

# Pre-Dentistry

Pre-dentistry students may choose any major, but should work with a Pre-Health Advisor to plan a course of study that fulfills the prerequisite requirements as well as the requirements for the major and college. The UIC College of Dentistry notes that it is very important for applicants to demonstrate a strong science foundation regardless of the major chosen.

The table below lists the minimum coursework required to apply for admission to the College of Dentistry at the University of Illinois Chicago. DMD applicants must have a minimum of a bachelor's degree conferred no later than June of the matriculation year from a United States institution. A baccalaureate degree **is required** to matriculate into the DMD program at the UIC College of Dentistry.

## Minimum Required Coursework

Code	Title	Hours
<b>Required Courses <sup>a</sup></b>		
ENGL 160	Academic Writing I: Writing in Academic and Public Contexts	3
ENGL 161	Academic Writing II: Writing for Inquiry and Research	3
BIOS 110	Biology of Cells and Organisms <sup>b</sup>	4
BIOS 120	Biology of Populations and Communities <sup>b</sup>	4
Select one of the following sequences in general chemistry:		10
CHEM 122	Matter and Energy	
CHEM 123	Foundations of Chemical Inquiry I <sup>b,c</sup>	
CHEM 124	Chemical Dynamics	
CHEM 125	Foundations of Chemical Inquiry II <sup>b,c</sup>	
<b>OR</b>		
CHEM 116	Honors and Majors General and Analytical Chemistry I <sup>b</sup>	
CHEM 118	Honors and Majors General and Analytical Chemistry II <sup>b</sup>	
CHEM 232	Structure and Function	3
CHEM 233	Synthesis Techniques Laboratory	2
Select one of the following biochemistry courses:		3-4
BIOS 352	Introductory Biochemistry	
<b>OR</b>		
BIOS 452	Biochemistry I (prerequisite of CHEM 234 - Organic Chemistry II)	
Select one of the following sequences in physics:		8
PHYS 131	Introductory Physics for Life Sciences I <sup>b</sup>	
PHYS 132	Introductory Physics for Life Sciences II <sup>b</sup>	
<b>OR</b>		
PHYS 141	General Physics I (Mechanics) <sup>b</sup>	
PHYS 142	General Physics II (Electricity and Magnetism) <sup>b</sup>	
<b>Total Hours</b>		<b>40-41</b>

<sup>a</sup> The UIC College of Dentistry does not accept Advanced Placement (AP) courses as meeting course requirements. If basic-level biological

sciences, chemistry, and physics course requirements are satisfied with AP credit, students must then take the specified number of credit hours in each area from upper-level science courses. Students are advised to take an additional English course if they receive an exemption or placement credit from the first English composition requirement.

<sup>b</sup> This course is approved for the Analyzing the Natural World General Education category.

<sup>c</sup> Each of the following pairs of courses will be considered one course in meeting the LAS General Education requirements: CHEM 122/CHEM 123; CHEM 124/CHEM 125.

The College of Dentistry requires that all prerequisite science courses (except biochemistry) include labs. **Additionally, all required prerequisite courses taken must be completed with a grade of C or better.** Furthermore, the College of Dentistry gives strong preference to applicants who have taken three to four of the following science courses beyond the above minimum: human anatomy, physiology, microbiology, cell biology, histology, immunology, or genetics.

In addition to the coursework listed above, applicants to the College of Dentistry must also take the Dental Admission Test (DAT). The DAT is offered through the American Dental Association (ADA). For more information on the DAT, please see the [ADA website](#). Applicants to the College of Dentistry must apply through a centralized application service sponsored by the American Dental Education Association (ADEA). More information on the [Associated American Dental Schools Application Service \(AADSAS\)](#) is available online.

Students may obtain information regarding the DAT and AADSAS by attending workshops sponsored by LAS Pre-Health Advising. Students are advised to declare a pre-health educational goal upon entering UIC which will alert them to specific workshops and opportunities and as well as add them to a UIC Pre-Health Advising Blackboard page where they will receive other pertinent information.

Students are strongly encouraged to select an undergraduate major and begin fulfilling their degree requirements as they complete their pre-dentistry prerequisites. No specific major is required. To obtain a degree in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, pre-dentistry students must satisfy all degree requirements of the college, including a major program.

In addition to the academic requirements, pre-dental students at UIC are strongly encouraged to become active members of the UIC Pre-Dental Club, obtain research experience, and preprofessional experiences in dental practices which may include but are not limited to shadowing a private practitioner, working as a dental assistant, working as a dental lab technician, observing in a public health dental clinic, etc. The UIC College of Dentistry recommends at least 100 hours of shadowing experience by the time of application.

The pre-dentistry information described above includes the minimum courses for application to the UIC College of Dentistry. Specific admission requirements of other dental schools are listed in [The Official Guide to Dental Schools](#), which is published by the [American Dental Education Association](#), 655 K. Street, N.W., Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20001. Information on dental schools is also available through the [Online ADEA Dental School Explorer](#).