Frequently Asked Questions

How do I apply to Woody L. Hunt School of Dental Medicine?

For all dental schools in Texas, you must begin with the Texas Medical and Dental Schools Application Service on TMDSAS.com. You will be provided with step-by-step instructions on how to apply to dental schools in Texas. www.tmdsas.com

Does Woody L. Hunt SDM require a secondary application?

No. It is important to tell us about yourself in the best way possible through the TMDSAS application.

Do you have a minimum GPA and DAT requirement for admission?

Our minimum GPA requirement is a 3.0, the SGPA requirement is a 3.0 and the minimum score on the DAT is a 17. However, in 2018 in the state of Texas for accepted students, the average GPA was a 3.68, the SGPA was a 3.59 and the DAT was a 20.

What is the DAT or Dental Admissions Test?

The DAT is used by dental schools to measure academic ability, scientific understanding and perceptual ability. It is required by WLHSDM for application review. Scores will not be considered if more than 3 years old. The DAT measures:

- Natural sciences (biology, general chemistry, and organic chemistry)
- Perceptual ability (two- and three-dimensional problem solving)
- Reading comprehension (dental and basic sciences)
- Quantitative reasoning (mathematical problems in algebra, numerical calculations, conversions, etc.)

When is the application deadline?

The application opens May 1, 2020 through TMDSAS and closes on Oct. 1, 2020. Incomplete applications will not be reviewed until all required materials are submitted.

How much does it cost to apply?

It costs $185 through TMDSAS. This one fee allows you to apply to all 4 dental schools in Texas. TMDSAS does not grant application fee waivers.

What is the timeline for applying to dental school?
Beginning in 2020 and every year thereafter, the application website opens up through TMDSAS on May 1. Interviews begin early August. The first date that any dental school can communicate acceptance is Dec 1. Classes begin in early July.

**When will interviews be held?**

Beginning in 2020, interviews will be held between August and January.

**Do I have to complete all of the pre-requisites before applying to dental school?**

No, you do not. However, **ALL** required course work must be completed before a student will be allowed to enroll.

**How many seats will be in the DMD Class of 2025?**

The inaugural class will seat 40 students. Each year after that, 60 students will be seated.

**Is preference given to Texas residents?**

Texas law prescribes that no more than 10% of the class can be classified as non-resident. Since the WLHSDM inaugural class will be 40, a maximum of 4 students can be classified as non-resident.

**Are transfer or advanced standing students accepted?**

Due to the unique structure of its curriculum, WLHSDM does not admit transfer or advanced standing students. Individuals who wish to enroll at WLHSDM will be evaluated with all other students applying to the first year class. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.

**Are International students accepted?**

At this time, WLHSDM does not have an international program. Applicants must be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.

**What are the pre-requisites for your program?**

The prescribed course requirements are the **minimum** requirements for admission to WLHSDM. Applicants are strongly encouraged to take additional upper-level course work so they are better prepared for the academic rigors of dental school. Please visit the following link for a list of pre-requisite courses:  [ttuhscep.edu/sdm/admissions/application-requirements.aspx](http://ttuhscep.edu/sdm/admissions/application-requirements.aspx)
Do I need to complete all of my prerequisite courses before I apply?

No, you can submit your application for consideration if you have prerequisite courses in progress or are planning to take the required course(s). However, you will need to provide official documentation that you have completed all required courses prior to attending orientation to WLHSDM. Prerequisite courses required for dental school must be completed with a grade of C or better. Courses taken Pass/Fail or Credit/No Credit will not count toward meeting the requirement. Advanced placement credit is accepted only if the school granting the credit lists the specific course(s) and number of units granted per course on an official transcript. Lump sum credit is not accepted.

Can I apply with an Associate Degree?

No, applicants must have completed a minimum of 90 semester hours (or 134 quarter hours) at a regionally accredited U.S. or Canadian college or university. Baccalaureate degrees are highly desirable. However, exceptionally mature students without a degree, who have outstanding academic records, superior performance on the Dental Admission Test and highly desirable personal qualifications may be considered for admission. TMDSAS does verify courses from college or universities. For more information, visit: www.tmdsas.com/CourseListings/homepage.html

Is there a limit on community college coursework?

WLHSDM follows the guidelines set forth by TMDSAS and their course verification procedures. For a listing by university of courses verified by TMDSAS, see: www.tmdsas.com/CourseListings/homepage.html.

Is there a favored major for admission to dental school?

No. We encourage you to pursue a major that excites you, and in turn, at which you excel. We encourage you to take those courses in which you have a vested interest. Often, we will see students pursue a world language, as well as courses in business, psychology, acting, entrepreneurship, art, and additional science courses. However, it is important to demonstrate academic success in your science courses. Science courses that are “suggested but not required” will not only strengthen your application, but also prepare you for the academic rigors of dental education.

Can I apply with a bachelor’s degree from another country?
All pre-dental requirements must have been completed at a regionally accredited U.S. or Canadian university/college. Foreign coursework will not satisfy the minimally required prerequisite courses, even if transfer credit has been given for them by a U.S. or Canadian school.

**Is there a minimum number of shadowing hours required?**

There is not a minimum number of hours required for admission. However, the admissions committee prefers evidence of depth and breadth of patient exposure. The more practitioners and community clinics in which you are able to observe and/or volunteer, the more exposure you will have to a variety of philosophies on modes of health care delivery, patient interactions, and community needs. It is important to demonstrate through your patient interaction experiences that dentistry is the health care field to which you are committed.

**Do I need research experience?**

Research is not a requirement but does add to the diversity of your experiences.

**How can I impress the Admissions Committee?**

Our Admissions Committee looks for candidates who not only demonstrate their academic success, but also display a level of personal growth through life experiences. Applicants should pursue involvements that align with their personal values and professional goals and describe those experiences in detail on the application. Academic success is important - and a group of passionate students with a variety of backgrounds, interests and life experiences provides a stimulating and enriching learning environment for all students.