

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process to dental school is rigorous; there are many components, and it often takes students much longer than anticipated to complete the application.

Most dental schools use rolling admission, so submitting applications sooner rather than later is advantageous. Although each dental school has different application deadlines, admissions applications tend to be available in June.

There are two dental schools in the state of Ohio, Case Western Reserve University and Ohio State University. As most dental schools, both CWRU and OSU require the Dental Admission Test (DAT) and application submission through the Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS). As part of the application, students will be required to submit recommendation letters. Therefore, it is important that they de-

velop professional relationships with natural science faculty and dentists.

Once applications are submitted, students will receive secondary applications, and finally interested schools will send invitations for interviews.

EXPERIENCE & INVOLVMENT

In addition to strong academic credentials, dental schools want to see well-rounded applicants. Students should shadow dentists, volunteer, and participate in community service work.

Dentistry is a service-focused profession, and dental school admissions officers are looking for applicants who are committed to serving their communities for a lifetime. This is why it is essential that students spend time volunteering outside of their shadowing experience.

Getting involved in student organizations on campus is a great way to become involved in com-

munity service experiences. Including UA's pre-dental club.

Leadership is a critical element of becoming a dental professional. Showcasing leadership on a dental school application will help students stand out and demonstrate their commitment to being a leader in their community.

Dental schools like to see applicants with shadowing experience, as it shows the student has a solid grasp of what is involved in the practice of dentistry. Some schools have a minimum number of shadowing hours so it's imperative to start early.

It is important to note that there is no magic formula for admission to dental school. Students need to be successful in the classroom while also selectively participating in activities that will add t

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