

# PRE-DENTAL RESOURCES



CAREER CENTER

GEORGIA COLLEGE & STATE UNIVERSITY

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This handout is designed to provide students a general guide to applying to dental programs. For further assistance, please schedule an appointment with a Career Advisor.

## QUICK FACTS

Dental programs are extremely competitive. **There is only 1 program in Georgia:** The Dental College of Georgia at Augusta University. Here are some elements to consider when navigating the process:

- Applications usually require some combination of these materials: **minimum GPA, Dental Admissions Test (DAT) scores, letters of recommendation, a personal statement, a secondary application, shadowing hours, and an interview.**
  - Thoroughly read through the requirements each school/program has for admission.
- Many programs require that you apply through a common application system: **American Dental Education Association Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (ADEA AADSAS)**, <https://aadsas.liaisoncas.com>.
- Secondary applications are required by most dental programs. They vary in information requested and most often require a fee.
- The number of shadowing/clinical hours required vary from program to program.
  - For Augusta's program, there is no set number—but the successful applicant average is 300 hours in a dental setting.
- **Letters of Recommendation:** Most dental schools are seeking at least 1 letter from science faculty, 1 from an advisor, and 1 from a dentist with whom you shadowed, however this varies from school to school. Visit the **ADEA Letters of Evaluation** page for more information here: <https://www.adea.org/godental/apply>.

## DAT PREPARATION

### Dental Admissions Test (DAT)

- The exam is broken into **4 types of questions: Natural Sciences, Perceptual Ability, Reading Comprehension, and Quantitative Reasoning.**
- You can visit Kaplan for a breakdown of scores for each test section, [www.kaptest.com/study/dat/](http://www.kaptest.com/study/dat/)
- The exam can be re-taken after 60 days. You can take the exam a maximum of **3 times.**
- Visit the **American Dental Education Association** and the **American Dental Association** for exam details and requirements: [www.adea.org/GoDental](http://www.adea.org/GoDental) and [www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org).
- Students should plan on spending about **200-250 hours** intensely studying.
- The DAT should be taken **1 year prior** to your planned enrollment date.

## APPLICATION SERVICES (ADEA AADSAS)

### ADEA Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (ADEA AADSAS)

- Many schools require your application to be submitted through this system.
- An account has to be made to utilize this application service.
- **Familiarize yourself with the site, the applications themselves, and what materials are necessary for each application.**
- **Keep in mind that not all schools use ADEA AADSAS!**
  - Thoroughly read through each program's admission procedures.
- Personal Statements being submitted through ADEA AADSAS should be a general overview as to why you chose this profession.
  - Pay attention to the character count (including spaces) allotted for the essay. The ADEA AADSAS has a 4,500 character limit.

## INTERVIEW PREPARATION

**When preparing for professional school interviews, it is important that you practice ahead of time.**

- **"Why do you want to be a dentist?"** or **"Why our program?"** are common types of questions that you want to prepare for.
- **The American Student Dental Association (ASDA)** offers a Guide for Predental Students to help strengthen their application materials, including interview tips, [www.asdanet.org/utility-navigation/Publications/Getting-Into-Dental-School](http://www.asdanet.org/utility-navigation/Publications/Getting-Into-Dental-School).
- **The ADEA AADSAS** also has a page with interview resources, including the **"Dos and Don'ts" for virtual interviewing**, <https://www.adea.org/godental/interviews/>

## COMMON PREREQUISITES

English Composition I & II	Biochemistry
Principles of Biology I & II	Introductory Physics I
Principles of Chemistry I & II	Pre-Calculus
Organic Chemistry I	Probability and Statistics or Calculus

**\*This is not an exhaustive list. Please research each program's requirement and consult with your academic advisor prior to registering.**

## KEY NUMBERS

- Average GPA: science **3.4**; overall **3.5**
- Average DAT score: Academic Average **19.7**; Perceptual Ability **19.4**; Total Science **19.2**
- Average Shadowing Hours: **200-300**

**\*Check with each individual school for their GPA and score requirements.**

**\*\*Keep in mind that quality outweighs quantity** when obtaining hours.

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## SOURCES

**ADA: Dental Admission Test (DAT):**

<https://www.ada.org/education/testing/exams/dental-admission-test-dat>

**ADEA AADSAS: Student Login:**

<https://aadsas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login>

**ADEA: Applicants, Enrollees, and Graduates:**

<https://www.adea.org/publications-and-data/data-analysis-and-research/applicants-enrollees-and-graduates.aspx>

**ADEA: Dental Admission Test (DAT):**

[https://www.adea.org/GoDental/Application Prep/The Admissions Process/Dental Admission Test \(DAT\).aspx](https://www.adea.org/GoDental/Application%20Prep/The%20Admissions%20Process/Dental%20Admission%20Test%20(DAT).aspx)

**ADEA: Dental School Interview:**

<https://www.adea.org/godental/interviews/>

**ADEA: Filling out your ADEA AADSAS Application:**

[https://help.liaisonedu.com/ADEA AADSAS Applicant Help Center/Filling Out Your ADEA AADSAS Application](https://help.liaisonedu.com/ADEA%20AADSAS%20Applicant%20Help%20Center/Filling%20Out%20Your%20ADEA%20AADSAS%20Application)

**ADEA: Letters of Evaluation:**

[https://www.adea.org/GoDental/Application Prep/The Admissions Process/Letters of evaluation.aspx](https://www.adea.org/GoDental/Application%20Prep/The%20Admissions%20Process/Letters%20of%20evaluation.aspx)

**ASDA: Getting into Dental School:**

<https://www.asdanet.org/utility-navigation/Publications/Getting-Into-Dental-School>

**Augusta University: DCG Admissions Requirements Summary:**

<https://www.augusta.edu/dentalmedicine/admit/admissions/requirements.php>

**Augusta University: Welcome to the Dental College of Georgia:**

<https://www.augusta.edu/dentalmedicine/about-us/>

**Georgia Board of Dentistry:**

<https://gbd.georgia.gov/>

**Kaplan: What's a Good DAT Score?:**

<https://www.kaptest.com/study/dat/whats-good-dat-score/#:~:text=DAT%20Scoring,no%20penalty%20for%20incorrect%20answers>