

## REQUEST FOR DECISION

**Committee Name:** Academic Programs Committee, University Council

**Date:** January 29, 2026

**Presented by:** Paul Jones, Chair, Academic Programs Committee

### **Subject: Master of Science in Periodontology Program**

#### **MOTION**

It is recommended by the Academic Programs Committee that Council approve the Master of Science Periodontology Program, for inclusion in the 2026-27 Catalogue with first student intake in Fall 2027.

#### **CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND**

The College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies is proposing a new Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Periodontology thesis-based program, offered through the College of Dentistry. This program will provide dentists with advanced, graduate-level training in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of periodontal disease. As the Canadian population ages, there is an increased need for specialty periodontics training. There are only nine registered periodontists in Saskatchewan and no periodontology program in the province. The aim of this exciting new program is to increase the ratio of periodontist to population in Saskatchewan and bolster the capacity for oral health care in the province. The implementation of this program will support the College of Dentistry plan to expand both educational programming and research capacity and output, as well as furthering the focus on inclusive community care. This 3-year clinical thesis program has an expected start date of September 2027.

#### **CONSULTATION**

The Graduate Programs Committee reviewed the proposal at their meeting on March 12, 2025. The committee shared their enthusiasm for the program and discussed the need for a small cohort size, length of the program, thesis development and completion, and thesis supervision with the proponents. The proponents acknowledged the heavy workload of the program and confirmed there is flexibility built into the last year of the clinic to allow students to work toward the thesis. They shared that in addition to faculty providing thesis supervision, they will be drawing upon specialists in the community to support elements of the program. The proponents confirmed that most programs in Canada admit 2 – 5 students per cohort; due to the clinical aspect of this new program, only 3 students per year can be accommodated. The committee requested changes to the proposal for clarity which were cleared on April 8, 2025.

The College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies submitted the proposal to the Academic Programs Committee (APC) on January 7, 2026. APC had the opportunity to review the proposal and took part in a thorough discussion with the proponents and acknowledged the need for the program in Saskatchewan. The committee voted in favour of the new program.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. **Master of Science in Periodontology Program**

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## Executive Summary

**To:** Academic Programs Committee of Council

**From:** Graduate Programs Committee, CGPS

**Date:** October 31, 2025

**Re:** Master of Science in Periodontology

The College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies is recommending approval of a new Master of Science (M.Sc.) in Periodontology thesis-based program, offered through the College of Dentistry. This program will provide dentists with advanced, graduate-level training in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of periodontal disease. As the Canadian population ages, there is an increased need for specialty periodontics training. There are only nine registered periodontists in Saskatchewan and no periodontology program in the province. The aim of this exciting new program is to increase the ratio of periodontist to population in Saskatchewan and bolster the capacity for oral health care in the province. The implementation of this program will support the College of Dentistry plan to expand both educational programming and research capacity and output, as well as furthering the focus on inclusive community care. This 3-year clinical thesis program has an expected start date of September 2026.

The Graduate Programs Committee reviewed the proposal at their meeting on March 12, 2025. The committee shared their enthusiasm for the program and discussed the need for a small cohort size, length of the program, thesis development and completion, and thesis supervision with the proponents. The proponents acknowledged the fulness of the program and confirmed there is flexibility built into the last year of the clinic to allow students to work toward the thesis. They shared that in addition to faculty providing thesis supervision, they will be drawing upon specialists in the community to support elements of the program. The proponents confirmed that most programs in Canada admit 2 – 5 students per cohort; due to the clinical aspect of this new program, only 3 students per year can be accommodated. The committee requested changes to the proposal for clarity and approved the proposal with the following motions, which were conditional on changes being made. All conditions were cleared on April 8, 2025.

### Motions:

1. To recommend approval of the new Master of Science in Periodontology. **McIntyre/Martin – CARRIED unanimously**
2. To recommend approval of the 15 courses for the Master of Science in Periodontology. **McIntyre/Martin – CARRIED unanimously**

Attached please find the proposal for the M.Sc. in Periodontology program. If you have any questions, please contact the Academic Affairs Specialist at [gradprograms.academicaffairs@usask.ca](mailto:gradprograms.academicaffairs@usask.ca).



# Proposal for New Programs or Curricular Changes

## Title of proposal:

Degree(s): Master of Science

Field(s) of Study: Periodontology

Level(s) of Concentration:

Option(s):

Degree College: College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

Contact person(s) (name, telephone, fax, e-mail):

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Jaswant Singh, College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies ([jaswant.singh@usask.ca](mailto:jaswant.singh@usask.ca))

Proposed date of implementation: 2026-27 University Catalogue; first student intake September 2026

## Proposal Document

Please provide information which covers the following subtopics. The length and detail should reflect the scale or importance of the program or revision. Documents prepared for your college may be used. Please expand this document as needed to embrace all your information.

### Academic Justification:

- a. *Describe why the program would be a valuable addition to the university from an academic programming perspective.*
- b. *Considering strategic objectives, specify how the new program fits the university signature areas and/or institutional plans and/or the college/school and/or department plans.*

- c. *Is there a particular student demographic this program targets, and if so, what is that target? (e.g., Indigenous, mature, international, returning)*
- d. *What are the most similar competing programs in Saskatchewan and Canada? How is this program different?*

### **Academic Justification**

A periodontist is a dentist who has received advanced, graduate-level training including a surgical residency to specialize in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of periodontal disease, and in the placement of dental implants. Periodontists are also experts in the treatment of oral inflammation. As the Canadian population ages and the association between periodontal disease and systemic disease becomes better understood there is increased need for specialty periodontics training. To date, there are only 5 English periodontology programs throughout Canada, at University of British Columbia, University of Manitoba, University of Toronto, Dalhousie University, and the University of Alberta. These programs presently graduate approximately 12 periodontists altogether per year to serve the entire Canadian population. In Saskatchewan, there are only about 9 registered periodontists representing a periodontist to population ratio of 0.0000075%. In comparison, there are 420 periodontists in Massachusetts USA representing a periodontist to population ratio of 0.0065%. 3 students will graduate from this program each year, thereby increasing the ratio of periodontist to population in Saskatchewan and bolstering the capacity for oral health care in the province.

The *University Plan 2025* directs USask to be “the university the world needs” and the periodontist to population ratio in Saskatchewan starkly highlights the need for specialist training. Furthermore, the Canadian federal government recognizes and emphasizes the connection between gum health and the overall state of an individual's oral health. The majority of Canadian adults are affected by periodontal disease, and federal health promotion materials outline the importance of having specialist care in order to maintain oral hygiene. There is, therefore, a notable demand for periodontology services across Canada, but it is especially urgent in Saskatchewan where only 9 periodontists are available for a population of 1.2 million residents. There is also a very high academic demand for periodontology specialty training. In 2014 there were about 100 academically qualified applicants for the 9-10 positions available in the existing 5 English speaking programs. Many highly qualified Canadians are forced to seek training in the United States or to give up their desire to further specialize in periodontology. There are no programs in Saskatchewan that train specialty periodontics, and as of 2024 there are only 6 programs available in Canada. The implementation of this program

will support the College of Dentistry plan to expand both educational programming and research capacity and output, as well as furthering the focus on inclusive community care.

The program must go through the accreditation process of the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC) which is a partnership with membership from the public and organizations representing oral health care professionals, educators who prepare them and regulators responsible for their competence and continuing safe practice. CDAC, in consultation with its partners, develops and approves requirements for educational programs preparing dentists, dental specialists, dental interns/residents, dental hygienists and dental assistants. CDAC also develops and approves requirements or standards for institutional dental services. CDAC reviews educational programs and dental services by means of structured, on-site visits following receipt of submissions presenting detailed information. The criteria for accreditations are provided only at the time of review, and CDAC requires an academic program to be underway and students to have started in the program before releasing their accreditation requirements to the institution. Once the program has been approved at the host institution, an application for a full accreditation review occurs, and the accreditation takes place after the first cohort has completed their degrees. Only once the program has received institutional approval can the program submit an application for accreditation with CDAC.

Graduate students in this program will be prepared to challenge the Royal College of Dentists of Canada (RCDC) Fellowship national specialty examination. RCDC Fellowship status is recognized by all of the provincial Dental Regulatory Authorities (DRAs) and is one of the requirements for licensure as a dental specialist in Canada. Therefore, this program is targeted towards students who are already trained as general practitioners, and these students will bring with them diverse backgrounds and contexts. It is anticipated that a periodontology specialty program will be attractive not only to Canadian students but to international students as well, and this diversity will encourage inclusivity and strengthen the program. The program will also aim to achieve gender parity among admitted students.

The College of Dentistry at the University of Saskatchewan provides Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD), Dental Therapy (DT), Dental Assisting (DA), and Dental Hygiene (DH) undergraduate programs. The College of Dentistry also offers the Precision Oral and Systemic Health graduate programs, which offer M.Sc. and PhD degrees.

By using the currently available infra-structure, clinical space and faculty, we have the capacity to provide top-notch periodontology training to our graduate students together with the production of high-quality research that will enable the graduates to earn a M.Sc. degree from the University of Saskatchewan. Periodontology students will be able to complete their clinical hours in the University of Saskatchewan dental clinic, addressing patient referrals for periodontic treatments and procedures.

As far as the benefits to the other programs in the College of Dentistry, having a periodontology graduate program will dramatically benefit the undergraduate dental students who will be exposed to the periodontal field in a more comprehensive way and will give them a good view of future collaboration with periodontists for the benefit of our patient population. As well, the dental hygiene program, the dental assisting program, and the Dental Education Clinic will be positively affected by the presence of the Periodontology Graduate program. Establishment of a Periodontology Graduate program will also create opportunity for the College of Dentistry to pursue the development of graduate programs in other areas critically relevant to Saskatchewan.

A major research focus of the foundational scientists within the College of Dentistry is investigation of oral inflammatory conditions in relation to systemic disease. The presence of a Periodontology Graduate program will provide opportunity for translation of discovery research to clinical trials and ultimately to clinical practice. It will enhance grant competitiveness and impact of our research program.

The College of Dentistry provides inclusive, high quality dental care to vulnerable and underserved people in our community. The Periodontics Graduate program will extend the scope of care being offered by the College of Dentistry and will enhance access to specialty level oral health care. Patients' continuity of care within the College of Dentistry will dramatically improve as all periodontal treatment including complicated dental implant placements and bone grafting will be available on the clinic floor. The difference between this proposed periodontics program and the other periodontics programs offered in Canada is that students in this program will work in tandem with students from our other academic programs: DMD, DA, DT, and DH. By having the entire oral care team, including specialists, present and collaborating, we improve the continuity of care and patient outcomes. Students in all College of Dentistry programs, domestic and international, are also covered by the college's academic licensing to practice and are therefore held to rigorous standards in their patient interactions.

## Admissions:

The **Admission Framework** document must be reviewed to determine how an applicant will be considered for admission. There are several factors to consider when creating a new program. The Manager, Admissions and Transfer Credit, can assist in the development of the criteria. Information determined here should then be used to inform the completion of an Admission Template as found on <https://programs.usask.ca/programs/admission-requirements.php>

- a. **What are the admissions requirements** of this program – high school subjects, secondary or post-secondary standing, minimum averages, English proficiency, and minimum scores on standardized tests?
- b. **What are the selection criteria** – how will you rank and select applicants? For example, ranking by admission average, admission test scores, interview scores, departmental recommendations, auditions, portfolios, letters of reference, admission essays, and definition of essential abilities for professional practice?
- c. **What are admission categories** – regular admission, special admission, and Indigenous equity admission?
- d. **What are the admission models** – direct entry, non-direct entry, ranked competitive or cut-off average? Is a confirmation of admission required?
- e. **Intake** - how many seats are required to be filled – for first year and transfer students, reserved for Indigenous, Saskatchewan, out-of-province, and international students?
- f. **What are the application process and timelines** – September or January intakes, online application, application and document deadlines, and scholarship deadlines to consider?
- g. **Which office will manage the admission process** – TLSE, college, department, or a combination?
- h. **Marketing and Promotion of New Program** – consideration needs to be given to a communications plan and marketing of the new program.
- i. **Admissions Appeal** – what will this process be.
- j. **Transfer Credit** – when will this be assessed and by which office?

## Admissions

The proposed Master of Science in Periodontology will require:

- a minimum of an accredited four-year DMD or DDS program from a college or university recognized by the University of Saskatchewan.
- A cumulative weighted entrance average of at least 70% in the last two years of study (i.e., 60 credit units)



- Proof of English proficiency may be required for applicants to graduate programs. Proof of English proficiency may be demonstrated through:
  - A minimum of three consecutive years of full-time study or completion of a graduate degree at a recognized post-secondary institution, where the exclusive language of instruction and examination of the program and/or institution is in English; or
  - Provision of evidence of English language proficiency, using one of the approved tests listed in the English Language Proficiency Policy.
- Statement of Academic Intent
- Up-to-date CV
- Completion of at least one year of experience with dental practice and procedures prior to the start of the program is preferred but not required.

The admission model will therefore be non-direct entry and will use several methods to determine placement in the program. Applicants will be required to submit an official transcript from their previous institution detailing courses taken and grades received. They will also be required to provide a statement of academic intent summarizing why they feel this program is a strong fit for their academic abilities and goals. Three letters of reference will be delivered with the application: one must be from the Dean of the applicant's dental school where they received their DMD/DDS degree, the second will be from an academic contact and the third may be academic or professional. Applicants shortlisted for the program will be required to attend a day of interviews with the College of Dentistry faculty. This day will also include assessment of professional capability and suitability for the program. Students who apply will be categorized as domestic or international students, with domestic students being citizens or permanent residents living in Canada, and international students residing outside Canada requiring study permits.

Intake will occur yearly, with a single intake in the Fall Term. The program will be competitive as there will only be 3 seats available for both international and domestic students. Three students will be admitted each year with Saskatchewan residents having priority. If no qualified Saskatchewan resident candidates apply, the spots can be filled with out of province or international students. 3 students per cohort is standard for a dental surgical specialty program as most programs in North America have between 2-5 residents per cohort. Due to the clinical nature of this program, 3 new students per year is all that can be accommodated within the available space, and too many students will be an issue in the clinical portion of the program, which has open surgery involved. Additionally, CDAC requires the program to have a high instructor to student ratio.

The application process for the program will include an online application through the Recruit system that will be coordinated through the College of Dentistry's Admissions Coordinator. Applications will

need to include all the required documents. Admission will continue the beneficial partnership between the College of Dentistry and the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies, and both will be involved in the process as is currently the case for the existing graduate programs. Transfer credit will not be accepted for this program. Applicants who have not been successful in gaining admission may appeal the decision to the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies.

The anticipated application and document window and deadlines are as follows:

- Applications will open on June 1 of the year prior to the start of the program (e.g.: June 1, 2025, if the applicant intends to start September 2026). This will ensure a similar window and timeline to other periodontology programs in North America.
- All documentation and application materials must be received by September 1 of the year prior to the start of the program (e.g.: September 1, 2025, if the applicant intends to start September 2026).
- Interviews and assessments of required knowledge and skills, such as professionalism, existing experience with dental procedures, clinical judgement, and anatomical knowledge, will take place in October of the year prior to the start of the program (e.g.: October 1, 2025, if the applicant intends to start September 2026).
- Application results will be communicated to candidates in December of the year prior to the start of the program (e.g.: December 1, 2025, if the applicant intends to start September 2026).

The College of Dentistry has its own Communications Officer and will employ that position to create new communications and recruitment material for this program as well as updating the college's other program information to create consistency and harmony with the information being provided to all partners and potential students. New material that is consistent with the USask branding and other efforts will be produced for this purpose. The Academic Dean's Office already has established relationships with Recruitment, Admissions and Transfer Credit and will be sure to use those channels to distribute all information to USask's external partners and to students through recruitment events.

### **Description of the program:**

- a. What are the curricular objectives, and how are these accomplished?*
- b. Describe the modes of delivery, experiential learning opportunities, and general teaching philosophy relevant to the programming. Where appropriate, include information about whether this program is being delivered in a distributed format.*

- c. *Provide an overview of the curriculum mapping.*
- d. *Identify where the opportunities for synthesis, analysis, application, critical thinking, problem-solving are, and other relevant identifiers.*
- e. *Explain the comprehensive breadth of the program.*
- f. *Referring to the university “Learning Charter”, explain how the learning pursuits are addressed and what degree attributes and skills will be acquired by graduates of the program.*
- g. *Describe how students can enter this program from other programs (program transferability).*
- h. *Specify the criteria that will be used to evaluate whether the program is a success within a specified timeframe*
- i. *If applicable, is accreditation or certification available, and if so, how will the program meet professional standard criteria? Specify in the budget below any costs that may be associated.*

### **Description of the Program**

A periodontist is a dentist who has received advanced, graduate-level training including a surgical residency to specialize in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of periodontal disease, and in the placement of dental implants. Periodontists are also experts in the treatment of oral inflammation. Periodontists receive extensive training in these areas, including three additional years of education beyond dental school. They are familiar with the latest techniques for diagnosing and treating periodontal disease and are also trained in performing cosmetic periodontal procedures. Periodontists treat complex and advanced periodontal cases including patients with a complex medical history. In addition, periodontists are specially trained in the placement and repair of dental implants.

The requirements for this three-year program include coursework, a clinical component, and a thesis. This will follow the established precedent set by existing Canadian periodontology programs at our peers in the U15, all of which are also three years in length and have an extensive research component. CDAC also expects periodontology programs to have a minimum length of three years, and 4 out of the 5 English-language periodontology programs approved by CDAC have a thesis requirement while the final one has a capstone project. We have chosen a thesis requirement over a project requirement as not only does this follow the Canadian standard, but it also ensures that our graduates will be true clinician-scientists, contributing innovation and positioning themselves at the forefront of the discipline. Dental specialty fields are increasing their research components and including it in our program will ensure that our students are given an advantage toward their careers in

periodontology. Student progress will be monitored through assessments and committee meetings (at least once per year). Clinical assessment will take place every term and will grade students on their performance in technique, practices, and procedures. Didactic assessment will also take place each term and will grade students on their knowledge and grasp of literature, research methodology, and skill in disseminating this knowledge. Committee meetings shall be held every 6 months to assess the student's progress on their thesis component. Final assessment shall be the oral examination of the student's thesis work.

Course delivery will be in a traditional format, in-person and on-campus in the College of Dentistry's main building. The curriculum will be delivered through a combination of didactic instruction, student discovery, and authentic clinical experiences in the college's main clinic. To develop their speciality as capable periodontists trained in the various speciality areas stated above, students will participate in the full spectrum of these instruction areas. From didactic instruction, students will learn and apply critical thinking, analysis, and synthesis. As they engage in their research component, they will apply and extend what they have learned of analysis, drawing conclusions, and critical progress evaluation in pursuit of their research question. Through the clinical component, students will further learn and apply critical thinking, problem solving, analysis, effective communication, and technical skills as they treat patients under faculty supervision. A balance between clinical and research activity will be maintained as students will spend 5 half-days at 3 hours each in the clinic and have ample time in the remainder of their schedules to conduct research tasks.

We expect that our students will have a more selective caseload than our DMD students, and periodontology procedures require longer appointment lengths than general dental visits. Seminar courses will not require more than a half-day of the students' time as well. During the Spring and Summer terms, students will not have seminar courses and will only be scheduled for clinic duties, leaving half of their schedule for research. Flexibility is also built into the last year of the clinical requirement, so students are also given more time for thesis work. We do not anticipate that our students will have any concerns meeting their schedule requirements for research as they will be high-achieving, highly motivated practicing professionals with existing clinical and academic experience. We do recognize that in most thesis-based programs, students complete their coursework prior to writing their thesis. However, as this is a clinical program, with courses and clinics running until the end of the program, the students will balance their time between clinic and research. We expect that thesis data collection will begin after the end of the first year in the program, once the student has an assigned topic, and writing will occur once sufficient data have been collected, likely

starting towards the midway point of the second year. Through all components, students will have opportunity to discuss and consult formally and informally with peers and mentors.

MSc students must enroll in at least 15 credit units per term, and complete 147 credit units overall. All students must enroll for seminar courses and clinical hours, PUBH 805.3 (approved by the School of Public Health with letter forthcoming), and GPS Ethics 960.0 and 961.0 and/or 962.0 as needed. An individual research program of studies and timeline of research will be developed in conjunction with each student's supervisor and will be approved by the advisory committee. The MSc in Periodontology will introduce the following mandatory DENT courses to the College of Dentistry:

- **DENT 810** Periodontology Fundamentals I (6 c.u., two term)
- A sound and in-depth knowledge of, and familiarity with, the periodontal anatomy literature is essential for all specialist practitioners in the field of Periodontology. This course is designed to expose periodontal residents to the classical periodontal literature in a way that both basic and clinically applied aspects are explored. The course will emphasize an understanding of key concepts of Periodontology.
- **DENT 811** Implantology Fundamentals I (6 c.u., two term)
- A sound in-depth knowledge of, and familiarity with, the implant literature is essential for all specialist practitioners in the field of Periodontology. Briefly, this course is designed to expose periodontal residents to the relevant implant literature in such a way that the impact of both basic and clinically applied science on periodontal practice is demonstrated. The course will emphasize an understanding of key concepts of implant therapy.
- **DENT 812** Periodontology Research I (6 c.u., two term)
- A sound and in-depth understanding of recent advances in the field of Periodontology and Implantology is essential for all specialist practitioners. This course is designed to expose periodontal residents to the current periodontal literature and increase their awareness to the new and latest approaches in the field. The course will aim to develop critical reading abilities and train the residents to practice evidence-based approaches in their clinical practice. Students will read and discuss most recent articles published in three Periodontology and Implantology journals.
- **DENT 813** Periodontology Clinics (18 c.u., two term, variable)
- Applied clinical education and experience is obtained through supervised management of selected periodontology and implant cases.

- **DENT 815** Periodontology Summer Clinic I (12 c.u., two term)
- This course will be the first of three summer clinics for the further development of diagnosing and treating various periodontal patients for the proposed new MSc in Periodontology. Patients in this clinic course will present with a lower level of severity in the needs required to complete their cases.
- **DENT 820** Periodontology Fundamentals II (6 c.u., two term)
- A sound and in-depth knowledge of, and familiarity with, the periodontal anatomy literature is essential for all specialist practitioners in the field of Periodontology. This course is designed to expose periodontal residents to the classical periodontal literature in a way that both basic and clinically applied aspects are explored. The course will emphasize an understanding of key concepts of Periodontology.
- **DENT 821** Implantology Fundamentals II (6 c.u., two term)
- A sound in-depth knowledge of, and familiarity with, the implant literature is essential for all specialist practitioners in the field of Periodontology. Briefly, this course is designed to expose periodontal residents to the relevant implant literature in such a way that the impact of both basic and clinically applied science on periodontal practice is demonstrated. The course will emphasize an understanding of key concepts of implant therapy.
- **DENT 822** Periodontology Research II (6 c.u., two term)
- A sound and in-depth understanding of recent advances in the field of Periodontology and Implantology is essential for all specialist practitioners. This course is designed to expose periodontal residents to the current periodontal literature and increase their awareness to the new and latest approaches in the field. The course will aim to develop critical reading abilities and train the residents to practice evidence-based approaches in their clinical practice. Students will read and discuss most recent articles published in three Periodontology and Implantology journals.
- **DENT 823** Periodontology Clinics (18 c.u., two term, variable)
- This course exposes students to more complex cases requiring more advanced treatment modalities. An evidence-based approach to treatment is emphasized throughout the course. Students are expected to document their cases for presentation and discussion.
- **DENT 825** Periodontology Summer Clinic II (12 c.u., two term)
- Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to deliver clinical care to the level of clinical competency as determined by the CDA accreditation standards. At the completion of this course the student will be competent at performing a complete periodontal evaluation of the patient, obtaining diagnostic records, diagnosing and treatment planning a

patient. In addition, the student will achieve proficiency in treatment planning complex cases, explaining treatment to patients, obtaining informed consent and corresponding with the general dentist and other dental specialists. The student will also achieve proficiency in various periodontal surgeries as well as placement of dental implants and sequencing restorative plan after implant placement. Finally, at the completion of three years, the student will be proficient at all aspects of specialty periodontal practice.

- **DENT 830** Periodontology Fundamentals III (6 c.u., two term)
- A sound and in-depth knowledge of, and familiarity with, the periodontal anatomy literature is essential for all specialist practitioners in the field of Periodontology. This course is designed to expose periodontal residents to the classical periodontal literature in a way that both basic and clinically applied aspects are explored. The course will emphasize an understanding of key concepts of Periodontology.
- **DENT 831** Implantology Fundamentals III (6 c.u., two term)
- A sound in-depth knowledge of, and familiarity with, the implant literature is essential for all specialist practitioners in the field of Periodontology. Briefly, this course is designed to expose periodontal residents to the relevant implant literature in such a way that the impact of both basic and clinically applied science on periodontal practice is demonstrated. The course will emphasize an understanding of key concepts of implant therapy.
- **DENT 832** Periodontology Research III (6 c.u., two term)
- A sound and in-depth understanding of recent advances in the field of Periodontology and Implantology is essential for all specialist practitioners. This course is designed to expose periodontal residents to the current periodontal literature and increase their awareness to the new and latest approaches in the field. The course will aim to develop critical reading abilities and train the residents to practice evidence-based approaches in their clinical practice. Students will read and discuss most recent articles published in three Periodontology and Implantology journals.
- **DENT 833** Periodontology Clinics (18 c.u., two term, variable)
- This course exposes students to more complex cases requiring more advanced treatment modalities. An evidence-based approach to treatment is emphasized throughout the course. Students are expected to document their cases for presentation and discussion.
- **DENT 835** Periodontology Summer Clinic III (12 c.u., two term)
- Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to deliver clinical care to the level of clinical competency as determined by the CDA accreditation standards. At the completion of this course the student will be competent at performing a complete periodontal

evaluation of the patient, obtaining diagnostic records, diagnosing and treatment planning a patient. In addition, the student will achieve proficiency in treatment planning complex cases, explaining treatment to patients, obtaining informed consent and corresponding with the general dentist and other dental specialists. The student will also achieve proficiency in various periodontal surgeries as well as placement of dental implants and sequencing restorative plan after implant placement. Finally, at the completion of three years, the student will be proficient at all aspects of specialty periodontal practice.

Prior to beginning work on their thesis and research, students must identify a supervisor as they must have a supervisor to be admitted into graduate programs in the College of Dentistry, present a thesis proposal, and the advisory committee must accept the proposal. The proposal will include results from the initial literature review, tentative structure for the project, and an explanation of how the project will contribute to the field of periodontology. Typically, the thesis proposal will be given after one year in the program, and students will have time dedicated to research and thesis writing within their schedules. Acceptable projects will be those that have the potential to contribute significant new knowledge to periodontology. Students should work with their interests, previous experience, and the experience and research specialties of their supervisor in order to be assigned a suitable topic from their supervisor. Students are expected to navigate ethics approvals as necessary, with the guidance of their supervisor, and to select appropriate methods for data collection and analysis which will allow them to effectively draw conclusions from results. The thesis must be written in a clear, concise manner that allows the committee to properly evaluate all aspects of the research. Students will defend the thesis in an oral examination consisting of a 30–45-minute presentation summarizing the research question, methods, results, and conclusion, followed by questioning from the examining committee. Questions will be primarily based on the thesis work but may extend to testing the student's grasp of broader periodontology concepts. The examining committee will determine whether the student has successfully defended the thesis.

Graduates of the periodontology program will be able to:

- Critically evaluate current literature and research techniques/methodologies in the context of periodontology
- Demonstrate expertise in periodontology and knowledge in complementary subject areas
- Design and execute a novel research plan, making significant contributions to scientific knowledge in periodontology
- Effectively communicate research results through presentations and publications



- Demonstrate technical skills necessary for periodontic examinations, procedures, and surgeries
- Make a diagnosis and treatment plan of diseases, concerns, and examination findings
- Demonstrate appropriate patient management skills, including ethical behaviours, timely treatment interventions, and suitable interpersonal communication
- Accept constructive critique from mentors throughout the program, adjust behaviours as necessary, and in turn, become a mentor to junior students

More specifically, graduates of the periodontology program will possess the following competencies identified in the [“Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry \(ACFD\) educational Framework for the development of competency in dental programs”](#), adopted by ACFD June 15, 2015:

### **COMPETENCY 1 – PATIENT-CENTERED CARE:**

The application of professional knowledge, skills and values in the provision of patient-centered care. (CMF2005)

- 1.1 Apply knowledge of the clinical, socio-behavioural, and fundamental biomedical sciences relevant to Dentistry. (CMF2005)
- 1.2 Perform a complete and appropriate assessment of patients. (CMF2005)
- 1.3 Demonstrate appropriate diagnostic and treatment planning skills. (CMF2005)
- 1.4 Demonstrate appropriate preventive skills. (CMF2005)
- 1.5 Demonstrate appropriate therapeutic skills. (CMF2005)
- 1.6 Recognize own limits and seek appropriate consultation from other health professionals where appropriate. (CMF2005)

### **COMPETENCY 2 – PROFESSIONALISM:**

The commitment to the oral health and well-being of individuals and society through ethical practice, reflective learning, self-regulation and high personal standards of behaviour. (CMF2005)

- 2.1. Demonstrate a commitment to patients and the profession by applying best practices and adhering to high ethical standards. (CMF2015)
- 2.2. Demonstrate a commitment to society by recognizing and responding to the social contract in dental health care. (CMF2015)
- 2.3. Demonstrate a commitment to personal health and well-being to foster optimal patient care. (CMF2015)

2.4. Demonstrate a commitment to the profession by adhering to standards and participating in profession-led regulation. (CMF2015)

### **COMPETENCY 3 – COMMUNICATION and COLLABORATION:**

The effective facilitation, both individually and as part of a healthcare team, of the dentist-patient relationship and the dynamic exchanges that occur before, during and after a patient interaction. (CMF2005)

- 3.1 Establish professional therapeutic relationships with patients and their families. (CMF2015)
- 3.2 Elicit and synthesize accurate and relevant information along with the perspectives of patients and their families. (CMF2015)
- 3.3 Engage patients and others in developing plans that reflect the patient's dental health care needs and goals. (CMF2015)
- 3.4 Document and share written and electronic information about the dental encounter to optimize clinical decision-making, patient safety, confidentiality, and privacy. (CMF2015)
- 3.5 Work effectively with other dentists and other health care professionals. (CMF2015)
- 3.6 Work with dentists and other colleagues in the health care professions to promote understanding, manage differences, and resolve conflicts. (CMF2015)
- 3.7 Hand over the care of a patient to another health care professional to facilitate continuity of safe patient care. (CMF2015)

### **COMPETENCY 4 – PRACTICE AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT:**

The assessment of information and the management of a general dental practice to facilitate patient-centered care. (CMF2005)

- 4.1 Implement processes to improve professional practice. (CMF2005)
- 4.2 Employ information technology appropriately for patient care. (CMF2005)
- 4.3 Apply the principles of evidence-based decision making into practice. (AAC)

### **COMPETENCY 5 – HEALTH PROMOTION:**

The responsible use of professional expertise and influence to advance the health and well-being of individual patients, communities and populations. (CMF2005)

Components of Competency 5 - Health Promotion

- 5.1 Work with patients to address social determinants of health that affect them. (CMF2015)
- 5.2 Work with patients and their families to increase opportunities to improve or maintain their health. (CMF2015)

To complete the program, students must fulfill the requirements below. In the event that a student does not demonstrate sufficient progress in any aspect of the program, the program director and the Graduate Chair will refer the matter to the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies for consideration and decision on the appropriate response. Should a student require an extra term to complete the thesis once all clinical requirements are complete, for example, this can be accommodated through discussion with their supervisor and communication of the plan or adjusted timeline to the Graduate Chair and a record of the decision entered into the student's record by the Graduate Administrator. If a student is, however, behind in clinical requirements, this is a more objective measure of progress. Failure to progress appropriately in clinical skills will result in the submission of a recommendation of requirement to discontinue their program to CGPS. Any student who cannot demonstrate the techniques necessary for periodontal practice will receive a failing grade in the clinical portion of the program. Repeated unexcused absences will also result in failure as the student will not have been present enough to learn these crucial abilities. In the event that a student must miss more clinical classwork than would permit them to progress, such as in the event of illness or crisis, they will be required to repeat the course to ensure they have developed the skills necessary for progression. Students required to enrol beyond the standard 36 months will continue to pay per term tuition at the pro-rated program tuition rate for each additional term required. The timeframe for completion is 3 years, with the maximum time limit being 4 years as per College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies Time in Program policy. Extension beyond 4 years shall require the permission of the advisory committee and the Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Studies.

<b>MSc Periodontology Completion Requirements Overview</b>	
147 C.U. of 800-level course work in courses approved by the advisory committee (minimum, more may be recommended by the advisory committee)	
Clinical hours and patient experience	
Seminars (DENT 990)	
Ethics courses (GPS 960 and 961 and/or 962)	
Thesis to be defended in front of examining committee	

<b>MSc Periodontology Year Map</b>		
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Credits</b>
GPS 960 (Introduction to Ethics and Research Integrity)	Fall	0
GPS 961 (Human Ethics)	Fall	0
GPS 962 (Animal Ethics)	Fall	0

PUBH 805 (Statistics)	Fall or Winter	3
DENT 810 (Periodontology Fundamentals I)	Fall/Winter	6
DENT 811 (Implantology Fundamentals I)	Fall/Winter	6
DENT 812 (Periodontology Research I)	Fall/Winter	6
DENT 813 (Periodontology Clinic I)	Fall/Winter	18
DENT 815 (Periodontology Summer Clinic I)	Spring/Summer	12
DENT 990 (Seminar)	Fall/Winter/Spring/Summer	0
DENT 994 (MSc Thesis Research)	Fall/Winter/Spring/Summer	0
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Credits</b>
DENT 820 (Periodontology Fundamentals II)	Fall/Winter	6
DENT 821 (Implantology Fundamentals II)	Fall/Winter	6
DENT 822 (Periodontology Research II)	Fall/Winter	6
DENT 823 (Periodontology Clinic II)	Fall/Winter	18
DENT 825 (Periodontology Summer Clinic II)	Spring/Summer	12
DENT 990 (Seminar)	Fall/Winter/Spring/Summer	0
DENT 994 (MSc Thesis Research)	Fall/Winter/Spring/Summer	0
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Credits</b>
DENT 830 (Periodontology Fundamentals III)	Fall/Winter	6
DENT 831 (Implantology Fundamentals III)	Fall/Winter	6
DENT 832 (Periodontology Research III)	Fall/Winter	6
DENT 833 (Periodontology Clinic III)	Fall/Winter	18
DENT 835 (Periodontology Summer Clinic III)	Spring/Summer	12
DENT 990 (Seminar)	Fall/Winter/Spring/Summer	0
DENT 994 (MSc Thesis Research)	Fall/Winter/Spring/Summer	0

Students will also expand their interest and knowledge of periodontology at national/international meetings and conferences, where they will interact with other professionals and broaden their perspectives. The comprehensive breadth of the program encompasses the competencies required to meet the criteria of the Royal College of Dentists of Canada (RCDC) Fellowship national specialty examination. RCDC Fellowship Status is recognized by all provincial Dental Regulatory Authorities

(DRAs) and is one of the requirements for licensure as a dental specialist in Canada. Following completion of the program, international students will also be eligible for licensure in Canada as they will satisfy the RCDC requirements. These requirements are as follows:

1. Completed a dental specialty training program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC) or by an organization with a reciprocal accreditation agreement with CDAC.
2. Passed the RCDC Fellowship Examination.
3. Submitted proof of licensure as a specialist in Canada or, if outside of Canada, be eligible for licensure to be recognized as a specialist in their home jurisdiction. As of June 2022, those who do not yet hold a license as a specialist may provide confirmation of eligibility for licensure issued by their regulator instead.

This program will also address all five of the USask learning goals:

- Discovery goals: The curriculum is delivered using a combination of didactic seminar, self-directed research and manuscript creation, and clinical experience. Students are also required to participate in the process of care for complex clinical cases where intellectual flexibility is fostered.
- Knowledge goals: The breadth of the program encompasses the knowledge, attitude, and skill competencies required by RCDC. Graduates of the program will be eligible to sit the RCDC Fellowship national specialty exam, providing external validation that the program meets knowledge goals.
- Integrity goals: This MSc program is a professional specialty program that instructs, models, and requires students to conduct themselves with professionalism and integrity. Graduates must demonstrate the professional and ethical integrity necessary for successful practice in order to graduate. The University of Saskatchewan Legal Counsel and Access and Privacy Officer recommended that in order for attendance to be an enforceable element of the students' grade, a category for professionalism be added to every course syllabus to explicitly state that attendance forms part of the students' grade. For courses with a numeric grade, professionalism will be assessed as part of the participation component. It is a component of all classes as students must be capable of interacting appropriately with patients, mentors, scientific reviewers, and colleagues in a fashion that demonstrates respect, thoughtful action, and presents them positively as representatives of the College of Dentistry, the University of Saskatchewan, and the broader periodontal profession.

- Skills goals: Periodontology students must successfully complete courses which include extensive instruction and experience in clinical competencies, surgical skills, research methods, research dissemination skills, and patient communication skills. Students must also demonstrate these competencies to receive the MSc.
- Citizenship goals: The program will provide students with the opportunity to assume student leadership roles within College of Dentistry infrastructure. Clinical experience with underserved communities is mandatory and will support the care of these populations. Providing specialty training in Periodontology will centre students in the care of all Saskatchewan residents, as this program will graduate specialist clinicians in an in-demand and under-represented field.

Program success will be evaluated after three years using the university's internal review process specific to new graduate programs. After seven years (as per any university graduate program), the program will be evaluated through specific key performance indicators (KPIs). KPIs are identified below with respective targets that would indicate success. Selected KPIs and other indicators may be evaluated annually (e.g.: student application amounts, student satisfaction) to monitor uptake for reaching target enrolment and ensuring student satisfaction.

Key Performance Indicator	Target
Program quality assurance	University internal review process
# of student applications	>5 applicants per year
Program completion rate	>90% on time completion
Number of external scholarships	>30% total enrolled students
Number of students awards	>30% total enrolled students
Student satisfaction with program	Student-led annual evaluation, with feedback accumulated by student spokesperson (anonymized) for presentation/discussion with Director of Student Affairs
Graduate employment or continued studies	>90% within 2 years

### Consultation:

- Describe how the program relates to existing programs in the department, in the college or school, and with other colleges. Establish where students from other programs may*

*benefit from courses in this program. Does the proposed program lead into other programs offered at the university or elsewhere?*

- b. List units that were consulted formally and provide a summary of how consultation was conducted and how concerns that were raised in consultations have been addressed. Attach the relevant communication in an appendix.*
- c. Proposals that involve courses or other resources from colleges outside the sponsoring unit should include evidence of consultation and approval. Please give special consideration to pre- and co-requisite requirements when including courses from other colleges.*
- d. List other pertinent consultations and evidence of support, if applicable (e.g., professional associations, accreditation bodies, potential employers, etc.).*

### **Consultation**

By adding the Master of Science in Periodontology to the degrees offered by the College of Dentistry, the spectrum of oral care training is expanded and provides beneficial opportunities to train much-needed specialists with valuable clinical experience. In conjunction with the Certificate in Dental Assisting, Bachelor of Science in Dental Therapy, Doctor of Dental Medicine, Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene, and Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in the Precision Oral and Systemic Health program, students will be trained as members of a cohesive dental health care team and prepared for the collaboration they will experience in their future careers. This will allow students to learn from each other about the facets of dental health care and how they can intersect to provide exceptional health care to patients. The USask College of Dentistry will be the only dental school in Canada that will have all these programs training concurrently in one facility.

As the only College of Dentistry at USask and in the province, with the unique programs and curricula involved, the college did not formally consult with other units on campus as it is very confident that no other units will be affected. The curriculum proposed for this program will not involve students from other units and programs nor require them to take its classes, it will not compete with any other unit for enrolment and will have minimal impact on enrolment for the existing Precision Oral and System Health degrees, and it will not require space in other program or unit courses as part of the curriculum. The college's own facilities will be sufficient to handle all didactic, research, and clinical instruction necessary for delivery. The college will hire a new periodontology faculty member to lead the program, and the hiring process will begin once the program is approved by CGPS. The college will also hire part-time clinical instructors, a coordinator, and IT personnel whose duties will be dedicated to the

operation of the program. There are currently have 2 other periodontologists on staff and the college draws upon specialists in the community as well. As part of integrating the periodontology program into the college in conjunction with our other programs, all faculty members in the college will be supervising students in the program, not only those delivering the program's courses. The School of Public Health was consulted on the matter of requiring our students to take PUBH 805 and have given their approval as this will only be 3 students per year. Letters of support are attached from various stakeholders including internal and external sources.

### **Conclusion**

The College of Dentistry strongly encourages the Academic Programs Committee to consider the beneficial outcomes of approving the proposed Master of Science in Periodontology. Addition of this graduate-level training program to the college will have demonstrable positive outcomes on the University of Saskatchewan, the city of Saskatoon, and the province. Graduates from this program will serve as in-demand specialists ready to contribute to the disease management and restorative care of Saskatchewan residents. Highly trained professionals from this program will stay and contribute to the economy and health of the province and will alleviate the remarkable shortage of dental specialists.

Only the College of Dentistry can provide the facilities, training, and research opportunities in oral health care in Saskatchewan. With the generous support of both USask and the Government of Saskatchewan, the college's main clinic is receiving a well-deserved renovation to help expand all three of these areas to meet the needs of local, provincial, and national levels of government, and the oral health care requirements they set forth. The profile of the college has risen dramatically in the last few years and the addition of a program such as this, along with the research and delivery of care options that it can provide, will help to propel it even further.



## **Appendices for Master of Science in Periodontology Program Proposal:**

### **CATALOGUE ENTRY**

#### **Periodontics**

##### **Master of Science (M.Sc.) - Thesis-based**

Periodontology is a three-year graduate speciality program focusing on the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of periodontal disease, oral inflammation, and the placement of dental implants.

Periodontists are familiar with the latest techniques for diagnosing and treating periodontal disease and are also trained in performing cosmetic periodontal procedures. Periodontists treat complex and advanced periodontal cases including patients with a complex medical history. The requirements for the program include coursework, a clinical component, and a thesis.

#### **Admissions**

- a minimum of an accredited four-year DMD or DDS program from a college or university recognized by the University of Saskatchewan.
- A cumulative weighted entrance average of at least 70% in the last two years of study (i.e., 60 credit units)
- Proof of English proficiency may be required for applicants to graduate programs. Proof of English proficiency may be demonstrated through:
  - A minimum of three consecutive years of full-time study or completion of a graduate degree at a recognized post-secondary institution, where the exclusive language of instruction and examination of the program and/or institution is in English; or
  - Provision of evidence of English language proficiency, using one of the approved tests listed in the English Language Proficiency Policy.
- Statement of Academic Intent
- Up-to-date CV
- Completion of at least one year of experience with dental practice and procedures prior to the start of the program is preferred but not required.

For more information on language proficiency requirements, see the College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies [Academic Policies](#) for more information.

#### **Degree requirements**

NOTE: All Dentistry courses (DENT) in the M.Sc. Periodontics program require a passing grade of 70%.

A minimum total of 147 credit units are required to complete this program. Students must maintain continuous registration in DENT 990 and DENT 994.

- [GPS 960.0](#) Introduction to Ethics and Integrity
- [GPS 961.0](#) Ethics and Integrity in Human Research, if research involves human subjects
- [GPS 962.0](#) Ethics and Integrity in Animal Research, if research involves animal subjects

- DENT 990.0 Seminar
- DENT 994.0 Research – Thesis
- thesis defense

147 credit units of 800-level course work, including the following:

#### Year 1

- PUBH 805.3 Biostatistics for Public Health
- DENT 810.6 Periodontology Fundamentals I
- DENT 811.6 Implantology Fundamentals I
- DENT 812.6 Periodontology Research I
- DENT 813.18 Periodontology Clinic I
- DENT 815.12 Periodontology Summer Clinic I

#### Year 2

- DENT 820.6 Periodontology Fundamentals II
- DENT 821.6 Implantology Fundamentals II
- DENT 822.6 Periodontology Research II
- DENT 823.18 Periodontology Clinic II
- DENT 825.12 Periodontology Summer Clinic II

#### Year 3

- DENT 830.6 Periodontology Fundamentals III
- DENT 831.6 Implantology Fundamentals III
- DENT 832.6 Periodontology Research III
- DENT 833.18 Periodontology Clinic III
- DENT 835.12 Periodontology Summer Clinic III

\*Additional coursework may be required at the recommendation of the advisory committee

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## Library Requirements for New Programs and Major Revisions

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This form is to be completed by the librarian assigned liaison responsibilities for the sponsoring college/department. Contact the [appropriate librarian](#) for assistance. Attach the completed form to the program proposal prior to submission to the Academic Programs Committee. Additional comments may also be attached if required.

### 1. Proposal Identification

1.1. Full name of program: Master of Science in Periodontology

1.2. Short form (degree abbreviation): MSc (Perio)

1.3. Sponsoring college/department: Dentistry

1.4. Degree level: Undergraduate ☐ Graduate: ☒X

### 2. Current library collections, services, and spaces to support this program

#### 2.1. Current library collections

The University of Saskatchewan Library currently supports a Doctor of Dental Medicine program. As such, the Library collects in the areas of oral histology and embryology, dental materials, dental anatomy and morphology, oral radiology, microbiology, immunology and physiological, orthodontics and much more. There has also been the recent addition of the dental hygiene program collections continue to be expanded. This program will be well supported by electronic resources such as journals, dentistry specific databases and e-book collections as well as growing print collection. The Library subscribes to several large electronic journal packages that cover most, or all, of a publisher's output. Currently, the Library subscribes to large journal packages from Wiley, Springer, Elsevier, and Oxford, among others. The Library has negotiated access to 40,00 full text electronic journals, 514 databases, and 20,000 open-access full-text electronic journals.

The library's collections include:

- over 50,000 print and a rapidly growing number of full-text electronic books
- approximately 100 print and 5,000 electronic journal titles
- specialized print book collections such as the Baltzan Medical Canadiana, the Brodie History of Medicine, and the Abram Hoffer Orthomolecular collection
- key health sciences online databases including: Dentistry & Oral Sciences Source, Medline (OVID), EMBASE, Cochrane Library, CINAHL, Scopus, Web of Science, and Engineering Village (dental materials)

## 2.2. Current library services

The Library offers specialized services including; research support, learning and curriculum support and information literacy support. For research intensive programs such as this the library offers tailored class sessions that have used curriculum mapping as well as professor consultations to ensure students are receiving the highest level of information literacy education. Sessions include such topics as; AI ethics and research implications, research methodologies, evidence synthesis education and publishing support. This program would have a specialized liaison librarian that would be dedicated to student and faculty research support to ensure the highest quality of research methodologies. This might include systematic and scoping review support, publication support and collection support. The library also offers a variety of optional workshops throughout the year that are aimed to supplement students and faculty's needs outside of the classroom. These include topics like; citation manager and research software orientation, learning skills development, open education and much more. These workshops can also be tailored to students needs as they arise.

## 2.3. Current library spaces

The Leslie and Irene Dubé Health Sciences Library, in the E-wing of the Health Sciences Building adjacent to the Dental Clinic Building, is an enhanced resource for all university faculty, staff and students, particularly those studying and researching in the health sciences. The library spans three floors and features panoramic windows which bathe the space in natural light.

To maximize study space, a compact storage system for print books and journals was installed. The space boasts 24 bookable group/study rooms to support collaborative work and quiet study. The study rooms can be booked online for two hours at a time, up to two weeks in advance for quiet study and group work. Quiet study spaces are available on all three floors of the library.

For students working on group presentations, the library includes a bookable presentation practice room which houses a larger computer screen, and a smartboard. For those with disabilities, an Access and Equity Services room offers a variety of assistive and enhanced technology.

The Leslie and Irene Dubé Health Sciences Library is also home to SHIRP (Saskatchewan Health Information Resources Partnership), an online library of health information resources for health professionals, post graduation, in Saskatchewan.

The Library is open and staffed 76 hours per week (seven days per week) from September to April, and 40 hours per week Monday to Friday from May to August.

Students are able to check out print books for 30 days, with two renewals. For the month of May, the Library has Extended Hours for Health Sciences Students in the 14 Study Rooms (total of 86 seats) on the 2nd Floor.

Students have multiple ways to access personalized library research assistance:

- For basic inquiries during library hours, they can contact library staff using Ask Us Live, an instant messaging tool to get an immediate response;

- They can also phone, send an email, or visit the reference desk for more in-depth assistance;
- Students are introduced to the Dentistry Liaison Librarian at the beginning of Year 1 and encouraged to contact her at any time for one-on-one or small group research assistance.

### 3. Required revisions or additions to collections, services, or spaces to support this program

#### 3.1. Required changes for library collections

There does not seem to be any changes needed to the current library collections to support this program, but there will be funds which could be used to purchase any new resources that are needed. Faculty and students are encouraged to suggest books, journals or other resources for purchase. Also, the dental librarian selects individual dental titles in ebook or print format. E-books are the preferred format to ensure maximum access for all students. For the 2024-25 fiscal year, the acquisitions budget for individual dental books, not included in e-book packages, is \$10,387.

#### 3.2. Required changes for library services

There doesn't seem to be any necessary changes to library services, but if there is demand for new supports they can be negotiated as they arise within the program.

#### 3.3. Required changes for library spaces

No changes to library spaces are required.

### 4. Summary assessment of library capacity and requirements to support the new program

There would not be any change to the current capacity of the library to support this program.

Date: February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Liaison Librarian: Jessi Robinson

Dean, University Library: \_\_\_\_\_

Faculty member for the sponsoring college/dept: Dr. Liran Levin



## Information Technology Requirements for New Programs and Major Revisions

This form is to be completed by the faculty member responsible for the program proposal in consultation with Information and Communications Technology. Contact ICT Client Services (phone 4827) for assistance.

Attach the completed form to the program proposal prior to submission to the Academic Programs Committee. Additional comments may also be attached if required.

1. Proposal Identification

Full name of program: Master of Science in Periodontology

2. Distance Education

Does the new/revised program include courses that are delivered by 'distance education'?

Yes **No**

Face-to-face off-campus    Televised    Multi-mode    Independent Study  
Web-based    Other (specify)

3. Network Requirements

3.1 Does the program have any new special network requirements?

**No, network requirements are unchanged from existing program**

Yes, the program has the following new network requirements:

Video transmission (specify)

General Web and e-mail usage

Large (10MB or more) file transfers

Other (specify)

3.2 Does the program require any new access to the Internet or the Canadian Research network?

**No, existing access and bandwidth (speed) are adequate**

Yes, additional network access is required

Describe new requirements (e.g. type of access, room numbers, number of computers, bandwidth required):

3.3 Will students require new access to University IT resources (e.g. library, e-mail, computer labs, etc.) from their homes?

**No, home access requirements are unchanged from existing program**

Yes, students will require new access to IT resources from home (please clarify the access required and how it should be provided):

4. Software Requirements

Please list the software that will be required for the program (e.g. e-mail, web pages, SPSS, discipline-specific software, etc.), and indicate where it needs to be available.

Include cost estimates for initial purchase and ongoing support/upgrading, if applicable. **No new requirements.**

5. Hardware Requirements

Please list any special IT hardware required for the program (e.g. high performance

workstations, colour printers, scanners, large disk space, etc.) and indicate whether the new hardware will be provided by the college/department or centrally by the University. Include cost estimates for initial purchase and ongoing support/upgrading. **No new requirements**

6. Computer Lab Access

Does the program have new computer lab access requirements?

**Computer lab access requirements are unchanged from existing program**

General ('walk-in') access is required      hours/week/student

Access for classes/tutorials is required      hours/week/student

Estimated number of students in program: 3/yr, total of 9 in all three years

7. Student IT Support

Please describe any new requirements for student IT support (e.g. number of hours training per term, training topics, number of hours of user support per week during office hours and evenings/weekends). **The program will be using the same USask; however, an additional embedded IT support person will be required to run the clinic due to the complicated nature of the software and equipment that the college uses. When this program reaches capacity, the new Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene will also be at capacity which will potentially add up to another 53 students in the clinic.**

8. Faculty IT Support

Please describe any new requirements for faculty IT support (e.g. number of hours training per year, training topics, number of hours of one-on-one support per year, support for course development, support for desktop hardware, software and peripherals, other). **The program will be using the same USask; however, an additional embedded IT support person will be required to run the clinic due to the complicated nature of the software and equipment that the college uses. When this program reaches capacity, the new Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene will also be at capacity which will potentially add up to another 53 students in the clinic along with no less than an additional 3 faculty members.**

9. Impact on Institutional Systems

Please describe any changes that may be necessary to institutional systems in order to support the proposed program (e.g. student information system, telephone registration system, financial systems, etc.). Provide an estimate of the cost of systems modifications. Refer to modifications identified in the Office of the Registrar Consultation Form if applicable. **The size of enrolment of 9 students when fully implemented will have a negligible impact on the institutional systems but a noticeable one on college systems.**

Date: October 28, 2024

Information and Communications Technology: Duy Hoang

Faculty Member (sponsoring college/dept)



## Physical Resource & Space Requirements for New and Revised Academic Programs

This form is to be completed by the faculty member responsible for the program proposal in consultation with Registrarial Services and the Division of Facilities Management. Contact the Senior Coordinator of Scheduling, Registrarial Services (#4570) or Facilities Planning and Development (#4574) for assistance.

Attach the completed form to the Consultation with the Registrar form prior to submission to the Academic Programs Committee. Additional comments may be attached if required.

### Name of program

#### 1.0 Space and Renovations

1.1 Does the new/revised program require space resources in addition to the college/department's present space allocation?

No ☒ Skip to question 1.3

Yes ☐ Describe below

Type of space

Amount of space

Occupants

Area or capacity

Special requirements

e.g. Fume hoods, cold rooms, A/C etc.

Some examples of types of space are: classroom, office (faculty, staff, graduate student), laboratory (teaching, research), workshop, studio, rehearsal room, field plot, animal facilities, etc.

1.2 Is the college/department aware of space outside of its resources which can accommodate needs?

No ☐ Skip to question 1.3

Yes ☒ Describe below

The only additional space required will be a small meeting or classroom to hold the didactic portions of the program in.

1.3 Does the new/revised program require renovations to the college/department's current space?

No ☒ Skip to Question 1.3

Yes ☐ Describe Below

Desc of renovations

Rooms

Present use

Proposed use

**Note** - including special installations, e.g. fume hoods

1.4 Has a Project Request form been submitted to Facilities Management for above additions or renos?

No ☒

Yes ☐ Please attach a copy of the form.



1.5	Can development of any of the proposed additions or renovations be phased or completed in stages?		
No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Yes		Please attach a copy providing timeframe and costs for each stage	

## 2.0 Equipment

2.1	Does the new/revised program require additional equipment or upgrades to current equipment?		
No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Describe			
Equipment required			
Quantity required			
Estimated unit cost			
Estimated total cost			

**Note** - whether the installation of equipment will require additional space or renovations, or if there are special electrical, cooling, ventilation, plumbing, etc. requirements.

## 3.0 Funding

3.1	Are college/dept funds available for the required new space, renovations or equipment?		
Initial costs			
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ongoing operating/maintenance costs?			
No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

3.2	Are funds available from non-base budget/external sources towards the cost of any of the new space, renovations, or equipment?		
Initial costs			
No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ongoing operating/maintenance costs?			
No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>

3.3	Will there be a request to the Capital Planning Committee for capital funds to accommodate the program?		
No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>

## 4.0 Additional comments

4.1	If relevant, please comment on issues such as adequacy of existing physical resources for delivering the proposed program, the feasibility of proposed additions or renovations, sources as funding, etc.		
All space and equipment required will be part of the upcoming Clinic Building renovation.			

Associate Registrar

Date



January 21, 2025

**RE: Proposal for a Master of Science in Periodontology Program**

Dear Approval Committee,

As Dean of the College of Dentistry, I am writing to propose the implementation of an MSc in Periodontology program. The strategic expansion of our academic program offerings positions us as leaders in dental education in North America. Our college has grown in recent years to include programs in Dental Therapy, Dental Hygiene, Dental Assisting, and graduate studies in Precision Oral and Systemic Health, and we aim now to expand into offering speciality training programs. Our intent is to have the full oral health care team trained at the University of Saskatchewan. The ranking and reputation of the college has benefited from having an MSc and PhD in Precision Oral and Systemic Health, and an MSc-level periodontology program would further augment our success in this area.

This program aligns with my vision as Dean for the College and has been discussed and approved at the senior leadership level within the university to address the academic and financial needs of both the College and the province. Offering a dental specialty program will benefit students in all dental disciplines; they will gain the opportunity to study together and function as a unit before entering their careers, earning valuable preparation for the experience of dental care in Canada. With the addition of a periodontology program, this will be the first dental speciality program offered in Saskatchewan. This fulfils the mandate of the university to "Be What the World Needs" as periodontologists are an underrepresented part of the dental care team. This highly needed program will address shortages and graduate highly competent professionals to serve the people of Saskatchewan.

From a financial perspective, we expect the MSc in Periodontology to be financially feasible as noted in the budget. Tuition for the program will be an amount commensurate with other periodontology programs in North America and once the program is established, we anticipate positive cash flows. Additionally, we will use existing clinical and classroom space for the program, and the renovated Dental Clinic space will provide operatory environments without need for additional building costs. We have also examined the capacity of staff and faculty to administer a new program. Even though some of our current faculty are periodontologists, we will hire additional faculty members specifically for this program; this will allow us to provide the periodontology students with the supervision and attention needed to succeed without overextending our faculty. In respect to staff capacity, such as our existing Admissions Coordinator, Research Facilitator, and Graduate Administrator, we do not anticipate a burden on their services as only three students will be accepted to the program each year.



The benefits of this new specialty program certainly outweigh the negligible risks. As with any academic program, we have considered typical non-financial risks such as low graduation rates, program management challenges, and high attrition rates; however, these are within control of the college, and our current graduate programs are a testament to our ability to manage these factors. The benefits of an MSc Periodontology program include increased research and scholarly activity, increased ability to provide oral health care to the Saskatchewan population, and the addition of exceptional clinician-scientists to our faculty to mentor students. All these factors will bolster our college's reputation and elevate our ability to attract high-caliber students in all our academic programs. Our ultimate goal is to be a leader among peer dental colleges in Canada and across North America. To achieve this, it is imperative that we offer specialty-level dental training. Our comprehensive approach to training a complete dental team, from Dental Assistants to Periodontologists, will certainly position us as the first choice for prospective students and faculty.

Should you require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Walter Siqueira, DDS, MBA, PhD, FCAHS  
Dean and Professor  
IADR Distinguished Scientist





November 26, 2024

**Dr. Walter Siqueira**  
**GA10.14 HSc**  
**107 Wiggins Road**  
**Saskatoon, SK S7N 5E5**

Dear Dr. Siqueira,

On behalf of the College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan, the CDSS is in full support of a Periodontal Specialty program being established at the College of Dentistry, University of Saskatchewan. Being the first dental specialty program offered in Saskatchewan will not only retain and increase the number of trained specialists in the province but will also allow for greater patient access to care.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dean Zimmer  
CDSS Registrar



SASKATCHEWAN  
DENTAL ASSISTANTS'  
ASSOCIATION

August 22, 2024

University of Saskatchewan  
College of Dentistry  
Health Sciences Building, A-wing, Room GA10.11 HSc  
105 Wiggins Road, Saskatoon, SK S7N 5E5

To Whom it May Concern:

The Saskatchewan Dental Assistants' Association supports the development of a Periodontology dentistry program at the University of Saskatchewan.

While SDAA has not been involved in the planning or design process, we support the notion of a Saskatchewan based dentistry program in Periodontology. Our understanding is this program will allow additional exposure among the students in the existing Dental Assisting program to more highly specialized treatments, thereby enriching the educational experience for Dental Assisting students as well.

Thank you for continuing to support the education of oral health care professionals in Saskatchewan.

Sincerely,

Brenda Yungwirth, BComm, MHA, CHE  
Executive Director / Registrar  
Saskatchewan Dental Assistants' Association

cc. Council

Date: September 17, 2024

Dear Dr. Levin,

I am writing on behalf of the College of Dental Hygienists of Saskatchewan to express our support for the new graduate program in Periodontology at the University of Saskatchewan. Training periodontists in our province is crucial for advancing dentistry and enhancing patient care.

Investing in the education of periodontists will greatly enhance the management of periodontal conditions, improve the quality of care provided to patients in Saskatchewan, and foster collaboration among dental professionals. We are eager to see the positive influence this initiative will have on the health and well-being of our communities.

Thank you for your attention to this initiative in dental education.

Best regards,

*Carla Ofstie*

Carla Ofstie, BSc, RDH  
Council President, College of Dental Hygienists of Saskatchewan

CC: Shelby Hamm, RDH

Registrar/ CEO, College of Dental Hygienists of Saskatchewan

## PROVOST & SFO CONSULTATION

To: Academic Programs Committee of Council

From: Kyla Shea, Academic Programs and Planning Specialist

Date: October 29, 2025

Re: Master of Science in Periodontology

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### SUMMARY

The Provost and Strategic Finance Offices have reviewed and endorsed the proposal as proposed. The purpose of the review was twofold:

- 1) to understand the potential impact of the change on the enrolment in the program and college / school and alignment to the college/school strategic enrolment plan.
- 2) To understand the financial implications of the proposed change and the impact on the college / school financial situation.

While the provost is supportive of the proposed tuition and fee rates, official approval of these rates will still need to follow the official tuition rate-setting process and fee rate-setting process for 2026/27 with formal provost approval and Board review in April before public communication of the rates.

Date	Reviewed By:	Communicated By:
October 29, 2025	Loleen Berdahl, Acting Deputy Provost	Kyla Shea



## Consultation with the Registrar (CWR) – Proposal Highlights

**Title of Proposal:** New Field of Study in Periodontology for the Master of Thesis (M.Sc.) program

**General Description:** The college proposes a new 3-year thesis-based Master of Science (M.Sc.) program in the field of Periodontology. This clinical program will be accredited through the Commission on Dental Accreditation of Canada (CDAC). All courses require a minimum passing grade of 70%, which is higher than the standard graduate-level pass score of 60%.

**Degree College:** College of Graduate and Postdoctoral Studies

**College Approval:** Graduate Programs Committee approval, March 12, 2025.

**Effective Term:** Inclusion in the 2026-27 Catalogue for marketing purposes; however, first intake of students will begin September 2027.

### Course implications

- Composed of all new courses.
- Existing DENT subject code will be used.

### Registration and classes

- Courses follow standard time slots and term dates.
- Students are required to be continuously registered over the program length of 36 months.
- College of Dentistry classrooms and facilities will be used; no involvement from Space Booking in the Registrar's Office is required.

### Convocation

- No new hood is required.

### Financial and Budget

- The Deputy Provost and Strategic Finance Office have endorsed the proposal.
- Non-standard tuition rate assessed using a per term method of assessment.
- Proposed annual tuition amount of \$25,000 Saskatchewan residents; \$50,000 out-of-province students; and \$75,000 international students.
- Proposed fees, as follows:
  - Standard Equipment Rental Fee (\$9,000.00)
  - Student Clinic Fee (\$5,000.00)
  - Program Fee (\$10,000.00)
  - Infrastructure Fee (\$1,000.00)



- Graduate Periodontology Research Fee (\$5,000.00)
- Students enrolling beyond the standard 36 months continue to pay per term tuition at the pro-rated program tuition rate for each additional term required.

### **Admission and Student Mobility**

- Expected enrolment of 3 students per year.
- Competitive admission occurs annually in the Fall with priority given to Saskatchewan students.
- International and out-of-province students are admissible when Saskatchewan students do not meet the criteria.