

# PRE-DENTAL

Acceptance into dental school requires a solid background in the natural sciences, especially general biology and general and organic chemistry. At least three years of undergraduate work is typically required. However, most dental students have a baccalaureate degree when they begin dental school.

## PROGRAMS



### DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES

Dentistry is a pre-professional advising track, not a degree program. Pre-professional tracks provide students with the intellectual and academic backgrounds they will need before continuing their education in degrees that may not be offered at Minnesota State Mankato.

Advisors play an important role in guiding the students enrolled in such a course of study, so students are urged to contact the advisor before enrolling.

### ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Dentists diagnose and treat problems with teeth and tissues in the mouth, give advice, and administer preventative care. They repair or remove tooth decay, fill cavities, examine X-rays, place protective plastic sealants on children's teeth, straighten teeth, and repair fractured teeth. They also perform corrective surgery on gums and supporting bones to treat gum diseases. Dentists extract teeth and make models and measurements for dentures to replace missing teeth. They also administer anesthetics and write prescriptions for antibiotics and other medications.

## REAL-WORLD CONNECTIONS



### SKILLS AND TALENTS

- Patient Care
- Verbal Communication
- Good Judgment and Decision-Making
- Manual Dexterity and Ability to Focus
- Dentistry Technology and Equipment
- Professionalism
- Critical Thinking Skills

### CAREERS

- Dentist

### EMPLOYERS

- Private Practices
- State of Minnesota
- Patterson Dental
- Cedar Riverside People
- Minnesota Community Care
- Heartland Dental

## INSPIRED ACTION



### EMPLOYMENT RATE

**95.8%**  
of program graduates begin their careers within one year of graduation.

[link.mnsu.edu/graduate-follow-up](http://link.mnsu.edu/graduate-follow-up)

### MEDIAN SALARY

**\$170,910**

The median annual wage for Dentists in May 2023.

Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Dentists at [link.mnsu.edu/dentists-salary](http://link.mnsu.edu/dentists-salary)

### PROGRAM WEBSITE



[link.mnsu.edu/pre dental](http://link.mnsu.edu/pre dental)

