

Clemson University (Clemson) – Medical University of South Carolina
(MUSC)

Accelerated Pathway to Dental School

Student Intent to Participate Form

Part A – Description and requirements

Program purpose and description: Clemson and MUSC (through its College of Dental Medicine) have developed the *Accelerated Pathway to Dental School* program aimed at reducing students' overall educational cost from undergraduate education through dental school while retaining the most talented students in South Carolina. Clemson students, meeting all program requirements, may apply for admittance to MUSC's doctorate of dental medicine (DMD) degree after completing 90 semester hours of undergraduate education at Clemson. Admission to the DMD program is not guaranteed; admissions decisions will be made solely by MUSC. If admitted into the DMD program, Clemson accelerated students are held to the same standards and progress guidelines as all other students in the DMD program. After successful completion of the first year of dental school (as defined by MUSC's academic standards), Clemson University will award the student an earned baccalaureate degree subject to students satisfying all applicable requirements outlined in the Clemson University Undergraduate Announcements and completion of the formal application for graduation.

Student eligibility requirements – per MUSC:

- a. Clemson students must take the Dental Admissions Test (DAT) following completion of their sophomore year.
- b. The current MUSC recommended score on the DAT is 20/20 (i.e. 20 on the Perceptual Ability section and 20 on the Academic Average section). Students are encouraged to repeat the DAT if their initial score is less than 20/20. MUSC's DMD admissions committee will consider the highest total DAT score submitted. There is no penalty or negative connotation associated with multiple DAT attempts.
- c. Student's unadjusted GPA at the time of application to dental school must be ≥ 3.5 .
- d. Students must complete a minimum of 90 semester credit hours at Clemson (not including any AP credits, IB credits or transfer credits) prior to matriculating at MUSC.
- e. All Clemson general education requirements must be completed prior to matriculating at MUSC. In addition, the College of Dental Medicine requires two semesters of the following courses: General Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Physics, Biology, English, Mathematics, and Science Electives. These courses may concurrently meet Clemson's General Education requirements as set forth in the applicable Clemson University Undergraduate Announcements. It is the student's responsibility to verify that he/she has met Clemson general education requirements and College of Dental Medicine course requirements.

- f. *Suggested courses*: Courses that are valuable in preparing for the DMD curriculum are anatomy, biochemistry, cell biology, embryology, microbiology, genetics and physiology. Courses in the following areas are also suggested to support preparation: finance and accounting, sociology and psychology.
- g. All applicants are encouraged by the College of Dental Medicine to complete experiences providing clinical exposure to inform their decision to enter dentistry. These experiences, ideally, should be attained through participation in a formal Clemson internship (or similar) supervised course and independent student planning. The latter would demonstrate a personal commitment to explore this career path.

Application process

The MUSC College of Dental Medicine is a participant in the American Association of Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS). All applicants to the MUSC College of Dental Medicine must complete their AADSAS application between June 1st following their sophomore year and prior to December 1 of their junior year.

The MUSC College of Dental of Medicine also requires a completion of a supplemental application from each applicant. This supplemental application is available through MUSC Office of Enrollment Management. All applicants must submit a complete supplemental application between July 1st following their sophomore year and prior to December 1st of their junior year. Following an applicant's formal submission of the supplemental application, he/she will be requested to complete additional information as required by the MUSC Office of Enrollment Management.

The most competitive applicants will be selected for interview in the College of Dental Medicine between September and February of their junior year.

Student responsibilities – per Clemson:

- a. The student must complete this *Intent-to-Participate* form and file it with the Clemson University Registrar's Office in room 104 Sikes Hall. Student should also notify their academic advisor that the student has submitted this Intent-to-Participate form.
- b. If after filing this *Intent-to-Participate* form the student decides to withdraw from the program or attend another college or university, the student must notify the Registrar's Office that he/she is withdrawing from this program.
- c. Be responsible for understanding and following the requirements for the Clemson and MUSC degrees, and the specific requirements for their intended major at Clemson University.
- d. Meet all eligibility requirements for the accelerated pathway program as outlined above.
- e. Follow all MUSC application for admission processes and timelines.
- f. If the student is accepted to MUSC and completes the first year of study at MUSC, a formal application for Clemson graduation must be completed; a certified MUSC transcript fully documenting completion of the first year of dental school will need to be sent to Clemson at student's cost.

- g. Graduation from Clemson is not guaranteed and is subject to the student meeting all applicable requirements of the Clemson University Undergraduate Announcements and successful completion of the formal application for graduation with the Registrar's Office. If all of these requirements are met, a degree will be awarded no earlier than the August graduation after completion of the first year of dental school.
- h. If a student is admitted to MUSC but leaves MUSC before successfully completing the first year of dental school, the student may seek to transfer completed MUSC credits on a course-by-course basis using Clemson's credit transfer processes. There is no guarantee that any credits will be transferred.

Part B – Request and Advisor Acknowledgement

Student request: By signing below, I _____ ; CU identification # _____ - indicate my intent to participate in the *Accelerated Pathway to Dental School* program. I understand that I must meet and maintain all student eligibility requirements in order to participate. I understand that admission to MUSC and graduation from Clemson University is not guaranteed.

Part C – FERPA Permission

I agree that Clemson University has my permission to share this *Intent to Participate* form, my name and contact information, my GPA and other academic records with MUSC as part of my participation in the program and for program evaluation purposes. I understand that I can request a copy of records provided to MUSC by contacting the Clemson University Registrar's Office. This FERPA permission remains in place until I revoke this permission in writing.

Student Name:

Student Signature:

Date:

Student's Academic Advisor Acknowledgement:

I understand that the student identified above desires to participate in the *Accelerated Pathway to Dental School* program. He/she must meet all program requirements.

Academic Advisor's Name:

Advisor's Signature:

Date: