



Equine Dental Providers of America

Certification Test Guidelines

After completion and approval of the EDPA Pre-certification Evaluation, an applicant may apply for the EDPA Equine Dental Provider Certification. The Certification Test will be held annually. Texas resident applicants have first option for certification testing within the deadline set by EDPA.

The Applicant must register for the EDPA Certification Test and pay the applicable fee by EDPA posted deadline to be eligible to test in the same year.

* EDPA Member Fee- \$600.00

* Non- Member Fee- \$750.00

Applicants for Equine Dental Provider (EDP) Certification must pass a written exam and a practical exam for EDPA Certification.

The EDPA Certification Written Test will include questions regarding the following:

1. Anatomy, including musculoskeletal structures, organs of the head and neck
2. Tooth anatomy and morphology
3. Diseases that show up in the mouth so that an (EDP) would know when to refuse to treat and send the case to a vet.
4. Knowledge of tools, function and hazards of equipment and instrumentation used in tooth floating
5. Potential harm and side effects caused by tooth floating, and possible results of poor tooth floating technique.
6. Disease control and sterilization of equipment
7. The limits of the scope of practice for an EDP, including the use of sedation, the requirement of veterinary supervision, and ensuring that a proper veterinary-client-patient relationship is established and maintained
8. Universal terminology
9. Texas law
10. Documentation- Charting

The applicant has one hour to complete the test and must pass the written test with 75% or above before eligible to move on to the EDPA Practical Exam.

*If the applicant fails the written test, the applicant has the opportunity to retake the test the following year (and only the following year) without additional cost.

The EDPA Practical Exam will follow the EDPA Written Exam and will consist of the following:

The horse will be charted by a team of evaluators and the applicants work will be evaluated by the team. The team will consist of two (1) Certified EDP Veterinarian and one (2) EDPA Certification Committee Members (which must be EDP Certified) and these team members are those which have no conflict of interest associated with the candidate's testing.

The following standards will be used for practical exam evaluation:

1. The horse to be used will have normal routine dental conditions.
2. The EDP applicant will address the malocclusions while preserving functionality of the oral cavity, and practicing the policy "to do no harm".
3. The EDP Applicant's Goal:
 - a. To remove sharp enamel points which cause harm to soft tissue.
 - b. To remove malocclusions which interfere with occlusion and lateral excursion, of the molars and incisors.
 - c. And to maintain and maximize occlusion of the opposing chewing surfaces
 - d. Overall balanced and functional mouth.

Please note: The EDP applicant can use hand floats or power floats and must bring their own tools and equipment. The applicant must use a speculum, light source, effective sanitation, GFCI with the power equipment, and use of safety glasses and gloves for proper hand covering. The applicant can use an apparatus to suspend the horse's head or a head stand. It is recommended the type of suspension supports the horse's mandible. The applicant must correctly chart the conditions in the horse's oral cavity before and after. **The applicant has one hour total time for the Practical Exam with 45 minutes of allowed working time on the horse.**

The evaluation will be determined by the following categories worth 100 total points with a Pass/Fail Scoring:

- a. Approach, handling animal and safety. 5 pts.
- b. Pre-evaluating animals condition. 5 pts
- c. Determining sedation needs. 10 pts
- d. Charting. 15 pts
- e. Addressing issues. 5 pts.
- f. Appropriate tool use. 10 pts.
- g. Cleanliness. 15 pts.
- h. Post- evaluating animal and after care. 5 pts.
- i. Functionality of mouth. 30 pts.

*** Conditions which will cause automatic failure to the individual demonstration:**

Safety of horse, applicant, handler or other is put at risk or in harm.

At all times during the Practical Exam, the EDPA Certification Director will chart and evaluate the applicant's progress and give chart to the Evaluating Team for total scoring. The EDPA Certification Applicant must pass the Practical Exam by 75% from 2 out of the 3 EDPA evaluators in order to receive EDPA Certification. *If the applicant fails the practical test, the applicant has the opportunity to retake the test the following year (and only the following year) without additional cost.

For more information regarding the EDPA Certification Guidelines or Exam, please contact the EDPA Certification Director:

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