PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY, M.S. IN DENTISTRY

Saint Louis University’s advanced education program in pediatric dentistry offers students a comprehensive 24-month course of study in clinical and didactic pediatric dentistry and is designed to meet the educational requirements for limitation of practice to pediatric dentistry and examination by the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry.

Emphasis is placed on all phases of pediatric dentistry. At the end of the program, the student will be able to provide comprehensive oral health care for the well child, the medically compromised child and the child with special health care needs. Extensive experience is provided in the areas of sedation, analgesia and the use of general anesthesia to deliver dental treatment. Research experience is gained through completion of a master’s thesis research project.

The pediatric dental postgraduate program is a newly remodeled 6-chair clinic. Each operatory is equipped with digital radiographic capabilities and nitrous oxide. A small office area, as well as break room, library and classrooms are provided for the residents.

Program Strengths

• Excellent educational program with dedicated faculty
• Large patient base with extensive dental needs
• Extensive experience managing children with a wide range of special health care needs
• Didactic core curriculum covering basic and dental science
• Extensive experience in sedation/general anesthesia
• Facilitated research experience

Curriculum Overview

Seminars are held that cover topics relevant to pediatric dentistry, and a literature review course will discuss current and classic articles from pediatric dental literature. Multi-disciplinary seminars are held in conjunction with the graduate programs in orthodontics, endodontics and periodontics. Formal courses are presented in biostatistics, oral medicine, oral pathology, early and mixed dentition, therapeutics, practice management and some basic sciences. Off-service rotations occur in general anesthesia, pediatric medicine, pediatric emergency room and craniofacial clinic.

Fieldwork and Research Opportunities

Students will gain operating room experience, as well as necessary clinical rotations at SSM Health Cardinal Glennon Children’s Hospital. Residents provide 24 hour/seven-day-a-week dental consultation to the Cardinal Glennon emergency room, a Level I Pediatric Emergency Room.

Students also receive training in research design and statistics and must conduct an original research project. This effort leads to the preparation and defense of a thesis and, subsequently, the production of a manuscript suitable for publication in a journal relating to the specialty of pediatric dentistry. The experience of discovery provided by such research is an integral part of the graduate program and students are expected to produce a meaningful contribution to the field of pediatric dentistry.

Careers

Our goal is to prepare pediatric dentistry graduates to pursue a career with many possibilities: as a clinician with a practice limited to pediatric dentistry, as a researcher or as a teacher of pediatric dentistry.

Admission Requirements

The prerequisite for matriculation in any CADE dental training program is possession of a D.D.S., D.M.D., or equivalent general dental degree. Additionally, individuals must be able to obtain a Missouri Dental License.

Application Requirements

• Online application through ADEA Postdoctoral Application Support Service (ADEA PASS)
• Three letters of recommendation
• National board score test results (scores should be sent to graduate@slu.edu; not required for international applicants)
• Transcript(s)
• Biographical goals statement
• Curriculum vitae or résumé
• National Match Number

Requirements for International Students

All admission policies and requirements for domestic students apply to international students along with the following:

• Demonstrate English Language Proficiency (http://catalog.slu.edu/academic-policies/office-admission/undergraduate/english-language-proficiency)
• Proof of financial support must include:
  • A letter of financial support from the person(s) or sponsoring agency funding the time at Saint Louis University
  • A letter from the sponsor’s bank verifying that the funds are available and will be so for the duration of study at the University
• Academic records, in English translation, of students who have undertaken postsecondary studies outside the United States must include the courses taken and/or lectures attended, practical laboratory work, the maximum and minimum grades attainable, the grades earned or the results of all end-of-term examinations, and any honors or degrees received. WES and ECE transcripts are accepted.

Application Deadline

Applications must be completed by October 1 to be considered for the pediatric dentistry master’s program beginning the summer semester of the following year.

Review Process

A committee examines and reviews the applicant and application wholly. Promising applicants are invited for on-site interviews in November.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

For more information, visit the student financial services office online at http://finaid.slu.edu.

Accreditation

The 24-month program is provisionally accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association and scheduled for final review in Spring 2019. Following completion of the program,
graduates are educationally qualified for certification by the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry.

**Learning Outcomes**

1. Graduates will be able to use the knowledge and concepts of pediatric dentistry, apply major practices, theories, or evidence-based literature in clinical pediatric dentistry.
2. Graduates will be able to assess relevant literature or scholarly contributions in pediatric dentistry.
3. Graduates will be able to articulate arguments or explanations to both a disciplinary or professional audience and to a general audience, in both oral and written forms.
4. Graduates will be able to evidence scholarly and professional integrity in pediatric dentistry.

**Requirements**

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<th>Credits</th>
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<td>BBS 5100</td>
<td>Ethics for Research Scientists</td>
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<td>Introduction to Statistical Inference</td>
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Total Credits 53

**Non-Course Requirements**

Supervised clinical pediatric treatment of patients; comprehensive pediatric specialty examinations utilizing written, oral, and practical clinical formats; teaching practicum; oral defense of the thesis.

**Continuation Standards**

Students must maintain a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 in all graduate/professional courses.

**Roadmap**

Roadmaps are recommended semester-by-semester plans of study for programs and assume full-time enrollment unless otherwise noted.

Courses and milestones designated as critical (marked with !) must be completed in the semester listed to ensure a timely graduation. Transfer credit may change the roadmap.

This roadmap should not be used in the place of regular academic advising appointments. All students are encouraged to meet with their advisor/mentor each semester. Requirements, course availability and sequencing are subject to change.

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#### Spring

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|              | **Total Credits**                                 | **53**  |