

COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP) COURSES

A source of confusion on the biology, chemistry, physics (BCP) courses is deciding what is acceptable/not acceptable for dental school admission, especially in the context of courses taken at a community college (CC) or where credit for advanced placement (AP) was obtained. In general, science courses-general chemistry, organic, physics, biology and to a lesser extent biochemistry- will be offered for 3 distinct groups:

- science courses designed for science and engineering majors
- science courses designed for pre dental, premedical, life science and pharmacy majors
- science courses designed for non science majors-nursing, education, human ecology, etc

Science courses intended for science/engineering majors may be considered interchangeable with the courses intended for pre health professionals.

The number of dental schools that do not accept either advanced placement or community college courses has been increasing over the past few years. There are 18 dental schools that do not accept AP courses for prerequisites and 8 that do not accept AP electives. The number of schools that do not accept prerequisites from community college stands at 4 and those that do not accept electives at 2. More than 2/3 of the dental schools have qualifying notes on acceptance of either AP or CC courses. The least demanding qualifier is that AP course have to have been accepted by an undergraduate institution and they appear on the undergraduate transcript. The more demanding ones require that additional upper-division courses be taken at a four-year college/university, usually equal to the number of credit hours from a community college. For prerequisites, the preference is that they be taken at a four-year college.

It is evident that the collective consensus among dental schools is that AP and CC courses do not offer acceptable background in the sciences. A student relying on CC credit for sciences may find him/herself inadequately prepared for upper-division courses either in his/her pursuit of a major in science or for the dental school pre clinical curriculum, not to mention being inadequately prepared for the Dental Aptitude Test. For 2015 Colorado allows AP credit for prereqs and electives; Howard allows CC/AP credit for electives; Boston accepts prereqs only from 4 year college/university; Mississippi no AP prereqs; Nebraska accepts CC/AP credit for prereqs/electives; Pitt now allows AP credit for prereqs/electives.

2015 Community College/Advanced Placement Credit (6)

	Prereq	Electiv	Limit	Max	Ap prer	AP Elec
Alabama*	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	Yes	Yes
Arizona	Yes	Yes	No		Yes	Yes
Midwest*	Yes	Yes	No	NA	Yes	Yes
USC*	Yes *	Yes	Yes	60	Yes	Yes
Loma L*	Yes*	Yes*	Yes	64	Yes*	Yes
UCLA*	Yes	Yes	Yes	70	Yes	No
UCSF*	Yes	Yes	Yes	64	Yes	Yes
UOP*	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes
Western*	Yes	Yes	No	None	No*	No
Colorado*	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	Yes	Yes
Connecticut	Yes	Yes	No		Yes	Yes
Howard	Yes	Yes	Yes	10	No	Yes
LECOM*	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	Yes	Yes

Nova	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	Yes	Yes
Florida*	Yes	Yes	No	None	Yes	Yes
Georgia	Yes	Yes	No	90	Yes	Yes
Midwestern Illinois*	Yes	Yes	No	NS**	Yes	Yes
Southern Illinois	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	No	Yes
University of Illinois	Yes	Yes	No	None	No	Yes
Indiana*	Yes*	Yes	Yes*	60	No	Yes
Iowa*	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	Yes	Yes
Kentucky	Yes	No	Yes	60	Yes	No
Louisville*	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	Yes	Yes
Louisiana	Yes	Yes	No		Yes	Yes
New Eng	Yes	Yes	No	NA	No	No
Maryland*	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	Yes	Yes
Boston*	No*	Yes	Yes	30	No	Yes
Harvard*	Yes*	Yes	Yes****	60	Yes	Yes
Tufts*	No	No	No		No	Yes
Mercy*	Yes*	Yes	Yes	60/90 (q)	Yes	Yes
Michigan*	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	Yes	Yes
Minnesota	Yes	Yes	Yes	64	Yes	No
Mississippi	Yes	Yes	Yes	65	No	Yes
Missouri	Yes	Yes	No		Yes	Yes
Missou KC*	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	No	No
Creighton	No	Yes	Yes	64	No	No
Nebraska*	Yes	Yes	Yes	30	Yes	Yes
Nevada*	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	No	Yes
Rutgers*	Yes*	Yes	Yes	60	No	Yes
Columbia	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
NYU*	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	No	Yes
Stony B*	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	Yes*	Yes
Buffalo*	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
E Carol*	Yes*	Yes	Yes	60	Yes*	Yes
UNC*	Yes*	Yes	Yes	64	Yes	Yes
Case*	Yes*	Yes	Yes	60	Yes	Yes
Ohio	Not Rec	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes
OK*	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Oregon*	Yes	Yes	Yes	32	Yes	Yes
Temple	No	Yes	Yes	6	No	Yes

Penn*	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	Yes	Yes
Pitt*	Yes*	Yes*	Yes	30%	Yes	Yes
Puerto R*	Yes	Yes	No	90	Yes	Yes
SC	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	Yes	Yes
Meharry	Yes	Yes	No	NA	No	Yes
Tennessee	Yes*	Yes	No	60	Yes	Yes
Baylor	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	Yes	Yes
San Antonio*	Yes	Yes	No	N/A	No*	No*
Houston*	Yes	Yes	Yes	60*	Yes	Yes
Roseman*	Yes	Yes	No		Yes	Yes
Utah*	Yes*	Yes*	Yes	60	No	Yes
Virginia*	Yes	Yes	Yes	60	Yes	Yes
Wash	Yes	Yes	No	90	Yes	Yes
West VA*	Yes	Yes	Yes	64	Yes	Yes
Marquette*	Yes*	Yes	Yes	60	No	Yes
Total No	4	2			18	8
Total Yes	10	1			1	

*See Notes; **NS-Not specified Source: 2015-2016 ADEA Official Guide to Dental Schools
Dental School Notes on CC and AP Credit

	Notes Regarding CC/AP Credit
Alabama	Applicants are strongly encouraged to take prerequisite courses for which they have earned AP/ International Baccalaureate (IB) or other credit at the university level.
Midwest	AP credit: We accept AP credit
USC	CC prereqs: A very limited number may be accepted. AP credit: Credit must have been accepted by undergraduate college and included on transcript.
Loma L	CC prereq/electives: discouraged AP prereq: for English only AP electives: Must provide official AP transcript and receive determination from LLUSD
UCLA	AP credit: Maximum credit of 3 sem/4 quarter hours toward prerequisites.
UCSF	AP credit: applicants must submit official Score Report (School code 5482. Science prereqs can be partially fulfilled using AP credit. See website for details.
UOP	CC credit: Courses taken at a CC will be acceptable if they are transferable. AP credit: Acceptance of AP credit for prereqs is assessed on an individual basis.
Western	AP credit: For English only.
Colo	AP credit: Granting AP credit will be considered on an individual basis
LECOM	AP credit: AP credit will be accepted for prerequis only if upper-level or more advanced coursework is satisfactorily completed.
Florida	AP: Applicants are strongly encouraged to take prerequisite courses at the university level for which they have earned A:/International Baccalaureate (IB) or other credit.

Mid Illin	AP credit: Reviewed by Admissions Office
Indiana	CC prereq: Prefer science from four-year colleges.
Iowa	AP credit in math/physics acceptable; prefer bio/chem at 4-year institution
Louisville	AP credit: Accepted if accepted by institution granting undergrad degree.
Maryland	AP credits for prereqs reviewed by Admissions Committee
Boston	CC credit: Prereqs only from four-year college AP: Applicants with AP credit should take upper level courses in the same field of study. Credits earned at a university should match or exceed the prerequisite requirement in the subject.
Harvard	CC credit: Prefer courses be taken at four-year institution AP: credit accepted for calculus and one English course. Prefer all science prerequisites be taken at a 4-year institution.
E Carolin	AP Prereqs accepted in some instances We strongly recommend applicants who receive AP credit to then avail themselves of the opportunity to take additional higher-level courses.
	AP credit: Accepted for calculus and one English course.
Tufts	AP credit: If the prospective candidate has received AP credits in a prerequisite discipline(s) from his/her "Home" college/university, he/she is strongly encouraged to pursue additional upper division coursework within the discipline for which credit was received-equal to the number of AP credits.
Mercy	CC: Four-year college/university preferred. AP credit: If candidate has received AP credits in a prerequisite from "home" college or university, the applicant is strongly encouraged to pursue additional upper-division coursework within the discipline for which credit was received-equal to the number of recognized AP credits.
Michigan	AP credit: Applicants must receive credit for AP classes on their undergrad transcripts.
MissouKC	CC credit: For prereqs contact Dir. Of Admissions for guidance. AP credit: (1) May be applied to undergrad degree prior to entry into the DDS program (2), Do not meet prerequisite requirements unless have additional advanced courses in subject.
Nebraska	AP credit: Contact school for information.
Nevada	Minimum 30 credit hours from a 4-year institution.
Rutgers	AP credit: AP credit accepted for electives; AP credit must appear on undergrad transcript; check school website for details.
NYU	CC credit: Prefer at four-year college. AP credits: For AP credits in the sciences- higher-level science courses in that discipline.
Stony B	CC credit: Prereqs from four-year college preferred. AP prereq/elect: Must score a 4 or above. For prereqs, additional course(s) should be taken within that discipline to demonstrate scholastic ability at the college level.
Buffalo	CC prereqs: Strongly preferred from four-year college.
	CC electives: Preferred from four-year college.
	AP credit: AP credit will be accepted if transferable, with the exception of biology
E Carolina	CC credit: In some instances. AP credit: Strongly recommend to take additional higher-level courses.
UNC	CC prereqs: Preferred from four-year college/university.
Case	CC prereqs: Majority of prereqs taken at four-year college. AP credit: Must appear on official transcript-additional upper level coursework in the subject is strongly recommended.
Oklahoma	AP credit: For English and psychology. Prereqs in science may be met by AP ;upper-division science recommended

Oregon	CC: Max number 32 preferred AP/IB credit is only accepted if academic for specific courses is recorded on an official transcript from the applicant's undergraduate institution.
Penn	AP credit: AP credit is allowed as long as it appears on the official college transcript
Pitt	CC prereqs/CC electives: Up to 30% of prereqs/coursework; AP credit-no Prereqs; AP courses are counted as credits earned but will not be considered as prerequisites.
Puerto Rico	AP credits: Must appear on college transcript as accepted by college.
Tennessee	Not encouraged
San Antonio	AP credit: AP accepted if undergrad student is award credit for specific course, including department, catalog number and title. Lump sum credit is not accepted.
Houston	CC credit: No more than 60 credit hours recommended.
Roseman	AP credit: Credits must be shown on undergraduate transcript.
Utah	CC prereqs/CC electives: If transferable; AP elect: If the credits can be applied toward a BS/ A degree. It is recommended to take course work beyond introductory classes waived by AP
VA	AP credit: Must be accepted by undergraduate institution.
West VA	AP credit: For English only.
Marquette	AP credit for prerequisites accepted for English only. AP credit: The amount of credit accepted is subject to change at discretion of Adm Com.