Dentists diagnose and treat diseases of the hard and soft tissue of the mouth. They are also trained to recognize a number of systemic diseases that manifest symptoms within the oral cavity to be referred to the appropriate physician. Eight specialties include orthodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, endodontics, periodontics, pedodontics, prosthodontics, oral pathology, and dental public health.

ADEA AADSAS Application Tips
ADEA AADSAS Participating Dental Schools Required and Recommended Courses
ADEA Enrichment Programs Calendar
ADEA GoDental
ADEA Guidelines for Predental Students Providing Patient Care During Clinical Experiences Abroad
ADEA Official Guide to Dental Schools
Air Force Dentist Career Information
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD)
American Academy of Periodontology (AAP)
American Academy of Periodontology Foundation (AAPF) Scholarships
American Association for Dental Research (AADR)
American Association of Orthodontists (AAO)
American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD); American Association of Public Health Dentistry Foundation Scholarships
American Association of Women Dentists (AAWD)
American College of Dentists (ACD)
American Dental Association (ADA)
American Student Dental Association (ASDA); ASDA Webinar Schedule
Application Prep
Application Timeline
Army Dental Corps
Background Checks
Becoming a Dentist
Canadian Dental Association
Choosing a Dental School
Coast Guard Dental Officer Career Information
Community Service Information
Competitive Dental Re-applicant Information
DAT Preparation Information
DAT Scores by Dental School
DAT Study Plan Advice
Day in the Life of a Dental Student
Deciding Where to Apply
Dental Blogs
Dental Forums on Student Doctor Network (SDN)
Life After Dental School
Life of a Dentist
Loan Types for Dental School
Manual Dexterity Importance
Massachusetts Dental Society; Worcester District Dental Society
Medical/Dental Education Preparatory Program (MEDPREP), Southern Illinois University School of Medicine
Medical Education Development Program, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Schools of Medicine and Dentistry
National Dental Association (NDA)
National Dental Association Foundation (NDAF) Scholarships
National Museum of Dentistry
Navy Dentistry Careers
Nontraditional Dental Applicants Information
Non-traditional Student Resources
Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC Applicant Information Sessions (last Friday of each month)
Passport to Dentistry Program, University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine (scroll down to "Passport to Dentistry")
Paying Back Your Dental School Loans
Paying for Dental School
Paying for Dental School Advice
Paying for Dental School Guide
Paying for Dental School Info
Paying Off Dental School Debt
Periodontics Careers
Personal Statement
Post-Baccalaureate Program, Creighton University
Post-Baccalaureate Program, Marquette University Biomedical Sciences Department
Post-Baccalaureate Program, Texas A&M University College of Dentistry
Post-Baccalaureate Program, UCLA School of Dentistry
Post-Baccalaureate Program, University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine
Postbaccalaureate Programs
Predental Clinical Simulation Course, University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry
Predental Day Course, University of Oklahoma College of Dentistry
Pre-Dental Enrichment Program for College Students, Texas A&M University College of Dentistry
Predental Timeline
Predental Timeline Info
Preparing Tomorrow's Dentists Summer Program, East Carolina University School of Dental Medicine (for residents of NC)
Research Experience
Rutgers Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences Dental Scholars Program
Scholarship Links
Scholarships and Awards, Colgate-Palmolive Co.
Scholarships, Awards and Fellowships
Shadowing
Shadowing Advice
Shadowing and Internship Importance
Shadowing at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry
Shadowing at University of Louisville School of Dentistry DMD Clinic (scroll down to "DMD Clinic Shadowing")
Shadowing Dentists as a Predental Student
Shadowing Experience Tips
Shadowing Guide
Shadowing in a Dental Office
Shadowing/Observing Program at the Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine Dental Care Center
Shadowing Opportunities at Mohawk Valley Health System (scroll down to "Shadowing Opportunities")
Shadowing Prepares You for Dental School
Shadowing Program at Aspen Dental
Shadowing Program at Virginia Commonwealth University School of Dentistry Department of Orthodontics
Shadowing Success Tips
Society of American Indian Dentists (SAID); SAID Student Scholarships
Special Care Dentistry Association (SCDA); SCDA Student Awards
Student Loans for Dental School
Student National Dental Association (SNDA); SNDA Scholarships
Summer Health Professions Education Program (SHPEP)
Summer Programs, Loma Linda University School of Dentistry
Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service (TMDSAS)
Volunteer Abroad and Medical Mission Trips
Volunteer Opportunities
Volunteer Opportunities at Free Dental Clinics (scroll down and click on "Information for Clinic Volunteers")
Volunteer Opportunities for Pre-Dental Students
Volunteer Opportunities Listed by the Chicago Dental Society
Volunteer Opportunities, MOM-n-PA Dental Missions
Volunteer Opportunities, UCLA School of Dentistry
Volunteer Opportunities with Global Dental Relief
Volunteer Opportunities with International Smile Power
Volunteer Opportunities with Mission of Mercy
Volunteer Opportunity Search
Volunteering for Dental Nonprofits: Smiles on Wings; America’s ToothFairy (National Children’s Oral Health Foundation)
Worcester District Dental Society

(Additional dentistry links are located on the "Resources" page. Scroll down to “Explore Even More,” click on “Health Professions Links” and select “Dentistry.”)

Degree
D.D.S., D.M.D.

Program Length
4-7 years, depending on specialization.

Professional Schools' Organization
ADEA (American Dental Education Association)
Dental Schools
U.S. and Canadian Dental Schools

Application Service
ADEA AADSAS (ADEA Associated American Dental Schools Application Service)
Application Fees
Fee Assistance Program

Academic Admission Requirements
Minimum three years undergraduate; B.A. or B.S. preferred; one year each: General & Organic Chemistry, Physics, Biology, English, Calculus & Upper-level Biology recommended.
Links to prerequisites for each U.S. dental school are found at the bottom of the Choosing Your Courses page (select “Course Requirements of the U.S. Dental Schools”).
ADEA AADSAS Participating Dental Schools Required and Recommended Courses

Admission Exam
DAT (Dental Admission Test)
DAT Fee Waiver Information

Personal Attributes & Experiences
Evidence of inquiring independent thought, interest in continued education, motivation toward dental career, good interpersonal skills, leadership qualities and interest in the community; appropriate psychomotor skills, concern for people, social awareness; evidence of understanding of the profession through experiences in clinical settings; psychomotor skills to perform technical tasks in dentistry, service and desire to help others.
Recommendation Letters

Health Professions Committee letter (usually confidential) sent with additional individual letters of support.