In order to become an dentist, you must:

- complete a bachelor’s degree (in any major) [WCU Undergraduate Major Options](#)
- take the appropriate prerequisite coursework ([see list of programs for details](#))
- take the Dental Admissions Test (DAT) [2021 DAT Guide](#)
- obtain shadowing or clinical experience ([optional but suggested](#))
- apply through ADEA.org, some colleges may require additional applications [ADEA AADSAS](#)
- complete a doctorate in dentistry [List of programs](#)
- obtain a license from state of practice (may require board examination)

What should I major in?

While there is no prescribed major for admission into dental school, it is imperative that students complete all required courses for admission. Dentistry programs vary significantly in their requirements, and it is important for you to learn what coursework the schools that interest you require. Students should choose their major according to their strengths, interests and alternative career choices. The Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (ADEA AADSAS) is used by the majority of dentistry schools but individual schools may also require a separate application to their institution as well.

Minimally, a student should complete these courses at WCU for entrance into many dentistry programs:

- **B1OL 140, B1OL 141, B1OL/CH3M 361** (required for UNC-CH dental school)
- **CH3M 139, CH3M 140, CH3M 241, CH3M 242**
- General Chemistry I, General Chemistry II, Organic Chemistry I, Organic Chemistry II
- **MATH 130** plus an additional math course (required for ECU dental school)
- College Algebra
- **PHYS 130, PHYS 131**
- Introductory Physics I, Introductory Physics II

先进课程在生物学和化学中包括生物化学是强烈推荐的。在DAT上取得更大成功所需的一门课程或对三维结构的理解也强烈推荐。

Who can help me at WCU?

For information on undergraduate program options and admission requirements for dentistry schools, contact pre-professional advisors:

**Pre-Professional Students:**
828-227-7753
prepro@wcu.edu

go.wcu.edu/preprofessionaladvising

**Honors College Students:**
Emily Sharpe
828-227-3277
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