

## DENTISTRY

### Recommended Coursework

Most dental schools recommend students to take the following courses, however, required courses for admission into dental school is highly variable. Most schools require biochemistry, psychology, and cell biology and some highly recommend public speaking courses (Comm 103). Math requirements for each school vary from statistics to calculus, but usually 3 to 6 units are recommended. If you are interested in attending a specific school, you should look up their requirements. Bio 190 is recommended before taking Bio 225 or Bio 221. Some dental schools will not accept AP credits in place of these courses and additional science courses will have to be completed to satisfy the requirements. All recommended coursework should be taken for a grade and not as a pass/fail class.

1 year of General Biology	Bio 225/225L/221/221L
1 year of General Chemistry	Chem 151/151L/152/152L
1 year of Organic Chemistry	Chem 301/301L/302/302L
1 year of General Physics	Phys 136/136L/137/137L or Phys 270/270L/271/271L
1 year of English comp/lit	USD GE Requirement
Biochemistry	Chem 331
Psychology	
Mathematics	
Cell Biology	

### Dental Admission Test

The Dental Admission Test (DAT) is a standardized test that is required as part of the application for dental school to help predict your performance in dental school. It consists of four sections: survey of the natural sciences, perceptual ability, reading comprehension, and qualitative reasoning. The test is offered nearly every day of the year, but should be taken before you submit your application to dental school. It is scored on a scale of 1-30, with an average score of 15. For more specific information about the DAT, visit the website at [www.ada.org/prof/ed/testing/dat/index.asp](http://www.ada.org/prof/ed/testing/dat/index.asp).

### Extracurricular Activities

There are a variety of extracurricular activities that enhance an application to dental school. It is best to have experiences that are meaningful and that you learn a lot from, rather than numerous activities where your involvement is minimal. Get involved in something you are interested in, whether on or off campus. Clinical experience is always helpful if you are interested in a career in dentistry and a lot can be learned from it. Many dental schools look favorably upon research experience. Visit the Student Organizations website for on-campus involvement ([www.sandiego.edu/associatedstudents/studentorgs/](http://www.sandiego.edu/associatedstudents/studentorgs/)).

### Useful Websites

**American Dental Association** ([www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org))

**American Dental Education Association**

([www.adea.org](http://www.adea.org))

**Application Services**

([www.adea.org/AADSAS/default.htm](http://www.adea.org/AADSAS/default.htm))

**Dental Resources** ([www.dental-resources.com](http://www.dental-resources.com))