Preparing to Apply to Dental School

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Health Professions Advising
Your To Do List

- Personal Statement (4500 Characters)
- Asking for LOR (AADSAS OR Interfolio-Collect now)
- Writing Out Experiences
- Creating Your School List
- Determining Your Funding
- Requesting a Transcript
- Creating an Application
- **Apply for Fee Assistance:** Applicants approved for a fee waiver have 14 calendar days from the date of the email notification to submit the ADEA AADSAS Application.
- Editing Application
- Drafting Secondaries (Appear in the Program Materials section)
Timeline

- **Now-January:** Draft Personal Statement
- **January-February:** Bring PS & Experience Draft to HPA weekly
- **February-March:** Revise Experiences, Finalize PS, Ask for LOR
- **March-April:** Ask Letter Writers/PS/Disadvantaged Statement
- **April-May:** School List/PS/Take Test/Experiences Done
- **May-June:** Create Account/Request Transcripts/Take Test
- **June-July:** Create Account/Request Transcripts/Submit
- **July:** Finish any secondaries
- **August-Sept:** Wait for Interviews
- **Sept-January:** Interview & Get Accepted
Personal Statement

Goal: Who are you?
• It should be personal.
• Show attributes.
• Parallel with Career Choice.
Start with a story or idea.

Lead your story to making a point.

Your point should highlight what you’re about to reveal.

Each paragraph should have a point that supports the main theme.

Each paragraph should reveal a different attribute about yourself.

Show evidence of the claims you make about yourself.

Start your conclusion summarizing the things you just said about yourself.

End your conclusion with an appeal to school.

“With a medical education, I will be equipped to solve even more problems in society.”

Every paragraph should end with you tying what you just said about yourself back to your future career. How does being a good leader relate to being a good nurse? How does the story you just told show us what kind of doctor you will be?
Experiences

• **Collect Total Hours/Dates**

• **Supervisor Contact Name/Email**

• **Determine the Category.**

  - **Academic Enrichment:** Programs sponsored by colleges, universities or other not-for-profit organizations (e.g., Summer Medical and Dental Education Program/Summer Health Professions Education Program).
  - **Dental Experiences:** Time spent officially following and observing a health care professional at work, preferably a dentist. When listing a dental experience, please specify the type of dentist you shadowed in the description text box (e.g., general dentist, orthodontist, etc.).
  - **Employment:** Paid work done outside of the dental care field; for example, a non-dental healthcare experience, retail or restaurant job.
  - **Extracurricular Activities:** Any sports teams and other activities through a college or university.
  - **Research:** Research projects done in addition to classroom work; research should NOT appear as credit on a school transcript.
  - **Volunteer:** Volunteer work done outside of the health care field; for example, working for Habitat for Humanity, tutoring students, participating in or working for a fundraiser walk or blood drive, etc.

• **600 Characters: What did you do? How did it impact you?**
Evaluations

• Up to 4 Letters
• Science Faculty vs Non-Science Faculty
• Non-Academic Examples: Dentist, PI, Supervisor
• Letter Services: Interfolio
• ALL letters must be signed and on letterhead!
• Always waive your right to see the letters
• UCD Does NOT have a Committee Letter
Transcripts

• Order Official For Yourself for Entry in AADSAS
• Send ALL Officials as soon as you create 2020 AADSAS
• Enter courses EXACTLY as it appears on OFFICIAL transcript
• Science vs Non-Science Coursework
• Submit Official Transcripts from EVERY institution EVER attended
FAP assists students who demonstrate extreme financial need while applying to AADSAS. Approval for fee assistance is at the sole discretion of ADEA AADSAS. Last year, the 2019 ADEA AADSAS application opened 3 weeks early on May 15 to give applicants three weeks to work on their applications before the cycle opens on June 5. Applicants to the 2019 ADEA AADSAS FAP could submit requests starting on May 15. To submit documents to the ADEA AADSAS FAP for review, applicants must first create a 2020 ADEA AADSAS account and receive their CAS identification numbers. Applicants submitting a request for fee assistance in May, during the early opening of the 2019 ADEA AADSAS application, will not receive a decision from ADEA AADSAS FAP until June 2019.

$443 in fee assistance which will cover the initial ADEA AADSAS dental school designation ($245) and two additional dental school designations ($99 each) for a total of three designations.
Background

You will be asked to provide details pertaining to your manual dexterity, any relatives you may have in the dental profession, any previous applications to dental school or other health professions programs, education interruptions, academic dismissals or suspensions, felony and misdemeanor convictions and language proficiencies.

● Manual dexterity is important for dentists, so you will be asked to describe activities requiring hand–eye coordination at which you are proficient.

● If you have relatives who are dentists, are in dental school or have studied in the dental profession, you will be asked to identify the person, their relationship to you and their degree or certificate.

● If you have previously applied to dental school, you will be asked to describe the changes in your application.

● If you have felony or misdemeanor convictions or academic infractions, you will be asked to provide an explanation, including a brief description of the incident, specific charges made, related dates and a reflection on the incident.
You will be asked to provide information related to your background, including your childhood residence, any Pell Grant awards and other education funding sources. You will also be asked to reflect on areas of your background that might be defined as socially, economically or educationally disadvantaged.
Pre-Submission Release of Information
Selecting “Yes” authorizes ADEA AADSAS to release the applicant’s name and contact information to the designated programs BEFORE the submission of the final application. This will allow the dental schools to send the applicant important information about the local admissions process before the application is completed.

Advisor Release
Selecting “Yes” authorizes ADEA AADSAS to release applicant’s selected information regarding ADEA AADSAS application and admission status to the health professions advisory committee of the postsecondary institution(s) the applicant has attended. By releasing this information, the applicant’s advisor is better able to assist in the admissions process, as well as better guide other students in the future. The applicant cannot make changes to this item after the application is submitted to ADEA AADSAS. This is an optional release, and the applicant may select “No.” ADEA AADSAS encourages applicants to authorize this release, as it is useful to advisors assisting applicants with the application process; however, it will not affect the consideration given to the application.

ADEA AADSAS Release
This statement serves as a contractual agreement between the applicant and ADEA AADSAS. Each applicant is required to agree to these terms in order to submit the application. Part of these terms indicates that the applicant agrees to all of the ADEA AADSAS instructions, so it is important to read and understand these instructions.
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Post baccalaureate (PB) coursework is included in the "Undergraduate Total" GPA as well as in a separate "Post baccalaureate" GPA.
There are MANY things to consider when picking schools. Choosing schools is a strategic process. DO NOT PICK SCHOOLS RANDOMLY.

• Location
• Metric Averages
• Curriculum Model
• Early Clinical Experiences
• Class Sizes
• Philosophy
• Hospital Affiliations/Clinical Setting
• Access to Resources
• Rankings
• Residency/Job Placement
• Board Pass Rates
Questions?