

**UNIVERSITY COUNCIL
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS COMMITTEE
REQUEST FOR DECISION**

PRESENTED BY: Roy Dobson, Chair, Academic Programs Committee of Council

DATE OF MEETING: December 20, 2012

SUBJECT: College of Dentistry admission qualifications

DECISION REQUESTED:

It is recommended:

That the College of Dentistry admission qualifications be revised to delete the carving portion (manual dexterity) of the Dental School Admission (DAT) test as a requirement for application for admission to the dental program, effective the 2014/15 admissions cycle.

PURPOSE:

Under the University of Saskatchewan Act 1995, decisions regarding admission qualifications and enrolment quotas for university programs are to be approved by Council and confirmed by Senate. This motion will be presented to the Spring, 2013 meeting of University Senate for confirmation.

SUMMARY:

The College would like to make this change because it has been determined that there is no correlation between how an applicant performs on the carving test and their performance in the dental program. Many dental schools across Canada are deleting this test as an admission requirement.

The Canadian Dental Association (CDA) is in progress with a review of all dental school admission requirements. Once the review is complete, the College will consider including an alternate manual dexterity test if recommended by the CDA. The College will continue to use the Academic Average, Perceptual Ability and Reading & Comprehension portions of the DAT as requirements for application for admission.

REVIEW:

At its November 21 meeting, the Academic Programs Committee discussed this proposal with Associate Dean Ken Sutherland and director of academic and student affairs Maureen Webster. The committee agreed to recommend approval of this change.

ATTACHMENTS:

Proposal documentation

Proposal for Curriculum Change University of Saskatchewan

to be approved by University Council or by Academic Programs Committee

1. PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION

Title of proposal: *Change Admission Requirement*

Degree(s): **Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD)**

Field(s) of Specialization:

Level(s) of Concentration:

Option(s):

Degree College: **Dentistry**

Department:

Home College:

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

1. Dr. Ken Sutherland; ken.sutherland@usask.ca; 966-5088

2. Maureen Webster; maureen.webster@usask.ca; 966-2760

Date: October 5th, 2012

Approved by the degree college and/or home college: Yes

Approved by Admissions Committee (June 15, 2012); Undergraduate Education Committee (September 19, 2012) and Executive Committee (September 20, 2012)

Proposed date of implementation: ***The 2014/15 Admissions Cycle***

2. Type of change

Requiring approval by Council

- ☐ A new Degree-Level program or template for program.
- ☐ A new Field of Specialization at the Major or Honours Level of Concentration or template for a major or honours program
- ☐ Conversion of an existing program from regular to special tuition program.
- ☒ ***A change in the requirements for admission to a program***
- ☐ A change in quota for a college
- ☐ Program revisions that will use new resources
- ☐ A replacement program, including program deletion
- ☐ A program deletion (consult Program Termination Procedures, approved by Council in May 2001)

Requiring approval by Academic Programs Committee

- ☐ Addition of a higher Level of Concentration to an existing Field of Specialization.
- ☐ Addition of a new Field of Specialization at the Minor Level of Concentration.

- ❑ A change in program options
- ❑ A change in the name of a Degree-level Program or Field of Specialization.
- ❑ A change in the total number of credit units required for an approved degree program.

Proposal Document

Attach a proposal document, usually two or more pages, which covers the following information. The length and detail provided should reflect the scale or importance of the program or revision. Documents prepared for your college may be used.

3. RATIONALE

This statement should include information about program objectives, need for the program, demand, uniqueness, student outcomes including employment or academic opportunities, and the expertise of the sponsoring unit. Please specify how this proposal relates to department/college plans and to Systematic Program Review or other review recommendations.

4. DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS

Please include a complete draft Calendar entry.

In particular, please indicate if a template is already in place for such a program (for example, if it follows the general requirements and standards of B.Sc. programs) or if new standards are being introduced for this program.

When existing courses are listed, please include the course title as well as the course number.

5. RESOURCES

Please describe what resources will be required by the new or revised program. Include information about the impact this proposal will have on resources used by existing programs. Please indicate whether the program be handled within the existing resources of the department or college (eg, faculty, secretarial support, equipment, information technology, laboratories, library resources, space, etc). If new resources will be needed, please describe how these will be found. Include any required memos from the Dean or department heads regarding resources.

6. RELATIONSHIPS AND IMPACT OF IMPLEMENTATION

Please describe the impact this program will have on department activities and on students, and on other departments or colleges. Describe the consultation process followed for this program, including any memos received.

7. BUDGET

Please indicate if budget allocations within the department or the college will change due to this program. Consult with the College's Financial Analyst (Financial Services Division) and submit the Budget Consultation form if allocations are required.

College Statement

Attached to the proposal document should be a statement from the College which contains the following:

1. Recommendation from the College regarding the program
2. Description of the College process used to arrive at that recommendation
3. Summary of issues that the College discussed and how they were resolved

Related Documentation

Include any related documentation which is relevant to this proposal, such as:

- Excerpts from the College Plan and Planning Parameters
- SPR recommendations
- Relevant sections of the College plan
- Accreditation review recommendations
- Letters of support
- Memos of consultation

It is particularly important for Council committees to know if a curriculum changes are being made in response to College Plans and Planning Parameters, SPR recommendations or accreditation recommendations.

Consultation Forms

Attach the following forms, as required

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Required for all submissions: | Consultation with the Registrar form |
| Required for all new courses: | Course proposal forms, or Calendar-draft list of new and revised courses |
| Required if resources needed: | Information Technology Requirements form Library Requirements form Physical Resource Requirements form |
| Required if budget allocation needed: | Budget Consultation form |

Proposal Document from the College of Dentistry

The College of Dentistry would like to delete the carving portion (manual dexterity) of the Dental School Admission (DAT) test as a requirement for application for admission to the dental program effective the 2014/15 admissions cycle.

RATIONALE

The College would like to make this change because it has been determined that there is no correlation between how an applicant performs on the carving test and their performance in the dental program. Many dental schools across Canada are deleting this test as an admission requirement.

The Canadian Dental Association (CDA) is in progress with a review of all dental school admission requirements. Once the review is complete, the College will consider including an alternate manual dexterity test if recommended by the CDA.

The College will continue to use the Academic Average, Perceptual Ability and Reading & Comprehension portions of the DAT as requirements for application for admission.

DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS

The applicable scores from the DAT will be those earned on

- Reading Comprehension (25%) (1/3)
- Perceptual Ability (25%)(1/3)
- ~~Carving (25%)~~
- Academic Average (25%)(1/3)

RESOURCES

No new resources are required to make this change

RELATIONSHIPS AND IMPACT OF IMPLEMENTATION

This change will have no impact on the College activities or on current students, or on other departments or Colleges. The College of Dentistry reviewed, discussed and approved this proposed change at three College Committees. Admission requirements from other dental schools across Canada were reviewed. A Consultation with the Registrar took place on October 4th, 2012.

BUDGET

There are no changes to the budget required.

College Statement

The College of Dentistry would like to delete the carving portion (manual dexterity) of the Dental School Admission (DAT) test as a requirement for application for admission to the dental program effective the 2014/15 admissions cycle. This proposed change was reviewed, discussed and approved at three College Committees. The admission requirements from other dental schools across Canada were examined. It has been determined that there is no correlation between the performance on the Carving test and performance in the dental program. The College therefore has no need to continue with this test as an admission requirement. The CDA is currently reviewing admission requirements in all Canadian dental schools. If an alternate test of manual dexterity is developed in the future that has a direct correlation with performance in school, the College will consider adopting such a test as an admission requirement.