

SOS seminar

# How to get into Dental School

PRESENTED BY  
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# SEMINAR OUTLINE

SLIDES WILL BE AVAIBALE ON THE SOS WEBSITE

- **Dental Aptitude Test (DAT)**
- **Canadian Dental Schools - Requirements**
- **Dental School Interviews**



# BECOMING A DENTIST

## **STEP 1**

Obtain a Bachelors Degree



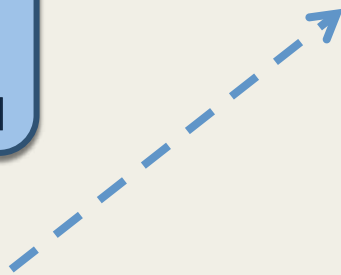
## **STEP 2**

Gain Admission to an accredited Dental School



## **STEP 3**

Write Licensing Exams



## **OPTIONAL**

Specialize Further & Pass appropriate Licensing Exam



# PRACTICE DENTISTRY

YOU ARE NOW A DENTIST!



# DENTAL APTITUDE TEST

- Standardized exam taken by potential dental school students
- Can write DAT unlimited number of times
- Following reported on official DAT transcript:
  - Results of most recent DAT written
  - Total number of times DAT written
- More info: Canadian Dental Association (CDA) website
  - <http://www.cda-adc.ca>





# DENTAL APTITUDE TEST FORMAT

## SECTIONS

**Natural Sciences**  
(Biology & Chemistry)

**Perceptual Ability**

**Reading  
Comprehension**

**Manual Dexterity**



# DENTAL APTITUDE TEST FORMAT

SECTIONS	FORMAT	SAMPLE TOPICS
<b>Natural Sciences</b> (Biology & Chemistry)	60 Minutes 70 Ques.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Cell metabolism</li><li>- Physiology</li><li>- Genetics</li><li>- Atomic and Molecular Structure</li></ul>
<b>Perceptual Ability</b>		
<b>Reading Comprehension</b>		
<b>Manual Dexterity</b>		



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<b>Perceptual Ability</b>	60 Minutes 90 Ques.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Keyholes</li><li>-Top-Front-End</li><li>-Angle Ranking</li><li>-Hole Punching</li><li>-Cube Counting</li><li>-Pattern Folding</li></ul>
<b>Reading Comprehension</b>		
<b>Manual Dexterity</b>		



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<b>Reading Comprehension</b>	50 Minutes 50 Ques.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Answer ques. based on passages</li><li>- Read, organize, and analyze new information</li></ul>
<b>Manual Dexterity</b>		





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<b>Manual Dexterity</b>	30 Minutes	Carving a specified model out of bar of soap



# DENTAL APTITUDE TEST SCORING

- Each section is scored individually and out of 30
- Also scores Academic Average
  - INCLUDES: Natural Sciences and Reading Comprehension scores
- Often dental schools look at:
  - Academic Average (AA)
  - Perceptual Ability Test (PAT) score
  - Reading Comprehension (RC) score





# DENTAL APTITUDE TEST REGISTRATION

- DAT is held twice a year [November & February]
  - Registration begins in July
  
- Register online on CDA website
  - <http://www.cda-adc.ca>
  
- **Upcoming DAT Testing Dates:**
  - Saturday, November 2, 2013
  - Saturday, February 22, 2014





# DENTAL APTITUDE TEST FEE

## ■ DAT Total: \$260

- Written Test Portion: \$210
- Manual Dexterity Test Portion: \$50

**\*\*Note: Manual Dexterity Portion is *optional*\*\***

- Because not all Canadian dental schools require Manual Dexterity Test (MDT)
  - Strongly consider taking the MDT if planning to applying out of province



# DENTAL APTITUDE TEST FEE

## ■ **DAT Total: \$260**

- Written Test Portion: \$210
- Manual Dexterity Test Portion: \$50

**\*\* Note: Manual Dexterity Portion is *optional* \*\***

### Following schools don't require MDT Portion

- University of Toronto, University of Western Ontario, University of British Columbia, Dalhousie University, McGill University

## ■ **DAT Fee covers:**

- A scheduled DAT
- An official student transcript
- 5 official transcripts mailed directly to dental schools



# DENTAL APTITUDE TEST

## AMERICAN vs. CANADIAN

- American DAT:
  - Has no Manual Dexterity Test (carving) Portion
  - Includes Quantitative Reasoning (math) Portion
  - Includes Organic Chemistry
- American DAT NOT accepted for entry into all Canadian Schools
- Canadian version IS accepted by American Schools





# CANADIAN DENTAL SCHOOLS

**University of Toronto**

**University of Western Ontario**

**University of Alberta**

**University of British Columbia**

**University of Manitoba**

**Dalhousie University**

**McGill University**

# DEGREE GRANTED BY DENTAL SCHOOLS

D.D.S OR D.M.D

- Upon graduation from an accredited dental school, you earn:
  - Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) ; or
  - Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD)
- Training and education received for either degree is similar
- Difference is only in the name
  - Some dental schools award the DMD degree while others award the DDS degree.





# More Info on GPA conversion: [http://www.ouac.on.ca/docs/omsas/b\\_omsas\\_e.pdf](http://www.ouac.on.ca/docs/omsas/b_omsas_e.pdf)

Undergraduate Grading System  
Conversion Table

## OMSAS 2012

Échelles de notation  
au premier cycle

Type  Scale Échelle	Numeric/Numérique		Percentage/Pourcentage				Alpha/Alpha			OMSAS Value Valeur OMSAS	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
OMSAS Value Valeur OMSAS											OMSAS Value Valeur OMSAS
4.00	9	8	90–100	93–100	94–100	94–100	A+	A	A+	4.00	
3.90			85–89	84–92	87–93	85–93	A			3.90	
3.80									A	3.80	
3.70	8	7	80–84	75–83	80–86	80–84	A-	A-		3.70	
3.30	7	6	77–79	72–74	75–79	75–79	B+	B+	B+	3.30	
3.00			73–76	69–71	70–74	70–74	B	B	B	3.00	
2.70	6	5	70–72	66–68	65–69	65–69	B-	B-		2.70	
2.30	5	4	67–69	64–65	60–64	60–64	C+	C+	C+	2.30	
2.00			63–66	62–63	55–59	55–59	C	C	C	2.00	
1.70	4	3	60–62	60–61	50–54		C-	C-		1.70	
1.30		2	57–59	56–59			D+	D+	D+	1.30	
1.00			53–56	53–55		50–54	D	D	D	1.00	
0.70			50–52	50–52			D-	D-		0.70	
0.00	3	1	≤ 49	≤ 49	≤ 49	≤ 49	E/F	E/F	E/F	0.00	

Algoma	3	Guelph	3	Mt. Allison	7	Royal Roads	7	Trinity Western	7
Acadia	7	Lakehead	3	Mt. St. Vincent	7	Ryerson	7	UBC	7
Alberta	7	Laurentian	3	New Brunswick	7	Saskatchewan	3	UOIT	7
Athabasca	7	Laval	7	Nipissing	3	Sherbrooke	7	Victoria	7
Bishop's	3	Lethbridge	7	Northern B.C.	7	Simon Fraser	7	Waterloo	3,7
Brandon	7	Manitoba	9	Ottawa	7	St. Francis Xavier	3	Western	3
Brock	3	McGill	8	Prince Edward Island	3	St. Mary's	7	Wilfrid Laurier	7
Calgary	7	McMaster	7	Quebec	7	St. Thomas	7	Windsor	7
Carleton	7	Memorial	6	Queen's	3,7	Ste-Anne	7	Winnipeg	7
Concordia	7	Moncton	7	Regina	3	Toronto	3,7	York	9
Dalhousie	3,7	Montreal	7	RMC/CMR	4,7	Trent	3		

Please note: The above scales are applicable only to current grading schemes.



# UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO ONTARIO



## ■ Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Completed 3 years (90 credits)
- Full course load not required each year

### GPA:

- Minimum: 3.0
- Last Year average: 3.85
- Summer courses include in GPA calculation
- Courses completed after [MAY 31 of entry yr] not considered
- Worst academic year dropped from GPA calculation if:
  - Completed 4 or more years; &
  - It's not the most recent year



# UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO ONTARIO



UNIVERSITY OF  
**TORONTO**

## PREREQUISITE COURSES:

- [6 credits] Biochemistry
- [6 credits] Physiology (human or animal)
- [12 credits] Life Sciences
  - Biology, genetics, immunology, microbiology, neuroscience, etc.
  - **NOTE:** Chemistry and Organic Chemistry are not Life Sciences
- [6 credits] Humanities or Social Science

**DAT:** If written more than once, then highest score used

- American DAT is accepted
- Academic Average (AA): 22
- Perceptual Ability Test (PAT): 21

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:** December 2, 2013

- No reference letters required in application package

» [www.utoronto.ca/dentistry](http://www.utoronto.ca/dentistry)



# UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

## ONTARIO



- <http://www.dentistry.utoronto.ca/admissions/doctor-dental-surgery-dds/admission-statistics>
- 175-190 domestic applicants invited for an interview
- Average GPA 3.85
- It graduates approximately 70 qualified dentists each year



# UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO ONTARIO



## ■ Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Be in final year or completed undergraduate degree

### GPA:

- Last Year average: 3.83 or 88.35%
- Summer courses
  - not counted as part of F/W session
  - may be taken for pre-req credits
  - marks not included in GPA calculation
- Years with less than 24 credits not included in GPA
- Years with less than 30 credits counted but w/ a penalty



# UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO ONTARIO



## PREREQUISITE COURSES:

- Completed Courses in:
  - Biochemistry
  - Organic Chemistry
  - Physiology
- Also recommended:
  - Introductory biology, chemistry and physics courses

**DAT:** If written more than once, most recent score used

- American DAT is accepted

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:** December

- No reference letters required in application package

» [www.schulich.uwo.ca/dentistry](http://www.schulich.uwo.ca/dentistry)



# UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO

## ONTARIO



- **Academic Competitiveness: 80% or higher average in each of two academic years, and DAT score of 21/30**
- **Receive approximately 500-600 applications for 52 positions**
- **Applicant ranking: 60% academics, 15% DAT score, and 25% interview**





# UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

## ALBERTA



### ■ Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)

#### REQUIREMENTS:

- At least 2 years (60 credits)
- At least 1 year should have full course load (30 credits)

#### GPA:

- Minimum: 3.5
- Last Year average: 3.86
- Lowest academic year dropped from GPA calculation if:
  - Completed 4 or more years; &
  - It's not the most recent year
  - It's not the only year with full course load (30 credits)





# UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

## ALBERTA



### PREREQUISITE COURSES:

- [6] General Chemistry
- [6] Organic chemistry
- [6] Biology
- [6] Physics
- [6] English
- [3] Statistics
- [3] Biochemistry

**DAT:** If written more than once, then highest score used

- Only Canadian DAT is accepted
- Manual Dexterity (carving) score required

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:** November 1, 2013

- No reference letters required in application package



# UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

## BRITISH COLUMBIA



a place of mind

### ■ Doctor of Dental Medicine (**DMD**)

#### REQUIREMENTS:

- Completed 3 years (90 credits)

#### GPA:

- Minimum: 2.8
- Last Year average ~ 3.7
- Summer courses include in GPA calculation
  
- Worst academic year dropped from GPA calculation if:
  - Completed 4 or more years; &
  - It's not the most recent year
  - It includes at least 24 credits



# UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

## BRITISH COLUMBIA



a place of mind

### PREREQUISITE COURSES:

- [6] English
- [6] Chemistry
- [6] Biology
- [6] Organic Chemistry
- [6] Biochemistry

**DAT:** If written more than once, highest overall score used

- American DAT is accepted

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:** October 18, 2012

- No reference letters required in application package

» [www.dentistry.ubc.ca](http://www.dentistry.ubc.ca)



# UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

## MANITOBA



UNIVERSITY  
OF MANITOBA

### ■ Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD)

#### REQUIREMENTS:

- Completed 2 years (60 credits)
- Minimum 24 credits required for a year to be considered

#### GPA:

- Adjusted Grade Point Average (AGPA)
  - Core course average last year: 3.8

*Applicants with two years of pre-dental studies:*  
(2 x the average on the CORE courses)  
PLUS  
(1 x the average on lower year)  
PLUS  
(3 x average on better year)  
DIVIDED BY SIX

- Summer courses not include in GPA calculation

» [umanitoba.ca/dentistry](http://umanitoba.ca/dentistry)



# UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA MANITOBA



UNIVERSITY  
OF MANITOBA

## PREREQUISITE COURSES:

- [6] Introductory Chemistry
- [6] Organic Chemistry
- [6] Biochemistry
- [6] Physics
- [6] Biology
- [6] English
- [3] Humanities/Social Sciences

**DAT:** If written more than once, then highest score used

- Only Canadian DAT is accepted
- Manual Dexterity (carving) score required

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:** January 2014

- No reference letters required in application package



# DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

## NOVA SCOTIA



- Doctor of Dental Surgery (**DDS**)

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Completed 2 years (60 credits)

### GPA:

- Last Year average: 3.7

### PREREQUISITE COURSES:

- [6] Biology, Physics, Chemistry, & Organic Chemistry
- [6] a writing class
- [3] Microbiology, Biochemistry, & Vertebrate physiology

**DAT:** American DAT is accepted, MDT score not required

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:** December 1

» [www.dentistry.dal.ca](http://www.dentistry.dal.ca)



# MCGILL UNIVERSITY QUEBEC



## ■ Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD)

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Be in final year or completed undergraduate degree

### GPA:

- Last Year average: 3.71

### PREREQUISITE COURSES:

- [6] Biology w/ Labs
- [6] Chemistry w/ Labs
- [3] Organic Chemistry w/ Labs
- [6] Introductory Physics w/ Labs
  - credits in Calculus can count towards this
- Recommended: Biochemistry, Cell and Molecular Biology





# MCGILL UNIVERSITY QUEBEC



**DAT:** NOT REQUIRED

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:** November 15, 2013

## **APPLICATION PACKAGE ALSO INCLUDES:**

### ■ Two Reference Letters

- **1:** from a professor / TA / lab demonstrator who can attest to applicant's academic abilities
- **2:** from a non-academic referee who supervised applicant while working/ volunteering in a health care or social service setting

### ■ Personal Statement

### ■ Resume

» [www.mcgill.ca/dentistry](http://www.mcgill.ca/dentistry)





# ADMISSION STATISTICS

## 2012 ENTRY

- University of Western Ontario
  - <http://www.schulich.uwo.ca/dentistry/ddsadmissions/files/Unfiled/Dents%202016%20Statistics.pdf>
  
- University of Alberta
  - <http://www.dentistry.ualberta.ca/ProgramsAdmissions/Dentistry/DDSOverview/AdmissionStatisticsDDS.aspx>
  
- University of British Columbia (2011 Stats)
  - <http://www.dentistry.ubc.ca/Education/DMD/EntranceStatistics/2011.asp>



# DENTAL SCHOOL INTERVIEW

- Evaluates an applicant's:
  - Maturity, Motivation, Initiative, Ability to communicate, Personal qualities

- **POSSIBLE FORMATS:**

- 1) Multiple Mini Interview (MMI)**

- Interviewee exposed to series of stations
    - At stations: interviewee provided a question/scenario and given time to formulate a response



- 2) Panel Interview**

- Often includes 3 interviewer on a panel
    - Interactive and group oriented
    - Often group of candidates interviewed together



SAMPLE QUESTIONS: <http://www.dentistry.ualberta.ca/en/ProgramsAdmissions/Dentistry/DDSOverview/DDSFAQs/SampleMMIQuestions.aspx>



# Student Ombuds services

[bethune.yorku.ca/sos](http://bethune.yorku.ca/sos)

**SOS Office: BC 208**

**Open 10am - 4pm**

**Melissa: [mcarere@yorku.ca](mailto:mcarere@yorku.ca)**

**Krishna: [kmodi@yorku.ca](mailto:kmodi@yorku.ca)**