



Dental Specialists

Pathway to Registration for Internationally Educated Professionals (IEP) in New Brunswick

Dental Specialists are regulated professionals in New Brunswick (NB). To practice, they must hold a specialists licence and be entered in the specialists register of the [New Brunswick Dental Society \(NBDS\)](#)—the regulatory authority—as outlined in [An Act Respecting The New Brunswick Dental Society](#) and the NBDS bylaws and rules.

The [Canadian Dental Regulatory Authorities Federation \(CDRAF\)](#) recognizes the following dental specialties: Dental Anesthesia, Dental Public Health, Endodontics, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Oral Medicine and Pathology, Oral & Maxillofacial Radiology, Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics, Pediatric Dentistry, Periodontics, Prosthodontics.

For work opportunities and other information, visit [NBHealthJobs.com](#) or [NBjobs.ca](#).



STEPS TO REGISTRATION

Specialists who wish to practice general dentistry must also register with NBDS as a General Dentist—please refer to this [fact sheet](#) for details.

PART 1: COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT

Step 1 - Language Proficiency: The NBDS does not require a language proficiency test for registration. However, strong working proficiency in English or French¹ is necessary to complete the certification process and to provide effective patient care. Language testing may be required for immigration purposes or for admission to academic upgrading programs.

Step 2 - Academic Credential Assessment: The minimum educational requirement to practice in New Brunswick is a postgraduate specialist degree program accredited by the [Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada \(CDAC\)](#). The CDAC has [reciprocal agreements with accreditation bodies](#) in the United States, Australia, New Zealand, and Ireland, and [individual agreements](#) with Yeditepe University (Turkey) and King Abdulaziz University (Saudi Arabia).

Graduates of non-accredited programs must complete a [Dental Specialty Assessment and Training Program \(DSATP\)](#) for internationally qualified dental specialists that has accredited by CDAC, or accredited by a body with which the CDAC has signed a reciprocity agreement. Third party entry requirements and fees will apply.

Step 3 - Examining Board Certification: After academic equivalency has been confirmed through a reciprocal agreement or through successful completion of a DSATP, candidates must pass the [National Dental Specialty Examination \(NDSE\)](#). To do so, candidates must create an [online NDSE account](#) and register for the applicable specialty exam. This 6-hour computer-based examination is offered [once per year](#) at third-party test centres in Canada and the United States. Successful Candidates receive a PDF copy of their Certification, and NBDS will access certification through the NDSE registry. Current fees can be found [here](#).

¹ English and French are the official languages of New Brunswick.

PART 2: REGISTRATION WITH THE NEW BRUNSWICK REGULATORY BODY

Step 4 – Licensure: After obtaining the NDSE certification, candidates must apply to the NBDS by completing the [online application](#), submitting the [required documentation](#), and paying the annual [dues](#).

Navigation Services: To obtain assistance through the process, connect with your health professions navigator at NBHealthJobs.com.



REGISTRATION COSTS AND TIMELINE²

Total fees to receive a Specialist Licence will vary based on the DSATP institution selected. Expect approximately \$95,000 CAD and one year to complete a program. Total costs, including the NDSE and NBDS dues, may reach \$105,000 CAD. The full process may take up to two years, depending on program length and NDSE scheduling.

Pre-arrival: You will need to complete a DSATP in Canada to begin the registration process.



WORKING IN NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA

To work legally in Canada, you must be a Canadian citizen, a permanent resident, or hold a valid work permit. For immigration assistance, visit [Immigration New Brunswick](#).



² Fee and timeline estimates are as of March 2026 and are subject to change. Individual situations may increase costs and timelines—some examples include: document translation into English or French, international couriers, travel and living related to education and exam, any professional liability insurance requirements, etc.