

Sample Dental School Interview Questions

Here are some questions that you *may* be asked in a dental school interview:

- Tell me about yourself.
- What has been the most rewarding (or challenging) experience of your life?
- What accomplishment are you most proud of?
- What is your most important experience that did not involve dentistry or academics?
- Tell me about a disappointment you have experienced.
- Tell me about a mistake you've made.
- Describe a situation in which you felt like a fish out of water.
- Tell me about your shadowing experiences.
- Tell me about your research.
- Tell me about your clinical volunteering experiences.
- What have you done that shows initiative? What did you gain from that experience?
- Can you convince me that you can cope with the workload in dental school?
- How do you study/prepare for exams?
- Where do you see yourself in ten years?
- How do you see the field of dentistry changing in the next ten years? How do you see yourself fitting into those changes?
- Why have you chosen dentistry as a career?
- So you like helping others...why not be a social worker?
- What field of dentistry most appeals to you?
- What would you do if you could not go to dental school?
- Why did you choose to go to Penn?
- Did you enjoy your experience at Penn?
- What was your most valuable course in college?
- How did you choose your major?
- If you could do anything different in your education, what would you do?
- What extracurricular activity have you found most rewarding?
- What have you read recently?
- How do you spend your free time?
- Who has most influenced your life so far and why?
- How would your friends describe you?
- How would you describe the relationship between science and dentistry?
- Rank intelligence, compassion, and integrity in the order of importance to you.
- Why do you think you are a good candidate for dental school?
- What do you consider your greatest weakness?
- What are three things you want to change about yourself?
- Give evidence that you relate well with others.
- What do you see as the greatest problem facing the health care delivery system today?
- What do you think will be the most challenging part of your dental training and career?
- Why do you want to go to this dental school?
- What are you looking for in a dental school?
- What other dental schools are you applying to?

- Tell me about a conflict that arose between you and a supervisor or peer, and how you handled it.
- Tell me about an experience you've had working on a team. What role do you tend to play when working on a team?
- How do you respond to criticism? Describe a situation where your work was criticized.
- What would you do if you suspected a colleague were abusing drugs?
- Describe any inconsistencies or weaknesses in your record or application.
- How do you deal with stress?
- What type of impression do you feel you've left on me in this interview?
- How do you want me to remember you?
- What last bit of information would you like me to know about you?
- Do you have any questions for me?

Please note that interviewers are prohibited from inquiring into your religion, sexual orientation, marital status, family plans, and other personal issues unrelated to your professional credentials. However, if you introduce such a topic (in your application essay, for instance), then it is fair game.