

Senate
Senate Chamber
[via Zoom audio conference](#)
WEDNESDAY, December 2, 2020
1:30 p.m.

ADDENDUM TO AGENDA

X ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

**2. Recommendations from the COVID-19 Recovery
Steering Committee**

- | | | |
|----|--|--------|
| a) | Temporary Revision to Admission Requirements for
the Doctor of Dental Medicine, Dr. Gerald Niznick
<u>College of Dentistry</u> | Page 2 |
| b) | Proposed Grading Accommodation for Fall 2020
<u>and Winter 2021</u> | Page 6 |



Office of Provost and Vice-President (Academic)

208 Administration Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3T 2N2
Telephone (204) 480-1408
Fax (204) 275-1160

**University
of Manitoba**

Date: November 30, 2020
To: Mr. Jeff Leclerc, University Secretary
From: Dr. Todd Mondor, Deputy Provost (Academic Planning and Programs) & Chair, COVID-19 Recovery Steering Committee 
Re: Change in Admission Requirements for 2021-2022, D.M.D. (Dr. Gerald Niznick College of Dentistry)

Please find attached a proposal from the Dr. Gerald Niznick College of Dentistry to temporarily modify the 2021-2022 admission requirements to the D.M.D. in response to changes in the availability of the Canadian Dental Association (CDA) Dental Aptitude Test (DAT) as a result of COVID-19 restrictions.

The proposal was reviewed by the COVID-19 Recovery Steering Committee (November 26, 2020) and by the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) (November 27, 2020) and no concerns were raised.

I would ask that the item be placed on the December 2, 2020 Senate agenda so that applicants to the D.M.D. can be advised as soon as possible of the changes should the proposal be endorsed.

Cc.: Dr. Janice Ristock, Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Dr. Anastasia Kelekis-Cholakis, Dean, Dr. Gerald Niznick College of Dentistry
Dr. Vanessa Swain, Chair, Committee for Selection in Dentistry, Dr. Gerald Niznick College of Dentistry
Mr. Jeff Adams, Executive Director, Enrolment Services



To: Dr. T. Mondor, Chair – COVID-19 Recovery Steering Committee

Cc: Dr. Torcia, Chair, Academic Team, COVID-19 Recovery Steering Committee
Ms. Michelle Sookbirsingh
Ms. Cassandra Davison

From: Dr. Vanessa Swain – Chair –
Committee for Selection in Dentistry, Dr. Gerald Niznick College of Dentistry

Re: Change in Admission requirements for 2021-2022 Admission cycle

Please find attached an accepted recommendation from the Committee in Selection in Dentistry from the Dental College Council requesting a change for the 2021-2022 Doctor of Dental Medicine admissions.

This change will be for the 2021-2022 only and is due to the Canadian Dental Aptitude Test, a requirement for admission, not being available for all candidates to write, due to the current code "red" COVID-19 requirements in Manitoba.

A copy of the request, along with the DCC approval is attached for your consideration.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at Vanessa.Swain@umanitoba.ca

Regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Vanessa Swain'.

Proposals for SCADM Consideration

From the Committee for Selection in Dentistry, Dr. Gerald Niznick College of Dentistry

Description of the change:

The request submitted is to have the use of the DAT exam, as a selection tool, modified for the 2021-2022 Admission cycle selection only due to the current situation in Manitoba regarding the “red” status for COVID-19.

Current Requirements:

For application to the Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) program at the Dr. Gerald Niznick College of Dentistry, candidates must take the Canadian Dental Association (CDA) Dental Aptitude Test (DAT) no later than November the year prior to application. The components of the DAT exam that are used are Chemistry, Biology, Reading Comprehension and Perceptual Abilities (PAT). The Application deadline for the DMD program is January 15, 2021 for the 2021-2022 academic year.

Rationale for change:

The CDA, each year, is responsible for arranging administration of the DAT exam to prospective candidates to dental school programs across the country. For the November 2020 DAT, due to the change in the current COVID-19 situation in Winnipeg, some of the centres that were going to administer the DAT are now not available for the number of candidates who had registered for the exam. This would mean that approximately 65 (sixty-five) of the 120 candidates registered for the DAT exam would not be able to participate in the November writing of the exam, which would make these candidates ineligible to apply to the program.

Proposed requirements:

We request that for the 2021-2022 admission cycle only, that the DAT requirement be waived for the initial selection of candidates to receive an interview, allowing the February 2021 DAT or previous DAT exam(s) within the last 3 years, as per the Applicant Information Bulletin to be used for consideration in the final selection. The DAT will be used during the final selection, process utilizing all DAT components as listed in the Applicant Information Bulletin (Chemistry, Biology, Reading Comprehension and Perceptual Abilities). However, should the COVID-19 situation continue and the February DAT not be able to be fully offered to applicants, then the DAT will then be excluded from all parts of the admission cycle criteria for 2021-2022 only.

Recommendation:

That the above request regarding the Dental Aptitude Test for the admission cycle of 2021-2022 only, for the Dr. Gerald Niznick College of Dentistry’s Doctor of Dental Medicine program, be granted to allow all candidates to be evaluated equally.

**The University of Manitoba
Dr. Gerald Niznick College of Dentistry**

**DENTAL COLLEGE COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: November 23, 2020
TIME: 12:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Zoom

An emergency DCC meeting was held to vote on Proposals for SCADM consideration from the Committee for Selection in Dentistry, Dr. Gerald Niznick College of Dentistry

Motion:
“THAT the recommendation presented by the Committee for Selection in Dentistry regarding changes to selection criteria for the upcoming 2021-2022 cycle only, be accepted”.

Discussions took place.

Motion was carried

CHAIRPERSON

DATE (That Minutes are accepted/signed)

/Attendance List Attached to ‘File Copy’ of Minutes

PROPOSED GRADING ACCOMMODATION FOR FALL 2020 AND WINTER 2021

The Student Senate Caucus proposed a set of compassionate grading approaches for consideration by the Covid Response Steering Committee, and its Academic Team. This review was supplemented by information provided by Financial Aid and Awards, the Registrar's Office, Indigenous Student Centre, and the International Centre.

Recommendation

The CRSC, including its representatives from UMSU and UMGSA, recommends that Senate consider the grading accommodation for Fall 2020 and Winter 2021 terms as described below.

Proposal

Students may choose to exclude from their UM GPA either:

- a. up to one (1) grade received in Fall term, and up to one (1) grade received in Winter term, *or*
- b. up to one (1) grade received in a spanned course which runs through both Fall and Winter terms.

The adjusted GPA resulting from exclusion of one or two grades will be used for all GPA-based performance requirements including program progression, probation, suspension, and requirements to withdraw, and to determine eligibility for UM bursaries and scholarships.

The 'excluded' grade will remain on the UM transcript and will be used for progression and prerequisite regulations that specifically reference minimum letter grade requirements.

Students will have until the end of Winter term 2021 to make their exclusion decisions.

Considerations

- The proposed grading approach will provide students with some accommodation for potential negative effects on academic performance arising from the increased stresses and challenges associated with remote learning which have been exacerbated by the increasingly serious pandemic situation in Winnipeg.
- The benefit to students of this approach may be realized without compromising UM academic standards or integrity.
- The proposed approach would provide a potential benefit to all students including those who must maintain enrolment in a minimum number of credit-hours in order to remain eligible for funding (e.g., Indigenous students receiving band funding), UM bursaries and scholarships, and for post-graduation work permits (International students).