

# University of Minnesota School of Dentistry DDS Interview Process

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Select applicants are invited to interview, based on a holistic application review. The interview process can be seen below:

**Applications are reviewed in the order they are received, once verified by AADSAS**

**Holistic review of complete applications by reviewers**

**Selected applicants invited to complete a first round (Kira) interview, starting in June**

**Select applicants who have completed a Kira interview are invited for a live interview (second round) in July-November in person, and virtual via Zoom in January**

**Admissions committee meets weekly to review interviewed applicants**

**Admissions offers are sent starting on December 15, according to ADEA guidelines, with rolling admissions offers following**

**Applicants accept or decline admissions offers (December - August)**

**Alternate list\* is established in December, with rolling offers of alternate status through August, as needed**

**Offers of admission are given to alternates, as needed**

**Incoming students matriculate mid-August, with orientation**

\*Our alternate candidates are ranked internally and due to the fluidity of the list, ranking is not provided to candidates.

## The Kira Interview

- **Select applications will be invited to complete a first round interview via Kira and will have seven days to complete the interview.**
  - Applicants are invited to a Kira interview via email from <[no-reply@kiratalent.com](mailto:no-reply@kiratalent.com)>
- Your Kira assessment gives you the flexibility to show us who you are, when and where it's convenient for you.
- Assessing applicants in Kira Talent helps our admissions team mitigate the impact of bias in the admissions process. Your responses will be independently evaluated by multiple reviewers who will assess your strengths using competency-based criteria and structured rubrics. This process not only ensures consistency in the way that we assess and score our applicants, it also means that your success doesn't rest on a single reviewer.
- The Kira platform is fully accessible in accordance with WCAG 2.1 AA standards, giving all applicants an equal opportunity to impress. If you'd like to request additional accommodations, please contact us.

## The Live Interview

- Select applicants who have completed a Kira first round interview will be invited to complete a live, second round interview
  - In person during the months of July - November, virtual via Zoom in January
  - Applicants are invited to a live interview via email through ADEA AADSAS (from [ddsapply@umn.edu](mailto:ddsapply@umn.edu)).
- Scheduled for 20 minutes
- Closed file format: the interviewers have no additional information on you besides your name
- Two faculty and yourself (2:1 format).
- Structured - interviewers use a set list of questions

If you are not able to attend your interview after confirming it, you must email [ddsapply@umn.edu](mailto:ddsapply@umn.edu) prior to your interview date, state the reason for postponing the interview and request a different date.

Not showing up for a scheduled interview deprives another applicant who could have been scheduled in your spot. **Applicants who fail to attend their interview day and do not notify the Office of Admissions will not be granted a rescheduled interview.** Exemptions will be granted for individuals who experienced/are experiencing health and/or family emergencies. It is expected you will communicate with our office in a timely manner, at your earliest availability, and provide supporting documentation regarding your situation.

## Prior to your Interview

- Complete the required felonies & misdemeanors form. Only those who have submitted this are eligible to be offered admission.
- An audit of your prerequisites and residency is completed. If there are any questions or outstanding prerequisites to complete, you will meet with Susan Wold (Assistant Director) on your interview day.

## Interview Day - What to Expect (In-person)

- Check in at the security desk of Moos Tower (2nd Floor entrance, Washington Avenue)
- Welcome & Introductions with Assistant Dean of Admissions
  - Light breakfast available
- 2:1 interview with current faculty members
- Tour of Moos Tower and Health Sciences Education Center (HSEC)
- Presentations on Research, Community Outreach, Curriculum and Student Support
- Panel and lunch with D4 dental students

## Interview Day - What to Expect (Virtual)

- Check in via Zoom with the Office of Admissions
- Welcome & Introductions with Assistant Dean of Admissions
- 2:1 interview with current faculty members
- Recorded video presentations: tour of dental school, clinical education, outreach experience, research opportunities (including DDS/PhD program and summer research fellowship program, and student affairs)
- Live conversation with some of our current D4 dental students to ask questions
- Recorded message from the Dean of the UMN SOD: Dr. Keith Mays

## POST Interview Day - What to Expect

- Follow-up email is sent with a Google Folder of resources, an interview day evaluation, and information on the student ambassadors you interacted with
- Admissions offers will be sent out starting on December 15. If you interviewed prior to this date, you are eligible to be offered admission. If you are not offered admission on this date, you are still being considered for admission. You will always be notified if/when there is a change in your application status.

Questions? Contact us at [ddsapply@umn.edu](mailto:ddsapply@umn.edu)