

DENTAL SCHOOL APPLICATION CALENDAR



Recommended



Possible

Letters of Evaluation

- Ask for letters as early as possible (need at least 4)
- Letters should detail character traits and interpersonal skills
- Our office recommends using Interfolio to collect/submit

JAN

FEB

MAR

APR

MAY

JUN

JUL

AUG

SEP

DAT

- Give yourself at least 3-5 months to prepare for the DAT
- Take the DAT no later than June of your application year
- You cannot retake the DAT for 90-days (so plan carefully)

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Primary Application

- AADSAS is the primary application for dental school
- The application opens in the 1st week of June every year
- Early submission is recommended

JUN

JUL

AUG

SEP

OCT

NOV

DEC

JAN

FEB

Secondary Application

- Requested after AADSAS application has been reviewed
- Will ask questions specific to each dental school
- Should be completed within 2 weeks of receipt

AUG

SEP

OCT

NOV

DEC

Interviews

- Follows review of secondary application and DAT scores
- Be sure to schedule a Mock Interview for practice
- Research each program and know your application well

AUG

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Letters of Evaluation

- Your letter-writers should be people that know you well and can detail specific character traits (maturity level, reliability, leadership ability, etc.) and your interpersonal skills.
- You will need to submit a minimum of four letters of evaluation for dental school. One should come from a faculty member with whom you have taken a science course and one should come from a dentist with whom you have shadowed or volunteered. Two additional letters are required as well—from either another academic professional, dentist, a supervisor, or someone who knows the you well enough to speak positively on your behalf.
- We strongly encourage you to use Interfolio to collect and submit your letters of evaluation.
- *Always* waive your right to view your letters of evaluation.

DAT

- The DAT is offered nearly every day of the year and currently costs \$415.
- Most students take the DAT in the Spring/Summer between their Junior and Senior year—with April, May, and June being the preferred months.
- The University Testing Center offers the exam in Athens, however, there are several testing sites across the state of Georgia, including Atlanta, Columbus, Macon, and Augusta.
- You may elect to self-study or take a guided DAT-prep course (or both!) to prepare for the DAT. What you decide is completely dependent on your own financial situation and confidence in your study skills. It is recommended to take multiple (at least 5-6) full-length practice exams.
- It is advised that students take 12-13 hours during the semester they are studying for the DAT.

Primary Application

- The Associated American Dental Schools Application Service (AADSAS) is the centralized application processing service used to apply to participating U.S. dental schools.
- The AADSAS application opens in early June and should be submitted as early as possible.
- You *can* submit your AADSAS before your letters of evaluation and DAT score are received.

Secondary Application

- After your AADSAS application has been verified and reviewed, most of the dental schools you have applied to will send you a secondary application.
- Secondary applications consist of short-answer essay questions specific to each program.
- It is important to complete your secondary applications within two weeks of receiving them.

Interviews

- Interviews are granted only by invitation after the admissions committee has determined you to be academically qualified. The purpose of the interview is to determine what type of person you are and whether you have the qualities that the school is looking for in a dental student.
- Make sure to schedule a Mock Interview for practice with the Career Center or Honors College.
- Be prepared to explain why you're interested in medicine and what your goals are for the future.
- Have some familiarity with the dental school before the interview and a good reason for why you are interested in attending. You should have some idea of (and questions about) the opportunities for research or any innovative programs being implemented at that institution.
- Everything listed in your application is fair game. Therefore, it is important that you know it inside and out. An interviewer may ask about a specific volunteer or research experience and expect you to talk in detail about it.