



All Things Pre-Dental!

Pre-Dental Track Information



Upcoming Events

- Mentorship Program Launch at UIC COD **Tuesday 9/19 @6PM**
We will meet in front of the ARC and take the CTA!
- Deadline to sign up for the Chicago Marathon **next Friday 9/22**
- Waxing/hands on event **10/05 6PM**
- Deadline for dues **10/13**
Venmo, Zelle, or Cash
- TW Train the Trainer Oral Health Education **9/20 5PM**

The Symbol of Dentistry



The official symbol of dentistry since 1965

- **Staff with snake wrapped around it:** The symbol of Asclepius, Greek god of medicine and healing
- **Delta:** Dentistry
- **Omicron:** A symbol for odont or tooth
- **32 Leaves:** The 32 permanent teeth
- **20 Berries:** The 20 baby teeth
- **Lilac color:** dates back to the National Association of Dental Faculties in 1897. To this day, dental graduates use purple in their gowns and caps

What do you need to apply?

- **A Bachelor's degree by the time you enter D1 year**
 - A specific undergraduate major is not required for acceptance to dental school; however, a good foundation in the sciences is required
 - Fulfillment of pre-requisite courses
- **Extracurriculars:**
 - Leadership experience
 - Community Service
 - Volunteering
- **Manual Dexterity**

Pre-requisite Courses

Required for the majority schools:

- **Biology with lab (8)**
 - Bios 110/120
- **General Chemistry with lab (8)**
 - Chem 122/123, 124/125
- **Organic Chemistry with lab (8)**
 - Chem 232, 233, 234 (orgo 2)
- **Physics with Lab (8)**
 - Phys 131/132 or 141/142
- **English (6)**
- **Biochemistry (3)**
 - BIOS 352

Recommended and good to take:

- **Anatomy**
 - KN251/252 (5)
- **Cell Biology**
 - BIOS 222
- **Microbiology**
 - BIOS 350

****(#) = credit hours****

Courses required per school:

https://www.adea.org/uploadedFiles/GoDental/Prehealth_Advisors/Getting_into_Dental_School/ADEAAADSASRequiredandRecommendedCourses_FINAL.pdf

Shadowing, Volunteering, Extracurriculars

Shadowing

- Minimum 50 hours
 - Recommended ~100 hours
 - Some schools require hours to be completed at a general office
 - Other schools doesn't matter which specialty
- * Keep track of the hours on your own, AADSAS won't ask you to verify, it's all honor code

Volunteering

- Doesn't have to be dental related
- They like to see commitment
- No minimum amount of hours
 - reach for 80-100 hours

Extracurriculars and Research

Extracurriculars

- Pre-dental club!
- Anything that you find interesting that you will be able to talk about during an interview

Research

- You don't NEED to do research
- But it does make you stand out
- Does not have to be dental related, do something that interests you
- Also doesn't have to be science/lab related

Things to refine manual dexterity

- Drawing
- Painting
- Woodcarving
- Creating 3D artwork through jewelry-making, sculpting or ceramics
- Soap carving
- Sewing/needlepoint
- Cross-stitching
- Crocheting
- Knitting
- Learning to tie fishing knots
- Learning a musical instrument that requires extensive hand-eye coordination (e.g. piano, violin)

The DAT

The image features a central blue banner with the text "The DAT" in a white, serif font. The background is a vibrant blue with various dental-themed elements: a magnifying glass on the left, a 3D tooth model on the right, and several other 3D tooth models scattered around. There are also decorative elements like a grid of dots at the bottom, a circular graphic with a grid pattern at the top right, and three 'X' marks at the top center. The overall aesthetic is clean and professional, typical of a dental or medical presentation.

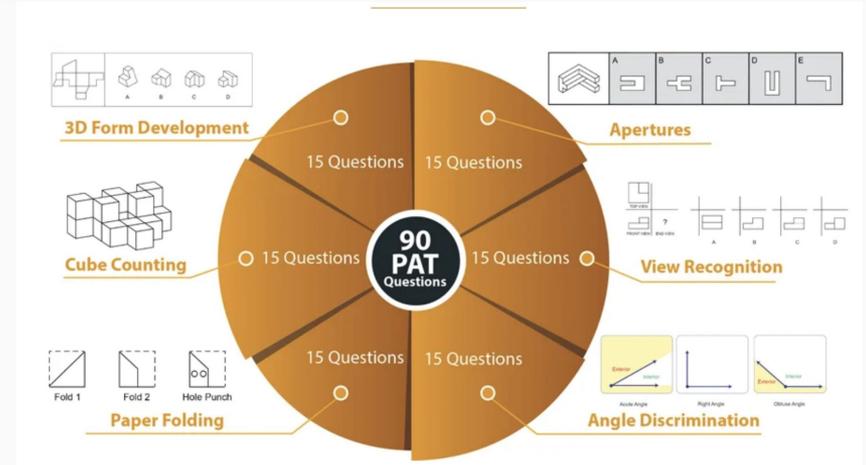
What does the DAT cover?

- Science
 - Biology
 - General Chemistry
 - Organic Chemistry
- Reading Comprehension
- Mathematics
 - Algebra
 - Prob & Stats
 - Graph Interpretation
 - World problems
- Perceptual Ability

Section	Questions	Time Limit
Optional Tutorial		15 Minutes
Survey of Natural Sciences	100	90 Minutes
-Biology	40	
-General Chemistry	30	
-Organic Chemistry	30	
Perceptual Ability Test	90	60 Minutes
-Keyhole	15	
-Top/Front/End Visualization	15	
-Angle Ranking	15	
-Hole Punches	15	
-Cube Counting	15	
-Pattern Folding	15	
Optional Break		30 Minutes
Reading Comprehension Test	50	60 Minutes
Quantitative Reasoning Test	40	45 Minutes
-Mathematics	30	
-Applied Mathematics (Word Problems)	10	
Optional Post-Test Survey		15 Minutes
Total	280	5:00 Hours

Perceptual Ability (PAT)

- Keyholes
- Angle Ranking
- Cube counting
- Top-Front-End
- Pattern Folding
- Hole punching



Question 1 of 1 Angle Ranking Practice Generator Time Remaining: 29 On/Off
Average Time: 0 Seconds

1 2 3 4

A. $2 < 1 < 3 < 4$
 B. $2 < 3 < 1 < 4$
 C. $3 < 2 < 1 < 4$
 D. $4 < 1 < 2 < 3$

A
 B
 C
 D

Question 6 of 200

Time Taken: 00:00:01

Question 6 of 250 Time Taken: 00:00:03

TOP VIEW ?

FRONT VIEW END VIEW A B C D

A B C D

Bootcamp vs Booster

MOST POPULAR

DAT Bootcamp Pro

90 days of access to everything you need to get an awesome DAT score. Great for students of all types.

\$499

Get Bootcamp Pro

or 4 interest-free payments of \$125 with Afterpay

60 representative DAT practice tests with thorough explanations and illustrations that are easy to understand.

8,800+ practice questions that are continuously updated to be representative of the current DAT.

Prometric mode to simulate the exact same test interface you'll see on test day.

Our proven DAT study schedule that has helped 50,000 of our students score extremely well on their DAT.

Dr. Mike's Chemistry Videos spans 330+ in-depth videos teaching you DAT chemistry from the ground up.

iOS and Android apps to access the question banks and video lessons on-the-go!

DAT Bio Bites qbanks that make learning biology easy.

90 days of access.

400+ DAT Biology Videos that break down critical concepts into easy to understand bites.

DAT Bootcamp Plus

180 days of access and an extra 5 full-length practice tests. Great for students who want more study time and practice.

~~\$1199~~ **\$899**

Get Bootcamp Plus

or 4 interest-free payments of \$225 with Afterpay

Includes everything you get in the Bootcamp Pro membership, and more.

Biology Plus Tests - 5 additional biology practice tests.

General Chemistry Plus Tests - 5 additional general chemistry practice tests.

Organic Chemistry Plus Tests - 5 additional organic chemistry practice tests.

Perceptual Ability Plus Tests - 5 additional PAT practice tests.

Reading Comprehension Plus Packs - 5 additional reading comprehension practice tests.

Quantitative Reasoning Plus Tests - 5 additional QR practice tests.

180 days of access.

DATBooster

\$299

Number of Practice Tests

80 Practice Tests

Number of Questions

8900+ Questions

Custom-Illustrated DAT Videos

✓

DAT-Specific Study Notes

✓

PATBooster Included

✓

PAT Generators with Analytics

✓

Keyhole Generator

✓

Built-in 3D Models

✓

Tiered PAT Question Banks

✓

Mark-Learning System

✓

DAT Bootcamp *

\$497

60 Practice Tests

8800+ Questions

✗

✗

✗

✗

✗

✗

✗

✗

20% off: uicpdc21

20% off: uicpredental

When to take it?

Traditional student:

- Sometime during your junior year (fall or spring semester)
- Or summer going into your senior year
 - keep in mind that the first day you're able to submit it May 30th

Non-Traditional student taking a gap year

- Sometime during your senior year (fall or spring)
- Or summer after you graduate (assuming you're graduating in the spring)

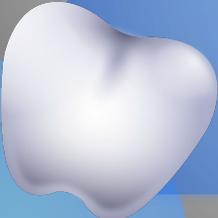
Cost and Registration

Cost to take the DAT: \$525

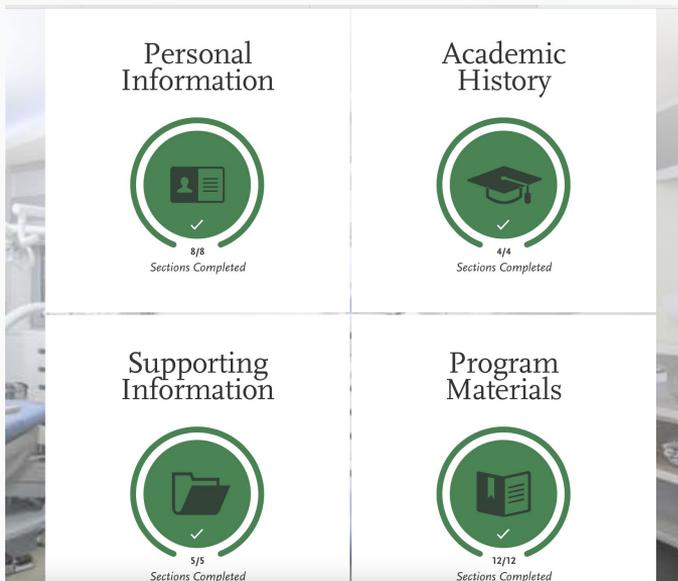
Apply to take the DAT:

- Start by obtaining a DENTPIN
- Login to ADA and apply to take the dat (60 to 90 days before intending to take exam)
- Before you can schedule the test you must receive eligibility confirmation

Applications



Breakdown of the Application



Personal Information:

- Biographic information
- Citizenship information
- Environmental factors
- Parent/Guardian info
- Race & Ethnicity
- Other info (covid-19 statement, manual dexterity statement)

Academic History

- Colleges and Universities attended
- High school attended
- Transcript entry
- Standardized test (DAT score)

Supporting Information

- Letters of Recommendation
- Experiences
- Achievements (honors college student, dean's list scholarships, etc.)
- Licenses
- Personal Statement

Program Materials

- Program specific questions or essays
- Selecting pre requisite classes from transcript entry

Letters of Recommendation

Can submit up to 4 letters

- 2 from science professors
- 1 from a dentist
 - Dentist you have shadowed, worked for, done research with
- 1 from an advisor

Personal Statement

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Your personal statement is a one-page essay (not to exceed 4,500 characters, including spaces, carriage returns, numbers, letters, etc.) that gives dental schools a clear picture of who you are and, most importantly, why you want to pursue a career in dentistry.

Although there is no set of rules mandating what a strong personal statement should include, here are a few tips to help you successfully craft a winning personal statement:

- Explain a defining moment that helped steer you toward a career in dentistry. Consider using that moment as the focal point of your essay.
- Be colorful, positive, imaginative and personal when discussing why you're a good candidate for dental school. Ask yourself—in a pile of 100 applications, would I enjoy reading my statement? Be sure to convey your passion for dentistry in your statement.
- Be yourself. Don't use jargon, clichés or big phrases that you would not use in daily conversation. Remember, dental schools want to know about the real you.
- Be original and thoughtful: Discuss how you would contribute to the profession and patient care, all of which will help you stand out from other applicants.
- Tell your story—make sure the essay is your story, not someone else's.
- Recruit a friend. Ask a friend, relative or faculty advisor to read your essay and provide constructive criticism. Ask them to think about whether the essay is a good representation of your character, and what they know of your ideals and aspirations.
- Give yourself time to organize your thoughts, write well and edit as necessary. And don't forget to proofread, proofread, proofread!

Here are a few things to avoid when writing your personal statement:

1. Writing what you think the admissions committee wants to hear.
2. Using a gimmicky style or format.
3. Summarizing your resume or repeating information directly from your transcripts or recommendation letters.
4. Emphasizing the negative.
5. Waiting until the last minute to get started on your statement.

This is the only part of the application that is able to show who you are as a person and your personality

https://www.adea.org/GoDental/Application_Prep/The_admissions_process.aspx

Important Dates

May 9th 2023: Application opened

May 30th 2023: Submissions opened

Summer academic update period

Fall academic update period

Spring academic update period

Cost

\$264 for the first school

\$115 for each additional school

NOT including supplemental fees:

UIC: \$85

SIU: mail in \$20

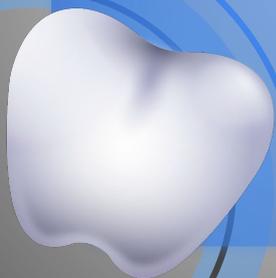
MDW-IL: \$50

MDW-AZ: \$50

Tufts: \$90



Pre-Dental Timeline



Timeline

**Freshman year/
Sophomore year:**
Take all pre-reqs
(bios, gen chem,
orgo)

**Summer going into
Junior year/ junior year:**
Study for and take the
DAT

**Summer going into
senior year June 1st**
Submit Application!

**Freshman/Sophomore
year:**
- Volunteer
- Shadow
(all throughout the 4
years)

**Spring semester of
Junior Year:**
- Ask for letters of
recommendation
- Begin writing
personal statement
- Be done with the
DAT

**Spring of Senior
Year:**
Decision day
December 15th, first
day you can get an
acceptance



Questions?

