

COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY

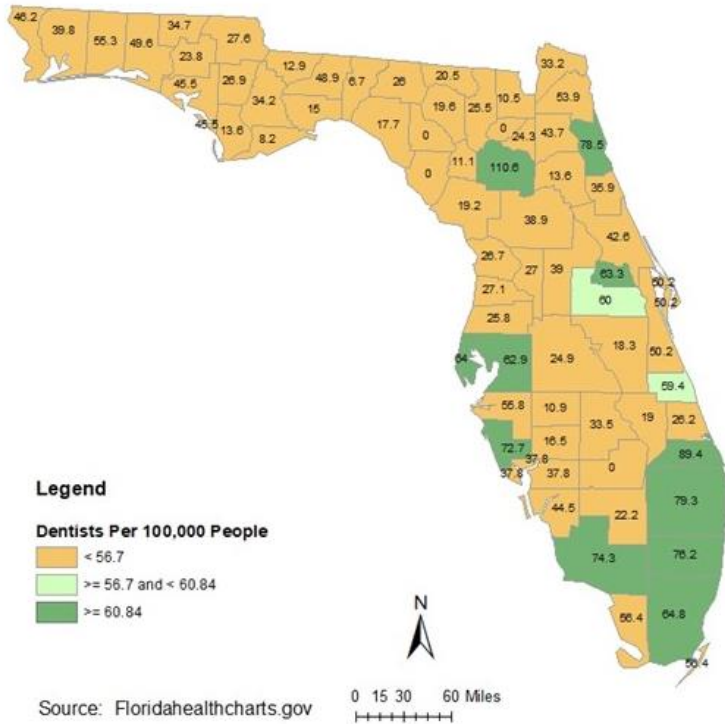
DMD PROGRAM REQUEST



Naming is contingent on approval of philanthropic gift by FAU Board of Trustees

FLORIDA WORKFORCE

Dentists per 100,000 by County in Florida, 2020-21



Map created with data from
[Licensed Florida Dentists - Florida Health CHARTS - Florida Department of Health \(flhealthcharts.gov\)](#)

FLORIDA DENTISTRY WORKFORCE STATISTICS

The American Dental Association recommends 61 dentists per 100,000 people. However, Florida reports only **54** dentists per 100,000. American Dental Association, The Dentist Workforce—Key Facts.

According to Florida Health 2017-2018 Workforce Survey of Dentists:

- 48% of Florida dentists had practiced for more than 20 years, pointing to a growing supply of older dentists serving the population.
- 57% of practicing Florida dentists graduated from an out-of-state school, suggesting that Florida is not training its own dentistry need.
- 96% of Florida dentists accepting new patients, but only 22% were Medicaid providers.

REGIONAL DISPARITY OF LICENSED DENTISTS IN FLORIDA

- Only 11 of the 67 counties in Florida have rates at or above the United States average (dark green shading).
- Only 13 of the 67 counties in Florida have rates at or above the Florida average rate (dark+light green shading).
- Counties with relatively higher rates may still have masked areas within them that are underserved due to variations in Medicaid acceptance and transportation accessibility of the population.

FACULTY RECRUITMENT AND HIRING PLAN

STRATEGY AND TIMELINE

TIMELINE AND FUNDING

- 30 faculty in year 1, with the expectation of 40 faculty by year 5 (70 support staff).
- FAU to seek operational and capital funding to hire faculty and staff (110 full-time employees) necessary to run the college (360 when class size reaches full capacity, Fall 2032).

HIRE NATIONALLY FOR ACADEMIC-CENTRIC FACULTY

- FAU's location in desirable geographic market provides unique opportunity to recruit academic-centric faculty.
- Emphasis on new state-of-the-art dental education facility (93,750 Gross Square Feet).
- Recruit dean with national prominence to attract "best and brightest" faculty.

RECRUIT SOME CLINICAL FACULTY FROM RURAL COMMUNITIES

- The close proximity of rural areas of Florida to FAU, relative to out-of-state locations, means that travel and relocation expenses will be lower, making it a much more cost-effective option.
- Additionally, recruiting from rural areas increases the likelihood of retaining existing dentists in local communities, given that they have already established ties to the area and local communities.

INTEGRATION WITH COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

- Faculty, personnel and resources to support:
 - Early-phase faculty transition provide early scalability.
 - Common curriculum and research.

STUDENT RECRUITING

ATTRACTING STUDENTS TO SERVE RURAL/UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS

- **45** students in year 1
- **90 students per class** by year 4
- **360 total students** when full class size is realized, by Fall 2032.

MULTI-PRONGED PLAN

- Aimed at recruiting students linked to underserved areas.
- Fundraising to support financial incentives (e.g., scholarships and loan repayment incentives in exchange for service for a specified period of time in an underserved area post-graduation).
- Beginning September 2024, step up Philanthropic Efforts in addition to the development of Creative Financial Incentive Models for Scholarships, etc.

ADMISSION AND RETENTION PRACTICES

- Admissions to ensure that the vast majority of students are in-state, with an emphasis on those coming from rural and underserved areas.
- Preferentially recruit applicants from rural/underserved areas of Florida.

PRE-HEALTH ADVISING OFFICE AND MEDICAL PIPELINE PROGRAM

- FAU's Pre-Health Advising Office has a long-established record of serving FAU's diverse and first-generation students.
- Coupled with Medical Pipeline program to ensure success in recruiting the student population most likely to participate in Community Health Program service.

STUDENT RETENTION

INCENTIVES FOR POST-GRADUATE RURAL AND UNDERSERVED SERVICE

PROMOTING A CULTURE OF SERVICE

- Given the importance of Community Health Programs to FAU's identity as an institution, FAU will promote a culture of service as part of its students' unique identity, which will distinguish FAU graduates and further connect them to rural and underserved communities.

STUDENT LOAN FORGIVENESS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- In addition to federal loan forgiveness programs, FAU can introduce loan forgiveness programs that supplement existing options.
- Scholarships conditioned on ongoing participation in Community Health Program service will help ensure that post-graduation service commitments remain attractive for graduates.

CLINICAL ROTATION

- FAU is committed to expanding its geographic impact in rural communities by working with the Heartland Rural Health Network to establish clinical rotations in Hardee, Highlands, DeSoto and rural portions of Polk and Charlotte Counties.
- The Heartland Rural Health Network is committed to improving access to quality health care (including dental care) by working in collaboration with network members and community partners to drive rural health initiatives.
- FAU will further expand the geographic impact of the College of Dentistry into Florida's Panhandle by partnering with the University of West Florida.

CURRICULUM PLAN

INTEGRATION WITH COLLEGE OF MEDICINE and DEVELOPMENT OF CLINICAL PROGRAMS

TIMELINE FOR PLAN DEVELOPMENT

- The curriculum as described in the proposal exceeds the general Commission on Dental Accreditation curriculum requirements, without any specializations.
- The curriculum needed to start the Doctor of Dental Medicine program will be developed in accordance with existing FAU curriculum approval processes and will be aligned with our accreditation and enrollment timelines.
- All Doctor of Dental Medicine coursework will have advanced through the FAU curriculum approval process by Fall of 2024.

INTEGRATION WITH COLLEGE OF MEDICINE FOR YEARS 1 AND 2 CURRICULUM

- Basic science courses, which make up about two-thirds of the curriculum for the first two years, will be facilitated by the College of Medicine.
- Core clinical training begins after the first two years are completed.

PROGRAM COSTS

USE OF STATE SUPPORT, TUITION FUNDS and OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING

\$37.9 million Operating Budget (Legislative Budget Request)

- \$21.4 million salary and benefits
- \$15 million for annual operating expenses
- \$1 million for financial aid

\$85.5 million Start-Up Costs (Legislative Budget Request)

TUITION TO SUPPORT OVERALL PROGRAM AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- In-state tuition: \$37,566 per year for the 4 years of the program with annual student fees of \$4,154. Out-of-state: additional \$26,480 per year. (Tuition recycled into the program, prioritizing offsetting costs of operations and scholarships)
- \$13.3 million Tuition Support when fully enrolled: Incentive-based financial aid and operational support for community-based practice centers.
- In addition to covering initialization and operating costs, tuition generated during the first years of student enrollment will be dedicated to setting up community-based practice centers.

PARTNERSHIP WITH HEALTH AGENCIES AND ACCESS TO FEDERAL GRANTS

- Partnership with health agencies in rural and underserved communities provides access to federal grant money to support this type of engagement.
- Funds will be used to develop and maintain operations at rural and underserved dental centers (Heartland Rural Health Network).

FLORIDA ATLANTIC'S SUCCESS IN SECURING PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT IN RELATED AREAS

- Robert A. Wood FAU Medical Scholars Fund (\$28 million for medical student scholarships – largest gift in FAU's history).
- Holli Rockwell Trubinsky Eminent Dean in Nursing (\$10 million endowed).

NEXT STEPS

- **Securing Funding** (2023 Legislative Session)
- **Hiring Faculty for Degree Program Implementation** (January 2025-July 2026)
- **Curriculum Approval** (by Fall 2024)
- **Securing Initial Accreditation from Commission on Dental Accreditation** (Spring 2025)

FAU will work closely with the Board of Governors staff and provide regular updates to monitor progress on the above items.