

FAQs relating to the MJDF Part 2 format from May 2015

How will the new Part 2 be structured?

The revised structure sees the entire examination run over a single circuit, meaning that the examination lasts just under two-and-a-half hours, with candidates attending *either* a morning or afternoon session. Candidates work their way around 14 stations, 11 of which will be assessed and three of which will be preparatory.

What will be assessed in the examination?

The single circuit is designed to assess the same skills as the existing MJDF Part 2, and against the same standard, but more efficiently. So there will be stations assessing communication skills; stations assessing clinical skills; and stations assessing clinical reasoning skills.

How will the preparatory element for the clinical reasoning stations be factored into the new circuit?

In keeping with the aim of making the Part 2's organisation as streamlined as possible, stations assessing clinical reasoning will have a preparatory station immediately before them in the circuit. There will be no examiner present, as candidates will be required to review material and prepare answers for the next station.

How long will each station last?

In order to ensure that the new-style examination assesses an appropriate breadth of skills and knowledge within this single circuit, the length of each station will be nine minutes, with a minute-and-a-half of reading time in between each station.

Will the longer stations be more difficult than the existing stations?

No. The lengthened stations will *not* mean that the material assessed will be harder or require more detailed answers than that used in the previous Part 2 OSCE element. Instead, the new stations will simply assess a wider range of knowledge and skills in a given area, reflecting more accurately real-life encounters rather than offering artificially short snapshots of dental practice.

Will candidates have to pass specific questions or elements in order to pass overall?

No. There will be a single minimum standard for the circuit as a whole, which candidates are required to attain to pass the examination.

How many examiners will be at each station?

At the stations assessing clinical reasoning, there will be two examiners present, in order to capture effectively the more detailed answers provided by the candidate following their preparation at the preceding station. At all other stations, there will be a single examiner present. Stations assessing communication skills and clinical skills may also include simulated patients, if the scenario requires this.