



How to use this document:

- These are the common prerequisites for dental programs and for preparations to take the DAT. Check individual programs for exact requirements.
- Take these classes (according to prerequisites). Work with a pre-health advisor to determine correct sequencing.
- This page demonstrates the prerequisites, you may choose to take two to four years – whatever amount of time fits best for your plan.
- Add major classes along with pre-dental prerequisites
- Pay close attention to sequences, prerequisites and when classes are offered
- Your major can be in any field as long as you have the classes to prepare you for a dental program – Choose your major by your greatest field of interest.

Course Subject and Title	Credits	Offered	Pre & Co Requisites
BIOL 1101/L General Biology I and Lab	4	F,S,Su	Must place into MATH 1108
BIOL 1102/L General Biology II and Lab	4	F,S	BIOL 1101/L
BIOL 2221/L Introductory Microbiology OR BIOL 2235/L General Microbiology	4	F,S,Su F,S	BIOL 1101 or BIOL 2227, CHEM 1111 BIOL 1101, BIOL 1102, CHEM 1112
BIOL 4432 Biochemistry	3	F,S	BIOL 1101, CHEM 3301
CHEM 1111/L General Chemistry I and Lab	5	F,S	MATH 1143 or 1147 (recommended – CHEM 1101)
CHEM 1112/L General Chemistry II and Lab	4	F,S	CHEM 1111/L
CHEM 3301/3303 Organic Chemistry I and Lab	4	F	CHEM 1112/L
CHEM 3302/3304 Organic Chemistry II and Lab	4	S	CHEM 3301
ENGL 1101 Writing and Rhetoric I	3	F,S,Su	
ENGL 1102 Writing and Rhetoric II	3	F,S,Su	
PHYS 1111/L General Physics I and Lab	4	F	MATH 1143 or 1147
PHYS 1112/L General Physics II and Lab	4	S	PHYS 1111/L

Recommended Courses: Humanities and Social Sciences – History, Economics, Philosophy, English Literature, Political Science, etc. to build reading comprehension, a larger world view, and critical thinking skills

For Dental School Application

The ideal time to take the DAT is at the end of the spring semester, Junior year or immediately after you have completed your organic chemistry courses

Mid-October – Contact your pre-health advisor if you plan to take part in the committee letter process

Receive DAT scores approximately 30 -33 days after taking the test. You must allow 90 days between test dates if retaking the DAT

3-6 months before application – Begin drafting personal essay and finding letter writers

ADEA AADSAS Application

Early June – ADEA AADSAS application opens

Submit ADEA AADSAS application during the summer

ADEA AADSAS completed applications processed and sent to dental schools

Prepare to go on interviews

After December 1 – receive offers of admission

What else do you need?

- Undergraduate degree
 - Major – complete all requirements for major
 - General Education Requirements
- Community Service
 - Dental or not dental
 - Try to use a talent or hobby to reach others in your community
 - Find something that fulfills you and motivates you
- Manual Dexterity
 - Fine tune your manual dexterity skills before taking the DAT, there is a section that specifically tests this skill
 - Many dental school admissions staff will ask what you've done to hone this skill
- Research
 - Not required for admission into dental school but may add an extra layer to your application
 - You should do research if you are interested in it, not simply to enhance your application
 - Lab or social science research are both acceptable
- Leadership
 - Dental or non-dental, students are encouraged to be creative
 - Shows that you are a strong member of a team
 - Showing leadership will make you stand out from other applicants and show you are actively preparing for your future in your career and community
- Shadowing Dentists
 - Develop a resume and cover letter to leave at a dental office asking for an opportunity to shadow
 - Contact others who have shadowed and find out how they made the connection
 - You may need to contact many dentists before finding someone who has time/space for a pre-dental student
- Building Relationships
 - The dental profession is based on relationships with patients, families, communities, etc.
 - You should be able to connect with people and make them feel at ease when they are around you
 - Important to build relationships with professors during undergraduate years
- Attributes
 - Communication
 - Perseverance
 - Creativity
 - Compassionate
 - Honesty
 - Humility

Helpful links:

GoDental: adea.org/GoDental

ADEA: adea.org

ADA: ada.org

ADEA AADSAS Applicant Help Center: https://help.liaisonedu.com/ADEA_AADSAS_Applicant_Help_Center

Pre-Health at ISU – isu.edu/hpac