

Doctor of Dental Surgery

CURRICULUM

**Herman Ostrow
School of Dentistry
of USC**

The Learner Centered curriculum at the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC is an educational approach which provides a vertical integration of the fundamental basic and clinical sciences. Our curriculum allows students to begin both of these in the first year of the DDS program. Central to the pedagogy is a curriculum that is student-centered and inquiry based. The objective is to educate students who will be committed to lifelong, self-motivated learning, skilled in the techniques of problem solving in the clinical setting, well-prepared to deal with the future advances in dental therapy and dental care delivery, able to deal with the medical presentations of dental patients, effective in group learning/accomplishment environments, and highly skilled in the delivery of quality dental health care. Opportunity and encouragement are given to those who might elect to pursue a career in either research or teaching.

Patient treatment is a dominant theme in the dental curriculum and begins during the first trimester. This segment of the curriculum increases until the fourth year, when the students' total efforts are spent in this activity.

ADMISSIONS

Admissions to the school is through the Office of Admissions which receives and processes all applications, evaluates credentials and mails letters of acceptance. Because of the University's selective admission policy and limited enrollment, the Committee on Admissions vote to admit only those applicants who present evidence of intellectual promise, and strong personal qualifications, including good moral character and sound health. (Before registration, the Student Health Service form, signed by the applicant's attending physician, must be filed with the university Student Health Center.)

As a private institution, USC actively seeks a culturally and geographically diverse population. Therefore, out-of-state applicants are evaluated and selected based on the same criteria as California residents.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

- All course work must be taken from an accredited college or university in the United States or Canada. Accelerated programs in the sciences are generally not transferable. No specific major is required for a baccalaureate degree, just the prerequisite course work. Where applicable, the applicant may contact the Office of Admissions for specific transferability and course equivalences.

- Completion of the following required prerequisites:

General Biology and lab	1 year ‡	General Physics and lab	1 year
Inorganic/General Chemistry and lab	1 year	Philosophy, History, or Fine Arts	1 year
Organic Chemistry and lab	1 year	English Composition	1 year

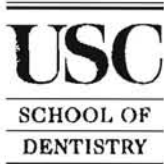
‡ One year is equal to 2 semesters or 3 quarters. All basic pre-dental required classes, with the exception the Philosophy, History or Fine Art requirement, must be sequential and represent a terminal course i.e. 101a and 101b, or on a quarter system 101a,b,c.

- A minimum of 60 semester units completed or in progress at the time of application.
- No foreign course work will be accepted.
- We will accept coursework from a junior/community college, however, preference is given to applicants that have taken prerequisites at a 4 year college/university. It is strongly recommended that students take upper division science courses (i.e. biochemistry, anatomy, histology, physiology) in addition to the prerequisites.

- All applicants are required to take the Dental Admissions Test (DAT), given under the auspices of the Council on Dental Education of the American Dental Association. The DAT must be taken no later than February 1 of the year for which application is made. Test scores more than three years old will not be accepted. To expedite the admissions process, it is recommended that the DAT be taken prior to filing formal application. Full information about the test can be obtained from the Division of Educational Measurement, Council on Dental Education, American Dental Association, 211 East Chicago Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60611 or call (800) 621-8099 or online at <http://www.ada.org>.

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APPLICATION PROCEDURES

- USC participates in the Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS) and as such all applications must be submitted directly to this service. You may download and print or complete an application online at www.adea.org.
- The AADSAS application form should be completed and submitted to AADSAS no later than the deadline date of February 1 of the year of anticipated entrance.

- Domestic applicants are required to pay a non-refundable \$85 processing fee. Canadian applicants or any applicant requiring an I-20 student visa must pay a non-refundable \$145.00 processing fee. The appropriate fee should be forwarded directly to USC at the time of application. The applicant's AADSAS number should be indicated on the check. Please make check or money order payable to USC School of Dentistry.

Mail processing fees to: USC Office of Dental Admissions, File No. 121452, Los Angeles, CA 90074-2145

- As applications are received from AADSAS they are evaluated and competitive applicants may be required to submit supplemental materials such as official college or university transcripts. An interview is required and will be done by invitation only. Due to the large volume of applicants, we are unable to interview all qualified candidates. Every attempt is made to interview as many qualified applicants as possible within the admissions interview calendar.

CLASS OF 2015—ENTERING PROFILE

- ✓ The 144 students entering the USC DDS Class in fall, 2011 were selected from an applicant pool of more than 3,300 applicants. The applicant to position ratio is approximately 23 to one.
- ✓ The entering class average science GPA is 3.40; the average overall GPA is 3.40
- ✓ The average DAT scores were: Academic Average 19.3, Science 19.2, and PAT 20.2. The range is 15 to 30.
- ✓ The class is 41% female; 48% Asian American; 38% Caucasian; 6% African American; 6% Hispanic/Latino American. 1% Unknown. One student is Native American.
- ✓ The average age is 25 – with a range of 21 to 37.
- ✓ California residents compose 70% of the class. In addition to California, students come from Arizona, New York, Colorado, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, Texas, Utah, and Washington. 7% is International.
- ✓ 100% of the class has earned a baccalaureate degree; 9 have earned a Master of Science or Arts degree; 2 have earned a Master of Public Health degree; 1 has earned a Doctor of Medicine degree
- ✓ 40 different majors are represented. 71% completed studies in one of the sciences. Among others, undergraduate degrees include engineering, business, finance, sociology, psychology, Spanish, communications, mathematics, economics, nursing, art, music, and theatre.
- ✓ 65 different undergraduate institutions are represented. 26% of the class earned a degree from a University of California campus while 12% earned a degree from a California State University campus
- ✓ Other institutions represented include: US Military Academy-West Point; Wellesley; Dartmouth; Cornell; Johns Hopkins; Morehouse; Tufts; Carnegie Mellon; Claremont McKenna; Pomona College; Meharry Medical College; U of Nebraska; U of Illinois; Louisiana State U; U of Rochester; U of Washington; Ohio State U; Creighton U
- ✓ The Top 5 Feeder Institutions were USC, UCLA, UC Irvine, BYU, and UC Berkeley