



## U.S Licensing Process for Foreign Trained Dentists

1

Complete ECE General Report: \$85  
(3 weeks)

2a

Written Examination (NBDE Part 1): \$380  
+\$125 processing fee

2b

TOEFL (about \$190)

3

Advanced Standing Program (2 years)

4

Written Examination (NBDE Part 2): \$425

5

Complete State Licensure Exams

6

License to practice as a Dentist  
**CONFERRED**



**Disclaimer:** This information is provided only as an overview. All programs, processes, and/or fees are subject to change. Please verify above information with appropriate agency or governing body.

In the United States, the final authority on licensure requirements is the individual state. Though requirements vary from state to state, all applicants for dental licensure must meet three basic requirements; an education requirement, a written examination requirement and a clinical examination requirement. Graduates who are deemed by the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) to have graduated from a non-accredited program must complete the following process.

**1**

**ECE**

The American Dental Association Joint Commission on National Dental Examinations (JCNDE) is the agency responsible for the development and administration of the National Board Dental Examinations (NBDE). Most state licensing boards use the National Board Dental Examinations (Part I & II) as a major portion of their written examination requirements. If you wish to apply to a dental education program with advanced standing, you must complete Part 1 of the NBDE. Some schools require part II as well.

Foreign trained dentist must meet specific eligibility requirements before they are able to test for the NBDE Part 1. You must have official dental school transcripts verified by Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc. (ECE). You must request a General Report for the fee of \$85. The standard processing time for an evaluation report is approximately three weeks from receipt, review and approval of all documents, information and payment.

**2**

**NBDE  
Part 1  
&  
TOEFL**

(A) Prior to registering for the test, all users must be issued a DENTPIN (Dental Personal Identifier Number). After receiving your DENTPIN you can apply to take NBDE Part 1. The JCNDE will forward your eligibility information to Prometric Testing Services once your application has been approved, and you will receive an email with scheduling instructions. You are eligible to test for a six (6) month period. If you do not schedule a testing appointment and take the NBDE Part 1 during this period you will have to submit a new application and fee. The 2016 fee for the NBDE Part 1 is \$380 plus a \$125 processing fee.

(B) As an admission requirement to most Advanced Standing Programs, foreign trained dentist must take the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language). The 2016 fee is generally \$190, but varies by state and county.

**3**

**ASP**

Since 2004, all states except Hawaii require international dental graduates from dental schools that are not approved by the respective State Board, to obtain additional education in order to be eligible for licensure. Advanced Standing Programs are designed to teach qualified dentists from other countries the knowledge and skills found in the United States. These programs are generally 2 years long. Attending an Advanced Standing Program is an option for foreign dental graduates. Foreign graduates should inquire with each state dental board about their requirements for licensing.

**4**

**NBDE  
Part 2**

After successfully completing or nearing completion of an advanced standing program (CODA Accredited), foreign trained dentists can apply for the NBDE Part 2. The JCNDE will forward your eligibility information to Prometric Testing Services once your application has been approved, and you will receive an email with scheduling instructions. You are eligible to test for a six (6) month period. If you do not schedule a testing appointment and take the NBDE Part 2 during this period you will have to submit a new application and fee. The 2016 fee for the NBDE Part 2 is \$425.

**5**

**State  
Licensure**

After passing the NBDE Part I and Part II exams and completing an Advanced Standing Program (required for dentists whose school is not approved by the board) foreign dental graduates are eligible for to sit for specific State licensure exams. These remaining exams will complete any remaining written requirements, along with the clinical requirement. Please check with your individual state for specifications.

**Welcome Back Initiative**  
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