

Mission

The USC School of Dentistry (USCSD) is a "learning organization," dedicated to our own ongoing learning, flexibility, comfort with change and openness to new ideas. We are committed to improving the health of all people through education and training, innovation and discovery, community health outreach and leadership. USCSD seeks to:

- Provide outstanding undergraduate, graduate and postgraduate academic programs of instruction for highly qualified students leading to academic degrees in oral health professions;
- Extend the knowledge of oral health by encouraging and assisting faculty in the pursuit of innovations and discovery scholarship;
- Improve the oral health of all people of Southern California;
- Stimulate and encourage in our students those qualities of scholarship, leadership and character that mark the true oral health professional;
- Serve California and the nation in providing lifelong learning for oral health professionals;
- Provide oral health leadership in the solution of community, regional, national and international complex problems.

History

Established in 1897 as the College of Dentistry of the University of Southern California, the school first operated under the auspices of the School of Medicine. From 1905 to 1947, the school was affiliated with USC as the College of Dentistry. It became the School of Dentistry in 1948.

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Fact Sheet

DEAN Harold C. Slavkin
The G. Donald and Marian James Montgomery
Professor of Dentistry

SIZE (fall 2007)
Students: 640 dental students; 76 dental hygiene students; 116 post-doctoral students in advanced specialty programs; and 33 M.S. and Ph.D. candidates, 19 of these are concurrently enrolled in other dentistry programs.

Faculty: 113 full-time faculty and 476 part-time faculty

PROGRAMS

Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.)

Doctoral Dental Program (four-year program)
Advanced Standing Program for International Dentists (two-year program)

Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene (B.S.D.H.)

Dental Hygiene Program
Post-Certificate Hygiene Program

Advanced Specialty Certificates

Advanced Education in Endodontics
Advanced Orofacial Pain and Oral Medicine
Advanced Education in Pediatric Dentistry
Advanced Education in Periodontics
Advanced Education in Prosthodontics
Advanced Education in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery/M.D.*
Advanced Education in Orthodontics**
General Practice Residency

* In conjunction with the Keck School of Medicine of USC, offers a combined program leading to a specialty certificate and M.D.

** In conjunction with the USC Graduate School, offers combined programs with Craniofacial Biology leading to a specialty certificate and M.S. degree.

Master of Science (M.S.)

Craniofacial Biology Program

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Craniofacial Biology Program

Combined Degree Programs:

D.D.S./M.B.A. with the Marshall School of Business

D.D.S./M.S. with the Leonard Davis School of Gerontology

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The current University Park Campus building opened in 1952 and was rededicated as the Eileen and Kenneth Norris Dental Science Center upon completion of the three-story addition in 1969.

The dental school established a presence on the Health Sciences Campus in 1991 with the opening of the Center for Craniofacial Molecular Biology.

During the 1997 centennial year, the school completed a 40,000-square-foot renovation creating modern preclinical teaching laboratories, orthodontic facilities, a library-learning center and a video teleconferencing facility that take advantage of emerging technologies to enhance education, research and patient care. In 2001 the school dedicated remodeled surgical suites; updated dental hygiene, pediatric dentistry, periodontic and endodontic clinics; and dedicated the Blair Conference Center's "classrooms of the future." The 2005 doctoral dental class became the first graduating class to pursue their entire dental education using the problem-based learning pedagogy.

Highlights

USC Oral Health Center

The USC Oral Health Center is the primary home of the USC School of Dentistry Faculty Practice. It is an ultramodern, 21st century dental facility with the mission to provide the surrounding community with high quality, affordable dental services from expert practitioners. Completed in 2003, the center doctors employ the latest technology in providing state-of-the-art oral health care. The Oral Health Center includes a 10,000 square-foot practice area and an additional 1,100 square feet of laboratory, office and conference space. In 2006, the Center for Dental Technology opened 1,900 square feet of wet and dry labs adjacent to the Oral Health Center.

Center for Craniofacial Molecular Biology

At the school's renowned research center on USC's Health Sciences Campus, dental faculty seek innovative solutions to oral health problems through research in such areas as craniofacial development, biomimetics, tooth regeneration and tissue engineering.

Visit the USC School of Dentistry online at:

www.usc.edu/dental

Points of Distinction

- In July 2006, the School of Dentistry entered into a unique alignment with USC's Department of Biokinesiology and Physical Therapy and the Department of Occupational Science and Occupational Therapy. These top-ranked programs are now divisions at the School of Dentistry. While each program will pursue its individual academic agenda, the alignment offers opportunities to create innovative practice models and research collaborations.
- USC School of Dentistry's faculty currently includes two members in the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences, four Fellows in the American Association for the Advancement of Science.
- USCSA has graduated close to 14,000 health professionals in dentistry, dental hygiene and dental specialties, including many who have distinguished themselves as innovators in the art, science and practice of dentistry and as leaders in dental education and research.
- The state-of-the-art USC Center for Dental Technology opened in November 2006. As the first of its kind at a university, the center combines restorative dentistry and dental technology to provide comprehensive patient care in oral rehabilitation. The 1,900-square-foot facility, behind the USC Oral Health Center, consists of wet and dry labs for patient care, dental student and continuing education, as well as bioengineering research.
- During its 43-year history, USC's Mobile Dental Clinic has provided dental treatment for more than 82,000 children from low-income families in California, from Bakersfield to the Mexico border. In 2006-2007 the Mobile Clinic provided \$1.7 million in dental care at no cost to patients' families.
- In 2005 the USC dental clinic at the Union Rescue Mission was one of only four organizations nationwide to receive an Award of Excellence from the National Health Services Corps. The award honors organizations that share the mission of the NHSC, by connecting underserved communities with primary health care.
- As of June 2007, the school had a total endowment of \$74 million, which includes 12 endowed chairs and professorships, 50 scholarships and other endowed funds.
- USC School of Dentistry personnel provided oral health services for nearly 86,000 individuals in 2006-2007 at the school and affiliated sites.
- The school was the first dental school in Southern California, and for 56 years the only dental school in the southwestern United States.