Understanding your results profile

AUSTRALIAN DENTAL COUNCIL

How do you decide if I've passed or failed the practical examination?

Your overall practical examination result is determined using a partial compensatory test scoring model.

More detailed information about the test scoring model is available in *ADC assessment process – an overview of the ADC assessment and examinations for overseas qualified dental practitioners*. This document can be downloaded via the ADC website

The **key points** of this type of scoring model are:

1. similar stations, tasks, and skills are grouped into clusters
2. your overall result is based on your performance in each cluster
3. you must pass all seven clusters, in one attempt, to pass the practical examination.

Clinical skills day	
Cluster	Number of stations
Clinical information gathering	2
Diagnosis and management planning	2
Clinical treatment and evaluation	6
Communication	Assessed across multiple stations
Infection control	Assessed across multiple stations

Table one. *Number of stations per cluster in the clinical skills day*

Technical skills day	
Cluster	Number of tasks
Preparation based	3
Restoration based	3

Table two. *Number of tasks per cluster in the technical skills day*

How am I scored for a station or task?

- Your performance in each station or task is assessed by trained and calibrated examiners against 15 assessment critera relevant to that station or task.
- You will receive one of four possible grades for each assessment criterion: very good, satisfactory, borderline, or unsatisfactory.
- Each grade relates to a numerical score of 3, 2, 1, or 0 respectively.
- The scores for each criterion are added together to give a score between 0 and 45 for each station or task.

How does my station or task score relate to a pass or fail mark?

- The passing score for each task or station is set using borderline regression analysis.
- To pass a task or station, your score must be equal to, or exceed, the passing score for the task or station.

How do you decide if I have passed or failed a cluster?

- Your scores for each task or station within the cluster are added together to determine your **combined cluster score.**
- The pre-determined passing scores for each station or task within the cluster are added together to create a **combined passing score** for the cluster.
- To pass a cluster, your **combined cluster score** must be **equal to or greater than the combined passing score** for the cluster.
- It is your **combined cluster score** which determines whether you pass a cluster, not the number of tasks or stations you pass (see figures one and two).

CANDIDATE A

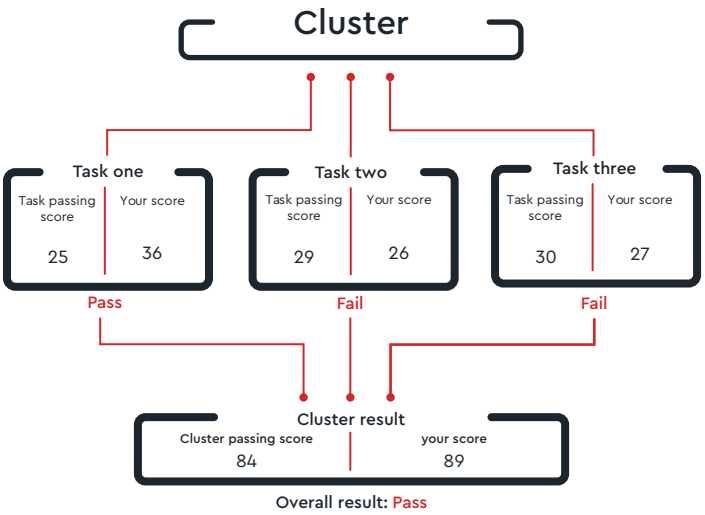

Figure one. Cluster scoring breakdown for Candidate A.

CANDIDATE B

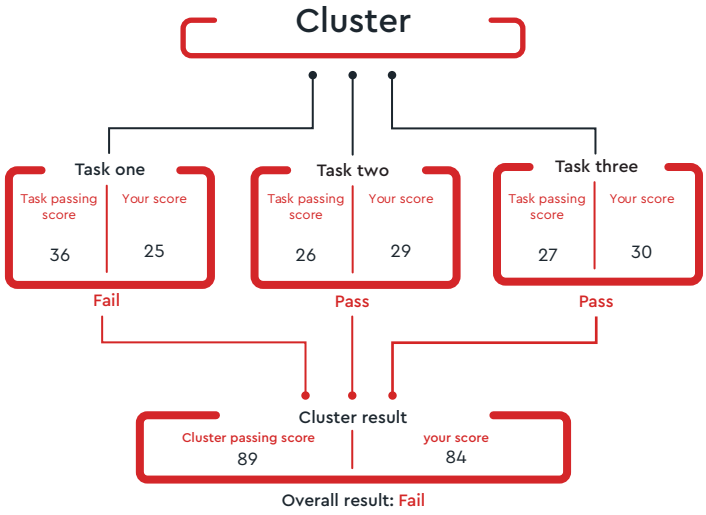

Figure two. Cluster scoring breakdown for Candidate B.

Critical errors

While a critical error may not lead to an overall failure for the cluster that is being assessed, it does lead to a 'fail' score for the task or station where the error was made as the procedure was not completed in accordance with the instructions provided.

Critical errors occur when a candidate performs either

- an incorrect procedure, or
- a correct procedure at an incorrect site.

Candidates who fail a station or a task because they have made a critical error will be able to see that reflected in their statement of results.

- **PASS**: You demonstrated the expected minimum level of competence for this task/station.
- **FAIL**: You did not demonstrate the expected minimum level of competence for this task/station.
- **FAIL – CRITICAL ERROR**: You performed either an incorrect procedure or a correct procedure at an incorrect site.

CANDIDATE C – CRITICAL ERROR

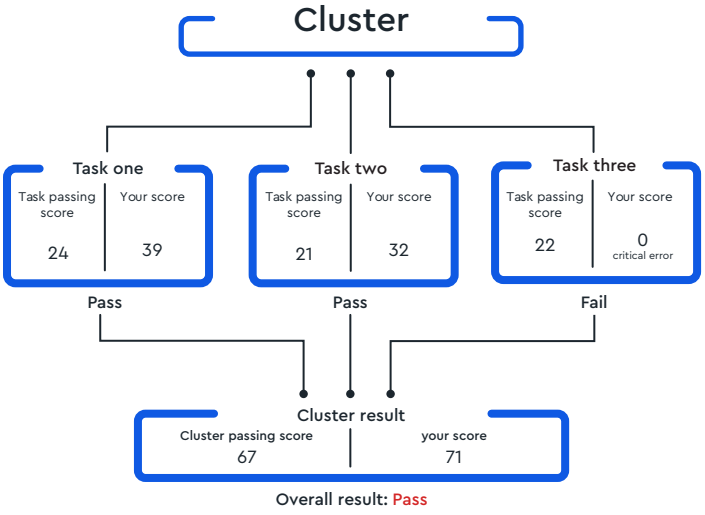

Figure three. Cluster scoring breakdown for Candidate C.

CANDIDATE D – CRITICAL ERROR

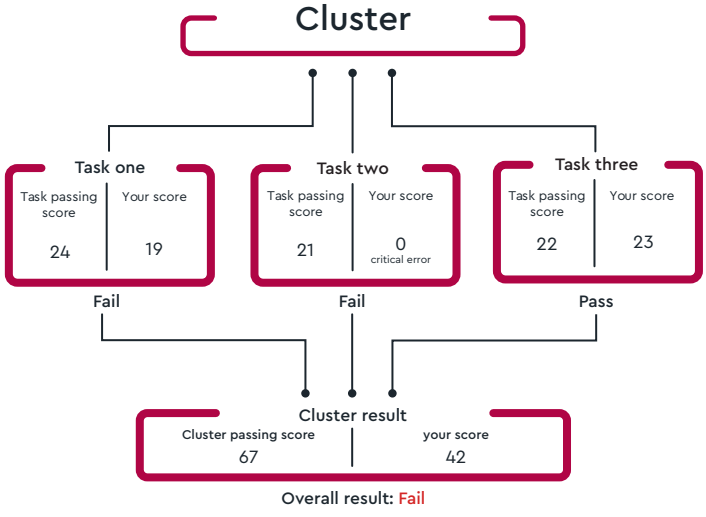

Figure four. Cluster scoring breakdown for Candidate D.

More information

If you have a question on how to read your practical examination results, in the first instance visit the FAQs page on our website adc.org.au. We also recommend you read *ADC assessment process – an overview of the ADC assessment and examinations for overseas qualified dental practitioners*, as this document provides a detailed overview of the scoring process for the practical examination.

The ADC is **unable** to provide you with the below information relating to your practical examination:

- The passing score for each station or task.
- Your task or station score, or your combined cluster score.
- Additional feedback on your performance.

Contact

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