PROGRAMME BROCHURE | INTERNATIONALLY QUALIFIED DENTAL PRACTITIONERS (DENTIST STREAM)

# OBA Dental Registration Pathway (ADC)

Bridging and exam preparation programme. 10 weeks self-directed online + 1 clinical skills week on manikins with a supervising dentist at OBA's Brisbane campus, designed around the ADC's published examination format.

**What this programme is.** Bridging here means preparing for the ADC written and practical examinations. This is a non-accredited professional development programme. It is not a Dental Board of Australia approved programme of study, it is not delivered by a registered training organisation, and it does not by itself lead to registration.

**The programme in one sentence.** Every online week maps to the ADC written exam blueprint or to a task the ADC lists for the practical exam. You learn it all online, at your own pace, from the day you enrol. Then you spend one week at our Brisbane campus doing the six ADC technical tasks and the clinical stations with a supervising dentist beside you, finishing with a full technical mock and a 10-station clinical mock marked against OBA's own criteria.

## Who it is for

- Internationally qualified dental practitioners in the general dentistry (dentist) stream who are preparing for the Australian Dental Council (ADC) examinations, the pathway to apply for registration with the Dental Board of Australia.
- Candidates who hold, or are applying for, a valid ADC initial assessment.
- Candidates who have already passed the ADC written exam can start at Stage 2.
- Dentist stream only. Not for dental hygienists, dental therapists, oral health therapists, dental prosthetists or dental assistants. At enrolment you show evidence of your dental degree and your ADC initial assessment (dentist stream) or your application for one.

*Candidates are not registered dental practitioners in Australia and must not use the title dentist or Dr in a way that suggests registration while in Australia. In Brisbane you are an ADC candidate.*

## What the ADC tests, and where we teach it

| ADC exam | Format (ADC handbooks) | Where OBA teaches it |
|---|---|---|
| **Written exam** | 280 scenario-based multiple-choice questions (240 scored) in four 2-hour sections over two days. You must pass all four clusters. | Stage 1, weeks 1 to 6 |
| **Practical: technical skills day** | Six tasks on typodont teeth in a manikin: three preparations and three restorations, from a task list given on the day. | Stage 2 week 7 (online), Stage 3 days 1 to 4 (Brisbane) |
| **Practical: clinical skills day** | A half-day, 10-station OSCE with 10 minutes per station: information gathering, diagnosis and planning, and treatment stations. | Stage 2 weeks 8 and 9 (online); manikin and written-case stations on Stage 3 day 5 (Brisbane). Patient-conversation stations are prepared online only. |

*You must pass both practical days at a single attempt; a strong day cannot make up for a weak one.*

## How the programme works

| Stage | Delivery | Length | Outcome |
|---|---|---|---|
| **1 Written exam preparation** | Self-directed online | 6 weeks | Ready for all four ADC written exam clusters |

| Stage | Delivery | Length | Outcome |
|---|---|---|---|
| **2 Practical theory + OSCE preparation** | Self-directed online | 3 weeks | Every technical task and station learned before Brisbane |
| **3 Clinical skills week** | With a dentist, Brisbane campus | 5 days | Hands-on practice, technical mock and clinical mock |
| **4 Final readiness** | Self-directed online | 1 week | Personal revision plan for the practical exam |
| **Total** | | 10 weeks + 1 week | The ADC written exam falls between Stages 1 and 2 |

## Stage 1 — ADC Written Exam Preparation

*Self-directed online, 6 weeks, 12 months' access. The weeks follow the ADC's General Dentistry written exam blueprint; the percentage is the ADC's target share of questions.*

| Week | Disciplines (ADC share) | What you learn |
|---|---|---|
| **1** | Practising in Australia; Preventive dentistry and behaviour modification (10%); Infection prevention and control (5%) | The Dental Board of Australia's codes and guidelines, consent, records and open disclosure; cultural safety, people at increased risk, family violence and intellectual disability; caries risk, fluoride, diet and motivational interviewing; ADA infection control guidelines (5th edition, 2024). |
| **2** | Restorative dentistry (14%); Endodontics (7%); Pain and anxiety management (5%) | Caries detection and when to intervene, minimal intervention, tooth wear; pulpitis diagnosis, vital pulp therapy, failed root canal treatment and referral; local anaesthesia, dental anxiety and phobia. |
| **3** | Periodontics (9%); Fixed prosthodontics (5%); Removable prosthodontics (5%); Implantology (4%) | Periodontitis staging and grading, smoking and diabetes; crown and bridge planning; partial and complete dentures; implant assessment and peri-implant disease. |
| **4** | Paediatric dentistry and orthodontics (10%); Oral medicine and pathology (7%); Radiology (10%) | Eruption, children's caries and consent, dental trauma (IADT), when to refer for orthodontics, signs of child abuse; oral lesions and dry mouth; radiograph interpretation and radiation protection (ARPANSA). |
| **5** | Oral surgery (7%); General medicine incl. medical emergencies and special needs (8%); Dental emergencies (8%); Pharmacology (10%) | Third molars, extraction complications, anticoagulants and bisphosphonates; the medically compromised patient; managing a collapse in the chair; antibiotics and analgesics under Therapeutic Guidelines: Oral and Dental (version 4, 2025). |
| **6** | Exam simulation | A full 280-question mock in four 2-hour sections, reported by cluster on the ADC's A to D scale; the ADC's own 2026 practice paper (free from adc.org.au); a revision plan for any cluster below B. |

| Included | Detail |
|---|---|
| **Question bank** | Original scenario-based questions written in the ADC format (one clinical case, five questions), with full rationales and progress tracking by discipline and by cluster. |
| **Progress exams** | Three timed 70-question sections during weeks 2 to 5, then the full mock in week 6. |
| **Study planner** | A 6-week plan built back from your ADC written exam date (March or September). |
| **Support** | Written Q&A forum answered by an OBA dentist within 2 business days. |

## Stage 2 — Practical Theory + OSCE Preparation

*Self-directed online, 3 weeks. You learn every task and station here, so the Brisbane week is spent with your hands on a manikin, not in a lecture.*

| Week | Focus | What you learn |
|---|---|---|

| Week | Focus | What you learn |
|---|---|---|
| **7** | Technical skills day | The six ADC tasks: approximal resin composite preparation, metal ceramic crown preparation, endodontic access cavity, provisional crown, and anterior and posterior resin composite restorations. For each: an interactive simulator, step checklist, the ADC's published task descriptions explained (links to adc.org.au), and the common errors that cost marks (wrong tooth, over-extension, unsupported enamel, taper, occlusal reduction, roof of the pulp chamber left). Manikin and operator positioning, reading a task list, and planning your time across the day. |
| **8** | Clinical skills stations | Infection control as the ADC marks it: attire, PPE on and off in sequence, hand hygiene technique and the five moments, clean and contaminated zones. Rubber dam placement; intra-oral radiograph positioning and technique; partial denture design; managing a medical emergency in the chair; building a patient risk profile. |
| **9** | Communication and reasoning (online) | The five criteria of the ADC communication rubric: demeanour, use of language, engagement with the patient, organisation of information and joint decision making. Taking a history; explaining a diagnosis and management plan; informed consent and referral; health promotion. 40 original practice scenarios with model answers and AI patient conversation practice, including people from at-risk groups, interpreter use and cultural safety. No simulated patients are used. |

Before Brisbane: pass the online technical theory check and complete two communication scenarios in the AI patient conversation simulator in Assessment mode.

## Stage 3 — Clinical Skills Week, Brisbane Campus

*Face to face, 5 days, 08:00–17:00, at OBA's Brisbane campus, with a registered dentist supervising every session. Manikin-mounted typodont teeth with simulated caries. Groups of 10 to 18 ADC candidates. Manikins only: no real or simulated patients, and no X-ray exposure.*

| Day | Morning | Afternoon |
|---|---|---|
| **1** | Orientation; infection control routine checked against the ADC criteria; manikin positioning. Approximal resin composite preparation: demonstration, practice, timed attempt | Posterior resin composite restoration: demonstration, practice, timed attempt; dentist feedback on each criterion |
| **2** | Anterior resin composite restoration: demonstration, practice, timed attempt | Endodontic access cavity: demonstration, practice, timed attempt |
| **3** | Metal ceramic crown preparation: demonstration, practice, timed attempt | Provisional crown: demonstration, practice, timed attempt; re-attempt of your weakest task |
| **4** | TECHNICAL MOCK (all day): an unseen task list with tooth numbers, all six tasks on the ADC timetable (two sessions and a 45-minute lunch) | Marked by a supervising dentist against OBA criteria; result by task and by preparation and restoration cluster |
| **5** | Clinical skills stations on manikins: infection control, rubber dam, intra-oral radiograph positioning on a phantom (no exposure), partial denture design, medical emergency on a CPR manikin | CLINICAL MOCK: 10 manikin and written-case stations at 10 minutes each, marked by a supervising dentist; your readiness report and exam-day briefing |

*One week suits candidates in recent clinical practice. If you have been out of practice for some time, talk to us before you enrol.*

## Stage 4 — Final Readiness

*Self-directed online, 1 week before the ADC practical exam.*

| Included | Detail |
|---|---|
| **Personal plan** | Built from your readiness report: which tasks, stations and clusters to revise, and in what order. |
| **Task revision** | Short revision notes and self-check criteria for every technical task and clinical station. |

| Included | Detail |
|---|---|
| **Communication sprint** | 20 timed 10-minute scenarios with model answers, self-scored on the five rubric criteria. |
| **Exam-day guide** | The ADC centre in Melbourne, either day may come first, ID, what you may bring (your own eyewear, fixed magnification only), using reading time, managing your time on the technical day, and reporting an incident to the convenor at the time. |
| **Access** | Until your ADC practical exam date. |

## Your journey on the ADC calendar (example)

| When | Step |
|---|---|
| **By 11/04/2027** | ADC initial assessment lodged (deadline for the September 2027 written exam) |
| **Jul–Aug 2027** | Stage 1 (6 weeks), finishing just before the exam |
| **08–09/09/2027** | ADC written exam (results usually within 6 weeks) |
| **After your written pass** | Stage 2 (3 weeks), then the Stage 3 clinical skills week in Brisbane |
| **1 week before the practical** | Stage 4, then travel to Melbourne for the ADC practical exam |

*A written exam pass is valid for 5 years, and your initial assessment for 7. ADC dates are set by the ADC and can change. Confirm every date at adc.org.au.*

## Why OBA

- **Designed around the ADC's published examination format:** the written blueprint, the six technical tasks and the clinical station types. The ADC does not endorse any preparation course.
- **Start now:** online access opens the day you enrol and pay. No waiting for an intake.
- **One focused week in Brisbane:** 5 days of hands-on practice with a supervising dentist and two mocks, instead of 2–3 weeks of lab courses before the exam.
- **Theory first, hands-on second:** the same model OBA uses for its NCLEX and OSCE programmes for nurses.
- **Results you can act on:** mock results by task and by cluster, so you know exactly what to fix before Melbourne.
- **Pay as you progress:** each stage is paid only when you are ready to start it.

## How to enrol

| | Step | What happens |
|---|---|---|
| **1** | Enquire | Email info@obana.com.au or speak to your OBA partner agent. Tell us your ADC status and exam dates. |
| **2** | Check | We check your dental degree (dentist stream) and your ADC initial assessment or application, and confirm your starting stage (Stage 1 or Stage 2). |
| **3** | Enrol | Sign the enrolment agreement and complete payment directly with OBA (fees on request). |
| **4** | Start | Your online access opens immediately. Book your Brisbane week when you are ready for Stage 3. |

**Important.** OBA Nursing Academy is not affiliated with or endorsed by the Australian Dental Council, and the ADC does not endorse any preparation course. Passing the ADC examinations is not guaranteed. ADC handbooks and marking criteria are free from adc.org.au; OBA links to them and does not reproduce them. Visitor visa holders may study for up to 3 months; ask a registered migration agent about your visa, as OBA does not give migration advice. OBA does not deliver English language tuition and does not place candidates in employment.