Caveat

All information given pertains to study at the University Of Birmingham School of Medicine and Dentistry

Offered as a guide for future career planning—other institutions may have different requirements
What makes a dentist?

YOU must have the desire
YOU must have an ethical approach
YOU must be prepared to undertake additional training after you graduate
YOU must be willing to give back to the NHS (who have part-funded and facilitated your course)
YOU must have a lifelong desire to help, support and treat patients.
**Academic requirements**

GCSEs:
Four specific subjects-
Chemistry and Biology at grade A* (8+)
Mathematics and English Language at grade A (7+)
Double science is an acceptable alternative to separate sciences at A*A* or equivalent

A Levels:
AAA to include Chemistry and Biology plus one other
(not general studies or critical thinking)
Academic requirements continued

UKCAT is often a requirement
Strengths looked for in candidates

Academic ability (demanding course)
Communication skills
Robustness
Ability to be(come) empathetic
Honesty
Genuine interest in the field
Adequate ‘health’
Dental Work Experience

Why should you undertake dental work experience?

• Limited exposure to Dentistry
• To be put off!
• To gain an insight into General Dental Practice
• Demands
• Changes
• Repetition
• Feeling
Dental Work Experience

Why is work for society valued?

• Many of you say that they are interested in caring for people and it demonstrates a commitment
• Put yourselves out
• Gain an insight into dealing with people, in the wider society
Other considerations

Candidates who re-sit GCSE and A-Levels will often be rejected in the first instance.

Good manual dexterity - evidence of intricate or close work with hands.

Do not mix application focus.

Meet further professional criteria - occupational health, DBS and Code of Professional Practice and Fitness to Practice.
What now?

Do your own research- know your stuff

Is my academic progress and attainment sufficient?

Have an alternative plan