



**ADDENDUM TO**  
**School of Dentistry**  
**2023-2024 ACADEMIC CATALOG**

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**School of Dentistry**  
**2023-2024 Academic Catalog**

**ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR DENTISTS AND DENTAL HYGIENISTS**

**ADD (following 'Chronic Conditions' section on page 12):**

**Students with Disabilities and Attendance Requirements**

UTHealth Houston students are expected to be present for all classes (whether in-person or online) or other forms of required class time to include labs, clinical rotations, or other school required meetings. Students are also responsible for taking quizzes and examinations in a timely manner according to the schedule for the courses and programs in which they are enrolled. It is the responsibility of each student to learn and comply with the standards set in each course's attendance policy, as explained in the course syllabus. Students should be aware that, when a course policy allows for a specific number of absences with no penalty, that number typically includes absences for any reason (including those with documented justification). In courses with such limits, absences beyond the allowed number create a presumption that the student has not fulfilled the essential educational requirements of the course, and therefore, will receive a grade reflecting the deficiency.

Attendance is important to the academic success of a student; however, UTHealth Houston understands that there may be disability-related reasons for missed classes. A student can request an exception to a faculty member's attendance policy through the process outlined in HOOP Policy #101 – Disability and Pregnancy Accommodation <https://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448050>. Determinations related to disability-related requests will be made on an individual basis based on a review of related medical documentation and in collaboration with the School's 504 Coordinator, the Office of University Relations & Equal Opportunity, the student, and the faculty member responsible for teaching each impacted course.

The school is not required to grant accommodations that constitute a fundamental alteration of the program or course. Specifically, the school does not have to modify a requirement, including attendance, that is essential to the educational purpose or objective of a program or class. Decisions regarding essential requirements of a course or program will be made by a group of people who are trained, knowledgeable, and experienced in the area through a careful, thoughtful, and rational review of the academic program and its requirements. Decision-makers will consider a series of alternatives for the essential requirements, as well as whether the essential requirement(s) in question can be modified for a specific student with a disability.

It is important for the student to discuss contingency plans with their faculty before absences occur to ensure the repercussion of absences are clear and/or to develop a contingency plan. This process is not intended to allow for unlimited absences and does not alleviate the student of their responsibility to complete all assignments, quizzes, and examinations, or participate in class or related activities (if applicable).

For additional information on the disability accommodation process please see HOOP Policy 101 – Disability and Pregnancy Accommodation <https://www.uth.edu/hoop/policy.htm?id=1448050>.

A list of UTHealth Houston 504 Coordinator's by school are found at <https://www.uth.edu/hoop/section-504-coordinators.htm>.

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## **ACADEMIC STANDARDS**

### **UPDATE ATTENDANCE LANGUAGE**

**CURRENT: (page 83)**

#### **Attendance**

Attendance at all scheduled classes, laboratories, and clinic sessions is required. The minimum attendance for which credit will be given or which will admit a student to the final examination is 90 percent of the time scheduled for instruction in that course. The margin of 10 percent absence is provided to accommodate only unavoidable absences due to illness, delayed registration, or approved causes, and it is not contemplated that this concession shall apply to other than exceptional cases.

#### **CHANGE TO:**

#### **Attendance**

Attendance at all scheduled classes, laboratories, and clinic sessions is required. The minimum attendance for which credit will be given or which will admit a student to the final examination is 90 percent of the time scheduled for instruction in that course. The margin of 10 percent absence is provided to accommodate only unavoidable absences due to illness, delayed registration, or approved causes, and it is not contemplated that this concession shall apply to other than exceptional cases. For more information regarding Students with Disabilities and Attendance, please refer to page 12 of the catalog.