Applying to Dental School – From AADSAS

AADSAS Fact Sheet: http://www.adea.org/AADSAS/WebDocs/AppAADSASFactsheet.pdf

AADSAS Calendar: http://www.adea.org/AADSAS/WebDocs/AppCalendarofEvents.pdf

AADSAS FAQs: https://aadsas.adea.org/aadsas2007/faqs_dir.htm

2007 Application Instructions: http://www.adea.org/AADSAS/WebDocs/AppAADSASInstructions.pdf

Preparing for the 2008 AADSAS Application Cycle

AADSAS applications for the 2008 entering dental school class will become available in mid-May 2007. Watch this website for future updates.

In preparation for your 2008 application, you may want to:

- Identify the dental schools to which you will apply. Two great resources are: The Official Guide to Dental Schools and Opportunities for Minority Students in U.S. Dental Schools. Both books provide up-to-date information about admission requirements, financial aid, and the application process. They may be ordered online (www.adea.org) and can also be found at many health professions advisors’ offices and college libraries. Visit the websites of the schools to which you will apply to learn more about school-specific requirements, suggestions for letters of recommendation, etc.

- Be prepared to submit official transcripts for every college/university you have attended. Official transcripts are sent to AADSAS as a part of your application. Your application will not be processed until an official transcript is received from every college and university attended. If you have attended more than one college/university, AADSAS must receive an official transcript from each institution you have attended. Transfer credit posted to an institution you have attended more recently will not be accepted in lieu of a previously attended college/university transcript.

AADSAS starts accepting official transcripts when the application cycle begins in mid-May 2007. Print the Transcript Matching Form in the AADSAS application, and send to the institution(s) that will be supplying transcripts on your behalf.

- Start identifying individuals to write letters of recommendation on your behalf. Does your college or university have a pre-dental committee that evaluates applicants? If so, determine their timetable and process. Do you need to ask individuals to write on your behalf? If so, determine the types of letters requested by the dental schools and consider whom to ask to evaluate you. You may want to consider developing a resume of activities/accomplishments as well as a statement of why you want to attend dental school. Such information is helpful to potential
evaluators.

AADSAS starts accepting letters of evaluation/recommendation after the opening of the application cycle in mid-May. Print the Letter of Evaluation Matching Form in the AADSAS application, and ask your evaluators to attach the form to the front of the letters they provide.

You are encouraged to have your letters of evaluation/recommendation submitted as early as possible after the opening of the application in mid-May 2007. However, AADSAS does not delay the processing of your application if we have not received your letters. If your letters arrive after your application has been processed, they will be copied and sent on to the schools to which you have applied.

- Organize your thoughts about why you are seeking a dental education. Part of the AADSAS application includes a one-page essay on this topic.
- Register to take the Dental Admissions Test (DAT) or Canadian Dental Aptitude Test. You do not have to delay submitting an application until you have taken the DAT; however most dental schools will not consider your application complete until they have received DAT scores.

Information about the DAT for students in the U.S. is available from the American Dental Association (www.ada.org); information about the Canadian DAT is available from the Canadian Dental Association (www.cda-adc.ca).

- Develop a resume of activities/accomplishments as a college student and beyond. The AADSAS application asks you to provide information about the following:
  - Scholastic awards or honors earned
  - Job shadowing and volunteer experiences in dentistry
  - Extracurricular activities and leadership positions
  - Volunteer and community service activities
  - Work experience
  - Research experience
  - Activities requiring manual dexterity

**When should you apply?**

The best advice about applying to dental school is to do so early. The AADSAS 2008 application becomes available in mid-May 2007. AADSAS starts processing and delivering applications to the schools in June 2007. Dental schools have varying deadline dates, ranging from October 1 to March 1. Check the application deadlines of the schools to which you are interested in applying and submit your application well in advance of the earliest deadlines. AADSAS will not send your application to a school if your application is received by AADSAS after the school’s deadline date.

Contact ADEA Customer Service if you have other questions about AADSAS 2008: (800) 353-2237 or (202) 289-7201, or csraadsas@dea.org.
Dental School Reference Guides

The American Dental Education Association (ADEA) publishes the "Official Guide to Dental Schools", which contains comprehensive information on requirements for application and admission to every accredited dental school in the United States and Canada. This publication is the best single source of extensive information on schools, including curricula, expenses, and other valuable data. All applicants are encouraged to obtain the "Official Guide to Dental Schools". The cost of this publication is $35 for U.S. and Canadian residents.

ADEA is pleased to announce the publication of the fourth edition of "Opportunities for Minority Students in United States Dental Schools", the only publication designed to attract minority students to careers in dentistry. This unique, 200-page resource guide includes information of interest to minority students regarding all dental schools, including academic enrichment programs, student associations, and distribution of minority students. It also includes inspiring profiles of 15 minority dentists from various racial and ethnic backgrounds living in many parts of the country and practicing and teaching in different areas of the profession. The cost of this publication is $10 for U.S. and Canadian Residents.

The "Official Guide to Dental Schools" and "Opportunities for Minority Students in United States Dental Schools" may be ordered online or by sending a check, money order, or credit card number to:

American Dental Education Association
Publication Department
1400 K Street NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 289-7201

Completing the Application Form

The AADSAS application is divided into sections listed on the "Application Checklist." This checklist appears once you create your application and each time you log in. Required fields are marked with an asterisk and must be completed in order to submit your application. You are also encouraged to complete fields which are not required in order to provide as much information about yourself and your experience to your dental schools. Once you have completed each section you will e-submit your application by clicking the 'e-submit' button under your checklist and following the subsequent instructions for payment.

Processing your Application

In order for your application to be considered complete and ready to process, AADSAS must receive your:
Meeting the Deadlines

The AADSAS deadline date listed is the date your AADSAS Application, processing fee, and official transcripts must be received in the AADSAS office. It is not the date your AADSAS application must be at the dental school(s). All materials should be at AADSAS no later than 5:00pm (Eastern Time) on the deadline date. If you are concerned about your materials not arriving in time through regular mail, you may wish to send your materials via certified or express mail.

You will not be able to designate a school after its deadline has passed. Schools may not consider applications submitted in time but completed after their deadlines have passed. Your application will not be processed without the official transcripts and processing fee. If you are paying by check or money order, the payment must be received prior to the deadline date.

NOTE: AADSAS must receive your application, fee payment, and official transcripts by the AADSAS deadline for your designated schools. If AADSAS receives your application and fee payment by your designated dental school's deadline, but receives your official transcripts after that school's AADSAS deadline, AADSAS will process your application and send it to the dental school. However, it is the dental school's decision whether your application will be reviewed. To ensure that your application is thoroughly considered at your designated dental schools, you are strongly encouraged to submit to AADSAS your application, fee payment and official transcripts well in advance of deadline dates.

If you pay by credit card your application will be processed immediately. If you pay by check or money order, your application will not be processed until the processing fee is received by AADSAS. Please attach your check or money order to the Payment Form.

Many schools have a rolling admissions process that begins December 1. To be given strongest consideration, applicants are strongly encouraged to apply early.

It is your responsibility to apply in a timely manner based on your designated dental schools' admissions deadlines.

Official Transcripts

Official Transcripts from U.S./Canadian Colleges/Universities: Submit one official transcript to AADSAS from every college/university you have attended. AADSAS must receive all official transcripts to initiate transcript verification and application processing. Transcripts sent to AADSAS are not forwarded to designated dental schools; they are used for transcript verification purposes only. Some dental schools may request that
official transcripts be sent directly to them as part of the supplemental application process.

Your application will not be processed until an official transcript is received from every college and university attended. If you have attended more than one college/university, AADSAS must receive an official transcript from each institution, even if that credit is posted on another transcript. Transfer credit posted to a transcript at an institution you have attended more recently will not be accepted in lieu of a previously attended college/university transcript.

Please mail all U.S./Canadian official transcripts to:

AADSAS Transcript Processing Center  
P.O. Box 9110  
Watertown, MA 02471  

DO NOT send non-U.S./Canadian transcripts to the above address. Doing so may delay the processing of your application.

Transcripts from Colleges/Universities Outside the U.S./Canada: Submit to AADSAS one transcript for every foreign college/university you have attended. AADSAS also encourages international applicants to submit a copy of any evaluation of international coursework that has been completed by an official credential evaluation service.

Photocopies of all international transcripts and course evaluations are forwarded to your designated institution(s) by AADSAS.

Please mail all international transcripts to:

ADEA  
AADSAS Transcript Processing Center  
1400 K Street NW, Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20005  

DO NOT send U.S. transcripts to this address. Doing so may delay the processing of your AADSAS application.

Letters of Evaluation/Recommendation

AADSAS starts accepting letters of evaluation/recommendation after the opening of the application cycle in mid May. Print the Letter of Evaluation Matching Form in the AADSAS application, and ask your evaluators to attach the form to the front of the letters they provide. Letters of evaluation/recommendation should be sent to:
You are encouraged to have your letters of evaluation/recommendation submitted as early as possible after the opening of the application in mid May 2007. However, AADSAS does not delay the processing of your application if we have not received your letters. If your letters arrive after your application has been processed, they will be copied and sent to the schools to which you have applied.

Please Note – if you are using the Health Professions Review Committee – you composite will be sent to AADSAS as soon as you have been reviewed by our committee (and to your individual programs as directed)

AADSAS Application Processing Fee

The initial processing fee is $195 for the first dental school; $60 for each additional school up to 10; $50 for each additional school from 11-20; and $25 for each additional school over 20. The processing fee table is located on the menu bar under the Instructions tab.

Payment may be made by check, money order, or credit card (VISA, MasterCard, American Express or Discover). Credit card payments may be submitted electronically with the application. Checks or money orders must be made payable to AADSAS. You must print the Payment Form and attach your check or money order to this form. Write the check number on your form. If you do not submit this form, your application may be delayed. All AADSAS fees are to be paid in U.S. currency drawn on a U.S. bank or the U.S. Postal Service. Do NOT send cash. AADSAS will assess a $35 returned check fee for checks returned by the bank after deposit.

Processing Fee and Payment Form must be sent to:

AADSAS Dental School Application
1400 K Street NW, Suite 1100
Washington, DC 20005

ADEA-AADSAS Fee Reduction Program

The ADEA-AADSAS Fee Reduction Program (FRP) was established by ADEA as a goodwill program to provide financial assistance to AADSAS applicants who demonstrate extreme financial hardship. The program is not affiliated with any government, colleges or universities, scholarships, grant or fellowship programs. This is an independent program offered by ADEA.

The FRP is a refund program and an applicant's AADSAS application must be completed and all fees must be paid in full prior to applying to the FRP. Eligibility for the program
is decided by reviewing the financial resources of both the applicant and the applicant's family (applicant spouse and parent(s)/guardian(s) of the applicant). The FRP does not differentiate between dependent and independent student status. Therefore, all applicants must provide parental financial data for the program. Applicants to the FRP must have applied to a minimum of five AADSAS dental schools and the applicant and his/her family must be U.S. citizens or U.S. permanent residents.

The deadline for FRP applications is December 15, 2007. Any applications received after the deadline will not be considered. Fax and email copies are not accepted. Do not send FRP applications with any other materials being sent to AADSAS. All FRP applications must be sent to the following address:

ADEA-AADSAS  
Fee Reduction Program  
1400 K Street NW, Suite 1100  
Washington, DC 20005