PREPARATION FOR DENTAL SCHOOL (Tentative time-line)

- Choose a major that you are interested in and that fulfills most of the prerequisite within the major. The most common majors are Biology and Chemistry.
- Visit the CSUS pre-health Home Page: www.csus.edu/prehealth/index.html
- Visit the Career Center, Lasse Hall 1013, during drop-in hours, M-F, 10 am – 4 pm, for information on identifying career options, writing resumes and cover letters; locating part-time, full-time, internships, and volunteer positions; writing personal statements for graduate and professional schools; and practicing your interviewing techniques.
- Complete the pre-requisite courses for dental school
  - it is important to check with each school – the suggested required courses on the following page is what MOST dental schools require. Some dental schools may have additional requirements.
    - Detailed information about specific dental schools and their prerequisites can be found in the annual publication of the American Dental Education Association (ADEA): Official Guide to Dental Schools (OGDS), available in the NSAC office (SQU 238)
    - Register for the ADEA GoDental Newsletter and visit the site (www.GoDental.org) for more information about the application process.
- Sign up for extracurricular activities such as internships, volunteer work and research opportunities. Total community service hours are very important.
  - Look into taking Bio 195D (Dental Internship) – Please contact the President of the Pre-Dental Club at csuspredental@gmail.com.
  - It is highly recommended that you keep track of your hours (it will make it easier when it is time to apply)
- Join campus clubs and organizations such as the CSUS Pre-Dental Association (website: http://www.csus.edu/org/predental/index.html - face book page: http://www.facebook.com/csuspredental ) and MOSS; Multicultural Organization of Science Students (http://www.csus.edu/nsm/see/mosslink.htm )
- Begin working on your personal statement (essay) – Visit www.csus.edu/prehealth/personalstatement.html and the Career Center to get started.
- Study for and take the Dental Admission Test (DAT) one year prior to the start of dental school (best to take in early spring). All US schools require the DAT. Visit www.adao.org/en/education-careers/dental-admission-test/ for more information.
- Select schools
- Select faculty members that will write your letters of evaluation
  - Most schools prefer letters be submitted electronically to The Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS): www.aeda.org, although paper format is also acceptable.
  - Committee letters are preferred (but not required) by most schools. If choosing a committee letter, please allow several months for the process.
  - Up to 4 individual letters or 1 committee letter plus 1 individual letter, can be submitted.
- The Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS) is a centralized application service used by almost all dental schools. The AADSAS Application is available in early June. The deadline for application submission depends on the individual schools. Students are encouraged to apply early since most schools accept students on a “rolling admission” basis. (Dental schools in Texas have a separate application service for Texas residents: Texas Medical and Dental School Application Service (TMDSAS)
- Arrange to have official transcripts sent to AADSAS.
- Supplemental materials may be requested by various schools
- Interviews

Visit the web site of the American Dental Education Association (ADEA): www.adea.org for information about the various dental schools, DAT and the AADSAS, along with other helpful information about preparing for and applying to dental school.
Required Courses for MOST Dental Schools:
BIO 1: Biodiversity, Evolution & Ecology
BIO 2: Cells, Molecules & Genes
CHEM 1A: General Chemistry
CHEM 1B: General Chemistry
CHEM 24: Organic Chemistry I
CHEM 124: Organic Chemistry II
CHEM 25: Organic Chemistry Lab
CHEM 161: Biochemistry
PHYS 5A: General Physics I
PHYS 5B: General Physics II
STAT 1: Introduction to Statistics (required by some)
ENG 5: College composition
ENG 20: College Composition

Recommended Upper Division Electives:
BIO 195D: Dental Internship
BIO 130: Histology
BIO 139: Microbiology
Bio 149A/B: Immunology
Bio 127: Developmental Biology

Recommended General Education Courses (courses in bold are REQUIRED by most schools):
AREA A
A1: COMS 4 or COMS 5: Introduction to public speaking
A2: ENG 5: College Composition
A3: PHIL 4: Critical Thinking

AREA B
Met by science prerequisites

AREA C
C1: ART 20A: Beginning Drawing
    ART 74: Beginning Jewelry Making
    ART 75: Beginning Metalsmithing
C2: PHIL 2: Ethics

AREA D
PSYCH 2: Introduction to Psychology
SOC 1: Introduction to Sociology
ANTH 101: Cultural Diversity
ETHN 100: Ethnic America (writing intensive course)
PHIL 101: Ethics & Social Issues (writing intensive course)
PHIL 104: Bioethics
SOC 120: Ethnic and Race Relations
SWRK 151: Health Services and Systems
GOV 1 or GOV 150 &
HIST 17A or 17 B

AREA E
HLSC 124: Consumer Health Education
HLSC 134: Understanding Human Sexuality
NURS 160: Human Sexuality
PHIL 100: Ethics and Personal Values
PSYCH 151: Psychological Aspects of Death/ Dying

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