

PROGRAM IN DENTISTRY, THE SOCIAL SCIENCES, AND HEALTH (DeSH)

Oral health has a significant - yet often overlooked - impact on the wellbeing of individuals, families, and communities. Successful efforts to understand this impact and improve oral health require innovative leaders who have dental training and a deep understanding of oral health's underlying socioeconomic causes and consequences. Cutting-edge social science research methods may offer solutions to these challenges, but oral health professionals with doctoral training in the social sciences are exceedingly rare.

Funded by the George E. Richmond Foundation, The Program in Dentistry, the Social Sciences, and Health (DeSH) offers an opportunity for individuals who are enrolled in or have completed a DDS or DMD from any institution to earn a PhD from a social science program at the University of Chicago. The goal is to train dentists to become innovative clinician-scholars and conduct groundbreaking research at the interface of oral health, systemic health, and society.



DeSH is currently accepting applications for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Prospective students must apply separately to DeSH and to any social science PhD program(s) of interest at UChicago. Eligible doctoral programs include:

- Anthropology
- Booth School of Business
- Comparative Human Development
- Conceptual and Historical Studies of Science
- Economics
- Harris School of Public Policy Studies
- History
- Political Science
- Psychology
- Public Health Sciences
- School of Social Service Administration
- Social Thought
- Sociology

The deadline to apply is **December 1, 2017**.
Learn more at chess.uchicago.edu/DeSH



Program Overview

Prospective students may apply to DeSH through one of two tracks:

- 1. Dental Student Track:** Students who are currently enrolled in a DDS or DMD program may apply to DeSH before their first, second, or third year of dental school. Accepted students in this track will work with their dental school, their PhD program, and DeSH faculty to develop a training timeline at each institution that maximizes the benefits of learning and scholarship in both doctoral programs.
- 2. Dental Professional Track:** Dentists who have completed a DDS or DMD degree may apply to DeSH during the last year of their residency training or at any point during their professional careers. Once admitted, students in this track will complete their PhD training at UChicago without any breaks in the program.

Upon gaining acceptance to DeSH, students are integrated into the Center for Health and the Social Sciences (CHeSS), where they receive administrative support, access to interdisciplinary workshops and courses, and mentorship. Consisting of 3-4 faculty members from across the university, mentorship teams provide ongoing support and advisement to students as they progress through dental school and their respective PhD programs. DeSH students also join an existing community of dual degree students from the MD-PhD Program in Medicine, the Social Sciences, and Humanities (MeSH), and they have the opportunity to participate in interdisciplinary oral health research projects across campus.

Funding

DeSH students receive tuition and stipend support for their graduate training at UChicago. Grant funding from the Richmond Foundation provides one year of support, and each student's PhD program provides support for the remaining years of graduate training. DeSH does not provide any funding support for dental school.

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