Major Guide for:

Pre-Dental

Start here...go anywhere!

South Seattle Community College

What can I do with a major in Pre-Dental?
If you decide to become a dentist, there are two key components to choose from: general dentistry where approximately 80% work or the 20% who specialize in a particular field. Dentists who specialize may find themselves doing research or teaching in a university or college setting. They may be employed by the federal government at the US Public Health Service of the Indian Health Service helping populations that do not have adequate access to proper dental care. There are other specializations which require advanced education: Endodontics, Periodontics, Pediatric dentistry, Orthodontics, Oral & Maxillofacial surgery, radiology & pathology. The list of options is not exhaustive because the field is ever expanding, especially during this dynamic time in health care.

What classes should I take at South Seattle Community College?
An Associate in Science in Pre-Dental prepares students to transfer to a four-year school with a major that will prepare them for the school of Dentistry. These courses are recommended for students who want to transfer to a program that will put them on track at a four-year school: Associate in Science (AS).

Remember: students should work closely with the school they intend to transfer to ensure they take the appropriate courses. It is the student’s responsibility to verify prerequisite courses and application requirements with the school you are planning to attend. Contact each school directly as information may change.

How do I prepare to be a Pre-Dental major?
Regardless of your major, you MUST meet minimum course requirements. Link to South’s PreDental Planning Sheet for Major-Ready courses, and closely work with the transfer school for appropriate courses and what that particular school will require is paramount. Having a broad educational background with courses from the social sciences, humanities, behavioral sciences, fine arts, foreign language, and communications is highly recommended. Because of the manipulative nature of the profession, courses in art and sculpting are also useful. If you’ve been to a dentist’s office lately, you’ll notice that the use and knowledge of the computer and high tech equipment are a must.

Where can I transfer?
UW Seattle = University of Washington: http://dental.washington.edu/prospective-students/
EWU = Eastern Washington University: http://www.ewu.edu/cshe/programs/dental-hygiene.xml
Oregon Health & Science university: http://www.ohsu.edu/xd/education/schools/school-of-dentistry/prospective-students/