



NORTHEASTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Science & Health Professions

Pre-Dental Program Requirements

The Pre-Dental program is designed to meet the requirements of the Oklahoma University Health Sciences Center College of Dentistry. The applicant must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours with a minimum "C" grade in each required course and a minimum GPA of 2.5. However, a minimum of 6 credit hours in the natural sciences is required. All applicants are required to take the DAT with result forwarded to the College of Dentistry. For more information see the reverse of this page.

Required Courses

Course	Hours	Completed
English 1113	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
English 1213	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Psychology 1113	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mathematics 1513	3	<input type="checkbox"/>

Additional Biology Courses

Biology 1123	Evolution & Diversity	3	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biology 1131	Investigative Laboratory	1	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biology 2154	Human Anatomy	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biology 3314	Human Physiology	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chemistry 1123, 1131	General Chemistry I (Lecture & Lab)	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chemistry 1223, 1231	General Chemistry II (Lecture & Lab)	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chemistry 3123, 3132	Organic Chemistry I (Lecture and Lab)	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chemistry 3223, 3232	Organic Chemistry II (Lecture and Lab)	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chemistry 4214	Biochemistry	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physics 1115	General Physics I	5	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physics 1215	General Physics II	5	<input type="checkbox"/>

Choose at least 4 additional hours of biology from the following:

Biology 3224 Microbiology	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biology 3114 Genetics	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biology 3124 Cell Biology	4	<input type="checkbox"/>
Biology 4354 Immunology	4	<input type="checkbox"/>

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Credit Hours and Grade Point Average (GPA)

All applicants to the OUHSC College of Dentistry must present a minimum of 90 semester credit hours from an accredited college or university. Applicants with only this minimum, however, are not encouraged to apply unless they have demonstrated exceptional personal and intellectual maturity. If a student has completed 90 hours, the possibility exists that NSU will grant a bachelors degree after successful completion of the first year in dental school. This is an option requiring careful supervision by the Pre-health advisor. About 90% of the students in recent classes have had a bachelor degree or higher. Nationally, 85% of first year dental students have completed four years of pre-professional education. In addition to the minimum hours, applicants must present a minimum grade point average of 2.5 (A=4.0) with a minimum grade of "C" in each required course. For those admitted to OUHSC the average GPA was 3.65 overall and 3.54 in the sciences. These averages are typical to other dental programs across the United States.

Dental Admission Test (DAT)

All applicants to dental school must take the American Dental Association Dental Admission Test. **For OUHSC the admission deadline is October 1.** Students should complete all the required courses before taking the test. To prepare for it, they may obtain information at www.ada.org/prof/ed/testing/dat/. OUHSC College of Dentistry indicates that students need scores of at least 16 on each part of the DAT in order to be competitive for admission. The average DAT score for the successful applicant is 19-20.

Choosing a Major

"Pre-dental" is not a major. There is no recommended major for predental students. Students should select a major in a discipline that will offer satisfying challenges and provide a viable alternative to dental school if they are not admitted. The student should be working toward a baccalaureate degree in their discipline of choice while they are completing the prerequisites for dental school.

Challenging Curriculum

Medical schools encourage a broad general curriculum in the social sciences and humanities. A high level of competence in the physical and biological sciences, as well as, good communication skills are also important. Premedical students should sequence their courses to demonstrate a capacity to handle the rigors of medical school. Most premedical students take from 15 – 18 hours each semester that includes at least 2 life science courses each semester. If student chooses a lighter load of courses it will be apparent to the medical programs that the student is protecting their GPA.

Advising

When students are ready to declare a major, they are assigned to the appropriate departmental advisor. Students should also visit regularly with the prehealth advisor since this person will likely be responsible for writing a recommendation letter for you.

Shadowing/Volunteering Experience

It is imperative that premedical students obtain direct exposure to the world of medicine by shadowing/observing physicians, working or volunteering in hospitals or nursing homes, visiting medical schools, and keeping informed of new developments in medical education and medical practice and current events in general. Students must have a **minimum of 100 hours** shadowing to apply to dental school.

Pre-Professional Health Club (PPHC)

Professionals in various health careers present information regarding their area of expertise at the bimonthly meetings. As an academic club, PPHC provides a student senate representative to obtain information pertinent to the club. PPHC also participates in on campus activities such as the big event, the small event, Halloween Carnival and the semiannual PPHC Health Career Fair. Networking with other students in the same field and with professionals is a major focus of PPHC.

Mock Interviews

Students may register to interview with the premedical faculty committee for a mock interview which can lead to a recommendation letter from the committee for medical school. Please contact the prehealth advisor for more information.

For more information about Dentists and Dental Programs: www.adea.org

For Dentistry information from the University of Oklahoma contact: Dr. Randy Jones, The University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry, 1201 N. Stonewall Ave., Rm 512, P.O. Box 26901, Oklahoma City, OK 73126. 405-271-3530.

OUHSC Dentistry Site: <http://dentistry.ouhsc.edu/>.