



Admissions Information Guide 2021-2022

APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 1, 2020

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

The College of Dentistry at the University of Saskatchewan offers a fully accredited 4-year Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) program. This document provides information for applicants seeking admission for 2021-2022. **NOTE:** admissions requirements are subject to change from year to year. Applicants are encouraged to refer to the Dentistry website for the most accurate information: <https://admissions.usask.ca/dentistry.php#About>

II. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

A. Academic Requirements

1. Completion of **THREE (3)** 30 credit-unit academic years of university level course work towards the requirements of an undergraduate degree. An academic year is defined as **TWO** standard academic terms consisting of **eight (8)** consecutive months (September – April).
2. A cumulative weighted average of **75%** over the **TWO** best academic years of study.
3. Completion of 39 credit units of required pre-dentistry courses (or equivalents) with a minimum overall average of **70%**.

REQUIRED PRE-REQUISITE COURSES		
	U of S	U of R
Biology	BIOL 120.3 and BIOL 121.3 or BIOL 224.3 or BMSC 224.3	BIOL 100 and BIOL 101
Chemistry	CHEM 112.3 and CHEM 250.3	CHEM 104 and CHEM 140
Physics	PHYS 115.3	PHYS 109 and PHYS 119
Biochemistry	BMSC 200.3 and BMSC 230.3	BIOC 220 and BIOC 221
Physiology	PHSI 208.6 or PHPY 302.3 and PHPY 303.3	KIN 267 and KIN 268 or BIOL 110 and BIOL 111
Nutrition	NUTR 120.3	KIN 275
Microbiology	BMSC 210.3	BIOL 220 or BIOL 222
Social Sciences / Humanities	Six credit units of social science and/or humanities courses	

Applicants may schedule their pre-dentistry courses as they wish (i.e. in the summer) provided a 30-credit unit course load is maintained per academic year. All pre-dentistry course work must be completed by April of the year in which admission is being sought.

If the pre-dentistry overall average is below 70%, students may improve their average by taking approved higher-level courses, which must be completed no later than the end of the previous academic year prior to application. Approved courses are higher-level courses that have the applicable pre-dentistry courses as a prerequisite.

Applicants whose pre-dental education was completed outside of Saskatchewan are eligible for consideration provided they have completed the equivalent of the listed required pre-dentistry courses. Course equivalents can be found on the USask website at: <https://admissions.usask.ca/requirements/transfer-credit.php>

Applicants from institutions outside of Saskatchewan may be required to submit a course syllabus to determine equivalency with the required pre-dentistry courses. The syllabus must include the course description, list of course topics, list of assessments, and required texts/readings.

B. Dental Aptitude Test

All applicants are required to take the Dental Aptitude Test (DAT) administered by the Canadian Dental Association. The Canadian DAT is offered twice per year (February and November). Results are valid for a period of three (3) years up to November of the year of application. Valid DAT scores for admission for 2021-2022 include the period of February 2018 to November 2020. If an applicant has taken the DAT more than once, the **single** best overall score will be used.

C. Interview

All eligible applicants seeking admission are required to interview as part of the selection process. Interviews are granted based on the academic average of the applicant's **TWO** best years and the best overall DAT score. Courses taken during the application year will **NOT** be included in academic average calculation.

In the interview selection process, applicants will not be considered for admission if they have, in their best DAT score, achieved any of the following:

- An Academic Average score of **less than 15** or
- A Perceptual Ability score of **less than 14** or
- A Reading Comprehension score of **less than 14**

In order to be considered for an interview, applicants must demonstrate a minimum DAT average (average of the Academic Average, Perceptual Ability and Reading Comprehension scores) as determined by the Admissions Committee. Over the past three years, the minimum DAT averages were as follows:

- Saskatchewan residents: 15.67 (2019), 17.33 (2018), 17.00 (2017)
- Out of Province applicants: 18.67 (2019) 18.00 (2018), 21.00 (2017)

The interview is conducted using the multiple mini interview (MMI) format. The MMI exposes applicants to a series of stations each 10 minutes in length. Applicants are provided with a question at each station and given two minutes to read the question and prepare an answer. After two minutes, the applicant discusses their response with the interviewer for eight minutes before moving on to the next station.

D. COMPUTER-BASED ASSESSMENT FOR SAMPLING PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS (CASPer®)

The College of Dentistry is piloting the use of an online assessment tool, CASPer to enhance the selection process. All applicants are required to successfully complete the CASPer test in order to be eligible for admission.

***Please Note:** For the 2021-2022 admissions cycle, CASPer results **will not** be used in the selection process. While CASPer is being piloted, results are for data collection purposes only.

CASPer is an online situational judgement test used by the College of Dentistry to assist in the assessment of applicants for non-academic attributes or people skills. Assessment of these non-cognitive skills and interpersonal characteristics are extremely important for students to be successful in the DMD program and as practising dentists and will complement the tools already being used to assess admission eligibility.

The CASPer test is comprised on 12 sections of video and written scenarios. Following, each scenario, applicants are required to answer a set of probing questions under a time contract. The test typically takes between 75-90 minutes to complete. Each response is graded by a different rater, giving a very robust and reliable view of personal and professional characteristics important to our program.

In order to complete the CASPer test, applicants are responsible for ensuring they have access to a computer with audio and video capabilities and a reliable internet connection on the selected test date. No exceptions will be made for applicants unable to complete CASPer online for any reason.

Applicants must register for the **Canadian Professional Health Sciences test (CSP10201)** on the website at www.takeCASPer.com and reserve a test using one piece of government-issued photo ID. Upon registering, applicants will be provided with a limited number of testing dates. Please note that these are the only testing dates available for your CASPer test. There will be no additional tests scheduled. Please use an email address you check regularly; there may be updates to the test schedule.

The last possible test date accepted before the December 1st application deadline is: **November 19th, 2020.**

Please direct any inquiries on the test to support@takecasper.com.

CASPer test results are valid for one admissions cycle. Applicants must re-take the test for each admission cycle.

E. English Language Proficiency

The language of instruction at the University of Saskatchewan is English. Applicants whose primary language is not English must present evidence of proficiency in English. The following University of Saskatchewan website outlines the accepted satisfactory evidence:

<https://admissions.usask.ca/requirements/english-language-proficiency.php>

*Please note acceptable tests of English language proficiency and/or minimum required scores are subject to change from year to year. Please ensure you refer to the website for the most accurate information.

F. Criminal Record Check

Self-declaration of an adult criminal record is required of all applicants on the application form. Applicants accepted into the program are required to complete and submit a Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Screening *after* the date of offer and no later than **August 1**. There are currently some Canadian provinces that will not license a dentist to practice if they have a criminal record. Applicants are encouraged to contact the respective provincial dental association for further information.

G. Immunization Requirements

Successful applicants must comply with the University of Saskatchewan's policy on immunization, which states that all students attending a Health Science College must provide documented proof of immunization. Immunization records for accepted applicants must be received by the date stated in the letter of offer.

III. CATEGORIES OF APPLICANTS

The College of Dentistry admits 34 students to the program each year. A minimum of 22 seats are reserved for residents of Saskatchewan and up to 12 seats for all other applicants regardless of residency. Applicants must designate their category on the on-line application form. All applicants must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants at the time of application.

A. Saskatchewan Residents

To be eligible as a Saskatchewan resident, applicants must have resided in Saskatchewan for at least FOUR years immediately prior to September 1 of the year admission is being sought. For 2021-2022, applicants must have resided in Saskatchewan since September 1, 2017. Applicants who have left the province, but previously lived in Saskatchewan for an accumulated period of 15 years (permanent residency), will be considered residents. Applicants who have previously lived in Saskatchewan for an accumulated period of less than 15 years and who do not qualify under the four-year requirement will receive credit of one year toward the four-year requirement for every four years of residency in the province. **There are NO EXCEPTIONS to the four-year Saskatchewan residency rule.**

In order to support a claim as a resident of Saskatchewan, the following proof and circumstances will be taken into account:

- **Date of issue** of your Saskatchewan Health Card¹ **AND** either the date of issue of your Saskatchewan Drivers' License² **OR** Saskatchewan Income Tax Forms confirming taxes paid in Saskatchewan.
- Applicants who have completed four years of full-time study at a Saskatchewan post-secondary institution immediately prior to the year admission is being sought are considered Saskatchewan residents. Official transcripts must be submitted by the document deadline to support this claim.
- Reasons for any break in continuity of residence, which includes attendance at an out-of-province educational institution, summer employment where applicable and any other reason deemed to be relevant
- Saskatchewan high school transcript (if you are NOT currently registered at the University of Saskatchewan) or
- Resident of the Yukon, Northwest or Nunavut Territories.

¹ If the date of issue of your Saskatchewan Health Card is newer than the original date of issue, a letter from

Saskatchewan Health confirming the date of issue is required.

² If the date of issue of your Saskatchewan Drivers' License is newer than the original date of issue, a Drivers Abstract is required.

B. Canadian Applicants

Applicants are required to complete courses equivalent to those listed in Section II A. Equivalent course work will be evaluated based upon submission of official transcripts.

C. Indigenous Equity Access Program

There is a separate category in which **SIX (6)** first year seats are reserved for persons of Canadian Indigenous Ancestry. Applicants must meet the minimum admission requirements:

1. Completion of **THREE (3)** 30 credit-unit academic years of university level course work towards the requirements of an undergraduate degree. An academic year is defined as **TWO** standard academic terms consisting of **eight (8)** consecutive months (September – April).
2. A cumulative weighted average of **75%** over the **TWO** best academic years of study.
3. Completion of 36 credit units of required pre-dentistry courses (or equivalents) with a minimum overall average of **70%**.

Applicants must achieve an acceptable interview score and complete the Dental Aptitude Test (DAT). Applicants wishing to apply in this category must identify themselves on the on-line application form. Applicants must provide proof of Indigenous Ancestry by the document deadline.

Acceptable proofs of ancestry include a certified copy of:

- Indian Status or Treaty Card
- Métis Membership Card
- Nunavut Trust Service Card
- Inuit roll number

The following are unacceptable proofs of ancestry:

- uncertified copies of the above noted cards
- family trees
- letters or notes from relatives
- photographs of grandparents, parents, relatives, etc.
- other information that would be helpful to the Admissions Committee during the selection process.

Applicants will be evaluated on all of the above criteria. Admission under the foreign trained dentist category is **NOT** guaranteed.

D. Foreign Trained Dentists

There is a separate category in which **ONE (1)** first year seat is reserved for a foreign trained dentist. Applicants in this category will compete in a separate pool and must meet **ALL** of the following requirements:

1. Applicants must have earned a dental degree from a recognized dental school outside of Canada or the USA.
2. Proof of degree and official transcripts must be provided.
3. Applicants must meet the Saskatchewan residency rules as outlined in Section III A.
4. If applicable, applicants must present satisfactory evidence of proficiency in English as stated in Section II C.
5. Applicants must take the Canadian Dental Aptitude Test (DAT) administered by Canadian Dental Association and

meet the minimum DAT requirements for all applicants as outlined in Section II B.

6. Applicants must interview at the University of Saskatchewan for the year in which admission is being sought.
7. Applicants must provide a one-page biography (curriculum vita) on the relevant dental experiences and other information that would be helpful to the Admissions Committee during the selection process.

Applicants will be evaluated on all of the above criteria. Admission under the foreign trained dentist category is **NOT** guaranteed.

E. Special Case Category

The College of Dentistry may consider students with special circumstances with regard to any of the three 30-credit unit years of study, such that one or all years may have been completed over twelve (12) consecutive months as part of a program requirement. All 'special case' applicants will be considered by the Admissions Committee and they will compete with other applicants in the general pool of candidates. Special case applicants that have met ALL other requirements must submit a letter to support their application explaining their special circumstances.

The College of Dentistry has no provision for special cases pertaining to the **academic** or **residency** requirements and letters will **NOT** be considered.

F. Transfer Students

There is no provision for accepting transfer students into the DMD program at this time.

G. International Applicants

The College of Dentistry does not accept applications to the DMD program from international students.

IV. SELECTION CRITERIA

It is the duty of the Admissions Committee to select applicants that have the ability to succeed in the program. The Admissions Committee reserves the right to review the applicant's entire application submission, including all written/verbal communication with the College of Dentistry, and to deny entry to applicants whose academic background or history indicates unsuitability for a career in Dentistry. Common reasons for the Admissions Committee to invalidate an application include evidence of inability to understand and utilize instruction received in written and oral format, academic misconduct, misrepresentation on the application, prior criminal behavior and unprofessional comments and/or behavior during the applicant's attendance at the MMI or elsewhere. If one or more issues is found in an applicant's file, the Admissions Committee retains the right to actively seek further relevant information about the applicant, including, but not limited to, information from educational institutions attended related to academic or non-academic misconduct resulting in disciplinary action. **By submitting an application, applicants consent to the collection of any such supplemental information.**

Applicants must have a minimum overall average of 70% in the required pre-dentistry courses completed by the end of the previous academic year prior to application but may complete any outstanding pre-dentistry courses during the year of application. The overall pre-dentistry average and academic average at the end of the previous academic year, and the best overall DAT score will determine the applicant's eligibility for further admission consideration. All required pre-dentistry courses must be

completed by the end of April of the year of application with an overall average of at least 70% to be eligible. Applicants who have not met this requirement will not be considered.

In addition to completing the required pre-dentistry courses, applicants must be working towards an undergraduate degree and choose courses that meet the requirements of the degree. This will ensure alternate career choices if dentistry is no longer a viable option. It is recommended that applicants pursue a degree in the natural sciences.

1. Academic Average (65% Overall Weighting)

The full weighting of 65% is given to the cumulative weighted average of the **TWO** (2) best academic years of study. Each academic year must have no fewer than 30 credit units of university level course work. Applicants must have achieved a minimum cumulative weighted average of **75%** over their **TWO** best academic years of study and must maintain an average of 75% in their current year of study. Courses taken during the application year will **NOT** be included in the academic average calculation. However, applicants must maintain **BOTH** of the following conditions for any course work during the year of application:

1. A minimum overall academic average of at least 75% **AND**
2. A minimum 70% average on any pre-requisite courses

Applicants will not be considered if they have not met the minimum number of credit units or the minimum cumulative weighted average. Please note that a minimum cumulative weighted average of 75% does not guarantee admission.

2. Dental Aptitude Test (15% Overall Weighting)

The applicable scores from the DAT will be earned on:

- Reading Comprehension – 1/3
- Perceptual Ability – 1/3
- Academic Average – 1/3

Applicants will not be considered if they have not met the minimum DAT requirements stated in Section II B.

3. Interview (20% Overall Weighting)

A personal interview is required of all competitive applicants annually. Interview selection is based on academic average of the **TWO** best academic years of study and the single best overall DAT score.

Interviews for admission are held in March each year. Applicants selected to interview will be contacted via email by early March. Applicants offered interviews should note that interviews are scheduled only once per year. Rescheduling, regardless of the reason, cannot be accommodated.

Applicants not selected to interview will not be re-evaluated for final selection in the current year. Interview scores will not be released to applicants and specific feedback will not be provided.

4. CASPer (0% Overall Weighting)

All applicants must complete and submit scores for the online CASPer test to be eligible for admission. However, results will not be used for the 2021-2022 selection process.

V. APPLICATION PROCEDURES

1. How to Apply for Admission

The College of Dentistry accepts on-line applications only. The on-line application is available **August 10 – December 1**. The on-line application can be accessed on the following website: <https://apply.usask.ca/>

1. When accessing the application for the first time, click 'Create account' to set up an account.
2. Once an account has been created, login using the email and password to access the application.

2. Application Fee

A non-refundable application fee in the amount of **\$170 CAD** is required and **MUST** be paid online via credit card at the time the application is submitted. The application fee may be paid by Visa, MasterCard or Discover.

VI. REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION

Please refer directly to specific policies when confirming required documentation.

All of the following required documentation must be received **no later than December 15:**

- Completed on-line application with payment of \$170 CAD application fee
- ONE set of official transcripts from **all** post-secondary institutions attended other than the University of Saskatchewan (including distance education classes) forwarded **DIRECTLY** from the appropriate institution(s):
 - Applicants who previously or are currently attending the University of Saskatchewan are not required to submit official transcripts as their official record resides with this institution.
 - Transcripts issued directly to students or photocopies are not acceptable.
- Official DAT report of your best overall DAT score within the last 3 years (no older than February 2018 for the 2021-2022 application cycle).
 - November 2020 DAT scores are due as soon as they become available.
 - If re-applying for admission, DAT scores already submitted do not need to be re-submitted.
- If applicable, the following supporting documents:
 - Proof that you have resided in Saskatchewan for at least 4 years immediately prior to September 1 of the year in which admission is being sought
 - Proof of Indigenous ancestry
 - Proof of permanent residence
 - Proof of English proficiency
 - Confirmation of enrolment if you are currently enrolled in any required pre-requisite courses in Term 1 of the year of application. *If you are completing required pre-requisite courses in Term 2 of the year of application, confirmation of enrolment must be submitted by **February 1**.*

Send all required documentation to:

**Admissions, College of Dentistry
University of Saskatchewan
105 Wiggins Road
Room 2A50
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5E4**

VII. NOTIFICATION OF APPLICATION STATUS

Applicants will be informed in writing, via email, of their application status by mid-April. To accept an offer of admission, applicants must pay a non-refundable deposit of 15% of tuition by the deadline stated in the offer letter. The deposit will be applied towards tuition fees at the time of registration. Applicants who withdraw their admission acceptance after paying the fee forfeit the deposit.

If offered admission, applicants are required to submit the following documentation to:

**Admissions, College of Dentistry
University of Saskatchewan
105 Wiggins Road
Room 2A50
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5E4**

- ONE set of official transcripts from **all** post-secondary institutions attended other than the University of Saskatchewan forwarded **DIRECTLY** from the appropriate institution(s) **due no later than June 5**.

Final marks for all course work completed during the year of application, including all deferred examinations, **MUST be reported on this transcript**.

All offers of admission are conditional upon the successful applicant maintaining **BOTH** of the following conditions for **any course work during the year of application**:

1. A minimum overall academic average of at least 75% **AND**
2. A minimum 70% average on any pre-requisite courses

- Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Screening **due no later than August 1**.

The Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Screening must be completed **AFTER** the date of the offer of admission.

VIII. COUNSELLING OF APPLICANTS TO DENTAL SCHOOL

The Admissions staff in the Office of Student Services is available to assist all applicants who seek counsel regarding admission to the College of Dentistry. However, it is the College's policy not to instruct applicants as to a specific course of action they should follow, but rather provide the information needed for applicants to make their own choice with respect to the alternatives available.

Potential applicants should note:

- Admission is determined by the Admissions Committee on the basis of an annual competition.
- There is no provision for considering or accepting transfer applicants.
- Applications from international students are no longer accepted.

IX. ADMISSION & APPLICATION STATISTICS

For the 2019-2020 academic year, the mean academic averages of applicants admitted to the program were:

- Overall: 88.40%
- Saskatchewan Residents: 83.26%
- Out of Province applicants: 89.54%

X. DENTAL CURRICULUM

For a full description of course listings, please refer to the University of Saskatchewan Course and Program Catalogue at: <https://programs.usask.ca/dentistry/dmd/index.php>

Year 1

Principles of Biomedical Science, Principles & Practice of Dentistry, Application of Dental Research, Oral Histology & Embryology, Operative Dentistry, Dental Materials I, Dental Anatomy & Morphology, Occlusion, Infection Control, Introductory Neuroanatomy, Dental Ethics, Professionalism & Misconduct

Year 2

Oral Radiology, Human Oral Infectious Diseases, Communication Skills, Dental Research, Oral Microbiology, Immunology & Physiology, Orthodontics, Periodontics, Operative Dentistry, Dental Materials II, Pedodontics, Removable Prosthodontics, Fixed Prosthodontics, Diagnosis, Local Anesthesia, Endodontics, Pharmacology

Year 3

Oral Radiology, Orthodontics, Periodontics, Operative Dentistry, Pedodontics, Removable Prosthodontics, Fixed Prosthodontics, Diagnosis, Basic Internal Medicine, Endodontics, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Implant Prosthodontics, Dental Practice Management, Oral Pathology, Communication Skills

Year 4

Oral Radiology, Orthodontics, Periodontics, Operative Dentistry, Pedodontics, Removable Prosthodontics, Fixed Prosthodontics, Health Science Interdisciplinary Relationships, Diagnosis/Oral Medicine, Endodontics, Advanced Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, Implant Prosthodontics, Dental Practice Management, Comprehensive Care

XI. ESTIMATED EXPENSES

As a guideline, below are the estimated expenses for students registered in Year 1 of the DMD program. Please note these are estimates only and subject to change from year to year

Annual Fees	Year 1	
	SK Residents	Out of Province
Tuition	\$36,736.00	\$55,105.00
Program Fee	\$7,570.00	\$7,570.00
Fees	\$1,097.00	\$1,097.00
Equipment Fee	\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
Total	\$49,403.00	\$67,772.00

XII. IMPORTANT DATES

Please refer directly to specific policies when confirming required documentation.

Date	Activity
November	All applicants must have written a valid DAT by this date
December 1	On-line application and application fee due Supporting documents due (where applicable):
December 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ONE set of official transcripts• Official DAT scores• Proof of residency• Proof of permanent residence• Proof of Indigenous ancestry• Proof of English proficiency• Confirmation of Enrolment for Term 1 pre-dentistry courses
February 1	Confirmation of Enrolment for Term 2 pre-dentistry courses
June 5	If offered admission, ONE set of official transcripts for courses taken during the application year.
August 1	If offered admission, Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Screening due

XIII. IMPORTANT NOTES

One set of official transcripts sent **DIRECTLY** from all post-secondary institutions attended, including distance education courses, are required. Transcripts issued to students or photocopies are **NOT** acceptable. All transcripts and other official documents become the property of the University of Saskatchewan and will not be returned. Transcripts will be kept on file for a period of two years.

All transcripts must include final grades from all course work. **All deferred examinations and grade appeals must be completed and final grades submitted by the document deadline. There are NO EXCEPTIONS to the document deadlines.**

Applicants seeking admission on the basis of official documents that are in a language other than English must submit notarized copies of their original documents attached to notarized, word for word, English translations. Calendars and/or course descriptions covering the completed courses must also be submitted.

All correspondence will be via email. Please ensure your email address is current and that your email account will accept email from the University of Saskatchewan (check your filters).

Applications are not complete until **ALL** required documents are received. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that all required documentation is received. Applicants can check the status of their application online by logging in to their application. Please ensure that the Admissions Office, College of Dentistry has a current address, telephone number, and email address.

Please note the College of Dentistry reserves the right to change or cancel any components of the selection process at any time due to unexpected circumstances (e.g. health pandemic).

XIV. CONTACT INFORMATION

Admissions, College of Dentistry
University of Saskatchewan
105 Wiggins Road
Room 2A50
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5E4
Email: dentistry.admissions@usask.ca