

DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY (DDS)

For more than 40 years, CU Dental has been educating competent and compassionate dentists through quality educational experiences personalized for each of our successful graduates. Through combining classroom and clinical training, students master the skills required to deliver comprehensive dental care and become leaders in their field.

CU Dental students have learned to expect and enjoy the school hallmarks that make us unique, including:

- Rotating through our Advanced Clinical Training Service (ACTS) program (<https://dental.cuanschutz.edu/prospective-students/programs-of-study/doctor-of-dental-surgery/curriculum/acts-program/>) - a nationally recognized service-learning program allowing 4th year DDS students to provide dental services for eight months in an underserved community in 30 clinics across the state of Colorado.
- Participating in campus-wide interprofessional education programs, including our national award-winning Frontier Center program, aims to increase collaboration across health disciplines and improve patient outcomes.
- Taking advantage of our research opportunities where dental students help address issues related to oral health and diseases, cancer research, biomaterials, bioengineering, and craniofacial biology.

The CU School of Dental Medicine is committed to attracting highly qualified students from a variety of educational backgrounds and life experiences. We use a holistic review process when considering applicants, and look at a number of factors including academic credentials, test scores, letters of recommendation and an invitation only interview.

If you have any questions regarding admission requirements and procedures, please contact the Office of Admissions at 303-724-8719 or DDSadmissioninquiries@ucdenver.edu.

We encourage all interested individuals to apply by following the requirements below:

Prerequisite Requirements

The following courses (semester hours or equivalent quarter hours) are required to apply to the School of Dental Medicine. All coursework must be completed with a grade of C or better from an accredited U.S. college or university at the conclusion of the spring term of the year accepted. Grades of C- or lower and courses taken pass/fail or credit/no credit will not be accepted. No more than 60 semester hours are allowed from a community/junior college. Online coursework is accepted with pre-approval. High school advanced placement (AP) courses can be accepted for prerequisite course work, and will be evaluated on a case by case basis. Official documentation will be required to include AP scores. If you are an international student, please contact the admissions office directly.

- General Biology or General Zoology with Lab (8 semester hours or 12 quarter hours)
- General Chemistry with Lab (8 semester hours or 12 quarter hours)

- Organic Chemistry with Lab (8 semester hours or 12 quarter hours)
- General Physics with Lab, Algebra or Calculus based (8 semester hours or 12 quarter hours)
- Microbiology, Lab not required (3 semester hours or 5 quarter hours)
- General Biochemistry, Lab not required (3 semester hours or 5 quarter hours)
- English Composition (3 semester hours or 5 quarter hours)
- 90 semester hours with at least 30 hours of upper division credit

The minimum requirement for admission is 90 semester hours (or approximately 135 quarter hours) of academic coursework, but completing a bachelor's degree is strongly encouraged. Most applicants will have completed at least a bachelor's degree before matriculation to dental school.

Suggested Electives: Courses to consider include anatomy, cell biology, histology, immunology, physiology, business management/finance, psychology and communications. Courses may be in a single area with a general background in many areas, or may group together several related areas in the sciences or humanities.

Application Requirements

Applicants apply through the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) application service. **Applications may be filed beginning June 1 of the year preceding admission. The latest filing date is October 15.** While a rolling admissions process is utilized, which may extend acceptances through March of the admission cycle year, early application is strongly encouraged as acceptances are offered as early as December 1. Only completed applications are reviewed.

Please send the following directly to ADEA:

- Completed AADSAS application (<https://aadsas.liasoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>) - available online at American Dental Education Association (ADEA)
- Official transcripts from all colleges, universities and professional schools you attended
- Letters of recommendation:
 - Two letters from science instructors AND one letter from a non-science instructor, dentist you shadowed or employer, **OR**
 - Pre-Dental Committee letter (must include two science instructors)

An \$90.00 application fee is due with the application. A separate e-mail will be sent out with instructions on how to submit payment.

Supplemental application materials are required **only upon request**.

Dental Admission Test (DAT)

Applicants are required to complete the Dental Admissions Test (DAT), which is administered by the American Dental Association (ADA). Official DAT scores must be sent to AADSAS (see instructions for sending DAT scores under Standardized Tests) (https://www.adea.org/GoDental/ADEA_AADSAS_Application/Academic_history.aspx#sthashMWm82LFPdpbs).

While there is no minimum or cutoff, DAT scores close to the averages of the most recent entering class are considered competitive. See Class Profile for the most current scores.

The DAT should either be taken before application or in June/July of the application year. Scores must be received **before** the application deadline of October 15th. In order to meet this deadline, tests should not be taken after August 31st of the application year.

Retake tests: If planning to retake the DAT during the application cycle, an applicant should report future test dates on the AADSAS application.

Canadian DAT: Please note that the Canadian Dental Admissions Test (CDAT) is not accepted. The US DAT is required of all applicants.

Dental Shadowing Requirements

Applicants should demonstrate a confirmed interest in dentistry by participating in dental-related activities, including direct shadowing of a dentist in a patient-care setting. Shadowing hours should be reported directly on the AADSAS application. No further documentation is required.

50 hours of dental shadowing is required and must be completed at the time of application submission. Applicants without this minimum number of hours will not be reviewed or considered for interview.

Extracurricular Activities

Applicants should report any extracurricular activities in which they are involved, dental-related or otherwise, on the AADSAS application. Such activities could include (but are not limited to) academic enrichment programs, athletics, clubs and organizations, research, volunteering, and work experience.

For each extracurricular, applicants must provide the frequency and duration of the experience, a description of the key responsibilities, and the name and address of the organization or supervisor.

Letters of Recommendation

The University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine requires a total of three letters of recommendation, although AADSAS allows up to four. Letters must be uploaded directly to the application by the evaluators.

Letters sent directly to the Office of Admissions are no longer accepted. Of the four allotted AADSAS uploads, applicants must have:

- **Two science letters** - Two letters must be written by science professors who have taught and graded the applicant at the university level. Letters should be from basic science instructors (biology, chemistry, physics, biochemistry, microbiology). Science letters should include the course name and number.
- **One letter of choice** - One letter by an evaluator of the applicant's choice is also required. This evaluator could be a dentist, another professor (science or non-science), an employer, a mentor, or another individual who can write in support of the applicant.

A fourth letter of recommendation will also be accepted but is not required. This optional fourth letter can be written by another evaluator of the applicant's choice.

- **Committee letter option:** If the applicant's undergraduate institution has a pre-health committee, a letter or letter packet composed by the committee members can be submitted in place of the above three letters. AADSAS also allows one individual letter to be uploaded in addition to the committee letter, which is accepted but not required.

Interview

Once the completed application has been reviewed by the Office of Admissions, the applicant may be invited to campus for a formal interview and tour of our school.

Application Fee

Applicants are required to pay an \$90 supplemental application fee directly to the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine. This fee is separate from any payments made to AADSAS and can only be made online via credit or debit card.

Checks, money orders, and payments over the phone are not accepted. This payment should be made either just before or at the time of application submission.

AADSAS Fee Assistance Program: The \$90 nonrefundable application fee can be waived for applicants who qualify for the AADSAS Fee Assistance Program (https://help.liaisonedu.com/ADEA_AADSAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Starting_Your_ADEA_AADSAS_Application/Getting_Started_with_Your_ADEA_AADSAS_Application/03_Application_Fees_and_F#sthashNpuoJ2fVdpbs). Such applicants should forward their approval email from AADSAS to our office at DDSadmissioninquiries@ucdenver.edu.

Year 1

First-year courses focus on the basic sciences and the integration of this knowledge with the practice of dentistry. These include a human body systems course series that integrates the anatomy, physiology and microanatomy of each major body system with clinical correlations. Other basic science courses include molecular biosciences, embryology, craniofacial biology, oral histology, microbiology, immunology, and pathology. Additionally, students are introduced to dental care in courses related to dental anatomy, occlusion, oral radiology, periodontology, dental materials, and an innovative Introduction to Clinical Dentistry course series that prepares and provides students with patient care activities. Finally, students begin to develop their hand skills by taking simulation lab courses in both direct and indirect restorative procedures.

Year 1

Fall		Hours
DSBS 5502	Microanatomy	0.1-5
DSBS 5504	Human Anatomy	0.1-10
DSBS 5507	Molecular Biosciences	0.1-5
DSBS 5508	Physiology	0.1-5
DSCD 5501	Community Public Health 1	0.1-5
DSRE 5001	Introduction to Dentistry	0.1-5
DSRE 5500	Dental Anatomy	0.1-5
DSRE 5501	Dental Anatomy Laboratory	0.1-5
DSRE 5504	Dental Materials Science I	0.1-5
DSRE 5520	Introduction to Clinical Dentistry 1	0.1-5
DSSD 5501	Clinical Correlations	0.1-5
Hours		1.0999999999999999-60
Total Hours		1.0999999999999999-60

Year 1		
Spring		
		Hours
DSBS 5500	Embryology and Craniofacial Biology	0.1-5
DSBS 5506	Oral Histology	0.1-5
DSBS 5511	Invaders and Protectors	0.1-5
DSOD 5502	Oral Radiology	0.1-5
DSOD 5503	Oral Radiology Laboratory	0.1-5
DSOP 5504	Principles of Operative Dentistry Direct Restoration I	0.1-5
DSOP 5505	Principles of Operative Dentistry - Direct Restoration 1 Lab	0.1-5
DSRE 5521	Introduction to Clinical Dentistry 2	0.1-5
IPCP 5000	Interprofessional Collaborative Practice	1
Hours		1.799999999999998-41
Total Hours		1.799999999999998-41

Year 1		
Summer		
		Hours
DSBS 5516	Pathology	0.1-5
DSCD 5502	Nutrition	0.1-5
DSOD 5500	Assessment of the Dental Patient	0.1-0.7
DSOP 5506	Principles of Operative Dentistry - Direct Restorations 2	0.1-5
DSCD 5504	Communication & Person-Centered Care	0.1-5
DSCD 5505	Dental Ethics and Professionalism	0.1-5
DSOD 5500	Assessment of the Dental Patient	0.1-0.7
DSOP 5506	Principles of Operative Dentistry - Direct Restorations 2	0.1-5
DSOP 5507	Principles of Operative Dentistry - Direct Restorations 2 Lab	0.1-5
DSPE 5500	Periodontics 1	0.1-5
DSRE 5503	Dental Materials 2	0.1-5
DSRE 5508	Indirect Single Tooth Restoration 1	0.1-5
DSRE 5522	Introduction to Clinical Dentistry 3	0.1-5
Hours		1.3-56.4
Total Hours		1.3-56.4

Year 2

The primary focus of second year courses is to guide students in the transition from pre-clinical courses to clinical care and begin to see their first patients for periodontal appointments during the fall of their second year. Students refine their hand skills in pre-clinical lab courses involving indirect restorative procedures, fixed and removable prosthodontics, endodontics and esthetic dentistry. Clinical care is emphasized in courses related to pharmacology, occlusion, oral pathology, orthodontics, periodontics, endodontics, dental materials, oral radiology, cariology, pediatric dentistry, pain control, medical emergencies and oral and maxillofacial surgery. Students will also take courses on treatment planning and managing a student practice in order to begin providing comprehensive patient care in the student dental clinic during the summer of their second year. The primary focus of third year is the development and practice of clinical dentistry. Students take courses on community assessment, public health, dental practice planning, clinical oncology, behavioral and geriatric dentistry, implant dentistry and treatment planning. Students begin to spend a lot more time in the clinical setting with the primary focus being on comprehensive patient

care. Students perform clinical procedures in the fields of oral diagnosis and diagnostic radiology, periodontics, operative dentistry, fixed and removable prosthodontics, orthodontics, endodontics, dental pain and emergencies. Additionally, all students participate in a rotation in pediatric dentistry at the Healthy Smiles Clinic at Children's Hospital Colorado (<https://www.childrenscolorado.org/doctors-and-departments/departments/dental/>).

Year 2		
Fall		
		Hours
DSBS 6600	Fundamentals of Pharmacology	0.1-10
DSBS 6604	Advanced Head and Neck Anatomy	0.1-5
DSCD 6601	Community Public Health 2	0.1-5
DSCD 6622	Managing Your Dental Student Practice 1	0.1-5
DSOD 6610	Oral Pathology 1	0.1-5
DSOT 6610	Orthodontics 1	0.1-5
DSPE 6601	Periodontology 2	0.1-10
DSPE 6605	Periodontology 2 Laboratory - Section 1	0.1-5
DSRE 6600	Transition Clinic 1	0.1-5
DSRE 6606	Indirect Single Tooth Restoration 2	0.1-5
DSRE 6607	Indirect Single Tooth Restoration 2 Laboratory	0.1-5
DSRE 6645	Cariology	0.1-5
DSRP 6600	Combined Removable Prosthodontics	0.1-5
DSRP 6601	Combined Removable Prosthodontics Laboratory	0.1-5
IPHE 6000	IPE Healthcare Ethics & Health Equity	1
Hours		2.400000000000004-81

Spring		
		Hours
DSBS 6603	Applied Clinical Pharmacology	0.5-10
DSCD 6623	Managing Your Dental Student Practice 2	0.1-5
DSEN 6610	Endodontics 1 Lecture	0.1-5
DSEN 6611	Endodontics 1 Laboratory	0.1-5
DSFD 6610	Fixed Prosthodontics	0.1-5
DSFD 6611	Fixed Prosthodontics Laboratory	0.1-5
DSOD 6612	Oral Pathology 2	0.1-5
DSOP 6600	Pre-Clinical Operative Dentistry Workshop	0.1-5
DSPD 6620	Pediatric Dentistry 1	0.1-5
DSPE 6606	Periodontology 3 Laboratory	0.1-5
DSPE 6607	Periodontology 3	0.5-10
DSRE 6601	Transition Clinic 2	0.1-5
DSRE 6609	Treatment Planning	0.1-5
DSRE 6610	Clinical Dental Materials	0.1-5
DSSD 6600	Clinical Dental Pharmacology	0.1-5
DSRE 6617	Occlusion Lecture	0.5-10
DSRE 6618	Occlusion Lab	0.5-10
DSSD 6600	Clinical Dental Pharmacology	0.1-5
DSSD 6604	Pain Control 1 (Local Anesthesia)	0.1-5
DSSD 6608	Prevention and Management of Medical Emergencies	0.1-5
DSSD 6612	Orofacial Pain	0.1-5
Hours		3.700000000000006-125

Summer		
		Hours
DSEN 6612	Endodontics 2 Lecture	0.1-5

DSEN 6613	Endodontics 2 Laboratory	0.1-5
DSFD 6031	Clinical Fixed Prosthodontics 1	0.1-5
DSOD 6031	Clinical Oral Diagnosis 1	0.1-5
DSOP 6031	Clinical Operative Dentistry 1	0.1-5
DSOP 6610	Seminars in Restorative Dentistry	0.1-5
DSOS 6031	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery 1	0.1-5
DSPD 6630	Pediatric Dentistry 2	0.1-5
DSPE 6031	Clinical Periodontics 1	0.1-5
DSPE 6610	Periodontology 4	0.1-5
DSRE 6602	Transition Clinic 3	0.1-5
DSRE 6604	Esthetic Dentistry	0.1-5
DSRE 6615	Comprehensive Patient Care Clinic A	0.1-5
DSRP 6031	Clinical Removable Prosthodontics 1	0.1-5
DSSD 6610	Pain Control 2 (Nitrous Oxide Analgesia)	0.1-5
Hours		1.500000000000002-75
Total Hours		7.600000000000001-281

Year 3

The primary focus of third year is the development and practice of clinical dentistry. Students take courses on community assessment, public health, dental practice planning, clinical oncology, behavioral and geriatric dentistry, implant dentistry and treatment planning. Students begin to spend a lot more time in the clinical setting with the primary focus being on comprehensive patient care. Students perform clinical procedures in the fields of oral diagnosis and diagnostic radiology, periodontics, operative dentistry, fixed and removable prosthodontics, orthodontics, endodontics, dental pain and emergencies. Additionally, all students participate in a rotation in pediatric dentistry at the Healthy Smiles Clinic at Children's Hospital Colorado (<https://www.childrenscolorado.org/doctors-and-departments/departments/dental/>).

Year 3

Fall		Hours
DSCD 7702	Integration for Patient Care 1	0.1-10
DSCD 7705	Clinical Transformations: Interprofessional Education	0.1-5
DSCD 7710	Behavioral Health Sciences	0.1-5
DSCD 7711	Gerontology & Geriatric Health Care	0.1-5
DSCD 7730	Adult Special Health Care Need Dentistry	0.1-5
DSDD 7703	Medically Complex Dental Care	.1-10
DSEN 7011	Clinical Endodontics 1	0.1-5
DSFD 7011	Clinical Fixed Prosthodontics 2	0.1-5
DSOD 7011	Clinical Oral Diagnosis 2	0.1-5
DSOP 7011	Clinical Operative Dentistry 2	0.1-5
DSOS 7011	Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery 2	0.1-5
DSPD 7011	Clinical Pediatric Dentistry 1	0.1-5
DSPD 7700	Pediatric Dentistry 3	0.1-5
DSPE 7011	Clinical Periodontics 2	0.1-5
DSRE 7712	Implant Dentistry	0.1-5
DSRE 7717	Comprehensive Patient Care Clinic B	0.1-5
DSRE 7718	Critical Thinking and Patient Care Seminar	0.1-5
DSRE 7935	Treatment Planning and Case Presentation I	0.1-5
DSRP 7011	Clinical Removable Prosthodontics 2	0.1-5

DSSD 7712	Dental Pain and Emergencies	0.1-5
Hours		2.000000000000004-110
Spring		
DSCD 7703	Integration for Patient Care 2	0.1-10
DSCD 7706	Clinical Transformations: Interprofessional Education	1-5
DSCD 7709	Community Public Health 3	0.1-5
DSCD 7713	INBDE Preparation Course 1	0.1-10
DSCD 7726	Dental Practice Planning	0.1-5
DSCD 7796	Special Care Clinic A	0.1-5
DSEN 7022	Clinical Endodontics 2	0.1-5
DSEN 7712	Endodontics III	0.1-5
DSFD 7022	Clinical Fixed Prosthodontics 3	0.1-5
DSOD 7022	Clinical Oral Diagnosis 3	0.1-5
DSOD 7715	Diagnosis of Orofacial Lesions	0.1-5
DSOD 7724	Diagnostic Radiology	0.1-5
DSON 7755	Clinical Oncology	0.1-5
DSOP 7022	Clinical Operative Dentistry 3	0.1-5
DSOT 7021	Clinical Orthodontics 1	0.1-5
DSOT 7720	Orthodontics 2	0.1-5
DSPD 7022	Clinical Pediatric Dentistry 2	0.1-5
DSPE 7022	Clinical Periodontics 3	0.1-5
DSRE 7706	Critical Appraisal of Translational Literature	0.1-5
DSRE 7711	Advanced and Digital Prosthodontics	0.1-5
DSRE 7719	Comprehensive Patient Care Clinic C	0.1-5
DSRE 7936	Treatment Planning and Case Presentation 2	0.1-5
DSRP 7022	Clinical Removable Prosthodontics 3	0.1-5
Hours		3.200000000000002-125

Summer

DSCD 7791	Community-Based Clinical Dentistry 1 (ACTS)	0.1-5
DSCD 7797	Special Care Clinic B	0.1-5
DSEN 7033	Clinical Endodontics 3	0.1-5
DSFD 7033	Clinical Fixed Prosthodontics 4	0.1-5
DSOD 7033	Clinical Oral Diagnosis 4	0.1-5
DSOP 7033	Clinical Operative Dentistry 4	0.1-5
DSPD 7033	Clinical Pediatric Dentistry 3	0.1-5
DSPE 7033	Clinical Periodontics 4	0.1-5
DSRE 7721	Comprehensive Patient Care Clinic D	0.1-5
DSRP 7033	Clinical Removable Prosthodontics 4	0.1-5
Hours		0.999999999999999-50
Total Hours		6.200000000000003-285

Year 4

At the beginning of their fourth year, students take the National Board Dental Examination Part II which tests their clinical knowledge of endodontics, operative dentistry, oral and maxillofacial surgery, pain control, oral diagnosis, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, patient management, periodontics, pharmacology and prosthodontics. Students continue to develop their clinical and practical dental skills by providing comprehensive patient care in the dental clinic. Advanced courses in implant dentistry, restorative dentistry, treatment planning, cariology, dental ethics and jurisprudence, endodontics and forensic dentistry

are taken to further prepare students to become licensed dental professionals. All students also participate in the Advanced Clinical Training and Service (ACTS) program (<https://dental.cuanschutz.edu/prospective-students/programs-of-study/doctor-of-dental-surgery/curriculum/acts-program/>) and provide quality dental care to underserved communities in 30 clinics across the state. At the end of spring of their fourth year, students are fully prepared to take regional or state examinations to obtain dental licensure.

Year 4		
Fall		
		Hours
DSCD 8892	Community-Based Clinical Dentistry 2 (ACTS)	0.1-10
DSCD 8896	Special Care Clinic C	0.1-5
DSEN 8011	Clinical Endodontics 4	0.1-5
DSFD 8011	Clinical Fixed Prosthodontics 5	0.1-5
DSFD 8861	Advanced Implant Prosthodontic Seminar	0.1-5
DSOD 8010	Clinical Oral Radiology	0.1-5
DSOD 8011	Clinical Oral Diagnosis 5	0.1-5
DSOP 8011	Clinical Operative Dentistry 5	0.1-5
DSOS 8011	Clinical Oral Maxillofacial Surgery 1	0.1-5
DSPE 8011	Clinical Periodontics 5	0.1-5
DSRE 8806	Critical Appraisal of Translational Literature II	0.1-5
DSRE 8810	Restorative Dentistry Advanced Clinical Training Service Seminar	0.1-5
DSRE 8817	Comprehensive Patient Care Clinic E	0.1-5
DSRE 8945	Treatment Planning and Case Presentation	0.1-5
DSRP 8011	Clinical Removable Prosthodontics 5	0.1-5
DSSD 8011	Clinical Emergencies 1	0.1-5
DSAD 8847	Comprehensive Patient Care Clinic H	11
Hours		12.6-96

Spring		
		Hours
DSCD 8812	Dental Ethics and Jurisprudence	0.1-5
DSCD 8822	Dental Practice Management & Leadership	0.1-5
DSCD 8893	Community-Based Clinical Dentistry 3 (ACTS)	0.1-10
DSEN 8022	Clinical Endodontics 5	0.1-5
DSFD 8022	Clinical Fixed Prosthodontics 6	0.1-5
DSOD 8022	Clinical Oral Diagnosis 6	0.1-5
DSOP 8022	Clinical Operative Dentistry 6	0.1-5
DSPE 8022	Clinical Periodontics 6	0.1-5
DSRE 8827	Comprehensive Patient Care Clinic F	0.1-13
DSRE 8946	Treatment Planning and Case Presentation 4	0.1-5
DSRP 8022	Clinical Removable Prosthodontics 6	0.1-5
Hours		1.0999999999999999-68
Total Hours		13.7-164

Rural Oral Health Track

The Rural Oral Health Dental Track was established in 2023 in response to the State of Colorado’s authorization developing the Colorado Rural Healthcare Workforce Initiative with the passage of Senate Bill 22 – 172 (<https://leg.colorado.gov/bills/sb22-172/>).

This track is a 4-year elective program for pre-doctoral dental students designed to help better prepare graduating dental students for a successful dental practice in rural and frontier communities. Elements of this elective program include rural-focused oral health training, interprofessional education, rural mentoring, and concentrated community-based service earning in rural communities.

Classroom related education reflects a mix of in-person seminars, faculty-led synchronous sessions, and asynchronous learning modules. This track is comprised of 4 elective courses, with each course taken during a student’s academic year of study. Total contact hours for these 4 elective courses are 56 hours.

Additionally, students will spend approximately 15 weeks in rural Colorado dental clinics as part of their Advanced Clinical Training and Service (ACTS) program requirement. Upon completion of the program, a graduating dental student will receive recognition for completing the Rural Health Dental Track including official designation in their University transcript.

Curriculum

Code	Title	Hours
Take the following courses:		
DSEL 9116	Rural Oral Health Practice 1	0.5-10
DSEL 9117	Rural Oral Health Practice 2	0.5-10
DSEL 9118	Rural Oral Health Practice 3	0.5-10
DSEL 9119	Rural Oral Health Practice 4	0.5-10
Total Hours		2-40

Graduation from the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine is contingent upon:

- Completion of all required courses with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.30
- Fulfillment of all legal and financial obligations to the University
- Challenge the Integrated National Board Dental Examination
- Removal of probationary status if on academic probation. In the situation where a student is placed on academic probation at the end of his/her last semester of their program, the student is given the opportunity to rectify academic deficiency/deficiencies needed to remove the probationary status. This may be accomplished by performing additional coursework as dictated by course director(s) and as approved by the SPC to allow the granting of a higher 11 grade in select courses as needed to remove the student from academic probation. This may result in a lengthening of their academic program and a delay in their graduation from the SDM
- Recommendation for the degree by vote of the Faculty (Competency Review Board) of the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine

The University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine, in collaboration with the University of Colorado Denver, offers a one-year intensive post-baccalaureate (post-bac) program. The post-bac program is designed to prepare students for dental school and ease the academic stress of the first year of the dental curriculum.

The post-bac program concentrates on the sciences and the significance of manual dexterity. It is specifically designed to help students improve and strengthen their academic credentials, enhance their test-taking skills, and develop more effective learning strategies.

Students who complete this program and requirements will be given preferential application status for entrance into the School of Dental Medicine.

Post-bac students can expect:

- A mentorship program with the School of Dental Medicine admissions and student affairs staff, faculty members and students;
- A full year of science course work through the University of Colorado – Denver;
- A hand skills development workshop; and
- An intensive Dental Admissions Test review course.

To be admitted into CU SDM, students must meet all post-bac requirements, which include a 3.5 or higher GPA and meet all the requirements for dental school.

If a prospective student is granted an interview, the prospective student must be available in person or via Zoom. Students are expected to meet the responsibility of the Post-Bac program fee while in Colorado including, but not limited to, tuition fees and living expenses.

Determine program eligibility by reviewing the comprehensive Application Checklist. (https://www.ucdenver.edu/docs/librariesprovider253/prospective-student-uploads/post-bac-admissions-checklist.pdf?sfvrsn=ec58d7b9_2)

Learn more about what a candidate should expect and the completion requirements for the Post-Bac program (https://www.ucdenver.edu/docs/librariesprovider253/prospective-student-uploads/post-bac-completion-requirements.pdf?sfvrsn=f758d7b9_2).

Questions?

Please contact sdmdiversity@ucdenver.edu.

Critical Thinking

- Evaluate and integrate emerging trends in health care
- Utilize critical thinking to evaluate and integrate best research outcomes with clinical expertise and patient values for evidence-based practice.

Professionalism

- Make professional decisions that satisfy legal, societal and ethical principles.
- Use self-evaluative skills to assess individual knowledge and abilities, to practice within the scope of one's competence and make appropriate professional referrals, and to identify areas of deficiency to correct through lifelong learning.
- Collaborate effectively with other health professionals to facilitate the provision of overall health care.

Communication and Interpersonal Skills

- Apply appropriate interpersonal and communication skills to create a humanistic environment.
- Communicate effectively with diverse patients and other health care providers to ensure appropriate, patient-centered patient treatment.

Health Promotion

- Provide prevention, intervention and educational strategies.
- Participate with dental team members and other health care professionals in the management and health promotion for all patients.
- Recognize and appreciate the need to contribute to the improvement of oral health beyond those served in traditional practice settings.

Practice Management and Informatics

- Evaluate and apply regulatory agency requirements for dental practices such as infection control, HIPAA and environmental and office safety programs
- Apply principles of risk management including informed consent
- Demonstrate effective business practices, financial management and human resource skills

Patient Care

Assessment, Diagnosis and Treatment Planning

- Perform an examination that collects biological, psychological, clinical, radiographic and other diagnostic/consultative information required to evaluate the health, oral conditions, needs, and expectations of patients of all ages.
- Recognize, diagnose and interpret normal and abnormal conditions of the orofacial complex (to include oral cancer), occlusal and temporomandibular disease, craniofacial growth and development that require monitoring, treatment or management.
- Develop, present and discuss individual sequenced treatment plans for patients of all ages consistent with patient's condition, interest, goals and capabilities.

Establishment and Maintenance of a Healthy Oral Environment

Management of Emergency Situations

- Anticipate, diagnose, and provide initial treatment and follow-up management for medical emergencies that may occur during dental treatment
- Recognize and manage dental emergencies to include acute pain, hemorrhage, trauma, and infection of the orofacial complex

Control of Pain and Anxiety

- Employ pharmacological agents and techniques to manage orofacial discomfort and psychological distress

Periodontal Therapy

- Diagnose, treatment plan, comprehensively treat, and maintain patients with periodontal disease in the primary, mixed, and permanent dentitions

Endodontic Therapy

- Diagnose and treat diseases of pulpal and periradicular origin in the primary, mixed, and permanent dentitions

Surgical and Non-Surgical Therapies

- Diagnose and treat conditions requiring reparative surgical procedures and non-surgical therapies on the hard and oral soft tissues

Restorative/Prosthodontic Therapy

- Provide single or multiple tooth restorations, with appropriate fixed or removable techniques, to restore anatomic form, function, and esthetics to patients of all ages.
- Continually analyze the outcomes of patient treatment to improve patient care.