

# Checklist & Timetable for Students Applying to Dental School

---

## Freshmen Year

- Begin taking your first Biology and Chemistry courses (with corresponding labs)
- Focus on grades! To be competitive for dental school, you need at least a ~3.6 GPA
- Begin building relationships with professors who can later serve as mentors, offer you the opportunity to participate in research, or write recommendations on your behalf

## Sophomore Year

- If you haven't already, consider participating in extracurricular activities, which will enhance you as a dental school applicant
- Spring/Summer of sophomore year
  - Start prepping for the DAT
  - Seek out opportunities for internships (research and/or shadowing dentists)
  - Research potential dental schools & visit their campuses.

## Junior Year

- Fall of junior year
  - Take a DAT prep course
  - Begin writing personal statement
  - Seek out recommendation letters
- Spring of junior year
  - Take the DAT (average competitive score: ~21)
  - Check application deadlines for schools
- Summer of junior year
  - Complete ADEA AADSAS application (*aim to submit your application in June*)
  - Submit all application materials by August/September (*Early application is highly recommended as interviews begin in August!*)

## Senior Year

- Send thank you notes to your recommenders
- Prepare for interviews (mock interviews)

---

## Required Courses:

- 12 hours of general biology with laboratory
- 8 hours of general/inorganic chemistry with laboratory
- 8 hours of organic chemistry with laboratory
- 8 hours of general physics with laboratory
- 3 hours of Biochemistry
- 3 hours of Microbiology
- 9 hours of English

## Recommended Courses:

- Comparative Anatomy
  - Physiology
  - Cell and Molecular Biology
  - Embryology
  - Histology
  - Microanatomy
  - Genetics
-