APPLICATION CHECKLIST FOR PREDENTAL STUDENTS 2015

Professional approach to this process: this is the first step toward your ultimate goal of joining a respected and honorable profession. It is very important that you take this process seriously, and approach it professionally. Use an email address which contains your name (no clever, cute or flippant addresses please). Treat everyone with respect, including secretaries and anyone you talk to at dental schools or on the phone. Think about the clothing you wear when going to talk to a professor or to ask for a letter. Think about the impression you want to make on everyone who is involved in the process.

_1. Open Predental Application File. _During the year in which you are applying (normally the junior year) fill out the Predental Information Sheet (attached) and the Statement of Understanding (attached) and **meet with your predental advisor by June 15.** Bring completed forms, list of dental schools and personal statement (at least a draft) to the meeting.

_2. AADSAS. _The centralized application to dental school, AADSAS, is available June 1. You can start working on it but can't submit until grades are posted for spring term. [www.ADEA.org](http://www.ADEA.org). You will need to enter all your coursework and activities, including information about manual dexterity. The personal statement is 4500 characters and should describe why you want to be a dentist, and what you have done to prepare yourself with specific examples. **NEW:** You will also need to put in parental info and an **Education/Occupation (EO) indicator** will be formulated in order to learn more about your family background and contribute to holistic admissions and diversity. Family info is important!

_3. Letters of Recommendation. _We send a Predental Committee Letter packet, which has a cover letter from your predental advisor and at least 4 other letters from your file- 2 science, one from a dentist, and an additional letter or 2 from an employer, teacher, volunteer supervisor etc. Give everyone the Predental Letter of Recommendation Form (please waive your rights), to which they will attach a letter on letterhead, then send directly to the College of Science. All letters should be confidential. The letter from the dentist (with whom you have worked) must be on the office letterhead. Be sure to thank your recommenders. Please note that these letters may only be used for dental school- not for any other purpose. They are due by June 15. You may submit your application before all your letters are in- no need to wait.

_4. Electronic Letter of Evaluation Request - in the application is a place for the name and email of the predental advisor who is writing your committee letter. **You must do this in order for us to send your letters!** Please waive your rights so that the letters are confidential. We will receive the email request, then will scan the packet of letters and send them electronically.

_5. DAT. _The Dental Admission Test is offered by computer any time through the Thomson/Prometric Centers. You should prepare well and will usually take the exam the year in which you apply (usual range is April-August). Go to the ADA website [www.ada.org](http://www.ada.org) to register, get your DENTPIN, and don't worry about selecting some dental schools to receive your score- all schools will actually receive your score directly from ADA. There are sample questions on the website, and you can purchase a sample test. Most students prepare by reviewing their coursework and taking practice tests. There is a DAT course offered by Kaplan. Other resources are Chad's videos, Crack the DAT (esp for PAT), DAT Bootcamp, DAT Destroyer, Scholarware, etc. Remember that you must wait 90 days to retake it, so it is in your best interest to take it early in the summer in case you need to take it again. **Please release your scores to your advisor.**

_6. Choosing Dental Schools. _There is a book, “ADEA Official Guide to Dental Schools”, available for loan in our office. Look for information on average GPA and DAT, residency requirements, out-of state-acceptance numbers, curriculum info, class size, etc. See handout. Show us your list before you apply!
7. **Deadlines.** Letters and paperwork must be in your predental file by JUNE 15!!! It is to your advantage to apply by **early summer** (preferably by mid July). Many schools consider a fall application to be "late". Do not be fooled by deadlines of Jan. or Feb.; schools are full by then!

8. **Transcripts-** You must give the Transcript Matching Form (from the application when it opens) to each school you have attended, and they will send your transcript directly to AADSAS. Be sure to check your transcripts for accuracy before having them sent, and be sure there are no "holds" for any reason (usually money owed). Have transcripts sent after spring grades are posted. Allow extra time for community colleges- they are slower. If you have AP/IB credit for any dental school requirements, you need to ask Tom Watts in the registrar’s office to send a letter to some schools if requested, which spells out how they were articulated (the specific courses are not listed on our official transcript). Note that OHSU may be stricter than other schools about this.

9. You will be able to monitor the status of your application through AADSAS; you need to check regularly and pay attention in case something is missing.

9. **Institutional action, and criminal background checks-** if you have a record with the OSU Dean of Students you will need to answer “yes” to the question on the application. I have access to your record, so will check. Please discuss this with me if you have been involved in something that is on your record. This will NOT necessarily keep you out of dental school, but covering it up might. You must disclose- never hide it. Most dental schools do not have a hard and fast rule and will look at it case by case.

Reapplicants: Do not reapply if nothing has changed. There is an information sheet for reapplicants, and you will need to meet with us to discuss ways to strengthen your application.

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Application Timeline:
Note that there is Fee Assistance available for DAT and AADSAS- see their websites.
April- Application Seminar; work on personal statement; ask for letters  
Apr-August- take DAT  (OHSU deadline is NOV 1)  
June 1- AADSAS application opens (do not apply until spring grades are in)  
June-late July- submit AADSAS application (fee reduction available)  
June- after term ends, have OSU transcripts sent to AADSAS  
June 15- deadline to open your application file (see #1), and letters due in our office  
July, August- committee letters sent by us to AADSAS  
Aug-September- secondary applications from schools sent to applicants (essays and $)  
October-February or later- interviews  
November 1- OHSU deadline  
December-March or April- acceptance letters sent!! (Please let us know)  
February- apply for financial aid  
APPLY EARLY! LATER APPLICANTS ARE AT A DISADVANTAGE! Good luck!

**Resources from GoDental ADEA** www.adea.org:
May 19  webinar from first year dental students  
June 3 or 9  application webinar  
June 11 Virtual Dental School Fair
PREDENTAL STUDENT INFORMATION SHEET

Name ____________________________________ Date ______________________
Address ______________________________________ Phone __________________
e-mail ______________________________________
OSU ID ______________________ Major ______________________
Year in which you are applying __________________
When will/did you take DAT __________________
How did you prepare ______________________________________________________
DAT SCORE (if known) ___________________________________
College GPA at time of application ___________________________
Activities and community service during college __________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
Employment/Research/Family commitments during school year __________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
Dental experience __________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
Hobbies involving Manual Dexterity __________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
Names of those who have agreed to write letters of recommendation:

Signature of Predental Advisor ____________________________

Use the back of this form for any additional information you wish the committee to know that is not on your application. Please attach a copy of your personal statement to this form.

Bring this completed form to the meeting with your predental advisor by June 15:
By signing below, you are requesting that the OSU College of Science Predental Committee send a letter of recommendation to the dental schools designated on your AADSAS application, or to military dental scholarship programs. If you request such a letter, the Predental Committee is permitted to review student records relevant for the preparation of its letter and is permitted to disclose information from such records, including any actions taken by the Dean of Students office.

"I have read and understand the above information and hereby request and authorize the OSU College of Science Predental Committee to send a letter of recommendation to the schools or dental scholarship programs which I have designated.

I understand that it is my responsibility to submit all application materials by the appropriate deadlines, as outlined in this information packet."

_________________________________________  _______________________
Student's signature                                           Date