UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK

Pre-Dental Prerequisite Checklist

STUDENT:

ADVISORS: Dr. Anindya Ghosh (axghosh@ualr.edu) and Dr. Erin Flowers (eeflowers@ualr.edu)

UPDATED: October 2026 (UA Little Rock five-digit course numbers)

INTERESTED IN: ☐ DMD ☐ DDS **Applying in:** **DAT date:**

This checklist covers Arkansas's dental school and the nearby schools Arkansas students most often attend. If you complete the courses in Part C **with all the labs**, you will meet the prerequisites of nearly every school listed. Requirements change every year, so always confirm on each school's website before you apply. **For advising, contact Dr. Ghosh (axghosh@ualr.edu); if he can't meet or is slow to respond, reach out to Dr. Flowers (eeflowers@ualr.edu).** We run the program together. Keep this checklist current; you will submit it with your UA Little Rock committee letter application.

Tip: open this file in Adobe Acrobat Reader, Preview or your browser, click the boxes to check off courses, type in the fields, and save. You can update it at every advising meeting.

Part A. Dental schools for Arkansas students

	Lyon College School of Dental Medicine (Little Rock, DMD)	UTHSC College of Dentistry (Memphis, DDS)
Status	Arkansas's first dental school; first class entered summer 2025; 36-month program	Long-established; considers Arkansas residents under the Arkansas Health Education Grant
Biology	12 hrs (e.g., general biology, microbiology, anatomy and physiology)	8 hrs with lab, plus one of: histology, microbiology with lab, or anatomy with lab
Chemistry	General 6 hrs; organic 6 hrs; biochemistry 3 hrs	General 8 hrs with lab; organic 8 hrs with lab; biochemistry 3 hrs
Physics	6 hrs	8 hrs with lab
English	3 hrs	6 hrs composition
DAT	Minimum Academic Average 370; scores within 5 years	Required; Academic Average 400+ is competitive
GPA	Minimum science GPA 2.8	Minimum 2.75; competitive 3.5+
Shadowing	Required in several types of dental settings	At least 50 hours with a general dentist
Letters	Committee letter, or two letters (science faculty preferred)	Committee letter plus one other, or two science faculty plus one other (max. 4)
Other	At least 90 hours before entry; C or better	Science courses in person preferred; prerequisites done by May 31

Other nearby schools (all apply through ADEA AADSAS except Texas A&M, which uses TMDSAS):

School	Key requirements	Arkansas students
LSU School of Dentistry (New Orleans)	Biology 12, general chem 8, organic 8, physics 8, English 9, biochemistry 3, microbiology 3; 50–100 hrs shadowing with 3+ general dentists	Up to 4 seats a year for Arkansas residents

School	Key requirements	Arkansas students
UMKC School of Dentistry (Kansas City)	Biology, anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, plus cell biology, histology, microbiology or molecular biology; 2 semesters each of chemistry, organic, physics, English; 80–100 hrs shadowing	Agreement with Arkansas; preferred consideration
OU College of Dentistry (Oklahoma City)	Biology 16, general chem 8, organic 8, physics 8 (all with labs), general psychology 3, English 6; at least 100 hrs shadowing	Arkansas contract school (SREB)
Texas A&M School of Dentistry (Dallas)	Biology 18 incl. anatomy with lab, physiology, microbiology; general chem 8, organic 8, physics 8, biochemistry 3, statistics 3, English 6	Non-Texans limited to about 10% of the class

Arkansas Health Education Grant (ARHEG). Arkansas residents admitted to out-of-state contract schools in dentistry, optometry, veterinary medicine, podiatry and chiropractic can receive a yearly grant toward tuition (dentistry 2025–26: about $24,000 a year). Contract dental schools include LSU, Meharry, Texas A&M, OU and UTHSC. Apply by **July 1** each year: ARHEG details and SREB contract programs.

Part B. The DAT and the application

- **DAT** (given by the American Dental Association): Survey of the Natural Sciences (biology, general and organic chemistry), Perceptual Ability (PAT), Reading Comprehension and Quantitative Reasoning. Since March 2025 scores run from **200 to 600**; an Academic Average of roughly **420–460** is competitive (370 is about the old 17, 420 about the old 20).
- **ADEA AADSAS** (apply): for the 2026–27 cycle it opened May 12 and accepted submissions from June 2; fees are $264 for the first school and $115 for each additional. Apply early in June; schools admit on a rolling basis, with first offers on December 15.
- **Shadowing:** schools ask for 50 to 100+ hours. Aim for **100+ hours in several offices, including a general dentist**, and keep a log.
- **Manual dexterity:** the PAT and dental school reward hand skills. Art (drawing, sculpture, ceramics), crafts and musical instruments are worth listing.
- **Letters:** every school here accepts our committee letter, and several prefer it. Ask a dentist you shadowed for a letter too.

Part C. Course checklist

Check off each course as you complete it. Take every lab; most schools require them.

Biology (12–18 hours with labs)

	Course (credit hours)	Prerequisite	Term / grade
☐	BIOL 10284 Biological Concepts I (4) **or** BIOL 10104 Science of Biology (4)	None	
☐	BIOL 20504 Zoology (4)	Intro biology	
☐	BIOL 20194 Microbiology (4)	Intro biology and a chemistry course	
☐	BIOL 24004 and 24104 Human Anatomy and Physiology I and II (4 each), **or** BIOL 30294 Human Anatomy (4) and BIOL 42284 Human Physiology (4)	See catalog	

	Course (credit hours)	Prerequisite	Term / grade
☐	Recommended: BIOL 30883 Genetics (3), BIOL 40694 Cell Biology (4), BIOL 30894 Vertebrate Histology (4), BIOL 41384 Immunology (4)	See catalog	

Chemistry (general, organic and biochemistry)

	Course (credit hours)	Prerequisite	Term / grade
☐	CHEM 13003 General Chemistry I (3) + CHEM 11001 Lab (1)	College Algebra or chemistry placement (see catalog)	
☐	CHEM 14203 General Chemistry II (3) + CHEM 14201 Lab (1)	General Chemistry I	
☐	CHEM 36053 Organic Chemistry I (3) + CHEM 36051 Lab (1)	General Chemistry II	
☐	CHEM 36203 Organic Chemistry II (3) + CHEM 36201 Lab (1)	Organic Chemistry I; Lab I required for Lab II	
☐	CHEM 42133 Biochemistry I (3); CHEM 42031 Lab (1) recommended	Organic Chemistry I and II with labs	

Physics (2 semesters with labs)

	Course (credit hours)	Prerequisite	Term / grade
☐	PHYS 20103 College Physics I (3) + PHYS 20101 Lab (1)	See catalog	
☐	PHYS 20203 College Physics II (3) + PHYS 20201 Lab (1)	College Physics I	

English, statistics and behavioral science

	Course (credit hours)	Prerequisite	Term / grade
☐	ENGL 10103 Composition I (3)	Placement	
☐	ENGL 10203 Composition II (3)	Composition I	
☐	A third English course (3), e.g., literature or technical writing (LSU asks for 9 hours)	See catalog	
☐	MATH 21003 Introduction to Statistical Methods (3)	See catalog	
☐	PSYC 20043 Psychology and the Human Experience (3)	None	

Experiences and plans

Item	Notes (hours, places, dates)
DAT date / score	
Dental shadowing (target 100+ hrs, incl. a general dentist)	
Community service / volunteering	
Manual dexterity (art, crafts, instruments)	
Research and leadership	
Schools you plan to apply to	

Department and campus contacts

For more information on prerequisites and course content, transfer equivalencies, finding classes and connecting with professors (please keep Dr. Ghosh or Dr. Flowers informed):

Contact	Email	Ask about
Dr. Sinead Ni Chadhain, Biology Chair	snichadhain@ualr.edu	Biology courses and transfer equivalencies
Dr. Juliette Rivero, Chemistry	jxriverocas@ualr.edu	Chemistry courses and sequencing
Dr. Georgy Guisbiers, Physics	gxguisbiers@ualr.edu	Physics courses and sequencing
Office of Transfer Student Services	transfer@ualr.edu; 501-916-3273	Articulating courses from other colleges