

How to Apply for Dentistry



Reasons to become a dentist

- you like scientific problem solving linked to helping people
- you want to make a difference by helping people
- you would like a rewarding career
- you thrive on academic challenge
- you know that you would like working in a public system in a challenging working environment
- lifelong learning
- you embrace constantly changing technology

Reasons to not become a dentist

- the salary
- because your parents want you to
- because dentistry careers run in the family
- status

Skills and attributes required to be a dentist

- **Diagnostic** - pattern recognition, deduction, attention to detail,
- **Clinical** - knowledge and its application, open minded, enquiring mind, investigative, innovative, ability to remain current, adaptable, resilient

- **Social** - communication, teamwork, independent, non-judgemental

Where can I study to become a dentist?

1. University of Birmingham
2. University of Bristol
3. University of Leeds
4. University of Liverpool
5. Barts and the London School of Medicine and Dentistry
6. Kings College London
7. University of Manchester
8. Newcastle University
9. Plymouth University
10. University of Central Lancashire UCLAN (Graduate entry)
11. University of Sheffield
12. Cardiff University
13. University of Aberdeen (Graduate entry)
14. University of Dundee
15. University of Glasgow
16. Queen's University Belfast
17. Queen Mary University of London

Career options

- General practice
- Hospital dentistry
- Orthodontist
- Community dentist
- Armed forces dentistry
- Corporate bodies
- Industry
- University teaching and research
- Clinical research
- Veterinary dentistry

Routes into dentistry

- Standard entry 5-year course.
- Dentistry with a preliminary year 6-year course designed those who achieved high in A-levels but did not take the required subjects or have a contextual reason.
- Post-graduate

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- Students who apply for dentistry need to be able to achieve A* and As in their A-levels in specific subjects.
 - You can only apply for four dental courses.
 - Your dentistry choices have to be submitted by 18:00 on 15 October 2022.
 - You can add your fifth choice after this date but before the 18:00 on 15 January 2022
 - Most students choose a biomedical science type course as their fifth choice.

Admission Tests

UCAT If the course you are applying for requires the UCAT, applicants must register for their test between May and late September and the test can be sat between July and early October. Results are available to applicants on the day of their test. After the UCAS deadline, results are sent directly to the dental schools to which the applicant has applied.

You can only take this test once in a 12-month period

What if I don't get any offers?

Nowadays, there are usually a few places available through UCAS Extra and UCAS Clearing.

Apply the following year. Most universities allow a student to reapply for the following year without disadvantage.

If you feel you need to retake your A-levels some universities may ask for a higher tariff as you will have had three years to complete them.

Useful websites

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/subject-guide-list/dentistry>

<http://getintodentistry.com/UK-Dental-Schools/UK-Dental-Schools.html>

<https://www.thecompleteuniversityguide.co.uk/courses/dentistry/top-ten-tips-for-applying-to-study-dentistry>

<https://www.bda.org/careers/becomingadentist>

<https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/dentist>

<https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/dental-team/studying-career-dental-team>

<https://www.themedicportal.com/application-guide/dentistry/dentistry-work-experience/>