

# Dentistry

<p><b>Nature of the Work</b></p>	<p>For descriptions of this profession see:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="http://www.GoDental.org">www.GoDental.org</a></li> <li>• <a href="http://www.explorehealthcareers.org">www.explorehealthcareers.org</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Course Requirements</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 year general biology</li> <li>• 1 year general chemistry</li> <li>• 1 year organic chemistry</li> <li>• 1 year general physics</li> <li>• Some schools may also require upper level courses in biology, anatomy and physiology, microbiology, biochemistry, English, math and/or social sciences (check the <i>ADEA Official Guide to Dental Schools</i>; <a href="http://www.adea.org">www.adea.org</a>)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Application Timeline</b></p>	<p><b>No Gap Year:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General biology, general chemistry, and organic chemistry completed by end of junior year</li> <li>• Apply during summer after junior year</li> </ul> <p><b>Gap Year:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prerequisite courses completed by end of senior year</li> <li>• Apply summer after senior year</li> </ul>
<p><b>Standardized Test</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dental Admission Test (DAT)</li> <li>• Take after general biology, general chemistry, and organic chemistry are completed</li> <li>• Website: <a href="http://www.ada.org">www.ada.org</a></li> <li>• Given virtually daily</li> <li>• Register on-line</li> <li>• Length ~ 5 h</li> <li>• 4 sections : Survey of Natural Sciences (General Biology, General Chemistry, Organic Chemistry), Perceptual Ability, Reading Comprehension, Quantitative Reasoning</li> <li>• Receive scores immediately</li> <li>• Scores (Scale 1-30):             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Biology</li> <li>– General Chemistry</li> <li>– Organic Chemistry</li> <li>– Quantitative Reasoning</li> <li>– Reading Comprehension</li> <li>– Perceptual Ability</li> <li>– Total Science (standard score based on Biology, General Chemistry, and Organic Chemistry)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Academic Average (average of Biology, General Chemistry, Organic</li> </ul>

	<p>Chemistry, Quantitative Reasoning, and Reading Comprehension)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ADA Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– DAT Guide</li> <li>– Practice test (fee)</li> <li>– DAT online tutorial</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Application Service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• American Association of Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS) (<a href="http://www.adea.org">www.adea.org</a>)</li> <li>• Available ~ June 1</li> <li>• APPLY EARLY!!!</li> </ul>
<b>Admissions Criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overall and science GPA (check <i>ADEA Official Guide</i> for #'s)</li> <li>• DAT (check <i>ADEA Official Guide</i> for #'s)</li> <li>• Letters of evaluation (committee letter and often a letter from a dentist)</li> <li>• Interview</li> <li>• Extracurricular activities</li> <li>• Dentistry-related experience</li> </ul>
<b>Length of Program</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dental school: 4 years</li> <li>• Specialties require additional education after dental school</li> </ul>
<b>Degree</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)</li> <li>• Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD)</li> <li>• (The two degrees are entirely equivalent.)</li> </ul>
<b>Additional Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• American Dental Association (<a href="http://www.ada.org">www.ada.org</a>)</li> <li>• American Dental Education Association (<a href="http://www.adea.org">www.adea.org</a>)</li> <li>• American Student Dental Association (ASDA) (<a href="http://www.asdanet.org">www.asdanet.org</a>)</li> <li>• Summer Medical and Dental Education Program (SMDEP; <a href="http://www.smdep.org">www.smdep.org</a>)</li> <li>• Student Doctor Network (<a href="http://www.studentdoctor.net">www.studentdoctor.net</a>)</li> </ul>
<b>Notes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Health Professions Committee interviews students during the spring semester to facilitate writing committee letter of evaluation (if you are studying abroad in the spring and applying to medical school the following summer, contact Kristi Waybright to schedule your interview in the fall)</li> <li>• Students should pick up a packet of information about the Health Professions Committee process from the Health Professions Advisor or the Health Professions Administrative Assistant</li> </ul>

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