



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
EL PASO

Woody L. Hunt School of Dental Medicine

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply to Woody L. Hunt School of Dental Medicine?

For all dental schools in Texas, you must begin with the Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service on TMDAS.com. You will be provided with step-by-step instructions on how to apply to dental schools in Texas.

[TMDAS](#)

Does Woody L. Hunt SDM require a secondary application?

No. It is important to tell us about yourself in the best way possible through the TMDAS application.

Do you have a minimum GPA and DAT requirement for admission?

Our minimum GPA requirement is a 3.0 and the minimum score on the DAT is a 17. However, in 2020 in the state of Texas for accepted students, the average GPA was a 3.72, the SGPA was a 3.65 and the DAT was a 21.6.

What is the DAT or Dental Admissions Test?

The DAT is used by dental schools to measure academic ability, scientific understanding and perceptual ability. It is required by WLHSDM for application review. Scores will not be considered if more than 3 years old. The DAT measures:

- Natural sciences (biology, general chemistry, and organic chemistry)
- Perceptual ability (two- and three-dimensional problem solving)
- Reading comprehension (dental and basic sciences)
- Quantitative reasoning (mathematical problems in algebra, numerical calculations, conversions, etc.)

When is the application deadline?

WLHSDM follows the TMDAS timeline found at:

<https://www.tmdsas.com/PLAN/references/deadlines.html>

How much does it cost to apply?

It costs \$200 through TMDAS. This one fee allows you to apply to all 4 dental schools in Texas. TMDAS does not grant application fee waivers.

What is the timeline for applying to dental school?

WLHSDM follows the TMDSAS timeline found at:

<https://www.tmdsas.com/PLAN/references/deadlines.html>

When will interviews be held?

Interviews are held between September and January.

How many seats will be in the DMD Class of 2025?

60 students.

Is preference given to Texas residents?

Texas law prescribes that no more than 10% of the class can be classified as non-resident. Since each cohort consists of 60 students, a maximum of 6 students can be classified as non-resident.

Are transfer or advanced standing students accepted?

Due to the unique structure of its curriculum, WLHSDM does not admit transfer or advanced standing students. Individuals who wish to enroll at WLHSDM will be evaluated with all other students applying to the D1 class. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.

Are International students accepted?

At this time, WLHSDM does not have an international program. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.

What are the pre-requisites for your program?

The prescribed course requirements are the **minimum** requirements for admission to WLHSDM. Applicants are strongly encouraged to take additional upper-level course work so they are better prepared for the academic rigors of dental school. Please visit the following link for a list of pre-requisite courses:

<https://el Paso.ttuhs.c.edu/sdm/admissions/application-requirements.aspx> OR
<https://www.tmdsas.com/PLAN/dental/before-you-apply/education-requirements.html>

Do I need to complete all of my pre-requisite courses before I apply?

No, you can submit your application for consideration if you have prerequisite courses in progress or are planning to take the required course(s). However, you will need to provide official documentation that you have completed all required courses prior to attending orientation to WLHSDM. Prerequisite courses required for dental school must be completed with a grade of C or better. Courses taken Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit will **not** count toward meeting the requirement. Advanced placement credit is accepted **only** if the school granting the credit lists the specific course(s) and number of units granted per course on an official transcript. Lump sum credit is not accepted.

Please see TMDAS.com for updated information during spring, summer, and fall 2020 and current information related to COVID-19.

Can I apply with an Associate Degree?

No, applicants must have completed a minimum of 90 semester hours (or 134 quarter hours) at a regionally accredited US or Canadian college or university. Baccalaureate degrees are highly desirable. However, exceptionally mature students without a degree, who have outstanding academic records, superior performance on the Dental Admission Test and highly desirable personal qualifications may be considered for admission. TMDAS does verify courses from college or universities. For more information, visit:

<https://www.tmdsas.com/CourseListings/homepage.html>

Is there a limit on community college coursework?

Woody L. Hunt SDM follows the guidelines set forth by TMDAS and their course verification procedures. For a listing by university of courses verified by TMDAS, see:

https://www.tmdsas.com/PLAN/references/COURSE_LISTINGS/index.html

Is there a favored major for admission to dental school?

No. We encourage you to pursue a major that excites you and in turn, at which you excel. We encourage you to take those courses in which you have a vested interest. Often, we will see students pursue a world language, as well as courses in business, psychology, acting, entrepreneurship, art, and additional science courses. However, it is important to demonstrate academic success in your science courses. Science courses that are “suggested but not required” will not only strengthen your application, but also prepare you for the academic rigors of dental education.

Can I apply with a Bachelor Degree from another country?

All pre-dental requirements must have been completed at a regionally-accredited US or Canadian university/college. Foreign coursework will **not** satisfy the minimally-required prerequisite courses, even if transfer credit has been given for them by a US or Canadian school.

Is there a minimum number of shadowing hours required?

There is not a minimum number of hours required for admission. However, the admissions committee prefers evidence of depth and breadth of patient exposure. The more practitioners and community clinics in which you are able to observe and/or volunteer, the more exposure you will have to a variety of philosophies on modes of health care delivery, patient interactions, and community needs. It is important to demonstrate through your patient interaction experiences that dentistry is the health care field to which you are committed.

Do I need research experience?

Research is not a requirement but does add to the diversity of your experiences.

How can I impress the Admissions Committee?

Our Admissions Committee looks for candidates who not only demonstrate their academic success, but also display a level of personal growth through life experiences. Applicants should pursue involvements that align with their personal values and professional goals and describe those experiences in detail on the application. Academic success is important - and a group of passionate students with a variety of backgrounds, interests and life experiences provides a stimulating and enriching learning environment for all students.