University of Minnesota School of Dentistry DDS Interview Process



Updated 8/24/23

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 for interview, starting in July

Interviews occur July, Sept-Nov, and 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

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

Incoming students matriculate mid-August, with orientation

The Interview

- Scheduled for 45 minutes
- Closed file format: the interviewer has no additional information on you besides your name
- One faculty or staff and yourself (1:1 format). Interview will be recorded
- The entire DDS Admissions subcommittee will be able to review your recorded interview later
- Structured interviewer uses a set list of questions
- A combination of behavioral and scenario/situational questions will be utilized

For the 2024-25 application cycle, the University of Minnesota School of Dentistry is interviewing in-person in July, and Sept- November, with virtual interviews (via Zoom) during January. Applicants are invited to interview via email through ADEA AADSAS. If you are not able to attend your interview after confirming it, you must email 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
- 1:1 interview with a current faculty or staff member
- Tour of Moos Tower and Health Sciences Education Center (HSEC)
- Presentations on Research, Community Outreach & Engagement, and Student Support & Student Services
- Lunch with current dental students

Interview Day - What to Expect (Virtual)

- Check in via Zoom with the Office of Admissions
- Welcome & Introductions with Assistant Dean of Admissions
- 1:1 interview with a currently faculty or staff member
- 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 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