Pre-Dentistry

The pre-dentistry interest track comprises a core of courses required for admission to dental schools. Your choice of the pre-dentistry track at UNCG indicates your interest in preparing for a career in dentistry. Because the required courses for dental schools can be incorporated into almost any major at UNCG, students should consider a major they find interesting and feel they will do well in academically.

Suggested Majors

- Biochemistry (BS)
- Biology (BS)
- Chemistry (BS)

The Student Experience

- Experienced advisers will help plan your academic path and answer questions about the various aspects of building a competitive application to dental schools.
- You will be enrolled in a Canvas Pre-Professional group with resources and information about upcoming events, opportunities, and deadlines. Through this group you can find ways to participate in dental volunteerism, mentoring from dental students at UNC and ECU schools of dentistry, and a chance to meet with representatives of admissions committees from regional and national dental schools at an annual Health Programs career fair each spring.
- Consider membership in the Pre-Dental Students Club, which allows you to have a peer group of like-minded students with whom you can engage in leadership, service, and dental experiences.
- Required pre-dental coursework includes four to five biology courses, four to five chemistry courses, and two physics courses. These are also helpful in preparing for the Dental Admission Test (DAT), which students typically take after the junior or senior year, so beginning science and math coursework early is essential to success.
- Past participants have attended dental school at institutions including the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, East Carolina University, Howard University, New York University, Medical College of Virginia, University of Maryland, and University of Kentucky.

Additional Information

Students interested in the pre-dentistry interest track will be assigned a pre-dental adviser (a member of the UNCG Health Careers Advisory Committee) as their secondary adviser. For a competitive application, students must accrue experience shadowing dentists, volunteering or working in a dental or service setting, and extracurricular activities that show a history of service and leadership. Dental schools also require students to have hobbies or jobs which require hand-eye coordination and fine motor skills, as those are essential in the field of dentistry. Playing a musical instrument, drawing or clay modeling, small engine
repair, jewelry making, knitting, and cupcake decorating are just small sample of the activities students have used to gain these important skills before applying to dental schools.