

# ORE Part 1 - 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 1.

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 knowledge and competence, without compromising the integrity of the assessment.

## 2. Scope

2.1 This policy applies to all candidates registered to sit the ORE Part 1 examination who require personalised examination provisions due to a medical condition, disability, specific learning difficulty, pregnancy or 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.

2.3 It also outlines the responsibilities of candidates with regard to fitness to sit and day-of-examination illness. This policy does not apply to ORE Part 2 or any other GDC-administered assessments unless explicitly stated elsewhere.

## 3. Time frames for Applications

3.1 Candidates must notify the UCL ORE Consortium 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 ORE Consortium Administrative Team. The granting of personalised examination provisions is not guaranteed and must remain consistent with the requirements of the assessment. The Consortium will endeavour to review applications and confirm the outcome to candidates within 5 working days of receipt of a complete application. Where additional information, consultation, or review is required, candidates will be notified and a revised timeframe provided. All complete applications will normally be determined within 15 working days.

4.4 If the UCL ORE Consortium 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.

4.5 Where an application is unsuccessful, candidates may submit a review 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 The categories outlined below are not exhaustive. The UCL ORE Consortium Administrative Team may consider other reasonable adjustments on a case-by-case basis, where supported by appropriate evidence and where such adjustments do not compromise the integrity of the assessment.

## 6. Specific Learning Difficulties:

6.1 Applications must be supported by a written statement from a suitably qualified professional (e.g. an educational psychologist) and must focus on the format of a computer-based examination.

6.2 Relevant difficulties may include issues with word reading efficiency, visual processing, visual tracking, or visual perceptual skills.

6.3 Successful applications typically result in the granting of additional time, usually 25% (i.e. 15 minutes per hour).

## 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) and must focus on a seated computer-based examination.

7.2 Successful applications may result in additional time, typically 25% (i.e. 15 minutes per hour), and/or supervised rest breaks.

7.3 Other reasonable adjustments, such as supportive equipment or furniture, may also be considered where supported by appropriate medical evidence.

7.4 Candidates requesting adjustments related to visual or physical conditions may be referred to the GDC's ORE Advisory Group to assess any potential impact on fitness to practise dentistry in the UK.

## 8. Disability:

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

8.2 Successful applications may result in additional time, typically 25% (i.e. 15 minutes per hour), rest breaks, or other reasonable adjustments appropriate to the candidate's needs.

8.3 Each application will be considered on a case-by-case basis to ensure that any adjustments are reasonable, proportionate, and maintain the integrity of the assessment.

## 9. Pregnancy:

9.1 Pregnant candidates may request seating near exits and additional supervised breaks as required.

9.2 Applications on this basis do not require supporting medical evidence; however, candidates must notify the UCL ORE Consortium Administrative Team at least 6 weeks prior to the examination to enable appropriate arrangements.

9.3 No additional time will be granted for pregnancy-related adjustments.

## 10. Diabetes and Medical Dietary Requirements:

10.1 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.

10.2 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.

10.3 Candidates with diabetes or similar conditions may bring snacks and drinks into the examination hall to maintain their energy levels. Candidates must provide their own snacks and drinks. No food or drink will be provided by the examination provider, with the exception of water.

10.4 Where a candidate requires additional examination provisions beyond access to snacks, drinks, medication, or glucose products, they must submit appropriate supporting evidence in accordance with the requirements of this policy.

10.5 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.

10.6 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.

10.7 If you have any questions regarding personalised examination provisions, please contact the UCL ORE Consortium Administrative Team via the [online query form](#).

## 11. Illness and Fitness to Sit:

11.1 Candidates are responsible for determining their own fitness to undertake the examination.

11.2 If a candidate feels unwell on the day of the examination, they must immediately inform a member of the UCL ORE Consortium Administrative Team or the Chief Invigilator. The circumstances will be documented.

11.3 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.

11.4 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.

11.5 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, mitigating circumstances claim, or outcome review will be considered on the basis of the disclosed condition.

11.6 Candidates who are aware of a condition or illness that may affect their performance must notify the UCL ORE Consortium Administrative Team in advance. Adjustments will not be made for conditions disclosed on the day of the examination.