



American Board  
of Oral Implantology

Knowledge. Certification. Excellence.

# **ABOI/ID Certification Examination Handbook**

American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry  
211 E. Chicago Avenue, Suite 1100, Chicago, IL 60611  
[www.aboi.org](http://www.aboi.org)

# The Mission of the ABOI/ID

Oral Implantology / Implant Dentistry is the art and science required to insert and maintain suitable bio-compatible materials and devices as artificial abutments to support the fabrication of specifically designed fixed or removable prostheses to restore adequate function, comfort and esthetics to the partially or totally edentulous patient.

## Organization

The ABOI/ID was organized by the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, its sponsoring organization, to elevate the standards and advance the science and art of Oral Implantology/ Implant Dentistry by encouraging its study and improving its practice. To this end, the Board will:

1. Conduct examinations to determine the qualifications and competence of dentists who voluntarily apply to the Board for certification as Diplomates.
2. Grant and issue Diplomate Certificates in the specialty of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry to qualified applicants.
3. Maintain a registry of holders of such Certificates.
4. Serve the public, the dental and medical professions, hospitals, and dental schools by preparing and furnishing, on request, lists of Oral Implantologists / Implant Dentists certified as Diplomates by the Board.

The ABOI/ID is recognized by the American Board of Dental Specialties (ABDS) as a certifying Board in Oral Implantology.

## Section I: Qualifications and Routes

The requirements to qualify to become a Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry are as follows and were changed in March of 2022 and will be in effect beginning in 2023.

## **General Dentists (US & Canada)**

### **Route 1**

The following are pre-requisites for ABOI/ID Diplomate Certification Part I (Written Examination) \*

1. Applicant must be a DMD/DDS or equivalent
2. Continuing education (CE) totaling 670 hours verified on certifying organization letterhead or copies of CE certificates specific to implant dentistry. Or if you are an AGD member, please submit your AGD CE transcript for verification.
3. Completion of the following programs will satisfy additional continuing education credits.

	1-year GPR or AEGD	1-year Fellow	2-year GPR or AEGD	AAID Associate Fellow	AAID Fellow*
CE Credit	100	100	200	100	200

\* AAID Fellowship will satisfy all requirements of the ABOI/ID Diplomate certification and is exempt from the Part I written examination.

## **International Dentists**

### **Route 2 (Route 2 applicants must complete Part I written examination)**

The following are pre-requisites for ABOI/ID Diplomate Certification Part I (Written Examination)

1. Applicant must be a practicing dentist certified by a licensing board.
2. Continuing education (CE) totaling 670 hours verified on certifying organization letterhead or copy of CE certificates specific to implant dentistry.
3. Completion of the following programs in US or Canada will provide additional continuing education credits towards the required 670 hours.

	1- year GPR or AEGD	1-year Fellow	2-year GPR or AEGD	AAID Associate Fellow	AAID Fellow
CE Credit	100	100	200	100	200

Residency	Oral Surgery	Prosthodontics	Periodontics	Implantology
CE Credit	350	350	350	350

## **ADA Specialist in the US and Canada**

### **Route 3 (Route 3 applicants are exempt from Part 1 Written Examination)**

Completion of an approved hospital, university, or dental school residency training program in oral surgery, prosthodontics, periodontics, and implant dentistry will satisfy all requirements for Part I of the ABOI/ID Diplomate certification.

# Section II: Application Information and Procedures

## Application and Examination Fees

The application deadline is **January 15** the year the examination/s will be taken. The non-refundable application fee should be payable in U.S. dollars.

- One time application fee \$600.00 (non-refundable)
- Part I Written Examination Fee \$700.00
- Part II Oral Examination Fee \$1200.00
- Re-Examination Fee is the full amount for Part I and/or II
- Cancellation Fee of \$400.00 applies if canceled less than 30 days of the scheduled exam.

Both Part's I & II must be successfully completed within four years of initial application. You will have three opportunities within four years to complete the exams.

If you need to re-take Part I or II of the exams, the full amount of the exam fee will be charged.

All applications submitted become the property of the ABOI/ID and will not be returned to applicant once submitted.

## Refund Policy for Exam Fees

- To receive a full refund of the Part I and/or Part II exam fees you must contact ABOI/ID 30 days or more prior to the scheduled examination date.
- If canceled less than 30 days of the exam, a \$400.00 cancellation fee will be assessed.
- No refund will be issued if canceled within 7 days of the exam or if a candidate is a no show.

## Examination dates

Dates can be found on the ABOI website and are subject to change.

## Examination Results

The Board office informs candidates as to their pass/fail status on Part I Written and/or Part II Oral within eight weeks following the administration of the exam.

## Appeal Mechanism

A candidate who fails either the computer administered ABOI/ID Written Examination or ABOI/ID Oral Examination may appeal the results based on the following:

- Such a request is to be made within thirty (30) days after the candidate has received notice of the results of the examination.
- The request must be made in writing and must detail the grounds for the appeal.

- Grounds for appeal may include test administrations, special examination accommodations, and/or examination content.
- Candidates may not appeal the passing score or actions taken in setting a passing score.
- All appeals will be considered by the ABOI/ID Board of Directors.

## **Section III: Examination Information**

### **Part I Written Examination Information**

The Part I Written Exam is a computer-based exam administered 1 day annually through Pearson VUE testing centers. The exam consists of 200 multiple-choice test questions and is 5 hours in length. A letter will be sent from ABOI with information on Pearson VUE registration, candidates will be notified when registration opens for the ABOI Part I Written Exam.

Exam questions are not released, and all questions are copyrighted by The American Board of Oral Implantology.

Each edition of this examination is developed according to the Test Specifications found at the end of this document. The *Specifications* are based on findings derived from the ABOI/ID's practice analysis (see below) of all registered Diplomates. These analyses elicit information about the activities that Diplomates perform to render safe and effective patient care in their practices. So that the Test Specifications are kept current, the Board repeats these practice analyses periodically. If you are preparing to take the certification examination review the Test Specifications carefully.

The examination is experientially based. The questions require candidates to apply their knowledge of implant dentistry to clinical situations, rather than to merely recall or recognize specific facts. Each test item contains a question that is followed by suggested answers. Candidates are asked to choose the best answer.

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American Board of Oral Implantology/ Implant Dentistry  
2018 Practice Analysis Information

In 2018, the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry (ABOI/ID) began the process of conducting a practice analysis to update its test specifications to reflect current practice and to support validity of the exam by providing a link between patient-care activities and test content.

As recommended in *The Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* (2014), in order to use the scores from a credentialing exam to judge credential-worthy performances, there should be evidence that there is a link between test content and the occupational requirements (Standard 11.3). Furthermore, the Standards recommend that some type of practice analysis should provide the basis for defining the content domain of a credentialing exam (Standard 11.13). Hence, the purpose of the practice analysis is two-fold: 1) provide validity evidence, and 2) define the content domain of the test.

Test specifications list the topics to be covered by an examination and the emphasis given to the topics. To help ensure that the test specifications were linked to practice requirements, the ABOI/ID practice analysis plan was adapted from the combination job analysis method as outlined in Brannick, et al (2007). It is comprised of two components: tasks and knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs). A task inventory survey was administered to Diplomates over a two-month period.

The results are as follows:

Overall Domains and percentages relating to what is on the ABOI/ID written examination.

<b>Task Domain</b>	<b>Percent of Exam</b>
Obtaining and Assessing Diagnostic Data	15%
Developing and Presenting a Patient Treatment Plan	18%
Implementing Patient Treatment	44%
Maintaining the Effectiveness of the Dental Implant Treatment	8%
Prevention and Management of Complications	15%

<b>Domain</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>N Test Items</b>
Obtaining and Assessing Diagnostic Data N items = 30	Assess the patient's medical history	4
	Evaluate the patient's bone anatomy	4
	Assess patient risk factors	3

<b>Domain</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>N Test Items</b>
	Identify all clinical parameters for a completely edentulous patient	3
	Identify all clinical parameters for a partially edentulous patient	3
	Assess the patient's dental history	4
	Obtain and evaluate diagnostic records	3
	Obtain and evaluate CBCT scans	2
	Assess the patient's facial esthetics	2
	Assess the patient's temporomandibular joints and parafunctional habits	2
	Obtain and assess the patient's clinical and medical laboratory tests	1
	Select the most appropriate treatment	5
	Educate the patient on the limitations of the proposed implant therapy	4
	Integrate the patient's medical and dental history findings into the proposed treatment plan	5
	Evaluate all pertinent treatment options with the patient	5
	Modify treatment plan based on biomechanics	4
	Assess and manage peri-operative pharmacological parameters	4
	Plan and present the sequence (staging) of the proposed treatment plan to the patient	4
	Modify treatment plan based on esthetics	3
	Coordinate the phases of the patient's proposed treatment plan with dental and non-dental health-care providers	2
	Manage the patient's soft tissue	4
	Design, manage, and suture various flaps	3
	Evaluate the degree of healing and patient compliance	3
	Assess primary and secondary implant stability	3
Developing and Presenting a Patient Treatment Plan N items =36		

<b>Domain</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>N Test Items</b>
Implementing Patient Treatment N items = 88	Use an aseptic field during surgery	4
	Perform a framework try-in	4
	Make and evaluate a final impression for 4 or more implants	4
	Design and fabricate a full arch prosthesis	4
	Design, manage and suture various flaps	5
	Monitor and assess the patient's peri-operative vital signs	3
	Implement a surgical and prosthetic contingency plan	4
	Make and evaluate a final impression for 3 or less implants	4
	Manage the patient's anxiolytic state peri-operatively	3
	Maintenance and augmentation of the patient's ridge	4
	Customize peri-operative protocols (hygiene, diet, medications, habit control, temporization, nightguard, occlusal control, etc.)	3
	Design, fabricate, and place a screw retained fixed prosthesis	2
	Utilize digital technology for treatment (CBCT, printed models, printed surgical guides, impressions, restorations, etc.)	2
	Perform a one or two stage implant surgery	3
	Assess primary and secondary implant stability	3
	Design and fabricate a single tooth transitional prosthesis for soft tissue contour	2
	Perform soft tissue grafting procedures	3
	Evaluate different radiographic modalities throughout treatment	2
	Design, fabricate, and place a removable overdenture	3
	Design, fabricate and place a screw retained fixed prosthesis	3
	Design, fabricate, and place a cement retained fixed prosthesis	2
	Use guided tissue regenerative procedures	3
	Manage the patient's soft tissue	4
	Perform pre-prosthetic surgery, including hard and soft tissue	2
	Augment the patient's sinus	3
	Evaluate the degree of healing and patient compliance	4
	Place implants in a healed ridge for a full arch with or without immediate functional load	2
	Perform immediate implant placement for a full arch with or without immediate functional load	1



Domain	Task	N Test Items
	Perform immediate implant placement for a single tooth with or without a provisional	1
	Place implant in a healed ridge for a single tooth with immediate provisionalization	1
	Design and fabricate surgical guides	1
	Place short implants (< 7 mm)	1
	Perform flapless procedures	0
	Place mini-implant(s) including temporary anchorage devices	0
Maintaining the Effectiveness of the Dental Implant Treatment N items = 16	Assess comfort, occlusion, function, and esthetics	4
	Perform periodic radiographic evaluation	3
	Evaluate the patient's implant treatment outcome periodically and refine as needed	2
	Customize maintenance protocols	2
	Evaluate the significance of changes in the patient's physical and psychological health	2
	Identify and address changes in the patient's temporomandibular status and parafunctional habits	2
Prevention and Management of Complications N items = 30	Identify changes in the patient's lifestyle (social habits, vocational, employment, marital, and/or financial)	1
	Prevent and manage medical emergencies	4
	Prevent and manage post-operative surgical complications	4
	Prevent and manage intra-operative surgical complications	4
	Prevent and manage prosthetic complications	3
	Prevent and manage esthetic complications	3
	Prevent and manage neurosensory disturbances	3
	Identify and manage peri-implantitis	3
	Treat a failing implant	3
	Treat an ailing implant	3

## **Part II Examination Information**

The Part II Oral Examination consists of a series case stations comprised of standardized cases provided by the ABOI/ID and a candidate case station where the candidate will be examined on two of the eight cases submitted.

The process calls for candidates to propose a diagnosis and a treatment plan and then apply in-depth clinical knowledge and judgment to cases. Candidates will be given the opportunity to respond. Their answers (and any discussion) must reflect an in-depth level of knowledge in implant dentistry and exemplify that they possess the knowledge, skills, and abilities at the level of proficiency.

There will be two examiners at each station who will pose questions to the candidate and discuss aspects of each case which will include the following categories:

- Comprehensive medical and dental history evaluation
- Diagnosis
- Medical management
- Treatment planning
- Implant surgery
- Postoperative care
- Prosthetic restoration
- Maintenance
- Revision treatment planning

## **Part II Case Submission & Guidelines Information**

Candidates are required to provide eight individual cases as part of the application process. During the exam, the candidate cases must be provided to the ABOI/ID in electronic format using the template formats that can be found on the ABOI/ID website at [www.aboi.org](http://www.aboi.org). Part of your grade is completeness of your cases. It is important to submit them with clear diagnostic photographs and radiographs.

Your cases should be labeled with the case number and patients initials:

- Case 1- SM
- Case 2- AL

The first slide for each case should have the following information:

- Candidate number
- Case number
- Patient's initials

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Complete the template in its entirety for each case

- Do not leave any section blank
- If you do not have the information or it does not apply, provide rationale

Required Radiographs-**Remember to de-identify your radiographs**

- Pre-Op(s)
- Post-Surgical(s)
- Post-Prosthetic(s)
- Image with the final restoration(s) in function for a minimum of one (1) year
- CT scans are admissible

Photographs-**Remember to de-identify your photos**

- Required photos: Pre-Operative and Post-Operative
- Occlusal view of maxillary arch
  - Occlusal view of mandibular arch
  - Frontal view in maximum intercuspation position (MIP)
  - Left side in MIP
  - Right side in MIP
- For cases that involve an implant supported / retained removable prostheses:
  - Occlusal views of all implant attachment mechanisms (intra-oral)
  - Views of tissue surface areas of the removable prostheses

## Candidate Case Guidelines

*Candidates for the ABOI/ID Diplomate examination must submit eight (8) case reports for the Part II oral examination. The candidate must have provided surgical and or restorative treatment for each of the cases that are submitted. Each case must be on a different patient and must be restored and functional (final prosthesis) for a minimum of one year **at the time of case submission.***

When you are selecting cases to submit with your application, please keep in mind the following guidelines:

- Derive from eight (8) separate patients. Applicants may not use a patient for more than one case
- The implant must have been fully restored for a period of at least one year at the time of application

- You have provided either all or most of the professional judgment and treatment.
- The case has not been made available to any other applicant for listing or use in the ABOI/ID Diplomate application or examination.
- You will be asked to develop narratives for your cases, the Board asks that they are clear and concise with little extraneous information.
- Do not include your name, practice name and address on any documentation provided.
- Patient names should *not* be shown on any of the documentation provided.
- ALL radiographs and photographs must be clearly dated and labeled what they are
- If a CT scan has been submitted for a case, a panoramic view and representative slices of the scan may be submitted. CT scans are not required.

## Candidate Case Requirements

1. Edentulous mandible or maxilla with a full arch removable implant overdenture, utilizing two (2) or more implants.
2. Edentulous posterior maxilla with pneumatized maxillary sinus-requiring at least 5 mm of lateral approach sinus augmentation and two (2) or more implants and its restoration.
3. Anterior maxilla with one or more root form implants and restoration.
4. Any extraction with immediate implant placement or extraction with ridge preservation and delayed implant placement restoration.
5. Edentulous mandible or maxilla with four (4) or more root form implants supporting a fixed complete implant prosthesis.
6. An edentulous posterior mandible or maxillary quadrant with two (2) or more root form implants and its restoration.
7. Edentulous areas with more than two teeth missing and a deficient ridge requiring vertical or horizontal augmentation and the subsequent placement of two (2) or more root form implants and its restoration.
8. Case type to be determined by the candidate. The case **cannot** be a single tooth replacement.

## **Patient Information for Case Submission**

The following patient information is required to be included with your case submission:

Modality  
Date of surgery  
Pre-Implant grafting  
Insertion date of prosthesis  
Number of implants  
Type of implant restoration  
Opposing dentition  
Current Status  
Patient medical history  
Dental history  
Social history  
Treatment planning  
Implant surgery details to include operative report  
Postoperative care  
Maintenance  
Prosthetic restoration  
Radiographs

According to the applicant's awareness, have not been previously used or are not going to be used by any other applicant or candidate for the ABOI/ID certification application or examination. **The submitted cases become the property of the American Board of Oral Implantology/ Implant Dentistry and will not be returned.**

It is the candidate's responsibility to submit cases that are complete and accurate. Should a candidate choose to submit a case that is incomplete, their score on the oral examination will reflect accordingly.

Cases should be submitted to the ABOI headquarters via [WeTransfer](#) no later than January 15 prior to the year you plan on taking the Part II Oral Examination.

The Board recommends that in preparation for the examinations, candidates participate in the ABOI Board Review Course, study current literature and textbooks in the field of implant dentistry.

Successful candidates are awarded an eight-year time-limited Diplomate certificate.