



Updates to the ADA DAT Scoring and Reporting June 2024

Starting March 1, 2025, the American Dental Association (ADA) will implement a new scoring model for the Dental Admission Test (DAT). Thus, the current 2-digit score reporting scale (1 to 30) will change to a 3-digit scale (200 to 600).

What's changing?

- **Scoring format:** DAT scores will change from a 2-digit score to a 3-digit score. Scores will range from 200 to 600 in 10-point increments (e.g., 200, 210, 220, ... 600).
- **Unofficial scores:** The new scoring model requires additional analyses to provide a more precise score, so beginning March 1, 2025, unofficial scores will not be available at the testing site.

What's not changing?

- The good news is there are no changes to the exam content! The test structure and examination policies will also not change.
- **ADEA AADSAS®:** Applicants will still be able to self-report both 2-digit and 3-digit scores. All official scores will continue to be sent from the ADA to ADEA AADSAS.

What is the timeline for this change?

Through Feb. 22, 2025: Test administrations will continue to use the current 2-digit scale.

Starting March 1, 2025: Tests administered on or after this date will be reported on the 3-digit scale. Candidates whose DAT applications are approved after Sept. 1, 2024 will receive testing eligibility windows that extend beyond March 1, 2025. If these candidates complete the DAT on or after March 1, 2025, their examination will be scored using the new model and their DAT scores will be reported on the new 3-digit score scale.

Why is the scoring model changing?

A more sophisticated model is being implemented, allowing greater precision and accuracy in estimating an examinee's skills. The new scoring model will provide a more accurate estimate of your skills, giving you and prospective dental schools more insight into your level of preparedness for the rigors of dental school.

Will 2-digit scores still be valid?

Yes. 2-digit and 3-digit scores will both be valid scores. The scale you are scored on will depend on when you take the DAT. If you take the exam on or before Feb. 22, 2025, you'll receive a 2-digit score. Starting March 1, 2025, you'll get the 3-digit score. The ADA will continue to report historical 2-digit scores for administration prior to March 1, 2025.

Will my 2-digit score be changed to the new scoring scale?

No. Previous test administrations and those administered through Feb. 22, 2025 will always be reported on the 2-digit scale. Similarly, the test administrations occurring on March 1, 2025 or later will always be reported on the 3-digit scale.

How can I compare 2-digit and 3-digit scores?

A Concordance Table is available as a tool for understanding comparable scores. To see how 2-digit and 3-digit test scores compare, see the sample Concordance Table below. The sample Concordance Table is provided for illustration purposes only. The official Concordance Table will be released by the ADA prior to March 1, 2025.

Will I still be able to get my score at the testing site?

No, unofficial scores will no longer be available at the testing site starting March 1, 2025. The new scoring model requires additional analyses to provide a more precise score. For score reporting timelines, [visit the ADA website](#).

How will this affect my ADEA AADSAS application?

There will be no change to your application. You will be able to self-report both 2-digit and 3-digit scores, and all official scores will be sent from the ADA to ADEA AADSAS.

The ADA grants a six-month window to take the DAT. How does this change affect that eligibility window?

Candidates' choice of when to apply will impact which scoring models will be available for use to score their examination. Once a candidate's application is approved, they will have six months to complete an administration of the DAT.

For example, a candidate whose application is approved on Sept. 1, 2024 would only have one day of testing eligibility covered by the new scoring and reporting model, March 1, 2025.

Should I take the DAT before or after the score scale change?

You should take the DAT when you feel most prepared. The exam content remains the same, only the score reporting format is changing.

Sample DAT Concordance Table
American Dental Association
March 2023

Note: This sample Concordance Table is for illustration purposes only and should not be used to evaluate candidates' DAT results. The official Concordance Table will be released by the ADA prior to March 1, 2025.

New DAT Scale Scores	Current DAT Scale Scores							
	BIO	GCH	OCH	PAT	QRT	RCT	SNS	AA
200	4	4	4	4	4	2	2	1
210	11	10	10	12	10	4	4	3
220	12	11	10	12	11	7	6	5
230	12	11	11	13	11	10	8	6
240	12	11	11	13	11	12	10	8
250	12	11	11	13	11	13	11	10
260	13	12	11	14	12	13	12	12
270	13	12	12	14	12	14	12	12
280	13	12	12	14	12	14	13	13
290	14	13	12	14	13	15	13	13
300	14	13	13	15	13	15	14	14
310	14	14	13	15	13	16	14	14
320	15	14	14	16	14	16	14	15
330	15	15	14	16	14	17	15	15
340	15	15	15	16	15	17	15	16
350	16	16	16	17	15	18	16	16
360	16	16	16	17	16	19	16	17
370	17	17	17	18	16	19	17	17
380	17	18	18	18	17	20	17	18
390	18	18	18	19	17	20	18	18
400	18	19	19	19	18	20	19	19
410	19	19	19	19	18	21	19	19
420	19	20	20	20	19	21	20	20
430	20	21	21	20	19	22	20	21
440	20	21	21	21	20	22	21	21
450	21	22	22	21	21	23	21	22
460	21	22	22	22	21	23	22	22
470	22	23	23	22	22	24	22	23
480	22	24	24	23	23	24	23	23
490	23	24	24	23	23	25	23	24
500	23	25	25	23	24	25	23	24
510	24	25	26	24	24	26	24	25
520	24	26	26	24	25	26	24	25
530	25	26	26	25	26	27	25	26
540	25	27	27	25	26	27	26	26
550	26	27	27	26	27	28	26	27
560	26	27	29	26	28	29	27	27
570	26	28	30	27	29	29	28	28
580	27	28	30	27	29	30	29	29
590	27	28	30	28	30	30	29	29
600	29	29	30	30	30	30	30	30

Concordance tables do not equate scores, but rather provide a tool for finding comparable scores. Concorded scores should be interpreted as the scores with the same approximate ranking within a group of DAT candidates who take the test at approximately the same time.