

Dentistry Description

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. (Click [here](#) to view a few examples of the many Clark alumni dentists.)

[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](#)

[A.T. Still University-Missouri School of Dentistry and Oral Health](#)

[\(ATSU-MOSDOH\) Still Scholars Early Assurance Program](#)

[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 \(SDN\)](#)
[Dental Medicine as a Career](#)
[Dentist Career Guide](#)
[Dentist Career Overview](#)
[Dental Career Paths](#)
[Dental Preparatory Program, University of Connecticut](#)
[Dental School Prep Course, University of Minnesota School of Dentistry](#)
[Dentist Career Profile; Profile Two; Profile Three](#)
[Dentist Interview](#)
[Dentist Job Profile](#)
[Dentist Occupational Outlook](#)
[Dentistry Career](#)
[Dentistry 101](#)
[Dentistry Overview](#)
[DentPath Program, Ohio State University College of Dentistry](#)
[Discussions with Dentists](#)
[Diversity and Inclusion Resources](#)
[Diversity in Dentistry](#)
[Financing Options for Dental School](#)
[Gap Year Advice](#)
[Gap Year Before Dental School](#)
[Gap Year Considerations](#)
[Gap Year in the Eyes of Admissions](#)
[Gateway to Dentistry Program, Rutgers School of Dental Medicine](#)
[Get Into Dental School](#)
[Getting Into Dental School](#)
[Hispanic Dental Association](#)
[Hispanic Dental Association Foundation Scholarship Program](#)
[History of Dentistry](#)
[International Dental Student Tips](#)
[International Student Information](#)
[Interview Advice](#)
[Interview Advice When Asked About Your Applications to Other Dental Schools](#)
[Interview Feedback on Student Doctor Network \(SDN\)](#) (select "Interview Feedback" in individual entry)
[Interview Practice Questions](#)
[Interview Preparation](#)
[Interview Question Preparation](#)
[Interview Questions](#)

[Interview Tips](#)
[Interview Tips and Preparation](#)
[Interviewing Virtually: Dos and Don'ts \(click on "Virtual Dental School Interviews Dos and Don'ts" icon\)](#)
[Introduction to Dentistry Summer Program, University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine](#)
[Letters of Evaluation](#)
[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](#)
[Oral Health Sciences MS Program, Graduate Medical Sciences at Boston University School of Medicine](#)
[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, Temple University College of Science and Technology](#)
[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)
[ADEA AADSAS School-Specific Deadlines](#)
[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.