

CONTACT INFORMATION:

**Ashley Rini**  
Director,  
Pre-Health Advising

CAS 430  
330-972-6513  
rini@uakron.edu

HELPFUL WEBSITES:

- UA Pre-Professional Health Advising: [uakron.edu/bcas/prehealth](http://uakron.edu/bcas/prehealth)
- American Dental Education Association: [adea.org/GoDental/](http://adea.org/GoDental/)
- American Dental Education Association Application Service: [portal.aadsasweb.org](http://portal.aadsasweb.org)
- Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine: [dental.case.edu](http://dental.case.edu)
- The Ohio State University College of Dentistry: [dent.osu.edu](http://dent.osu.edu)
- Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine: [lecom.edu](http://lecom.edu)

While there is no preferred major, most UA pre-dental students choose to pursue a major in Chemistry or Biology. In addition to coursework, students must score competitively on the DAT, shadow practicing dentists, engage in community service, and leadership activities.

Pre-dental students also need to develop excellent manual dexterity skills, which are essential to the practice of dentistry. Activities that are particularly helpful in building these abilities include playing a musical instrument (piano, guitar, flute), producing three-dimensional artwork (jewelry-making, ceramics, sculpture), or hobbies such as making miniature models.

COURSEWORK RECOMMENDATIONS

Course Number	Course Name	Required
BIOL 111/112	Principles of Biology I & II w/labs	CWRU/OSU/LECOM
CHEM 151/152/ 153/154	Principles of Chemistry I & II w/labs	CWRU/OSU/LECOM
CHEM 263/264/ 265/266	Organic Chemistry I & II w/labs	CWRU/OSU/LECOM
CHEM 401	Biochemistry	OSU/LECOM (CWRU*)
BIOL 130** BIOL 331	Principles of Microbiology ( <i>acceptable</i> ) or Microbiology ( <i>preferred</i> )	OSU (CWRU/LECOM*)
BIOL 200/201/ 202/203** BIOL 363/473 BIOL 401	Anatomy & Physiology I & II ( <i>acceptable</i> ) or Foundations of Physiology I & II Human Anatomy ( <i>preferred</i> )	OSU (CWRU/LECOM*)
PHYS 262/262	Physics for Life Sciences I & II w/labs	CWRU/OSU (LECOM*)
ENGL 111/112	English Comp I & II	CWRU/OSU/LECOM
(*recommended) (**not applicable toward biology major) <b>The above coursework is not comprehensive and students are responsible for knowing and completing the requirements of their major and those of the dental schools to which they plan to apply.</b>		

UA/LECOM EARLY ACCEPTANCE PROGRAM

Secure your seat in Dental School early! Students can apply in their senior year of high school or prior to the start of their third year at The University of Akron. More information can be found on the Pre-Professional Health Advising webpage: [www.uakron.edu/bcas/prehealth/partnerships](http://www.uakron.edu/bcas/prehealth/partnerships)

DENTAL SCHOOL  
TIMELINE

FRESHMAN YEAR

- Meet with the pre-health adviser
- Register your pre-dental interest at [www.uakron.edu/bcas/prehealth](http://www.uakron.edu/bcas/prehealth)
- Explore careers in dentistry
- Consider alternative career plans
- Join pre-dental or other related organizations

SOPHOMORE  
YEAR

- Pursue shadowing, volunteer, and other related activities
- Develop relationships with faculty
- Review dental school catalogs and websites

JUNIOR YEAR

- Complete prerequisites
- Prepare and take the DAT
- Gather letters of recommendation
- Apply for admission

SENIOR YEAR

- Complete secondary applications
- Prepare for interviews

*\*adapted from  
ADA.org/education*

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process to dental school is rigorous; there are many components, and it often takes students much longer than anticipated to complete the application.

Most dental schools use rolling admission, so submitting applications sooner rather than later is advantageous. Although each dental school has different application deadlines, admissions applications tend to be available in June.

There are two dental schools in the state of Ohio, Case Western Reserve University and Ohio State University. As most dental schools, both CWRU and OSU require the Dental Admission Test (DAT) and application submission through the Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS). As part of the application, students will be required to submit recommendation letters. Therefore, it is important that they de-

velop professional relationships with natural science faculty and dentists.

Once applications are submitted, students will receive secondary applications, and finally interested schools will send invitations for interviews.

EXPERIENCE & INVOLVEMENT

In addition to strong academic credentials, dental schools want to see well-rounded applicants. Students should shadow dentists, volunteer, and participate in community service work.

Dentistry is a service-focused profession, and dental school admissions officers are looking for applicants who are committed to serving their communities for a lifetime. This is why it is essential that students spend time volunteering outside of their shadowing experience.

Getting involved in student organizations on campus is a great way to become involved in com-

munity service experiences. Including UA's pre-dental club.

Leadership is a critical element of becoming a dental professional. Showcasing leadership on a dental school applications will help students stand out and demonstrate their commitment to being a leader in their community.

Dental schools like to see applicants with shadowing experience, as it shows the student has a solid grasp of what is involved in the practice of dentistry. Some schools have a minimum number of shadowing hours so it's imperative to start early.

It is important to note that there is no magic formula for admission to dental school. Students need to be successful in the classroom while also selectively participating in activities that will add to their dental school applications. Think about how the people you meet through these experiences could help you as you apply to dental school.

\* All students interested in dental school should register their pre-dental interest at [www.uakron.edu/bcas/prehealth](http://www.uakron.edu/bcas/prehealth). Students are encouraged to meet with the pre-health adviser early on to plan courses and experiences that will help prepare them to apply to dental school.