

ORE Part 2 - Reasonable Adjustments Policy

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 This document sets out the policy and procedures for applying for Reasonable Adjustments for the Overseas Registration Examination (ORE) Part 2, administered by the UCL Consortium on behalf of the General Dental Council (GDC).
- 1.2 It aims to ensure that all candidates with medical conditions, disabilities, or specific learning difficulties are given a fair and equal opportunity to demonstrate their clinical knowledge and competence, while preserving patient safety, clinical standards, and the integrity of a practical, skills-based assessment.

2. Scope

- 2.1 This policy applies to all candidates registered to sit the ORE Part 2 examination who require personalised examination provisions due to a medical condition, disability, specific learning difficulty, pregnancy, or a condition such as diabetes.
- 2.2 It covers the full application process, including eligibility criteria, required supporting evidence, decision-making timelines, and the categories of provision available across each component of the Part 2 examination (OSCE, DM, DTP, and ME).
- 2.3 It also outlines candidate responsibilities with regard to fitness to sit and day-of-examination illness, including the role of the Lead Examiner in determining whether a candidate is able to continue.

3. Time frames for Applications

- 3.1 Candidates must notify the UCL Consortium ORE Administrative Team of any requirements for reasonable adjustments no later than 6 weeks prior to the examination date. Failure to provide sufficient notice may result in the requested provisions not being implemented.
- 3.2 Candidates who secure a place after the six-week deadline (including reallocated or resold places) remain subject to this deadline and will not be able to submit a reasonable adjustment request for that sitting.
- 3.3 Any additional information or supporting documentation requested by the consortium must be submitted no later than 4 weeks prior to the examination date. Failure to provide the requested information within this timeframe may result in the application being declined or adjustments not being implemented.

4. Application Process

- 4.1 Applications must be submitted using the official form available on the ORE website ([Reasonable Adjustments](#)) and must include supporting evidence from a suitably qualified medical or educational professional.
- 4.2 Supporting evidence must clearly describe the nature of the condition and its impact on the candidate's ability to undertake a practical, skills-based examination. Where applicable, candidates must also provide evidence of any current adjustments in place for practical examinations and/or in their usual working or training environment.
- 4.3 Applications will be considered by the UCL Consortium ORE Administrative Team. The granting of personalised examination provisions is not guaranteed and must remain consistent with the requirements of a clinical assessment.
- 4.4 Where an application is unsuccessful, candidates may request a review of the decision within 5 working days of receiving the outcome. Requests submitted outside of this timeframe will not normally be considered.
- 4.5 If the UCL Consortium ORE Administrative Team determines that it cannot grant personalised examination provisions, this response will then be approved by the GDC before the outcome is communicated to the candidate. The GDC's decision on personalised examination provisions is final and therefore cannot be reviewed.
- 4.6 Where an application is unsuccessful, candidates may submit an request for a review of the outcome through the GDC within 5 working days of receiving the outcome (please see the [Complaints and Reviews policy](#) for more details). Requests submitted outside of this timeframe will not normally be considered.

5. The categories of personalised examination provision are as follows:

- 5.1 Where rest breaks or access adjustments are permitted, these will be taken within the allocated examination time. No additional examination time will be granted.

6. Specific learning difficulties

- 6.1 Applications must be supported by a written statement from a suitably qualified professional (e.g. an educational psychologist). Adjustments are limited in a practical examination environment but may include support such as a reader, where appropriate.

7. Medical conditions

- 7.1 Applications must be supported by a written statement from a suitably qualified professional (e.g. a GP or occupational therapist). Adjustments may be made that do not impact patient safety or the integrity of the assessment.

8. Disability

- 8.1 Applications must be supported by a written statement from a suitably qualified professional and must clearly outline how the disability affects the candidate's ability to undertake a practical examination.

- 8.2 Adjustments will be considered on a case-by-case basis and must be proportionate, appropriate, and consistent with the requirements of clinical practice.

9. Pregnancy

- 9.1 Pregnant candidates may request reasonable adjustments such as seating or additional supervised breaks, though no additional examination time will be provided. Candidates must notify the UCL Consortium ORE Administrative Team at least 6 weeks prior to the examination.

10. Diabetes/ Snacks

- 10.1 Food and drink are not permitted within clinical areas (DM), on the examination tracks (DTP or ME) or within an OSCE station.
- 10.2 All candidates may access snacks and drinks during the examination under supervision in the holding areas outside the examination area for DM or OSCE, where necessary, though no additional examination time will be provided.
- 10.3 Candidates with diabetes or other medical conditions requiring access to snacks, drinks, glucose products, or medication during the examination must notify the UCL ORE Consortium Administrative Team in advance by submitting the Reasonable Adjustments Application Form.
- 10.4 Applications made solely to notify the examination team of diabetes, or a medical dietary requirement do not require supporting medical evidence. The purpose of notification is to enable appropriate examination planning and ensure examination staff are aware of the candidate's needs.
- 10.5 Only candidates, who have submitted a reasonable adjustment application notifying the UCL ORE consortium of diabetes or another medical condition requiring access to snacks, drinks or glucose products, will be permitted to consume food within the examination tracks in DTP or ME. In such cases, no additional examination time will be allocated.
- 10.6 Where required, candidates must provide their own snacks and drinks for use during the examination. No food or drink will be provided by the examination provider, with the exception of water.
- 10.7 Any snacks or drinks brought into the examination must be appropriate for the clinical environment. All snacks must be stored in clear plastic bags with no external packaging, and any liquids must be stored in clear bottles with no labels. Items must be noise-free and odour-free to avoid disruption to other candidates.
- 10.8 If you have any questions regarding personalised examination provisions, please contact the UCL ORE Consortium Administrative Team via the online [query form](#).

11. Practical Examination Adjustments

- 11.1 Due to the structure of the ORE Part 2 examination, adjustments are limited and specific to each component, The following are indicative examples of potential adjustments; however, these will be considered on a case-by-case basis:

- 11.1.1 **OSCE:** A support staff member may read written instructions or questions to the candidate. Where approved, enlarged-font versions of all relevant question and instruction sheets will be provided for the candidate throughout the examination. Where approved as a reasonable adjustment, the candidate may be permitted to revisit the written station for up to five additional minutes at the conclusion of the OSCE circuit. During this period, the candidate will remain under examination conditions and may complete, review, or amend their written responses within the allocated additional time. The additional time applies only to the written station and does not permit any additional interaction with examiners, role players, or other assessment stations.
- 11.1.2 **DM:** Due to the clinical simulation nature of the DM assessment, adjustments are limited. Any adjustment that would provide an unfair advantage or represent a deviation from a standard clinical environment will not be permitted.
- 11.1.3 **DTP:** A maximum of 5 minutes additional time may be permitted for written elements where required in cases of dyslexia. Candidates will be scheduled at the end of a session where required.
- 11.1.4 **ME:** No adjustments or additional time will be permitted. It is a viva-based exam and simulating an emergency situation. Where required in cases of dyslexia, the BLS instruction sheet will be read aloud to the candidate by the examiners, and a copy will also be provided to the candidate.

12. Illness and Fitness to sit

- 12.1 Candidates are responsible for determining their own fitness to undertake the examination.
- 12.2 If a candidate feels unwell on the day of the examination, they must immediately inform the Lead Examiner or a member of the administrative team. The circumstances will be documented.
- 12.3 Candidates who have an illness or condition that they wish to make the examination team aware of on the day may do so; however, no additional adjustments or special consideration will be provided on the day of the examination.
- 12.4 If a candidate notifies the examination team on the day of an illness or a condition then the candidate will be required to confirm in writing, via the declaration form, that they are fit to continue. By choosing to continue, the candidate acknowledges that no special consideration or adjustment will be applied and that the attempt will count as one of their permitted attempts.
- 12.5 By signing the declaration, the candidate agrees that their performance will be assessed in the same way as all other candidates and that no retrospective adjustment, mitigation, or review will be considered on the basis of the disclosed condition.
- 12.6 The Lead Examiner may decide that a candidate cannot continue where there are concerns relating to health and safety, examination integrity, or the candidate's ability to complete the assessment.
- 12.7 Candidates who are aware of a condition or illness that may affect their performance must notify the UCL Consortium ORE Administrative Team in advance. Adjustments will not be made for conditions disclosed on the day of the examination.