Periodontics

Saint Louis University is a Catholic, Jesuit institution that values academic excellence, life-changing research, compassionate health care, and a strong commitment to faith and service.

Founded in 1818, the University fosters the intellectual and character development of nearly 14,000 students on two campuses in St. Louis, Missouri, and Madrid, Spain. Building on a legacy of nearly 200 years, Saint Louis University continues to move forward with an unwavering commitment to a higher purpose, a greater good.

OVERVIEW

The Center for Advanced Dental Education (CADE) at Saint Louis University offers a three-year program in the specialty of periodontics that leads to a certificate in periodontology and a Master of Science in dentistry degree. The program is offered in close affiliation with the Southern Illinois University School of Dental Medicine.

The program consists of clinical and didactic training on the graduate level in the specialty of periodontics. The 36-month program starts around July 1 of each year and is fully accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association. Following completion of the program, graduates are educationally qualified for certification by the American Board of Periodontology.

Three residents are admitted to the program each year. The didactic and clinical portions of the program are conducted at CADE and SIU’s School of Dental Medicine. CADE is part of the Saint Louis University Medical Center campus in St. Louis, Missouri. The clinic at SIU’s School of Dental Medicine sees patients treated by undergraduate dental students and graduate periodontal residents in Alton, Illinois. These facilities are approximately a 30-40 minute drive from each other. Both clinical facilities enable the periodontal residents to see different patient populations and ensures well-rounded exposure to all periodontal treatment modalities.

The clinical portion of the curriculum encompasses all aspects of periodontal treatment, including nonsurgical therapy, hard and soft tissue regenerative surgery, implant surgery, ridge augmentation procedures, occlusal therapy, conscious sedation, periodontal plastic surgery and maintenance therapy. Teaching experience in the undergraduate curriculum is also required by the graduate students.

The periodontics section is composed of 27 faculty members. Four are certified as diplomates of the American Board of Periodontology. All of the faculty have private practice experience. This group of individuals brings extensive teaching experience and a commitment to advanced graduate education. In addition, many faculty from other departments at both universities participate in both core curriculum and discipline-specific courses.

Admission to the program implies certain expectations and obligations on the part of the student as well as the faculty. The faculty and administration pledge to provide the student with appropriate opportunities and facilities for learning. In order to be awarded a master’s degree, the resident must complete the program requirements and be in compliance with the policies and procedures of both universities. It is the obligation of the faculty to attest to the student’s competency prior to the awarding of any degree. Special requirements may be made in addition to, or in place of, the standard requirements.

Scientific inquiry and research of sufficient quality are required for all students. All residents are required to carry out an original research project and submit an approved thesis. Opportunities for both basic and/or clinical research are available. Upon completion of the research, a successful thesis defense is required.

Applicants may be invited for on-site interviews. Applications should be submitted well before Aug. 1 for consideration for admission to begin the program the following July.

For a more in-depth description of the periodontics program, its requirements and its mission, visit slu.edu/CADE/dental-education.
CENTER FOR ADVANCED DENTAL EDUCATION

Periodontics

FACULTY

Robert Bitter, D.M.D.
Robert Blackwell, D.D.S.
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Scott Dunivan, D.M.D., M.S.
John Hatton, D.M.D.
M. Nathalia Garcia, D.D.S.
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CONTACT INFORMATION

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APPLICATION DEADLINE

M.S.

FALL | Aug. 1
SPRING | Aug. 1
SUMMER | Aug. 1

DEGREES OFFERED

• Master of Science (M.S.) in Dentistry
• Certificate in Periodontics

COURSES AVAILABLE

DAYS ✔ NIGHTS ☐ WEEKENDS ☐ ONLINE ☐

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

• Online application and fee
• Three letters of recommendation
• National board score test results
• Transcript(s)
• Biographical goals statement
• Photo (2x2 or 3x5)
• Curriculum vitae or resume

International Applicants:
• TOEFL or IELTS score
• Declaration of financial support packet

FINANCIAL SUPPORT

SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY

Higher purpose.
Greater good."