

DASLE Task Force Meeting Minutes

Monday, September 3, 2019

5:00 pm

Conference Room A

Phone #: 1-888-742-5095

Conference Code: 8676021058

Call to Order

Christy Jo Fogarty, Board President, called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

Board Members Present

Christy Jo Fogarty, DH, ADT, Board President

Angela Rake, DDS, MS, Board Vice President

Board Staff Present

Bridgett Anderson, Executive Director

Joyce Nelson, Director of Licensing

Others in Attendance (Per sign in sheet)

JoAnn Brandt – MEDA; Majda Hodzic – MDA; Dick Diercks – Park Dental; Anna Malay, LDA;
Wendy Ahles – MnDAA; Herb Schulte – MDA; Lucy Shoemaker – MEDA; Sara Mast – Pacific
Dental Services; Muath Asamarai – Stone Arch Dental; Kathy Lapham – MCTC

Teleconference Participants

Crystal Shumake – Moorhead; Jenny Dumdei – South Central College Dental Assisting Director

Unfinished Business

DASLE Exam Prep Sessions

Ms. Anderson walked through the current examination stats and talked about the DASLE prep sessions. Since the DASLE Prep sessions began, there has been several students/programs who provided positive feedback and found the review to be helpful. Ms. Anderson stressed that, going forward, attendance should be tracked in order to have a head count of how many students attend and benefit from the session (pass rates). Ms. Anderson reported during April 2019 through June 2019, there was a 67% passing rate with a participate pool of 76 candidates. After the Prep sessions the passing rate from May 2019 through the end of July 2019 was at 64.49%, but this time the participate pool was 104 candidates. Previous pass scores were only 54% for 2018-2019. Overall, we are currently at a 65.45% passing rate with the DASLE exam; compared to our 51% pass rate back in 2017. Ms. Anderson also mentioned that several

students have not taken the DASLE exam yet and she stressed that MEDA encourage students to take the DASLE exam while they're currently in the program.

Although there has been an increase on the passing rate since the DASLE Prep sessions, there were still a small amount of Moorhead students that reported that the DASLE Prep session wasn't helpful to them specifically because they felt that the information was already given to from their prep session from instructors in their programs. Ms. Anderson clarified that the materials on the DASLE exam came from the question bank based on topic areas designated years ago when the exam was changed. Ms. Anderson also stated that currently 12 programs have over 70% pass rate on the exam. Overall, Ms. Anderson found that this DASLE Prep session was a great idea because the passing rate has gone up since May of 2019. More sessions and a larger bank of test takers will show more data as time goes on and that will help the Board decide if we will continue the prep sessions.

Exam Questions/ Topic Areas

Ms. Anderson mentioned that there are a few areas she felt needed focus on when it comes to the DASLE exam and requested feedback on what should be done in relation to making changes to the exam. Ms. Anderson believes that the test questions on the DASLE exam should be based on relevance and by eliminating the amount of question on the DASLE so that there are fewer questions, it could increase the students' chances of passing. She also reported that students have reported test anxiety due to the amount of questions (150) with a limit of 1 min per question.

Although decreasing the number of questions on the DASLE is one possibility, Ms. Anderson underlined that there were a few topics on the exam that need review from the Task Force as well. She explained that the first topic area that needs focus is the Radiology portion of the test. She goes into depth that this section continues to perform poorly and with the questions counting as a higher percentage on the exam, she would love to have feedback to see what can be done differently going forward. A MEDA representative replied that for the radiology portion of the exam, there should be x-ray images. It was also suggested that radiology should have more technique and quality questions. Secondly, in the topic area of Temporary Crown Cementing and Adaptation needs to be addressed. Ms. Anderson assured that if there were to be any changes in regard to questions on the DASLE exam, MEDA will be notified about it right away so course materials and curriculum can be adjusted accordingly for students. Lastly, Ms.

Fogarty reminded MEDA to encourage students to take the DASLE exam while in the program so that the material is still current.

Adjourn

MOTION: Motion made to adjourn. Unanimous.

Reviewed by: Hassan Ismail DDS
Hassan Ismail, DDS, Chair

2/6/2020
Date