

Pre-Dental at UNT

Prospective Student Handout

The Office of Health Professions provides advising and guidance for any current student who expresses an interest in applying and attending a dental school after graduation. Though we do not offer a formal program, major, or concentration in Pre-Dental Studies, we will serve any student who wishes to become a dentist. Therefore, no UNT student has to 'qualify' for our advising services; as long as you are a current student, we will gladly help you create a plan to achieve your professional goals.

The Office of Health Professions provides the following services:

- Personalized Advising
- Career Exploration
- Application Guidance and Planning
- Review of Entrance Requirements and Prerequisite Coursework
- Professional Timeline
- Interview Preparation and Personal Statement Review

Frequently Asked Questions about Pre-Dental at UNT

What prerequisites do I need for Dental schools?

All prerequisites are located on each Dental school's website. If you plan to transfer to UNT, please see a list of all Texas Dental prerequisites in our Pre-Dental Packet (courses are presented as UNT course numbers): <https://cos.unt.edu/sites/cos.unt.edu/files/cos/COS%202017-8-16%20Pre-Dental.pdf>

We also encourage you to look at the Texas Medical & Dental Schools Application Service (TMDSAS) website for additional information about Texas Dental prerequisites: <https://www.tmdsas.com/>

When do I apply for Dental school?

Students will apply for Dental programs one year before enrollment. Many students use the year in between to complete their Bachelor's degree. Be sure to check all deadlines on TMDSAS and the Dental schools' websites.

Is a Bachelor's degree required for admission to a Dental school?

No, technically a degree is not required for admission. However, a student will not be competitive without a earned a degree first.

What should I major in?

Many pre-dental students choose to major in Biology (Bachelor of Arts) because all of the dental prerequisites will apply towards this degree. Though not required for all Dental schools, students should plan on completing a degree in a hard science (especially if you would like to apply to Texas A&M Baylor College of Dentistry).

Frequently Asked Questions about Pre-Dental at UNT cont.

What will make me a competitive candidate for Dental school admission?

Though not all is required, the following information can help you become a competitive candidate:

- **GPA:** 3.6-4.0 is considered a competitive GPA for Texas Dental schools
- **Entrance Exam:** Pre-Dental students are required to take the DAT. Please visit the DCAT website for more information: <http://www.ada.org/en/education-careers/dental-admission-test/>
- **Community Service:** Pre-Dental students should find volunteer opportunities that are consistent and relevant to their passion for serving others
- **Shadowing:** Students should shadow a *general* dentist regularly

When should I take the DAT?

Ideally, pre-dental students should take the DAT around May or June of the year they are applying.

Does UNT offer any Pre-Health clubs on campus?

Yes. Please visit our website for a list of Pre-Health organizations on campus:

<https://cos.unt.edu/advising/health-professions/pre-dental-university-north-texas>

What is HPAC?

HPAC stands for 'Health Professions Advisory Committee'. Many dental schools prefer a committee letter of recommendation from a student's undergraduate institution, and the HPAC provides such opportunity for UNT pre-dental students.

Qualifications for HPAC: 15 hours of UNT course credit and a 3.2 cumulative GPA (subject to change)

Does UNT offer a Dental program?

No, the UNT Denton campus does not offer a Dental program.

I am not sure if I would like to attend UNT. How can I learn more about transferring?

- 1) Feel free to schedule a prospective appointment with an advisor in the major of your interest. During your meeting, be sure to express your interest in Pre-Dental and have a Pre-Dental packet available (this can help evaluate how the Pre-Medical courses will apply towards your major):
<https://cos.unt.edu/advising/health-professions/pre-dental-university-north-texas>
- 2) Once you have been accepted to UNT, you will attend a new student orientation. At orientation, please attend our Pre-Health seminar to learn more about the journey to a Health Professional school.
- 3) After orientation, feel free to schedule an appointment with a Pre-Health Counselor in the Office of Health Professions: 940-369-8606.
- 4) Have questions about Pre-Health at UNT? Feel free to e-mail us or give us a call at 940-369-8606.