

ADEA Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS)

2011 Entering Class

Information for Applicants Applying to Dental Schools



Pathways to a Career in Dentistry

Dentistry is an exciting, challenging, and rewarding profession. Those who choose to pursue dental careers are motivated, scientifically curious, intelligent, ambitious, and socially conscious health professionals. The dental profession includes not only those who provide direct patient care, but those who teach, conduct research, and work in public and international health. All of these professionals are vital links in health care, necessary to promote social and economic change as well as individual well-being.

Currently there are more than 176,000 professionally active dentists in the United States. With continuing population growth and the upcoming retirement of a large group of dentists, the need for new dentists is expected to escalate over the coming decades. Opportunities for all individuals interested in becoming dentists are growing because of the intense national need to improve access to general health and oral care and the demand for dental services. In response to the clear need for dentists to serve all citizens, dental schools are strengthening their efforts to recruit and retain all highly qualified students, especially women and underrepresented minorities.

Why Consider a Dental Career?

Not only are dentists part of a dynamic, stimulating field that offers a variety of professional opportunities, but:

- The dental profession offers a wide range of clinical practice, research, and academic opportunities. The entire dental profession is at the head of important new research substantiating the relationship between oral health and systemic health.
- Dentists are generally able to enter practice directly upon completion of four years of dental school. The average net income for dentists has doubled in the last decade and is in the highest 5% of U.S. family incomes. Net hourly incomes for dentists now exceed those of family physicians, general internists, and pediatricians.
- Dentistry is not generally subject to the effects of managed care and reductions in federal funding that have affected other health care professions.

About ADEA

The American Dental Education Association (ADEA) is the voice of dental education. Its members include all U.S. and Canadian dental schools and many allied and postdoctoral dental education programs, corporations, faculty, and students. The mission of ADEA is to lead the dental education community to address contemporary issues influencing education, research, and the delivery of oral health care for the health of the public. ADEA's activities encompass a wide range of research, advocacy, faculty development, meetings, and communications like the esteemed *Journal of Dental Education*, as well as the dental school admissions services AADSAS, PASS, and CAAPID.

About ADEA AADSAS

The American Dental Education Association (ADEA) sponsors AADSAS, a centralized application service for individuals applying to dental schools. ADEA AADSAS simplifies the application process for both applicants and schools by allowing applicants to complete only one application form. ADEA AADSAS does not influence any school's evaluation or selection of applicants, nor does ADEA recommend applicants to dental schools.

The ADEA AADSAS 2011 application becomes available online at <http://portal.aadsasweb.org> on June 3, 2010. Dental schools receive applications from ADEA AADSAS starting in late June and continuing through each school's application deadline. All applications submitted to ADEA AADSAS on or before a dental school's application deadline—provided all supporting documentation is received from the applicant—are processed and sent to that school.

In addition to submitting an ADEA AADSAS application, the dental school application process entails substantial planning and time management. Be sure to plan for:

- Taking the Dental Admission Test (DAT) or Canadian Dental Aptitude Test

- Submitting supplemental materials requested by schools in a timely manner (check the Participating Dental Schools list in the ADEA AADSAS application)
- Costs related to travel and professional dress for admissions interviews, required by most dental schools as part of the admissions process

attended (even if coursework is posted to another, more recently attended college), and application payment

Questions?

ADEA AADSAS Customer Service representatives are available Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern time, except federal holidays. Call 617-612-2045 or email us at aadsasinfo@aadsasweb.org.

ADEA AADSAS Application Processing Fees

The processing fee for the 2011 ADEA AADSAS application is \$227 for the first dental school and \$72 for each additional school. ADEA AADSAS offers a Fee Assistance Program (FAP) for applicants who demonstrate extreme financial need. Details of this program can be obtained at www.adea.org/dental_education_pathways/aadsas.

More Help from ADEA

ADEA publishes two comprehensive guidebooks for those considering a dental career or advising students about dental careers. They can be ordered online at www.adea.org.

ADEA Official Guide to Dental Schools

This is the most authoritative information available about applying to and attending dental school in the United States or Canada.

ADEA Opportunities for Minority Students in U.S. Dental Schools

This book contains information of interest to minority students considering dental school and tools to help them manage the application process.

Tips for a Successful ADEA AADSAS Application

- Apply early!
- Read all instructions carefully before completing the ADEA AADSAS application.
- Print a copy of your ADEA AADSAS application.
- Monitor your application online. Check messages from ADEA AADSAS by email or online.
- Remember that ADEA AADSAS considers your application complete and begins processing your application after receiving:
 - Your submitted ADEA AADSAS application. Official transcripts from every college and university you have

AADSAS Answers

ADEA AADSAS staff post answers to the most frequently asked applicant questions at www.youtube.com/user/AADSASAnswers.

ADEA AADSAS

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