

Thinking about DENTAL school?

What's most important?

- High GPA and DAT scores
- Appropriate academic preparation
- Impressive resume of activities and experiences
- Experience in and passion for dentistry

Recommended coursework:

- Required by all US dental schools:
 - Two semesters of General Chemistry: CHEM 111 & CHEM 112
 - Two semesters of Intro Biology: BIOL 182 & BIOL 183
 - Two semesters of Organic Chemistry: CHEM 211 & CHEM 212
 - Two semesters of Physics: PHYS 101 & 102 or PHYS 141 & 231 (or PHYS 141 & 102)
- Recommended by many US dental schools and required by a few:
 - Biochemistry: BIOL 317 or CHEM 320 (talk to advisors about this choice) WITH LAB
 - Microbiology (BIOL 308) with lab
 - Calculus and statistics (MATH 117 or NESC 220)
 - Behavioral science courses (including Intro Psychology: PSYC 101)
 - English/Writing – sometimes two semesters (any 100- or 200- level ENGL or RHET)
- State school requirements: About half of US dental students attend their home state dental school (if there is one). Be sure to check your school for required pre-requisites.

Activities/experiences:

- Dental schools look for students who are passionate about DENTISTRY! The only way to prove your passion is to have experience working/shadowing in dental settings. Dental schools will tell you that you are a general dentist first (before you specialize, if you do), so prioritize getting experience in general/family dental clinics. Trinity alums have shadowed and worked as chair assistants to get this experience. You can also get a job as a sterilization technician or a dental floater – these support the operations of a dental office.
- You also want to prove that you are a good person who can work with others and get things done! Trinity alums have demonstrated these skills in many, many different ways! The important thing is to engage big in things you are passionate about! Some ideas: athletic teams/clubs, student clubs, study away, community service, research, internships, employment, and more!
- There are MANY ways to show dental schools that you're a strong candidate – find what works for you!

For best preparation:

- Register with the Health Professions Advising Committee! You'll get a Health Professions Advisor and receive frequent information about opportunities.

Register with Trinity's
HPAC here:

