

## ITEM FOR DECISION

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

**Date:** September 25, 2025

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

### **Subject: Masters Admission Category for Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D)**

#### **MOTION**

It is recommended by the Academic Programs Committee that Council approve the master's degree admission category for the D.M.D program, effective for the 2027-2028 application cycle.

#### **CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND**

The College of Dentistry is proposing an additional admission category into the Doctor of Dental Medicine program. This new category will allow students holding a masters degree in a dental-related field to be eligible for the D.M.D program.

Candidates cannot be considered for admission within multiple admission categories within the same application cycle. Applicants will be required to identify the admission category they are applying for at the time of application.

This admission category is available to Saskatchewan residents who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada and who currently hold a Master's degree in a dental related field (i.e Master of Science in Precision Oral and Systemic Health, Master of Science in Dentistry, Master of Science in Oral Biology, Master's of Dental Science or equivalent) from a recognized institute in Canada.

#### **CONSULTATION**

The College of Dentistry submitted a proposal to the Academic Programs Committee (APC) on September 17, 2025. The Academic Programs Committee reviewed the proposal and voted in favour of this pathway.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. **D.M.D Masters Admission Pathway Proposal**

**Purpose:** To provide an alternate admission categories for students who wish to pursue the Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D) program in the College of Dentistry at the University of Saskatchewan.

Candidates cannot be considered for admission within multiple admission categories within the same application cycle. Applicants will be required to identify the admission category they are applying for at the time of application.

## MSc

This admission category is available to Saskatchewan residents who are Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada and who currently hold a Master's degree in a dental related field (i.e Master of Science in Precision Oral and Systemic Health, Master of Science in Dentistry, Master of Science in Oral Biology, Master's of Dental Science or equivalent) from a recognized institute in Canada.

### Eligibility requirements

#### 1. Academic Requirements

1. Successful completion of the following pre-dentistry courses.
  - a. 6 credit units of General Biology
  - b. 3 credit units of General Chemistry
  - c. 3 credit units of Organic Chemistry
  - d. 3 credit units of General Physics
  - e. 3 credit units of Biomolecules Biochemistry
  - f. 3 credit units of Metabolism Biochemistry
  - g. 6 credit units of Human Physiology
  - h. 3 credit units of Microbiology
  - i. 3 credit units of Basic Nutrition
  - j. 6 credit units of Social Science/Humanities
2. Successful completion of a master's degree in a dental related field (i.e. Master of Science in Precision Oral and Systemic Health, Master of Science in Dentistry, Master of Science in Oral Biology, Masters of Dental Science, or equivalent), from a recognized institute in Canada which must be completed at the time of application. Applicants have a maximum of two admission cycles to apply to the DMD program following their graduation in the dental related master's program.
3. Minimum of one peer reviewed publication from a dental related M.Sc program thesis.

## 2. Dental Aptitude Test

All applicants are required to take the Dental Aptitude Test (DAT) administered by the Canadian Dental Association.

- Results are valid for a period of three (3) years up to November of the year of application.
- If an applicant has taken the DAT more than once, the single best overall score will be used.

Applicants must achieve the following in their best DAT score:

- A minimum Academic Average score of 15 and
- A minimum Perceptual Ability score of 14 and
- A minimum Reading Comprehension score of 14

## 3. Interview

All eligible applicants seeking admission are required to interview as part of the selection process. A maximum of three applicants within this admission category will be invited for an interview, two of which have completed their Master of Science in Precision Oral and Systemic Health program at the University of Saskatchewan and one who has completed their dental related Master's program outside of the University of Saskatchewan. Interviews for this admission category are granted based on the applicant's cumulative weighted average of all coursework within the dental related master's program and the best overall DAT score.

The interview is conducted using the multiple mini interview (MMI) format. The MMI exposes applicants to a series of stations each 10 minutes in length. Applicants are provided with a question at each station and given two minutes to read the question and prepare an answer. After two minutes, the applicant discusses their response with the interviewer for eight minutes before moving on to the next station.

## 4. English Language Proficiency

Applicants whose primary language is not English must present evidence of proficiency in English.

## 5. Saskatchewan Residency

To be eligible as a Saskatchewan resident, applicants must have resided in Saskatchewan for at least four years immediately prior to September 1 of the year admission is being sought. Applicants who have left the province, but previously lived in Saskatchewan for an accumulated period of 15 year (permanent residency), will be considered residents. Applicants who have previously lived in Saskatchewan for an accumulated period of less than 15 years and who do not qualify under the four-year requirement will receive credit of one year toward the four-year requirement for every four years of residency in the province. There are NO EXCEPTIONS to the four-year Saskatchewan residency rule.

In order to support a claim as a resident of Saskatchewan, the following proof and circumstances will be taken into account:

- **Date of issue** of your Saskatchewan Health Card<sup>1</sup> **and** either the date of issue of your Saskatchewan Drivers' License<sup>2</sup> **or** Saskatchewan Income Tax Forms confirming taxes paid in Saskatchewan.
  - Applicants who have completed four years of full-time study at a Saskatchewan post-secondary institution immediately prior to the year admission is being sought are considered Saskatchewan residents. Official transcripts must be submitted by the document deadline to support this claim.
  - Reasons for any break in continuity of residence, which includes attendance at an out-of-province educational institution, summer employment where applicable and any other reason deemed to be relevant
  - Saskatchewan high school transcript (if you are NOT currently registered at the University of Saskatchewan) or
  - Resident of the Yukon, Northwest or Nunavut Territories.
1. If the date of issue of your Saskatchewan Health Card is newer than the original date of issue, a letter from Saskatchewan Health confirming the date of issue is required.
  2. If the date of issue of your Saskatchewan Drivers' License is newer than the original date of issue, a Drivers Abstract is required.

## 6. Criminal Record Check

Self declaration of an adult criminal record is required of all applicants on the application form. Applicants accepted into the program are required to complete and submit a Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Screening after the date of offer and no later than the orientation date.

## 7. Immunizations

Successful applicants must comply with the University of Saskatchewan policy on immunization, which states that all students attending a Health Science College must provide documented proof of immunization. Immunization records for accepted applicants must be received by the date stated in the letter of offer.

## Selection

It is the duty of the Admissions Committee to select applicants that have the ability to succeed in the program. The Admissions Committee reserves the right to review the applicant's entire application submission, including all written/verbal communication with the College of Dentistry, and to deny entry to applicants whose academic background or history indicate unsuitability for a career in Dentistry. Common reasons for the Admissions Committee to invalidate an application include evidence of inability to understand and utilize instruction received in written and oral format, academic misconduct, misrepresentation on the application, prior criminal behavior, and

unprofessional comments and/or behavior during the applicant's attendance at the MMI or elsewhere. If one or more issues is found in an applicant's file, the Admissions Committee retains the right to actively seek further relevant information about the applicant, including but not limited to, information from educational institutions attended related to academic or non-academic misconduct resulting in disciplinary action. By submitting an application, applicants consent to the collection of any such supplemental information.

Applicants must meet the Eligibility Requirements listed above.

1. Academic Average (65% Overall Weighting)

The full weighting of 65% is given to the cumulative weighted average based on all course work completed within the dental related master's program.

2. Dental Aptitude Test (15% Overall Weighting)

The applicable scores from the DAT will be earned on:

- Reading Comprehension – 1/3
- Perceptual Ability – 1/3
- Academic Average – 1/3

Applicants will not be considered if they have not met the minimum DAT requirements stated in the Eligibility Requirements listed above.

3. Interview (20% Overall Weighting)

A personal interview is required of all competitive applicants annually. Interview selection is based on academic average and the single best overall DAT score.

Applicants offered interviews should note that interviews are scheduled only once per year. Rescheduling, regardless of the reason cannot be accommodated.

Interview scores will not be released to the applicants and specific feedback will not be provided.

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

**Title of Proposal:** New Master's Degree Admission Category for Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.) Degree Program

**General Description:** The College of Dentistry proposes a new admission category for the Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.) degree program. This new category will allow students holding a Master's degree in a dental-related field to be eligible to be admitted to the D.M.D. program.

**College Approval:** College of Dentistry Faculty Council approved, May 14, 2025

**Effective Term:** 2027-28 application cycle

### Course implications

- N/A

### Registration and classes

- N/A

### Convocation

- N/A

### Financial and Budget

- Provost's Office endorses the proposal and approves proceeding through the approval process.

### Student Mobility

- N/A