

DENTISTRY

pre-professional program

Students interested in earning either a Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) or a Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) degree after completing a bachelor's degree at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford may choose to major in any academic discipline. Most students currently attending dental schools majored in biology, with chemistry and psychology being the next most common majors.

Required Skills:

Manual Dexterity
 Visual Memory
 Business Sense
 Self-Discipline
 Communication (Oral & Written)
 Leadership
 Empathy

Possible Employers:

General Practitioners
 Orthodontists
 Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
 Pediatric Dentists
 Periodontitis
 Oral Pathologists
 Dental Public Health Specialists



Dentistry is the branch of medicine that is involved in the evaluation, diagnosis, prevention, and surgical or non-surgical treatment of diseases, disorders and conditions of the oral cavity, maxillofacial area and the adjacent and associated structures and their impact on the human body. Dentistry is widely considered necessary for complete overall health.

Those who practice dentistry are known as dentists. The dentist's supporting team aides in providing oral health services, which includes dental assistants, dental hygienists, dental technicians, and dental therapists.

Student considering a career in Dental Medicine should know that dental school usually lasts four academic years (done after completing an undergraduate degree). Studies begin with classroom instruction and laboratory work in science, including anatomy, microbiology, biochemistry, and physiology. Beginning courses in clinical sciences, including laboratory techniques, are also completed. During the last 2 years of dental school, students treat patients, usually in dental clinics, under the supervision of licensed Dentists. Most dental schools award the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS). Others award an equivalent degree, Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD).

Licensure is required to practice as a Dentist. In most States, licensure requires passing written and practical examinations in addition to having a degree from an accredited dental school. Candidates may fulfill the written part of the State licensing requirements by passing the National Board Dental Examinations. Individual States or regional testing agencies administer the written or practical examinations.

Pitt-Bradford offers students two options in preparation for Dental Medicine. First of all, there is an agreement with the University of Pittsburgh-Oakland's School of Dental Medicine. Students can earn at least 90 credits at Pitt-Bradford and then after meeting all of the requirements can apply for admission to the University of Pittsburgh's School of Dental Medicine. The other option to pursuing a career in dentistry at Pitt-Bradford is to earn a four-year degree in one of the 40 majors offered at Pitt-Bradford, complete the pre-dentistry requirements outlined in the catalog, and then apply to dental school.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

American Dental Association	www.ada.org
Academy of General Dentistry	www.agd.org
World Federation of Orthodontists	www.wfo.org
American Association for Dental Research	www.aadronline.org

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT CAREERS IN DENTISTRY AT:

Dentist Career Information: Dentist Salary	www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZbKzFhPbsg
Occupational Outlook Handbook	www.bls.gov/oco/ocos072.htm
Career Services	www.upb.pitt.edu/career.aspx



Pre-Dental Medicine – Curriculum Guide

Student Name:

Advisor:

Note: Students can identify their career goals by choosing the Pre-Dental Medicine advising track, but they still must choose an official Pitt-Bradford major. Pre-Dental Medicine is not an official major. Most Pre-Dental Medicine students choose to major in Biology.

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PRE- PRE-DENTAL MEDICINE PRE-REQUISITES

- BIOL 0101 Introduction to Cell and Molecular Biology (4)
- BIOL 0102 Introduction to Biodiversity (4)
- CHEM 0101 General Chemistry I (4)
- CHEM 0102 General Chemistry II (4)
- CHEM 0206/0207 Organic Chemistry I and lab (4)
- CHEM 0208/0209 Organic Chemistry II and lab (4)
- ENG 0101 English Composition I (3)
- ENG 0102 English Composition II (3)
- MATH 040 Calculus I (strongly recommended) (4)
- PHYS 0101/0203 Introduction to Physics I and lab (5)
- PHYS 0102/0204 Introduction to Physics II and lab (5)

DENTAL SCHOOL ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Dental schools require a minimum of two years of college-level Pre-Dental education prior to admittance. Most dental students have at least a bachelor's degree before entering dental school.

All dental schools require applicants to take the Dental Admissions Test (DAT). When selecting students, schools consider scores earned on the DAT, applicants' grade point averages, and information gathered through recommendations and interviews. Admission to Dental School is highly competitive.

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GENERAL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

2.0 Cumulative Grade Point Average, 120 Earned Credit Hours, 30 Hours of Upper Level Courses (1000 level or above)

NOTE: This guide is unofficial. Completing the requirements on this sheet does NOT guarantee degree completion. Official degree completion information can be found in **MY.PITT.EDU**. Contact your Faculty Advisor and/or the Registrar's Office with questions or concerns.