

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

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

**DATE OF MEETING:** December 19, 2013

**SUBJECT:** College of Dentistry admission qualification changes

**DECISION REQUESTED:**

*It is recommended:*

That Council approve the addition of a human physiology course (such as PHSI 208 Human Body Systems or its equivalent) as a required prerequisite course for admission into the DMD program, effective for admissions in August 2015.

That Council approve the College of Dentistry admission requirement for completion of three full-time (30-credit-unit) years of university course work completed between the September to April academic year leading to an undergraduate level degree as a condition of admission to the DMD program, effective for admissions in August 2015.

That Council approve the implementation of a criminal record check as an admission requirement, effective for admissions in August 2015.

**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. Admission qualifications are defined in the Admissions Policy as follows:

*These are the credentials that an applicant must present in order to establish eligibility for admission. They include but are not restricted to objective qualifications such as high school subjects, secondary or post-secondary standing, minimum averages, English proficiency, and minimum scores on standardized tests. Qualifications may vary for some admission categories.*

The motions if approved by Council will be presented to the Spring, 2014 meeting of University Senate for confirmation.

**SUMMARY:**

The College of Dentistry is proposing three changes to its admission qualifications:

1. Changes in the Medicine curriculum, which were approved by Council in November, will affect several aspects of the Dentistry curriculum. Following discussions between the colleges, it was agreed that the human physiology component of the Dentistry program should be dealt with

by requiring students to complete a human physiology course as a prerequisite for admission to the College of Dentistry.

2. The College is proposing to change its admission qualifications to replace the current requirement for “60 credit units of university-level work within two standard academic terms” with a requirement for “three full-time (30 credit unit) years of university-level course work towards a degree program”. The rationale for this change and specific implementation procedures are described in the attached material.

3. The College is proposing to require submission of a Criminal Record Check as a condition of admission. The rationale for this change is described in the attached materials.

#### **REVIEW:**

The Academic Programs Committee discussed the changes in admission qualifications with Acting Associate Dean Garnet Packota and Kelly Mulligan at its meeting on November 6. The committee requested some additional information regarding comparisons with other universities, and letters of support for this change.

Also, as the ramifications of the curricular changes in the College of Medicine were clarified, the committee asked for additional consultation with the College of Dentistry. Following these meetings, several curricular changes were agreed to in the Dentistry program. The requirement by Dentistry for preparation in human physiology was resolved by agreement that prospective dentistry students could complete a human physiology course as a prerequisite course for admission. Additional information is provided in the attached materials.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

Background information:

Dentistry admission qualifications and selection criteria as of October, 2013 [pages 1-3]

Proposal documentation:

1. Proposal for addition of human physiology to required pre-dentistry courses [pages 4 to 12]
2. Proposal for three 30-credit-unit years and for criminal record check [pages 13-19]

## 2014-2015 Admission Requirements

College: Dentistry

Program(s): D.M.D.

### Admission Qualifications:

- Minimum average of 70% in required pre-dentistry courses:

BIOL 120.3 and BIOL 121.3 or BIOL 224.3 or BMSC 224.3 - General Biology

CHEM 112.3 – General Chemistry I

CHEM 250.3 – Introduction to Organic Chemistry

PHYS 115.3 and 117.3 or 125.3 – General Physics (formerly 111.6 or PHYS 121.6)

BMSC 200.3 – Biomolecules (formerly BIOC 200.3)

BMSC 230.3 – Metabolism (formerly BIOC 211.3)

Six credit units (full course equivalent) in Social Sciences/Humanities

Note that these are University of Saskatchewan courses: equivalents from other post-secondary institutions will be considered.

- At least 60 credit units of university level work within two standard academic terms (30 credit units taken between September - April) with a minimum average of 75% in two best 30-credit years. **IMPORTANT NOTICE: The College of Dentistry has requested the approval of the University of Saskatchewan to change the qualifications for admission to require applicants to have completed three full time (30 credit unit) years of university level course work towards a degree program between September and April prior to admission effective for the 2015-2016 admission cycle. The results of this request will be posted to the website as soon as they are available.**
- Dental Aptitude Test
- Proficiency in English

### Selection Criteria:

#### 1. Academic Record – 65%

- Average in the best two 30-credit years

#### 2. Dental Aptitude Test – 15% weighting

- Reading Comprehension (1/3)
- Academic Average (1/3)
- Perceptual Ability (1/3)

#### 3. Interview – 20% weighting

## Categories of Applicants

The College of Dentistry welcomes applications from all students. Of the 28 first-year spots, 22 are reserved for Saskatchewan residents, including 3 spaces for persons of Aboriginal descent. The other 6 spaces are open to all other applicants, regardless of residency.

### 1. Saskatchewan Residents

- Applicants must be Canadian citizens or landed immigrants at the time of application.
- Applicants normally must have resided in Saskatchewan for at least four years immediately prior to September 1<sup>st</sup> of the year in which admission is being sought. Applicants who left the province, but who previously lived in Saskatchewan for an accumulated period of 15 years (permanent residency), will be treated as 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 condition 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.

### 2. Canadian and International Applicants

- There are up to 6 spaces set aside for non-SK residents, either out of province Canadian, or international.

### 3. Aboriginal Equity Access Program

- There is a separate category in which three first year spaces are reserved for persons of Canadian Aboriginal ancestry.
- Applicants must meet the minimum Admission Qualifications, above.
- Applicants must achieve an acceptable rating on the interview and complete the Dental Aptitude Test (DAT).
- Applicants must provide proof of Aboriginal ancestry.

### 4. Foreign Trained Dentists

- There is a separate category in which ONE first year space is reserved for a foreign trained dentist. Applicants in this stream will compete in a separate pool for this position.
- Applicants must have earned a dental degree from a recognized dental college other than Canada or the United States of America.
- Applicants must meet the Saskatchewan residency rules
- If applicable, applicants must present satisfactory evidence of proficiency in English.
- Applicants must take the Dental Aptitude Test (DAT) administered by the Canadian Dental Association.
- Applicants must be interviewed at the University of Saskatchewan for the year in which admission is being sought.
- Applicants must provide a **one-page** biography (curriculum vita) on relevant dental experiences and other information that would be helpful to the Admissions Committee

## 5. Special Case Category

- The College of Dentistry may consider students with special circumstances with regard to one or both of the 30 credit unit years, such that one or both years may have been completed over twelve consecutive months as part of a program requirement.
- All "special case" applicants will be considered by the Admissions Committee and will compete with all other applicants in the general pool of candidates. Applicants must have met all other requirements. Applicants are to submit a letter with their application form that explains their special circumstances.

**Dean's Signature:**

Date:

*J. M. J.*  
Oct 29/13.



UNIVERSITY OF  
SASKATCHEWAN

## Proposal for Academic or Curricular Change

### 1. PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION

**Title of proposal:**

Addition of human physiology as an admission requirement for the DMD program

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

Field(s) of Specialization: Dentistry

Degree College: Dentistry

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

Dr. Garnet Packota, Acting Associate Dean, [garnet.packota@usask.ca](mailto:garnet.packota@usask.ca), 966-5068

Ms. Kelly Mulligan, Director of Academic & Student Affairs, [kelly.mulligan@usask.ca](mailto:kelly.mulligan@usask.ca), 966-2760

Proposed date of implementation: 2015-2016 Academic Year (admissions August 2015)

### Proposal

*The College of Dentistry is requesting approval to include human physiology (such as PHSI 208 Human Body Systems or its equivalent) as a required prerequisite course for admission into the DMD program.*

### 3. RATIONALE

*The rationale for this change is a result of the implementation of the new curriculum in the College of Medicine. Currently, Year 1 dental students receive instruction in human physiology through inclusion in the MED 109 Form & Function of the Human Body course offered in Year 1 of the UGME program. As a result of the new medical curriculum, the MED 109 course will no longer be offered and the human physiology component of the replacement course (MEDC 115) is not sufficient to meet our needs. The option of adding the PHSI 208 course to our program was explored but the current course structure does not work with our Year 1 timetable, primarily due to the timing of the MEDC 115 replacement course that our students will take. We were advised that the course structure of PHSI 208 cannot be changed due to commitments with the College of Nursing and the College of Pharmacy & Nutrition. As a result there is the need for a human physiology course to be a prerequisite.*

### 4. DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS

*Not applicable. The DMD program is an established degree program. Proposed change is for an existing policy.*

### 5. RESOURCES

*Not applicable. Additional resources are not required.*

## 6. RELATIONSHIPS AND IMPACT OF IMPLEMENTATION

### 1. Impact on Departmental Activities

*Not applicable. The proposed change will not impact any departmental activities.*

### 2. Impact on Students/Applicants

*The proposed change to add a human physiology course as a required prerequisite for admission to the DMD program will not have significant impact on applicants. Although it will be an additional prerequisite course, it is currently a recommended course that approximately 20% of applicants already take. In addition, many students complete degrees (~20% over the past five years), or portions of degrees, in Physiology prior to admission, as students interested in dentistry are encouraged to pursue degrees in the natural sciences. Removal of physiology from the DMD program will also open up the heavy Year 1 timetable to allow room for much needed independent study time as well as enable the College of Dentistry to focus on curriculum unique to dentistry.*

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### 3. Impact on Other Colleges/Departments

*The impact of this proposed change will affect the College of Arts and Science in that additional students will be registering for the Physiology course. However, as previously mentioned, physiology is currently a recommended course for admission and some students already pursue degrees in Physiology (~20% over the past five years) so the impact is anticipated to be minimal. We have discussed this option with Dr. Michel Desautels, Department Head of Physiology, and he is supportive of this proposal.*

## 7. BUDGET

*Not applicable. Budgetary changes are not required for the proposed change.*

## College Statement

*The College of Dentistry is requesting approval to include a human physiology course (PHSI 208 or its equivalent) as a required prerequisite course for admission to the DMD program effective the 2015-2016 admissions cycle. As a result of the revisions to the College of Medicine's UGME curriculum, teaching in physiology that has been traditionally provided to dental students will be drastically reduced. As a result, the College of Dentistry is required to find an alternate way to ensure dental students have a strong foundation in physiology.*

*In discussions between the College of Medicine and the College of Dentistry, it was determined that the most effective strategy is to require human physiology as a prerequisite to the program rather than a recommended course. The College of Dentistry presented the proposed change to the admission requirements to the Admissions Committee for a vote and the majority of the committee members voted in favour.*

*The prerequisite course requirements of other Canadian dental programs were reviewed and it was found that only two other schools out of eight English speaking schools require prerequisite course work in physiology. However, many of the other dental schools in Canada are closely linked with the Faculties of Medicine at their institutions and are able to take advantage of the basic science teaching available with such a relationship similar to what has traditionally been done in the past at the UofS.*

*In addition, the College of Dentistry has also submitted a proposal requesting approval for other changes to the admission requirements (minimum of three years of pre-dentistry course work towards a degree and criminal record check), which is currently being reviewed by the Academic Programs Committee. If both proposals are approved, the intent is that the changes from both would be effective at the same time for the 2015-2016 admissions cycle.*

### **Dentistry and the Proposed 2+2 Curriculum**

Required for the November 21<sup>st</sup> University Council meeting: a one-page “Summary of associated changes to the Dentistry curriculum”.

College of Medicine understanding to date:

1. Inclusion in the new UGME course, MEDC 115.18 Principles in Biomedical Science starting August, 2014 for 1 term (replacing DENT 294 Form and Function of the Human Body for Dental Students)
2. Removal of: DENT 292 General Pathology; DENT 293 Introductory Neuroanatomy; DENT391 Pharmacology.
3. Microbiology content in Principles course may not suffice for Dental students.

#### **Updated November 20, 2014**

Dr. Ken Sutherland, Acting Dean and Kelly Mulligan met with Dr. Colum Smith, Acting Dean of Medicine on November 20, 2014. Dr. Smith advised that the College of Medicine will honour all existing teaching commitments following the implementation of the 2+2 curriculum. All proposed solutions were reviewed and deemed reasonable and acceptable. Dr. Smith requested that Kelly contact the respective Department Heads to work out the arrangements. Any challenges that cannot be resolved should be directed to Dr. Gill White, Acting Vice-Dean of Education, College of Medicine.

#### **Possible options for Dentistry students:**

##### Neuroanatomy:

1. Inclusion in preexisting undergraduate courses: PTH 818.3 Functional Neuroanatomy for Physical Therapy Students OR ACB 334.3 Introductory Neuroanatomy designed mainly for non-medical undergraduate students.
2. Create a modified version of PTH 818.3 for Dent students (the instructor Dr. Tom Langer is willing to do this but the issue of how he is paid for the extra course needs to be resolved)

#### **Updated November 27, 2013**

**The College of Dentistry has chosen to add the ACB 334 – Introductory Neuroanatomy course to the Year 1 curriculum to replace the DENT 293 Introductory Neuroanatomy course. The Department of Anatomy & Cell Biology was very flexible with the scheduling of the course and accommodated a change required for the course to fit in the Year 1 Dentistry timetable.**

##### Pharmacology:

1. Inclusion in preexisting undergraduate course

Updated November 27, 2013



**Dentistry students require a full course in Pharmacology. The preexisting PCOL 350 course in the Pharmacy program would be suitable as it covers all relevant content. However, the timing of this course does not fit with the Year 2 dentistry timetable due to clinic/lab times and would require extensive disruptions. If the timing of this course offering is flexible and we could negotiate to work with our timetable, we would pursue this option.**

2. Create a specific course just for Dent students (DENT 391) (Department head would prefer the inclusion in a current course)

**If the timing of the PCOL 350 course is not flexible or we can't work out a time that works for both Pharmacy and Dentistry, this would be the only option.**

**Updated November 20, 2014**

**Received commitment from the College of Medicine that the Pharmacology teaching will be delivered through either of the above options, depending on timetabling. Details will be worked out at a later date as the impact of this change is not until the 2015/2016 academic year.**

#### Microbiology:

1. Inclusion in preexisting undergraduate course
2. Create a specific course just for Dent students (Department head is willing to talk about this)

**Dental students currently take the first 8 weeks (~24 hours) of Microbiology with the medical students in MED 203 and then transition to a Dent only microbiology course. The new Principles in Medical Science will provide only 4 hours of teaching and thus we will require additional teaching in the following areas as the bare minimum:**

**Options could certainly be inclusion in an existing microbiology course for these specific areas or having faculty from Medicine guest lecture in the Dent microbiology course for the identified topics. Inclusion in an existing microbiology course would be dependent upon review of the timing of the course and if it could be worked into our timetable.**

**Updated November 20, 2014**

**The following lectures have been identified as being required for Dentistry students.**

- The biology of microorganisms. How Do Bugs Cause Disease?
- How Do You Know You Have an Infection
- How Do You Use Antibiotics?
- How do you diagnose Infectious Diseases?
- Antiviral Therapy
- Antifungal Therapy
- Toxin-mediated diseases

Updated November 27, 2013

The above mentioned topics will be rolled into the existing DENT 306 course and microbiology faculty from the College of Medicine (clinical and/or basic science) will guest lecture in the course to deliver the content. Proposed that Dentistry will compensate the guest faculty at the College of Medicine Part Time Faculty teaching rate (rate to change annually). Details will be worked out at a later date as the impact of this change is not until the 2015/2016 academic year.

#### Pathology:

Unsure of Dentistry plans for this topic.

**Updated November 20, 2014**

The Pathology topics outlined for the Principles of Medical Science course are very similar to what is currently being taught in the MED 102 General Pathology course and are sufficient for our needs. No further instruction in Pathology is required.

#### Physiology

Notified November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013 that Physiology content will not suffice within our new curriculum so an option for this to be covered in another way becomes urgent.

Dentistry requires a human body system physiology course to cover normal functioning of all body systems. Two pre-existing courses exist, PHSI 208 for Nursing and PHSI 208 for Arts and Science. Dr. Desautels, DH for Physiology advised that both iterations of the course are multi-term 6 credit courses offered in T1&T2. This does not work for the Dentistry timetable due to the Medicine Principles of Medical Science course in Term 1. If we opt out of the Principles course to take PHSI 208, we lose other required content in genetics, nutrition, immunology, pathology etc. that would be much more difficult to obtain through other courses. Dr. Desautels advised that a course specifically for dentistry in term 2 of the 2014-2015 academic year is required. Work is underway to recruit an instructor to be in place for January 2015.

Updated November 27, 2013

Approval by Admissions Committee

Committee Membership

G. Packota (Acting Assoc Dean) – yes  
 K. Sutherland (Acting Dean)  
 R. Wright (Fac Rep)  
 J. Monteith (Fac Rep)  
 D. Anholt (Fac Rep) – seconder; yes  
 L. Shepard (UofS Registrar designate) – yes  
 B. White (Registrar, CDSS) – yes  
 B. Thibodeau (Part Time Fac Rep) – mover and yes  
 D. Briere (Student Rep)  
 K. Mulligan (DASA; non voting)  
 M. McCormick (Recording Secretary; non voting)

Good Morning Admissions Committee,

I hope this email finds you well.

As many of you are likely aware, the College of Medicine is implementing a new curriculum in the Fall of 2014. As a result, there will be significant impacts to the courses that the College of Medicine offers to our dental students. One of the major impacts is a drastic reduction in the physiology teaching that will be provided in Year 1. As a result, the College of Dentistry is required to find alternate ways to ensure dental students have a solid foundation in physiology. In discussions between the College of Medicine and Dentistry, it has been determined that the most effective strategy is to require physiology as a prerequisite course instead of a recommended course.

The support of the Admissions Committee is very important for the final decision. Below is a motion to include physiology as a required pre-req for admission. We require a mover, seconder and then overall vote. Please respond ASAP as we are required to submit our paperwork by Dec 2.

**MOTION: That Physiology be a required prerequisite course for admission to the College of Dentistry effective the 2015-2016 admission cycle.**

Kind Regards,  
 Kelly

✉ **Kelly Mulligan** Director of Academic & Student Affairs  
 College of Dentistry  
 Ph: (306) 966-2760  
 Fax: (306) 966-5126  
 Email: [kelly.mulligan@usask.ca](mailto:kelly.mulligan@usask.ca)

# Dentistry

In the first year and a half of the four-year dental program, the basic science courses are closely integrated, physically and academically, with those of the College of Medicine.

Students must successfully complete all courses in a given year in the program to progress to the next year and to graduate.

## Program Requirements

### Doctor of Dental Medicine (D.M.D.) (total 203 credit units)

#### Year 1

~~47 credit units~~ 50 credit units

- [DENT 208.3](#)
- [DENT 210.2](#)
- [DENT 214.2](#)
- [DENT 220.6](#)
- [DENT 221.2](#)
- [DENT 225.2](#)
- [DENT 226.3](#)
- [DENT 288.3](#)
- ~~[DENT 292.1](#)~~
- ~~[DENT 293.4](#)~~ ACB 334.3
- ~~[DENT 294.19](#)~~
- DENT 291.18 (new course, see outline below)
- PHSI 208.6

#### Year 2

48 credit units

- [DENT 301.2](#)
- [DENT 306.6](#)
- [DENT 310.2](#)
- [DENT 314.3](#)
- [DENT 317.3](#)
- [DENT 319.4](#)
- [DENT 320.5](#)
- [DENT 321.2](#)
- [DENT 324.3](#)
- [DENT 330.5](#)
- [DENT 340.4](#)
- [DENT 348.3](#)

- [DENT 353.2](#)
- [DENT 391.4](#)

### **Year 3**

#### **56 credit units**

- [DENT 401.3](#)
- [DENT 417.4](#)
- [DENT 419.5](#)
- [DENT 420.5](#)
- [DENT 424.4](#)
- [DENT 430.6](#)
- [DENT 440.5](#)
- [DENT 448.3](#)
- [DENT 450.5](#)
- [DENT 455.2](#)
- [DENT 463.3](#)
- [DENT 466.2](#)
- [DENT 475.4](#)
- [DENT 480.2](#)
- [DENT 486.3](#)

### **Year 4**

#### **49 credit units**

- [DENT 501.2](#)
- [DENT 517.4](#)
- [DENT 519.5](#)
- [DENT 520.3](#)
- [DENT 524.4](#)
- [DENT 530.5](#)
- [DENT 540.5](#)
- [DENT 542.2](#)
- [DENT 548.3](#)
- [DENT 550.3](#)
- [DENT 563.3](#)
- [DENT 575.3](#)
- [DENT 580.2](#)
- [DENT 585.5](#)

New Course:

DENT 291.18 (with all details to follow)

December 6, 2013

Ms. Cathie Fornssler,  
Academic Program Committee of University Council,  
University of Saskatchewan

Dear Ms. Fornssler,

I received a request from the College of Dentistry for confirmation that a 6cu Physiology course will be available as a prerequisite for admission to the DMD program effective 2015-16. We receive a similar request from the College of Pharmacy and Nutrition that PHSI208.6 (Human Body Systems) which is currently a course requirement in the Pharmacy and Nutrition programs to become a prerequisite course for admission to the revised program in Pharmacy, while remaining a course requirement in Nutrition. At the moment, we have two sections of PHSI208.6, one reserved for students in Pharmacy and Nutrition and one section reserved for students in the College of Nursing. The latter section is provided in "distributed education" mode to students in Saskatoon and four other sites across the Province of Saskatchewan.

It is our intention to lift the restriction on section 1 of PHSI208.6 to allow all students needing 6cu of Human Physiology and Anatomy as prerequisite for admission to Dentistry, Pharmacy and other Health related Professional Colleges access to this course.


If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,



M. Desautels, Ph.D.  
Professor and Head,

(306) 966 6538  
michel.desautels@usask.ca

 <b>UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN</b>	<b>Proposal for Academic or Curricular Change</b>
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## 1. PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION

**Title of proposal:** College of Dentistry Admission Requirement Changes

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

**Field(s) of Specialization:** Dentistry

**Degree College:** Dentistry

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

1. Dr. Ken Sutherland, Acting Dean, [ken.sutherland@usask.ca](mailto:ken.sutherland@usask.ca); 306-966-5088
2. Kelly Mulligan, [kelly.mulligan@usask.ca](mailto:kelly.mulligan@usask.ca); 306-966-2760

**Proposed date of implementation:** 2015-2016 Admissions Cycle [for admissions August 2015]

## Proposal Document

### 3. RATIONALE

***1. The College of Dentistry is requesting approval to change the admission requirements such that applicants are required to complete three full 30 credit unit years of university course work leading to an undergraduate level degree as a condition of admission.***

*The rationale for this change is as follows:*

1. ***To better align the College with the offer dates of other English speaking Canadian dental schools.*** *Currently the UofS College of Dentistry is the second to last dental school to offer seats in a dental program. As a result, many of the top ranked students have already accepted offers at other institutions (6 declined offers to interview and several declined offers for this reason). Requiring three years of university course work will enable us to make our offers earlier in the admission cycle based on years without the need to wait for final grades to be submitted during the year in which admission is being sought.*
2. ***To better align the College with the admission practices of other English speaking Canadian dental schools.*** *The admission requirements of dental schools across*

Canada were examined and it was determined that four of eight schools require three or more years of university course work prior to admission, two of which require the completion of a degree program. In addition, other professional programs at the UofS are moving towards increasing their required pre-admission course work. The College of Medicine now requires the completion of a degree for entry into medicine.

3. **To provide a more mature applicant pool with a greater likelihood of success.** Requiring three full years of university course work will level the playing field of all applicants as very few applicants are successfully admitted by meeting the current minimum requirement of two full years of university course work. Over the past five years, 83% of students accepted into the program have had a minimum of three years of university; 61% of those have had four or more years with 32% having had completed a degree.
4. **To encourage planning of alternative career options for applicants.** The College of Dentistry receives over 400 applications for the 29 seats available in the program. Consequently, less than 10% of applicants get accepted into dental school each year. Adding the condition that the 3 years of university level coursework must be towards a degree program will result in unsuccessful applicants being that much closer to having completed the requirements of a degree which provides a broader spectrum of available career opportunities.

**2. The College of Dentistry is requesting approval to change the admission requirements to include submission of a Criminal Record Check (CRC) as a condition of admission.**

The rationale for this change is as follows:

1. **To align the College of Dentistry with the requirements of the dental licensing bodies across Canada.** The College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan (CDSS) as well as most other provincial dental licensing bodies requires completion of a CRC as a condition of licensure. As a result, it is important for the College of Dentistry to only admit applicants to the program who are able to complete their degree and be successfully licensed to practice dentistry in Canada. An applicant with serious criminal history/charges may not be licensable under provincial regulations and thus should not enter the program.
2. **Patient Safety.** A significant portion of the dental program involves students treating patients in the clinic setting. This can and does involve treatment of vulnerable individuals, which requires a significant amount of trust on the part of the patient in the student. All patients are entitled to receiving care in a safe environment and a CRC will ensure this.
3. **To better align the College with the admission practices of other English speaking Canadian dental schools.** The admission requirements of dental schools across Canada were examined and it was determined that three of eight schools require that applicants submit a CRC as a condition of admission.



4. **To better align the College with the admission practices of other health sciences programs at the UofS.** The College of Nursing and more recently, the College of Medicine, require applicant to complete a CRC upon admission.

#### **4. DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM CHARACTERISTICS**

*Not applicable. The DMD program is an established degree program. Proposed changes are for existing policies.*

#### **5. RESOURCES**

*Not applicable. Additional resources are not required for the proposed changes.*

#### **6. RELATIONSHIPS AND IMPACT OF IMPLEMENTATION**

##### **1. Impact on Departmental Activities**

*Not applicable. The proposed changes will not impact any departmental activities.*

##### **2. Impact on Students/Applicants**

*The proposed change to increase the number of required years of university course work will not have a significant impact on students applying to the dental program. As previously mentioned, 83% of students accepted into the program over the past five have had a minimum of three years of university level course work which means that this change will affect a small percentage of students. At the same time, an extra year of study will better prepare students to be successful in the program and on the same level as the majority of other applicants accepted into the program.*

*Requiring that the course work be towards a degree program is a benefit to applicants. As previously mentioned, seats in a dental program are highly competitive with many more applications received than spots available. Having course work towards a degree program will broaden the students' career opportunities and ensure that applicants have a back-up plan should they not be successful at being accepted into a dental program.*

*The proposed change to require a Criminal Record Check (CRC) benefits students as well as patients being treated by students. A CRC is required for licensure in many Canadian provinces and accepting and graduating a student from a dental program who is not able to obtain a license is not good for either the student or the program. Patient safety must be a priority and a CRC will ensure that all patients receive care in a safe environment.*

##### **3. Impact on other Colleges/Departments**

*Given that the majority of applicants accepted into the program already have at least three years of university level course work, consultation with other Colleges/Departments was not done. Discussions took place at length with the College of Medicine, which advised that all Colleges surveyed across campus for their move to requiring a degree unanimously agreed with the proposal and had no concerns. Students completing pre-dentistry requirements in other Colleges will actually be more engaged in the courses if they are working towards a goal (completion of a degree) rather than a collection of courses with no purpose..*

#### **7. BUDGET**

*Not applicable. Budgetary changes are not required for the proposed changes.*

## College Statement

*The College of Dentistry is requesting approval for two changes to be implemented for the 2015-2016 admissions cycle: (1) increasing the admission requirement from two 30 credit unit years of university course work to three years that must be towards a degree program; (2) requiring applicants to submit a Criminal Record Check (CRC) as a condition of admission. The proposed changes were reviewed extensively and approved at three College Level Committees, Admissions Committee, Undergraduate Education Committee, and Executive Committee. Please see attached documentation for these discussions/decisions. The proposed changes will not be effective until the 2015-2016 admissions cycle to allow potential applicants time to plan for the change. Notice of the impending change has been posted to the College of Dentistry website.*

*Admissions policies of other dental programs were reviewed and it was determined that the College of Dentistry would be much better aligned with those practices by implementing the proposed changes. In addition, the proposed changes are in the best interests of the applicants. Increasing the prerequisite course work requirement levels the playing field and gives applicants an extra year of academic course work at a higher level to better prepare them for the rigorous demands of a dental program. Requiring that the course work be towards a degree program offers a broader choice of career options should the applicant not be successful at entering dentistry. Requiring a CRC ensures patient safety and that a student is eligible for licensure at the end of the program.*

## Related Documentation

Letters of support – Saskatchewan Dental Students Society; College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan

Comparison with admission requirements of other dental colleges

## Consultation Forms

Required for all submissions:

☐ Consultation with the Registrar form [submitted]

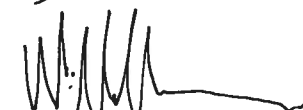
November 23, 2013

We the SDSS (Saskatchewan Dental Students Society) are in agreement with the College of Dentistry's proposed changes for the 2015-2016 admissions cycle.

- 1) Increasing the admission requirement from two 30 credit unit years of University course work to three years that must be towards a degree program.
- 2) Requiring applicants to submit a Criminal Record Check as a condition of admission.



Gregory Trischuk  
President



Woody Neilson  
Vice-president



November 21, 2013

Dr. Roy Dobson  
C/o Cathy Fornsseler  
Committee Coordinator  
Office of the University Secretary  
218 Peter McKinnon Building  
University of Saskatchewan  
Saskatoon, SK S7N 5A2

Dear Dr. Dobson;

The College of Dental Surgeons of Saskatchewan (CDSS) has had representation on the College of Dentistry Admissions Committee throughout the discussion of these proposals and has reviewed the document 'Proposal for Academic or Curricular Change' relating to application for the College of Dentistry DMD Program.

The CDSS fully supports the proposals in the above document.

Sincerely,

Dr. Bernie White  
Registrar

BEW/ml

Survey of Canadian Dental Schools, 2012-2013 – Response Summary

Survey Questions	Alberta	British Columbia	Dalhousie	Laval (French)	Manitoba	McGill	Montreal (French)	Saskatchewan	Toronto	Western
APPLICATION TIMELINE, METHODS AND STATISTICS										
Length of Degree Program	Minimum 2 years Preprofessional study plus 4 years in DDS program = 6 years minimum	Minimum 3 years pre-admission + 4 program = minimum 7 years total	2 pre-admission + 4 program = 6 yrs total	4 years  Pre-admission years are not university based	2 pre-admission + 4 program = 6 yr total	4 pre-admission (degree required) + 4 program = 8 yrs total	1- year Dental Preparatory Program and 4-year DMD Program = 5 yrs total	2 pre-admission + 4 program = 6 yrs total	3 pre-admission + 4 program = 7 yrs total	4 pre-admission (degree required) + 4 program = 8 yrs*
Application and Document Deadlines	November 1 Application deadline; November 15 grades to date & Fall term registration; February 1 Fall term grades and Winter term registration; June 15 final transcripts, all required admission documents.	For entry to 2012-2013 first year class, November 2, 2012 application on-line, <a href="http://www.dentistry.ubc.ca">http://www.dentistry.ubc.ca</a>	December 1; Documents - February 1; Final transcripts - May 1.	March 1	January 21, 2013 See website: <a href="http://umanitoba.ca/student/admissions/application/programs/dentistry-application.html">http://umanitoba.ca/student/admissions/application/programs/dentistry-application.html</a>	January 15 - Quebec; November 15 - Out-of-province; documents required by these deadlines; final transcripts by June 30; Four re-applications permitted coinciding with academic progress. March 1st for CEGEP applicants.	February 1 <sup>st</sup> for University candidate March 1 <sup>st</sup> for College graduates (CEGEP)	January 15; Documents - February 1st	December 2, 2013 - applications and documents.	December 1; final transcripts - June 15.
Application Methods	Online application only.	On-line application only; no paper applications accepted	On line only	Written & On Line	Online and paper	Online application <a href="http://www.mcgill.ca/dentistry/prospective/undergrad/application-procedures">http://www.mcgill.ca/dentistry/prospective/undergrad/application-procedures</a>	Online and Written applications are accepted. Motivation letters are web-based (online) only.	Applicants apply online at <a href="http://www.usask.ca/dentistry/admissions/apply_online.php?heading=menuAdmissions">http://www.usask.ca/dentistry/admissions/apply_online.php?heading=menuAdmissions</a>	Paper format	On-line application – link only accessible from Schulich Dentistry website: <a href="http://www.schulich.uwo.ca/dentistry/ddsadmissions">http://www.schulich.uwo.ca/dentistry/ddsadmissions</a>
Offers of Admission	May	Mid-March	Early June	End of May	End of June	End of March	Early May	Mid-June	End of April	Mid-May
Admission Application Statistics	Dental Hygiene - 183 apps DDS – 399 apps Advanced Placement - 56 apps	Applications rec'd: 361 (DMD Program only) Applications rec'd: 69 (IDDCP Program only) Applications rec'd: 186 (Dental Hygiene Program only)	Total applications to: Dental Hygiene = 79 (class size = 32) Qualifying Program = 130 (class size = 9) Dentistry = 387 (class size = 38)	Total number of application for Sept 2012: 618	1st year DMD admissions: 285 apps for 29 positions 1st year DH admissions: 62 apps for 26 positions 1st year IDDP (qualify program) 131 apps for 7 positions	A total of 456 applications were received for the Fall 2012 term.  361 to the DMD Program and 95 to the Dental Preparatory Program	A total of 742 applications were received for academic year 2011-12.	first year admissions: 403 (2012 2013 application cycle)	DDS - 479 IDAPP - 127	DDS - 507 applicants: 262 Females/245 Males ITD - 170
ADMISSION SEATS AND ELIGIBILITY										
Quota	Limited to 32; selected on a competitive basis; 85% of places for Alberta residents, 5% for International, 10% to other Canadians	Limited to 48; No international applicants considered; must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents.	Up to 38; preference given to residents of Atlantic provinces but will consider well qualified applicants from other provinces and countries.	Limited to 48 seats by University Council. Priority is given to Quebec residents, some seats available for New-Brunswick residents (5 in all for Montreal and Quebec city), some seats available for Ontario residents.	Limited to 29; (with a 25 dedicated spaces for Manitobans, will consider out-of-province applicants for the 4 remaining spaces if competitive)	Up to 35. Most seats are for recognised Quebec residents, but we do consider applicants from other provinces and countries.	A total of 90 seats are available for admission to preparatory year. Seats available for French-speaking New Brunswick residents (a total of 5 for Montreal and Laval universities). Seats available for French-speaking Ontario residents (a total of 5 for Montreal and Laval universities).	Limited to 28; 22 allocated to Saskatchewan applicants (19 to top ranking Saskatchewan applicants; 3 to the Aboriginal Access Program; 1 to a foreign trained dentist). 6 to all other applicants (out of province, Saskatchewan residents not in the top ranking, and International).	Limited to 64 Canadian or permanent residents; maximum of 10% of places may be offered to out-of-province applicants; up to 6 international applicants if applicant can obtain a student authorization.	52 available for Canadian applicants; up to 4 for international applicants.
Criminal Record Check	No	Yes	No		Yes	No		No	No	Yes