



Dental Assisting National Board, Inc.
Measuring Dental Assisting Excellence®

Anatomy, Morphology and Physiology (AMP)

Exam Outline and Suggested References

The AMP exam is a component of the National Entry Level Dental Assistant (NELDA®) certification program.

NELDA component exams

Anatomy, Morphology and Physiology (AMP)

Radiation Health and Safety (RHS®)

Infection Control (ICE®)

Effective 01/01/2020

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AMP

Exam Outline Overview

AMP Exam Weighting by Domain

- I. Head, Neck and Oral Cavity (40%)
- II. Tooth Anatomy, Morphology and Physiology (60%)

AMP Exam Administration Methods

Exam Characteristics	In-Person Testing	Live Online Remote Proctoring
Number of Multiple-Choice Questions	105	95
Time for Exam (minutes)	79	75
Tutorial Time (minutes)	5	5
Comment Time (minutes)	5	5
Total Exam Appointment Time (minutes)	89	85

The AMP exam is now administered in-person and through live online remote proctoring. The candidate may choose the method they prefer. Remote proctoring allows candidates to take exams using their own computer while being monitored by webcam and microphone. The exams have the same number of scored exam items, but the remote proctored exams have fewer pretest (non-scored) exam items to accommodate remote proctored appointment time constraints. Candidates will not receive an advantage based on their administration mode. That is, the remotely administered exam is not easier (or harder) than the in-person version of the exam.

DANB uses computer adaptive testing (CAT). Candidates are scored based on the level of difficulty of the questions they answer correctly. This method can more accurately pinpoint a candidate's ability level. Each candidate is presented with the same percentage of questions from each domain. The average candidate will get around 50% of the questions correct.

AMP Exam Outline

DANB exams are created using the exam outline, which is reviewed annually by subject matter experts (e.g., Certified Dental Assistant™ [CDA®] certificants and dentists). The outline is developed using a content validation study, which includes a job analysis survey where practicing CDA certificants are surveyed about how often tasks are performed and how important competent performance is to the health and safety of the public. This study is conducted every five to seven years to ensure the outline is consistent with current clinical practices. DANB's Board of Directors approves all updates to DANB exam outlines. The AMP exam measures a candidate's knowledge of anatomy, morphology and physiology.

I: Head, Neck and Oral Cavity (40%)

- A. Anatomy and pathology of hard and soft tissue**
- B. Circulatory and lymphatic system**
- C. Landmarks (e.g., radiographic, bony, soft tissue)**
- D. Muscular/skeletal system**
- E. Nervous system**
- F. Oral cavity anatomy**
- G. Salivary glands**
- H. Sinuses**

II: Tooth Anatomy, Morphology and Physiology (60%)

- A. Classifications of occlusion**
- B. Hard and soft tissue anomalies**
- C. Permanent tooth anatomy and morphology**
- D. Primary tooth anatomy and morphology**
- E. Tooth anomalies**
- F. Tooth numbering systems, including Universal and Palmer systems**

AMP Exam Suggested References

DANB exam committees use the following textbooks and reference materials (excluding the Additional/Optional Study Resources) to develop this exam. This list does not include all the available textbooks and materials for studying for this exam; these are simply the resources that exam committee subject matter experts determined as providing the most up to-date information needed to meet or surpass a determined level of competence for this exam. Any one reference will likely not include all the material required to study to take the exam. **Please note that previous editions of the resources below may be used for study purposes if the previous version was published within the past 7 years, unless noted otherwise.**

This list is intended to help prepare for this exam. It is not intended to be an endorsement of any of the publications listed. You should prepare for DANB certification and component exams using as many different study materials as possible.

Suggested References

1. Bird, Doni L., and Debbie S. Robinson. *Essentials of Dental Assisting*. 6th ed. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier/Saunders, 2017. **(THIS VERSION ONLY)**
2. Bird, Doni L., and Debbie S. Robinson. *Modern Dental Assisting*. 12th ed. St. Louis, MO: Elsevier/Saunders, 2018.
3. Phinney, Donna J., and Judy H. Halstead. *Dental Assisting: A Comprehensive Approach*. 5th ed. Clifton Park, NY: Delmar, 2018. **(THIS VERSION ONLY)**

Additional/Optional Study References

1. The DALE Foundation. www.dalefoundation.org.
 - *DANB AMP Review*
 - *DANB AMP Practice Test*
 - *Glossary of Dental Terms*



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State Regulations

Each state's dental board implements regulations and establishes rules for delegating legally allowable duties to dental assistants. Passing one or more of the DANB component exams or earning DANB certification only conveys authority to perform these duties in those states that recognize these exams or this certification as meeting state dental assisting requirements. This information is available at www.danb.org.