

Bachelor of Dental Surgery [BChD]

- [University of Pretoria](#)
- [Study at UP](#)
- Bachelor of Dental Surgery [BChD]

Bachelor of Dental Surgery

The School of Dentistry at the University of Pretoria is widely recognised—both nationally and internationally for the quality of its training, research and patient care, as well as for its involvement in community-based projects. The typical work-day of a dentist is spent diagnosing, preventing and treating diseases of the mouth and teeth. This includes the removal or repair of carious teeth, the replacement of absent teeth by means of crown dentures, and bridge therapy, and the treatment of diseases of the gums. Dentists are also responsible for surgical intervention in the mouth, the alignment of irregular teeth, alleviation of pain, improvement of aesthetics, root canal treatment and the planning of dental treatment in consultation with their patients.

To keep pace with the requirements of modern tertiary education, the School of Dentistry follows a curriculum that is problem-based, student-oriented and directed at the community, with vertical and horizontal integration of subjects. The degree in dentistry requires five years of full-time study, followed by one year of compulsory community service. Students get first-hand exposure to clinical dentistry from the second semester of the first year of study and participate in extensive clinical training from the third year onward through simulation and actual work on patients.

This programme is ideal for very driven and hardworking individuals who love working with people, are detail-oriented, love to work with their hands and technology, and want to make a difference to communities in need. An interest in the natural sciences, biology and research is a prerequisite.

The programme is accredited by HPCSA. The programme is unique through early clinical exposure, integration and community exposure, forming golden threads throughout the curriculum. The programme focuses on developing clinical reasoning skills and so-called “soft skills”, including relational communication skills through case-based learning and role play.

For more information, please consult the Faculty webpage.



Career Opportunities

Dentists, specialists, academics and researchers

Programme Code

10136001

Closing Dates

- **SA** - 30/06/2025
 - **Non-SA** - 30/06/2025
-

Admission Requirements

Important information for all prospective students for 2026

The admission requirements below apply to all who apply for admission to the University of Pretoria with a **National Senior Certificate (NSC)** and **Independent Examination Board (IEB)** qualifications. [Click here](#) for this Faculty Brochure.

Minimum requirements

Achievement level			
English Home Language or English First Additional Language	Mathematics	Physical Sciences	APS
NSC/IEB 5	NSC/IEB 6	NSC/IEB 5	35

For advice on a second-choice programme, please consult a Student Advisor. To make an appointment, send an email to carol.bosch@up.ac.za.

Life Orientation is excluded when calculating the APS.

Applicants currently in Grade 12 must apply with their final Grade 11 (or equivalent) results.

Applicants who have completed Grade 12 must apply with their final NSC or equivalent qualification results.

Please note that meeting the minimum academic requirements does not guarantee admission.

Successful candidates will be notified once admitted or conditionally admitted.

Applicants should check their application status regularly on the UP Student Portal at [click here](#).

Applicants with qualifications other than the abovementioned should refer to the International undergraduate prospectus 2026: Applicants with a school leaving certificate not issued by Umalusi (South Africa), available at [click here](#).

International Students: [Click here](#)

A limited number of places are made available to citizens from countries other than South Africa (applicants who are not South African citizens), with those from SADC countries being given preference. Applicants who have multiple citizenships, including South African citizenship, will be considered to be South African.

Transferring students

A transferring student is a student who, at the time of applying at the University of Pretoria (UP) is/was a registered student at another tertiary institution. A transferring student will be considered for admission based on NSC or equivalent qualification and previous academic performance. Students who have been dismissed from other institutions due to poor academic performance will not be considered for admission to UP.

Closing dates: Same as above

Returning students

A returning student is a student who, at the time of application for a degree programme is/was a registered student at UP, and wants to transfer to another degree at UP. A returning student will be considered for admission based on NSC or equivalent qualification and previous academic performance.

- Students who have been excluded/dismissed from a faculty due to poor academic performance may be considered for admission to another programme at UP, as per faculty-specific requirements.
- Only ONE transfer between UP faculties and TWO transfers within a faculty will be allowed.
- Admission of returning students will always depend on the faculty concerned and the availability of space in the programmes for which they apply.

Closing date for applications from returning students is the same as the above

Note: Any deliberate omission of information, or false information provided by an applicant in the application may result in the immediate cancellation of the application, admission or registration

Selection Process

Selection criteria are available on the faculty's webpage at: [click here](#).

- **Seventy (70) first-year students are selected annually.**
 - First choice candidates will be considered and second choice candidates may be considered in certain categories.
-

Minimum duration of study

5 years, full-time

Faculty Notes

Modules will be presented only in English, which is the University's official language of tuition, communication and correspondence.

The Faculty of Health Sciences continues to exemplify and build on the University of Pretoria's vision of being a leading research-intensive university in Africa: it is recognised internationally for its quality, relevance and impact, as well as for creating knowledge, developing people and making a difference locally and globally.

The Faculty is home to 5 500 undergraduate and 1 500 postgraduate students, including medical and dental fellowship training in more than 40 disciplines.

The Faculty's research output has grown, in response to the need for research that is relevant to the improvement of health and health care and advancing medicine in South Africa, Africa and globally.



-
- **Disclaimer:** This publication contains information about regulations and programmes of the University of Pretoria. Amendments to or updating of the information may be effected from time to time without prior notification. The accuracy, correctness or validity of the information contained here is therefore not guaranteed by the University at any given time and is always subject to verification. The user is kindly requested to verify the correctness of the information with the University at all times. Failure to do so will not give rise to any claim or action of any nature against the University by any party whatsoever.
-

Enquiries about the programme

[Click Here](#)



How to apply



Online Application





Note: Also consult General Rules and Information on the Yearbook website for additional information.

Disclaimer: Due to the continuous restructuring of the Faculty and this website, some of the information displayed here may not fully reflect the most recent developments in the Faculty. Any discrepancies that are experienced may be taken up with Student Administration of the Faculty.