

Pre-Dental Prerequisite Guide

This guide is designed to assist in planning coursework to fulfill common dental school prerequisites. Dental schools have varying prerequisites; it is **essential to research specific admissions requirements**. Take these courses during the fall and/or spring semesters at URI; avoid summer and online.

Recommended: maintain 3.5 GPA; grades at "C" or higher.

Pre-Dental (or, Pre-Health) is not a major at URI; consider using this guide to create a plan with an academic advisor to integrate these into major/minor requirement(s).

Course	Name	Credits	Prerequisites & Notes
Biology Requirements			
BIO 101 or BIO 110 and BIO 103	Principles of Biology or Fundamentals of Biology and Lab	4	Preferred: BIO 101
BIO 102 and BIO 104	Principles of Biology II and Lab	4	BIO 101[110]/103
Some Dental Programs Also Require or Strongly Recommend:			
BIO 220 and BIO 221	Fundamentals of Human Anatomy and Physiology I and Lab	4	
BIO 222 and BIO 223	Fundamentals of Human Anatomy and Physiology II and Lab	4	BIO 220/221
CMB 201 and CMB 202 or CMB 211	Introductory Medical Microbiology and Lab or Integrative Microbiology	4	Preferred: CMB 211 1 semester of BIO, 1 year of CHM
CMB 333	Immunology and Serology	4	CMB 201 or 211
BIO/CMB 341	Principles of Cell Biology	3	1 semester of BIO and Organic Chemistry
BIO/CMB 352	General Genetics	4	BIO 101 or 110 and BIO 102
Math Requirements			
MTH 131 or 141	Applied Calculus or Calculus I	3 or 4	MTH 103 with a C- or higher or Placement
STA 307, 308 or 409	Intro Biostatistics, Intro Statistics or Statistical Methods in Research	4	MTH 103, 131 or 141

Course	Name	Credits	Prerequisites & Notes
Chemistry Requirements			
CHM 101 and CHM 102	General Chemistry Lecture I and Lab	4	
CHM 112 and CHM 114	General Chemistry Lecture II and Lab	4	Concurrent Enrollment with CHM 101
CHM 227	Organic Chemistry Lecture I	3	CHM 101
CHM 228 and CHM 226	Organic Chemistry Lecture II and Lab	4	CHM 227
Biochemistry Requirements			
CMB 311	Introductory Biochemistry	3	CHM 101 & 102 + CHM 227 or CHM 124
Physics Requirements			
PHY 111 or 203 and PHY 185 or 273	General Physics I or Elementary Physics I and Lab	4	
PHY 112 or 204 and PHY 186 or 274	General Physics II or Elementary Physics II and Lab	4	Concurrent Enrollment with PHY 111 or PHY 203
Writing/English Requirements			
WRT 104 or 106	Writing to Inform and Explain or Introduction to Research Writing	3	
WRT, ENG or LIT	Any WRT, ENG or LIT course	3	Exception: Creative Writing
Some Dental Programs Also Require or Strongly Recommend Social Sciences:			
Psychology	Suggestions: PSY 113, 232, 254 or 255	3	
Sociology	Suggestions: SOC 100, 204 or 224	3	
Opening Your Own Practice Suggestions:			
INE 140G or INE 149	Introduction to Business or Introduction to Entrepreneurship	3	

AP Credits: students with AP credit for biology, chemistry, or physics should take an upper-level course with a lab in that discipline to demonstrate proficiency. Many schools accept AP credit for math courses (calculus or statistics), but students should check requirements for each program.

Pre-Dental Experiential Learning Guide

In addition to completing the necessary coursework, competitive applicants typically engage in **clinical/ direct patient care experience, research, volunteer work, shadowing, and on campus involvement/leadership.**

All students will reflect on these experiences in their application to dental school. Consider how you can use these experiences to demonstrate any of the **6 competency standards** that are expected.

Clinical/Direct Patient Care:

- Dental Assistant
- Dental Office Assistant
- Sterile Technician
- Rhode Island Dental Association intern
- Pre-Dental Events
 - Dental Impressions Day (any SNDA chapter at a dental school)
 - Pre-Dental Days (ie: Harvard)
 - Mentorship Program (Tufts University)
 - Special Pre-Dental Programs (ie: Summer Health Professions Education Program, Rutgers Gateway to Dentistry)

Volunteer/Community Engagement

- Habitat for Humanity
- Rhode Island and Connecticut Mission of Mercy Free Dental Clinics
- Pre-Dental Club community service/volunteer opportunities
- Childhood Hunger Program
- Clothing Drives
- Community Event Organizer
- Dental Hygiene Educator
- Youth Sports Referee
- Sprout & STEM Tutor
- Campus chapters of national or international service organizations

On Campus Involvement/Leadership

- Undergraduate Teaching Assistant (UTA)
- URI Student Ambassador
- Tutor, Writing Consultant or Academic Coach (AEC)
- Pre-Health Peer Advisor
- CELS Peer Mentor
- Resident Assistant (RA)
- Student Athlete
- Student Clubs and Organizations (over 150!)
- Pre-Dental Club, Delta Epsilon Mu (DEM)
- URI 101 Mentor

Research:

- CELS Summer Research Program
- Clinical Research
- Honors project
- Undergraduate Research Assistant
- SURF (URI INBRE and EPSCoR)
- Agriculture and Food Systems Fellow
- Energy Fellows
- Coastal Institute Fellows
- Any research initiative, on or off campus

Growth Year Options

- Full time roles in any of the positions above
- AmeriCorps or Peace Corps
- Scribe Program Manager
- Pursue a Master's in Science (MS)

Summer Suggestions

- Avoid taking prerequisites required for dental school admission.
- Gain experience (see this guide!)
- Study for the DAT; consider taking the DAT Junior year (which will allow time for retakes)

Shadowing

Reach out to multiple dentists to request shadowing. Use LinkedIn, company websites, and your network.