

PRE-DENTAL

Undergraduate Credit Required	Bachelor's degree (recommended)
Entrance Exam	Dental Admissions Test (DAT)
Professional Schooling Required	3-4 years to earn a D.D.S. (Doctor of Dental Surgery)
Local Professional Schools	Temple University, Penn Dental, University of Pittsburgh, etc...
Professional Organization Websites	adea.org/aadsas/ - Associated American Dental Schools Application Service
Major	Students can major in any subject at WCU for Pre-Dental. The most common majors that align with dental school pre-requisites are Biology: Cell and Molecular Biology, Biology: Integrative Concentration, and Chemistry: Chem-Bio.

REQUIRED AND SUGGESTED ELECTIVES FOR WCU UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

The following course recommendations are general requirements for Dental programs. For the specific requirements of your school of choice and whether AP/IB credit is accepted, please refer to that school's admissions website or contact those schools for a list of entrance requirements.

DENTAL SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Biological Sciences with labs (8 hours)		
BIO 110 General Biology, BIO 215 Botany, BIO 217 Zoology, BIO 220 Cell Physiology		
Course	Term	Grade
Genetics (required by some schools)		
Course	Term	Grade
BIO 230		
Microbiology (required by some schools)		
Course	Term	Grade
BIO 214		
General Chemistry with lab		
Course	Term	Grade
CHE 103 & CRL 103		
CHE 104 & CRL 104		
Organic Chemistry with lab		
Course	Term	Grade
CHE 231 & CRL 231		
CHE 232 & CRL 232		
Biochemistry (1 course)		
Course	Term	Grade
CHE 476		
Anatomy and Physiology (2 courses) (required by some schools)		
Course	Term	Grade
BIO 259		
BIO 269		

English Composition (2 courses)		
Course	Term	Grade
Calculus and Stats (required by some schools)		
Course	Term	Grade
MAT 121		
MAT 145		
Physics with lab (2 courses)		
General Physics PHY 130 AND 140 or Physics 170 AND 180		
Course	Term	Grade
PHY 130 or 170		
PHY 140 or 180		

SUGGESTED ELECTIVES

ACC 201. Accounting
BIO 357. Comparative Vertebrate Anatomy
BIO 428. Animal Histology
BIO 440. Human Genetics
BIO 465. Immunology
BIO 468. Comparative Vertebrate Physiology
BIO 469. Human Physiology*
CHE 477. Biochemistry 2
ECO 111. Principle of Economics

* Does not count as a Biology major elective

Sample Course Plan of Pre-Dental Requirements	
<u>Semester 1</u>	<u>Semester 2</u>
CHE 103	CHE 104
CRL 103	CRL 104
BIO 110	BIO 215/217
WRT 120	WRT 2XX
MAT 121	MAT 145
<u>Semester 3</u>	<u>Semester 4</u>
CHE 231	CHE 232
CRL 231	PHY 140
PHY 130	BIO 220
BIO 230	General/Major Electives
General/Major Electives	
<u>Semester 5</u>	<u>Semester 6</u>
CHE 476	BIO 269
BIO 259	General/Major Electives
General/Major Electives	
<u>Semester 7</u>	<u>Semester 8</u>
General/Major Electives	General/Major Electives

Recommend Courses of DAT Preparation

BIO 110
BIO 215
BIO 217
BIO 220
CHE 103 and 104
CHE 231 and 232
PHY 130 and 140 or 170 and 180

Math section of test includes quantitative reasoning, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, probability, statistics, and applied word problems.

Note: Additional BIO and CHE courses will also help with the DAT.

BEYOND ACADEMICS

Pre-Dental students are encouraged to participate in experiences such as leadership roles, volunteer work, research, and shadowing, which will help prepare them for dental school and the dental profession. Such experiences demonstrate a commitment to and knowledge of the profession. All students are **STRONGLY** encouraged to **shadow dental professionals, volunteer with health providers**, and get involved with research and pursue internships. Additionally, involvement with clubs such as Pre-Med Club, Pre-Dent Club and Minorities in Medicine, will help students to learn more about the medical profession. Activities beyond the classroom play a significant role in a student's application to a professional school program.

APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

Applications: Most dental schools participate in the American Association of Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS). This service is usually available in May of each year. It is best to apply well before stated application deadlines. Additional admissions requirements: Schools may also require a secondary application following the submission of your initial application through AADSAS. Secondary applications may require additional essays and letters of recommendation.

ENTRANCE EXAM

The Dental Admissions Test (DAT) is required. It is each applicant's responsibility to provide official Dental Admissions Test score reports to each school to which they apply. DAT examinations are computer based and are coordinated by the Dental Admission Testing Program and administered at Prometric Test Centers. Information on the DAT is available at ada.org/en/education-careers/dental-admission-test.

ADDITIONAL APPLICATION INFORMATION

Applications to Dental school require a **personal statement** and **letters of recommendation/evaluation**. The number of required letters varies by school. For the WCU Pre-Medical program, you will need to collect a minimum of 5 letters of recommendation (at least one from a dentist) and have them submitted to the pre-med office prior to requesting an interview from the pre-medical committee. You should get to know your professors so that they know you well enough to write a thorough letter about your potential to be a successful dental student.



Director, Pre-Medical Program – Dr. Teresa Donze-Reiner

WCU does not discriminate based upon any protected status.
Please see www.wcupa.edu/admin/social.equity/

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