



## Xavier–LSU Dental School Early Acceptance Program

(updated 6/12/24)

This sophomore-year program, which offers conditional early acceptance into dental school, requires endorsement by the Premedical Office. Students who are conditionally accepted into LSU Health Sciences Center New Orleans School of Dentistry through this program are required to take the DAT and must complete their XU degree programs. In order to be reviewed for endorsement by the Premedical Office, students must be on track to meet eligibility requirements by the end of the spring semester of sophomore year and must adhere to the critique/revision timeline detailed below.

**What are the qualifications to apply to the program?** By the time they are nominated in May, following the completion of the spring semester of sophomore year at Xavier, students must have...

- Entered Xavier as a first-time freshman and major in an academic discipline within the [College of Arts and Sciences](#).
- Prepared to graduate with a bachelor's degree from XU in the spring of senior year (i.e. two academic years after applying to this program) and to enter dental school that same year.
- Completed at least 60 semester hours of courses **at Xavier**.
- Completed the following courses: 8 of the twelve 12 required semester hours of Biology or Zoology w/Labs (e.g. General Biology 1230/1230LB and 1240/1240LB); 8 semester hours of General Chemistry w/Labs (1010/1010DR/1011LB and 1020/1020DR/1021LB); 8 semester hours of Organic Chemistry (2210/2210DR/2230LB and 2220/2220DR/2240LB); and 6 of the 9 required semester hours of English courses (e.g. 1000/1010 and 1020; bypassed "PC" or AP/transfer credit accepted).
- Earned a cumulative BCP (Biology, Chemistry and Physics) GPA at Xavier of 3.6 or higher.
- Be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident.
- Demonstrated record of community service and outstanding personal qualities.
- Demonstrated a genuine interest in becoming a dentist by gaining relevant experience in a patient-care setting (e.g. volunteering, paid employment, internship, shadowing, etc.) and/or participating in a premed summer enrichment or research program.
- Demonstrated a genuine interest in medicine as indicated by participation in the group and individual meetings conducted by the Premedical Office for freshman and sophomore students, including submission of personal statement and post-secondary experiences form to the Premed Office for review throughout enrollment.
- Demonstrated a genuine interest in attending LSUHSC-NO School of Dentistry as indicated by participating in any information or recruitment sessions offered to Xavier students by the dental school.
- *NOTE: If you have questions or concerns about any of the above-mentioned requirements that must be met by the end of the spring semester of sophomore year, please contact the Premedical Office no later than the fall semester of sophomore year.*

**How does an XU student apply for the program?** Students interested in the program and who meet the qualifications listed above must do the following during their SOPHOMORE year:

- Submit Personal Statement, Post-Secondary Experience (PSE) Form, and EAP Application Essay Prompt Response(s) to the Premed Office for review **at least once** during the specified period between May 15<sup>th</sup> after freshman year and February 1<sup>st</sup> of sophomore year, revising accordingly after receiving feedback (multiple submissions highly recommended well in advance of final application due date). Detailed EAP application instructions are discussed during Freshman Premed Biomedical Honor Corps Meetings, the One-on-One Freshman Premed Assessment Meeting in the spring of freshman year, the Sophomore Premed Overview Meeting in the fall of sophomore year, and in multiple email messages sent during the freshman and sophomore years. If you do not adhere to the critique timeline for EAP, your application will not be accepted for consideration. These items will be used to determine your suitability to be reviewed by the dental school early acceptance program admission committee, so they need to be in the best shape possible;

- Detailed EAP application instructions, PSE Form, and Auto-Calculation GPA Worksheet in Excel are available in the Premedical Office's XULA Portal at <https://my.xula.edu/groups/34/feed> under "Resources/Forms";
- Collect letters of evaluation specific to dental school from three (3) faculty members (2 BCPM, 1 non-BCPM) and request to have them submitted to the Premedical Office by April 15th; be sure to follow-up with faculty who agreed to write dental school evaluations on your behalf; and
- The dental school early acceptance program application is **due in the Premedical Office by May 15<sup>th</sup>**. When submitting your early acceptance application to the Premedical Office, include ALL required sections of the application: Application Forms, Auto-Calculation GPA Worksheet in Excel (with final grades for the spring semester), Personal Statement, and PSE Form. Official transcript(s) from each college or university attended, including Xavier, and required letters of evaluation are also due by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**What happens to applications after they are submitted to the PM Office?** After the May 15<sup>th</sup> deadline, the Premed Office will review all applications and supporting materials and then choose students to nominate for the program. XU's Director of Premedical Program will notify students of the status of their applications, via email, no later than the end of May. The Premed Office will forward applications and supporting materials of nominated students to LSU Dental School.

**What do students do after they are nominated for the program?** In the fall of Junior year, nominees will be reviewed, interviewed by and voted on by members of the LSU Dental School Admissions Committee. Nominees will receive official notice from LSU Dental School once a decision is made regarding their conditional/early acceptance into the dental school.

**What do students do after acceptance into the program?** Students who are offered conditional acceptance into LSU Dental School must take the Dental Admission Test (DAT) no later than May between Junior and Senior years. A minimum academic average score of 20 is required, and students must maintain a BCP GPA of 3.6 or higher to qualify for acceptance into LSU Dental School via the Early Acceptance Program. Students who do not satisfy the minimum DAT score on the first attempt may retake the exam by July between Junior and Senior years. In addition, students must complete their Junior and Senior years at Xavier (graduating with a bachelor's degree) complete/submit the American Medical College Application Service (AMCAS) application no later than June between Junior and Senior years; complete the LSU Dental School secondary applications, per the instructions given in the conditional acceptance letter; and take the chalk-carving examination and score above 4/10.

Acceptance into LSU Dental School is contingent upon the nominated student meeting all eligibility requirements outlined in the conditional acceptance letter, including meeting all EAP standards, completing undergraduate degree requirements (including all prerequisite courses required by LSU Dental School, submitting a final transcript, and being recommended by XU's Premedical Office. ***NOTE: Students are permitted to apply to other dental schools and are not required to attend LSU School of Dentistry if they are admitted upon satisfying the requirements outlined in the conditional acceptance letter; students must accept their intended dental school of enrollment no later than January 15<sup>th</sup> of Senior year.***

**Are scholarships available for conditionally accepted students?** Up to 2 students who are accepted via the early acceptance program and meet additional eligibility requirements may be awarded a scholarship by LSU Dental School covering four years of regular term tuition and certain university-wide fees to support completion of their dental degree. To maintain eligibility for this EAP scholarship, conditionally accepted students must maintain a BCP GPA of 3.7 or above; maintain good academic standing and full-time eligible status at Xavier; consistently progress to degree completion and timely enrollment at LSU Dental School; and achieve a DAT academic average score in the 77<sup>th</sup> percentile or greater. Eligibility for the EAP scholarship will be forfeited if the applicant applies to other dental schools.

**Are there enrichment opportunities available for students before or after conditional early acceptance is granted?** LSUHSC-NO School of Dentistry encourages Xavier students to take advantage of a variety of enrichment before/after conditional acceptance. Examples include, but are not limited to: Summer research programs, general dentist shadowing, mentorship, information sessions, and engagement with the Student National Dental Association ("SNDA"). LSU Dental School will share available opportunities with the Premedical Office in advance of application or event deadlines, and this information will be forwarded to students via the Premedical Office's advising listserv.