PRE-DENTAL ADVISING

At the University of Kentucky (UK), pre-professional programs are interest areas that students complete alongside their UK Core requirements and major curriculum. Students may pursue any major as long as pre-dentistry prerequisite coursework is completed.

The College of Agriculture, Food and Environment offers support and guidance to students throughout the college interested in applying to dentistry school. In addition to outlining necessary coursework and guiding students through application processes, the college’s pre-professional advisor also directs students to University programs, such as UK Education Abroad or the Center for Community Outreach, that foster well-rounded medical school applicants.

M E E T W I T H A N A D V I S O R

Pre-dental students should meet with a pre-professional advisor at least twice during their freshman/sophomore years and at least three times during their junior/senior years. Visit www.uky.edu/grow and click “Advising Resources” for instructions on setting up an appointment with the college’s pre-professional advisor. Pre-dental students are also encouraged to attend pre-dental workshops, meetings, and events at the UK College of Dentistry each semester.

Lesli Hall, Pre-Med Advisor
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Our advisors work closely with advisors in the UK College of Dentistry. Visit mc.uky.edu/dentistry to learn more.

D A T

The Dental College Admission Test (DAT) is a standardized, multiple-choice examination designed to assess problem solving, critical thinking, and knowledge of science concepts and principle prerequisites to the study of dentistry. Pre-dental courses in biology, general chemistry, organic chemistry, and physics should be taken prior to taking the DAT.

C O N N E C T

Join the pre-med listserv to stay connected with pre-dental announcements. To subscribe, send an email message to listserv@lsv.uky.edu and type “SUBSCRIBE PRE-MED-L” in the body of the message.

P R E P A R E

The following is a general outline of dental school requirements (not including UK Core or major requirements):

First Year
- CHE 105 General Chemistry I / CHE 111 Lab I
- CHE 107 General Chemistry II / CHE 113 Lab II
- BIO 148 Principles of Biology I / BIO 155 Lab I
- BIO 152 Principles of Biology II (may be taken first or second year)
- Mathematics as needed for major Suggested: MA 123 or MA 137 or MA 113

Second Year
- CHE 230 Organic Chemistry I / CHE 231 Lab I
- CHE 232 Organic Chemistry II / CHE 233 Lab II
- Upper division BIO class with lab

Third Year
- PHY 211 General Physics I *
- PHY 213 General Physics II - or - PHY 231 General University Physics / PHY 241 Lab I
- PHY 232 General University Physics II / PHY 242 Lab II

*UK and U of L’s dental schools require 1 semester of physics

UK Dental School requires students to complete one semester of microbiology (BIO 208 or BIO 308) and one semester of biochemistry (BCH 401G). Pre-dental students are also strongly encouraged to complete coursework in statistics, psychology, and sociology.

Some dental schools have additional requirements beyond the courses listed above. These may include genetics, cell biology, immunobiology, histology, and cell biology. Students should reference the Official Guide to Dental Schools and specific dental school admission requirements for more information.

W H Y O U R C O L L E G E ?

In addition to pre-professional advising services, students in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment connect with a variety of passionate faculty, staff, alumni and community organizations dedicated to meaningful, enriching experiences. These connections help students discover real-world applications to their studies and become well-rounded, competitive applicants for dental school.

While completing medical school requirements, past pre-dental students have been successful in majors such as Human Nutrition, Food Science, Animal Sciences, and Agricultural and Medical Biotechnology.