

Dentistry

Advising Sheet

Dentistry is a branch of medicine that is dedicated to helping patients enhance and maintain their oral health. Dentists diagnose, treat, and help prevent diseases, injuries, and malformations of the teeth and gum. Graduates of dental school may hold either a Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) degree, or a Doctor of Medical Dentistry (D.M.D.) degree –both equally recognized.

Dental programs are four-years long, with the first two years spent learning basic sciences, and last two years diagnosing oral disease, surgery, and clinical study; additionally, in the last year, students usually must complete a dental rotation externship. Beyond general dentistry, there are specialized postgraduate programs, such as orthodontics and pediatric dentistry, which can take two to six more years to complete. Some dental schools also offer joint degree programs that can include the study of Dental Medicine with a dual degree in JD, MPH, or MBA.

Common Pre-Dental Prerequisite Courses

Course	CSUF Course	Notes
Biology	BIOL 151^ & BIOL 152^	^Both courses meet GE biological sciences requirements
Chemistry	CHEM 120 A*^ & CHEM 120B	* Must take CHEM 115 or pass Chem placements exam ^ Meets GE physical science requirements
Organic Chemistry	CHEM 301A + 306A^ (lab), 301B	^CHEM 301A and 306A must be taken together
Biochemistry	CHEM 421 OR 423A	Labs are not typically required. If required CHEM 422 meets lab requirements
Physics	PHYS 211* + 211L^, 212 + 212L^	*MATH 115/125 and 130 prerequisites for PHYS 211 ^Physics labs must be taken with respective lecture
Mathematics	Calculus: MATH 130 OR 150A Statistics*: MATH 120 OR 338	Most major specific statistics courses will meet this requirement (ie. PUBH 349, KNES 349, SOCI 303, etc.)
English	ENGL 101 AND 301	One year required. Included in GE and graduation requirements
3-Dimensional Art	ART 104	Required by some programs but not all
Humanities/Social Sciences	PSYC 101 AND SOCI 101	Meets social science GE units

Suggested Courses

Anatomy w/lab	BIOL 361* OR BIOL 191A***^ AND 191B	Required by some programs but not all *BIOL 361 prerequisites: CHEM 120B, BIOL 251 **BIOL 191A prerequisites: 3.0 GPA, 30 units ^BIOL 191A and 191B are the same as KNES 191A and 191B
Physiology w/lab	BIOL 362* OR BIOL 310** and 310L ORBIOL 191A***^ AND 191B	Required by some programs but not all *BIOL 362 prerequisites: CHEM 120B, BIOL 251 **BIOL 310 prerequisites: BIOL 151 or 152; must be taken with 310L ***BIOL 191A prerequisites: 3.0 GPA, 30 units ^BIOL 191A and 191B are the same as KNES 191A and 191B
Molecular Biology Microbiology	BIOL 309* BIOL 302 AND 302L*	Required by some programs but not all * Prerequisites: BIOL 251 and CHEM 120B.

Specialties:

General Dentistry
Dental Public Health
Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
Endodontics

Orthodontics
Dentofacial Orthopedics
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
Oral Maxillofacial Radiology

The Road to Dental School...

This process will include:

- Researching Dentistry and dental schools
- Meeting with a Pre-Health advisor
- Completing prerequisite courses
- Engaging in extracurricular activities
- Shadowing a dentist.

1. Take the Dental Admission Test (DAT)

The DAT is administered by the American Dental Association and you should contact them regarding the times that the test is offered and the locations.

2. Submit an application to the ADEA Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS).

AADSAS collects, verifies and processes or delivers your application information to each of the schools you have chosen to apply to. Individuals should check with each school they are interested in to find out the deadline date for the application. Deadline dates vary by school.

Note: Applicants who are Texas residents wishing to apply to dental schools in Texas will use the Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service (TMDSAS).

3. Submit additional materials requested by each dental school.

There are a number of schools that seek additional information from applicants in the form of a secondary application. This is in addition to the ADEA AADSAS application and is sent directly to the school

4. Participate in interviews.

The majority of dental schools require an interview be considered for entrance into a class. The process and timing will vary by school and can be in the form of one-on-one, group or multiple mini interviews. Please contact the HPAO at CSUF and the Career Center on campus for a practice mock interview.

Intent to Apply

The HPAO at CSUF offers this service to all dental applicants each cycle. This service helps the student obtain a committee letter from the Health Professions Committee on campus and forms the student's committee packet for professional dental schools. The HPAO will also upload the committee packet to AADSAS and assist you on filling out your application. The Intent to Apply cycle open November prior to your intended application cycle. Please contact the HPAO for more information.

Resources:

On Campus: CSUF Pre-Dental Society, SHPA

CSUF Career Center- <http://www.fullerton.edu/career/>

Off Campus: American Dental Education Association- <http://www.adea.org/>

American Student Dental Association- <https://www.asdanet.org/>

Dental Admissions Test- <http://www.ada.org/en/education-careers/dental-admission-test/>

ADEA Official Guides to Dental Schools- <http://www.adea.org/officialguide/>

Student National Dental Association- <http://www.sndanet.org/>

International Dental Association Volunteer Organizations-

<http://www.ada.org/en/member-center/international-activities/international-global-organizations>

American Dental Association- <http://www.ada.org/en/>



Your best resource on campus!

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