

SOS seminar

# How to get into Dental School

PRESENTED BY  
Japjeet Toor and Daniel Ng





# SEMINAR OUTLINE

SLIDES WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE SOS WEBSITE

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



# BECOMING A DENTIST

## **STEP 1**

Work Towards an Undergraduate Degree



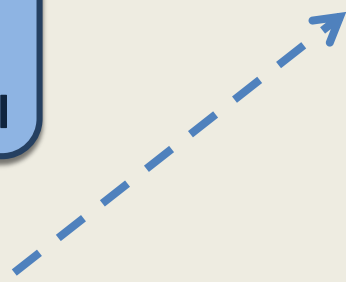
## **STEP 2**

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

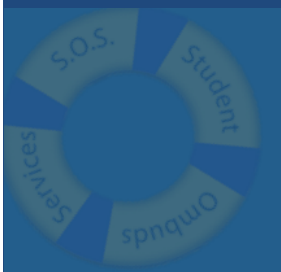
- Standardized exam taken by potential dental school students
- Can write DAT unlimited number of times
- Following reported on official DAT transcript:
  - Results of most recent DAT written
  - Total number of times DAT written
- **More info:** Canadian Dental Association (CDA) website
  - <http://www.cda-adc.ca>





# DENTAL APTITUDE TEST FORMAT

SECTIONS	FORMAT	SAMPLE TOPICS
<b>Natural Sciences</b> (Biology & Chemistry)		
<b>Perceptual Ability</b>		
<b>Reading Comprehension</b>		
<b>Manual Dexterity</b>		



# DENTAL APTITUDE TEST

## FORMAT

SECTIONS	FORMAT	SAMPLE TOPICS
<b>Natural Sciences</b> (Biology & Chemistry)	60 Minutes 40 Biology and 30 General Chem. Questions	<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>		



# DENTAL APTITUDE TEST

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<b>Perceptual Ability</b>	60 Minutes 90 Questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>-Angle discrimination</li><li>-Form development</li><li>-Cubes</li><li>-Orthographic projections</li><li>-Apertures</li></ul>
<b>Reading Comprehension</b>		
<b>Manual Dexterity</b>		

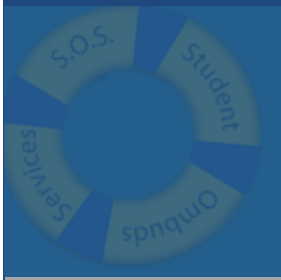


# DENTAL APTITUDE TEST

## FORMAT

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<b>Reading Comprehension</b>	50 Minutes 50 Questions	<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>		





# DENTAL APTITUDE TEST

## FORMAT

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<b>Reading Comprehension</b>	50 Minutes 50 Questions	<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>	30 Minutes	Carving a specified model out of bar of soap



# DENTAL APTITUDE TEST SCORING

- Total of 210 questions on English DAT
- 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
- Not all dental schools look at Manual Dexterity (MDT)





# 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:

## 2015

- February 21, 2015
- November 7, 2015





# DENTAL APTITUDE TEST FEE

- **DAT Total: \$285**

- **Written Test Portion: \$230**
- **Manual Dexterity Test Portion: \$55**

**\*\* 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: \$285**

- Written Test Portion: \$230
- Manual Dexterity Test Portion: \$55

**\*\*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 Canadian dental schools indicated on the registration form



# 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

University of Saskatchewan

# 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.





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		



# SCHOOLS IN WEST CANADA PREREQUISITES

Schools	Prerequisites 6=full year equivalent 3=half year equivalent
Alberta (Alberta)	Biology 6, Chemistry 6, Physics 6, Organic Chemistry 6, Biochemistry 3, English 6, Statistics 3
UBC (British Columbia)	Biology 6, Chemistry 6, Organic Chemistry 6, Biochemistry 6, English 6
Manitoba (Manitoba)	Biology 6, Chemistry 6, Physics 6, Organic Chemistry 6, Biochemistry 6, English 6, Humanities/Social Science 6



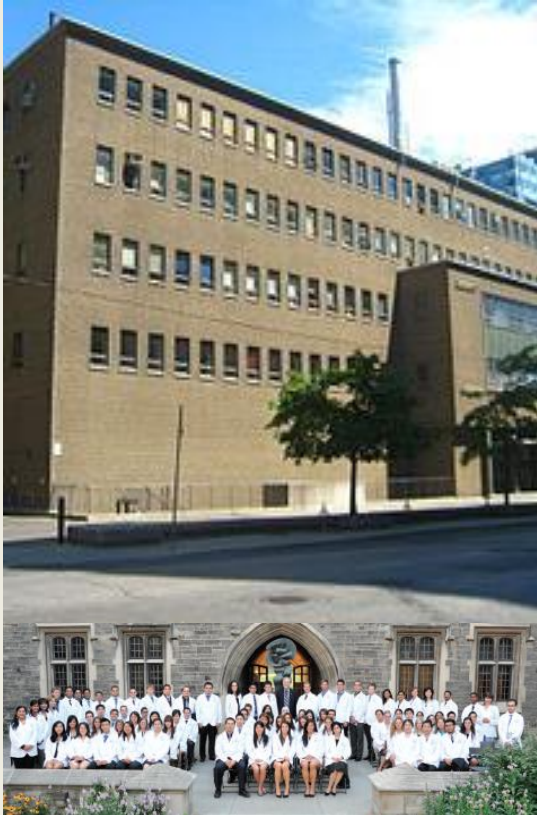
# SCHOOLS IN EAST CANADA PREREQUISITES

Schools	Prerequisites 6=full year equivalent 3=half year equivalent
Dalhousie (Nova Scotia)	Biology w/ labs 6, Chemistry w/ labs 3, Physics w/ labs 6, Organic Chemistry w/ labs 3, Biochemistry 3, Microbiology 3, Vertebrate physiology 6, Writing course 6, Humanities/Social Science 12
Toronto (Ontario)	Biochemistry 6, Human/Mammalian Physiology 6, Life Sciences 12, Humanities/Social Science 6
Western (Ontario)	Organic Chemistry w/ labs 3, Biochemistry w/ labs 3, Human/Mammalian Physiology 6 (or with challenge exam)
McGill (Quebec)	Biology w/ labs 6, Chemistry w/ labs 3, Physics w/ labs 6, Organic Chemistry w/ labs 3, Recommended Biochemistry 3, Physiology 6



# UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

## ONTARIO



UNIVERSITY OF  
TORONTO

## Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)

### REQUIREMENTS:

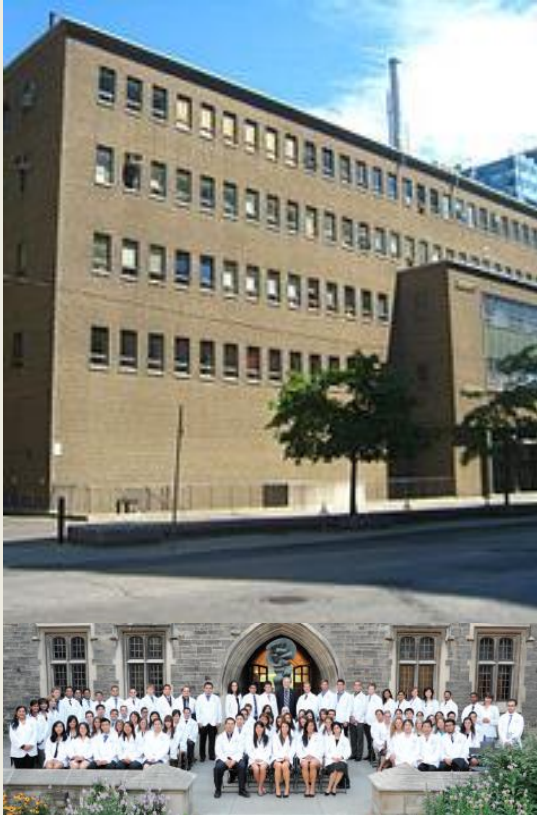
- At least 3 years of undergrad

### GPA:

- 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



**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 1, 2015

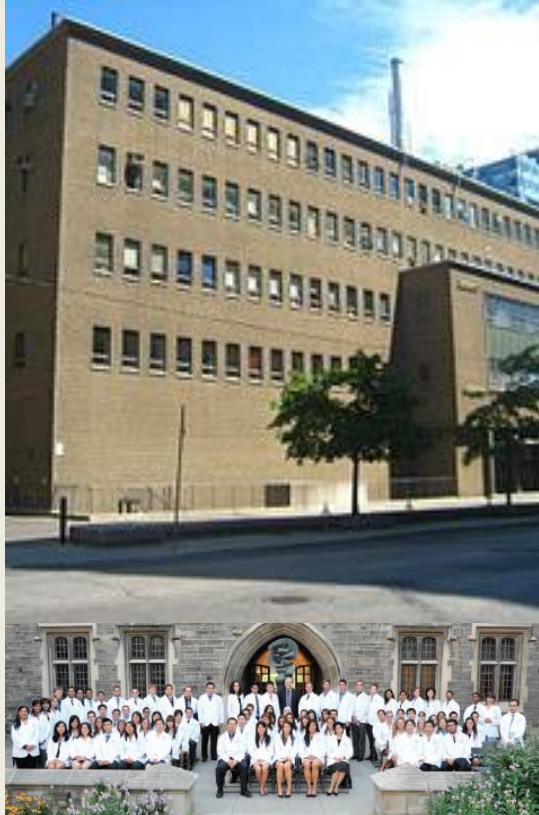


UNIVERSITY OF  
TORONTO



# UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

## ONTARIO



- 175-190 domestic applicants invited for an interview
- It graduates approximately 70 qualified dentists each year
- Full course load not required each year
- No reference letters required in application package



UNIVERSITY OF  
TORONTO



# UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO ONTARIO



## Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Be in final year or completed undergraduate degree

### GPA:

- 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



## DAT:

- If written more than once, most recent score used
- American DAT is accepted

**DEADLINE TO APPLY: December 1, 2015**





# 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**
- **No reference letters required in application package**



# 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:

- 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



**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, 2015**

No reference letters required in application package



# UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

## BRITISH COLUMBIA



- Doctor of Dental Medicine (**DMD**)

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Completed 3 years of an undergrad (90 credits)

### GPA:

- Summer courses included 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

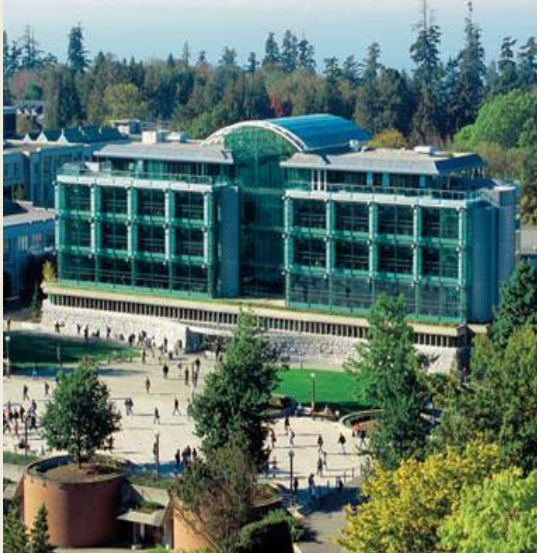


a place of mind



# UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

## BRITISH COLUMBIA



**DAT:** If written more than once, highest overall score used  
- American DAT is accepted

**DEADLINE TO APPLY: October 18, 2014**  
**Date not available for this year, check back in the summer!**

**No reference letters required in application package**



a place of mind



# UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

## 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 included in GPA calculation



UNIVERSITY  
OF MANITOBA



# UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

## MANITOBA



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

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

**DEADLINE TO APPLY:** January 21 2015

- **Date not available for next year**
- **Accepting applications now.**
- **Check back in the summer!**

No reference letters required in application package



UNIVERSITY  
OF MANITOBA



# DALHOUSIE UNIVERSITY

## NOVA SCOTIA



Doctor of Dental Surgery (**DDS**)

### REQUIREMENTS:

- Completed 2 years of undergrad (60 credits)

### GPA:

- Last Year average: 3.7

DAT: American DAT is accepted, MDT score not required

DEADLINE TO APPLY: December 1 2015



**DALHOUSIE**  
**UNIVERSITY**

*Inspiring Minds*





# MCGILL UNIVERSITY

## QUEBEC



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

#### REQUIREMENTS:

- Be in final year or completed undergraduate degree

#### GPA:

- Last Year average: 3.71

#### DAT: NOT REQUIRED

#### 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

Deadline November 1, 2015





# SCHOOLS IN CANADA

School	Cut off GPA	Ave. Entrance GPA	Year to Apply*
Alberta	3.0	3.90 (3.7-4.0)	2 <sup>nd</sup> year
UBC	2.8	3.70	3 <sup>rd</sup> year
Manitoba		(AGPA)	2 <sup>nd</sup> year

School	Cut off GPA	Ave. Entrance GPA	Year to Apply*
Dalhousie		Last two years	2 <sup>nd</sup> year
Toronto	3.0	3.85	3 <sup>rd</sup> year
Western		3.7 (per year)	4 <sup>th</sup> year
McGill		3.7	4 <sup>th</sup> year

- Each year considered as full year course load





# 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 9:30am - 4:30pm

Japjeet: [jtoor@yorku.ca](mailto:jtoor@yorku.ca)

Daniel: [dannng@yorku.ca](mailto:dannng@yorku.ca)