



WREB

A National Dental and Dental Hygiene Testing Agency

Dental Hygiene Student Newsletter

www.wreb.org

Fall 2014



Coming in 2015—Dental Hygiene Onsite Retakes

The 2015 exam season includes some exciting changes to the dental hygiene exam. Dental hygiene exam retakes will be offered to qualifying candidates onsite. Starting in 2015, WREB Site Coordinators will be providing instant preliminary examination results which will allow eligible candidates to retake the dental hygiene examination without waiting for a later exam or traveling to another site. WREB will be the first testing agency to offer candidates this convenient opportunity.

- Preliminary exam results will be distributed to candidates onsite after the normal exam attempt.
- To be eligible to retake the dental hygiene clinical exam at the site you must not have had three previous clinical failures or need WREB Board approval to retake the exam.
- Retakes will occur at the end of the normal exam schedule.
- Retakes are considered normal examination attempts and are included in the total number of exams you attempt.
- The retake fee is \$650.

More information about dental hygiene examination retakes will be available in the WREB 2015 Dental Hygiene Candidate Guide available soon at www.wreb.org.

WREB is pleased to offer this new service to candidates. We'd appreciate your feedback in the online candidate survey regarding your exam and retake experiences.

Dental Hygiene Process of Care Exam

WREB has decided to discontinue the written Process of Care (POC) exam. Candidates will not be required to take any written exam as part of the WREB dental hygiene examination for 2015. Candidates who challenge the clinical exam in 2014 are required to pass the POC exam.

Dental Hygiene Exam Fees Reduced

In an effort to be as candidate-friendly as possible, WREB has reduced its base fee for the 2015 dental hygiene examination to \$650. Schools will continue to add a small school-use fee to this. This new lower fee makes WREB's dental hygiene exam fee the lowest among all the regional testing agencies.

More Dental Hygiene Exam Updates for 2015

Online Candidate Tutorial

This tutorial is intended to familiarize candidates with the exam process and paperwork prior to taking the clinical dental hygiene examination. A mandatory Candidate Orientation is

held the day prior to the clinical exam. The tutorial can be found on the WREB website. *We encourage all faculty and students to view this tutorial.*

More Updates continued...

Candidate Guide Updates

The following areas have been updated in the 2015 Dental Hygiene Candidate Guide. Please refer to the guide for more information.

Patient Criteria

Candidates must choose patients for WREB board exams who meet ASA I or II Physical Status Classifications. ASA III level patients may also be acceptable as long as their participation does not alter a candidate's normal procedures for dental hygiene care or pose a risk to the candidate or themselves in a testing environment.

Criteria for Oral Conditions

2015 Descriptors of Qualifying Calculus

- A distinct deposit with significant bulk
- Readily discernible or easily detectable with an explorer
- "Binds" explorer
- Significant nodular formations
- A subgingival interproximal deposit that can be detected from the lingual and/or facial side

- A subgingival ledge or partial subgingival ledge encircling the tooth

Examination Procedures

Examination Schedule

If you incur an initial submission rejection, you have one and one-half hours from the initial check-in deadline to submit additional submissions, for a total of three (3) submissions.

Point Deductions—Clarification

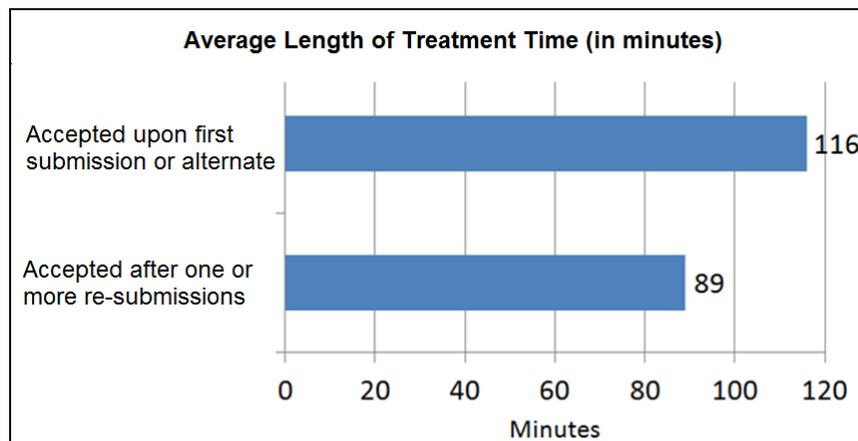
- A four (4) point deduction will be assessed for each patient rejection.
- A four (4) point deduction will be assessed for each radiographic technique error.

Calculus Removal—2015 Descriptors of Calculus Errors

- Subgingival and/or supragingival
- Detectable with explorer or air
- Burnished
- Spicule

Does Having an Alternate Submission Make a Difference on the Hygiene Examination?

Candidates taking the Hygiene Examination are allowed up to two hours to complete dental hygiene treatment. The chart below displays the average treatment time taken by WREB Candidates in 2013 to complete the exam, depending on types of patient submissions.



Alternate Submission continued...

The top bar represents the average treatment time for candidates when their first or alternate submission was accepted. An alternate submission is submitted at the same time, for the same patient, but with additional teeth or a different quadrant. Since these candidates' patients were accepted early in the process they were, on average, able to use nearly all of the two hour treatment time for their dental hygiene treatment.

The bottom bar represents the average treatment time for candidates when an alternate submission is not initially submitted with the first submission. The reduction in clinic time is due to time spent while the patient leaves the examiner clinic to return to the candidate who has to either re-submit the same patient with a different treatment submission or submit another patient. Re-submissions can result in loss of valuable treatment time and cause unnecessary stress.

WREB Dental Hygiene Board Exam Observation

by Natalie Nelson from Phoenix College, Phoenix, AZ

May 17, 2014, I had the privilege of observing the WREB clinical examination at Phoenix College in Phoenix, Arizona. It was helpful and beneficial to me as I witnessed what I will be experiencing soon in my school career.

Upon entering the clinic, I noticed how organized and precise the examining process is. The candidates have their own space where they set up their equipment for the treatment. The Chief Examiner is in the clinic ready for any questions and is available for medical history and other paperwork assessments.

Down the hall of the clinic is the check in station where the patients are brought to have their medical and dental history entered into the computer prior to seeing the examiners. The examiners created a calm environment, which eased the patients as well as the candidates.

The patient was then taken to the examination clinic where I noticed the organization the examiners have when charting the patient's information, as well as keeping their findings out of site of the other examiners. Each patient is examined 3 times by different examiners, which makes the findings more accurate. The examiners don't have access to the findings of other examiners, which allowed them to be totally unbiased in their own findings. The examiners

look closely at radiographs, perform an intraoral examination, do a periodontal chart, and a calculus detection exam. The examiners are looking for the same things the candidates are looking for as they search for a patient for this board. I observed that the examiners are very fair in what they chart and do their best job to ensure that the patient qualifies to suit the needs for the candidates' board examination.

The candidates wait in the candidate clinic while their patients are examined prior to start up the treatment. The average wait time for the candidates to see their patient again is roughly an hour. If their patient qualifies, they are sent back to the candidate and they start treatment with their ultrasonic instrument, scaler's and cures. I observed that most patients require anesthesia. It was interesting to observe the candidates because they were each different in their attempt to successfully give treatment to their patient.

Once the candidate finishes the treatment, the patient is sent back to the examiners for the final check. At this point, it is determined if the candidate was successful in the treatment.

There are certain things I learned that I think will benefit me when I take this board, and I hope it will help my fellow students. I learned

Dental Exam Observation continued...

that the clinical board should not be as stressful and over-bearing as it appears to be. The environment is similar to the clinic I've been taught in, and that familiarity gives the candidate confidence as he/she takes the exam. The WREB staff is very cordial and helpful, which can make the examination experience more successful. I also learned the importance of reading and understanding the clinical handbook prior to the examination so that there is no confusion dur-

ing the examination process. Along with preparing for the examination, the candidate should try finding their patient as soon as possible and when they are found, the candidate should keep looking for an alternate in case they are needed. Overall, the opportunity to observe has been one of great worth to me, in helping me prepare for the clinical board both physically and mentally. I would like to thank those who have made this opportunity available to me.

WREB's Local Anesthesia Exam—Do I Need to Take It?

WREB encourages you to contact your specific state board to verify whether you are required to take the local anesthesia examination.

WREB offers the local anesthesia examination in those states that have statutes or rules that require an applicant pass an exam in order to obtain a license to administer local anesthesia. An applicant whose state does not require a local anesthesia exam for licensure is not required to take WREB's local anesthesia exam.

However, to be qualified to administer local anesthesia to a WREB dental hygiene board patient, an applicant must provide one of the following items:

- An original Local Anesthesia Course Certification form. It must be signed by the school Dean/Director with the school seal affixed.
- Proof of licensure/certification to administer local anesthesia in the state in which the WREB exam is held. The original license/certificate or a copy is acceptable proof.
- Proof of having passed the WREB written and clinical local anesthesia examinations (within the last 12 months). Acceptable documentation is one of the following:
 - Official *WREB Success Memo* (available online using your WREB secure login) showing that you passed the written and clinical local anesthesia examinations **prior to the week** of your clinical dental hygiene examination. This must be posted in your operatory.
 - Purple *WREB Success Memo* showing that you passed the written and clinical local anesthesia examinations **during** the week of your clinical dental hygiene examination. This must be posted in your operatory.

Candidates also have the option of acquiring a licensed practitioner in the state in which the exam is held to administer local anesthesia to their dental hygiene board patients.

To clarify, if an applicant is seeking licensure in a state that does *not* require a local anesthesia examination, they do not need to take WREB's local anesthesia examination. If they are seeking portability, they may choose to take the examination.

If you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact the WREB office.

Anesthesia Exam...continued

Following is a list of member states requiring the WREB local anesthesia examination. This list is subject to change at any time. Individual state boards should be contacted directly by the applicant for the most current information.

Alaska	Montana	Washington
Arizona	New Mexico	West Virginia
Idaho	Utah	Wyoming

Local Anesthesia Clinical Retake Fee Change

The onsite retake fee for local anesthesia is now \$250.00. For those candidates who are unsuccessful but eligible for a retake onsite, WREB now accepts valid cards that display either the MasterCard, Visa, American Express or Discover logo, as well as cashier's checks or money orders made payable to WREB.

Local Anesthesia Remediation

WREB's local anesthesia remediation policy has been updated to reflect the separation of written and clinical attempts. The new remediation policy is effective January 1, 2015, and will be posted to the WREB website at the conclusion of the 2014 exam season.

Local Anesthesia Written Anesthetic Dosage Guidelines

To assist candidates in preparing for the written examination, the following chart was used to construct test items regarding MRDs and local anesthesia doses. The chart is included in the WREB 2015 Local Anesthesia Candidate Guide.

Summary of Dental Local Anesthetic Drugs*

Local Anesthetic Drugs Color Coded Box	MRD (mg/lb)	MRD (mg/kg)	MRD Absolute	pH	Half-Life t _{1/2} (in minutes)	Pulpal Anesthesia (in minutes)	Soft Tissue Anesthesia (in minutes)	Vasoconstrictor	Relative		Duration Category
									Potency (Reference value = lidocaine @100%)	Toxicity	
4% Articaine (w/ vaso)	3.2	7.0	**	4.4- 5.2	30	75	180-300	Epinephrine 1:100,000	150%	100%	Intermediate
4% Articaine (w/ vaso)	3.2	7.0	**	4.4- 5.2	30	45	120-300	Epinephrine 1:200,000	150%	100%	Intermediate
0.5% Bupivacaine	***	***	90	3.0- 4.5	270	90-180	240-540	Epinephrine 1:200,000	400%	Less than 400%	Long
2% Lidocaine (plain)	3.2	7.0	500	6.5	96	5-10	60-120	None	100%	100%	Very short
2% Lidocaine (w/ vaso)	3.2	7.0	500	3.3- 5.5	96	60	180-300	Epinephrine 1:50,000	100%	100%	Intermediate
2% Lidocaine (w/ vaso)	3.2	7.0	500	3.3- 5.5	96	60	180-300	Epinephrine 1:100,000	100%	100%	Intermediate
3% Mepivacaine (plain)	3.0	6.6	400	4.5- 6.8	114	20-40	120-180	None	100%	125%	Short
2% Mepivacaine (w/ vaso)	3.0	6.6	400	3.0- 3.5	114	60	180-300	Levonorefrin 1:20,000	100%	125%	Intermediate
4% Prilocaine (plain)	4.0	8.8	600	4.5- 6.8	96	10-15 infiltration (I) 40-60 block (B)	90-120 (I) 120-240 (B)	None	100%	85%	Short (I) Intermediate (B)
4% Prilocaine (w/ vaso)	4.0	8.8	600	3.0- 4.0	96	60-90	180-480	Epinephrine 1:200,000	100%	85%	Intermediate

*FDA maximum recommended dose and drug insert information for each drug should be consulted prior to use.

**No FDA absolute maximum recommended dose.

***No FDA weight-based recommendation, MRD = 90 mg. Health Canada weight-based recommendation 0.9 mg/lb or 2.0 mg/kg.

Dosage Guidelines continued...

Other items used to construct the exam are the following:

Bassett, K.B., DiMarco, A. C., & Naughton, D.K. (2015). *Local Anesthesia for Dental Professionals* (2nd ed.). Upper Saddle River: Pearson Higher Education.

Malamed, S. F. (2013). *Handbook of Local Anesthesia* (6th ed.). St. Louis: Mosby Elsevier.

Malamed, S.F. (2007). *Medical Emergencies in the Dental Office* (6th ed.). St. Louis: Mosby Elsevier.

A Local Anesthesia Student Observer's Exam Reflections

by Natasha Trujillo from Pima Medical Institute, Albuquerque, NM

On January 29th, 2014, I received the letter from WREB that I was chosen to be a student observer for the WREB local anesthesia boards. There were many thoughts that crossed my mind; I was nervous, excited, a little scared, but most of all grateful that I, out of all of the students that could have been selected, was the one that was going to get to experience the exam as a student observer. I pulled up to the process while she was still in the process of getting everything set up for the examiners. At about 7:45 a.m. the candidates were given a tour of the facility and then at 8:00 a.m. candidates were directed to the orientation room. During the orientation time is when I first met the examiners who were so kind. My first impression of the examiners was that they truly were there to help and wanted everyone to succeed. During the orientation, a video was shown to the candidates which reviewed the examination process and expectations. After the video, the Chief Examiner spoke a little bit more about the process and then two examiners performed a funny skit to depict the typical examination process. The skit made everyone laugh and really lightened the mood from all tension in the air.

At 9:00 a.m. the first examinations took place. I could tell that the candidates were nervous and I was nervous for them! All of the barriers were already set up for the first exams, so all the

am testing site about 7:15 a.m. and took a moment in my car to compose myself. Logically, I knew that there was nothing to be afraid of or to be nervous about but I was and it was probably just due to the unknown. When I finally got inside, a little before 7:30 a.m., I was introduced to Janet Turley, the examination coordinator who was very warm and helpful. She showed me around and explained the examination candidates had to do was gather their supplies and set up for their patients. Candidates were asked to show one examiner the injection sites on their patients as well as the carpules of anesthetic with the expiration dates on their anesthetic. Candidates were advised to then place topical and wait for the examiners to return and administer their exam. In the time that I was there, from 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., I was able to see several candidates take their exams. Some were very well prepared and I could tell they were confident in their skills and were done rather quickly. Other candidates allowed their nerves get the best of them and did not perform to the best of their abilities. The great thing about the exam is that if a candidate did fail, on their results page it stated why they failed so they were given feedback on what they needed to do differently next time. Also, if a candidate was not successful, they were able to pay \$120 and take the exam again the same day on a different patient.

Reflections...continued

All in all, having the opportunity to observe the WREB local anesthesia exam was a great experience. I feel that when it is my turn to be a candidate taking the exam, I will be much more prepared because I have a sense of what to expect. The greatest insight I obtained from being a student observer is that the examiners are there not to intimidate the candidates, but to

help by trying to ease the worries of each candidate so one can perform to the best of their abilities. Being a student observer at the WREB local anesthesia exam not only made me realize that being nervous is just a part of the process but more importantly made me even more excited for what my future holds.

DH Restorative Examination Retakes and Remediation Overview

The majority of DH Restorative Examination candidates are successful upon first exam attempt. Most of those who retake the exam after one failed attempt are successful, also. However, the proportion of successful exam attempts gets much lower with third and subsequent attempts. This trend is typical of licensure exams that assess minimum competence; most candidates pass upon first or second attempt.

All test scores are subject to some degree of random error. A candidate can experience physical illness, anxiety, or just “have a bad day,” reducing the potential of the examination score to accurately estimate his or her actual level of ability or skill. Allowing examination retakes is reasonable, especially when the likelihood of subsequent success is high. When that likelihood is low, allowing retakes without requiring remediation often results in continued failure, which can be frustrating and expensive for those candidates.

The low proportion of success for third exam attempts in recent years led to a change in the remediation policy for the DH Restorative Examination, beginning in 2013. Candidates who have had two unsuccessful attempts on the DH Restorative Examination are asked to provide evidence of remediation prior to challenging the exam a third time. The change led to almost twice as many successful candidates upon third exam attempt in 2013 and the trend appears to be continuing throughout 2014.

WREB Reminder—No Faculty at Exam Sites

WREB does not permit faculty or educators to be present on the premises during examinations. Enforcing this policy will assure that the exam process is consistent from site-to-site and fair for all candidates. Please note, this policy does not prohibit faculty from working in their offices, away from the examination area, while the exam is being administered.

States Accepting WREB Exam Results

ALASKA*
 ARIZONA*
 CALIFORNIA¹
 COLORADO
 CONNECTICUT
 HAWAII²
 IDAHO*
 ILLINOIS*
 INDIANA
 KANSAS*
 KENTUCKY*
 MAINE
 MASSACHUSETTS

MICHIGAN
 MINNESOTA
 MISSOURI*
 MONTANA*
 NEBRASKA
 NEVADA*
 NEW HAMPSHIRE
 NEW MEXICO*
 NORTH DAKOTA*
 OHIO
 OKLAHOMA*
 OREGON*
 PENNSYLVANIA

RHODE ISLAND
 SOUTH DAKOTA
 TENNESSEE
 TEXAS*
 UTAH*
 VERMONT
 VIRGINIA
 WASHINGTON*
 WEST VIRGINIA**
 WISCONSIN
 WYOMING*

*Member State

**Affiliate Member State

¹Dental Member State ONLY, accepts both dental & dental hygiene exam results

²Accepts dental hygiene exam results only

WREB is a testing agency only and does not issue licenses. Successful completion of the WREB examination does not constitute licensure in any state. Questions regarding licensing and reciprocity should be directed to the state board where licensure is sought.

Meet the WREB Dental Hygiene Department



WREB Dental Hygiene Department: (clock-wise from top-left)

Robin Yeager, *Dental Hygiene Department Manager*

Phelecia Cook-Gyder, *Dental Hygiene Exam Coordinator*

Kathy Reiff, *Dental Hygiene Exam Coordinator*

Kellie Blanford, *Dental Hygiene Exam Coordinator*



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WREB 2015 Examination Schedule

Local Anesthesia, Dental Hygiene, and Restorative

Registration times reflect Mountain Standard Time (MST). Registration opening dates and times are subject to change.

Exam Location	Exam Dates	Application Deadline (Schedule Requests)	Exam Type	Registration Opens
Portland Community College, Portland, OR	Feb 27 - Mar 1	Jan 13	AN	12/9/14 10:00 AM
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM	Feb 27 - 28	Jan 13	AN	12/11/14 10:00 AM
San Joaquin Valley College, San Diego, CA	Mar 12 - 15	Jan 26	AN DH	12/16/14 10:00 AM
Phoenix College, Phoenix, AZ	Mar 13 - 16	Jan 28	DH	12/17/14 10:00 AM
Lake Washington Institute of Technology, Kirkland, WA	Mar 19 - 23	Feb 2	AN RE	12/18/14 10:00 AM
Salt Lake Community College, West Jordan, UT	Mar 27 - 28	Feb 10	AN	1/6/15 10:00 AM
West Coast University, Anaheim, CA	Apr 2 - 5	Feb 16	AN DH	1/7/15 10:00 AM
Clark College, Vancouver, WA	Apr 10 - 12	Feb 24	RE	1/8/15 10:00 AM
Carrington College - Boise, Boise, ID	Apr 10 - 12	Feb 24	AN DH	1/9/15 10:00 AM
Midwestern State University, Wichita Falls, TX	Apr 16 - 19	Mar 3	DH	1/13/15 10:00 AM
OIT @ Chemeketa Community College, Salem, OR	Apr 17 - 21	Mar 4	AN DH RE	1/14/15 10:00 AM
Utah College of Dental Hygiene, Orem, UT	Apr 20 - 25	Mar 6	AN DH	1/15/15 10:00 AM
University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, OK	Apr 24 - 27	Mar 10	DH	1/20/15 10:00 AM
University of the Pacific, San Francisco, CA	Apr 24 - 27	Mar 10	AN DH	1/21/15 10:00 AM
University of Texas - San Antonio, San Antonio, TX	May 1 - 4	Mar 17	DH	1/15/15 10:00 AM
Texas A&M HSC - Baylor College of Dentistry, Dallas, TX	May 1 - 4	Mar 17	DH	1/27/15 10:00 AM
Rio Salado College - Tempe, Tempe, AZ	May 1 - 4	Mar 17	AN DH	1/28/15 10:00 AM
Weber State University, Ogden, UT	May 6 - 10	Mar 22	AN DH	1/29/15 10:00 AM
College of Southern Nevada, Las Vegas, NV	May 7 - 9	Mar 23	AN DH	2/3/15 10:00 AM
University of Alaska - Anchorage, Anchorage, AK	May 8 - 11	Mar 24	AN DH RE	2/4/15 10:00 AM
University of Texas - Houston, Houston, TX	May 13 - 16	Mar 29	DH	2/5/15 10:00 AM
Portland Community College, Portland, OR	May 14 - 17	Mar 30	RE	2/10/15 10:00 AM
Fortis College - Phoenix, Phoenix, AZ	May 14 - 17	Mar 30	AN DH	2/11/15 10:00 AM
Portland Community College, Portland, OR	May 28 - Jun 1	Apr 13	AN DH	2/10/15 10:00 AM
Cabrillo College, Aptos, CA	May 29 - Jun 1	Apr 14	AN DH	2/12/15 10:00 AM
Eastern Washington University, Spokane, WA	Jun 5 - 9	Apr 21	AN DH RE	2/17/15 10:00 AM
Lake Washington Institute of Technology, Kirkland, WA	Jun 11 - 15	Apr 27	AN DH RE	2/18/15 10:00 AM
Great Falls College - MSU, Great Falls, MT	Jun 12 - 14	Apr 28	AN DH	2/19/15 10:00 AM
Clark College, Vancouver, WA	Jun 19 - 22	May 5	AN DH	2/19/15 10:00 AM
Loma Linda University, Loma Linda, CA	Jun 19 - 23	May 5	AN DH	2/24/15 10:00 AM
Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID	Jun 24 - 27	May 10	AN DH RE	2/25/15 10:00 AM
Pierce College, Lakewood, WA	Jun 25 - 28	May 11	AN DH	2/26/15 10:00 AM
UCLA School of Dentistry, Los Angeles, CA	Jun 26 - 28	May 12	DH	10/9/14 2:22 PM
San Joaquin Valley College, San Diego, CA	Jul 9 - 12	May 25	AN DH	3/3/15 10:00 AM
Carrington College - Mesa, Mesa, AZ	Jul 16 - 19	Jun 1	AN DH	3/3/15 2:00 PM
OIT @ Chemeketa Community College, Salem, OR	Aug 1 - 4	Jun 17	AN DH RE	3/4/15 10:00 AM
Cabrillo College, Aptos, CA	Aug 7 - 10	Jun 23	AN DH	3/4/15 2:00 PM
University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City, OK	Aug 14 - 16	Jun 30	DH	3/5/15 10:00 AM
Carrington College - Boise, Boise, ID	Aug 15 - 16	Jun 30	AN	3/5/15 2:00 PM
Utah College of Dental Hygiene, Orem, UT	Aug 20 - 22	Jul 6	AN DH	3/10/15 10:00 AM
Eastern Washington University, Spokane, WA	Sep 10 - 13	Jul 27	AN DH RE	3/10/15 2:00 PM
West Coast University, Anaheim, CA	Oct 29 - Nov 1	Sep 14	AN DH	3/11/15 2:00 PM
San Joaquin Valley College, San Diego, CA	Oct 29 - Nov 1	Sep 14	AN DH	3/12/15 10:00 AM
Carrington College - Mesa, Mesa, AZ	Nov 12 - 16	Sep 28	AN DH	3/12/15 2:00 PM
Carrington College - Boise, Boise, ID	Dec 11 - 14	Oct 27	AN DH	3/17/15 10:00 AM
Phoenix College, Phoenix, AZ	Dec 18 - 19	Nov 3	AN	3/17/15 2:00 PM
Utah College of Dental Hygiene, Orem, UT	Dec 18 - 20	Nov 3	AN DH	3/18/15 10:00 AM