

PRE-DENTISTRY

Updated 06/30/09

Name: _____ ID #: _____

Degree Requirements for students seeking matriculation to Loma Linda University:

1. If you are planning to attend another university, please visit the Office of Pre-Health Professions early during your academic career so that we may assist you in meeting for Dental School.
2. **G.P.A.:** A minimum GPA of 2.7 both overall and science (BCPM-Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Math) is required, but to be competitive students should have a 3.5 or above.
3. **Application deadline:** Applications should be submitted during the summer following your junior year. AADSAS (Application Association of Dental Schools Application Service) usually opens in May. It is essential that you apply as early as possible to ensure the best chance of acceptance.

	Domain/Course(s)	Units
	First Year Seminar (UNST 101A & 101B)	2
	Required Courses:	
	General Biology I (BIOL 111 & Lab)	5
	General Biology II (BIOL 112 & Lab)	5
	General Biology III (BIOL 113 & Lab)	5
	General Chemistry I (CHEM 111 & Lab)	5
	General Chemistry II (CHEM 112 & Lab)	5
	General Chemistry III (CHEM 113 & Lab)	5
	General Physics I (PHYS 231 & Lab)	5
	General Physics II (PHYS 232 & Lab)	5
	General Physics III (PHYS 233 & Lab)	5
	Organic Chemistry I (CHEM 371)	3
	Organic Chemistry II (CHEM 372 & Lab)	4
	Organic Chemistry III (CHEM 373 & Lab)	4
	Biochemistry I (CHEM 491 lab not required)	4
	Biochemistry II (CHEM 492 lab not required)	4
	College English I (ENGL 111)	3
	College English II (ENGL 112)	3
	College English III (ENGL 113)	3
	Recommended Courses:	
	Introduction to Dentistry (DENT 103)	
	Calculus (MATH 131)	
	Upper Division Biology Courses: Histology (BIOL 434), Anatomy (BIOL 446), Physiology (BIOL 466)	
	Fundamentals of Speech: COMM 244 OR Interpersonal Communication (COMM 244)	
	Two courses of Psychology: Recommended: Physician Patient Communication (PSYC 482B)	
	Ceramics (ARTS 284) OR Sculpture (ARTS 274A, 274B)	
	Business Courses: ACCT 211, 212, MGMT 304, CPTG 104	

Timeline

	Freshman		Junior
1.	Meet with your Academic CSAS Coach.	1.	Go to the OPHP website and print out the recommendation packet (www.lasierra.edu/departments/prehealth). Complete the application and submit by the deadline.
2.	Become acquainted with the Office of Pre-Health Professions.	2.	Take the DAT by the summer of your junior year.
3.	Join the Pre-Dental Club.	3.	Take prep course for the DAT.
4.	Explore the field of Dentistry e.g. shadow, take Intro to Dent.	4.	Prepare for your interview with Dental schools.
5.	Attend the Pre-Health Conference.		
	Sophomore		Senior
1.	Meet with the Office of Pre-Health Professions	1.	Complete all classes for your degree and Dental school
2.	Participate, e.g. mission's trips, volunteer, shadow, clubs, salsu.	2.	Complete your Dental school interview
3.	Get to know your science teachers.	3.	Wait for your acceptance letter. (This can take awhile).
4.	Attend pre-health seminars and the Pre-Health Conference.	4.	Graduate and Matriculate

The Office of Pre-Health Professions is dedicated to providing quality service to La Sierra University students, faculty and staff. Our primary goal is to address your pre-professional needs. As a service-based department, we accept walk-ins on a daily basis. We endeavor to answer all of your questions about careers in the health field; no question is too small for our attention. We are located in Palmer Hall, home of the Chemistry department and next door to the Thaine B. Price Science Complex.

Office of Pre-Health Professions

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La Sierra University

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Phone: 951-785-2490

E-mail: prehealth@lasierra.edu

Website: www.lasierra.edu/departments/prehealth

Career opportunities and related occupations: The American Dental Association reports that there are currently about 153,000 dentists active in the United States. Most are in private practice and remain general practitioners. Women and minorities are underrepresented in the profession. Opportunities for these underrepresented groups are growing rapidly because of the intense need to improve access to general health and oral care. The field of dentistry is expected to grow as a result of the aging baby boomers. There are opportunities for dental research, forensic dentistry, academic dentistry, service in the federal government, and in international health care

Educational Qualifications: Most dental school applicants have earned a 4 year degree prior to entering dental school. Dentistry is a four year program, with the first two years in the classroom and dental lab and the last two years in the clinic treating patients under the supervision of licensed dentists. Dentists need to have good visual memory, excellent judgment of space and shape, a high degree of manual dexterity and scientific ability. Many dentists have their own practice, therefore a good business acumen, self discipline, and good communication skills are essential for success.

Job Opportunities: Jobs in the field of dentistry are expected to grow by 28% through the year 2014.

Salary: The national average income for a dentist is \$133,680, with the California average income being approximately \$141,470. (U.S bureau of Labor Statistics, 2009). For the most updated information on salaries visit: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics at <http://www.bls.gov/bls/blswage.htm>.

<p>Websites:</p> <p>La Sierra University: www.lasierra.edu/departments/prehealth</p> <p>Loma Linda University: www.llu.edu/llu/dentistry</p>	<p>Loma Linda University:</p> <p>School of Dentistry Loma Linda University Loma Linda, CA 92350 909-558-4621</p>	<p>Professional Organizations:</p> <p>American Dental Association Department of Career Guidance 211 E. Chicago Ave. Chicago, IL 60611 http://www.ada.org</p> <p>American Association of Dental Schools 1400 K St., NW Suite 1100 Washington, DC 20005 Phone: 1-800-353-2237 http://www.adea.org</p>
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