

Pre-Dentistry Students

Dentists are highly specialized health care professionals who provide a wide range of oral health care that contributes to the general health and quality of their patient's lives. Upon completion of dental school, students are awarded with a DMD (Doctor of Dental Medicine) or DDS (Doctor of Dental Surgery) degree.

Superior academic work and strong scores on the Dental Admissions Test (DAT) are important components to a successful dental school application. Volunteer or paid experience with a dentist is essential in your preparation for dental school. This experience will provide you with the prospective of a dental professional, valuable insight into your decision on whether dentistry is the right career for you, and the opportunity to receive a letter of recommendation from a dental professional.

Application Process: Students interested in dentistry should complete the DAT in the fall of their junior year. The Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS) is used for the initial application process and should be completed in the summer following junior year. Early application is strongly advised. Prior to the application process, students should research the required prerequisite coursework, residential restrictions, application requirements, and deadlines for each school of interest.

	Prerequisite Coursework	Drake Course														
FR	Biological Sciences	BIO 012: General/Pre-Professional Biology I and Lab (Fall) BIO 013: General/Pre-Professional Biology II and Lab (Spring)														
	Inorganic Chemistry	CHEM 001/003: General Chemistry I and Lab (Fall) CHEM 002/004: General Chemistry II and Lab (Spring)														
	Composition	First Year Seminar (Fall) Written Communication AOI (Fall, Spring)														
FR or SO	Mathematics	MATH 050: Calculus I (Fall, Spring)														
SO	Organic Chemistry	CHEM 097/098: Organic Chemistry I and Lab (Fall) CHEM 108/110: Organic Chemistry II and Lab (Spring)														
SO or JR	Physics	PHY 011: Physics I and Lab (Fall) PHY 012: Physics II and Lab (Spring)														
JR or SR	Recommended Courses (mostly General Elective & Professional Elective)	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>HSCI 125: Physiology & Lab (S)</td> <td>BIO 105: Intro to Genetics (F, S, Su)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HSCI 140: Patient Assessment (F)</td> <td>BIO 165: Cell Biology (F)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HSCI 141: Anatomy & Lab (F)</td> <td>BIO 182: Immunology (F)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HSCI 163: Fundamentals of Pharmacology (F)</td> <td>BIO 186: Molecular Biology (S)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PHAR 130: Biochemistry (F)</td> <td>STAT 060: Stat for Life Sciences (F, S)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PHAR 132: Pathophysiology (S)</td> <td>Social Sciences/Psychology</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BIO 095: Microbiology (S)</td> <td>Business Electives</td> </tr> </table>	HSCI 125: Physiology & Lab (S)	BIO 105: Intro to Genetics (F, S, Su)	HSCI 140: Patient Assessment (F)	BIO 165: Cell Biology (F)	HSCI 141: Anatomy & Lab (F)	BIO 182: Immunology (F)	HSCI 163: Fundamentals of Pharmacology (F)	BIO 186: Molecular Biology (S)	PHAR 130: Biochemistry (F)	STAT 060: Stat for Life Sciences (F, S)	PHAR 132: Pathophysiology (S)	Social Sciences/Psychology	BIO 095: Microbiology (S)	Business Electives
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ADDITIONAL DENTAL SCHOOL RESOURCES

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

Dental Admission Test – <http://www.ada.org/dat.aspx>

AADSAS – <http://www.portal.aadsasweb.org>

Dental Assistants Trainee Program - <http://www.state.ia.us/dentalboard/>