

School of Dental Medicine



Medical Sciences Campus University of Puerto Rico

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Academic Year 2024-2025

Rev. September 2024

**PO Box 365067,
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-5067**

Telephone: (787) 758-2525 extensions: 1113, 1219

**EMPLOYER WITH EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY M/M/V/I
EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER M/W/V/H**

Approved at a Faculty meeting on October 6, 2021

School of Dental Medicine

OUR ORIGINS:

On June 21, 1956, a joint resolution was passed in the legislature to allocate the funds necessary for the planning and purchase of the initial equipment required to establish the School of Dental Medicine.

The School of Dental Medicine was finally ready to begin with its first class in August 1957.

VISION:

Educational institution is recognized worldwide for its academic excellence, with national and international strategic alliances that contribute to its educational and service competitiveness, with leadership, framed in research, social and community commitment.

MISSION:

The School of Dental Medicine of the UPR is a proactive higher education institution in the training of dentists of the highest caliber, sensitive to the needs of their patients and aimed at the comprehensive service of the population of Puerto Rico and the global community; through a doctoral program in dental medicine supplemented by diverse postdoctoral offerings and an innovative Continuing Education program. Leader in the investigation of inequalities in oral-systemic health, it encourages critical thinking, intellectual curiosity and commitment to the needs of the population. It assumes interprofessional practice, the integration of technology to creative management and the construction of new scientific knowledge regarding the determinants of oral health, as a continuous, inclusive, rigorous, respectful, collaborative and sustainable process.

ORGANIZATION:

The School is one of six in the Medical Sciences Campus. In addition to the Undergraduate Program in Dental Medicine, there are graduate programs in Pediatric Dentistry, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, the Residency in General Dentistry, Prosthodontics, Orthodontics, Periodontology, and two programs affiliated with the School with an Agreement through *NYU Langone Health* (Endodontics and Advanced Education in General Dentistry, *AEGD* for its acronym). In addition, the school has an Advanced Placement Program for International Dentists. The School of Dental Medicine has three departments. The following sections are structured under the Department of Ecological Sciences: Orthodontics, Pediatric Dentistry and Community Dentistry. The Department of Restorative Sciences is located in Operative Dentistry and Prosthodontics; and the Department of Surgical Sciences consists of the following sections: Endodontics-Periodontics, Oral Surgery, Diagnostic Sciences and Oral Biology.

LOCATION:

We are located on the first floor and part of the basement of the Main Building of the Medical Sciences Campus, Dr. Guillermo Arbona Irizarry, at the Puerto Rico Medical Center, in Río Piedras, Puerto Rico.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA TO APPLY TO THE SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE:

Below are the eligibility criteria for the School of Dental Medicine, along with other application recommendations. Also included are the names, email addresses and telephone numbers of the contact persons for orientation and admission to this School.

Minimum Eligibility Criteria :

To be eligible for the first year class of the School of Dental Medicine, the candidate must present evidence of having completed 90 credits based on semester studies, at a duly accredited college or university. The following are required for these courses:

Spanish	12 credits
English	12 credits
Biology or Zoology	8 credits
Physics	8 credits
General Chemistry	8 credits
Organic Chemistry	8 credits
Social Sciences and Conduct (Sociology, Psychology, Political Science, Economics, Anthropology or Ethics)	6 credits

- Only courses taken in the departments of the disciplines they represent will be considered.
- In the Spanish and English courses, a maximum of 6 of the 12 required credits will be considered as approved by the CLEP or Advanced Level exam of the College Board. On the other hand, 6 credits in approved honors, advanced or literature courses with a grade of A, B, or C may substitute for the required 12 credits in these subjects.
- Completion of a bachelor's degree is recommended.
- To consider your application for admission, all required courses must have a grade of A, B or C. If you are taking a required course during the semester in which the application is filed, the grade must be received on or before January 30.
- We do not recommend taking required courses during the second semester of the academic year in which it is requested. If this is the case, in case of admission, it would be conditioned to receive the grade of A, B or C in said course, on or before June 15. Otherwise, admission will be revoked.

- All courses must have an A, B, or C grade to be considered for credit or score. **Pass or fail credit grades will not be accepted.** You must apply for equivalency at the Registrar's office of your academic institution. You must also provide Official Institutional Certification of qualification equivalence. This does not apply to Spanish and/or English courses approved for the advanced level of the College Board.
- All science courses that apply must include theory and laboratory * (*Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, laboratory courses may be affected, these exceptions will be evaluated individually*). Students are encouraged to choose courses of greater academic complexity, in order to acquire greater maturity and intellectual depth. **The following courses are highly recommended:** Biochemistry or Molecular Biology; Histology, Physiology, Anatomy, Microbiology, Genetics, Psychology and Ethics.
- Courses can be in English or Spanish. All students must be proficient in reading, writing, and speaking English and Spanish.

Admission Process :

1. The deadline to request and file **all** the documents is **December 1st** the year prior to the academic year of admission.
2. The candidate must complete the Application for Admission to the Medical Sciences Campus. This application can be found on the web page (<https://solicitud.upr.edu/>) of the Central Office of Admissions. It opens on the **September 1st** and must be filed no later than **December 1st**.
3. The candidate must also file an application with the American Association Dental School Application Services (AADSAS). This must have been received by AADSAS **no later than December 1st**.

American Dental Education Association

655 K Street, NW, Suite 800
 Washington D.C. 20001
 Phone : (202) 289-7201
 Fax: 202-289-7204

The Application to dental school: ADEA AADSAS

http://www.adea.org/dental_education_pathways/aadsas/Applicants/Pages/default.aspx

ADEA AADSAS SM customers Service Representatives

Phone: 617-612-2045
<http://www.adea.org/contactus/>
 Email: aadsasinfo@aadsasweb.org

1. In addition, the applicant must submit to the Central Admissions Office of the Medical Sciences Campus, on or before the application deadline, the following:
 - a. Official transcript from each university institution in which you have studied.
 - b. A non-refundable payment in the amount of \$30.00 to cover application fees. Payment can be issued online, by mail or in person. Instructions appear on the Application for Admission web page (<https://solicitud.upr.edu/>).

2. The candidate must take the **Dental Admission Test (DAT)**. The DAT application must be requested directly on the website of:

ADA AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION

211 EAST CHICAGO AVE.
CHICAGO, IL 60611-2678
Phone: 800-232-1694

DENTAL ADMISSION TEST (DAT)

<http://www.ada.org/en/education-careers/dental-admission-test/>

Dental Admission Test (DAT) Program Guide

<https://www.ada.org/en/education-careers/admission-tests-and-dental-exams>

3. For more information or help, write to:

*UPR-Medical Sciences Campus
Central Admissions Office
Dental Medicine Program
PO Box 365067
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-5067
(787)758-2525 extensions: 1219 or 1113*

EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR APPLICANTS:

Applicants for admission to the University of Puerto Rico School of Dental Medicine are evaluated based on four criteria articulated in a formula: academic performance, DAT scores, personal characteristics, and approved science courses.

1. Academic performance

Academic performance is determined by:

- a. Academic average, understanding that a minimum final grade of C (on a scale in which A=4.00) is mandatory in all required courses.
- b. The number of repetitions, withdrawals, poor grades and failures as evidenced by the official transcript of credits.

2 . Dental Admission Test

The applicant must take the DAT **on or before the deadline**. Students are advised to prepare well before taking the exam. The test results taken into consideration for evaluation are: *Total Science, Reading Comprehension* and *Perceptual Ability*. You must score **15 or higher** on each of these parts to qualify for assessment. The applicant is advised to try to score **16 or higher**

in all sections to be competitive. The student must take the DAT one year before the application deadline to the School so that, if necessary, he/she can repeat the exam. The *Council in Dental Education* requires a period of 90 days before retesting. DAT results are valid for three years.

3. Home

The School of Dental Medicine of the University of Puerto Rico was established as part of a commitment with the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to improve and ensure the health of its citizens. The University of Puerto Rico recognizes its responsibility to prepare individuals who fulfill and meet the dental health needs of the Island. For this reason, preference will be given to residents of Puerto Rico. In addition, the space for non-resident candidates is limited. Only fully bilingual candidates are considered.

4. Personal characteristics

This criterion is evaluated through:

- a. **A personal interview** - After an initial discernment based on the three factors mentioned above, the Admissions Committee determines which students are scheduled for a personal interview.
- b. **Portfolio** - This is a summary of the candidate's educational history and life experiences. This must be submitted digitally once the school requests it.

ACCEPTANCE:

The School of Dental Medicine will send a letter indicating the acceptance or rejection of the applicant. If accepted, the applicant must notify in writing that they have received this letter and that they intend to enroll. This notification must be accompanied by a non-refundable deposit of \$100.00. The applicant has to meet the requirements specified in the letter of admission. The applicant must keep this letter and present it as evidence of their admission at the time of enrollment. All applicants who have accepted admission to the School of Dental Medicine are required to participate in the orientations when they are scheduled. Failure to do so will result in admission being revoked.

Information on positions or results obtained in interviews or portfolios is not provided. Any reconsideration of candidates denied for admission will have a limit of 14 calendar days after the date of the denial letter.

ADMISSION AND RECRUITMENT STAFF

Assistant Dean of Student Affairs

Dr. Francis Picón Cunningham (francis.picon@upr.edu)
(787) 758-2525 Ext. 1219

Student psychologist

Dr. Zulhermi Díaz Marrero (zulhermi.diaz@upr.edu)
(787) 758-2525 Ext. 1008

Admissions officer

Mrs. Migdaly Fonseca Meléndez (migdaly.fonseca@upr.edu),
(787) 758-2525 Ext. 5215

Administrative staff

Executive Secretary I

Mrs. Marta Sierra-Rivera (marta.sierra1@upr.edu)
(787) 758-2525 Ext. 1113

Recruiter

TRANSFER REQUEST

Based on class availability, the University of Puerto Rico School of Dental Medicine (UPRSDM) Admissions Committee of the DMD Regular Program will consider transfer students from the Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) of the American Dental Association accredited dental programs who are in good academic and disciplinary standing. The Advanced Placement DMD Program does not accept transfers.

These candidates must meet all expected entrance requirements and may have to take written and/or practical examinations prior to further consideration. Transfer requests are not considered from schools not accredited by CODA. Since the transfer application will be evaluated only if there is availability of space, it is recommended that the applicant submit an initial letter of intent to the Office of the Assistant Dean for Students Affairs of the UPRSDM for verification of availability before sending the complete regular application documents.

General information

- Applicants must be fluent in Spanish and English (writing, reading, speaking)
- Applications will not be evaluated if there are no available spaces.
- Curriculum sequence and courses from the school of precedence must be identically aligned with UPRSDM curriculum (timetable, credits approved)
- The applicant must have negative record of ethical conduct
- The applicant must have a favorable academic progress
- A letter from the dean of the dental school stating rationale for the requested transfer is also required
- Applicants should be aware that the number or places, if any may vary annually and in most years no spaces are available.
- The admission would be considered for next academic year.
- All of our programs begin in August, nevertheless it will be required the participation of accepted candidates in activities during June and July before the start of the academic year. The attendance is compulsory and admission is subject to the assistance to this activity, on the contrary the admission will be automatically revoked.

Transfer application steps

1. An initial letter of intent of the applicant must be received (email or letter) must be received on or before September 30 of each year (regular mail should have postmark date of before or deadline date). The applicant will be informed by the School if there is

availability for the next academic year. The letter of intent should be addressed to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, Dr. Ginette M. Izquierdo, by e-mail: francis.picon@upr.edu, copying to the Office of Student Affairs: estudiantessdental.rcm@upr.edu, or by regular mail to:

Dr. Francis Picón Cunningham
Office of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs
School of Dental Medicine
Medical Sciences Campus, University of Puerto Rico
PO BOX 365067
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-5067

2. If the applicant receives confirmation from School of availability of space for next academic year: the following documents must be submitted with the application in or December 1st:

- Letter of intent which sets forth the reason for the transfer request
- Official undergraduate transcripts
- Official dental school transcripts
- Official DAT scores
- Catalogue and course descriptions/syllabi from current dental school
- Letter of recommendation from two dental school faculty members of the dental school stating rationale for the requested transfer
- National Dental board Examination results (if applicable)
- Letter from the dean of the dental school stating rationale for the requested transfer
- Supplemental application required of \$50.00. This non-refundable application fee was made payable to the **University of Puerto Rico** for processing of the application. Please make the corresponding payment at the Collector Office, second floor, Medical Sciences Campus (hours 8:00 am - 2:30 pm). Payment can be in cash, ATH, VISA, MasterCard, American Express, money order or check made out to the University of Puerto Rico. The stamped copy must be delivered to the Central Admissions Office, located on the second floor of the Dean of Students and Pharmacy Building.

If regular mail is preferred, please send your payment by money order or check addressed to the **University of Puerto Rico** and send it to the following address along with this receipt:

Central Admissions Office - RCM
Doctoral Program in Dental Medicine
PO Box 365067
San Juan, PR 00936-5067

- The documentation by e-mail should be sent to francis.picon@upr.edu, copying to the Office of Assistant Dean for Student Affairs: estudiantedental.rcm@upr.edu, or by regular mail to:

Dr. Francis Picón-Cunningham
Office of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs
School of Dental Medicine
Medical Sciences Campus, University of Puerto Rico
PO BOX 365067
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-5067

ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM

If you want to know more about the program:

<http://dental.rcm.upr.edu/advanced-placement-program/>

For information, contact Dr. José R. Matos Pérez (jose.matos5@upr.edu), and Mr. Manuel Centeno (manuel.centeno@upr.edu) or call (787) 758-2525 extensions 1057 or 2180.

PHYSICAL ADDRESS	MAILING ADDRESS
Advanced Placement Program Dr. José Guillermo-Arbona Office A-156 School of Dental Medicine University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus Medical Center Monacillos neighborhood Rio Piedras, PR 00936	Advanced Placement Program School of Dental Medicine Medical Sciences Campus University of Puerto Rico PO BOX 365067 San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-5067

REQUESTING:

An applicant who is not admitted and decides to apply again must submit the following documents:

1. New application to AADSAS and Request for Admission of the RCM
2. Updated credit transcript
3. Provide any other document requested by the Central Admissions Office.

The applicant may submit any information that may affect the decision of the Admissions Committee.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:

A regular student, who for any reason drops out or is withdrawn from the Program, **could be considered for readmission after a waiting period of one year, as long as they have not received a recommendation of not being entitled to admission from the Progress Committee and Academic or Institution Executory.** This student has to compete again with the applicants for admission that year.

ESTIMATED COST:

PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT THESE ARE ESTIMATED COSTS AND MAY VARY AT ANY TIME. FINAL COSTS CAN ONLY BE PROVIDED AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION.



University of Puerto Rico
 Medical Sciences Campus
 Estimated Fees and Expenses
 Academic Year 2024 -2025

	FIRST YEAR (2028) (10 MONTHS)	SECOND YEAR (2027) (11 MONTHS)	THIRD YEAR (2026) (11 MONTHS)	FOURTH YEAR (2025) (10 MONTHS)
Tuition*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuition \$17,000.00 Maintenance Fee 400.00 Educational Resources Fund 2,900.00 Laboratory (6) 600.00 Technology Fee 200.00 TOTAL 21,100.00*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuition \$17,000.00 Maintenance Fee 400.00 Educational Resources Fund 2,900.00 Laboratory (6) 600.00 Technology Fee 200.00 TOTAL 21,100.00*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuition \$17,000.00 Maintenance Fee 400.00 Educational Resources Fund 2,900.00 Laboratory (1) 100.00 Technology Fee 200.00 TOTAL 20,600.00*	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tuition \$17,000.00 Maintenance Fee 400.00 Educational Resources Fund 2,900.00 Laboratory (2) 100.00 Technology Fee 200.00 TOTAL 20,600.00*
Virtual Library ¹	1,873.00	1,105.00	1,105.00	1,105.00
Instruments/others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruments 5,000.00 Utilization Fee 1,000.00 Supplies 1,000.00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruments 5,000.00 Utilization Fee 1,000.00 Supplies 1,000.00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruments 5,000.00 Utilization Fee 1,655.00 Kaplan 458.00 Additional Board Preparation 400.00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instruments 5,000.00 Utilization Fee 1,655.00
Special fees				
Loupes ²	1,500.00	-	845.00	-
Student kit ²	6,106.00	4,909.00	-	-
Laptop	2,000.00	-	-	-
Housing/per diem ³	13,231.00	14,554.00	14,554.00	13,231.00
Transportation ³	953.00	1,048.00	1,048.00	953.00
Miscellaneous expenses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miscellaneous expenses 3,000.00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miscellaneous expenses 3,000.00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travels/interviews 1,500.00 Miscellaneous expenses 3,000.00 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Travels/interviews 1,500.00 Miscellaneous expenses 3,000.00
Health Insurance ⁴	2,781.00	2,781.00	2,781.00	2,781.00
TOTAL	\$58,544.00**	\$54,497.00**	\$52,946.00**	\$49,825.00**

J. Medina
 Approved by: Jocelyn A. Medina Paneto, Ph.D.
 Interim Associate Dean

Date: April 2, 2024

¹ A virtual Library fee is compulsory.
² The student will buy the student kit and loupes on their own according to the lists to be delivered once admitted to the School of Dental Medicine.
³ Approximate living expenses if living in the metropolitan area.
⁴ Optional: Pharmacy and Dental. If the student has a private health insurance, evidence should be presented the day of registration.

1. Tuition for non-residents varies according to the geographic residence of the applicant. Tuition for foreigners could be \$19,113.00 per year in addition to the fees mentioned above. Non-resident tuition will be applied to all four years of study.
2. Estimated maximum if you are living within the limits of the metropolitan area.
3. Optional: pharmacy insurance and dental insurance

**INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE PORTFOLIO
OF THE CANDIDATE FOR ADMISSION TO THE SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE**

All candidates for admission to the School of Dental Medicine **will be asked to submit** a portfolio with documents that evidence their participation in extracurricular activities that they consider significant in their academic, professional, and personal development and growth. Information **is provided below to** guide you in what can be included in the portfolio. There may be other activities not listed in this list. You should include any information or extracurricular activities that you think the Admissions Committee should know about.

Below is a list of examples of the evidence that could be provided according to each topic:

Participation in Research: You may include as evidence any publication where your name is included, table clinics, evidence of your attendance at research conventions in or outside of Puerto Rico, letter from the entity accepting your *abstract* for presentation, poster presentation, letter of recommendation of your mentor in research, thesis, or dissertations.

Participation in Community Service Activities: These can be certificates of participation, letter of invitation to the activity or thanks, photographs, newspaper reviews, among others.

Participation in Sports Activities: You may include a letter of recommendation, photographs of events or awards (this includes medals or trophies), journalistic reviews of the event, or any other document that can prove it.

Member of Student or Civic Associations: Association card, activity photography, letters, or certificates, etc.

Job: Letter of recommendation from your immediate supervisor. If you obtained any distinction during the time worked, you can also include it (employee of the month, etc.)

Work in Dental Office: Letter of recommendation from the dentist and number of hours worked.

The portfolio must include a *Curriculum Vitae* (CV) at the beginning. The CV can help you organize the portfolio. Documents in the portfolio should follow a sequence within their category from most recent to oldest beginning with your college years.

If after reading this you have any questions, you can contact Dr. Francis Picón at the email: estudiantesdental.rcm@upr.edu or (787) 758-2525 extension 1219.