Why Tufts Dental?

Tufts University School of Dental Medicine is world renowned for academics, clinical preparation, research and commitment to community service. Established in 1868, Tufts now boasts over seven thousand alumni from all 50 states and 39 countries.

The dental school maintains the second largest pre-doctoral student enrollment in the United States. Each student becomes a part of the Tufts family from day one. This familial atmosphere is unrivaled.

Students at the dental school work with the most dedicated and accomplished professors in the field. They are also exposed to state-of-the-art techniques, equipment and curriculum.

The dental school is located in downtown Boston and is easily accessible by public transportation. The school recently completed a vertical expansion project which added 5 floors to the top of the existing building. This project yielded nearly 100,000 square feet of additional space and became occupied in December 2009.

Statistics and Class Composition – D’2019

The application cycle has grown more and more competitive each year. The class of D’2019 presents very impressive undergraduate grades and DAT scores. This class also represents a variety of backgrounds and cultures.

-Applications Received 3,527 -58% Female, 42% Male
-Number of Students 203 -Asian/Pacific Islander 34%
-Average Cumulative GPA 3.37 -Hispanic/Latino 7%
-Average Science GPA 3.26 -African American 11%
-Average DAT Exam Scores -Average Age 24
  Academic Average 20 -Age Range 21-36
  Perceptual Ability 20 -Representing 26 states
  Reading Comprehension 21
  Total Science 19

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Application Timeline

- June - Submit application materials to the American Association of Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS).
- July-March – Applications are received from AADSAS and reviewed by the Admissions Office.
- October-February – Interview invitations are released. Applicants selected for an interview will be notified in writing.
- November-March – Interviews are conducted during this time period.
- December 1st – Admissions decisions will begin to be released. This date is standard across all dental schools.

Acceptances are issued on a rolling basis
The class typically fills by late February or early March.

Pre-requisite Courses

The pre-requisite courses include:
- 2 semesters/3 quarters (8 credits) Biology
- 1 semester/1 quarter (3 credits) Upper level Biology
- 2 semesters/3 quarters (8 credits) General Chemistry
- 2 semesters/3 quarters (8 credits) Physics
- 1 semester/2 quarters (4 credits) Organic Chemistry
- 1 semester/1 quarter (3 credits) Biochemistry
- 1 semester/2 quarters (4 credits) Humanities

- All coursework must be completed at a four-year institution. Community college & AP credits are not accepted.
- Bachelor’s Degree is required prior to matriculation
- Recommended upper level Biology courses include, but are not limited to: Anatomy, Physiology, Microbiology, Pharmacology and Histology

Dental Admissions Test (DAT) Requirement

In addition to strong grades, a competitive applicant must achieve strong scores on the Dental Admissions Test (DAT).

*International applicants are required to achieve a minimum score of 20 on the Reading Comprehension section.

The Admissions Office will consider the three most recent DAT attempts. All three of the important scores should be achieved on the exact same DAT examination.

To learn more about the DAT exam, visit: www.ada.org
Other Requirements: Letters of Evaluation and Dental Shadowing

The Admissions Office has specific requirements regarding the letters of evaluation, please see below:

- 2 letters of evaluation from academic professors
- 1 additional letter of evaluation (suggestions include community service, dental experience or research)

Tufts welcomes additional letters of evaluation from professors, employers, or dentists through AADSAS to further enhance the application.

A pre-professional composite committee letter will satisfy all three of the required evaluations.

Dental Shadowing Requirement

75 hours of dental shadowing is required. (40 hours must be with a General Dentist.)

Applicants are encouraged to become involved within the field of dentistry as much as possible. In addition to the shadowing, students can participate in dental research and/or community service opportunities.

How to be a Competitive Candidate

The Admissions Committee looks for applicants with a strong academic background and a solid commitment to the field of dentistry. To be competitive within our large pool of applicants, candidates should strive for 19 or 20 on the DAT and between 3.4-3.5 for both cumulative and science GPAs.

Although the GPA and DAT scores are significant factors, all aspects of the application will be reviewed, including the personal statement and letters of evaluation.

Tufts University is also committed to serving the community, therefore volunteering, especially within the dental community, is also highly valued.
DMD Program Application Checklist

- A complete AADSAS application
  - Including a personal statement articulating motivation for a career in dentistry
  - Visit aadsas.adea.org for more information
- 2 letters of evaluation from academic professors
- 1 additional letter of evaluation (Suggestions include community service, dental experience or research)
- Official DAT score report
  - Visit www.ada.org for more information
  - The Canadian DAT is also accepted
  *Please note minimum requirements*
- Prerequisite courses
  - 2 semesters/3 quarters (8 credits) Biology
  - 1 semester/1 quarter (3 credits) Upper level Biology
  - 2 semesters/3 quarters (8 credits) General Chemistry
  - 2 semesters/3 quarters (8 credits) Physics
  - 1 semester/2 quarters (4 credits) Organic Chemistry
  - 1 semester/1 quarter (3 credits) Biochemistry
  - 1 semester/2 quarters (4 credits) Humanities

*Please review community college and AP policy*

⚠️ Applicants will be informed of supplemental requirements, including an application fee, once the Admissions Office receives their application from AADSAS.

⚠️ Tufts reserves the right to request additional information at any time to complete an assessment of a candidate’s abilities and capabilities.