



WREB

A National Dental and Dental Hygiene Testing Agency

Dental Hygiene Student Newsletter

www.wreb.org

Fall 2021



Open Registration Begins...

Registration for select 2022 Dental Hygiene exams begins on **December 15, 2021** and continues through January 2022 on a rolling basis. Visit our website for the complete schedule.



Why Choose WREB?

We realize you have a choice when it comes to testing agencies. WREB wants to be your choice!

Multiple exam formats

WREB offers the Dental Hygiene exam in a variety of formats including, patient-based, manikin and OSCE. See *Examination Overview* section of this newsletter for more information.

Extensive exam preparation

WREB is the first, and only, dental testing agency to offer unlimited attempts at an exam preparation test on the Dental Hygiene Candidate Guide.

Preliminary results available onsite

Onsite electronic scoring improves the exam process and detailed results for any completed sections will be posted to candidate profiles on www.wreb.org during the exam day.

Onsite retake session available at every exam

WREB offers complimentary onsite retakes for the Dental Hygiene Exam patient-based or manikin (absent of a critical error).

Professional liability coverage

WREB provides candidates with professional liability coverage with the limit amount of \$1,000,000/\$3,000,000 at no charge for the duration of the examination.

Extensive licensure portability with conveniently located sites scheduled throughout the year

WREB offers over 90 exams to choose from and is always expanding. We work closely with our sites to ensure a smooth exam experience.

Simple online registration and payment

Visit WREB.org to find site information and quickly register and pay both exam and host sites fees.

Friendly and responsive staff

Our WREB office and onsite staff are here to serve! We understand and quickly respond to student and faculty needs.

It's the little things that often make the biggest difference.

Examination Overviews

Below is a brief overview of the various examinations administered by WREB. For more information, refer to the current WREB candidate guides available via the Exam Preparation page of **WREB.org** website.

Dental Hygiene Examination

Dental Hygiene Clinical Exam – Patient-Based

The purpose of the patient-based examination is to evaluate your ability to utilize professional judgment and clinical competency in providing oral health care to a Patient. Clinical aspects of the examination include:

- Patient qualification
- Extraoral and Intraoral evaluation
- Calculus detection and removal
- Tissue management
- Periodontal assessment
- Professional judgment

Dental Hygiene Clinical Exam – Manikin-Based

The manikin exam is comprised of two exercises: 1) Assessment and Detection, and 2) Removable Calculus. Each exercise is completed on a simulated quadrant mounted in a typodont/manikin, positioned to simulate the treatment of a patient. Periodontal features of the Assessment and Detection model are unique in design and the color of the calculus on the Removable Calculus typodont has been changed to reflect a more natural appearance than the calculus currently being utilized in educational programs and by other testing agencies.

- The Assessment and Detection exercise requires the candidate to assess periodontal conditions, accurately record periodontal measurements, and note the presence of subgingival calculus on a maxillary quadrant.
- The Removable Calculus exercise requires candidates to thoroughly remove subgingival calculus from all teeth in the assigned quadrant using ultrasonic and/or hand instrumentation.

Dental Hygiene Objective Structured Clinical Examination (DH OSCE)

The DH OSCE is offered as a stand-alone examination for those states that do not require a demonstration of psychomotor skills or as a psychometrically sound alternative in the event that the pandemic impacts the delivery of alternative forms of the exam.

The DH OSCE examination is a standardized, multiple-choice examination that employs images and radiographs to replicate authentic oral conditions and clinical situations. DH OSCE content focuses on the clinical aspects and knowledge-based skills necessary to safely treat a patient in a clinical setting. The content categories assessed are:

- Medical history
- Extraoral and Intraoral examination
- Dental Hygiene care/treatment plan
- Risk assessment
- Periodontal assessment
- Instrumentation

The DH OSCE is tailored to specific clinical aspects of dental hygiene care in order to evaluate critical thinking skills that cannot be assessed comprehensively on the clinic-based examination. The examination is administered at dental hygiene schools by WREB personnel with social distancing and adherence to current COVID-19 guidelines. Site-based administration eliminates the need for students to wait for availability at a testing center.

Local Anesthesia Examination

The WREB Local Anesthesia Examination has a separate Written and Clinical component. Not all state licensing boards require a local anesthesia examination for dental hygiene licensure or for dental hygienists to administer local anesthesia. Some states require both a written and clinical exam while other states require only a written exam. The burden of responsibility lies on the student to comply with the local anesthesia licensure requirements for the state in which they seek to practice.

Written Component subject matter includes:

- Anatomy (head and neck) and physiology
- Pharmacology of anesthetic agents and vasoconstrictors, including the clinical actions and maximum recommended doses of specific agents
- Method of delivery of local anesthesia, including armamentarium, selection of injection type, and administration technique
- Medical history interpretation; prevention, recognition, and management of possible complications, and life support

Clinical Evaluation

The purpose of the WREB Local Anesthesia Clinical Examination is to evaluate your ability to utilize professional judgment and knowledge to competently administer a posterior superior alveolar (PSA) and an inferior alveolar (IA) nerve block injections on a Patient.

Restorative Examination

The purpose of the WREB Dental Hygiene Restorative Examination is to evaluate your ability to utilize professional judgment and competency in providing restorative procedures as allowed by state statute.

The WREB Dental Hygiene Restorative Examination consists of the placement, carving and finishing of one (1) Class II amalgam and one (1) Class II composite restoration on a typodont. The assignment consists of one mesioclusal (MO) and one distocclusal (DO) maxillary and mandibular molar preparation.

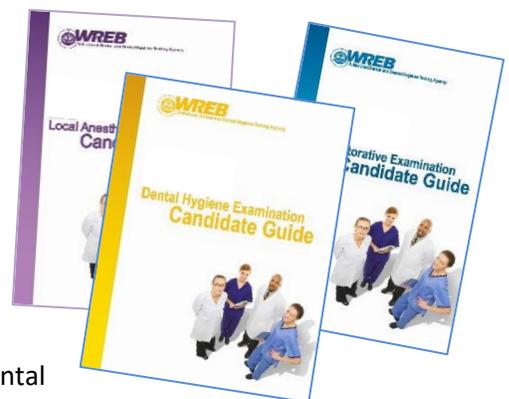
Extensive Exam Preparation

Candidate guides: All the necessary information about WREB policies, criteria, and procedures for the exams

Multiple Online Tutorials: Valuable insight into the clinical examination process, used in conjunction with the respective candidate guides

Candidate guide prep test: WREB is the first, and only, dental testing agency to offer an exam preparation test on the Dental Hygiene candidate guide. The Test Run platform is open to any registered dental hygiene candidate and offers unlimited attempts to take the prep tests.

Q&A session with the Chief Examiner: Allows candidates a chance to address last minute concerns prior to their exam



Optional clinic tour: Candidates familiarize themselves with equipment, supplies, etc. on the same day as the Q&A session

Pre-Exam Webinars for Students: WREB conducts pre-exam webinars, including a Q & A session for students. Feedback from both faculty and students alike has been extremely positive. Students interested in scheduling a webinar are encouraged to reach out to their instructors so they can contact WREB to set up a session.

Official Exam Results

After the Exam - Official Exam Results

Once the exam is over and exam materials are received at the WREB office, (usually two days following the last clinic day), WREB staff reviews exam information and double-checks all results. Various quality assurance measures are taken to ensure results are thoroughly verified and accurately reported. Like preliminary results, official results are also posted to your profile at wreb.org. These final exam results are also posted to our State Board portal for authorized state board personnel to access.

FAQs about Score Requests

How do I get my scores after the exam?

Candidates are sent an email from WREB to the candidate email address provided at the time of application. It is important to notify WREB of any email changes. The email will provide notification to log into your profile to review your results. It is suggested that you print a copy of your official results for your records.

What does my state board want me to send them?

This is a question for the state board where you plan to apply for 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 that my scores be sent to a state board?

Using Google Chrome as your browser—navigate to wreb.org (home page) and click on the “Request Scores” button in the middle of the page. Complete the information requested and choose the report required by your state board. Next, enter the information where you would like the score report sent. You may request the report be sent directly to you or to a state board. Please note: some states accept emails directly from WREB, so they will receive your scores the same day they are processed. For state boards that only accept hard copies, you can select expedited shipping for quicker, trackable mailings.

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

Prices for reports vary. Information is available on wreb.org and click on the “Request Scores.”

What forms of payment do you accept for score requests?

WREB accepts Discover, Visa, or Master Card credit and debit cards. Requests must be submitted online. Payments cannot be processed over the phone.

What is an Individual Performance Report?

The Individual Performance Report is the most detailed information we can provide. It provides your detailed scores per section taken.

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 ten (10) days depending on the volume of the requests received. Once your request has been processed, it is sent to the destination you specify by USPS or expedited shipping, if requested, or emailed to those state boards that accept emails from WREB.

**Examination Integrity**

Sharon Osborn Popp, Ph.D., WREB Testing Specialist/Psychometrician

The line between appropriate and inappropriate test preparation practices seems to have gotten blurrier in recent years. The best test preparation approach is to have a strong command of the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to be successful on the examination and enter professional practice. Unfortunately, the pressures associated with high-stakes tests can lead some people to be tempted by short-cut preparation approaches that they may not even realize are unethical or unlawful, including memorizing or sharing confidential, unreleased test questions. Here are a few reasons why you should avoid inappropriate test preparation practices.

Reason #1: Examination Outcome

If the examining agency obtains evidence that a Candidate may have engaged in unethical test preparation activity, it can invalidate that Candidate's score and prohibit the Candidate from taking the examination again. All WREB Candidates must agree to not disclose test questions or other examination-related materials. Any evidence that suggests a violation of this agreement can lead to score invalidation.

Reason #2: The Profession

Evidence of unethical test preparation can lead to review by the licensing entity in the state(s) in which a Candidate hopes to practice. Professional licensing entities protect the public and the profession by determining that individuals are qualified and ready to enter practice. Unethical test preparation undermines the validity of the examination and the licensure process.

Reason #3: The Law

Sharing or using unreleased questions and asking others to share unreleased questions is against federal copyright law, which protects examinations and related intellectual property. If someone tries to sell or share "real" test questions with you, they have either obtained them illegally or they may not actually have "real" questions. If the questions are authentic, you risk becoming a party to criminal activity. If the questions are not authentic, you may be wasting time and money reviewing test preparation materials of dubious quality. If someone asks you to share information from an examination, you should not agree to reveal the specific content or context of confidential test questions.

You may share whether you felt the exam was challenging or not, whether you felt prepared or not, or how you felt about general topic areas from the exam.

Engaging in inappropriate test preparation can jeopardize your test results, your professional status, and your legal status. Test preparation that focuses on knowing the test content, not memorizing specific test questions, is always the best way to prepare.

Advice from Past WREB Candidates

Dental Hygiene Examination

Dental Hygiene Clinical Exam – Patient-Based

- Ask your school to schedule a Pre-Exam Review Webinar
- Read your candidate guide more than once. You will be familiar with all paperwork, requirements, and feel more comfortable.
- Fill out forms early. Make sure to attend the clinic tour. Watch the Clinical Examination Review presentations online.
- Bring snacks, fruit, water, a blanket and anything else your patient may appreciate. The day is long, the clinics are cool.
- Double-check radiographs for criteria, dates
- Don't forget to bring two valid forms of ID
- Time Management is your friend.
- WREB was so helpful and made everything easier to understand.

Dental Hygiene Clinical Exam – Manikin-Based

- Make sure to watch the video provided on the website, it will help you understand what is needed and what to expect.
- Practice calculus detection on a typodont before the exam.
- The best part of the entire experience was how amazing and friendly the WREB staff were. I was SO nervous before taking the exam and they helped relax my nerves, constantly checked up on me to make sure everything was fine and were so positive and friendly.

Local Anesthesia Examination

Written:

- Study the references and chart; know dosages, medical history contraindications, complications, and anatomy
- Notify the Proctor or Floor Technician right away if you have computer difficulties.

Note: See more information about Prometric's protocols and procedures at the end of this section.

Clinical:

- Relax. Try to stay calm. Think positive. Examiners know you are nervous.
- Go online and watch the Clinical Exam Review
- Read the candidate guide several times before the exam.
- Get Comfortable. Get a syringe that fits your hand; bring double of everything.
- I believe that WREB knows how stressful these exams are and testers gave every effort to see us succeed without compromising the validity of the test. It truly helped.

Restorative Examination

- Read and re-read the candidate guide.
- View the online Clinical Exam Review, it was a huge help.
- Time yourself often when practicing for restorative. Time goes quickly. Be organized and efficient.
- Practice carvings and having to remove a carving.
- Know what to do if your marginal ridge breaks.
- Attend the clinic tour to familiarize yourself with the clinic layout, equipment, etc.
- Bring your own triturator; it makes a difference.
- Remember to bring a box or container for your Typodont.
- Take a much-extended restorative course; not one that only lasts several hours or just a weekend.
- Ask your instructors to schedule a Pre-Exam Review Webinar.

Advice from WREB Staff

- Direct all technical questions to hygieneinfo@wreb.org.
- If sharing a Patient, you must notify us via email by the application deadline in order for us to schedule appropriately.
- If you need to change any personal information (name, address, etc.) within your profile, please email us.
- Can't encourage you enough to go online and view the Clinical Examination Review presentations prior to your Q&A session and clinical exams.



Prometric Testing Centers

The WREB Local Anesthesia Examination has a separate Written component that is administered at Prometric Testing Centers throughout the country. Prometric enforces stringent inspections of questionable items and accessories, such as eyeglasses and jewelry. This preventative measure seeks to eliminate the potential for devices that could capture exam content in compromising the integrity of the examination.

Candidates are encouraged to leave any questionable items at home or in a secure locker onsite to avoid entry delays or risk forfeiture of their WREB local anesthesia written examination attempt.



The following items will be inspected more thoroughly prior to admission and re-entry into the secure testing area:

Items subject to close visual inspection:	Items to LEAVE at Home or in Locker provided:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eyeglasses (removed for inspection) • Wedding and engagement rings • Earrings • Facial piercing jewelry (i.e. labret studs) • Hair accessories (i.e. clips, barrettes) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunglasses • Ornate hair accessories (i.e. clips, combs, barrettes, headbands) • Watch or wearable technology • Cell phone

If a candidate is caught with a camera or other capture device in their possession...

- Prior to entering the testing room, the item will be confiscated, and the test attempt forfeited.
- While in the testing room, the item will be confiscated, and the exam terminated.

Prometric strives to provide all test takers the "opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge, skills, and abilities" by ensuring "a fair and professional testing environment." Refer to the Prometric website for more information, Frequently Asked Questions and COVID-19 testing center updates.

WREB Dental Hygiene Department

WREB staff wants you to succeed, and we are here to help!

It's always helpful to put a face to a name. When you receive correspondence from WREB, there's a real person behind it. Robin Yeager oversees all dental hygiene exam operations, assisted by Phelecia Cook-Gyder. Exams are assigned to one of the dental hygiene coordinators who expertly prepare all exam materials and correspond with Schools, Examiners and Candidates.



Robin Yeager
Director of Hygiene
Operations



Phelecia Cook-Gyder
Hygiene Supervisor



Sarah Crumbley
Hygiene Exam
Coordinator



Tracey Littlefield
Hygiene Exam
Coordinator



Katelyn Moulard
Hygiene Exam
Coordinator



Tristan Olen
Hygiene Exam
Coordinator



Kathy Reiff
Hygiene Exam
Coordinator

2022 Exam Schedule

Registration for select 2022 exams begins on December 15, 2021 and continues through January 2022 on a rolling basis. Please visit our website or click on this link: <https://wreb.org/hygiene-candidates/hygiene-exam-schedule/> to view the most current schedule complete with Exam Locations, Dates, Registration Dates and Deadlines.