

Graduate Students in Your Field Ask your professors for the names of undergraduate alumni who have attended graduate schools in your field. Contact those alumni for their advice on programs. When you visit schools, ask to speak to currently enrolled students.

Professional Journals Note which faculty members are publishing in professional journals or textbooks in your

What does it take to enter and succeed in medical/dental school?

1. Motivation and intelligence
2. Well-rounded college education
3. Completion of college prerequisites for medical school entrance:
 1. Good academic performance
 2. High grade point average--usually, between 3.3 and 3.6 on a 4-point scale
4. Preparation for the medical college admission test (MCAT) or dental admission test (DAT)
5. Timely and successful performance on the MCAT or DAT. Competitiveness of MCAT and DAT scores varies with the institutions that you are applying to and the strength of your other credentials
6. Evidence of motivation for the profession
7. Evidence of interest in service
8. Evidence of leadership
9. Strong letters of recommendation
10. Well written personal statement
11. Timely applications to medical schools
12. Good communication skills

Do I have to major in science to become a competitive candidate for medical/dental school?

Many students planning to apply to medical school think they should major in science and they will be less competitive candidates as humanities or social science majors. This, however, is not the case. Premedical/pre-dental students should use the same criteria for choosing a major that other students use: What discipline is most interesting and most challenging? Which field draws best on your talents and abilities? Premed/pre-dental course work can fit into a non-science major with careful planning and advice from the premed adviser and program faculty advisers.

When deciding on a major, several points are worth noting:

- Medical schools are interested in applicants who are challenged in the sciences and have demonstrated their abilities in science. They also want to attract candidates who have a broad background. According to the Association of American Medical Colleges, in the 2000-2001 entering class for medical schools nationwide, 43% of all Biology majors, 48% of all Physical Science majors and 49% of all non-science majors who applied to medical schools nationwide were accepted.
- Successful medical school and dental school applicants demonstrate both ability in science and that broader understanding through a strong academic record. Premedical students have majored in English, History, Engineering, and Psychology, as well as the more traditional science fields. Those with equally strong records have been equally successful in gaining admission.

I have heard Organic Chemistry is a “weed out” course for premedical/pre-dental students?

Organic chemistry is a very challenging class that covers a lot of material, and so it is similar to the kinds of classes you will encounter in medical schools and that is why the admissions committee will look closely at these grades. In addition organic chemistry is required before you take the MCAT/DAT.

What are the steps to applying to medical/dental-school?

The primary medical school application you will submit is through the **American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS)** for MD schools, American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine Application Service (AACOMAS) for DO schools and for dental school it is the American Association for Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS). Your AMCAS/AACOMAS/AADSAS application will contain your personal information, college transcript, MCAT/DAT scores, volunteer work, awards, and personal statement. The same

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How Can the Case Career Center Help?

- Conduct a mock interview with a career professional.
- Have your CV/resume reviewed.
- Have your personal statement or essay critiqued.
- Visit the Accenture Resource Library to access additional materials.

Case Career Center 206 Sears
<http://studentaffairs.case.edu/careers/> 216-368-4446