

Course Requirements

144 hours distributed as follows:

Communication

ENGL 101+102 College English I,II 4+4

Natural Science

BIOL 111+12+13 Biological Foundations I,II,III 5+5+5
 CHEM 111+L General Chemistry I+Lab 4+1
 CHEM 112+L General Chemistry II+Lab 4+1
 CHEM 113+L General Chemistry III+Lab 4+1
 CHEM 371+L Organic Chemistry I+Lab 3+1
 CHEM 372+L Organic Chemistry II+Lab 3+1
 CHEM 373+L Organic Chemistry III+Lab 3+1
 CHEM 481+482 Biochemistry I,II 4+4
 (or CHEM 481 & BIOL 320)* 4+4
 PHYS 111+12+13 General Physics I,II,III 4+4+4

Religion

(4 quarter hours per year of attendance at a church-related college)

Electives recommended to assist in preparation for a dental career

ACCT 121 Financial Accounting I (3)
 ARTF 212 Ceramics I (2)
 ARTF 320 Clay Sculpture (2)
 BIOL 101 Human Anatomy (5)
 BIOL 320 Cell and Molecular Biology (4)*
 BIOL 348 Systems Physiology (4)
 BIOL 354 Genetics (4)
 BIOL 422 Advanced Human Anatomy (4)
 BIOL 426 Histology (5)
 BIOL 430 Neurobiology (4)
 BIOL 469 Immunology (4)
 CHEM 483 Biochemistry III (3)
 COMM 105 Communication & Public Speaking(4)
 GNRL 204 Intro to Dentistry (2)
 MGMT 160 Small Business Management (3)
 MGMT 261 Intro to Management (3)
 MGMT 472 Human Resources Management (3)
 MICR 134 General Microbiology (5)
 MKTG 351 Marketing (4)
 PSYC 121 General Psychology (4)
 STAT 222 Introduction to Statistics (4)

* Together, BIOL 320 and CHEM 481 also fulfill the Loma Linda University biochemistry requirement.

Course Sequence

This sample curriculum is designed to show you how a pre-dentistry course sequence may be constructed. Depending on your college major, you may take the core science courses in a different order. Work with your advisor to design a personalized program of studies.

Freshman Year

Biological Foundations Sequence
 College English Sequence

Sophomore Year

General Chemistry Sequence

Junior Year

Organic Chemistry Sequence
 General Physics Sequence

Summer after Junior Year

DAT
 Application to Dental School

Senior Year

Biochemistry

For More Information

American Dental Association
 211 E. Chicago Avenue
 Chicago, IL 60611-2678
<http://www.ada.org>

American Dental Education Association
 655 K Street NW, Suite 800
 Washington, DC 20001
<http://www.adea.org>

Visit PUC's website: www.puc.edu/academics/pre-professional/pre-dentistry/home

Occupational Information

Who Should Take Dentistry?

Admission to the school of dentistry is on a competitive basis and students should carefully assess their aptitudes for success in this dentistry. In addition to the scientific knowledge required in dentistry, the prospective dentist should be skilled in activities involving careful handwork and artistic judgement. In addition to academic performance, the Admissions Committee will review the ethical standards, character, and personality of each applicant.

Even though students may be certain about their choice of a dental career, it is wise to consider taking course work that would lead to alternate careers. Students advised to seek help from the Counseling Center and/or academic advisors in choosing their courses leading to the study of dentistry.

Should the student be concerned about general education courses?

Yes. The student of dentistry should have a good understanding of the humanities and the behavioral sciences as well as the natural sciences.

When should admissions tests be taken and what can be done to prepare for them?

All applicants to dental school must take the Dental Admissions Test (DAT) no later than the fall prior to the year of anticipated admission. The DAT must be taken within two years of admission.

The student needs to select courses carefully in order to be prepared to take the test after the junior year. All courses that would help in preparing for the test should be included in the first three years. Successful participation in the DAT requires completion of yearlong courses in biology and general and organic chemistry.

Before applying to take the DAT or applying for admission to a dental school, students must obtain a DENTPIN, a unique personal identifier. Students should obtain the DENTPIN from <http://www.ada.org/dentpin.aspx>.

Students should visit the DAT website to obtain information regarding the exam and to apply to take the exam: <http://www.ada.org/dat.aspx>.

Is an interview required for admission?

Yes. An interview is required of each applicant during the academic year prior to enrollment in a dental school. This formal interview is by invitation only.

How long does it take to meet entrance requirements?

Students applying to the School of Dentistry at LLU must complete a minimum of 144 quarter hours, including the specific course requirements. The completion of a baccalaureate degree is preferred.

Loma Linda also requires applicants to have observed or shadowed a practicing dentist for a minimum of 50 clock hours.

As a rule, credits earned in professional schools (business, medical technology, nursing, veterinary medicine, pharmacy, or medicine) do not fulfill admission requirements.

Is a degree recommended?

Yes. Preference is given to students who will complete a baccalaureate degree before entering dental school.

What major should be chosen?

Any major may be chosen, including a non-science major. Students should select their major by the end of the freshman year.

Once the student decides on a major, academic advice should be sought from an advisor in the department offering the major as well as from the pre-dental advisor.

When should the student apply for admission to the School of Dentistry?

The student should apply at least one year before the anticipated date of admission. The application is made through the American Association of Dental Schools Admission Service (AADSAS) between early June and early December.

Students do not apply directly to Loma Linda University. Instead, upon receipt of the application from AADSAS, Loma Linda University will send the candidate a secondary application.

Decisions by the Admissions Committee begin in December; therefore the sooner the application is complete, the sooner a student may be given a decision.

Where are application forms available?

For information about the application process and AADSA, visit <http://www.adea.org/godental>.