Pre-Dental Preparation

Dentistry is a highly competitive four-year graduate program. Students should maintain a grade point average near 3.50/4.00, acquire leadership skills and exposure to the world of dentistry, and score an 18 or higher on the Dental Admission Test (DAT). Three letters of recommendation are required, typically 2 from the sciences and 1 letter of the student are choosing. Typically, the DAT is taken during the Spring Semester of the junior year, and application through a centralized application service Associated American Dental Schools Application Services (AADSAS) is submitted in June between the junior and senior years. Dental schools are seeking individuals who are well rounded in their educational background. In selecting a major, identify one that will prepare you best for dental practice or a backup plan. Aerospace Physiology, Biomedical Engineering, Human Factors Psychology with a business, biomedical, or chemistry minor are a few programs of studies to consider. Below are the requirements to be considered for Dentistry School admission.

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<th>General Requirements</th>
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<td>Coursework in humanities and social sciences (especially psychology and sociology) are also required. Check with your destination school as they vary.</td>
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### English
- COM 122 English Composition
- COM 219 Speech Communication

### Biology
- BIO 120/L Foundations of Biology I w/Lab
- BIO 121/L Foundations of Biology II w/Lab
- BIO 305/L Human Anatomy & Phys. I w/Lab
- *BIO 306/L Human Anatomy & Phys. II w/Lab

### Chemistry
- CHM 110/L General Chem. I w/Lab
- CHM 111/L General Chem. II w/Lab
- CHM 210/L Organic Chem. I w/Lab
- CHM 211/L Organic Chem. II w/Lab
- CHM 310/L *Biochemistry w/Lab

### Physics
- PS 103/L Technical Physics I / with Lab
- PS 104/L Technical Physics II/ with Lab

### Math**
- MA 220 Quantitative Methods II (calculus)
- MA 222 or Business Statistics or
- PSY 312/L Research Analysis in Psychology and Laboratory

*recommended

**Note: not all Dentistry programs require calculus – check entry requirements at your destination schools.

WHAT MAKES YOU UNIQUE FROM OTHER APPLICANTS?

**Healthcare Experience**
- Volunteer or work in hospitals, clinics, nursing-homes, assisted living centers, crisis nursery, and rehab centers is beneficial.
- Shadow a specialist.

**Leadership Experience**
Dentists are leaders in their communities and demonstrated leadership skills are a must. Campus, church, and community organizations provide excellent leadership opportunities.
RESOURCES:
American Dental Education Association www.adea.org; American Dental Association www.ada.org/en; DAT (Dental Admissions Test) www.ada.org/dat.aspx