

INTERNATIONAL DENTIST PATHWAY (DDS)

Visit program website. (<https://dentistry.ucsf.edu/>)

Degree Offered: Doctor of Dental Surgery

Program Leadership:

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Program Description

The University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) School of Dentistry provides a unique balance of clinical excellence, research opportunities and community service as part of one of the leading health science centers in the nation. Since its founding in 1881, the School of Dentistry has evolved from the lone outpost of dental education west of the Mississippi into an international leader in the education of oral health care practitioners and scholars, comprehensive dental care and breakthrough research. The school has a tradition of service, strong clinical programs that prepare dentists for the future, and research activities at the vanguard of contemporary science.

We are looking for candidates who share the school's educational objectives and enthusiasm for our robust curriculum. We look for evidence of past achievements and outstanding personal qualities as well as interest in contributing to the advancement of knowledge and service to health care through dental professions.

We seek learners who will return to their communities with the clinical, intellectual, and interpersonal skills expected of a health professional. Our graduates should possess the enhanced sensitivities, broad understanding, open-minded attitudes, and appreciation of cultural diversity to ensure equitable distribution of high-quality dental health care to all members of our society. Further, we seek people who have the discipline to apply themselves, the desire to use their talents and abilities to the full, and the willingness to undertake leadership roles in academia, in dentistry, and beyond.

For Academic Year 2024-2025, we are admitting 20 students to a three-year International Dentist Pathway program. The IDP learner experience is integrated with the DDS curriculum and comprehensive clinical programs. (We no longer offer a two-year International Dentist Pathway program.)

Curriculum

UCSF and the School of Dentistry attach importance to creating a culture and environment that promotes student engagement and offers all students an opportunity to be involved in its quality systems. The school is committed to working in partnership with its students in order to enhance all aspects of the student experience. Accordingly, our courses (as listed on the other tabs) and curriculum are subject to continuous quality improvement and may change in response to feedback and learner needs.

We believe all UCSF dental graduates deserve mastery in procedural and clinical skills coupled with laser-focused critical thinking to prepare them for the next steps in their career, whether clinical practice, research, academia, public sector, or some combination. Students, faculty and staff work as a team to provide scientifically based patient-centered care. We are proud to develop clinicians who graduate as competent dentists, and as scientists.

Admission Requirements

The UCSF School of Dentistry Admissions Committee takes a holistic approach to the admissions process. We consider all aspects of the application, including academic background, motivation for a dental career, and potential for future success in the program and dentistry as indicated by past achievements and present commitments. To be considered for admission, you must present evidence that you have completed a dental degree from a foreign institution and strongly recommend passing the National Board Dental Exams Parts 1 and 2 or the Integrated National Board Dental Exam (optional).

Applications

UCSF School of Dentistry International Dentist Pathway applications are processed through the American Dental Education Association - Centralized Application for Advanced Placement for International Dentists (ADEA CAAPID). The application can be submitted starting March 9 and must be electronically submitted no later than 11:59 p.m. EST on June 17. We advise you to begin your ADEA CAAPID application early to allow yourself sufficient time to complete it by the deadline. Late applications will not be considered.

Supplemental Questions

The UCSF supplemental questions are in the UCSF school section of the ADEA CAAPID application.

Transcripts and Evaluations

Submit an official ECE or WES course-by-course evaluation of all international coursework and upload a copy of your international transcripts (dental school and all other college/university level course work) via the ADEA CAAPID application. If you cannot have an official ECE or WES evaluation sent to ADEA CAAPID and you have a copy, please scan and upload to the ADEA CAAPID application.

Please note: If selected for an interview, applicants will be required to submit an official transcript from all international institutions. These documents will be required prior to the interview date. Official transcripts must be sent directly to UCSF from the issuing institution(s). Notarized copies are not acceptable.

National Board Exams and TOEFL

Passing the Part 1 and Part 2 of the National Board Dental Examination or the Integrated National Board Dental Examination is optional but strongly recommended. Submit official scores via ADEA CAAPID application.

Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) scores within two years of the opening of the application cycle: Minimum TOEFL score is 95 or higher on the internet-based test (iBT). We accept the home based TOEFL exam scores.

Letters of Recommendation

Please submit three letters of recommendation via the ADEA CAAPID application: one from a clinician who has supervised your work; one from an academic from your home institution within 5 years of your graduation (if unable to obtain, you can submit two professional letters of recommendation); and one letter of your choosing. If your recommender is unable to obtain letterhead, we require them to upload the letter directly to ADEA CAAPID and it must include their electronic signature and their complete contact information.

UCSF Fee

To have your application processed, please submit the non-refundable UCSF application processing fee of \$200 (USD) at our Online Payment System. Checks will not be accepted.

Clinical Experience

Clinical experience is not required but suggested.

All required application materials must be received by ADEA CAAPID no later than June 17, 11:59 p.m. EST.

Helpful Links

- UCSF School of Dentistry Admissions Policies (<https://dentistry.ucsf.edu/programs/dds/admissions/admissions-policies/>)
- UCSF School of Dentistry International Dentist Pathway Admissions Website (<https://dentistry.ucsf.edu/programs/dds/admissions/admissions-policies/>)

Learning Outcomes

The School of Dentistry has 12 competency statements that a student dental graduate must demonstrate. Two are UCSF campus wide statements and 10 are School of Dentistry (dental professional) specific. They are listed on the SOD Competency Standards page (<https://wiki.library.ucsf.edu/display/SODEducation/Competency+Standards/>) and SOD website (<https://dentistry.ucsf.edu/students/education/competency-standards/>).

These statements represent broad levels of academic and clinical achievement, measured by specific faculty evaluations and written and clinical examinations at various times during the academic program. These fundamental competencies prepare the graduate for lifelong learning and success with achieving licensure, and the safe practice of general dentistry.

The School of Dentistry defines a general dentist graduate as: ***“An oral health care provider who can evaluate, diagnose, prevent, and treat diseases and conditions of the oral cavity. A UCSF School of Dentistry graduate is a novice provider who is able to provide safe and effective treatment to the extent of their training and has the judgment to know when to refer for more complex treatment.”***

As part of the program, students are required to challenge a number of individual, high-stakes competency examinations. Competency is a complex behavior or ability essential for the general dentist to begin independent and unsupervised dental practice. Competency includes knowledge, experience, critical thinking, problem-solving, professionalism, ethical values and procedural skills. These components of competency become an integrated whole during the delivery of patient care.

Additional Information

Program Core Faculty

- Find a program faculty list (<https://dentistry.ucsf.edu/programs/dds/faculty/>) on the program website.

Degree Requirements

The UCSF School of Dentistry pre-doctoral curriculum for foreign trained dentists is offered in a three-year International Dentist Pathway (IDP), covering the broad range of science, art and technology in contemporary dental practice. We believe all UCSF dental graduates deserve mastery in procedural and clinical skills coupled with laser-focused critical thinking to prepare them for the next steps in their career, whether clinical practice, research, academia, public sector, or some combination. Students, faculty and staff work as a team to provide scientifically based patient-centered care. We are proud to develop clinicians who graduate as competent dentists, and as men and women of science.

UCSF School of Dentistry Competency Standards (<https://wiki.library.ucsf.edu/display/SODEducation/Competency+Standards/>)

The faculty will recommend the awarding of degrees in accordance with Academic Senate regulations for the Doctor of Dental Surgery. Candidates for the degree Doctor of Dental Surgery are required to:

1. Complete and pass all core courses in the dental curriculum with grades of P or H. With the approval of the faculty of the School of Dentistry, part of this work may be taken in some other school or college of the University or in another institution of equivalent standing.
2. Complete and pass all clinical requirements
3. Satisfy required standards of professionalism of the School of Dentistry.

Core Courses

Course	Title	Units
Year 1		
Summer		
DENTALSCI 129	Introduction to Dentistry	2.5
DENTALSCI 127	Orofacial Pain: Foundations for Diagnosis and Treatment	2
PRV RS DEN 126	Removable Partial Dentures, Crown & Bridge, & Operative	6
PRV RS DEN 104	Introductory Biomaterials Science	2
		Units
		12.5
Fall		
DENTALSCI 125	Fundamentals of Risk Assessment, Therapy, and Prevention I	2
PRV RS DEN 127	Complete Dentures, Endodontics, & Adv Restorative Technique	5.5
BIOMED SCI 127	Oral Pathology	2
SCIMETHODS 117	Foundations of Scientific Inquiry	2
		Units
		11.5

Winter		
DENTALSCI 126	Fundamentals of Risk Assessment, Therapy, and Prevention II	2
PRV RS DEN 128	Complete Dentures, Fixed Partial Dentures & Endodontics	10.5
PT CN CARE 129	Introduction to Comprehensive Care IV (Longitudinal course, also taken in summer and fall for 0 units.)	16.5
Units		29
Spring		
DENTALSCI 128	Oral Physiology, Orofacial Pain, and TMD	4
PT CN CARE 128	Introduction to Comprehensive Adult Dentistry	7.5
PRV RS DEN 129	Implant and Pediatric Dentistry	1
PT CN CARE 112	Principles of Interprofessional Practice II (Longitudinal course, also taken in summer, fall and winter for 0 units.)	0.5
Units		13
Year 2		
Summer		
PT CN CARE 102A	Clinical Fixed Prosthodontics and Implants I	1
PT CN CARE 104A	Management & Treatment of Periodontal Diseases I	1
PT CN CARE 106AD	Clinical Oral Medicine Rotation	1.5
PT CN CARE 107A	Clinical Endodontics I	0.5
PT CN CARE 108A	Clinical Removable Prosthodontics I	0.5
PT CN CARE 109A	Clinical Oral Surgery Rotation I	2.5
PT CN CARE 131	Foundations in General Dentistry I	4.5
PT CN CARE 139A	Comprehensive Adult General Dentistry I	5.5
Units		17
Fall		
PT CN CARE 102A	Clinical Fixed Prosthodontics and Implants I	1
PT CN CARE 104A	Management & Treatment of Periodontal Diseases I	1
PT CN CARE 106AD	Clinical Oral Medicine Rotation	1.5
PT CN CARE 107A	Clinical Endodontics I	0.5
PT CN CARE 108A	Clinical Removable Prosthodontics I	0.5
PT CN CARE 109A	Clinical Oral Surgery Rotation I	2.5
PT CN CARE 132	Foundations in General Dentistry II	4.5
PT CN CARE 139A	Comprehensive Adult General Dentistry I	5.5
Units		17
Winter		
PT CN CARE 102A	Clinical Fixed Prosthodontics and Implants I	1
PT CN CARE 104A	Management & Treatment of Periodontal Diseases I	1
PT CN CARE 106AD	Clinical Oral Medicine Rotation	1.5
PT CN CARE 107A	Clinical Endodontics I	0.5
PT CN CARE 108A	Clinical Removable Prosthodontics I	0.5
PT CN CARE 109A	Clinical Oral Surgery Rotation I	2.5
PT CN CARE 133	Foundations in General Dentistry III	4.5
PT CN CARE 130WI		0.5
PT CN CARE 139A	Comprehensive Adult General Dentistry I	5.5
Units		17.5
Spring		
PT CN CARE 102A	Clinical Fixed Prosthodontics and Implants I	1
PT CN CARE 104A	Management & Treatment of Periodontal Diseases I	1
PT CN CARE 106AD	Clinical Oral Medicine Rotation	1.5
PT CN CARE 107A	Clinical Endodontics I	0.5
PT CN CARE 108A	Clinical Removable Prosthodontics I	0.5
PT CN CARE 109A	Clinical Oral Surgery Rotation I	2.5
PT CN CARE 112	Principles of Interprofessional Practice II (Longitudinal course, also taken in summer, fall and winter for 0 units.)	0.5
PT CN CARE 134	Foundations in General Dentistry IV	4.5
PT CN CARE 130SP		0.5
PT CN CARE 139A	Comprehensive Adult General Dentistry I	5.5
Units		18

Year 3		
Summer		
PT CN CARE 101C	Community Clinics Externship Course	8
PT CN CARE 102CD	Clinical Fixed Prosthodontics and Implants II	1
PT CN CARE 104CD	Management and Treatment of Periodontal Diseases II	0.5
PT CN CARE 105CD	Clinical Pediatric Dentistry Rotation II	2
PT CN CARE 107CD	Clinical Endodontics II	0.5
PT CN CARE 108CD	Clinical Removable Prosthodontics II	1
PT CN CARE 109CD	Clinical Oral Surgery Rotation II	4.5
PT CN CARE 141	Advanced General Dentistry I: 21st Century Clinical Topics	1
PT CN CARE 149C	Comprehensive Adult General Dentistry II	6.5
Units		25
Fall		
PT CN CARE 101C	Community Clinics Externship Course	8
PT CN CARE 102CD	Clinical Fixed Prosthodontics and Implants II	1
PT CN CARE 104CD	Management and Treatment of Periodontal Diseases II	0.5
PT CN CARE 105CD	Clinical Pediatric Dentistry Rotation II	2
PT CN CARE 107CD	Clinical Endodontics II	0.5
PT CN CARE 108CD	Clinical Removable Prosthodontics II	1
PT CN CARE 109CD	Clinical Oral Surgery Rotation II	4.5
PT CN CARE 142	Advanced General Dentistry II: The Business of Dentistry	1.5
PT CN CARE 149C	Comprehensive Adult General Dentistry II	6.5
Units		25.5
Winter		
PT CN CARE 101C	Community Clinics Externship Course	8
PT CN CARE 102CD	Clinical Fixed Prosthodontics and Implants II	1
PT CN CARE 104CD	Management and Treatment of Periodontal Diseases II	0.5
PT CN CARE 107CD	Clinical Endodontics II	0.5
PT CN CARE 108CD	Clinical Removable Prosthodontics II	1
PT CN CARE 109CD	Clinical Oral Surgery Rotation II	4.5
PT CN CARE 143	Advanced General Dentistry III: Practice Mngmt & Acquisition	1
PT CN CARE 149C	Comprehensive Adult General Dentistry II	6.5
Units		23
Spring		
PT CN CARE 101C	Community Clinics Externship Course	8
PT CN CARE 102CD	Clinical Fixed Prosthodontics and Implants II	1
PT CN CARE 104CD	Management and Treatment of Periodontal Diseases II	0.5
PT CN CARE 107CD	Clinical Endodontics II	0.5
PT CN CARE 108CD	Clinical Removable Prosthodontics II	1
PT CN CARE 109CD	Clinical Oral Surgery Rotation II	4.5
PT CN CARE 144	Adv Gen Dent IV: Integrated Clinical Case Pres & Cont QI	1
PT CN CARE 149C	Comprehensive Adult General Dentistry II	6.5
Units		23
Total Units		232

Non-course Core Requirements Technical Standards

In order to successfully complete the DDS degree, participate in all necessary aspects of dental training, and meet licensing requirements, a student must possess a minimum of certain essential physical and cognitive and emotional abilities. The standards are:

- Observation
- Communication

- Motor function
- Behavioral and social attributes
- Ethical and Legal Standards

Find complete description of the technical standards requirement (<https://dentistry.ucsf.edu/programs/dds/admissions/technical-standards/>). All students will be asked to certify that they meet the minimum technical standards to pursue dental education.