

# **THE CAREER OF DENTISTRY**

**AND SURVIVING THE PROCESS OF GETTING THERE**

**RACHEL KEHR**



## ABOUT ME

My dog Murphy is awesome...my husband is too

Current 1<sup>st</sup> year at UWSOD

Applied to dental school in 2013 and 2015

Took 2.5 years off school

# TIMELINE

- Preparing to apply
- The application process
- Interviewing
- Life in Dental School



# **PREPARING YOUR APPLICATION**

# PRE-APPLICATION

- Know the requirements of different schools
  - Different classes, volunteer hours, recommendations, etc.
    - Ex. UWSOD 50 hours shadowing and 50 hours volunteer work
- Write down everything you do
  - Volunteer hours (DO IT!)
  - Awards
  - Organizations
  - Shadowing hours
  - Manual Dexterity

# PRE-APPLICATION CONT.

- Sign up to take the DAT
  - Be realistic with your study methods and test date
- Start thinking about who to ask for letter's of recommendation now
- Don't be afraid to be different...it's a good thing!

## DAT Testing Schedule

Optional tutorial	15 minutes
Survey of Natural Sciences	90 minutes
Perceptual Ability Test	60 minutes
Scheduled Break (optional)	15 minutes
Reading Comprehension	60 minutes
Quantitative Reasoning	45 minutes
Optional Post Test Survey	15 minutes
<b>Total Time</b>	<b>5 hours</b>



# **SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION**

# DENTAL SCHOOL APPLICATION

- <https://portal.aadsasweb.org/>
- Check when application portal opens
  - Usually early June
- Have everything together and readily available
- Main components:
  - Personal Statement
  - Letters of Recommendation (ask in early March)
  - Describing activities, volunteering, etc.
  - Inputting classes and grades
  - Sending official transcript



# APPLICATION CONT.

- Think through where exactly you want to apply
  - The more schools the more money!
- Supplemental Applications
  - Some school do and some don't
  - Many require additional fees
- If you don't hear from the school you want, call them!



# **INTERVIEWING**

# INTERVIEWS

- Different schools have different formats
  - 2-3 half hour interviews, “tell me about yourself...”
  - Multiple mini interviews (MMI) format
    - UWSOD
    - 8-12 8minutes interviews/activities
- Be polite and shake everyone’s hand!
- Take time to prepare
  - Study the school
    - Why do you want to go there?
  - What are your values, ethics, goals, triumphs, downfalls, etc



# **LIFE IN DENTAL SCHOOL**

# LIFE IN DENTAL SCHOOL

- Life goes on
  - Don't give up the things you love
  - Balance adulting and school
- You won't be the smartest, and that's ok
- Hand skills are just as important as being book smart
- Balance is everything



**QUESTIONS?**

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