

2025-26 DDS ADMISSIONS CHECKLIST

Thank you for your interest in our DDS Program! Applicants must apply through ADEA Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS). For optimal consideration, **submit your application in June**. Preference is given to candidates who apply early in the application cycle.

September 15, 2025 (11:59pm EST): Deadline to submit ADEA AADSAS application.

September 30, 2025 (11:59pm EST): Incomplete applications [missing official DAT scores, letter(s) of evaluation, transcript(s)] will be cancelled.

PREREQUISITE COURSES

Incoming students must have completed a **minimum of 90 semester hours (sh)** from an accredited college or university. A **maximum of 60 sh** from community colleges will be applied to the 90 sh. All prerequisite courses must be completed with a grade of "C" or higher by June 30 of the year you plan to enroll. In-person labs are strongly recommended.

Course	Semester Hours	Description
Physics	8	¼ lab work required
General Chemistry	8	¼ lab work required
Organic Chemistry	8	¼ lab work required
Biochemistry	3	Basic concepts in modern biochemistry and molecular biology. Lab is not required.
Biology	8	Complete basic course series required. ¼ lab work required. Upper-level courses beneficial.
English	6	Composition, rhetoric, speech courses.

DENTAL ADMISSIONS TEST (DAT)

Applicants are required to complete the DAT, which is administered by the American Dental Association (ADA). Official DAT scores must be sent to ADEA AADSAS. Application review will not be performed until official scores are received. The DAT must have been taken within 3 years of the year in which admission is sought.

LETTERS OF EVALUATION

A minimum of three individual letters or one committee letter are required. Letters do not need to be written by specific professors or professionals. Letters must be submitted via ADEA AADSAS application by the evaluators.

SHADOWING

A minimum of **40 hours of dental shadowing is required**. Shadowing under a variety of general dentists and dental specialists is desirable.

EXPERIENCES

A variety of experiences is desirable. Report experiences (dental-related and otherwise) on the ADEA AADSAS application. Experiences could include (but are not limited to) academic enrichment, dental experience, employment, extracurricular activities, research, leadership, and volunteer/community enrichment.

A minimum of **40 hours of volunteer/community enrichment is recommended**. Applicants who show a commitment to addressing health disparities and caring for underserved communities are given strong consideration.

TECHNICAL STANDARDS

The University of Iowa College of Dentistry is open to all qualified individuals and complies with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (1993). For admission, advancement through the curriculum, and graduation from the DDS program, individuals must meet the technical standards with or without a reasonable accommodation.



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