

## Dentistry

A dentist is a clinician and scientist dedicated to the highest standards of health through prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of oral diseases and conditions. There are more than 150,000 active dentists in the United States, and 85% are general practitioners. Dentists can also specialize in fields such as dental public health, endodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthodontics, pediatrics, periodontics, and prosthodontics. With continuing population growth and the expected retirement of a large group of dentists, the need for new dentists will continue to increase over the next decade.

*(American Dental Education Association)*

## Working in Dentistry



Median annual wages of salaried general dentists were \$142,870 in May 2008. Earnings vary according to number of years in practice, location, hours worked,

and specialty. Self-employed dentists in private practice tend to earn more than salaried dentists; specialists can earn more than twice the median salary for general dentists.

Dentists are in the top 5 percent of the nation's wage earners. Dentists are highly respected professionals and the career offers variety, prestige, flexibility, security, and personal satisfaction.

## Additional Information

### Pre-Dental Advisor

Camille Ibbotson  
140 TILT Building  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1052  
Phone: (970) 491-7095  
Email: [ibbotson@colostate.edu](mailto:ibbotson@colostate.edu)

### UCD School of Dentistry

University of Colorado Denver School of Dental Medicine  
Mail Stop F-833, P.O. Box 6508  
Aurora, CO 80045  
Voice: 303-724-7122  
<http://www.ucdenver.edu/academics/colleges/dentalmedicine/Pages/DentalMedicine.aspx>

### American Dental Education Association (AADSAS)

1625 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20036-2212  
(202) 667-9433  
[www.adea.org](http://www.adea.org)

### American Dental Association

211 E. Chicago Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60611  
(312) 440-2500  
[www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org)

### Dental Admissions Test (DAT)

<http://www.ada.org/dat.aspx>

### CSU Pre-Dental Club

<http://hp.casa.colostate.edu/pre-dental-club.aspx>

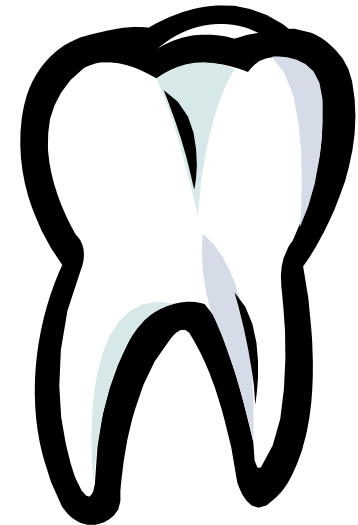
### Human Health Pre-Professional Programs

<http://hp.casa.colostate.edu/>



## Center for Advising and Student Achievement

## DENTISTRY



## Health Track Advising

## Professional Programs

There are 58 accredited dental programs in the United States, with several more in the accreditation process (2011). The minimum amount of time required to earn the Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) or Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.) degree is seven (7) years; however, students are rarely admitted to dental school who have not earned a bachelor's degree. Dental school itself is four years; specialization beyond general dentistry can take many more years.

**For more information  
about specific dental  
schools visit:  
[www.adea.org](http://www.adea.org)**

Last updated 8/11—Information is subject to change.

## Admissions Requirements

**Admissions requirements are GENERAL and may differ from school to school. Please contact the individual schools to discuss specific admissions requirements.**

- Minimum of 90 semester credits of college education (most applicants have a bachelor's degree)
- Competitive cumulative GPA
- Competitive Dental Admissions Test (DAT) score
- Application submitted to the American Association of Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS)
- Letters of recommendation
- Interview

### Typical Academic Prerequisites

General Biology	(2 semesters with labs)
General Chemistry	(2 semesters with labs)
Organic Chemistry	(2 semesters with labs)
General Physics	(2 semesters with labs)
Biochemistry	(1 semester)
Microbiology	(1 semester)
English Composition	(1 or 2 semesters)
Mathematics	(Sometimes Calculus)

Highly recommended courses:

### Recommended CSU Courses

LIFE 102 and LIFE 103
CHEM 111/112 and CHEM 113/114
CHEM 341 and CHEM 343/4
PH 121 and PH 122 <b>OR</b> PH 141 and PH 142
BC 351 (required at CU-Denver)
MIP 300 (required at CU-Denver)
CO 150, CO 300/301
MATH 155 or MATH 160
BMS 300 and BMS 301