

PREDENTAL INFORMATION SUMMARY

PreProfessional Advising Information

Email: ppa@advising.utah.edu (For Quick Questions)

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Website: ppa.utah.edu

Instagram: [@uofuppa](https://www.instagram.com/uofuppa)



Make an appt!

Dental School Basics

Dental School

- Year 1-2: Didactic Years (Class Instruction)
- Year 3-4: Clinical Study & Practice Management

Residency (optional)

- Pursue one of nine dental specialties

Degree Conferred:

DDS (doctor of dental surgery) or
DMD (doctor of dental medicine)



Get involved in activities (in-and outside the classroom) to help you develop knowledge, skills, and experiences to be a competitive applicant to dental school.

Academic Preparation

Ensure you're academically prepared for the intensity of dental school

- Complete a bachelor's degree and prerequisites
- Competitive applicants have high GPAs, so build and strengthen your time management skills
- Any major is appropriate; make sure to pick the right fit for you, and study what you love!

Dentist Shadowing & Dental Experience

Dental experience is critical to your success as a pre dental student. Observing multiple dentists will help you commit to the profession while learning various specialties. Don't wait! Start shadowing now!

Competitive Applicants Complete:

- 200 hours of shadowing and dental experience combined
- 40 of the 200 should be shadowing; recommended 4 dentists for 10 hours each
- Balance shadowing general and specialty dentists

Most students gain this dental experience by shadowing a general dentist for more than a semester. Consider taking KINES 3080 & 3081: Dental School Prep & Lab, as well as KINES 4080: Dental Observation to structure your experience and earn course credit.

Demonstrate your

knowledge, skills and preparation

Leadership & Teamwork

Dentists are both leaders and team members with patients, colleagues, etc.

Demonstrate your leadership skills by participating in a variety of experiences leading different people in different situations. *No specific hours or number of activities required.*

(Eg: coach, teacher, tutor, mentor, TA/LA, supervisor, officer role in a club, student advisory board, and many more.)

Research

More and more dental schools recommend students have research experience to demonstrate understanding that dentists must stay current on the latest in dental advancements!

Competitive Applicants Complete:

- Participate in hypothesis-based research, under the supervision of faculty/researcher

Office of Undergraduate Research:
our.utah.edu

Service to the Community

Demonstrate a commitment to humanity by selflessly serving others.

Interacting with people from different backgrounds and experiences than your own will strengthen your interpersonal and communication skills. *No specific hours or number of activities required.*

Bennion Center
bennioncenter.utah.edu

APPLICATION PROCESS AND INFORMATION

PPA is here to help!

Preparing for dental school can be complex and nuanced. But you don't have to do it alone! PPA offers a variety of services to aid you during this time. From application workshops, to application and personal statement reviews, we want to help you with this process. Meet with a PPA advisor at least once a semester to help guide you along the way.

Start Saving NOW!

Applying to dental school is very expensive. The application fee for AADSAS is over \$260, which includes applying to one school; each additional school is \$115. **These fees will increase each year.** Supplemental applications carry their own fees, commonly ranging between \$50-\$100 each. Factoring in application fees, DAT registration and prep, the cost of traveling for in-person interviews, and more, we recommend students to prepare to spend about \$5,000 for the application process. AADSAS offers a limited number of fee waivers through their Fee Assistance Program for those who qualify.

APPLICATION DETAILS

Dental programs admit students once a year, for fall only. Plan on taking the DAT and submitting your application at least 12 months in advance of the year for which you are applying.

Do your research!

It is your responsibility to ensure you are meeting all requirements for the schools you are interested in. When selecting dental programs, we recommend that you look at schools that align with your interests: location, size, student/faculty ratio, representation, etc. You can search for dental schools on the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) website.

AADSAS (Associated American Dental Schools Application)

There are 70 accredited dental schools in the US, and all of them utilize AADSAS, which is available at aadsas.liaisoncas.com. For additional resources, visit Go Dental (adea.org/godental)

- Application requirements include transcripts, extracurricular experiences, personal statement, and fees
- Many schools use a rolling admissions process (meaning they begin reviewing applications and admitting before the deadlines). It will benefit you greatly to **submit your application early**, regardless of when you take the DAT.
- The application will take most students several weeks to complete. Ensure you have plenty of time to fill out the application.

DAT

Some programs require the Dental Admissions Test (DAT). The DAT is administered throughout the year, and taking the exam by the spring of the year before you wish to enter dental school will enable you to apply earlier. The exam may be repeated and taken a maximum of three times. It is always best to prepare thoroughly and take the DAT once. It has four sections: Natural Sciences, Reading Comprehension, Quantitative Reasoning, and Perceptual Ability. Additional information, including registration, can be found at adea.org.

COST and PREP: The exam costs over \$500. There are a variety of ways to prep for taking the DAT. You can purchase a test prep book, utilize free resources online, or purchase a study course.

APPLICATION TIMELINE

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	
Register & Study				Take the DAT												
Request & Get LORs																
Prep Application																
				Submit App.		UUSOD's deadline is October 1										
					Supplemental											
								Interviews								
		Ideal												Acceptance Notifications		
		Possible														

POLICIES and CONSIDERATIONS

AP/IB CREDIT	Depends on program. Check each school's requirements
COMMUNITY COLLEGE COURSES	Many schools limit credits taken at community colleges to 60 credits. Check each program's reqs.
REPEATS	All grades will be counted in your AADSAS calculated GPA
WITHDRAWALS	Although W's will not affect your GPA, W's should be used sparingly. Work with your advisor.
GPA	<p>Minimum requirements for <u>total GPA</u> is 3.0, but this varies by program. However, competitive applicants usually have a <u>total GPA</u> of 3.6 or higher. Some programs may also look separately at prerequisite or science GPA.</p> <p>UUSOD: No minimum GPA. Average GPA for accepted applicants is 3.74 total, 3.66 science</p> <p>Roseman: Minimum science GPA: 3.0 in last 30 science credits, average total GPA 3.4</p>

Letters of Recommendation (LORs)

PLAN AHEAD: Dental schools require LORs as part of your application. Get to know the people you interact with (professors, supervisors, etc.) You're not looking for good letters; you need excellent letters. Get these by building and maintaining your relationships. Letters must be current, signed, dated, and on letterhead. To facilitate this process, most students should use the free AADSAS Letter Service.

LETTER TYPES: AADSAS allows students to submit a maximum of four letters. The following are common types of letters required by most dental programs. However, requirements vary by program, so *do your research*.

- Science Professor
- 2nd Professor letter (science or non-science)
- Dentist
- Dentist/Supervisor

Helpful Resources

- Go Dental: (adea.org/godental)
- University of Utah School of Dentistry: dentistry.utah.edu
- Roseman University of Health Sciences College of Dental Medicine: roseman.edu

PreDental Prerequisite Course Guide

Requirements vary by school. It is your responsibility to do your own research on each dental school you wish to apply to. AP coursework may or not be accepted. If accepted, coursework beyond AP is often required.

Shaded boxes indicate the classes most commonly required by dental schools.

Bolded classes may be taken at a community college. However, not all dental schools will accept community college prereqs.

MATH		
MATH 1050 (4) College Algebra	MATH 1060 (3) Trigonometry	<i>NOTE: MATH 1050/60 can be substituted with higher math</i>

Please note: Consult both your major and PPA advisors to determine appropriate placement and course selection.

BIOLOGY				
BIOL 1610 (4) Fundamentals of Biology I PreReq: MATH 1010	BIOL 2325 (4) Human Anatomy PreReq: BIOL 1610	BIOL 2420 (4) Human Physiology PreReq: BIOL 1610 and CHEM 1210	BIOL 2020 (3) Cellular Biology PreReq for 2020: BIOL 1610 and CHEM 1210	BIOL 3210 (3) * BIOL 3205 (1) Microbiology and Lab PreReq: CHEM 1210 and BIOL 2020
			OR	OR
			BIOL 1620 (3) Fundamentals of Biology II	PATH 3100 (3) * Medical Microbiology

- Most dental schools require two biology labs. BIOL 2325 (Human Anatomy) or BIOL 2425 (Human Physiology lab) can count for one lab at most schools. The second lab can be fulfilled by any other biology lab.
- *One microbiology course is **required by UUSOD** & some other dental programs. The microbiology lab may or may not be required and can be taken with either BIOL 3210 or PATH 3100.

CHEMISTRY				
CHEM 1210 (4) CHEM 1215 (1) General Chemistry I and Lab PreReq: MATH 1050	CHEM 1220 (4) CHEM 1225 (1) General Chemistry II and Lab PreReq: CHEM 1210	CHEM 2310 (4) CHEM 2315 (2) Organic Chemistry I and Lab PreReq: CHEM 1220	CHEM 2320 (4) CHEM 2325 (2) Organic Chemistry II and Lab PreReq: CHEM 2310	CHEM/BIOL 3510 (3) Biochemistry PreReq: CHEM 2310 Recommended: CHEM 2320 and BIOL 2020
Optional Chemistry Prep Courses			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CHEM 1208 (1): Intro to Periodic Table • CHEM 2308 (1): Intro to Organic Chem 	

PHYSICS				
PHYS 2010 (4) PHYS 2015 (1) General Physics 1 and Lab PreReq: MATH 1060	PHYS 2020 (4) PHYS 2025 (1) General Physics 2 and Lab PreReq: PHYS 2010	OR	PHYS 2210 (4) PHYS 2215 (1) Physics for Scientists & Engineers 1 and Lab PreReq: MATH 1210	PHYS 2220 (4) PHYS 2225 (1) Physics for Scientists & Engineers 2 and Lab PreReq: MATH 1220, PHYS 2210

Please note: Consult both your major advisor and a PPA advisor for the correct lecture and lab sequence.

NON-SCIENCE REQUIREMENTS	
WRTG 2010 (3) Intermediate Writing PreReq: WRTG 1010	Any CW Course offered through ENGL or WRTG PreReq: WRTG 2010

OPTIONAL SUGGESTED COURSES	
KINES 3080 (3) KINES 3081 (1) Dental School Prep and Lab PreReq: BIOL 1610	KINES 4080 (3) Dental Observation PreReq: KINES 3080