

MIT Careers Office
PREDENTAL STUDENT TIMELINE

Use this timeline in conjunction with more detailed information located at <http://web.mit.edu/career/www/predental>

The timeline we recommend includes 2-3 years of exploration of the field of dentistry prior to the application year. Preparing for dental school and being a pre dental is a time commitment, and people often begin to prepare a few years prior to the actual application. Students who plan to go directly to dental school after Undergraduate graduation often begin application preparation freshman and sophomore year, apply during their junior year, and interview/find out acceptances during their senior year. This timeline can be adjusted according to various situations, but gives a general idea of how to prepare for dental school applications and the general timing of these activities. Please note that a year on this timeline runs from fall semester to summer.

<p><u>Two years prior to application year</u></p> <p>Fall Semester:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Review the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) book and the MIT recommended pre dental course list. http://web.mit.edu/career/www/preprof/pdcourses.pdf <input type="checkbox"/> Build rapport with your professors and supervisors for future recommendation letters. <p>Spring Semester:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Explore the dentistry field – conduct informational interviews, volunteer/intern. <input type="checkbox"/> Utilize the Institute Career Assistance Network (ICAN) to make connections with MIT alumni in the health professions. http://alum.mit.edu/cs/ican/index.html <input type="checkbox"/> Plan out pre dental coursework in preparation for the application process. http://web.mit.edu/career/www/preprof/pdcourses.pdf 	<p><u>One year prior to application year</u></p> <p>Fall Semester:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Explore the dentistry field – conduct informational interviews, volunteer/intern. <input type="checkbox"/> Review the ADEA book to check each dental school requirements. <input type="checkbox"/> Plan when you will take the Dental Admissions Test (DAT) www.ada.org <input type="checkbox"/> Continue to build rapport with professors and supervisor for future recommendation letters. <p>Spring Semester:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Register for a pre dental advisor. http://web.mit.edu/career/www/preprof/advisors.html <input type="checkbox"/> Research dental schools. http://www.adea.org/AADSAS/default.htm
<p><u>Application Year</u></p> <p>Fall Semester:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Advisor/Advisee Mixer to receive your assignment and meet your pre dental advisor. <input type="checkbox"/> Start studying for the DAT. <input type="checkbox"/> Learn about current dentistry research and clinical issues. <input type="checkbox"/> Develop relationship with your advisor. <input type="checkbox"/> Continue to explore the field of dentistry and participate in community service. <input type="checkbox"/> Work on your dental school application essay. www.adea.org/aadsas <input type="checkbox"/> Develop a resume of activities/accomplishments as a college student and beyond. <input type="checkbox"/> Visit Dental Schools. <input type="checkbox"/> Request applications from schools not participating in the Associated American Dental Schools Application (AADSAS) www.adea.org/aadsas <input type="checkbox"/> Review each dental school’s admissions timetable located in the ADEA book. <p>Spring Semester:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Take the DAT. <input type="checkbox"/> Start filling out the AADSAS application online www.adea.org/aadsas <input type="checkbox"/> Ask 3 or more people to write you letters of recommendation. <input type="checkbox"/> Research and visit dental schools and develop your target list. <input type="checkbox"/> Attend MITCO Prehealth workshops (i.e. essay writing, lectures) <input type="checkbox"/> Have your essay critiqued and completed. <input type="checkbox"/> Submit AADSAS application in the beginning of June. <p>Early Summer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Submit your recommendation letters to AADSAS. 	<p><u>Interviews and Post-Application Year</u></p> <p>Late Summer before Senior Year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Take DAT if you haven’t done so during the spring semester. <input type="checkbox"/> Start preparing for interviews. http://web.mit.edu/career/www/preprof/denprocess.html#interview <input type="checkbox"/> Research financial aid options. <p>Fall Semester:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare for your interviews. <input type="checkbox"/> Research dental schools that you are applying to. Read published literature. <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain contact with your advisor. <input type="checkbox"/> Keep abreast of current dentistry issues. <input type="checkbox"/> Research financial aid options in the ADEA book. <p>Spring Semester:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Write a thank you note to your advisor and update them on the outcome of your applications. <input type="checkbox"/> Update MITCO staff on the status of your application. <input type="checkbox"/> Close your pre dental file by completing an Exit Interview Form in writing or through an appointment with a member of the pre professional staff.