

School of Dental Medicine



University of Puerto Rico Medical Sciences Campus

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Academic Year 2026-2027

Rev. July 2026

PO Box 365067

San Juan, PR 00936-5067

Phone: (787) 758-2525, Ext. 1113

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER IN EMPLOYMENT M/M/V/I

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER M/W/V/H

School of Dental Medicine

OUR ORIGINS:

On June 21, 1956, a joint resolution was passed in the Legislature to appropriate the funds needed 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 recognized worldwide for its academic excellence, with strategic alliances of a national and international nature that contribute to its educational and service competitiveness, with leadership, framed in research, social and community commitment.

MISSION:

The UPR School of Dental Medicine is a proactive higher education institution in the training of dentists of the highest caliber, sensitive to the needs of its 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. A leader in the investigation of discrepancies in oral-systemic health, it fosters critical thinking, intellectual curiosity and commitment to the needs of the population. It assumes interprofessional practice, the integration of technology into creative management and the construction of new scientific knowledge regarding the relevant conditions of oral health, as a continuous, comprehensive, rigorous, respectful, collaborative and sustainable process.

ORGANIZATION:

The School of Dental Medicine is one of six on the Medical Sciences Campus. In addition to the Dental Medicine Doctoral Program, there are graduate programs in Pediatric Dentistry, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, General Dentistry (GPR) Residency, Prosthodontics, Orthodontics, Periodontics, and two programs affiliated with the school under agreement through *NYU Langone Health* (Endodontics and Advanced Education in General Dentistry, *AEGD*). In addition, the school has had an Advanced Placement Program for international dentists since 2010.

The School of Dental Medicine has three departments. Under the Department of Ecological Sciences, the following sections are structured: Orthodontics, Pediatric Dentistry, and Community Dentistry. The Department of Restorative Sciences includes the sections of Operative Dentistry and Prosthodontics; and the Department of Surgical Sciences, which 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 Dr. Guillermo Arbona Irizarry Medical Sciences Campus, at the Puerto Rico Medical Center, in Río Piedras, Puerto Rico.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR APPLYING TO DENTAL MEDICAL SCHOOL:

Below are the eligibility criteria for the School of Dental Medicine, as well as other recommendations for the application fee. Also included are the names, emails, and phone numbers of the liaisons for orientation and admission.

Minimum Eligibility Criteria:

1. 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, in a duly accredited college or university. Within those 90 credits, the following are required:

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 6 credits

Behavior (Sociology, Psychology, Political Science, Economics, Anthropology, or Ethics)

- Only courses taken in the departments of the disciplines they represent will be considered.
- In Spanish and English courses, a maximum of 6 of the 12 required credits passed by the College Board CLEP or *Advanced Level or Placement* exam will be considered. The credits approved by CLEP or AP must be validated by your academic institution and so stated in the official transcript. On the other hand, 6 credits in honors, advanced or literature courses approved with a grade of A, B or C can replace the 12 credits required in these subjects.
- It is recommended that these course requirements be taken and approved before submitting the application for admission to the Medical Sciences Campus. That is, before the application deadline.
- Completion of a baccalaureate degree is recommended.
- To consider your application for admission, every course requirement must have a grade of A, B, or C.

- 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 conditional on receiving the grade of A, B or C in said course, on or before June 30. Otherwise, admission could be revoked.
- All required courses must have been completed with passing grade of A, B, or C to be considered for scoring or credit. **Pass (P) or No Pass (NP) grades will not be accepted.** If you have **a Pass (P)** in any required course, you must request grade equivalency at the Registrar's Office of your academic institution and provide Official Institutional Certification of such equivalency to the Central Admissions Office. This does not apply to Spanish and/or English courses approved by *the College Board's Advanced Level or Placement (AP)*.
- All science courses must include both lecture and laboratory components. *Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, some laboratory courses may have been affected. Such exceptions will be evaluated on an individual basis.*
- Candidates are encouraged to choose courses of greater academic complexity, in order to acquire greater maturity and intellectual depth. For this reason, **the following courses are highly recommended:**
 - *Biochemistry, Cell or Molecular Biology, Histology, Physiology, Anatomy, Microbiology, Genetics, Psychology and Ethics.*
- Courses can be in English or Spanish. However; all students must be proficient in reading, writing, and speaking both Spanish and English.

Admission Process:

- The deadline to apply for admission and file **all** documents is **November 1** of the year prior to the academic year of admission. However, for August 2027 admissions, **the deadline will be November 2** because November 1 is a Sunday.
- You must complete the application for admission to the Medical Sciences Campus by accessing the Admissions Portal through the link: <https://solicitud.upr.edu/>. It is available from **September 1** and the deadline to complete and pay it is **November 2**. You will have to pay a non-refundable fee of \$30.00 that can be made electronically through the application. If you face problems, you must contact the Central Admissions Office of the Medical Sciences Campus.
- You must also file an application with the *ADEA Associated American Dental Schools Application Service*. This must have been received by ADEA AADSAS **no later than November 2**.

The application to dental school ADEA AADSAS:

<https://aadsas.cas.myliaison.com/applicant/login>

ADEA AADSAS Customer Service Representatives:

Phone: (617) 612-2045

https://help.liaisonedu.com/ADEA_AADSAS_Applicant_Help_Center/Starting_Your_ADEA_AADSAS_Application/Getting_Started_with_Your_ADEA_AADSAS_Application/08_Customer_Service

- You are required to take the **Dental Admission Test (DAT)**. You must request this exam directly at:

Dental Admission Test (DAT)

<https://www.ada.org/education/testing/exams/dental-admission-test-dat>

- In addition, **you must submit to the Central Admissions Office of the Medical Sciences Campus, on or before the application deadline**, the following:

Official transcript from each university institution in which you have studied both at ADEA AADSAS and at the Central Admissions Office of the UPR RCM.

Mailing address for **sending official transcripts**:

*Oficina Central de Admisiones
UPR - Recinto de Ciencias Médicas
Programa de Medicina Dental
PO Box 365067
San Juan, PR 00936-5067*

If your institution is able to officially send transcripts electronically, you can do so to:
documentosadmisiones.rcm@upr.edu

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 (overall average together with average required courses), DAT scores, personal characteristics (interview and portfolio) and approved recommended courses.

Academic Performance:

- Academic performance is determined by:
 - Academic average, it being understood that a minimum final grade of C (on a scale in which A=4.00) is mandatory in all required courses.
 - Grade point averages of 3.00 are recommended to be competitive.
 - The number of repetitions, drops, poor grades and failures as evidenced by the official credit transcription.

Dental Admission Test:

- The applicant must have taken the *DAT* **on or before the deadline (November 2)**. In the event that the exam needs to be repeated, you should note that a 60-day period is required between each attempt and that exams taken after the deadline will not be considered for the current application process.
- The parts of the test taken into consideration for assessment are: *Total Science (SNS)*, *Reading Comprehension (RCT)*, and *Perceptual Ability (PAT)*. You must ensure that you obtain minimum scores of **16 on the old DAT** or **360 SNS/320 RCT/340 PAT on the new DAT**. Applicants with scores on such parts of the DAT below those mentioned will not be considered or evaluated. A competitive application is considered to score **18 or higher on the old DAT or 400 SNS / 360 RCT / 390 PAT on the new DAT**.
- The results of the *DAT* are valid for three years.

Residence:

The University of Puerto Rico School of Dental Medicine was established as part of a commitment to 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 meet and meet the dental health needs of the Island. For this reason, preference will be given to residents of Puerto Rico. In addition, the quota for non-resident candidates is limited. Only fully bilingual candidates are considered.

Personal Characteristics:

- This criterion is evaluated through:
 - **A personal interview** - After an initial screening based on the three factors mentioned above, the Admissions Committee determines which students are scheduled for a personal interview.
 - **Portfolio** - A summary of the candidate's educational history and life experiences. It must be submitted electronically upon request by the school. Refer to the last page of this brochure.

ACCEPTANCE:

The Central Admissions Office of the Medical Sciences Campus will send an official electronic notification indicating the acceptance or rejection of the applicant. If you are accepted, you must confirm your admission and reserve your space online by making a **non-refundable payment of \$100.00**. For this, you have a period of **10 business days**; otherwise, admission may be revoked and your seat assigned to the corresponding alternate in turn. In case of conditional admission, you must meet the requirements mentioned in your admission letter within the period of time stipulated for it.

All students admitted to the School of Dental Medicine are required to participate in orientations when they are scheduled. Failure to do so may result in revocation.

No position information or results obtained in interviews or portfolios are provided. Doubts regarding the decision made may be discussed within 14 calendar days after the date of the denial letter.

RE-APPLY TO DENTAL MEDICAL SCHOOL:

An applicant who is not admitted and decides to apply again for a next admissions cycle has to submit the following documents:

- New ADEA -AADSAS *application* and RCM Admission Application
- Updated credit transcript
- Any other documents required by the Central Admissions Office

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

APPLICANT SUPPORT STAFF:

- *Assistant Dean of Student Affairs*
estudiantesdental.rcm@upr.edu
Tel. (787) 758-2525, Ext. 1113
- *Student Psychologist*
Dr. Zulhermi Díaz Marrero (zulhermi.diaz@upr.edu)
Tel. (787) 758-2525, Ext. 1008
- *Admissions Officer*
Sa. Raiza Hidalgo Cátala (raiza.hidalgo1@upr.edu)
Tel. (787) 758-2525, Ext. 5213
- *Administrative Staff*
Ms. Hilda L. Reynoso Rivera (hilda.reynoso@upr.edu)
(787) 758-2525, Ext. 1113

READMISSION:

A regular student, who for any reason withdraws or is withdrawn from the Program, **may be considered for readmission after a one-year waiting period. This is as long as he or she has not received a recommendation of non-admission from the Academic Progress and Performance Committee or the institution.** This student has to compete again with that year's applicants for admission.

TRANSFER REQUEST:

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

These candidates must meet all expected entry requirements and may be required to take written and/or practical exams before being considered further. Transfer applications from schools not accredited by CODA will not be considered. Since the transfer application will be evaluated only if space is available, it is recommended that the applicant submit an initial letter of intent to the UPRSDM Office of the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs to verify availability before submitting completed documents for the regular application.

General Information:

- Applicants must be fluent in Spanish and English (writing, reading, speaking).
- Applications will not be evaluated if there are no spaces available.
- The curriculum sequence and courses of the school of origin must be identically aligned with the UPRSDM curriculum (schedule, approved credits).
- The applicant must have a record of excellent ethical conduct. The applicant must have favorable academic progress.
- A letter from the dean of the school of dental medicine of origin stating the reasons for the requested transfer is required.
- Applicants should note that the number or places, if any, may vary annually and in most years, there are no places available.
- Admission will be considered for the next academic year.
- All our programs begin in August, however, the participation of accepted candidates in activities during the months of June and July before the start of the academic year will be required. Attendance is mandatory and admission is subject to attendance at these activities, otherwise admission will be automatically revoked.

Transfer Request Steps:

- An initial letter of intent must be received from the applicant (email or letter) by **September 30** of the year prior to admission. The School will inform the applicant if there is availability for the next academic year. The letter of intent should be addressed to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and emailed to estudiantesdental.rcm@upr.edu or by regular mail to:

*Decanato Auxiliar para Asuntos Estudiantiles
Escuela de Medicina Dental
UPR - Recinto de Ciencias Médicas
PO Box 365067
San Juan, PR 00936-5067*

1. **If the applicant receives confirmation from the School of space availability for the upcoming academic year, the following documents must be submitted with the application on or before November 2:**

- Letter of intent stating the reason for the transfer request

- Official Undergraduate Transcripts
- Official transcripts from your dental medical school
- Official DAT Scores
- Catalog and descriptions of courses/programs of study from your dental medical school
- Letter of recommendation from two faculty members of the school of dental medicine of origin stating the justification for the requested transfer.
- National Dental Board Examination *Results* (if applicable)
- Letter from the Dean setting out the justification for the requested transfer
- You must complete the application for admission to the Medical Sciences Campus by accessing the Admissions Portal through the link: <https://solicitud.upr.edu/>. You must pay a non-refundable fee of \$50.00 that can be made electronically through the application. If you face problems, you must contact the Central Admissions Office.
- Documentation by email should be sent to the Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and emailed to estudiantesdental.rcm@upr.edu or by regular mail to:

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ADVANCED PLACEMENT PROGRAM:

The University of Puerto Rico School of Dental Medicine offers an Advanced Placement Program for internationally trained dentists. Upon completion of the program, they will earn a Doctor of Dental Medicine degree.

- **If you want to know more about this program, access the following link:**

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

1. You can contact Dr. José R. Matos Pérez (jose.matos5@upr.edu) or Mr. Manuel Centeno (manuel.centeno@upr.edu) at (787) 758-2525, Exts. 1057 and 2180.

PHYSICAL ADDRESS

*Programa de Ubicación Avanzada
Edif. Guillermo Arbona Irizarry
1er. piso, Oficina A-156
Escuela de Medicina Dental
UPR - Recinto de Ciencias Médicas
Centro Médico de Puerto Rico
Barrio Monacillos, Río Piedras, PR*

POSTAL ADDRESS

*Programa de Ubicación Avanzada
Escuela de Medicina Dental
UPR - Recinto de Ciencias Médicas
PO Box 365067
San Juan, PR 00936-5067*

**ESTIMATED COSTS OF THE DOCTORATE IN DENTAL MEDICINE
2026-2027**

Important Note: These are estimated costs and may vary at any time. Final costs can only be provided at the time of enrollment.

	DENTAL I (10 months)	DENTAL II (11 months)	DENTAL III (11 months)	DENTAL IV (10 months)
CREDITS	\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00	\$17,000.00
MANT. FEE	400.00	400.00	400.00	400.00
LAB.	600.00	600.00	100.00	100.00
TEC. FEE	200.00	200.00	200.00	200.00
SCHOOL FEE	2,900.00	2,900.00	2,900.00	2,900.00
VIRTUAL BOOKS	1,901.00	1,179.00	1,105.00	1,095.00
UTILIZATION FEE	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
SUPPLIES	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,655.00	1,655.00
KAPLAN			458.00	
RCM PAYMENT COMMITMENT	\$29,001.00	\$28,279.00	\$28,818.00	\$28,350.00
OTROS GASTOS				
STUDENT KIT	8,262.24	2,345.00		
PREP-CHECK APP				
MAGNIFIERS	1,500.00			
INBDE			845.00	
ADDITIONAL BOARD PREPARATION			400.00	
PARKING	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
INTERVIEWS/TRIPS			1,500.00	1,500.00
LAPTOP	2,000.00			
LODGING AND PER DIEM	14,237.00	15,660.70	15,660.70	14,237.00
TRANSPORTATION	1,039.00	1,142.90	1,142.90	1,039.00
MISCELANEOS	3,270.00	3,597.00	3,597.00	3,270.00
TOTAL	\$61,309.24	\$53,024.60	\$53,963.60	\$50,396.00
NO SUB	\$50,000.00	\$44,944.00	\$44,944.00	\$42,722.00
PRIVADO	\$11,309.24			
		PLUS		
		\$8,080.60	\$9,019.60	\$7,674.00

- Tuition for non-residents varies according to the applicant's geographical residence and the same amount will be applied to the four years of study.

Financial Assistance Officer: *Lymari Vélez Figueroa (lymari.velez@upr.edu)*

INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN THE E-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 evidencing their participation in extracurricular activities that they believe are significant in their academic, professional, and personal development and growth. Below is information that can guide you as to what can be included in the portfolio. There may be other activities that are not listed in this list. You must include any extracurricular information or activities that you believe the Admissions Committee should be aware of.

- **Examples of evidence that could be provided according to each topic:**

- **Participation in Research:** You may include as evidence any publication that includes your name, *table clinics*, evidence of your attendance at research conventions in or outside of Puerto Rico, letter of entity accepting your *abstract* for presentation, poster presentation, letter of recommendation from 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:** This may include a letter of recommendation, photographs of events or awards (this includes medals or trophies), newspaper reviews of the event, or any other document that may prove it.
- **Member of Student or Civic Associations:** Association card, photograph of activities, letters or certificates, etc.
- **Work:** 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.).
- **Dental Office Work:** Letter of recommendation from the dentist and number of hours worked.

The portfolio should include a *Curriculum Vitae* (CV) at the beginning. The CV can help you organize the portfolio. The documents in the portfolio should follow a sequence within your category from the most recent to the oldest starting with your years of university studies.

If you have any questions after reading this, you may contact the Assistant Dean of Student Affairs by email at: estudiantesdental.rcm@upr.edu or by calling (787) 758-2525, ext. 1113.