



ADEA

AMERICAN
DENTAL
EDUCATION
ASSOCIATION

AADSAS 2009

Associated American
Dental Schools
Application Service

Information for Applicants
to Dental School for the
2009 Entering Class

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 The notion of dentists as those who merely fill teeth is outdated. Today, dentists are highly sophisticated health professionals who provide a wide range of care that contributes enormously to the quality of their patients' lives. Dentists are also instrumental in early detection of oral cancer and systemic conditions of the body that manifest themselves in the mouth, and they are in the forefront of new developments in cosmetic and aesthetic practices. 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 the health care delivery system, necessary to promote social and economic change as well as individual well-being.

Currently there are more than 166,000 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 continuously increasing 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. ADEA is at the forefront of the effort to bring more diverse qualified students to dental school and, in addition, is a national leader in efforts to increase access to oral health care and improve the health of the public.

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 lifestyle of a private practice dentist is generally predictable and self-determined
- ✓ 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
- ✓ Dentists enjoy unusual loyalty among their patients

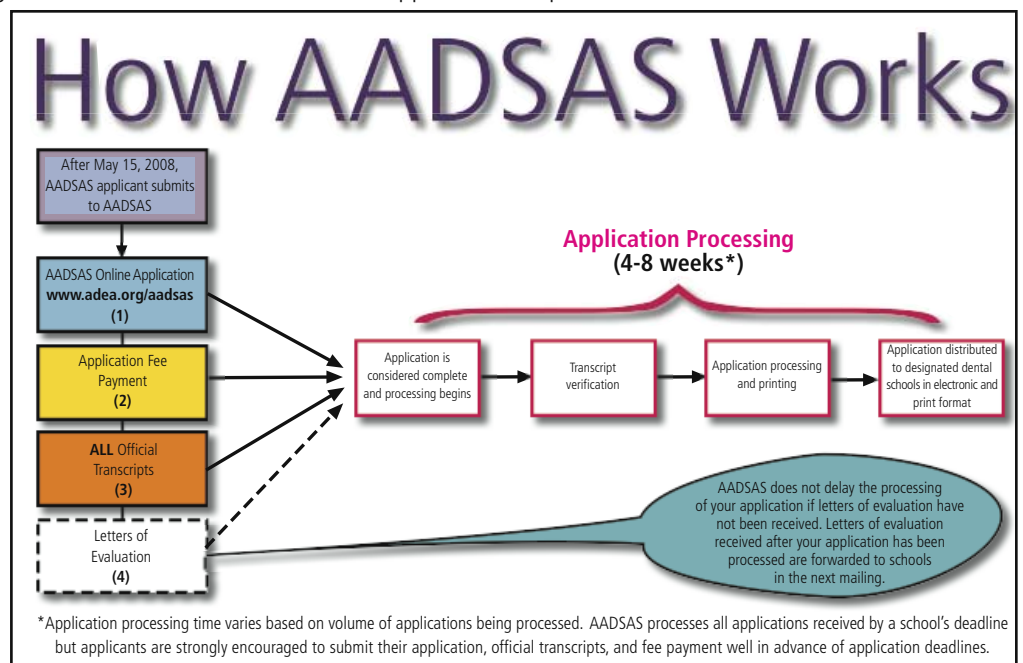
What Is ADEA AADSAS?

AADSAS is a centralized application service sponsored by the American Dental Education Association (ADEA). AADSAS simplifies the application process for both applicants and schools by allowing applicants to complete only one application form. Information is then sent in a standardized format to the dental schools requested by the applicant. AADSAS serves as an information clearinghouse only. It does not influence any school's evaluation or selection of applicants, nor does ADEA recommend applicants to dental schools.

The AADSAS 2009 application will be available online (www.adea.org) in mid May 2008. Dental schools receive applications from AADSAS starting in June and continuing through each school's application deadline. All applications submitted to 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 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 AADSAS application and note that many schools charge their own application fees to cover costs associated with processing your application)
- ✓ Admissions interviews, required by most dental schools as part of the admissions process. Plan ahead for costs related to travel and professional dress.



ADEA AADSAS Application Processing Fees

The processing fee for the 2009 AADSAS application is \$195 for the first dental school and \$60 for each additional school. AADSAS offers a fee reduction program for applicants who demonstrate extreme financial need. Details of this program can be obtained in the AADSAS section of the ADEA website, www.adea.org.

Tips to a Successful AADSAS Application

- Apply early! Applicants increase their chances of being seriously considered for admission if they submit their AADSAS application well in advance of application deadlines. Many dental schools begin reviewing applications and inviting applicants for interviews in August and September.
- Print a copy of your AADSAS application and keep it with your records.
- Monitor your application online. Watch for messages from AADSAS by email or online (within your AADSAS application).
- Be sure to enter all coursework information in the AADSAS application accurately. Incorrect applications must be returned to applicants, which can result in processing delays.
- Remember that AADSAS considers your application complete and begins processing your application after receiving:
 - ✓ Your submitted AADSAS application
 - ✓ Official transcripts from every college and university you have attended (even if coursework is posted to another, more recently attended college)
 - ✓ Application payment

Questions?

ADEA's Customer Service provides customer support to AADSAS. Applicants may contact Customer Service for assistance with filling out their AADSAS application or any questions related to the application process. Customer Service representatives are available Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Eastern time). Call 800-353-2237 or 202-289-7201, or email csraadsas@adea.org.

ADEA AADSAS
1400 K Street NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20005
800-353-2237 or 202-289-7201
csraadsas@adea.org
www.adea.org

Even More Help

ADEA publishes two comprehensive guidebooks for those considering a dental career or advising students about dental careers: *The ADEA Official Guide to Dental Schools* and *Opportunities for Minority Students in U.S. Dental Schools*.

The *ADEA Official Guide to Dental Schools* is the most authoritative information available about applying to and attending dental school in the United States or Canada. In it you will find:

- An overview of the dental profession, including benefits of being a dentist and descriptions of the varied areas of specialization and practice options
- Informed insights into how the admission process works and what kinds of academic backgrounds are generally needed

Dental Schools that Participate in ADEA AADSAS

ALABAMA University of Alabama at Birmingham www.dental.uab.edu	NEBRASKA Creighton University cudental.creighton.edu	
ARIZONA Arizona School of Dentistry and Oral Health www.atsu.edu	University of Nebraska www.unmc.edu/dentistry	
Midwestern University www.midwestern.edu/az-dental	NEVADA University of Nevada, Las Vegas dentalschool.unlv.edu	
CALIFORNIA University of California, Los Angeles uclasod.dent.ucla.edu	NEW JERSEY University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey dentalschool.umdnj.edu	
University of California, San Francisco dentistry.ucsf.edu	NEW YORK Columbia University College of Dental Medicine dental.columbia.edu	
Loma Linda University www.dentistry.llu.edu	New York University www.nyu.edu/dental	
University of the Pacific Arthur A. Dugoni www.dental.pacific.edu	University at Buffalo www.sdm.buffalo.edu	
University of Southern California www.usc.edu/hsc/dental	Stony Brook University www.hsc.stonybrook.edu	
Western University of Health Sciences www.westernu.edu	NORTH CAROLINA University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill www.dent.unc.edu	
COLORADO University of Colorado www.uchsc.edu/sod	OHIO Case School of Dental Medicine dental.case.edu	
CONNECTICUT University of Connecticut sdm.uhc.edu	The Ohio State University www.dent.osu.edu/admissions/	
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Howard University www.howard.edu	OKLAHOMA University of Oklahoma dentistry.ouhsc.edu	
FLORIDA Nova Southeastern University www.nova.edu	OREGON Oregon Health and Science University www.ohsu.edu/sod	
University of Florida www.dental.ufl.edu	PENNSYLVANIA University of Pennsylvania www.dental.upenn.edu	
ILLINOIS University of Illinois at Chicago dentistry.uic.edu	University of Pittsburgh www.dental.pitt.edu	
Southern Illinois University www.siu.edu/dentalmedicine	The Maurice H. Kornberg School of Dentistry, Temple University www.temple.edu/dentistry	
INDIANA Indiana University www.iusd.iupui.edu	PUERTO RICO University of Puerto Rico www.upr.clu.edu	
IOWA University of Iowa www.dentistry.uiowa.edu	SOUTH CAROLINA Medical University of South Carolina www.musc.edu/em	
KENTUCKY University of Kentucky www.mc.uky.edu/dentistry	TENNESSEE Meharry Medical University www.mmc.edu	
University of Louisville www.louisville.edu/dental	TEXAS Baylor College of Dentistry www.bcd.tamhsc.edu	
MARYLAND University of Maryland www.dental.umaryland.edu	University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston www.uth.tmc.edu	
MASSACHUSETTS Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine dentalschool.bu.edu	University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio www.uthscsa.edu/	
Harvard School of Dental Medicine www.hsdm.harvard.edu/	VIRGINIA Virginia Commonwealth University www.dentistry.vcu.edu	
Tufts University dental.tufts.edu	WASHINGTON University of Washington www.dental.washington.edu	
MICHIGAN University of Detroit Mercy www.dental.udmercy.edu	WEST VIRGINIA West Virginia University www.hsc.wvu.edu/sod/index.html	
University of Michigan www.dent.umich.edu	WISCONSIN Marquette University www.marquette.edu/dentistry	
MINNESOTA University of Minnesota www.dentistry.umn.edu	MISSOURI University of Missouri-Kansas City dentistry.umkc.edu	CANADA Dalhousie University

- Guidelines to help pre dental students determine which schools are the best for their educational and professional goals
- An in-depth and carefully researched examination of how to finance a dental education
- Detailed information on all U.S. and Canadian dental schools, including:
 - Characteristics of each program, including specialties and strengths
 - Admissions requirements and student selection factors
 - Application timetables, estimated expenses, and financial aid available
 - Comparison of applicants and matriculated students
 - Contact information for admissions, housing, and more

Opportunities for Minority Students in U.S. Dental Schools contains information of interest to minority students considering dental school and tools to help them manage the application process. It also includes profiles of individuals who reflect the diversity and excellence of the profession and information about:

- Opportunities that dental careers hold for minorities and efforts to increase the number of underrepresented minorities enrolled in U.S. dental schools
- Preparation necessary to be accepted to dental school
- How to finance a dental education
- Programs and services to attract qualified minority students and contribute to student success
- Resources such as recruitment and outreach efforts, admission guidelines, undergraduate majors and the undergraduate schools of minorities in the first-year classes, summer and enrichment programs, and academic and student support services

These publications can be ordered online at www.adea.org.

ExploreHealthCareers.org

ExploreHealthCareers.org is a free, easy-to-navigate website sponsored by ADEA with up-to-date information about health careers. More than 85 career profiles reveal what health care workers do every day, how much they earn, and what training is required. An interactive database lets you search thousands of scholarships, grants, and loans available for students pursuing health careers, including funding specifically for minority students. Another searchable database leads to interesting prehealth enrichment programs, including summer programs and internships in your area. You'll also find career planning tips and resources, profiles of health care students and professionals, and links to dozens of state and national career planning resources.

Dental Admission Test Canadian Dental Aptitude Test

All U.S. dental schools require applicants to take the DAT. The

examination is entirely multiple choice, takes just over a half day to administer, and consists of four separate examinations that cover:

- A survey of natural sciences (biology, general chemistry, and organic chemistry)
- Perceptual ability (two- and three-dimensional problem solving)
- Reading comprehension (dental and basic sciences)
- Quantitative reasoning

Most dental schools view the DAT as one of many factors in evaluating candidates for admission. As a result, schools vary in the emphasis they place on the results of different parts of the test.

DAT registration and test information, including sample test questions, can be obtained at www.ada.org/prof/ed/testing/dat/index.asp.

**Department of Testing Services
American Dental Association
211 East Chicago Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611-2278
800-232-2162**

The base fee for the DAT is \$190. This covers the cost of making your scores available to five dental schools and to your pre dental advisor. Those taking the DAT will receive an unofficial score report at the testing center immediately upon completing the test.

The Canadian Dental Association and the Association of Canadian Faculties of Dentistry have developed the dental aptitude test for applicants to Canadian dental schools. All Canadian dental schools require the test. For more information, contact:

**Canadian Dental Association
(L'Association Dentaire Canadienne)
1815 Alta Vista Drive
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1G 3Y6
613-523-1770**

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 and PASS.