



Health Professions Pathways Program (H3P)

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PRE-DENTAL RECOMMENDED COURSEWORK

Dental schools do not require a specific undergraduate major for admission; however, they do expect applicants to complete foundational coursework in the basic sciences. The Health Professions Pathways Program, in collaboration with campus academic partners, recommends the following coursework to help students meet common U.S. dental school prerequisites and prepare for competitive admission.

Because prerequisite requirements vary among dental schools, these recommendations may not satisfy all requirements for every institution. Coursework beyond the recommendations listed below may be required or recommended by specific dental schools. Additionally, some dental schools may accept equivalent coursework that fulfills the same subject requirement. Students should use these recommendations as a guide, consult with their academic advisors, and verify requirements through the [ADEA Guide / Explorer](#) and individual program websites.

RECOMMENDED GU COURSEWORK ALIGNED WITH COMMON DENTAL SCHOOL PREREQUISITES	CREDITS
3 Semesters of Biology	
BIOL 105/L Info Flow in Biological Systems with lab	4
BIOL 106 Energy Flow in Biological Systems	3
BIOL 170/L Intro to Microbiology or BIOL 370/L Microbiology	3
5 Semesters of Chemistry	
CHEM 101/L General Chemistry I with lab	4
CHEM 102/L General Chemistry II with lab	4
CHEM 230/L Organic Chemistry I with lab	4
CHEM 231/L Organic Chemistry II with lab	4
CHEM 307/L Biochemistry I with lab (<i>previously listed as CHEM 245/L</i>)	4
Anatomy and/or Physiology (see additional considerations)	
2 Semesters of Physics	
PHYS 111/L General Physics I with lab or PHYS 121 Physics I with lab	5
PHYS 112/L General Physics II with lab or PHYS 122 Physics II with lab	5
1 Semester of Mathematics	
MATH 121 Statistics	3
TOTAL	46 to 57

Additional Considerations:

- Anatomy and/or Physiology is recommended for competitive admission. While only required by approximately 20% of dental schools, many additional programs recommend or expect coursework in these areas.
- Some dental schools require upper-division Microbiology and may require or recommend Calculus.
- AP, IB, and dual-enrollment credit may not satisfy prerequisite requirements.

Student Responsibilities:

Students are responsible for confirming prerequisite or minimum-grade requirements, co-requisites that must be completed concurrently, registration restrictions (major, minor, class standing) and course availability and scheduling. Verify this information through Zagweb, the Gonzaga course catalog, or consultation with an academic advisor.