ADMISSION TO BACHELOR OF DENTAL SURGERY COURSE FOR AY2022–AY2023

HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

Besides the conditions indicated in the Offer Letter, admission to the Bachelor of Dental Surgery course is subject to the following health and health-related requirements. These additional requirements are mandated by the Ministry of Health (MOH) and apply to all healthcare workers, including dental students.

1) Blood Borne Diseases (BBD)

a) Hepatitis B

All prospective dental students must be screened for Hepatitis B carriage. This screening should be done no earlier than 6-months before commencement of the course (i.e. not before 1 February 2022).

For prospective students who are Hepatitis B negative and do not have documented serological evidence of immunity against Hepatitis B (i.e. anti-HBs ≥ 10mIU/mL), they must be vaccinated with the primary course series (i.e. 3 doses of Hepatitis B vaccine). A post-vaccination serology test within 1 – 2 months after completion of the primary 3-dose vaccination series should be conducted to determine the level of protective antibodies (i.e. anti-HBs ≥ 10mIU/mL). In the event that prospective students continue to be non-immune despite repeat vaccinations, they will be counselled to understand their risk and susceptibility to Hepatitis B during their course of study and when they graduate.

b) Hepatitis C and Human-Immunodeficiency Virus

All prospective dental students must be screened for Hepatitis C virus (HCV) and Human Immunodeficiency virus (“HIV”). This screening should be done no earlier than 3-months before commencement of the course (i.e. not before 1 May 2022).

The screening for Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and Human Immunodeficiency virus must be carried out prior to admission into the course. Results of the screening may have an impact on the students’ course of study and their future career choices. Students tested positive for Hep B, Hep C and/or HIV will be counselled to understand such impact.
2) **Varicella Zoster Virus (Chickenpox)**

All prospective dental students should be immune or vaccinated. Students should either be screened for immunity, or produce official records of previous vaccinations as proof of immunity. Self-declaration is only acceptable if the history of Varicella was based on physician diagnosis. When past history of Varicella is uncertain, a serology test should be carried out to confirm immunity against Varicella.

Students may begin classes without documentary evidence of immunisation for Chickenpox if the student concerned has:

i) a letter from a registered medical practitioner stating that there is a reason why he/she cannot receive the vaccine; or

ii) documented evidence of two administrations of the Varicella vaccine (non-responders).

3) **Mumps, Measles and Rubella Viruses (MMR)**

All prospective dental students should be immune (from documented infection) or fully vaccinated. Students should produce official records of previous vaccinations (2-dose series) or serological screening results of immunity against all 3 diseases or laboratory confirmation of all 3 diseases or physician documented diagnoses of previous infection as proof of immunity. Self-declaration of previous infection is not sufficient.

Those who are tested negative for immunity against any of these viruses will be required to be immunised before commencement of the course.

Students may begin classes without documentary evidence of immunisation for MMR if he/she has a letter from a registered medical practitioner stating that there is a reason why he/she cannot receive the vaccine.

4) **Tetanus, Diptheria and Pertussis**

All prospective dental students should receive tetanus toxoid, reduced diphtheria toxoid and acellular pertussis (Tdap) vaccination, if they have not previously received the Tdap vaccination.

Students who have previously received Tdap vaccination should receive a booster dose of Td every 10 years. If Td is unavailable, it may be replaced with Tdap.

Documented proof of vaccination with Tdap or Td in the last 10 years would be acceptable evidence of immunity. Self-declaration is not considered proof of immunity.

5) **Audiometric Testing**

From 2013, in compliance with NUS and the Ministry of Manpower statutory medical surveillance requirements, all dental students must complete the NUS Occupational Health risk assessment form as well as undergo an audiometric testing before the course commences and just before they graduate.

All prospective dental students should have their screening and testing (HBV, HCV, HIV, VZV, MMR, Tetanus, Diptheria and Pertussis Screening and Audiometric Test) as well as immunisations done at the Occupational Health Clinic (OHC), University Health Centre Basement, 20 Lower Kent Ridge Road, Singapore 119080. The costs for screening, immunisation and testing, as well as the deadlines by which the screening, immunisation and testing must be completed, are set out in Table 1.

In order to ease waiting times, prospective dental students are advised to complete the medical examination, screening and audiometric test as early as possible. Please contact the Occupational Health Clinic at (65) 6601 1781 / (65) 6516 7333 to schedule an appointment.
Table 1: Screening and Vaccination Deadlines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Virus</th>
<th>Screening Cost</th>
<th>Screening Deadline/Note</th>
<th>Immunisation Cost</th>
<th>Immunisation Deadline/Note</th>
<th>Post Vaccination Screening Cost</th>
<th>Post Vaccination Screening Deadline/Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis B#</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>• $30.00 per injection&lt;br&gt;• 3 injections over 6 months or booster single injection only</td>
<td>To complete by 31 January 2023</td>
<td>1 month after immunisation&lt;br&gt;• Post-vaccination antibody blood test at $16.00</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hepatitis C</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>HIV</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Varicella Zoster (Chickenpox)</td>
<td>$47.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>• $75.00 per injection&lt;br&gt;• 2 injections over 6 to 10 weeks</td>
<td>To complete by 26 September 2022</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mumps Measles</td>
<td>$75.00&lt;br&gt;$90.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>• $35.00 per injection</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Rubella</td>
<td>$28.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>• $35.00 per injection&lt;br&gt;• 2 injections over 4 to 6 weeks or booster single injection only</td>
<td>To complete by 18 July 2022</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertusis</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
<td>To complete by 18 July 2022</td>
<td>• 1 dose of Tdap, if students have not previously received it, followed by Td/Tdap booster once every 10 years&lt;br&gt;• If students have previously received 1 dose of Tdap, Td/Tdap booster is recommended once every 10 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Audiometry Test</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic Medical Checkup with CXR, Urinalysis</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td>To complete by 29 July 2022</td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occupational Health Individual Risk and Ergonomic Screen</td>
<td>$20.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spirometry Test (as recommended by the OHC doctor)</td>
<td>$30.00</td>
<td></td>
<td>Not Applicable</td>
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</table>

Note: No GST is applicable.
If there is evidence of screening done no earlier than 6 months before the commencement of the Bachelor of Dental Surgery course (i.e. not before 3 Feb 2022) which shows anti-HBs ≥ 10mlU/mL, there is no need to repeat the Hepatitis B screening.

The above health requirements are subject to change. If you need clarifications on any of these requirements, please contact the Occupational Health Centre staff at Tel: (65) 6516 7333/ (65) 6601 1781.

**SERVICE OBLIGATION AGREEMENT FOR DENTAL STUDENTS**

Students admitted to the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS) course at the National University of Singapore and who are not in receipt of PSC / MINDEF scholarships / bursaries, are required to serve the Government of Singapore upon successful completion of the course for a number of years (known as "service obligation") as stated in the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Singaporean Students (Service Obligation Period)</th>
<th>Singapore PR and International Students (Service Obligation Period)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Dental Surgery</td>
<td>4 years</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Those awarded PSC / MINDEF scholarships / bursaries will be bonded according to the terms of their respective awards.

Dental students are required to sign a Service Obligation Agreement with the Government to serve out the service obligation period as specified. Your acceptance of the offer of admission to the Bachelor of Dental Surgery course is conditional upon you signing the agreement with the relevant authorities in the year of entry to the University.

If the agreement is terminated prematurely during the course or before you complete the service obligation period, you will be liable for liquidated damages ("LD") payable in accordance with the terms of the agreement. The amount of liquidated damages is computed based on the subsidy granted and disbursed by the Government to the student, with application of compound interest, and pro-rated by the number of completed months of service. Failure to obtain the Bachelor of Dental Surgery degree or to complete the Bachelor of Dental Surgery course within the time stipulated by NUS would also be considered a breach of the provisions of the Agreement.

**Please note that prospective dental students are to sign the Service Obligation Agreement only in the year they are matriculating in NUS.**

For signing of the Service Obligation Agreement, two persons are required to stand as your sureties. Your sureties should:

a) Be above 21 years of age and preferably under 65 years of age;
b) Not a bankrupt;
c) Able to provide proof of financial means to pay the scholarship liabilities should it become due either:
   i) viz. Latest income statement (or IRAS income tax return) indicating that the surety is gainfully employed and drawing an income of at least S$1,000 per month;
   Or
   ii) viz. title deed;
   Or
   iii) viz. banker’s guarantee
   d) Not party to an existing bond, scholarship or bursary

**Note:**

*Applications to be a surety would be assessed on a case-by-case basis for persons aged 65 or above.*
Property can be accepted as a proof of asset if mortgage on the property is fully paid and the value of the property must not be less than the estimated amount of the liquidated damages. Both private and public property can be accepted as long as the mortgage is paid up.

The financial status of each surety will be assessed independently.

Parents who are currently serving as sureties for their other child/children for similar Agreements with the Government of Singapore, will only be permitted to serve as sureties for the current Agreement using different financial means.

The value of the banker’s guarantee should be equivalent to or more than the estimated amount of liquidated damages. The surety has to set aside and lock in the full amount of estimated liquidated damages for the entire duration of studies and service obligation period.

Sureties’ CPF savings and insurance policies will NOT be accepted.

For Singapore/Singapore Permanent Resident students, the 1st surety should be a Singapore Citizen. The 2nd surety can be a Singapore Citizen or Singapore Permanent Resident. For international students, both sureties must either be a Singapore Citizen or Singapore Permanent Resident.

Sureties can be non-citizens if they are parents of the students.

If you need further information, please visit the Ministry of Health website at https://www.moh.gov.sg/hpp/all-healthcare-professionals/career-practice/CareerNPracticesDetails/medical-dental-undergraduate-agreement or contact the Ministry of Health at Tel: (65) 6325 9014.

**COST OF MATERIALS FOR DENTAL STUDENTS**

Dental students are to note that they will be required to pay for the cost of incidental materials which they will need throughout the duration of the Bachelor of Dental Surgery course. Such cost will be in addition to the prevailing tuition fees. The materials include, but may not be limited to, plastic teeth, metal alloy, consumables etc which will be required during the pre-clinical and clinical phases of the Bachelor of Dental Surgery course. The estimated incidental cost over the period of the 4-year course is estimated to be between $800 and $1,000.

**NOTEBOOK REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW DENTAL STUDENTS**

All new students enrolling in the Bachelor of Dental Surgery course will need to have a notebook computer for the duration of the course. You are encouraged to have one with a minimum screen size of 13”.

**WITHDRAWAL FROM THE COURSE**

If you withdraw from the course after Week 2 Semester 1 of the Academic Year in which you matriculate, you will be liable for tuition fees and any liquidated damages for tuition grants, if applicable.

Above information is accurate as at 21 April 2022.