The University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine in collaboration with the University of Colorado Denver offers a post-baccalaureate (post-bac) program designed to better prepare students from underserved populations and/or disadvantaged backgrounds to gain admission into dental school and achieve their dream of becoming a dentist. This one-year intensive program concentrates on the sciences, the significance of manual dexterity, and meaningful activities within the Denver-Metro community, to help students improve and strengthen their academic credentials, fulfill prerequisite courses, and ease the academic stress of the first year of the dental curriculum.

The post-bac program at the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine is a rigorous program offering not only academic enrichment and support, but also increases the number of underrepresented individuals in the classes, as well as support the transition of students from undergraduate to professional school. Students from underrepresented groups, economically or educationally disadvantaged students including, but not limited to first-generation college attendee, low income/financial need, rural or ethnic minority such as Black or African American, Hispanic, American Indian or Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander are encouraged to apply.
**PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

**Post-Baccalaureate Academic Year Component**

Students enter the program at the University of Colorado Denver in the fall semester of the year in which they are selected. However, we ask that students arrive and begin their residency in Colorado by July 1, as this will play a key factor in establishing Colorado residency when it comes time to matriculate into the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine. Although approved petitions do not lower the cost of education, financial aid opportunities expand to include state-funded aid for students.

To complete the program, students are required to complete a minimum of 24 credit hours (including, but not limited to courses such as advanced biochemistry, anatomy and physiology) over the fall and spring semesters, maintain a 3.3 grade point average GPA or higher, and meet Dental Admissions Test (DAT) standards. If needed students will partake in a DAT preparation course with Kaplan including, but not limited to tutoring and review sessions the summer before starting the academic year. The DAT may not be taken more than two times during the post-bac program and students must score an overall score of 18 or higher.
Curriculum

During the school year, students will be introduced to Pre-Clinical Dentistry to engage in dental laboratory exercises. In addition, the Summer Program in mid-May, after completion of the academic program at the University of Colorado Denver, will further develop students in their dental laboratory exercises and help with their transition into dental school. The activities that students participate in are designed specifically to educate them about interprofessional and cultural competency to help them understand and better serve diverse patients, study skills and time management to help them engage in their academics.

An essential component of the program includes advice and counseling from faculty and staff members, opportunities to further participate in meaningful activities on the college campus and within the Denver-Metro community, and research and clinical experiences. The curriculum is specifically designed to enhance each student’s academic background and personal experiences. Upon completion of the program, students exhibit excellent interpersonal skills, professionalism and positively influence their colleagues and community.
ADMISSIONS ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for the post-bac program, students must apply through the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) application service. Applications may be filed the first week of June of the year preceding admission. The latest filing date is December 31. Early application is strongly encouraged. Please send the following directly to ADEA:

- Completed AADSAS application (available on ADEA website)
- Official transcripts from all colleges/universities you attended
- Letters of recommendation (two options):
  - **Option 1:** Two letters from science instructors AND one letter from a non-science instructor or an employer (or dentist you shadowed)
  - **Option 2:** Pre-dental Committee letters (must include two science instructors)
Students eligible for post-bac must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- From ethnic groups who are currently under-represented in the medical community:
  - Black or African American
  - Hispanic/Latino
  - Native American/Alaska Native
  - Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian
- From educationally and financially disadvantaged backgrounds.
- From federally designated rural/frontier communities.
- First generation students – someone whose parents did not attend or graduate from college.

In addition to filing an application through ADEA and meeting one or more of the criteria previously mentioned, students must also meet all of the following criteria below:

- Be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident or possess a visa permitting permanent residence in the U.S.
- Have a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution in the U.S. before beginning the program.
- Complete all dental school course prerequisites.
- Must not have been previously accepted to an accredited dental school.
- Must not currently be enrolled in dental school or any health related professions degree-granting program.
- Have taken the DAT.
- If granted an interview, must be available in person or via Skype.
- Students are expected to meet the responsibility of the post-bac program fee while in Colorado including, but not limited to tuition fees and living expenses.
APPLICATION PROCESS

• Applicants should apply directly to the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine Pre-Dental Post-Baccalaureate Program.

• Application Available Online: Tuesday, January 1, 2019

• Application Due: Friday, February 1, 2019

SELECTION PROCESS

• Only completed applications are reviewed. Applicants will be notified of when their applications are “Complete”. Once applications are completed, the post-baccalaureate admissions committee, comprised of the Program Director, Program Coordinator, Manager of Admissions, and other appropriate faculty members, will select finalists to be reviewed. If finalists meet the program admissions requirements, the admissions committee will invite candidates to interview. Individuals selected for interviews will be contacted to schedule an interview to be held either in-person or via Skype.

• Five candidates and a list of alternates will be selected by the admissions committee. Candidates will be notified by email of the admissions committee’s decision.

• Candidates will be notified of their status into the post-baccalaureate program mid-March.
For questions or more information, please contact: SDMdiversity@ucdenver.edu
School of Dental Medicine
Post-Baccalaureate Program

Post-Baccalaureate Program
13065 E. 17th Ave
Mail Stop F833 AMCA, Room 4L01A
Aurora, CO 80045

P 303-724-0485 | F 303-724-6663
SDMdiversity@ucdenver.edu

ucdenver.edu/postbac

Program Administrators

Kenneth Durgans, Ed. D
Associate Dean of Diversity and Inclusion
Director, Post-Baccalaureate Program

Thanh Nguyen, M.A.
Manager, Diversity and Inclusion
Coordinator, Post-Baccalaureate Program