



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

AMERICAN BOARD OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

PSYCHOMETRIC SERVICES FOR THE ORAL CLINICAL EXAMINATION

Purpose:

This RFP from the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry (ABPD) solicits psychometric services for the Oral Clinical Examination (OCE). This proposal would address the design, implementation, and scoring mechanism for the OCE.

Background:

1. The ABPD is the only certifying board recognized by the National Commission on Recognition of Dental Specialties and Certifying Boards for the specialty of Pediatric Dentistry. ABPD envisions the certification of all pediatric dentists as a means of achieving excellence in pediatric dentistry. Certification by ABPD provides assurance to the public that a pediatric dentist has successfully completed both an accredited training program and a voluntary examination process designed to continually validate the knowledge, skills, and experience necessary for the delivery of quality patient care.
2. The OCE is the second examination in the ABPD initial board certification process. A pediatric dentist must first successfully complete the written Qualifying Examination (QE) to be eligible to participate in the OCE. The purpose of the OCE is to assess an examinee's use of specialized knowledge and skills, clinical reasoning, communication, and professionalism that is required of entry-level pediatric dentists for safe and effective practice.
3. The examination covers ten domains, and a complete list of domains and task statements can be found here. Two examiners present four clinical vignettes and assess an examinee's evaluation and understanding of the pediatric dental content within the clinical scenarios. The examination session is a 2-hour period. The examination is administered annually in the fall to approximately 600 candidates at a testing facility designed for oral examinations.
4. ABPD performed a practice analysis for the initial certification process in 2023. As a result, one blueprint for initial certification (including both QE and OCE) was created, and domains and tasks were identified for each examination. There is some overlap between the two different examinations. A target level of cognitive processing is recommended for each task.
 - **Remember:** Retrieve knowledge from long-term memory (e.g., recognize, recall)
 - **Understand/Apply:** To construct meaning from information or use a process/procedure (e.g., interpret, exemplify, classify, summarize, infer, compare, explain, execute, implement)

- **Analyze/Evaluate:** To break down information into basic parts and determine how different parts relate to each other and as a whole, to make judgments based on defined criteria (e.g., differentiate, organize, attribute, check, critique)
5. The new blueprint will be implemented in 2025 for the OCE. ABPD is requesting a contract to begin early 2025 to assist with preparing for the examination and analyzing the examination results in the fall of 2025.
 6. Additional information about the oral examination and the initial certification can be found [here](#).

Scope of Work:

Areas of interest include, but are not limited to, methods to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the development, design, administration, and scoring of the Oral Clinical Examination and determine the validity of the examination as adequate measures of cognitive knowledge and clinical decision-making skill, respectively; determine the appropriateness of the scoring systems and improve examiner/candidate interactions in the OCE.

Immediate Development

1. Assist and recommend a standard-setting process for the 2025 examination.
2. Review existing procedures and provide recommendations for handling special accommodations examinations, including extended time accommodations.
3. Review ABPD's current examination session length (2 hours) and make recommendations for adjustments.

Annual Work

1. Prepare and provide the following statistics/reports for the OCE test administration annually:
 - a. The scoring spreadsheet includes scores and details for the ten areas tested, including total score and pass/fail status for each candidate.
 - b. Residency program outcomes, which includes average scores by domain.
 - c. Factor analysis of examiner ratings and adjustment of scoring based on examiner severity or leniency.
 - d. Descriptive statistics and reliability of assessment scores and vignettes.
 - e. Reliability and agreement of examiners.
 - f. Score verifications – if needed.
2. Provide ABPD with candidate scores in a mutually agreed-upon electronic format (e.g., Excel or CSV) within 15 business day of receipt of ABPD data.
3. Assist in an effective training program for ABPD examiners as needed.
4. Consult with ABPD leadership and staff on additional projects related to the OCE.

Requirements:

1. Ph.D., Ed.D., or equivalent experience; experience in dental education and/or certification a plus. Previous experience in Rausch Multi-Facets model preferred.

2. Summary proposal that demonstrates an understanding of the requested project, including any anticipated problems or obstacles. An overview of the annual activities as it relates to the psychometric analysis of the OCE.
3. Provide proposed budget
4. Provide prior experience with psychometric analysis for oral clinical examinations and references
5. Must be committed to continuous quality improvement in the services provided to maintain the technical quality and legal defensibility of all work.
6. Must abide by the relevant Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing

All proposals should be submitted no later than October 25, 2024, electronically via the email address below.

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