



Start Your Career Path as a Dentist

As a dentist you will examine, treat and maintain the teeth, gums and other hard and soft tissues of the mouth and surrounding structures. They instruct patients about good oral health practices in order to prevent gum disease and tooth loss. *Remember, no career path is the same. For the most up-to-date information, contact the school or business.*

High School



Associate of Applied Science (AAS) Degree



Bachelor's Degree (BS)

*Students are encouraged to consult the professional school of their choice to ensure all application requirements or pre-requisites have been fulfilled. For example, some schools do not require DAT and others may limit community college credits.



Dental Admission Test (DAT) – Soph. or Jr. Year of Undergrad*



Dental School Application Fee. Summer of Jr. or Sr. Year of Undergrad



Doctor of Dental Surgery or Doctor of Dental Medicine (DDS or DMD)



Integrated Clinical Boards & National Boards



Licensure Fee

Dental Residency

During Dental School, determine if you would like to do an optional residency. If so, pay application fee, apply and interview.

Residencies can last 1-6 years depending on your chosen specialty.

Dental Residency

Dental Practice



Optional Specialty Exam(s)

Specialty Practice



Blue Ridge Partnership
for Health Science Careers



= Certification Required



= Education Required



= Fee Payment Required

Reach out to a counselor at your high school, local community college, or four-year college or university. For more information, visit: virginiahealthcareers.org