



DENTISTRY

Itasca Community College - University of Minnesota

THE DENTAL PROFESSION Dentistry is a rapidly changing, expanding profession, involving: detection of disease, diagnosis, aesthetic improvement, surgical restoration, and public education. The dentist's typical day is diverse and interesting. Dentists are creative individuals who are artists as well as scientists. They interact with people of all ages, cultures and personalities. They are highly respected within the community and are skilled, conscientious, civic-minded individuals who work with community leaders, educators, other health professionals and government officials. They often volunteer their services to school health programs and to elderly, disabled, or poor citizens, thereby demonstrating a selflessness that is a hallmark of professionalism. In addition, because dentistry allows you to be your own boss, dentists can balance their personal and professional lives to meet their individual needs and desires. Professional options are widely varied and include private practice, teaching, research, public health and administration. The need for dentists from minority groups is very strong. Career opportunities for women in dentistry are also particularly good at this time. The demand for dental care will continue to grow. For example, geriatric dental care and the greatly increased demand for newer services, such as cosmetic dentistry, also will contribute to this growth. The average income of a dentist is in the highest 5% of U.S. family income. (source: American Dental Association: <http://www.ada.org/prof/ed/careers/brochures/dentistry.html>.)

THE PROGRAM The University Of Minnesota School Of Dentistry established in 1888, is the only dental school in the state of Minnesota and one of 56 programs in the country. The School of Dentistry has gained a national and international reputation for the quality of its educational, clinical, research, and service programs and has earned long-standing recognition for the excellence of its patient care educational programs.

The School of Dentistry offers the Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) degree, which is a 4-year program. Upon successful completion of the program, as well as completion of written and clinical exams, graduates become licensed general practitioners.

The School of Dentistry also offers a Dentist-Scientist Training Program DDS / Ph.D. This program provides for integrated DDS and Ph.D. experiences for exceptional baccalaureate students. Refer to the Minnesota Craniofacial Research Training (MinnCResT) program website: www.mncrest.umn.edu.

				<u>Credits</u>
	Math	1122	Calculus I	4
	Biol	1201	General Biology I	4
	Biol	1202	General Biology II	4
*	Chem	1201	General Chemistry	5
*	Chem	1202	General Chemistry	5
	Chem	2201	Organic Chemistry	5
	Engl	1101	Expository Writing	4
	Engl	1113	Research Writing	3
	Phys	1101	Introductory Physics	4
	Phys	1102	Introductory Physics	4
	Psyc	1101	General Psychology	3
	Spch	1105	Fundamentals of Public Speaking	3

* Need Chem 1101 or high school chemistry with a "B" grade or higher before enrolling in Chem 1201 and 1202.

A first-year class is admitted to the dentistry program once each year in the fall. Students planning to enter dental school can begin their pre-dental studies at any time during their undergraduate education.

High school credentials are not examined as part of the admission evaluation, but students anticipating dental careers should take a sound academic program in high school to prepare properly for the pre-dental and dental programs. Coursework should include mathematics, chemistry, physics, biology, foreign languages, English, and social studies.

A minimum of 87 semester credits or 130 quarter credits of liberal arts courses from an officially accredited U.S. or Canadian college or university is required. A maximum of 64 semester credits from community or junior colleges will be applied to the 90 semester credits. (One semester credit is equivalent to 1.5 quarter credits.) While acceptance is based primarily on performance quality, applicants are encouraged to have a broad liberal education.

To help achieve the goals of a liberal education, the School of Dentistry prefers that all students distribute some part of their pre-dental college coursework in areas of study other than those related to the biological and physical sciences. Pre-dental students are urged to plan their coursework to satisfy the University's liberal education requirements. Note: University liberal education requirements are not required for a D.D.S. but are recommended.

An overall GPA of 2.50 is the minimum required for admission consideration. However, acceptance is on a competitive basis and an average well above this is usually necessary to be admitted.

Required courses should be completed by the end of the regular academic year (spring semester) for enrollment the following fall. Completing required courses during the summer before the fall of enrollment is discouraged.

For more information call or write Ms. Laura Boland; UM School of Dentistry; 15-106 Malcolm Moos Tower; 515 Delaware St. SE; Minneapolis, MN 55455; (612) 625-7149, or visit www.dentistry.umn.edu.

The Minnesota Transfer Curriculum and Itasca's Associate in Arts Degree

The public higher education colleges and universities in Minnesota have developed a common liberal education curriculum called the **Minnesota Transfer Curriculum**. Students who complete the Associate in Arts degree at Itasca Community College will have automatically met all Minnesota Transfer Curriculum requirements. Students desiring to complete the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum requirements and then transfer without the Associate in Arts degree may pick up a MNTC checksheet in the Counseling and Career Center. For questions regarding the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum, please see an ICC counselor.