

The Pathway to Dental School for Post-Bacc Students

GETTING STARTED

Medical Applicant Portal (MAP): MAP is an online resource for post-bacc students and alumni to identify themselves as Pre-Med and stay informed of important dates and events. It also serves as a portfolio to help prepare students for the application process. Create a MAP account in StudentHub!

Connect with us: [Meet your pre-health advisor](#), register for [upcoming events](#), sign up for our [monthly newsletter](#), and read up on our latest [blog posts](#) from students, staff, and alumni! Follow us on Instagram and Facebook @NUPreHealth

APPLICATION & TIMELINE

The application process for dental school **begins every year in May** and is a **year-long application process**. Applicants should have their prerequisite courses and DAT score(s), along with recommended experiences, prior to the application. Please click on the links below to learn more about each dental application type:

[Dental Medicine - AADSAS](#)

[TMSDAS - Texas Medical & Dental Schools](#)

Most students in the post-bacc certificate program should expect to be in the program for about one year prior to applying to dental school - more information and resources are [on our website](#).

EXPERIENTIAL PREPARATION

Dental students must possess a broad range of competencies to successfully learn and develop in dental school and become effective dentists. The pre-dental competency model includes **professional, thinking and reasoning, and science competencies**, and serves as a roadmap for students as they prepare to succeed in medical careers. View the [AAMC Core Competencies](#) here.

Post-bacc students bring a wealth of professional and interdisciplinary experience that will be valued by dental school admissions. Rather than starting from scratch, post-bacc students should assess where their experiences are already strong and identify areas to supplement with additional **community service, clinical exposure, dental shadowing**.

REQUIRED COURSEWORK

Requisite courses are **school specific**. For detailed course requirements, please review the list of [accredited dental schools](#) on the linked ADEA Go Dental website.

Common courses include:

- **Biology** with labs (Two semesters)
- **General Chemistry** with lab(s) (Two semesters)
- **Organic Chemistry** with labs (Two semesters)
- **Physics** with labs (Two semesters)
- **Biochemistry** with lab
- **Math** (One Calculus & One Statistics)
- **Social Science/Humanities** (Two semesters)
- Additional coursework across disciplines may be required (e.g. Microbiology, Anatomy & Physiology, etc.)

ENTRANCE EXAM

Pre-Dental students will take the **Dental Admissions Test (DAT)**. We recommend that pre-dental post-bacc students plan to take the DAT **after completing all general biology, general chemistry, and organic chemistry prerequisite courses** and the applicant has had **4-5 months to study**. At the latest, applicants should take the DAT by the end of June, the year they apply.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

The Northeastern University [PreMed & PreHealth Advising](#) program offers a **Letters Packet** service for medical, dental, and podiatry applicants who complete the **Pre-Med Post-Bacc Certificate Program**. More information on our [website here](#).