In preparation for Dental School, a Bachelor’s Degree is highly recommended but is not required. All students must take the Dental Aptitude Test (DAT). For further information about this exam, contact the Division of Educational Measurements, Council on Dental Education, American Dental Association, 211 East Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60611. For a full description of requirements of California Dental Schools, please see the websites listed below:

California Schools of Dentistry

Loma Linda University (www.llu.edu/llu/dentistry/)
U.C.L.A. (www.dent.ucla.edu/)
U.C. San Francisco (http://dentistry.ucsf.edu/)
University of the Pacific (http://dental.pacific.edu/)
University of Southern California (www.usc.edu/hsc/dental/)

TYPICAL LOWER DIVISION REQUIREMENTS THAT MIGHT BE TAKEN AT A COMMUNITY COLLEGE

- 1 year General Biology/Zoology (major-level, with lab)
- 1 year General Chemistry (with lab) (Preparatory College Chemistry is a prerequisite)
- 1-2 semesters Organic Chemistry (with lab) (depending on school)
- 1 semester Biochemistry (depending on school)
- 1 year Physics (with lab)
- 1 year English Composition
- 1 semester Psychology (depending on school)
- Additional Social Science, Humanities, and/or Foreign Language (depending on school)
- Various recommended, not required, courses (depending on school)

It is important that students meet with a counselor to develop an educational plan in conjunction with the requirements listed above and the transfer to a university to earn either additional units or a Bachelor’s Degree.

Updated: July 2008 (CR)