



DDS/Oral Health Sciences PhD Dual Degree Program

Introduction

The ***DDS / Oral Health Sciences PhD Program*** at the University of Michigan School of Dentistry is designed for outstanding students who aspire to a career in academic dentistry with a focus on conducting research related to oral health. Through the dual degree program, a small number of exceptional students can pursue the DDS and the PhD in Oral Health Sciences (OHS) concurrently. The minimum program length is 7 years.

Within the OHS Program, the student can select among areas of research emphasis that include:

developmental craniofacial biology

mineralized tissue biology

musculoskeletal disorders

oral and pharyngeal cancer

oral infectious and immunologic diseases

oral sensory systems, pain and central circuits

tissue engineering and regeneration

Oral Health Sciences Faculty:

To find out more about the OHS Faculty and their research, please visit the [OHS Faculty](#) website or the link to faculty labs at Dentistry at: media.dent.umich.edu/labs/

Students who embark on the DDS / PhD Program are breaking new ground in dental career patterns. A dual degree program is not for everyone; however, for those who successfully matriculate and complete DDS / PhD dual degrees, there is an exciting future in the continued combination of pursuing clinical dentistry and the science of oral health.

Application Process for DDS/PhD Program

To be considered for the DDS/PhD dual degree program, students must be admitted to both the DDS Program and the Oral Health Sciences (OHS) PhD Program. The following is a guide to assist you with the application process.

- Send a letter of intent to pursue the DDS/PhD program to dent-ohsphd@umich.edu
 - Provide a current CV or resume.
- Apply to Rackham School of Graduate Studies (for OHS Program) by October 31st
 - Requires: curriculum vitae (CV), academic statement of purpose, personal statement, three letters of recommendation and transcripts.
- Be invited to campus visit for DDS Program
- Competitive applicants will be invited to interview for the PhD program



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Contact Information:

OHS PhD Program: dent.umich.edu/phd EMAIL: dent-ohsphd@umich.edu PHONE: 734/615-1970
DDS Program Admissions Office: dent.umich.edu/admissions
Rackham School for Graduate Studies: rackham.umich.edu

Outline of Progression:

Summer before Year 1

OHS Research Rotation 1
Selected DDS course participation
Biostatistics

Fall of Year 1

PhD courses
Selected DDS course participation
Research Rotation 2
OHS Seminar Series and Journal Club

Winter of Year 1

PhD courses
Selected DDS course participation
Research Rotation 3
OHS Seminar Series and Journal Club

Spring/summer before Year 2

Continued Research Rotation 3

Fall of Year 2

Precandidate Research
PhD courses
Selected DDS course participation
OHS Seminar Series and Journal Club
Identify PhD Dissertation Advisor
Conduct precandidate research

Winter of Year 2

PhD courses
Selected DDS course participation
Continue precandidate research
Preliminary exam
OHS Seminar Series and Journal Club

Spring/summer before Year 3

Advance to candidacy / Candidate research

Year 3

Selected DDS course participation
OHS Seminar Series and Journal Club
PhD Dissertation Research

Year 4

First year DDS courses
Clinical dentistry
OHS Seminar Series and Journal Club
PhD Dissertation Research

Years 5

Second year DDS courses
Continue clinical dentistry
PhD Dissertation Research
OHS Seminar Series and Journal Club

Years 6

Third year DDS courses
Continue clinical dentistry
PhD Dissertation Research
OHS Seminar Series and Journal Club

Year 7

Fourth year DDS courses
Continue clinical dentistry
PhD Dissertation Research
OHS Seminar Series and Journal Club

Year 8

Candidate Research
OHS Seminar Series and Journal Club
Defense