

## **A brief overview of how to get back to Canada or the US**

This is what currently the process looks, but of course, things could change and it is always better to confirm everything.

> Also, it is important to check **citizenship requirements**. (Ex. a Canadian citizen, may not be able to apply to all American schools, and American citizens may not apply to all Canadian schools)

### **Canada:**

It explains everything in detail on this website:

<http://www.ndeb.ca/nonaccredited>

Here is a “summary”:

There are several ways to get your license. It all depends on how you complete **NDEB equivalency process**. The equivalency process works as follows:

#### **There are three exams:**

1. Assessment of Fundamental Knowledge (AFK) (Feb 2014)
2. Assessment of Clinical Skills (June 2014)
3. Assessment of Clinical Judgment (June 2014)

Note: Persons who prepared this guide graduated in May 2013 and they included the dates on when they plan to write the above exams in brackets.

Unlike the US, **these exams are not flexible**. They are offered once a year and the combined cost of these exams is \$8000 (Canadian Dollars), or about 24 000 PLN.

What happens next depends on whether you are able to pass these exams:

A. If you are able to pass all three exams (achieve 75% or more), you are able to write the **licensing exam**. Here is the website for the information:

<http://www.ndeb.ca/accredited/dates-locations>

This is offered two times a year: Spring and Fall. The price of these set of exams is \$2400, or about 7200 PLN. If this exam is passed, you have a license to practice in Canada. This means, if everything goes well, you can practice starting November the year after you graduate (so if you graduate in May 2013, you could potentially practice in November 2014)

B. If you are *not* able to pass the one of the first three exams of the equivalency process, you have the opportunity to apply to a Canadian school for a **qualifying program**. The list of schools is here:

<http://www.ndeb.ca/nonaccredited/qualifying-programs>.

I believe the length of the program varies from 1 to 2 years, depending on which exam was failed and which school you apply to. After the qualifying program is finished, then you can write the licensing board exam like mentioned in A.

## **United States:**

To work in the US, you need to first write the NBDE I and NBDE II. These exams are done on the computer, and can be scheduled almost any time of the year.

**NBDE I:** This can be written as early as the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> year after finishing the required courses. It is a 1 day exam and a 400 multiple choice question. The main subjects covered are human anatomy, embryology, histology, biochemistry, physiology, microbiology, pathology, dental anatomy, and occlusion. Our school prepared as very well for the medical aspect of the exam. However, there is a big emphasis on dental occlusion and anatomy, so its important to get acquainted with this information from the beginning of school. Dental Decks, "First Aid for NBDE I", and school notes/books were excellent study sources. For the dental anatomy and occlusion, Kaplan NBDE I notes were also very helpful.

**NBDE II:** This exam can be done as early as after 4<sup>th</sup> year. The main topics include: Endodontics, Operative Dentistry, Oral Surgery, Oral Pathology, Orthodontics, Pediatrics, Patient management, Public health, Occupational Safety, Periodontics, Pharmacology, Prosthodontics. This is a 2-day exam; the first day it is 400 multiple choice questions, and the second day is 100 questions based on clinical cases. The second day includes receiving patient's x-rays, medical history, and dental charts. The questions involve patient diagnosis and treatment plan.

Once you pass these exams, you need to **apply for an advanced standing program**. The NBDEs are now graded on a pass/fail basis, so it is important to have other aspects of your application in order to be "competitive" in order to be accepted into the program. Things to consider include: high GPA, class rank, extracurricular activities, and research experience. To apply for these programs through the CAAPIDD, it costs \$244 (US) to apply to one school, and \$90 (US) for each additional schools. There are also additional costs for each individual schools require for their supplement applications (around \$100 each).

Here is a website that has a list of schools and some details of their requirements:  
[http://www.adea.org/dental\\_education\\_pathways/CAAPID/Pages/CAAPIDDirector.y.aspx](http://www.adea.org/dental_education_pathways/CAAPID/Pages/CAAPIDDirector.y.aspx)

**Here are some deadlines for applications for various schools:**

University of Pittsburg: Sept. 15

Tufts: Sept. 16

University of Boston: Jan 1

Unviersity of Pensylvania: Aug 1

Ostrafa South California University: Aug 15

University of San Francisco: July 12

University of Chicago: July 1

Dugain California: July 12

Nova Florida: Jan 1

UCLA: Aug 1  
Howard University: Jan 14  
University of Maryland: Jan 1  
Detroit: Jun 1 and Oct 1

In 2013 **applications opened** on April 15. However, you cannot apply until you have a diploma. All students are required to have a diploma and transcripts translated so the grades are under US standards. This is done by ECE and process takes about 2 weeks. Many schools accept students on a “rolling basis”, so it is best to apply as early as possible. Also, the CAAPID requires about 1 month to process the applications, meaning that the application has to be finished 1 month before each school deadline. It is important to get their transcripts and diploma done as quickly as possible in 5<sup>th</sup> year.

Many schools require **TOEFL** (Exam to test English proficiency). It does not matter that our program is in English, or if you have American citizenship, or if you went to school in US (however, some schools may be exceptions). {some Canadian schools may require TOEFL as well}

**Interviews** are typically in the Fall. This may include a “speaking” part as well as a practical part (ex. on a phantom head, make a class II amalgam preparation). Each interview may cost up to \$500 to cover the cost of the “practical part”. The cost of tuition and board may vary from \$150 000 - \$250 000 for the two years, depending on school and city.

So to summarize, for the US:

NBDE I: may be done after 3<sup>rd</sup> year

NBDE II: may be done after 4<sup>th</sup> year

Application to schools: may be done after receiving the diploma (May)

Interviews to schools: may occur in November/December

If accepted, qualifying program may begin: June or September *the year after you graduate*.

This means, that there is a “gap year” from the time you graduate and the time you start the advanced standing program.

After completing 2 years of the qualifying program, the you can apply for your **dental license**. For example, in Illinois you have to do a clinical examination, WREB.

There are some **paid residency programs** that may accept students from our school. You still require NBDE I, NBDE II, and diploma. You still have to wait 1 year between graduation and starting residency programs. Application usually starts in October. This route may or may not give you a license, so it is important to verify with the program.

The last option is **specialization courses**. This is mainly for the student's interest, and does *not* give you a license nor a specialization. You basically observe what other students and professors do in clinics.

This information is constantly changing, so its good for students to keep themselves updated:

<http://www.foreigntraineddentists.net/illinois2.html>

<http://www.ada.org/>