Did you know?

- Dentists are trained initially to be generalists; to specialize on endodontics, pathology, radiology, pediatric dentistry, surgery, and prosthodontics, dentists spend 2-3 more years in residency after dental school.

- A general dental education typically takes 4 years to complete. Total tuition and expenses range from $200,000 to $400,000.

- Some dental programs lead to a DDS degree, and others lead to a DMD. Despite their different names, these are equivalent degrees.

- There are 66 dental schools in the United States and Puerto Rico.

Dental School Application Preparation

- Completing the prerequisite courses is just one aspect of the process. Applicants must also have a well-rounded application consisting of experience (shadowing, volunteer work, undergraduate research, life experience, etc.), letters of recommendation, DAT scores, and a strong admissions essay.

- Dental schools look for students who chose meaningful experiences that they are able to reflect upon during the application process.

- The Dental Admission Test (DAT) covers four areas: natural sciences, quantitative reasoning, reading comprehension, and perceptual ability.

- Applying to dental school is a year-long process. Students applying in their final year at UO will have a gap year before starting dental school. Students can work, take courses, travel, etc. during the year. Keep in mind, the average age of a first-year dental student is 24.

- Be sure to research individual programs about any COVID-19 related changes (prerequisites and DAT exceptions, Pass/Fail Policy, etc).

Online Resources

Health Professions Program Website: healthprofessions.uoregon.edu
American Dental Education Association: adea.org
ADEA GoDental: adea.org/GoDental/
American Association of Dental Schools Application Service: aadsas.liaisoncas.com
Exploring Health Careers: explorehealthcareers.org

Campus Resources

- Student Clubs & Organizations
- Center for Undergraduate Research and Engagement
- Tykeson College and Career Advising
- Duck Nest
- Global Education Oregon
- Tutoring & Academic Engagement Center
- Holden Center
- HPP workshops
- University Career Center

Advising

Schedule an appointment with an HPP advisor online or call 541-346-9200
Or visit us in Tykeson Hall, 2nd floor, health@uoregon.edu
Sample 4-Year Plan

The chart below illustrates one way dental school prerequisites\textsuperscript{1} can fit into a 4-year plan. Keep in mind that a good graduation plan is as unique as the student following it. Math placement, major, transfer credits, application timeline, and other factors will help shape your own decisions, and health professions advisors are here to help along the way!

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<th>First Year</th>
<th>Second Year</th>
<th>Third Year</th>
<th>Fourth Year</th>
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\textsuperscript{1} Prerequisites vary by school. Research specific schools that interest you to be sure you meet any additional requirements.

\textsuperscript{ii} These courses are prerequisites for UO’s Anatomy & Physiology sequence. They are not typically prerequisites for dental school.

\textsuperscript{iii} Required for OHSU School of Dentistry.

\textsuperscript{iii} Helpful preparation for biochemistry (CH 360) and the DAT.