Schulich Dentistry conducts the 2021 Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Exam for a maximum of 50 applicants who meet all the ITD Program application/admission requirements and who have successfully completed the Continuing Dental Education 2021 PLA Preparation Course.

WHY DO WE HAVE A PLA EXAM?

The PLA Exam is one of the criteria used by the ITD Program Committee for the selection of candidates to the ITD Program.

The PLA Exam is used to assess psychomotor performance and knowledge in dental subjects at a preclinical level.

WHAT IS THE PLA EXAM?

The PLA Exam is a one-day simulation clinical assessment conducted in the Schulich Dentistry Simulation Clinic. Candidates are required to complete a set of clinical procedures associated with the preparation and restoration of permanent teeth using Kilgore mannequins. The evaluations may include, but are not limited to:

Preparation of teeth to receive any of the following restorations: Class I, III, or V. These may be restored in amalgam, composite, or glass ionomer and may happen in any teeth of the dentoform. Rubber dam isolation may also be requested.

WHEN ARE THE INTERVIEWS?

Based on the results of the simulation clinical assessment, a maximum total of 40 highest-ranked candidates from both the 2020 & 2021 PLA Exams will be selected for a 30-minute interview. The interview is intended to assess communication skills. Candidates selected for interviews will be contacted by email in mid-May for interviews that take place mid-late May. Offers for the program beginning in September 2021 will go out in June.

The ITD Program Committee utilizes the results of the NDEB Assessment of Fundamental Knowledge Exam, the PLA simulation clinical assessment, English proficiency scores, and the PLA interview, in the selection of the first year ITD class having a maximum of 20 students.

EQUIPMENT/SUPPLIES:

All necessary equipment and supplies are provided. No personal equipment or supplies are permitted in the Simulation Clinic.

NOTE: Candidates must bring their own light-curing unit.

DRESS

- Comfortable, casual clothing is recommended; footwear must be fully enclosed. Sandals, open-toed shoes, ballet-style shoes are not permitted.
- Lab coats may be worn but are not required.
- Personal headlamps may be utilized.
- Visual magnification loupes are permitted, but not supplied.
- Candidates must bring and wear safety glasses while operating in the Simulation Clinic.
- Please limit the number of personal items brought to the assessment as storage space is minimal; cell phones and any other electronic aids/devices must not be used in the Simulation Clinic.