



# The Pre-Dentistry Program at HPU

Welcome to your road map for becoming a successful dentist!

This checklist will help you plan your years at HPU and prepare you for applying to dental school. Please contact the Pre-Health Professions Specialist, Dr. Allison Bachlet ([abachlet@hpu.edu](mailto:abachlet@hpu.edu)) with any concerns or questions at any step of the way.

**Dental Schools are looking for Candidates with Skills in many areas, including:**  
**Critical Thinking and Problem Solving**  
**Biology and the Sciences**  
**Manual Dexterity and Fine Motor Skills**  
**Social Skills, Adaptability, Resilience and Personal Integrity**

## Freshman / Sophomore Year

- Meet with pre-health professions specialist and discuss future ideas and plans
- Work with science advisors to plan out course selection
- Attend seminars on careers in the health care field
- Join the Pre-Health Club & / Honor Societies
- Get volunteer experience in health care

## Sophomore / Junior Year

- As for freshman year PLUS:
- Assess GPA and reality of attaining goals
- Explore other options in health care to make sure dentistry is what you really want
- Assess your financial status and explore options for financing dental school
- Start researching schools and programs
- Explore the ADEA website and get familiar with AADSAS application process ([www.adea.org](http://www.adea.org))
- Take practice DAT (Dental Admissions Test) exams on-line ([www.ada.org/dat](http://www.ada.org/dat))
- Expand volunteer experiences and make sure to spend time at several different dental offices
- Make contacts with professors / supervisors to build relationships for future reference letters

## Junior / Senior Year - Application Year

### Fall

- Meet with pre-health specialist to discuss application plans and timeline
- Complete the pre-health professions readiness assessment and self-evaluation
  - Provided by Dr. Bachlet \*\* Due January 1st \*\*
- Continue with clinical and volunteer experiences
- Ensure all pre-requisites for dental school and DAT are met
  - Note: the DAT has four sections: Natural Sciences (Biology, Chemistry and Organic Chemistry), Perceptual Ability, Reading Comprehension and Quantitative Reasoning

### Spring

- Enroll in DAT preparatory course and book test date
- Create AADSAS account
- Collect letters of reference from professors and clinical supervisors \*\* Due June 1st\*\*
- DAT exam in April / May
- Participate in Committee Interview in April / May
- Complete and submit application in June!