

Policy Category: Admission

Subject: Admission - Dentistry

Subsections: [Admission Requirements](#); [Application for Admission](#); [Admissions Appeal Procedure](#); [Advanced Standing Program for International Dental Graduates \(ASPIDG\)](#); [Prior Learning Assessment \(PLA\) Exam and Interview](#)

Approving Authority: Senate

Responsible Committee: Senate Committee on Academic Policy

Related Procedures: *

Officer(s) Responsible for Procedure: *

Related Policies: *

Effective Date: September 1, 2024

Supersedes: July 2022; July 2021

Please note that the admission policy is reviewed annually and the admission requirements from previous years may not apply. The University reserves the right to review and change the admission requirements at any time, without notice.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Admission to Dentistry is based on academic ability and non-academic ability, as evidenced by scholastic records, Dental Aptitude Test (DAT) results, CASPer test, Autobiographical Sketch & Personal Statement and presentation at interview. The presentation of the minimum requirements for admission will not assure guaranteed acceptance. Internationally-

Competitiveness

In order to be considered, candidates must have achieved at least 80% or higher in each of the two best undergraduate years with a full course load of 5.0 full or equivalent courses (30 credit hours) taken between September and April. Each of the two best years used for GPA consideration must also have at least 3.0 full course equivalents whose published level is at or above the year level of study. Past class statistics have indicated that most successful applicants have a mid to high 80s average over their two most competitive years. Consideration will be given to the most competitive two academic years, DAT scores and supplemental requirements. Overall academic performance (consistency, trend) and graduate education can also be used as selection criteria.

Consideration of the 2019 -2020 Academic Year Affected by the Covid -19 Pandemic:

If you are presenting two undergraduate years for GPA consideration that do not include the 2019-2020 academic year affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, all of the following must be met:

Courses taken during the application cycle are NOT eligible for academic average consideration.

- You must meet or exceed the minimum GPA in each of your two best undergraduate years of full-time study. Full-time study is defined as five full or equivalent courses (30 credit hours), taken between September and April.
- Each of the two years must contain at least three full-course equivalents (18 credit hours) whose published academic level is at, or above, the year of study.
- Only one full or equivalent pass/fail course (6 credit hours) will be permissible in each of the two years being considered for the GPA.

If you are presenting the 2019-2020 academic year affected by the COVID-19 pandemic as one of your academic years for GPA consideration, all of the following must be met:

- During the 2019-2020 academic year, you must have completed 5 full or equivalent courses (minimum 30 credit hours) taken from September to

Schulich Dentistry to be considered valid. Schulich Dentistry utilizes the results of the last test written in the eligible time period.

5. Applicants who have been required to withdraw by a dental school for academic or other reasons will usually be ineligible for admission to second year.
6. Applicants to second year must satisfy the general admission requirements of Western and/or the transfer regulations adopted by Senate.
7. Applicants may be required to be present for an interview and/or submit letters of reference.
8. Graduates of non-accredited dental programs should consider taking the Internationally Trained Dentists Program.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Application to First Year Dentistry

Application for admission to first year must be made by completing the official on-line application form available in early October on the admissions page of the school website. The application deadline is November 1 for entry the following September.

For further information, please contact the Admissions Coordinator by Phone: 519-661-3744, by Fax: 519-850-2360, or by Email: admissions.dentistry@schulich.uwo.ca

Original supporting documents must be received no later than November 1. Academic documents not ordered through the on-line application form should be mailed to: Office of the Registrar, Professional Admissions - Dentistry, Room 3140, Western Student Services Building, Western University, London, Ontario N6A 5B8.

All applicants must:

- Submit to OUAC a completed on-line application form. The link to the application form is posted in early October on the Schulich Dentistry admissions page. The competition is open until the end of the deadline day – November 1. An Autobiographical Sketch & Personal Statement and a supplemental information form will be required as part of the application process.

- Arrange for any required documents (e.g. transcripts not available electronically, TOEFL, etc.) to be sent to the Registrar's Office – Professional Admissions.

ADVANCED STANDING PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL DENTAL GRADUATES (ASPIDG)

Admission Requirements

Please note that the admission policy is reviewed annually and the admission requirements from previous years may not apply. The University reserves the right to review and change the admission requirements at any time, without notice.

Application to the Advanced Standing Program for International Dental Graduates (ASPIDG) is considered to be an application to the Schulich Dentistry Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) Course. An application must be made by completing and submitting the online Application Form available on the ASPIDG website. The non-refundable administrative fee and supporting documents must be received by the ASPIDG Office by the application deadline date.

All requests for information concerning the program should be directed to the Advanced Standing Program Administrative Co-Coordinator at the School of Dentistry. For more information, see the ASPIDG website.

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible for admission to the Advanced Standing Program for International Dental Graduates (ASPIDG), candidates must:

- a) Have graduated from a minimum four-year University dental program which is not recognized by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC).
- b) Have obtained a World Education Services (WES) Course-by-Course credential evaluation of their dental degree.
- c) Have Permanent Resident Status or Canadian Citizenship at the time of application.
- d) Have completed the National Dental Examining Board of Canada (NDEB) Assessment of Fundamental Knowledge (AFK) within the last five (5) years. See the ASPIDG website for details.

Effective the June to August 2025 application cycle, applicants will be required to take the Advanced Dental Admission Test (ADAT) in place of the AFK.

- e) Have taken the TOEFL or IELTS English proficiency test within the last two years. See the English Language Proficiency section below.

- f) Have proof of name change if submitting documents in a name other than is shown on the application form.
- g) Submit a completed online application form and send in all supporting documents as indicated on the ASPIDG website, including the administrative fee, postmarked no later than the posted deadline date.
- h) Have successfully completed the PLA Course offered by the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry Continuing Dental Education (CDE) Office, within the last two (2) years. See the ASPIDG website for more details.

English Language Proficiency

Proof of English proficiency can be achieved in one of the following ways:

1. The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). See the ASPIDG website for minimum required scores.

OR

2. The International English Language Testing Service (IELTS). See the ASPIDG website for minimum required scores.

OR

3. Successful completion of four (4) years of full-time Canadian high school education in English. (Notarized transcripts must be submitted.)

It is the responsibility of the applicant to submit proof of English proficiency, as stated above, to the Advanced Standing Program Office.

PRIOR LEARNING ASSESSMENT (PLA) EXAM AND INTERVIEW

The admission process also involves the completion of a one-day Schulich Dentistry Prior Learning Assessment (PLA) exam. The simulated clinical exam is held in the Schulich Dentistry Simulation Clinic. Interviews are held following the PLA Exam for the highest-ranked applicants. The purpose of the exam is to ensure that applicants are at the same knowledge level and skill as the DDS students entering their second year of the DDS Program.

Admission

