



Distinguishing Features Between Assessment-Based Certificate Program (Education) and Professional Certification

The table below provides an overview of the distinguishing features between the Dental Infection Prevention and Control Certificate Program™ vs the two professional certifications: Dental Industry Specialist in Infection Prevention and Control™ (DISIPC™) Certification or Certified in Infection Prevention and Control® (CDIPC®) Certification.

Feature	OSAP-DALE Foundation Certificate Program	DISIPC or CDIPC Certification Programs
Program purpose	Provides instructional training	Assess knowledge, skills or competencies previously acquired
Participant goal	Goal is for participants to acquire specific knowledge, skills or competencies	Goal is to validate the participant's competence, earned via meeting one of a number of eligibility pathways, through a psychometrically sound, legally defensible, secure, proctored assessment
Assessment purpose	Assessment is used to evaluate mastery of the intended learning objectives or learning outcomes, linked directly to the course's (in this case, the eHandbook's) learning objectives	Assessment results measure baseline competencies and differentiate professionals independent of attendance at a specific learning event
Assessment scope	Assessment scope is relatively narrow (limited to the content addressed by the learning objectives) and assessment is low stakes (not secure or proctored; no independent proof that the learner is the one who completed the assessment)	Assessment content is broader in scope and linked to results of a formal job analysis/content validation study and is high stakes (secure, proctored test administration, with independent verification that the individual who met the certification exam eligibility requirements is the one who took the exam)
What participant earns upon successful completion	CERTIFICATE is awarded for completing the program and mastering the specific learning objectives or outcomes; no acronym is awarded; renewal of certificate may not be required	CERTIFICATE and CERTIFICATION MARK (acronym) are awarded to those who meet DISIPC or CDIPC exam eligibility requirements and pass the DISIPC or CDIPC exam
What participants may call themselves	Individual who successfully completes the OSAP-DALE Foundation Certificate Program is called a "certificate holder"	Individual who passes the DISIPC or CDIPC certification exam and maintains certification by meeting DISIPC and CDIPC Recertification Requirements is called a "Certificant." Individuals are authorized by OSAP and DANB to use the certification mark after their name as long as all Recertification Requirements continue to be met. Examples: Sue Smith, DISIPC, is certified as an OSAP-DANB certificant. John Washington, CDIPC, is certified as an OSAP-DANB certificant. Abraham Lorenzo, DISIPC, CDIPC, is certified as an OSAP-DANB certificant.