The 2017 entering class Dental Aptitude Test averages are: Academic 21; Perceptual Ability 20; and Total Science 21.

Our DMD students achieved a 100 percent first-time pass rate on Part 1 of the National Dental Board Exam — we are very proud of their continued success.

Advanced Education Program
UFCD is one of only three U.S. dental schools with residency training in every dental specialty recognized by the American Dental Association. Our programs continue to attract outstanding applicants and most of the programs’ graduates earn a 100 percent pass rate on board exams. The American Board of Pediatric Dentists, or ABPD, is the only one that bestows awards for those with high scores on their exam.

This is the third consecutive year that two residents from the UF pediatric dental residency program earned a Pugh Award—one from the Gainesville cohort and one from Naples. The award honors the top three percent of the scores in the ABPD Qualifying Examination across the U.S.

Interdisciplinary Education
UFCD’s focus on interdisciplinary education has heightened over the past four decades with the increased recognition that collaboration between health care providers leads to better patient outcomes.

The newest collaboration is with the College of Pharmacy that launched in May 2017, “Doc, My Teeth Hurts.” Two shifts of 93 dental and 240 pharmacy students gathered to learn how to care for their respective patients, simulating what happens in a real clinical environment, where multiple disciplines affect the health of each patient.

UF Summer Health Professions Education Program
UF SHPEP, spearheaded by UFCD faculty, began its second year in May 2018. SHPEP allows 80 pre-health students from across the U.S. to attend a six-week program to learn more about careers in dentistry, medicine, nursing, pharmacy, public health and health professions, physician assistant studies and veterinary medicine.

Students participate in a variety of activities including a head and neck tumor panel, disaster response training, and “Closer Look” events in participating colleges and programs. The 2018 cohort includes 79 students (47 female/32 male) representing 14 states and 16 colleges/universities. Of those, 51 identify as Black/African American; 3 Afro-Latina; 1 Native American; 56 Asian American; 24 Hispanic; 20 as Hispanic/Latino; 4 as Native American; one as Asian-Latino.

Faculty Hiring
During the past year, 19 new faculty members joined the college. Of those, four are in community dentistry and behavioral science; two are in endodontics; seven are in restorative dental sciences; one is in oral and maxillofacial diagnostic sciences; three are in oral and maxillofacial surgery; and two are in pediatric dentistry. An additional 11 new faculty are expected to begin before the end of 2018 and searches are ongoing for eight more positions.

UF Capital Campaign
In 2017, UF launched Go Greater—a $3 billion campaign, ending in 2022, that builds on the university’s call to enlighten, lead and serve citizens and society at large. The campaign emphasizes projects and programs that encourage collaboration across all of UF’s colleges, units and partners.

The $3 billion goal was established so UF can go greater in our communities, and our state, nation and across the globe. The UFCD portion of that goal is $28 million to fund important initiatives, including endowed professorships, scholarships, centers focused on excellence in digital dentistry and children’s oral health, and other naming opportunities.

Hospitality & Services Training
In October 2017 UFCD launched Hospitality & Services training. The program provides a set of standards that urge us all to help create an even more welcoming and hospitable work environment – no matter where we work across our school. The program addresses four areas: hospitality, teamwork, communication, and professionalism and responsibility.
UFCD received more than $17 million from all sources in contracts and grants to seven departments. The college houses eight research centers including the Pain Research and Intervention Center of Excellence, the Center for Dental Biomaterials, the Center for Molecular Microbiology, the Dental Clinical Research Unit, and the National Dental Practice-Based Research Network.