College of Science
CALIFORNIA STATE POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY, POMONA

PRE-DENTISTRY

Dental education programs are four years of in class, pre-clinical, and clinical instruction. The first two years usually cover the basic sciences and the last two years are spent diagnosing oral disease, surgery, and clinical study. In the fourth year, students typically must complete a dental rotation externship. In additions to general dentistry, dental schools may offer specialized postgraduate programs of study, in areas such as oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthodontics, or pediatric dentistry, which can take an additional two to six years to complete. In addition, some dental schools offer joint degree programs that can include Master's, PH.D degrees in oral biology & the basic sciences, as well as MPH and MBA.

COMMON PRE-DENTISTRY PREREQUISITE COURSES

Biology	One year of general biology w/labs	BIO 121/L, 122/L, & 123/L
Chemistry	One year of general inorganic chemistry w/labs	CHM 121/L, 122/L, & 123/L
Organic Chemistry	One year of organic chemistry w/labs	CHM 314/317L, 315/318L, & 316/319L
Physics	One year of general physics w/labs	PHY 121/L, 122/L, & 123/L or PHY 131/L, 132/L, & 133/L
Mathematics	One quarter/semester is recommended or may be required. Some schools prefer one quarter/semester of calculus, while other prefer statistics. Check schools for requirements	MAT 120 or MAT 114, 115, & 116 STA 120
Molecular Biology	One quarter/semester is strongly recommended or required	BIO 310
Biochemistry	One quarter/semester is strongly recommended or required	CHM 321/L or CHM 327/L, 328/L, & 329/L
3-Dimensional Art	Many dental schools strongly recommend at least one course in sculpture to develop manual dexterity and spatial orientation skills	ART 180A ART 280A ART 387A
English	One year is required for most schools	ENG 104 &ENG 105 or PHL 202 (Meets Areas A2 & A3)

Additional Subjects Recommended by most U.S. Dental Schools

Anatomy, Physiology, Cell Biology, or Microbiology	Basic or advanced level science courses are recommended or may be required. Refer to ADEA Official Guide to Dental Schools for more information.	ZOO 234/L (Human Anatomy) BIO 235/L (Human Physiology) BIO 310 (Cell & Molecular Biology) MIC 201/L (Basic Micro)
Humanities/Social Sciences	Many Dental schools strongly recommend a course in Psychology, Sociology, Philosophy, History, Communications (Speech), Business or Economics. There is no set number of units for these subjects	PSY 201 (Meets E) or PSY 202 SOC 201 (Meets D3) or SOC 202 PHL 201, 204, 205, 206, 220,or 221 (Meets C2) History courses in C2/D1B/D2 COM 100 or 204 (Meets A1) EC 201 or 202 (Meets D2)

Resources

American Dental Education Association (ADEA)	www.adea.org
American Dental Association	www.ada.org
American Student Dental Association	www.asdanet.org
Dental Admissions Test (DAT)	http://www.ada.org/dat.apps
ADEA Official Guide to Dental Schools	http://www.adea.org/publications/Pages/Official Guide.aspx

- **This information is not comprehensive and serves as a guideline. Students are STRONGLY encouraged to research various institutions for up to date information and school specific pre-requisites/admission requirements.**