

Dear NSDTA Member,

Over the last few years, the Nova Scotia Dental Technician's Association has been diligently working toward a more streamlined, transparent, and nationally competitive provincial examination process. The tireless efforts of a handful of volunteers, under the direction of Bruce Friis, RDT – Chair of the Board of Examiners, have achieved many positive changes that have been well-received.

After careful consideration by the Board of Examiners and the Executive Council, it has been decided that another change will be implemented for the next upcoming examination session (Fall 2016/Winter 2017) and onward. Effective immediately, all prospective examinees will require the endorsement of a recognized Registered Dental Technician in Nova Scotia in order to apply for any or all available exams.

It is imperative for the integrity of the exam process that examinees be as competent and prepared as possible, and that they take their opportunity to participate seriously. There is no added pressure to pass or fail, but simply to respect the time and effort of the volunteers who develop and invigilate the exams, and also to demonstrate a personal commitment to the field of dental technology, which is, of course, a significant part of representing CDTs/RDTs on behalf of the province and profession.

A field has been added to the examination application for an RDT of each examinee's choosing to sign. It should also be accompanied by a brief written reference from that RDT. The RDT an examinee approaches to endorse them should be an individual who is familiar with their work ethic and technical abilities in whichever field(s) they are applying to be examined in. They do not necessarily have to be a superior, or even employed at the same laboratory, but simply someone who has first-hand knowledge that the examinee is capable and eager to work toward receiving certification.

RDTs – please note that you may be approached for the above-mentioned signature and letter in the near future. You are under no obligation to lend your support to any prospective examinee who may request it. Though their success or failure is no reflection on you, you should feel confident and comfortable in the examinee's aptitude before writing a reference.

Prospective examinees – kindly bring to the attention of the Board of Examiners (before the application due date) if you are unable to fulfill the requirement for an RDT's endorsement for any reason, as accommodations may possibly be made to have a member of the Board interview you, review your work, and sign off on your application.

Any RDTs, future examinees, or other members who have questions regarding this alteration of the exam process are welcomed and encouraged to send an email to Emily Preeper – NSDTA Secretary, who will forward your inquiry to the appropriate contact.

Thank you in advance for your support and cooperation, and much appreciation to those who gave their time and input at council meetings in respect to this matter.

Best Regards,

Emily Preeper,
NSDTA Secretary