Advanced Standing Dental Program (D.D.S.)

Program FAQs

What is the purpose of the UNMC Advanced Standing Dental Program?
The program allows dentists educated outside of the United States the opportunity to earn a Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) degree. Upon successful completion of the 29-month program, students are eligible to apply for licensing to practice dentistry in the United States.

What do students learn?
Advanced Standing students are fully integrated into the second-year, second-semester curriculum which incorporates preclinical general dentistry didactic and laboratory courses. In addition, this curriculum includes a course specially designed for Advanced Standing students to ensure a seamless integration into the clinic and prepare for third- and fourth-year didactic courses. This curricular concept prepares students with the foundation for providing comprehensive patient care in all facets of general dentistry and understanding of treatment protocols, materials and techniques.

Who is the program for?
The Advanced Standing Dental Program has been developed for individuals who have completed the equivalent of a D.M.D. or D.D.S. program in a non-U.S. or Canadian accredited dental school. It is intended for individuals who are interested in pursuing a dental career in the U.S. or are interested in returning to their country with additional skills acquired in a U.S. accredited D.D.S. program. The program is open to U.S. citizens and permanent residents.

Why the UNMC Advanced Standing Dental Program?

Small class sizes and personalized mentoring
With small class sizes and outstanding faculty, our unique learning environment is designed to foster student success. Our faculty members ensure that every student receives the personalized guidance they need to succeed. Our faculty are leading oral health experts; they provide patient care using the latest techniques, are involved in oral health research, and lead national dental organizations.

Hands-on learning experiences
Our students are immersed in a variety of hands-on, cutting-edge learning experiences in patient care, research, digital dentistry and much more. See back.

Program Details

- Length of program: 29 months
- Application opens: March
- Application deadline: July 1
- Start date: First week of January
- Class size: 4-6
- Degree awarded: D.D.S.

UNMC is great; the environment is very friendly and we have very supportive faculty and staff that are with you all the way. We have lots of one-on-one time with our faculty who welcome our ideas and are always ready to teach us new skills and give us new experiences. At UNMC, you have everything you need to succeed in dental school. It’s a special place.

- Marwa Taguri, Class of 2024

Being at UNMC is such a blessing; everyone is friendly and supportive. I really appreciate that our faculty help us form our own treatment plans, a skill that is really going to help us after graduation. We also are exposed to different specialties and complex procedures, and we have excellent technology. We learn how to do digital crowns, which I love. I am so happy to be at UNMC.

- Jaspreet Grewal, Class of 2024
Applicants must apply through the ADEA Centralized Application for Advanced Placement for International Dentists (CAAPID) at: adea.org.CAAPIDapp

The UNMC College of Dentistry will accept U.S. citizens and U.S. permanent residents. We are committed to complying with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

English Language Proficiency
- Must be proficient in speaking and reading English.
- All non-native English speaking applicants must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). Applicants must score at least 95 on the internet-based test.
- The ETS Institution Code for UNMC is 6896.
- Only scores from TOEFL exams taken after October 1, 2019 will be accepted. Original TOEFL scores must be submitted from TOEFL directly to ADEA CAAPID.

Application Procedure

Hands-On Learning Experiences

Work in teams to provide patient care
Our highly effective clinical model closely resembles providing comprehensive care within a private practice. Students are assigned to teams that provide patients with all the care they need. This clinic model promotes teamwork and helps students build relationships with their patients.

Use virtual reality to build clinical skills
In our innovative Clinical and Virtual Simulation Laboratory, students build their clinical skills through clinical simulations and using virtual reality dental trainers which use the most advanced simulation technology.

Build digital dentistry skills
In our new Digital Design Studio, students have access to the latest CAD/CAM technology for designing dentures and restorations and an equipment studio with 3D printers and milling machines.

Lead oral health research projects
Students lead research projects with guidance from faculty and have opportunities to present their research at national meetings where many receive top honors.

Explore dental specialties
Students work alongside residents to provide care to patients with advanced needs in our postgraduate clinics: endodontics, orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, periodontics, general practice residency, and advanced education in general dentistry.

Participate in community outreach programs
Our many community outreach programs allow students to volunteer their time and talents to provide patient care and education to underserved populations.

Learn how to run a private practice
Students receive hands-on experience in running a private practice at one of over 30 extramural rotation sites.

Lead a student organization
Our many student organizations offer students a variety of local, regional and national leadership and professional development opportunities.

UNMC Advanced Standing Dental Program
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Use this QR code to visit our website - meet our students & faculty, see program costs & more!