

DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY (DDS) FACT SHEET



Last Updated: June 2025

TRADITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Check with individual schools for more information

Helpful Resources:

[American Dental Education Association](#)

Dental Schools in Michigan:

[University of Michigan School of Dentistry](#) (UM)

[University of Detroit Mercy School of Dentistry](#) (UDM)

(Seats in Detroit and Vermont last 2 years, Acceptance date Dec 15th)

All Dental Schools - [Official Guide](#)

DAT COURSE REQUIREMENTS	Successful Completion is needed with a B or C (Depending on Program)	
General Biology	BIO 1200 (4 credits) BIO 1300 (4 credits) AND LAB BIO 1201 (1 credit)	UM, UDM *Note: Some majors take additional Biology courses to cover BIO 1300

General Physics	PHY 1010 (4 credits) PHY 1020 (4 credits) OR PHY 1510 (4 credits) PHY 1520 (4 credits) AND LABS PHY 1100 (1 credit) PHY 1110 (1 credit)	UM, UDM
General Chemistry	CHM 1440 (4 credits) CHM 1470 (1 credit) CHM 1450 (4 credits) CHM 1480 (1 credit)	UM, UDM
Organic Chemistry	CHM 2340 (4 credits) CHM 2350 (4 credits) AND LAB CHM 2370 (2 credits)	UM, UDM
Biochemistry	BIO 3232 (4 credits) OR BCM/CHM 4254 (4 credits) OR CDS 4250 (4 credits)	UM, UDM
Biochemistry Lab	BIO 3233 (1 credit) OR BCM/CHM 4257 (3 credits)	UDM (recommend not required)
Microbiology	BIO 3500 (4 credits) OR BIO 3520 (4 credits) OR CDS 4300 (4 credits)	UM, UDM
Microbiology Lab	BIO 3501 OR BIO 3521 OR CDS 4310	UDM (recommend not required)
Writing Comp (4 credits can be Literature)	WRT 1050 (4 credits) WRT 1060 (4 credits)	UM, UDM
Psychology	PSY 1000 (4 credits)	UM (Required), UDM (Encouraged)

Sociology	SOC 1000 (4 credits) Or SOC 1010 (4 credits)	UM (Required), UDM (Encouraged)
Non-BIO, CHM, or PHY majors <u>need</u> multiple Jr/Sr level science coursework to be competitive	Examples: Immunology, Anatomy, Physiology, Histology	UDM (Immunology and Physiology are important in UDM's curriculum)

Course/Credit Expiration & Pass Fail- Things to consider				
Program	Pass/Fail	Credit Expiration	Prereq Completion	AP credit
UofM	Not accepted	N/A	By May of the entering year	Accepted
UDM	Not accepted for science pre-reqs, For non-prerequisite and non-science classes, will accept a pass/fail grade.	Within 7 years of applying (Upper level Biology could be used in place of General Biology)	Before matriculation, prerequisite courses should be in your planned/in progress section of your AADSAS application	Accepted

GPA
<p>National GPA Standard (Cycle 2021): Total Mean GPA: 3.67 Total Science GPA: 3.59 3.0 Minimum Prerequisite GPA</p> <p><i>Resources</i> Academic Support helps with effective studying, time management, test preparation, tackling difficult assignments, and improving strategies for college-level work. Academic Success Center (tutoring) Writing Center</p>

Experience

Applicants are also evaluated on nonacademic factors. Some examples may include Shadowing, Community Service, Researching, Leadership Skills, Teamwork, Diversity Experience, Teaching, Publications etc.

****UDM requires a minimum of 100 hours shadowing a general dentist at the time of application**

****UM requires 100 hours of dental shadowing completed at the time of application submission. Applicants without this minimum number of hours will not be reviewed or considered for an interview**

Resources

[Office of Student Involvement \(OSI\)](#) has student organizations which can help with Leadership Skills, Volunteering and Community Service.

[The Writing Center](#) will help on how to write about your experiences.

****Character count cannot exceed 600 characters per experience (including spaces)****

Examination

DAT - both Michigan schools require taking this exam for admission

Take when ready. Aim to take once.

[Registration for DAT](#)

[DAT Scoring and Interpretation](#) (*Content - Spatial Awareness, English, Math, Biology, General Chemistry, and Organic Chemistry*)

COST: \$560

[National Mean Score](#): 21

UDM Average DAT Score:

Minimum: 18

Competitive: 20

New [DAT Score Concordance Table](#)

Test Prep Resources:

Free Resources

[Learning Express](#) - contact Kresge Library for any questions

[ADA Test](#)

Other Resources

[DAT Bootcamp](#)

[Chad's DAT Prep](#) and [Their New Platform](#) (Organic and General Chemistry)

[The American Dental Association](#)

[DAT Question of the Day](#)

[Crush the DAT](#)

[PACE](#) - Oakland University discount (Kaplan)

[Princeton Review](#)

[DAT Full Practice Test](#) (~\$100 for 6 modules)

Application
<p>AADSAS</p> <p>Mid May- Application Opens Mid June - Colleges begin receiving applications</p>
<p>Cost:</p> <p><u>Primary Application</u> \$264 for first school \$115 for each additional school</p> <p><u>Supplemental Application</u> \$25-\$125</p> <p><u>Deposit</u> \$3500 UDM (after accepted)</p>
<p>Personal Statement</p> <p>A personal statement is for you to express your motivation and desire to become a dentist and what makes you unique as an applicant. This statement is sent to all the schools you apply to, so you don't want to direct it to a specific school. It should be more of a story, not a resume and should not list experiences again.</p> <p>The statement must be no more than 4500 characters, including spaces.</p> <p>Resources</p> <p>Writing Center - For help with writing your personal statement.</p>
<p>Letter of Recommendation</p> <p>3 to 5 Letters of Recommendation</p> <p>Each school requires different types of individuals to write the letters.</p>

Examples: Professor, Supervisor, Dentist etc.

UDM: 2 Science professors, 1 General Dentist

Supplemental Application:

Each school will require a Supplemental Application.

This usually consists of several questions that need to be answered in essay form. Some schools may ask for a resume.

Resources

[Writing Center](#) - For help with writing your supplemental application responses.

Fee Assistance

[ADEA AADSAS Application Fees and Fee Assistance Program](#)

DAT 50% Reduction (1st time only)

3 free school

Possible waiver of secondary fees

Interviews

Personal Interviews are given to the only top applicants who meet the requirements.

Medical schools have Traditional Interviews and Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI).

Traditional Interviews_____

The candidates are usually interviewed by one or more people.

The questions will be more about you as an individual, special life experiences, and what you learned from these life experiences. Students should review the application before the interview and research possible interview questions.

Multiple Mini Interviews (MMI)

The candidates go through 8 timed stations which consist of questions, role play and collaboration. The questions are meant to see how candidates handle different situations and work in teams.

To prepare for this interview, the candidates should review current events and crisis management skills.

Kira - online interview with typical interview questions. 3 videos and 1 written essay asking

questions to assess empathy, kindness, or ethics.

To help with practice go to "[Big Interview](#)" on Career Life and Design website.

Known Michigan schools that require this test: UDM

Resources

For additional help with interview practice, contact [Career and Life Design Center](#).

[Online Mock Interview Tool](#): "Big Interview"

UDM - Kira and Traditional Interview with the same Faculty. Partially closed file.