



**MANITOBA DENTAL ASSOCIATION**

# **INFORMATIONAL GUIDE TO REGISTRATION PATHWAYS, POLICY AND PROCESS FOR DENTISTS\***

**MANITOBA DENTAL ASSOCIATION**  
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**PREPARED BY: Office of the Registrar**  
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\* The overview is information collated from a variety of sources as of revised on 15 April 2013. As information is subject to change, it should not be relied on as definitive or binding on the MDA or any organization discussed. Please refer to the primary source material for the most accurate and up to date requirements.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Manitoba Dental Association is the organization authorized by statute to register and license dental assistants and dentists. Our enabling legislation is *The Dental Association Act*.

The overview will focus on pathways for dentists to be registered and licensed to practise dentistry in the Province of Manitoba. The specific requirements for registration and licensure in the Province are located in the *Bylaw for Registration and Licensure of Dentists*. It is available at:  
[http://manitobadentist.ca/user\\_assets/Bylaw%2017-10%20Registration%20and%20Licensing%20June%202010.pdf](http://manitobadentist.ca/user_assets/Bylaw%2017-10%20Registration%20and%20Licensing%20June%202010.pdf).

The paths to registration for dentists can be subdivided into two categories:

1. general dentists; and
2. dental specialists.

Each category of applicant can be further divided into applicants:

1. registered and licensed in another province in Canada;
2. graduate of an accredited dental education programme; and
3. graduate of an non-accredited dental education programme.

Accreditation of dental education programmes is performed in Canada by an independent organization – the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC). It has reciprocal recognition agreements with equivalent national organizations in the United States, New Zealand, Ireland and Australia. There are 77 programmes accredited by CDAC, Commission on Dental Accreditation (USA), Australian Dental Council, New Zealand Dental Council and the Dental Council of Ireland. Further information on accredited programmes is available at:

[http://www.cda-adc.ca/cdacweb/en/search\\_for\\_accredited\\_programs/](http://www.cda-adc.ca/cdacweb/en/search_for_accredited_programs/)  
[http://www.ada.org/prof/ed/programs/search\\_ddsdmd\\_us.asp](http://www.ada.org/prof/ed/programs/search_ddsdmd_us.asp),  
<http://www.dentalcouncil.org.nz/dcLinksEducEmploy>,  
[http://www.dentalcouncil.ie/mutual\\_recognition.php](http://www.dentalcouncil.ie/mutual_recognition.php) and  
<http://www.dentalcouncil.net.au/adcmajoractivities.html>.

There are a significant number of non-accredited dental education training programmes throughout the world.

The remainder of this overview will provide specific information on opportunities for registration and licensure in the Province.

## **I. GENERAL PRACTITIONERS**

### **1. Registered and Licensed in Another Province of Canada**

An applicant with a current unrestricted license to practice general dentistry in any Canadian province will be registered by the MDA upon:

- a. Completion of the required application;
- b. Completed and signed the necessary consent forms;
- c. Proof of unrestricted licensure in a Province of Canada;
- d. Certificate of Standing from prior jurisdictions regulatory authorities;
- e. Demonstrates ability to speak and write with fluency in English; and
- f. Payment of the required registration fee (\$200.00).

A registrant will be licensed to practice dentistry in the Province by the MDA upon:

- a. Completed the required application;
- b. Proof of professional liability insurance of \$3000000.00;
- c. Proof of current resuscitation training;
- d. Proof of successful completion of an approved jurisprudence course;
- e. Payment of the required annual licensure fee (\$3150.00); and
- f. Completion of a MDA regulatory overview session (~2 hours).

Aside from the ability to complete the application in English, the MDA does not have any specific language level requirements. Questions for individuals in this category should be directed to the MDA.

### **2. Graduate of an Accredited Dental Education Programme**

A recent graduate of an accredited dental education programme will be registered by the MDA upon:

- a. Completion of the required application;
- b. Completed and signed the necessary consent forms;
- c. Proof of graduation from an accredited dental education programme;
- d. Proof of successful completion of the National Dental Examination Board (NDEB) Examination;
- e. Demonstrates ability to speak and write with fluency in English; and
- f. Payment of the required registration fee (\$200.00).

A registrant will be licensed to practice dentistry in the Province by the MDA upon:

- a. Completed the required application;
- b. Proof of professional liability insurance of \$3000000.00;
- c. Proof of current resuscitation training;
- d. Proof of successful completion of an approved jurisprudence course;
- e. Payment of the required annual licensure fee (\$3150.00); and
- f. Completion of a MDA regulatory overview session (~2 hours).

Aside from the ability to complete the application in English, the MDA does not have any specific language level requirements. The MDA application forms are appended to the bylaw and at [http://manitobadentist.ca/user\\_assets/Schedule%20A%20-%20Application%20to%20Practice%20Dentistry%20in%20MB.pdf](http://manitobadentist.ca/user_assets/Schedule%20A%20-%20Application%20to%20Practice%20Dentistry%20in%20MB.pdf).

The MDA is always willing to assist members of the public interested in becoming a dentist or dental assistant with general information and direction. Specific questions about the application process, costs and entrance requirements of the 77 individual accredited programmes should be directed to the programme. In Canada the Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry provides good information on all Canadian dental education programmes and is available at: <http://acfd.ca/en/>

Information for prospective students to the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Dentistry is available at: [http://umanitoba.ca/dentistry/prospective\\_students/dent\\_preReq.html](http://umanitoba.ca/dentistry/prospective_students/dent_preReq.html)

The NDEB is the independent federally enacted organization responsible for:

- a. Establishing qualifying conditions for a national standard of dental competence for general practitioners;
- b. Establishing and maintaining an examination facility to test for this national standard of dental competence; and
- c. Issuing certificates to dentists who successfully meet this national standard.

Information on the NDEB is available at their website, <http://www.ndeb.ca/>.

### **3. Graduate of a Non-accredited Dental Education Programmes**

In addition to the previously described paths, two more paths are available to graduates from non-accredited dental education programmes - the NDEB Equivalency Process (also referred to as the Challenge Exam) and the International Dental Degree or Qualifying Programme (IDDP/QP). <http://www.ndeb.ca/non-accredited-programs>

#### **a. NDEB Equivalency Process**

The most recently created pathway (the first examination took place in February 2011), it provides an alternate route to certification as a dentist in Canada for graduates of non-accredited dental programmes and is also integrated with the admission process for the IDDP/QP.

The Equivalency Process has an online assessment for potential applicants to provide feedback to the potential applicant on their suitability and likelihood of success in the equivalency process.

The Equivalency Process is comprised of three Assessments. Successful completion of the Assessments allows individuals to apply to take the NDEB Written and OSCE Examinations. A flowchart of the process is available at: <http://www.ndeb.ca/nonaccredited>  
<http://www.ndeb.ca/non-accredited-programs>

Details of the application process are available at:  
<http://www.ndeb.ca/nonaccredited/application-form>

The NDEB does not seem to have a specified language requirement for applicants to the Equivalency process. The MDA is always willing to assist members of the public interested in becoming a dentist or dental assistant with general information and direction. Specific questions about the application process, costs and entrance requirements should be directed to the NDEB. Answers are readily available on their website.

An applicant utilizing this pathway will be registered by the MDA upon:

- i. Completion of the required MDA application;
- ii. Completed and signed the necessary consent forms;
- iii. Proof of successful completion of the NDEB equivalency process;
- g. Proof of unrestricted licensure and good standing from previous jurisdictions regulatory authority;
- iv. Proof of successful completion of the National Dental Examination Board (NDEB) Examination:
- v. Demonstrates ability to speak and write with fluency in English; and
- vi. Payment of the required registration fee (\$200.00).

A registrant will be licensed to practice dentistry in the Province by the MDA upon:

- i. Completed the required MDA application;
- ii. Proof of professional liability insurance of \$3000000.00;
- iii. Proof of current resuscitation training;
- iv. Proof of successful completion of an approved jurisprudence course;
- v. Payment of the required annual licensure fee (\$3150.00); and
- vi. Completion of a MDA regulatory overview session (~2 hours).

Aside from the ability to complete the application in English, the MDA does not have any specific language level requirements. Questions about registration and licensure after successful completion of the Equivalency Process and NDEB examination may be directed to the MDA.

b. International Dental Degree Programme/Qualifying Programme

Graduates of non-accredited dental programs can also successfully complete an accredited IDDP/QP Completion Program in order to become eligible to participate in the NDEB Written and OSCE Examinations.

An interested individual must contact the universities directly to obtain specific information regarding these programs and admissions procedures. The results of one or more of the Assessments in the NDEB Equivalency Process are integrated into the application to an IDDP/QP process. Each university has its own admission policy including which Assessments are admission requirements.

Additional information is available at:

<http://manitobadentist.ca/index.cfm?pgID=26> <http://acfd.ca/en/info/generaldentistry/>

The specific process for the University of Manitoba, Faculty of Dentistry, is available at: [http://www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/dentistry/iddp/iddpTrackA\\_B.html](http://www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/dentistry/iddp/iddpTrackA_B.html).

**This information includes language requirements for individuals who have not completed Junior and Senior High School (6 years) in North America are required to take:**

**EITHER: The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Listening, Speaking, Academic Reading and Academic Writing modules - overall minimum score average of 7.0 and a minimum score of 7.0 in each component. <http://www2.britishcouncil.org/canada>**

**OR: The iBT (Internet based TOEFL) - overall score of 100 and a minimum 24 in each of the components.**

**Graduation from an IDDP/QP will provide the individual a dental degree from an accredited dental education programme.**

**An applicant utilizing this pathway will be registered by the MDA upon:**

- i. Completion of the required MDA application;**
- ii. Completed and signed the necessary consent forms;**
- iii. Proof of unrestricted licensure and good standing from previous jurisdiction's regulatory authority;**
- iv. Proof of successful completion of graduation from the IDDP/QP;**
- v. Proof of successful completion of the National Dental Examination Board (NDEB) Examination;**
- vi. Demonstrates ability to speak and write with fluency in English; and**
- vii. Payment of the required registration fee (\$200.00).**

**A registrant will be licensed to practice dentistry in the Province by the MDA upon:**

- i. Completed the required MDA application;**
- ii. Proof of professional liability insurance of \$3000000.00;**
- vii. Proof of current resuscitation training;**
- iii. Proof of successful completion of an approved jurisprudence course;**
- iv. Payment of the required annual licensure fee (\$3150.00); and**
- v. Completion of a MDA regulatory overview session (~2 hours).**

## **II. DENTAL SPECIALISTS**

All applicants in this category must have completed a general practice dental education programme which may or may not have been recognized as accredited. Although many may, applicants for registration as a dental specialist are not required to hold an NDEB certificate.

### **1. Registered and Licensed in Another Province of Canada**

An applicant with a current unrestricted license to practice a MDA recognized dental specialty from any Canadian province will be registered by the MDA in that specialty upon:

- a. Completion of the required application;
- b. Completed and signed the necessary consent forms;
- c. Proof of unrestricted licensure in a Province of Canada;
- d. Certificate of Standing from previous jurisdictions regulatory authority;
- e. Demonstrates ability to speak and write with fluency in English; and
- f. Payment of the required registration fee (\$200.00).

A registrant will be licensed to practice a dental specialty in the Province by the MDA upon:

- a. Completed the required application;
- b. Proof of professional liability insurance of \$3000000.00;
- c. Proof of current resuscitation training;
- d. Proof of successful completion of an approved jurisprudence course;
- e. Payment of the required annual licensure fee (\$3150.00); and
- f. Completion of a MDA regulatory overview session (~2 hours).

Aside from the ability to complete the application in English, the MDA does not have any specific language level requirements. Questions for individuals in this category should be directed to the MDA.

### **2. Graduate of an Accredited Graduate Dental Specialty Education Programme**

A recent graduate of an accredited graduate dental specialty education programme will be registered by the MDA upon:

- a. Completion of the required application;
- b. Completed and signed the necessary consent forms;
- c. Proof of graduation from an accredited dental specialty education programme;
- d. Proof of successful completion of the Royal College of Dentistry of Canada (RCDC) Examination for the applicable specialty;
- e. Demonstrates ability to speak and write with fluency in English; and
- f. Payment of the required registration fee (\$200.00).

A registrant will be licensed to practice dentistry in the Province by the MDA upon:

- a. Completed the required application;
- b. Proof of professional liability insurance of \$3000000.00;
- c. Proof of current resuscitation training;
- d. Proof of successful completion of an approved jurisprudence course;
- e. Payment of the required annual licensure fee (\$3150.00); and
- f. Completion of a MDA regulatory overview session (~2 hours).

Aside from the ability to complete the application in English, the MDA does not have any specific language level requirements. The MDA application forms are appended to the bylaw and at [http://manitobadentist.ca/user\\_assets/Schedule%20A%20%20Application%20to%20Practice%20Dentistry%20in%20MB.pdf](http://manitobadentist.ca/user_assets/Schedule%20A%20%20Application%20to%20Practice%20Dentistry%20in%20MB.pdf).

The MDA is always willing to assist members of the public interested in becoming a dentist or dental assistant with general information and direction. Specific questions about the application process, costs and entrance requirements of the individual accredited graduate dental specialty programmes should be directed to the programme. Not all dental faculties will have all dental specialty programmes. In Canada the Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry provides good information on all Canadian dental education programmes and is available at: <http://acfd.ca/en/>

The University of Manitoba, faculty of Dentistry has four accredited graduate dental specialty programmes – oral and maxillofacial surgery (OMFS), paediatric dentistry, periodontics and orthodontics. Information for prospective specialty applicants to the University of Manitoba's Faculty of Dentistry is available at:

<http://www.umanitoba.ca/dentistry/gradPrograms/index.html>.

The Graduate programmes do have specific language requirements for individual's whose first language is not English. They are specific to the programme. Periodontics and OMFS require TOEFL minimum scores of 550 for acceptance. Orthodontics just indicates individuals whose first language is not English must complete the TOEFL.

The RCDC is the independent federally enacted organization responsible for:

- a. Maintaining the high standards of practice of the recognized dental specialties;
- b. Examining qualified candidates for admission to Fellowship in the College;
- c. Working with stakeholders to establish standards for dental specialty education, practice and certification;
- d. Establishing and administering the National Dental Specialty Examination (NDSE) used by dental regulatory authorities in Canada.

Graduates of accredited graduate dental specialty programmes apply directly to RCDC for the NDSE. Information on the RCDC is available at: <http://www.rcdc.ca/examinations.cfm>.

### **3. Graduate of a Non-Accredited Graduate Dental Specialty Education Programme**

In addition to the previously described paths, another path is available to graduates from non-accredited graduate dental specialty education programmes – the Dental Specialty Assessment and Training Programme (DSATP).

Graduates of eligible non-accredited dental specialty programmes may apply directly to NDEB to take the Dental Specialty Core Knowledge Examination (DSCKE). Information and self assessment tools are available at: <http://www.ndeb.ca/non-accredited-specialty>.

The DSCKE will be used by participating graduate programmes in Canadian Dental Faculties as part of the admission process for DSATP. The ACFD application form is available at:

[http://acfd.ca/en/info/specialty/application\\_form\\_s.html](http://acfd.ca/en/info/specialty/application_form_s.html)



Only a limited number of accredited graduate dental specialty programmes participate in the DSATP and few positions are available. Successful at the DSCKE does not guarantee entry. Positions may be available at: [http://acfd.ca/en/info/specialty/specialty\\_program.html](http://acfd.ca/en/info/specialty/specialty_program.html). These programmes should be contacted directly. The University of Manitoba, Faculty of Dentistry has recently introduced participating programmes but their enrolment is limited and information is not on their website. The University of Toronto has information on their process is available at:

<http://www.dentistry.utoronto.ca/admissions/dental-specialty-assessment-training-program-dsatp>.

The University of Toronto does have specific language requirements for applicants to the DSATP. For those requiring assessment, the levels include: TOEFL PBT - total score 600+5.0 on TWE; TOEFL CBT - total score 250+5.0 on Essay; TOEFL IBT - total score 100+22 on Writing. They are available at: <http://www.dentistry.utoronto.ca/admissions/dental-specialty-assessment-training-program-dsatp/academic-requirements>.

Successful completion of the DSATP will lead to a certificate from the accredited graduate specialty training programme. With the certificate the individual may apply directly to RCDC to perform the NDSE. Successful completion of the NDSE is a requirement for registration as a dental specialist in Manitoba.

A graduate of a non-accredited graduate dental specialty education programme will be registered by the MDA upon:

- a. Completion of the required application;
- b. Completed and signed the necessary consent forms;
- c. Proof of unrestricted licensure and good standing from previous jurisdictions' regulatory authority;
- d. Proof of DSATP certification by accredited dental specialty education programme;
- e. Proof of successful completion of the Royal College of Dentistry of Canada (RCDC) Examination for the applicable specialty;
- f. Demonstrates ability to speak and write with fluency in English; and
- g. Payment of the required registration fee (\$200.00).

A registrant will be licensed to practice dentistry in the Province by the MDA upon:

- a. Completed the required application;
- b. Proof of professional liability insurance of \$3000000.00;
- c. Proof of current resuscitation training;
- d. Proof of successful completion of an approved jurisprudence course;
- e. Payment of the required annual licensure fee (\$3150.00); and
- f. Completion of a MDA regulatory overview session (~2 hours).

Aside from the ability to complete the application in English, the MDA does not have any specific language level requirements. The MDA application forms are appended to the bylaw and at [http://manitobadentist.ca/user\\_assets/Schedule%20A%20%20Application%20to%20Practice%20Dentistry%20in%20MB.pdf](http://manitobadentist.ca/user_assets/Schedule%20A%20%20Application%20to%20Practice%20Dentistry%20in%20MB.pdf).

The MDA is always willing to assist members of the public interested in becoming a dentist or dental assistant with general information and direction. Specific questions about the application process, costs and entrance requirements of the individual accredited graduate dental specialty programmes should be directed to the programme. Not all dental faculties will have all dental

specialty programmes. In Canada the Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry provides good information on all Canadian dental education programmes and is available at: <http://acfd.ca/en/>