Advanced Dental Education

Assistant dean for advanced dental education
Steven G. Morrow

The School of Dentistry offers advanced dental education programs in specialty and nonspecialty disciplines of dentistry. Postdoctoral certificates, Master of Science (M.S.), and Master of Science in Dentistry (M.S.D.) degrees are available. The purpose of these programs is to offer candidates an opportunity to integrate advanced clinical training with meaningful exposure to applied basic science and research. For additional information and to submit an online application, interested applicants should visit the School of Dentistry Web site (Graduate Programs).

Advanced dental education programs leading to a professional certificate with an option to also pursue the Master of Science (M.S.) degree or the Master of Science in Dentistry (M.S.D.) degree are:

- Dental Anesthesiology
- Endodontics
- Implant Dentistry
- Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
- Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics (M.S. degree only)
- Pediatric Dentistry
- Periodontics
- Prosthodontics

These programs are organized to comply with the standards of the Council on Dental Education of the American Dental Association, and the objectives and content meet the requirements of the respective specialty boards. In addition, the programs in endodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, orthodontics and dentofacial orthopedics, pediatric dentistry, periodontics, and prosthodontics are accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation, a specialized accrediting body recognized by the Council on Postsecondary Accreditation and the United States Department of Education. For additional information, the student may contact:

The Office of Advanced Education
Loma Linda University
School of Dentistry
Loma Linda, CA 92350
<llu.edu/dentistry/gradprograms>

Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs)

Graduate students and residents in advanced dental education programs are expected to:

1. Understand the didactic foundation of their discipline and master the clinical skills required to utilize that foundation.
2. Integrate advanced clinical training with meaningful exposure to the applied basic sciences.
3. Engage in a project involving advanced clinical training with meaningful exposure to research.
4. Integrate interdisciplinary treatment planning into their didactic and clinical activity.
5. Apply for and pursue board certification in their discipline through the appropriate sponsoring organization.
6. Understand the importance of developing a commitment to the University-wide student learning outcomes.

Residence

The required time in residence varies with each program. For the length of a program, refer to the information under each program description.

Stipends

Stipends are provided in the Dental Anesthesiology and the Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery programs. Pediatric dentistry students are paid a stipend of $5,200.00 during the course of their training. For details, contact the program director personally.

Tuition

Tuition and fees quoted in the school financial information section of this CATALOG are for the academic year 2016-2017.

Thesis

The student must complete a research project presented in thesis format and orally defend it according to the standards set by the Faculty of Graduate Studies. A written thesis, approved by the student’s research committee, must be submitted to the Faculty of Graduate Studies in order to receive a satisfactory grade for the course.

Publishable paper

Students on the Master of Science in Dentistry degree track must submit a publishable paper no later than one year from the date they complete their certificate program. Candidates are admitted to only one master’s degree track of their choosing.

General requirements

For information about requirements and practices which all graduate students are subject to, the student should consult Section II of this CATALOG.

Admissions

Admission requirements for advanced dental education programs/postdoctoral programs

An appropriate degree from an accredited college or university is required for admission into the advanced dental education programs and postgraduate programs. A doctoral degree in dentistry (Doctor of Dental Surgery or Doctor of Dental Medicine) or the equivalent is required for admission to all programs. The applicant should have achieved a general grade point average of not less than 3.0 on a 4.0 scale, with no grade below 2.0. In addition to acceptable scholastic performance, the applicant must give evidence of personal and professional fitness for growth in the science and art of the intended dental discipline. For application deadlines, see the section on each individual program or refer to the chart on the following page.

After applicants are accepted into the advanced dental education programs in dental anesthesiology, endodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, pediatric dentistry, periodontics, prosthodontics, or the postdoctoral program in implant dentistry, they may apply for admission to the Faculty of Graduate Studies for the purpose of earning an M.S. degree; or to the Office of Advanced Education to earn an M.S.D. degree.
(in addition to the advanced program certificate). Applicants for the Master of Science (M.S.) degree who meet or exceed the minimum entrance requirements may be accepted to the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) by the School of Dentistry’s assistant dean for advanced dental education. The master’s degree thesis must be completed, defended, and accepted in final form (as evidenced by a completed Form D) by both the graduate program and the Faculty of Graduate Studies. Students have up to five years from the date of acceptance of the certificate program to complete the requirements for the MS degree. All the M.S.D. requirements may be completed during the program but no later than one year from the candidate’s program completion date.

### Admissions criteria for advanced dental education programs 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Official Transcript(s)</th>
<th>Cumulative G.P.A.</th>
<th>GRE</th>
<th>National Boards Part</th>
<th>DAT</th>
<th>TOEFL</th>
<th>Letters of Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dental Anesthesiology</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Not required</td>
<td>Required (only U.S.-trained applicants)</td>
<td>Not required</td>
<td>Required (internationally trained)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(24 mo./6 positions)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endodontics</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Not required</td>
<td>Required (only U.S.-trained applicants)</td>
<td>Not required</td>
<td>Required (internationally trained)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(27 mo./2 positions; 36 mo./1 position)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Implant Dentistry</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Not required</td>
<td>Not required</td>
<td>Not required</td>
<td>Required (internationally trained)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(36 mo./3 positions)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Not required</td>
<td>Required (all applicants) score of 86 or higher</td>
<td>Not Required</td>
<td>Required (internationally trained)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4 yrs./2 positions; 6 yrs./2 positions)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Required (all applicants)</td>
<td>Required (all applicants)</td>
<td>Required (internationally trained)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(27 mo./6 positions)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pediatric Dentistry</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Required for internationally trained applicants</td>
<td>Required (only U.S.-trained applicants)</td>
<td>Not required</td>
<td>Required (internationally trained)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(24 mo./4 positions)</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periodontics</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Not required</td>
<td>Required (only U.S.-trained applicants)</td>
<td>Not required</td>
<td>Required (internationally trained)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(36 mo./3 positions)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosthodontics</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Not required</td>
<td>Required (only U.S.-trained applicants)</td>
<td>Not required</td>
<td>Required (internationally trained)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(36 mo./4 positions)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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### Application and program dates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>LLU Applications Open</th>
<th>LLU Applications Close</th>
<th>Admissions Committee Meets</th>
<th>Pass Applications Open</th>
<th>Pass Applications Close</th>
<th>Advanced Education Programs Start Date</th>
<th>Advanced Education Programs Ending Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dental ANES</td>
<td>1/1/2016</td>
<td>9/1/2016</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>5/2016 Match participant</td>
<td>9/1/2016</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>June 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENDN</td>
<td>1/1/2016</td>
<td>8/1/2016</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>5/2016</td>
<td>8/1/2016</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>Late September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMPD</td>
<td>1/1/2016</td>
<td>8/15/2016</td>
<td>December</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>June 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ORDN</td>
<td>1/1/2016</td>
<td>8/1/2016</td>
<td>November</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>Late September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PEDN</td>
<td>1/1/2016</td>
<td>10/1/2016</td>
<td>January</td>
<td>5/2015 Match participant</td>
<td>10/1/2016</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>June 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERI</td>
<td>1/1/2016</td>
<td>9/1/2016 (rolling admissions)</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>5/2016</td>
<td>9/1/2016</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>June 30</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Graduate students and residents enrolled in certain advanced education programs are eligible to apply for and be awarded a Master of Science in Dentistry (M.S.D.) degree, if they fulfill all of the following requirements.

**Admission process**

1. The following minimum requirements have been established for admission to the M.S.D. degree program:
   
   Admissions requirements
   
   - Cumulative grade point average (G.P.A.) of 3.0
   - Approval by the program director
   - Academic record of scholastic competence
   - Demonstrated professionalism and integrity

2. A candidate for the M.S.D. degree must complete a Loma Linda University online Application for Admission and a Part I (Application for Admission for the Master of Science in Dentistry [M.S.D.] degree) form. The Part I form can be found in the advanced education section of Canvas. The Part I form must be accompanied by a research protocol approved by the candidate’s research guidance committee (RGC) and reviewed by the School of Dentistry Research Committee.

3. The Part I form must be signed by the applicant’s program director and the research guidance committee (RGC) members.

4. The completed Loma Linda University application, Part I form, and approved protocol are then reviewed for approval by the associate dean for advanced education to ensure all admissions requirements have been met.

5. Accepted applicants will receive a letter of admission from the associate dean for advanced education. They must acknowledge acceptance of their admission electronically to the Office of Advanced Dental Education.

**Master of Science (M.S.) Degree, Advanced**

Graduate students and residents enrolled in certain advanced education programs are eligible to apply for and be awarded a Master of Science (M.S.) degree, if they fulfill all of the requirements stated below.

**Admission process**

1. The following minimum requirements have been established for admission to the M.S. degree curriculum:

   Admissions requirements
   
   - Minimum cumulative grade point average (G.P.A.) of 3.0
   - Approval by the program director
   - Academic record of scholastic competence
   - Demonstrated professionalism and integrity

2. An applicant to the M.S. degree must complete a Loma Linda University online Application for Admission, as well as a Form A (Petition for Admission to Candidacy). The online application is open to students already enrolled in a certificate curriculum. Form A is found on Canvas and must be accompanied by a research protocol approved by the applicant’s research guidance committee (RGC) and reviewed by the School of Dentistry Research Committee.

3. Form A must be signed by the applicant’s program director and research guidance committee (RGC) members.

4. The completed Loma Linda University application, Form A, and the approved protocol are then reviewed for approval by the associate dean for advanced education to ensure all admissions requirements have been met.
associate dean for advanced education to ensure that all admissions requirements have been met.

5. Accepted applicants will receive a letter of admission from the associate dean for advanced education. The prospective student must acknowledge acceptance of his/her admission electronically to the Office of Advanced Dental Education.

### Academic policies

**Grading system for advanced education programs**

The following information outlines the grading systems for all postdoctoral students/residents enrolled in advanced education programs in the School of Dentistry. Each course taught in the school has been approved for either a letter grade or an S/U grade, and deviations from this are not allowed other than the MS grade as specified below.

#### Grades and grade points for postdoctoral students/residents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Points</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>Outstanding performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>Very good performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>3.3</td>
<td>Remediation* required and cumulative G.P.A. must be 3.0 or higher to avoid academic probation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>3.0</td>
<td>Satisfactory performance for which credit is granted toward degree.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B-</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>Passing grade but cumulative G.P.A. must be 3.0 or higher to avoid academic probation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+</td>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Remediation* required and cumulative G.P.A. must be 3.0 or higher to avoid academic probation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>Remediation* required and cumulative G.P.A. must be 3.0 or higher to avoid academic probation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>1.7</td>
<td>Course must be remediated and reassessed. The plan must be approved by the Office of Advanced Education and must include a description of the approved remediation plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D+</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>Course must be remediated and reassessed. The plan must be approved by the Office of Advanced Education and must include a description of the approved remediation plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>Failure; course must be remediated and reassessed. The plan must be approved by the Office of Advanced Education and must include a description of the approved remediation plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>Failure; course must be remediated and reassessed. The plan must be approved by the Office of Advanced Education and must include a description of the approved remediation plan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Satisfactory performance, counted toward graduation. Equivalent of a B grade or better. An S grade is not computed in the grade point average.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Marginally satisfactory, equivalent to a C+ or C; remediation* required.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory performance, given only when performance falls below a B grade level. The U grade is not computed in the grade point average. Course must be remediated or repeated to count toward a degree.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/N</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Satisfactory performance in a clock hour course. Not included in total units. Same grading criteria as the S grade given for a credit hour course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U/N</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Unsatisfactory performance in a clock hour course. Not included in total units. Same grading criteria as the U grade given for a credit hour course.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Academic criteria for academic advancement and program completion**

**Postdoctoral student/resident**

- Cumulative, didactic, and laboratory G.P.A. at or above 3.0 (B).
- Selection for advancement to Master of Science (M.S.) degree candidacy.
- Selection for advancement to Master of Science in Dentistry (M.S.D.) degree candidacy.
- Successful completion of all evaluations.
- Successful completion of annual student evaluation (includes a review of entire academic record).

**Academic disciplinary policy for advanced education programs**

**Academic probation**

Academic probation is a specified period of time during which the student is given an opportunity to comply with specific academic standards. Such action must be confirmed by memorandum to the student. For a postdoctoral student/resident, a grade of 3.0 (B) is considered satisfactory performance for graduate credit.

**Criteria for advisory notice of potential for academic probation (postdoctoral students and residents)**

A postdoctoral student/resident will be sent an advisory letter regarding potential for placement on academic probation under the following conditions:

1. Term G.P.A. of 2.7 (B-).
2. One or more courses with grade of C+ or lower.
3. One or more courses with a grade of marginally satisfactory (MS).

**Criteria for placement on academic probation (postdoctoral students and residents)**

A postdoctoral student/resident will be placed on academic probation if s/he meets one or more of the following conditions:

1. Term G.P.A. of 2.3 (C+) or below.
2. One or more courses with C+ or lower; and an overall G.P.A. below 3.0.
3. Failing (F/U/D+/D/D-) or unsatisfactory (C-) grades in any course required for the specialty certificate, Master of Science (M.S.) degree, or Master of Science in Dentistry (M.S.D.) degree program.

4. Clinical performance below minimum expected for his/her year level.

5. Social/behavioral/ethical problems that significantly impact academic and/or clinical performance.

**Level of academic probation (postdoctoral student and resident)**
The level of academic probation indicates the seriousness of the cumulative academic deficiency. However, depending on the seriousness or nature of the academic deficiency, a student/resident may be considered for academic leave of absence or discontinuation at any level of probation.

**Level I**
First term on academic probation.

**Level II**
Second term on academic probation, consecutive or nonconsecutive.

EXCEPTION: Continued academic probation due to failing grade in a course that cannot be repeated until a later term.

**Level III**
Third term on academic probation, consecutive or nonconsecutive.

If a student/resident is unable to remove academic probationary status within the following term, s/he will be considered for academic discontinuation.

EXCEPTION: Continued academic probation due to failing grade in a course that cannot be repeated until a later term.

**Level IV**
If a student/resident meets criteria for academic probation for a fourth term, consecutive or nonconsecutive, s/he will be considered for academic discontinuation.

**Restrictions for a student on academic probation**
A student/resident on academic probation:

1. May not serve as an officer for any class, school, or extracurricular organization.
2. May not take any elective courses.
3. May not participate in any elective off-campus, service learning, or mission activities.
4. Remains on academic probation until all the terms of the probation sanctions have been fulfilled, unless the student/resident is discontinued.

**Remedial action (remediation)**
As a condition for continued enrollment, remedial action may consist of:

1. Counseling, tutoring, and/or repeating assignments or course work; or completing additional assignments or course work--possibly including repeating an academic year or portion thereof.
2. Other specified requirements.

**Disciplinary actions**
A student who is not performing up to expectations can receive the following:

1. Restriction of clinical privileges--by program director.
2. Academic probation (Level I to III)--by the associate dean for advanced education or upon recommendation of the program director.
3. Behavioral probation (Level I to III)--by the associate dean for advanced education or upon recommendation of the program director.
4. Clinical probation (Level I to III)--by the associate dean for advanced education or upon recommendation of the program director.
5. Discontinuation--by the associate dean for advanced education or upon recommendation of the program director to the dean.

**Probation**
All recommendations to the associate dean for advanced education must be supported by well-documented evidence of repeated counseling and other internal measures designed to point out deficiencies and take corrective action through a detailed remediation program. A remediation program must be specific in design, implemented, and monitored for any student/resident who is not performing up to a program's stated standards. It is important to have documentary evidence on record by multiple faculty members with detailed accounts of dates, times, explanations of counseling, discussions, and corrective measures. Written statements from support staff should also be included if they have direct contact or knowledge of a matter involving a postdoctoral student/resident.

Postdoctoral students/residents may be placed on academic probation, behavioral probation, and/or clinical probation. Probation begins at Level I and may progress to Level III. Postdoctoral students/residents should be placed on probation for a prescribed period of time: one quarter, two quarters, etc. This information should be conveyed to a student/resident in writing (required) and also verbally (recommended).

**Continuation**
Students who are not progressing as expected may be continued in their year group for as long as necessary before being promoted to the next year or discontinued. To exercise this option, the associate dean for advanced education must inform University Records of the decision to continue a student/resident and state the anticipated length of that continuation. Program directors make the determination as to when to recommend continuing a student and when to recommend discontinuing a student/resident and allowing him/her to graduate or continue his/her studies. Invariably, the length of the continuation period will determine when a student/resident actually completes his/her program.

**Discontinuation**
Students who do not make any measurable improvement by the end of the prescribed remediation and counseling periods may be recommended for discontinuation by the associate dean for advanced education or upon recommendation of the respective program director to the associate dean for advanced dental education. Recommendations to discontinue a student/resident are then sent to the dean (in writing) for action.

**Criteria for discontinuation**
- Three or more unsatisfactory or failing grades within the academic year, regardless of term or cumulative G.P.A.
- Three consecutive quarters of academic probation.
- Failure to fulfill terms of academic probation within the specified time period.
- Failure to achieve eligibility for award of a certificate in the clinical specialty program within the standard number of full academic years.
**Programs**


**General degree requirements**

**Master of Science in Dentistry (M.S.D.) Degree, Advanced**

Graduate students and residents enrolled in certain advanced education certificate programs are eligible to apply for and be awarded a Master of Science in Dentistry (M.S.D.) degree, if they fulfill all of the following requirements.

**Degree requirements**

1. Applicants must undertake scholarly activity/research as defined by each program director. Programs may differ on how this requirement is met in order to afford directors the opportunity to align such activity with the experience, background, and interest of each student and of the program faculty as a worthy and achievable goal is pursued. The nature of the scholarly activity will be defined in Part II (Statement of Completion for the Master of Science in Dentistry [M.S.D.] degree) of the degree application form as submission of a formatted, publishable manuscript.

2. Students must successfully complete all the course requirements of the certificate curriculum, with additional units in research for the master's degree (see individual program descriptions online). Also, students must submit a completed Form C, Petition for Graduation, to indicate their anticipated degree completion date.

3. A publishable paper and public presentation of the research are required. The manuscript must be in a format approved by the thesis editor in the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS).

4. Students who do not complete the degree requirements in four years are required to pay and be awarded a Master of Science degree in Dentistry (M.S.D.) degree.

5. After completing a degree audit, the program director completes and signs Form D, Statement of Completion of Requirements for Degree, verifying that all requirements for the M.S. degree have been met.

6. After reviewing the student's file and academic record (final degree audit), the associate dean for advanced education signs Form D, indicating approval of the award of the Master of Science (M.S.) degree. Form D is then submitted to the Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) for final approval and degree issuance.

**Dual majors**

Applicants to the programs in implant dentistry, periodontics, and prosthodontics have the option to select an extended program (approximately four-and-a-half years in length) to pursue dual majors in two of these areas of study.

Students must complete all the requirements of each ADA-recognized specialty program—periodontics (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/dentistry/periodontics/#programrequirementstext) and prosthodontics (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/dentistry/prosthodontics/#programrequirementstext), comparison (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/dentistry/graduate/periodontics-prosthodontics-comparison); periodontics (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/dentistry/periodontics/#programrequirementstext) and implant dentistry (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/dentistry/implant-dentistry/#programrequirementstext), comparison (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/dentistry/graduate/periodontics-implant-comparison); or prosthodontics (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/dentistry/prosthodontics/#programrequirementstext) and implant dentistry (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/dentistry/implant-dentistry/#programrequirementstext), comparison (http://llucatalog.llu.edu/dentistry/graduate/prosthodontics-implant-comparison)—to be eligible for the dual major program.
for board certification. Dual credit—up to 100 units—may be awarded for courses required by the two programs.

Individuals who wish to pursue the dual major option must indicate such interest by completing separate applications to both programs. Applicants in one of the optional dual major programs must not only meet the admissions requirements of each program, but must also be admitted to the advanced education programs they designate.

**Length of program**
- Periodontics and Prosthodontics (up to 5 years in length)
- Periodontics and Implant Dentistry (approximately 4 1/2 years in length)
- Prosthodontics and Implant Dentistry (approximately 4 1/2 years in length)