

# Pre Dentistry 1

Dentists diagnose, prevent, and treat problems with teeth or mouth tissue. They remove decay, fill cavities, examine x rays, place protective plastic sealants on children's teeth, straighten teeth, and repair fractured teeth. They also perform corrective surgery on gums and supporting bones to treat gum diseases. Dentists extract teeth and make models and measurements for dentures to replace missing teeth. They provide instruction on diet, brushing, flossing, the use of fluorides, and other aspects of dental care. They also administer anesthetics and write prescriptions for antibiotics and other medications. Dentists perform research directed to improving oral health and developing new treatment methods

The following employment information taken from U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos072.htm>

## Job Outlook 1

Employment of dentists is projected to grow 18 percent from 2014 to 2024, much faster than the average for all occupations. Demand for dental services will increase as the population ages, cosmetic dental services become increasingly popular, and access to health insurance continues to grow.

## Earnings 1

The median annual wage for dentists was \$158,310 in May 2015. The median wage is the wage at which half the workers in an occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$68,400, and the highest 10 percent earned more than \$187,200.

## Educational Requirements 1

Dental candidates must graduate from 1 of the 56 dental schools accredited by the American Dental Association's ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation and then must pass written and practical examinations. Candidates may fulfill the written part of the State licensing requirements by passing the National Board Dental Examinations. A full list of the requirements is available from <http://www.ada.org/>

All dental schools require applicants to take the Dental Admissions Test (DAT). When selecting students, schools consider scores earned on the DAT, applicants' grade point averages, and information gathered through recommendations and interviews.

Dental school usually lasts 4 academic years. Studies begin with classroom instruction and laboratory work in basic sciences, including anatomy, microbiology, biochemistry, and physiology. Most dental schools award the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS). The rest award an equivalent degree, Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD).  
Educational Programs

Georgia educational campus offering a DMD:

The Dental College of Georgia at Augusta University  
1120 15th Street Rm AD 1119  
Augusta, Georgia 30912-0200

phone: 706-721-2117

website: <http://www.augusta.edu/dentalmedicine/>

## Admissions Requirements for the Dental 1