

# DENTIST

The field of dentistry aims to maintain the health of teeth, gums and other various tissues of the mouth. Dentists are vital to overall health including prevention of cancer or heart disease. Dentists are dedicated to the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of all oral diseases and conditions. They are licensed in each state, and can prescribe medication.

## CAREER DESCRIPTION\*

- » Average national salary: \$164,010
- » National projected career growth: 8%
- » Diagnose and treat problems with patient's teeth, gums, and related parts of the mouth
- » Provide instruction on oral care and choices affecting oral health
- » Examine x-rays in order to diagnose problems
- » Make models and measurements for dental appliances

## TYPICAL EDUCATION\*\*

- » Years of school (including undergraduate): 8
- » Approximate cost: \$201,900
- » Average entering GPA: 3.7
- » Average Dental Admission Test (DAT): 20

## NEARBY SCHOOLS

- » University of Nebraska Medical Center
- » Creighton University
- » University of Iowa
- » University of Colorado
- » University of Missouri – Kansas City
- » University of Illinois at Chicago

## COMPETITIVE APPLICANTS ALWAYS...

- » Gain hands-on experience with dental care
- » Achieve a competitive score on the DAT
- » Maintain a strong GPA to remain competitive
- » Participate in volunteer and leadership opportunities
- » Shadow professionals in the field

## CAREER OPTIONS

- » General Practice
- » Dental Public Health
- » Endodontics
- » Oral Pathology
- » Oral Surgery
- » Orthodontics
- » Pediatric Dentistry
- » Periodontics
- » Prosthodontics
- » Education & Research
- » Federal Dental Services

## WHAT PRACTICING PROFESSIONALS SAY



[Dentistry] is one of the best healthcare professions to provide immediate confidence and pain relief for our patients...sometimes both at the same time."

-Dr. Hubert J. Park, DDS



Dentistry is a perfect blend of art and science encompassing the knowledge of a doctor, the skills of a surgeon and the creativity of an artist. It is as much an avocation as it is a vocation."

-Dr. Michael Sinkin, DDS

\*Data and information from Bureau of Labor Statistics

\*\*Data from UNMC College of Dentistry (2018) Last Update: 10.2021

Click links for requirements from the schools listed below:

<a href="#">University of Nebraska Medical Center</a>	<a href="#">Creighton University School of Dentistry</a>
<a href="#">University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine</a>	<a href="#">University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Dentistry</a>
<a href="#">University of Iowa College of Dentistry and Dental Clinics</a>	<a href="#">University of Illinois at Chicago College of Dentistry</a>

Prerequisites vary by program. Students are responsible for ensuring all entrance requirements are met.

UNMC Prerequisites

Semesters: S = Spring, F = Fall, M = Summer

Biological Sciences (minimum credits: 8)			
Course	Credits	Semester	Prerequisites
BIOL 1450 – Biology I	5	F, S, M	High school Biology and Chemistry
BIOL 1750 – Biology II	5	F, S, M	BIOL 1450

Chemistry (minimum credits: 16)			
Course	Credits	Semester	Prerequisites
CHEM 1180 & 1184 – General Chemistry I & Lab	4	F, S, M	MATH 1320 or CHEM 1140/1144
CHEM 1190 & 1194 – General Chemistry II & Lab	4	F, S, M	CHEM 1180 & 1184
CHEM 2250 – Organic Chemistry I	3	F, S, M	CHEM 1190 & 1194
CHEM 2260 & 2274 – Organic Chemistry II & Lab	5	F, S	CHEM 2250
CHEM 3650 & 3654 – Fund of Biochemistry & Lab*	4	F, S	CHEM 2210/2214 or CHEM 2260/2274

Physics (minimum credits: 10)			
Course	Credits	Semester	Prerequisites
PHYS 1110 & 1154 – General Physics I & Lab	5	F, S, M	MATH 1220 or 1310
PHYS 1120 & 1164 – General Physics II & Lab	5	F, S, M	PHYS 1110 & 1154

English Composition (minimum credits: 6)			
Course	Credits	Semester	Prerequisites
ENGL 1150 or 1154 – English Composition I	3	F, S, M	AP score of 3 or by EPPE exam
ENGL 1160 or 1164 – English Composition II	3	F, S, M	ENGL 1150 or 1154 or AP score of 4 or by EPPE exam

Recommended Biological Sciences			
Course	Credits	Semester	Prerequisites
BIOL 2740 – Anatomy and Physiology I	4	F, M	High school Biology and Chemistry
BIOL 2840 – Anatomy and Physiology II	4	S, M	BIOL 2740
BIOL 2140* – Genetics	4	F, S, M	BIOL 1450, 1750 & CHEM 1140 or 1180
BIOL 2440* – Biology of Microorganisms	4	F, S, M	High school Biology and Chemistry
BIOL 3020* – Molecular Biology of the Cell	4	F, S, M	BIOL 2140
BIOL 3240* – Introduction to Immunology	3	F, S	BIOL 1450, 1750 & 2140

A minimum of 90 credits are required prior to matriculation for UNMC, and 64 credits for Creighton University. Students should to take additional courses in the natural sciences, as well as the humanities and social sciences.

*\*It is recommended that students take courses in chemistry and biology beyond the required minimum.*