



Health Careers Fact Sheet

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS STUDENT SUCCESS CENTER
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON

Dentistry

Skilled dentists employ precision psychomotor skills with the aesthetic sense of an artist to maintain a healthy smile or treat diseases of the hard and soft tissue of the mouth. Because they treat people, not just mouths, a great dentist has strong interpersonal skills, including a desire to help patients and give back to the community.

Dental school will help you gain an understanding of the profession through rigorous coursework as well as clinical experiences that will put you on the path towards dentistry. Many Dentists obtain higher degrees in specialties such as including orthodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, endodontics, periodontics, prosthodontics, oral pathology, and dental public health.

Degree

Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) or
Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD)

Program Length

4 years

Professional Schools' Organization

[American Dental Education Association](#) (ADEA)

Application Service

[American Association of Dental Schools
Application Service](#) (AADSAS)

Academic Admission Requirements

An undergraduate degree. One year each: Biology, Inorganic Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Physics, English. Some schools may also require a full year of Calculus, it is recommended to discuss your math plans with the premedical advisor.

Note: Some schools have very specific requirements often including Microbiology, Statistics, and Biochemistry. It is important for students to research specific admission requirements for the programs they are interested in applying to.

Admission Exam

[Dental Admission Test](#) (DAT)

Applications

ADEA AADSAS opens in mid-May and closes in early February. [Transcript requests](#) should be sent to the Registrar's office ASAP.

For Fee Assistance Program (FAP) advance planning is necessary to ensure ample time for your request to be reviewed. For more information visit the ADEA [website](#).

PREMEDICAL AND ALLIED HEALTH ADVISING

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