Application Timeline
Dental School

Before You Apply—fall semester/early spring of application year

- Check with schools about any questions on coursework, for example, will they accept CHM 12901 on its own? Will they accept it with the CHM 11500 credit exam? Do you need to do something else?
- Plan for your Letters
    - Verify that the letters you intend to get will meet the needs of the schools at which you intend to apply BEFORE you apply to those schools.
    - Meet with and ask letter writers for letters no later than spring break.
    - Consider using the PPA Letter Service for your letters. https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8tUiTIJAoWSwx5Y?_ga=2.112135492.1504932845.1645021865-884794210.1629920876
- Allow 3-4 months to prepare for the DAT and consider taking it early if possible (see DAT, below).
- Become familiar with the application process. Read the dental school websites and the AADSAS Help Center (application instructions) and/or TMDSAS Handbook (links below).
- Always use the same form of your name in all documents that you send for your application.
- When it comes to all application materials, read and follow all instructions. Carefully edit materials that you submit and save a copy of everything you turn in to programs.
- Research Schools
    - Go to individual school websites to research schools.
    - You can also consider purchasing access to the ADEA Official Guide to Dental Schools https://www.adea.org/officialguide/

Both AADSAS and TMDSAS open in May—AADSAS opens May 10, 2022 and you can begin submitting it June 1st. TMDSAS opens May 2, 2022, submission begins in mid-May, and applications close November 1 at 5pm CST.

- Learning More About the Application
    - American Dental Education Association (ADEA) Dental School Applicant Quick Guide https://www.adea.org/uploadedFiles/GoDental/The_Application_to_Dental_School_ADEA_AADSAS/ADEA_DentalSchoolQuickGuide_web.pdf
- Common Applications (both open in May)
    - AADSAS: Applicant Help Center https://help.liaisonedu.com/ADEA_AADSAS_Applicant_Help_Center
    - TMDSAS: TMDSAS Handbook https://www.tmdsas.com/PLAN/references/application-handbook.html
- Research Schools
    - Go to individual school websites to research schools.
    - You can also consider purchasing access to the ADEA Official Guide to Dental Schools https://www.adea.org/officialguide/

Once the Application Opens—Early May

- Start filling out your application immediately—it is important to **send your transcripts** as early as possible since Purdue only sends PAPER transcripts which is a slower process as they need to be mailed. Purdue does not use the online distribution systems for transcripts required to send e-Transcripts.

Preparing for your Giant Leap
purdue.edu/preprofessional

Dental School

- o   On AADSAS
  - ▪   Get to the **Academic History** section and enter all colleges from which you earned college credit
  - ▪   For each college/university you will then obtain from AADSAS a **Transcript ID Form**
  - ▪   The Transcript ID Form needs to be sent along with each transcript to help with matching that school's transcript to your application
  - ▪   If you need to get transcripts from schools other than Purdue, contact those schools to find out how to send them the Transcript ID form and send the transcripts following the AADSAS instructions.
  - ▪   Instructions for sending Purdue transcripts ON PAPER are attached below.
  - ▪   You will also want unofficial transcripts to work with when entering your course information in AADSAS.
  - ▪   There is no need to pay extra money to have someone do this for you.
  - o   On TMDSAS
    - ▪   Do not send transcripts to TMDSAS.
    - ▪   When they are ready for you to send them, they will reach out to you and request them.
    - ▪   Follow directions for sending them once this occurs.

Recommendation Letters

- •   PPA Advisors are happy to discuss letter selection with you.
- •   Consider using the [PPA Letter Service](#) to simplify sending your letters to both AADSAS and TMDSAS https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8tUiTIJAoWSwx5Y?_ga=2.112135492.1504932845.1645021865-884794210.1629920876
- •   Meet with your letter writers and finalize your letters by about Spring Break
- •   AADSAS limits you to 4 letters

What else do you need to do?

- •   Ensure all documents arrived to your application—transcripts and letters
- •   Thank your letter writers
- •   Keep up with volunteering, research, and shadowing.
- •   Check to see if any of your schools require the [CASPer](#) situational judgement exam and **take this during the summer/early fall**. https://takealtus.com/casper/
- •   Keep up on health news in preparation for interviews—check for [Health News Sources](#) here https://www.purdue.edu/preprofessional/Documents/Health%20News%20Resources.pdf
- •   If you are eligible for U.S. Federal Loans, submit your FAFSA even before you know you have been admitted.

Dental Admission Test—take as early as summer before application year to April, May or June of application year

- •   [Register](#) 60-90 days in advance for your DAT as dates do fill https://www.ada.org/education/testing/exams/dental-admission-test-dat
- •   Plan ahead as you need 90 days between test dates—hopefully, you only need to take it once
- •   If you need to request accommodations, this will take additional time

- [2022 Dental Admission Test Candidate Guide](https://www.ada.org/-/media/project/ada-organization/ada/ada-org/files/education/dat_examinee_guide.pdf) https://www.ada.org/-/media/project/ada-organization/ada/ada-org/files/education/dat_examinee_guide.pdf?rev=855c8bc3a0914f079e19fff1402c5c56&hash=52FBC56BB3DA32ABB7101D0F4BF6D9EE

Ordering Transcripts from Purdue—order transcripts early in the application process (ideally in May)

- Follow instructions in the **Academic History** section of your AADSAS application to obtain the **Transcript ID Form**—this Form ensures that your transcript will be matched with your AADSAS application.
- For Purdue, you need to order an OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT to be sent on PAPER and attach a PDF of the TRANSCRIPT ID FORM to this request.
- This is all sent to AADSAS and the address is in the Academic History section of the Help Center.
- **Current Purdue Students** follow these steps to order your transcript:
  - Login to MyPurdue
  - Click on Academic Tab
  - On the bottom left corner click on order OFFICIAL Transcript
  - Request that they send a PAPER COPY (do not send it electronically)
  - Attach an electronic version (PDF) of AADSAS' Transcript ID Form
- **Former Purdue Students** follow these steps to order your transcript:
  - Use this [e-transcript](https://sswis.mypurdue.purdue.edu/eTranscript/login/auth) link to set up an account to order your OFFICIAL transcript https://sswis.mypurdue.purdue.edu/eTranscript/login/auth;jsessionid=C2CE2C70DAC3F265E39C2B534E2ACC1E
  - Be sure to attach AADSAS' Transcript ID Form
  - Request that Purdue send a PAPER copy (do not send an electronic copy of your transcript)
- You will need a separate Transcript ID Form for any other schools at which you have college credit and will need to determine how to send these forms to the appropriate offices at those schools and how they distribute transcripts (using appropriate electronic systems or on paper).
- Be sure to get an unofficial copy for yourself to use to enter all your coursework into your application!

Pre-Professional Advising is here to help you throughout your application process. We know that you have worked hard to reach the point of application and we are honored to have the opportunity to help you through this next part of your journey toward professional school.