ADEA AADSAS® (ADEA ASSOCIATED AMERICAN DENTAL SCHOOL APPLICATION SERVICE)

DENTAL SCHOOL INTERVIEWS DOS AND DON'TS



Helpful tips for before, during and after your **In-person** and **Virtual** Interviews.



BEFORE INTERVIEWS



DOs BEFORE INTERVIEWS

- ☐ **READ THE INTERVIEW INVITATION** to prepare for the right type of interview: group, one-on-one, virtual, etc.
- ☐ COMPLETE MOCK INTERVIEWS with friends and get advice from your college's career center about interview skills.
- ☐ **LEARN** the dental school's mission; **REVIEW** the school's website thoroughly.
- ☐ If in person, **GATHER INFORMATION** about the dental school's location, things to do and different options for exploring the city and getting to know the community surrounding the school.
- ☐ Get a **GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP** the night before your interview.
- ☐ **BRING** the interview invitation and personal identification to the interview.
- ☐ **BE PREPARED AND PROMPT.** Plan to arrive at the interview location 30 minutes early, or be in front of your webcam 15 minutes before the interview is scheduled. It is best to visit the interview location the day before your scheduled interview.
- ☐ BE PROFESSIONAL AT ALL TIMES while speaking with staff, students, faculty or anyone you encounter during your visit or virtual interview.
- ☐ INFORM THE DENTAL SCHOOL of any changes to your schedule, such as a conflict or an emergency that forces you to ask for a new interview date.



DON'Ts BEFORE INTERVIEWS

- □ **DO NOT STAY UP LATE** preparing for your interview or socializing.
- □ DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE to get ready or double book yourself.
- ☐ DO NOT ASK QUESTIONS with answers that can be found on the internet.
- □ DO NOT COUNT ON other candidates' impressions to form your interview expectations.



EXTRAS FOR **BEFORE VIRTUAL** INTERVIEWS



DOs BEFORE VIRTUAL INTERVIEWS

- ☐ Ensure that you **PAY ATTENTION TO THE TIME ZONE** the interview is scheduled in.
- ☐ SHARE YOUR INTERVIEW SCHEDULE with others to avoid Wi-Fi issues.



- ☐ FIND A QUIET PLACE where you will have privacy without any distractions.
- ☐ SIT IN A CLEAN, WELL-LIT **ROOM** where you can be clearly seen. Choose an area with a neutral background.
- ☐ CHECK YOUR EQUIPMENT. Use a device that has a secure connection and stable camera.





DON'Ts BEFORE VIRTUAL INTERVIEWS

- DO NOT WAIT UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE to decide on your virtual background for a virtual interview.
- Do not wait until the last minute to learn the **DENTAL SCHOOL'S TIME ZONE.**
- ☐ DO NOT SIT IN A BUSY, NOISY COMMON AREA. Make sure pets are not in the room.



- DO NOT SIT BY A WINDOW, with light coming in behind you or sit in the dark.
- ☐ Do not expect the school to **SOLVE YOUR TECHNICAL ISSUES.**
- □ DO NOT DOWNLOAD LARGE FILES or movies during your interview that may slow down your internet bandwidth.



DURING INTERVIEWS



DOs DURING INTERVIEWS

- ☐ Make sure your **CELL PHONE IS TURNED OFF** or on silent.
- ☐ Choose attire that is both **PROFESSIONAL AND COMFORTABLE**, reflecting your style.
- ☐ Sit up straight but try to have CALM AND **RELAXED POSTURE.**
- ☐ Speak **SLOWLY AND CLEARLY.**
- ☐ BE SINCERE AND AUTHENTIC. and offer a welcoming greeting.
- **BE PREPARED** to show your ID, if asked.
- ☐ **LISTEN CAREFULLY** to questions and take your time before answering.
- **PREPARE QUESTIONS** in advance.
- ☐ Treat a **VIDEO INTERVIEW** just like an in-person interview.
- ☐ Take **NOTES ON PAPER** versus typing on your device.





DON'Ts DURING INTERVIEWS

- □ **DO NOT DRESS CASUALLY** in a T-shirt and jeans.
- ☐ Do not have **TOO MANY CAFFEINATED DRINKS** that will make you jittery.
- □ Do not have ELECTRONIC DISTRACTIONS such as a vibrating phone or smart watch.





- DO NOT give form answers. Be honest and genuine in your replies.
- DO NOT DISMISS other staff members who are not officially interviewing you.
- □ **DO NOT RUSH** your answers. Listen to the questions completely before you respond.
- DO NOT TAKE OVER the interview by responding with lengthy answers.



AFTER INTERVIEWS



DOs AFTER INTERVIEWS

- ☐ Approach all interactions with **HUMILITY**, **KINDNESS AND RESPECT** for others' perspectives.
- ☐ Send a **THANK YOU EMAIL.**



- ☐ **REACH OUT** to admissions representatives if prompted or if there is a genuine need for follow up.
- ☐ If you promised to follow-up with an answer, **DO IT.**



□ **PRACTICE PATIENCE** as you understand the admission process.



DON'Ts AFTER INTERVIEWS

- □ Do not have **GRAMMATICAL ERRORS OR MISSPELLED NAMES** in your email.
- ☐ Do not have others **CONTACTING THE DENTAL SCHOOL** on your behalf.
- □ **DO NOT MAKE EXCUSES** as to why you have not followed up with a response.
- □ DO NOT SPEAK NEGATIVELY ABOUT THE DENTAL SCHOOL on social media, to friends or during another interview with a different school.

