also find information about the Computer exams given at Pearson VUE in this informative tool.



Characteristics of Candidates Who Pass WREB:

"This exam is not a student/instructor relationship. You are not asking permission. You are the Dentist, thereby informing the Examiners what you plan to do, not what you want permission to do. The Floor Examiner is there primarily to provide information to the Candidate regarding clarification of procedural issues, certain check offs, and to answer questions. He is not there to grade or give his/her opinion or permission."

WREB Floor Examiner

"You have had the best training. Relax, do what you have been trained to do. Don't spend so much time refining your preps that they no longer look ideal."

WREB Dental Examiner

"One of the most important things a Candidate can do is try to remain calm under the "stress" of the WREB exam. Know the Candidate guide but don't try to imagine what is meant and read too much into the guide. Critical thinking of how your "clinical circumstance" is addressed in the Candidate Guide is important, while not over analyzing to uncertainty. Selecting a reliable patient with multiple WREB procedures seems to help reduce anxiety. Candidates that "pool" backup patients with other Candidates seems like a good strategy to prevent a crisis. When in doubt more calculus or caries is better for acceptance of your patients. Minimal sometimes = rejection = stress. There is no question that a good night's sleep is critical to your performance the next day. If you can relax while managing your time and preparation you will be successful. If you are prepared, most likely the Floor Examiner will not be needed. However, if unusual circumstances arise they are willing and prepared to assist you to the extent guidelines allow."

WREB Grading Examiner

"As an 'Educator' and WREB Grading Examiner, many of the things that I take away from each exam are related to information that I can pass on to my senior dental students to help them receive the highest exam score possible. Each year, I point out that Candidates often lose valuable points on items that are completely within their control.

Examples include:

1. Torn, wet (saliva/blood), or dirty rubber dams;
2. Damage to adjacent teeth during operative preparations;
3. Carefully checking occlusion with articulating paper before sending the patient to the grading area; and
4. Leaving bulky restoration margins.

While these items individually won't likely make or break someone receiving a passing score, combined, they can provide a Candidate with the additional points necessary to achieve a passing grade.

The WREB licensing examination is a very fair way of assessing that a Candidate possesses the foundational knowledge and skills to safely and effectively treat patients in an unsupervised environment – private practice. If I could advise Candidates how to best prepare for and take this exam, it would be that they know the Candidate Guide from front to back, plan their exam strategy, including treatment sequencing and timing, and 'think before you do' so that avoidable errors don't occur."

WREB Grading Examiner

"GOOD READING" BEFORE YOU APPLY FOR AN EXAM ONLINE

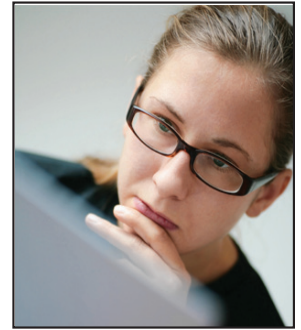
Prior to starting an online application, you will need to have the following accessible:

Credit card

WREB accepts Visa or Master Card only. You should verify that you have sufficient credit available and your daily limit is sufficient to cover the entire exam fee. Multiple credit cards cannot be used. You will also need the billing address for the credit card.

Your photo on file for uploading

This photo will be used for your Candidate ID (identification badge) worn during the exam so it should present you in a professional manner. The photo must be a recent (taken within six months), passport quality, head and shoulders picture of you. When taking the picture, it is recommended that you stand in front of a solid, light-colored background. Pictures that are unacceptable include indistinct pictures, group pictures, full body pictures and pictures that are too close, failing to show the candidate's head and shoulders. Pictures showing any school affiliation will be rejected. This includes a labcoat with any name or school logo visible on the jacket. Your application is not considered complete without an appropriate photograph.



Your social security number

If you do not have a social security number, any nine digit number that is specific to you can be used in place of a social security number. Do not enter all zeroes (000-00-0000) or your application will be incomplete. The following numbers are acceptable:

- Tax I.D.
- Passport
- Visa
- Work Permit
- Canadian Social Insurance Number

If the number does not have nine digits, you may add zeroes at the end of the number. For example, for passport number 56565, you can enter 565-65-0000. Please make a note of this 9 digit number since you will need to refer to this later in the process.

School of Graduation and Graduation Date

You will be asked to select the school at which you earned your DDS or DMD. You will also select the month and year of your graduation. If you graduated from a non-accredited university; and are in a residency program at an accredited school, you must select "Other" as your school, and month and year of graduation. The means of qualification for you will be to contact the State Board in which you intend to seek licensure (that accepts WREB results). Have them provide WREB with an original letter with the state seal affixed, indicating you have permission to take the WREB Dental Exam.

Your Email address

This address will be used by WREB for all correspondence to you - before, during and after the exam! Remember if you use a school email address and then graduate, you may not have access to correspondence. Select an email address that you will check frequently.

MOST IMPORTANT:

You will need to select a "UserName" and password. Write it down! This is how you will access your online exam schedule and your score results. Once you create a UserName - you will not be able to change this. Select something familiar and easy to remember (an email address is convenient). If you forget your user name and password, you will be required to send an email (no phone calls, please) to WREB at dentalinfo@wreb.org. This may take up to 24-48 hours for a response.

Let Someone Else Choose Your Patient?

Not only is finding a patient the most important part of your exam, it can also be the most frustrating. Patient selection is one of the most troubling aspects of any clinical examination. Start early reviewing your patient needs, making sure you have diagnostically clear radiographs that accurately detail the lesions you plan on submitting for treatment. Lesions should be to and/or through the DEJ. Do not submit if you have a question. Remember, if you would not normally diagnose this lesion for treatment, you should not submit it for the examination.

WREB has heard over and over from candidates who were unsuccessful, comments like, "But my instructor checked my patient and said he was perfect" or, "I paid big bucks for this patient and they guaranteed she would qualify" or, "My father is a dentist and he said this was a great patient."

This may be perhaps a lapse in self-confidence, or from not being prepared in time. You have the Candidate Guide which clearly states the criteria for patient acceptance. Often, those you consult do not have that information or have only a cursory understanding of it. Regardless of outside reassurances, you will be the one to suffer the consequences if your patient does not qualify.

An issue is the presence of patient procurement agencies. These hire-for-profit organizations claim to have patients pre-screened and acceptable for board exams.

They hawk their wares at exam sites for those who are frantically searching for a patient. They may imply that they have a relationship with WREB or special knowledge of WREB requirements. They do not. WREB does not endorse these companies, nor does it want them on the premises during any of our board exams. They will charge you a premium price for a patient who may not even be acceptable. They don't issue refunds. Each year there are candidates who encounter serious issues with "procured" patients who make last minute unreasonable financial or other demands. WREB clearly advises against the use of these services.

The WREB criteria is designed so that students should be able to use patients of record that they would see in the normal treatment sequence. It is generally not necessary to search outside your own patient pool. If you are taking an exam in another city, it may be necessary to obtain an outside patient. If so, Board candidates have been finding patients through friends, through school clinics, through homeless shelters, once in awhile, a workman at a school! Work in groups in order to secure a patient, it may be an answer to providing secondary patients, if needed.

The key is that you are the one to screen the patient after thoroughly studying the WREB Candidate Guide. You are the best person to choose the best patient. Do not give over your clinical judgment to someone else who has no stake in passing the exam. It is your future so make these critical decisions for yourself.

34 States that accept WREB results:

ALABAMA	*ALASKA	*ARIZONA	*CALIFORNIA
COLORADO	CONNECTICUT	*IDAHO	ILLINOIS
INDIANA	*KANSAS	KENTUCKY	MAINE
MASSACHUSETTS	MINNESOTA	*MISSOURI	*MONTANA
NEBRASKA	NEVADA	NEW HAMPSHIRE	*NEW MEXICO
*NORTH DAKOTA	OHIO	*OKLAHOMA	*OREGON
SOUTH DAKOTA	TENNESSEE	*TEXAS	*UTAH
VERMONT	VIRGINIA	*WASHINGTON	**WEST VIRGINIA
WISCONSIN	*WYOMING		

*MEMBER STATE

** AFFILIATE MEMBER STATE

NON-MEMBER STATE THAT ACCEPTS WREB RESULTS

Preparation Advice For A Less Stress Exam

by Joani Feathers, WREB Dental Coordinator



Knowing how to prepare for the WREB is the key to a stress-free exam. Over the years, we have asked our Candidates to give their advice on how to do just that. The number one thing that Candidates are in agreement with

is that it is important to read the Candidate Guide and the School Information for the exam site, posted online at www.wreb.org. Most candidates say you should read the Guide several times. And, since the grading examiners score according to the criteria found in the Candidate Guide, this is the perfect way to study.

Review the online candidate tutorial available at www.wreb.org. The more familiar you are with the flow of the exam, the more relaxed you will become about procedures.

Attend Candidate Orientation. The Chief Floor Examiner, Exam Coordinator and other key exam personnel

will be there to answer your questions at the end of the Orientation session.

Patient selection is very critical. You should schedule reliable, cooperative patients and explain in detail the process of the exam and what role they play in your success. Since patient selection is the Candidate's responsibility, you should read the patient criteria and understand the broad range of patients that are acceptable for the procedures.

A final tip from former WREB Candidates is that you should spend time with the type of equipment used at the exam and visualize steps for each procedure, making sure to have all available instruments and supplies. Information regarding equipment and supplies can be found in the School Information and the Candidate Guide - which can always be found online.

Last word of advice from previous WREB Candidates, remember, this isn't a trick exam, you've been through it before in school, so just have confidence and RELAX!

Ask the Examiner: Actual questions submitted by Candidates

Q. Regarding Endo submission --"If the incisal edge has evidence of attrition (minimal but evident) would it be rejected? I understand and have read the Candidate Guide and it states any tooth with occlusal or incisal reduction will be rejected. Did that mean manually reduced by an operator or will the reduction due to attrition also disqualify the tooth? Secondly, would a tooth that has a dental anomaly such as dens in dente be disqualified? Or should I place a note to examiners regarding the anomaly and the outline form of the access prep may be less than ideal?"

A. Incisal attrition which will not involve the access prep will not be rejected for treatment. A tooth with the anomaly described will not be rejected by criteria but the candidate would be wise not to choose a tooth with unpredictable anatomy.

Q. I was wondering if there is a difference between an ODU 11/12 explorer and EXD 11/12 explorers? Both of my explorers that I received during dental school were EXD's and I was wondering if it is necessary to purchase an ODU one. Online both of the instruments look the same except for the handle.

A. The instrument will be acceptable if the terminal shanks are similar to ODU. The handle is of no consequence.

Q. I am doing the Perio portion of the exam on the 3rd molar of patient. The molar has no disease. I am wondering if a Panorex is required to see the entire roots or is just an FMX enough?

A. Only the FMX may be submitted. Supplemental films are not allowed. If you cannot get a complete image, a note to examiners may be used. The



case may be technically rejected, or you may be required to take an adequate radiograph prior to acceptance.

Q. I have a patient that fits all the criteria for a Class II DO Amalgam, however, they already have an occlusal amalgam on that tooth. My question is would this patient be acceptable even if they already have a restoration on a separate part of the tooth?

A. If the proximal caries meets the criteria, the occlusal restoration makes no difference at acceptance unless the base violates the pulp.

Continued on page 5

Ask Examiner continued from page 4

Q. A potential Class II amalgam patient has a radiographic lesion on the mesial of an upper premolar. The tooth has an existing DO amalgam. Will the mesial lesion qualify for the exam if I remove the existing DO and restore as an MOD? If so, how will the distal preparation that already exists be graded? The candidate guide says there must be caries on an unrestored proximal surface, it doesn't say an existing restoration disqualifies the tooth.

A. If the mesial lesion described meets the acceptance criteria for treatment the case will be accepted. Examiner will note in computer the DO existing restoration may alter the preparation. The procedure would be submitted as MOD.

Q. A potential Class III composite patient has a radiographic lesion on #10. Clinically there is contact, but the radiograph I took 'opened' the contact so it appears there is none and it is impossible to tell if the lesion is located at the contact. How does this affect the approval of the lesion?

A. Submit with an x-ray which shows both the lesion and interproximal contact with the adjacent tooth. It will be judged according to the published criteria.

Q. My patient has a very shallow palate causing the angle of the radiograph to be very steep. There is decay present on the distal of #8 that minimally qualifies the lesion for WREB (questionable if it reaches the DEJ). When looking in the mouth clinically, it is obvious that the #8 distal has decay and needs a restoration. My question is this: While the candidate guide states it must clearly reach the DEJ, will the examiners look clinically in the mouth if it is close to the DEJ on the x-ray to see the decay is present visually?

A. "The Candidate Guide states the caries must be radiographically to the DEJ. Transillumination and direct vision are not the criteria for acceptance, even though the examiners are trained to look. If the caries does not show radiographically, the submission will not be accepted."

Q. I planned on using an assistant who works at a private dental office. I recently found out that the assistant has EFDA qualifications. Would this eliminate her from being eligible to assist me on the exam?

A. EFDA stands for expanded functions dental assistant. Depending on the state, they can do expanded functions, such as packing and carving amalgams. You can use an EFDA assistant, but they are not allowed to perform any graded procedures. For example, they could not place and carve the amalgam, because that is a graded procedure. The candidate must do that. And the EFDA can't polish the teeth in perio. But the EFDA can assist the candidate in the same way a non EFDA assistant can.

Q. For rubber dam isolation, can we use floss or widgets instead of a clamp? Also, my patient has hypertension and I have used articaine (4%) for anesthetic on him for treatment previously. Will I be docked points for using this on a patient with controlled hypertension?

A. Rubber dam clamps are optional if isolation can be obtained with other devices. The type of local anesthetic is the candidate's choice and no, the candidate would not be penalized as described.

Q. There is a difference in the radiolucency in two apex putty materials; one by Acadental and one by Columbia. Students using Acadental are concerned that their cases will be rejected.

A. The opaque areas will be present on the pre-operative film, so as long as you can see the apical area clearly it will be alright. If you cannot see 2mm of the apical area clearly enough to show if sealer or gutta percha is short of/long of the apex, it is not alright. If you need to remount the tooth, call the company where you purchased the Modupro and request more fixer gel.

Q. I have a Cl III patient who has braces on the top teeth. I was wondering if I must submit an xray of the lesion with

the bracket removed or if it is acceptable if you can clearly see the lesion with the bracket in place. Will I be able to remove the bracket the morning of the exam or day before and must the adjacent brackets be removed as well?

A. The radiograph must show the current condition of the tooth to be treated, therefore I would advise the bracket on the tooth to be treated be removed and the radiograph made prior to submission for treatment.

Q. I have an operative patient that has type II diabetes that is diet and exercise controlled. She is not on any medications and does not take insulin injections. Under the "Patient Medical History" form, the candidate is to indicate the significance and any steps taken for any alteration for the patient. Am I required to take the patient's glucose level or should I have the patient provide a current HgA1C to demonstrate she is able to receive elective treatment?

A. The patient does not need any medical clearance to sit for the examination. As long as the patient has taken their prescribed medication, has eaten, and feels well, they can sit for the examination.

Q. I have a patient who is on I.M. insulin and in very good, stable health. Can I use this patient for the exam?

A. A diabetic on insulin is not acceptable for the WREB examination

Q. My patient has a pacemaker and after research I have concluded that using the cavitron has no complications to the pacemaker. I wanted the opinion of the WREB

A. A pacemaker is not a contraindication for the use of cavitron.



Frequently Asked Questions about Score Requests

by Jennifer Dahl, Office Manager

“What happens after I take my exam and how do I get my scores?” is a question that many candidates have after taking the WREB. Once the exam is finished and exam materials are shipped back to the WREB office, the WREB Coordinators are busy processing computer scoring, reviewing information and cross checking all scores. They take various measures to ensure that scores are thoroughly checked and accurately reported.

Score information is posted to the Candidate login section of the WREB website (www.wreb.org). It is very important that candidates save their candidate login and password as they will be needed to access your results after the exam. Results will be posted within two-four weeks after the exam and are no longer mailed. Once logged in online, each candidate will have access to a results report indicating pass or fail for each section; candidates who fail the exam will also get a report with a breakdown of their scores for each section. These reports can be printed directly from their computer.

How do I get my scores after the exam?

Candidates are sent an email from WREB to the email address that they used when applying for the exam. The email will give them directions to log into the website using their user name and password to review their results. This is why it is important to notify WREB of any email address change.

What if I do not remember my user name and password?

Please send an email to dentalinfo@wreb.org.

What does my state board want me to send them?

This is a question for the state board where you plan to obtain licensure. Since every state board has their own set of criteria, it is best for you to check with them before ordering scores from WREB.

How do I request my scores be sent to a state board?

There are a variety of of score reports available for you to order for state boards. Descriptions of the reports can be found on our website at www.wreb.org. When you have determined which score report you need, simply follow the directions on the website for ordering.

How much does it cost to get a copy of my scores?

Each report that WREB offers has a different price. These prices can be found on our website at www.wreb.org.

What forms of payment do you accept for score requests?

WREB does accept credit cards online for score requests.

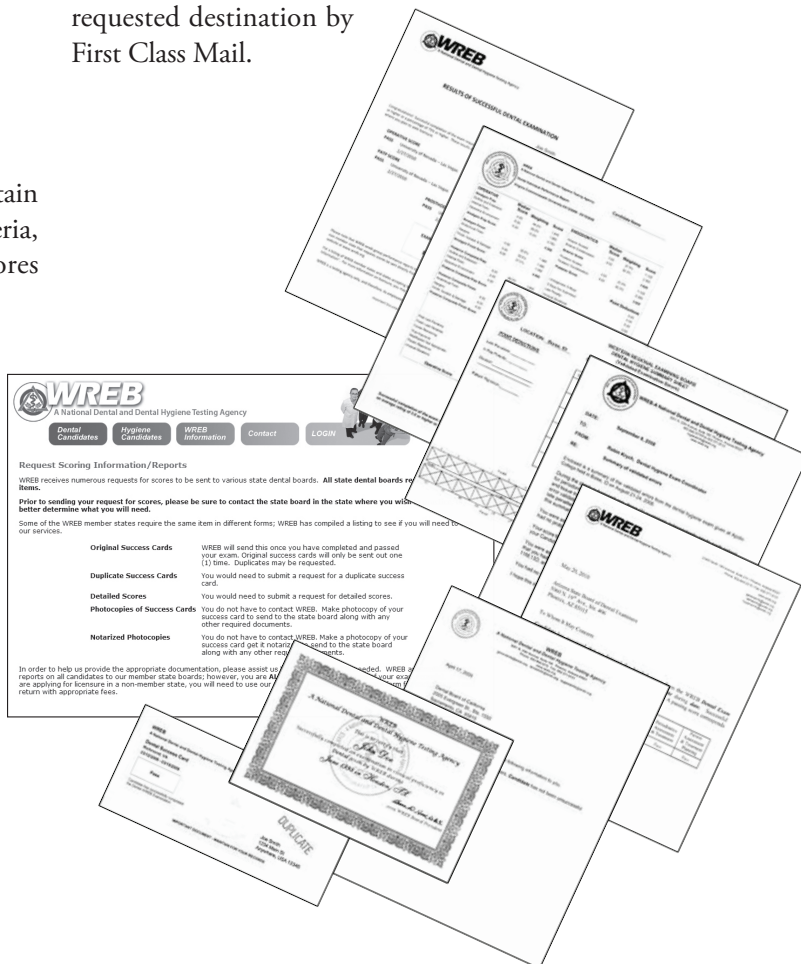
We will continue to accept cashier's checks, money orders and certified checks for mail in requests, not for online orders. WREB does not accept personal checks.

What is the difference between a Detailed Score and an Individual Performance Report?

A detailed score report is a letter providing the breakdown of scores received in each section of your Dental exams. Since 2009, with the change to conjunctive scoring, only pass/fail results are reported. An Individual Performance Report is available for exams beginning in 2004. This document breaks down the score received for each procedure, in each section of the exam. Unsuccessful candidates automatically receive this review with their result email. Both reports will have a WREB raised seal if ordered and paid for online.

How long does it take to process my request for scores?

Once our office receives your request, it is date stamped and processed in the order it was received. The turn-around time for requests can be up to two weeks, depending on the volume of the requests that have come in. Unfortunately, there is no way to expedite your request or to move it in front of others. Once your request has been processed, it is sent to your requested destination by First Class Mail.



2012 DENTAL EXAM LOCATIONS, DATES AND FEES

Assuming space is available, candidates may still apply between the application and final deadline dates but will be charged a \$100 late fee. ***Candidates enrolling in sites marked by an asterisk will be charged an additional fee by the host site.**

Exam Location	Exam Dates	Application Deadline	Final Deadline	Exam Fee	Registration Opens
Tufts University #1 • Boston, MA	March 2-5 Friday-Monday	January 17	February 10	*\$1760	January 4
Nova Southeastern University • Ft. Lauderdale, FL	March 9-12 Friday-Monday	January 24	February 17	\$2110	January 4
University at Buffalo State University of New York • Buffalo, NY	March 11-14 Sun-Wed	January 26	February 21	*\$1760	January 4
Loma Linda University #1 (LLU) • Loma Linda, CA	March 16-20 Friday-Tuesday	January 31	February 24	\$2060	January 4
University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV) • Las Vegas, NV	March 16-19 Friday-Monday	January 31	February 24	\$2185	January 4
University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) • Kansas City, MO	March 17-20 Sat-Tuesday	February 1	February 27	*\$1760	January 4
University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) • Los Angeles, CA	March 21-24 Wednesday-Sat	February 6	February 29	\$2360	January 4
New York University (NYU) • New York, NY	March 22-25 Thursday-Sunday	February 6	March 1	\$2060	January 4
Midwestern University • Glendale, AZ	March 23-26 Friday-Monday	February 7	March 2	*\$1760	January 4
Boston University • Boston, MA	March 29-Apr 1 Thursday-Sunday	February 13	March 8	*\$1760	January 4
University of Colorado • Aurora, CO	March 29-April 1 Thursday-Sunday	February 13	March 8	\$2360	January 4
Temple University • Philadelphia, PA	April 4-7 Wednesday-Sat	February 21	March 14	\$2185	January 11
Creighton University • Omaha, NE	April 12-15 Thursday-Sunday	February 27	March 22	\$2145	January 11
University of Louisville • Louisville, KY	April 19-22 Thursday-Sunday	March 5	March 29	\$2135	January 11
University of Southern California #1 (USC) • Los Angeles, CA	April 27-30 Friday-Monday	March 13	April 6	\$2360	January 11
University of Oklahoma • Oklahoma City, OK	April 27-30 Friday-Monday	March 13	April 6	\$2260	January 11
University of Texas at San Antonio • San Antonio, TX	April 27-30 Friday-Monday	March 13	April 6	\$2160	January 11
Case Western Reserve University • Cleveland, OH	May 3-6 Thursday-Sunday	March 19	April 12	\$2010	January 18
Baylor College of Dentistry • Dallas, TX	May 4-7 Friday-Monday	March 20	April 13	\$2160	January 18
University of Texas at Houston • Houston, TX	May 9-12 Wednesday-Sat	March 26	April 18	\$2160	January 18
University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) • San Francisco, CA	May 18-21 Friday-Monday	April 3	April 27	\$2320	January 18
University of the Pacific #1 (UOP) • San Francisco, CA	May 18-21 Friday-Monday	April 3	April 27	\$2215	January 18
Oregon Health & Science University • Portland, OR	May 25-28 Friday-Monday	April 10	May 4	\$2185	January 18
A.T. Still Arizona School of Dentistry • Mesa, AZ	May 31-June 3 Thursday-Sunday	April 16	May 10	\$2110	January 18
University of the Pacific #2 (UOP) • San Francisco, CA	June 1-4 Friday-Monday	April 17	May 11	\$2215	January 18
University of Southern California #2 (USC) • Los Angeles, CA	June 1-4 Friday-Monday	April 17	May 11	\$2360	January 18
Loma Linda University #2 (LLU) • Loma Linda, CA	June 8-12 Friday-Tuesday	April 24	May 18	\$2060	January 18
University of Washington • Seattle, WA	June 13-16 Wednesday-Sat	April 30	May 23	\$2160	January 18
Tufts University #2 • Boston, MA	June 15-18 Friday-Monday	May 1	May 25	*\$1760	January 18
University of Southern California #3 (USC) • Los Angeles, CA	Aug 10-13 Friday-Monday	June 26	July 20	\$2360	January 18
Western University of Health Sciences • Pomona, CA	Dec 6-9 Thursday-Sunday	October 22	November 15	\$2260	January 18

Tip before you begin your application online: The website goes into "Maintenance Mode" 4 times per day. From **1:15am / pm to 1:35am / pm & from 7:15am / pm to 7:35am / pm MST everyday**. The average time to complete an application is approximately 10-20 minutes. If you have not completed the application when the website changes to Maintenance Mode, you're information will be lost and you will need begin again. Decide upon a convenient time to apply that will allow plenty of time to complete the application.

The Dental Department at WREB

It's always helpful to put a face to a name...when you receive correspondence from WREB, there's a real person behind that correspondence. Exams will be assigned to one of the Dental Coordinators. Denise Ramos oversees all Dental exam operations and Kathy Reiff assists with preparation to send exam

materials to the Sites. Evonne, Cheri and Joani expertly prepare all exam materials and correspond with schools, examiners and candidates. You may even see one of these or other WREB staff at your exam site.



Left to right...

Denise Ramos - Dental Manager; Evonne LaVigne - Dental Coordinator, Cheri Watson - Dental Coordinator, Joani Feathers - Dental Coordinator; Kathy Reiff, Assistant Coordinator



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