On behalf of the Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine, I would like to congratulate you on securing a coveted interview spot in our admissions process. This document should help prepare you for your interview day. The presentation is generally valid for the AADSAS 2016 application cycle and beyond until an updated version of this presentation is available. We ask that you not share this document with others who are not otherwise invited to interview at Case Western Reserve University School of Dental Medicine.

Revised July 28, 2015.
Congratulations on your selection as an interviewing candidate for the incoming class. This slide outlines the vision our admissions committee seeks in our desirable candidates, and our review shows that you have met many of these characteristics and attributes.
This slide articulates the expectations the Office of Admissions has when it comes to serving applicants and interviewing candidates in this process. You have already shown to have met many of these expectations, and we hope that you will continue to meet or exceed them as your file progresses to a committee decision.
It is important to note that due to federal laws guarding confidentiality (student and patient) and proprietary use, your interview comes with implicit consent that you will comply with respecting others’ privacy and the use of proprietary questions or materials for our interview day. While there may be no individual prosecution for disclosing such information, the impact of not keeping confidentiality harms our perception of your understanding of professionalism, the validity of our admissions process, the clinical operations of the School of Dental Medicine, and the integrity of the University.
Here are the topics that will be covered.
Now that you have been invited to an interview at CWRU, we want to be sure you are fully prepared for our interview day. You should be thoroughly familiar with the content of our website and have viewed our Applicant Viewbook.

Finally, as an interview candidate, you can contact the Office of Admissions about your questions about your application to “dentinterview@case.edu” rather than the dentadmit address we reserve for general inquiries. We ask that if you are sending us an email through dentinterview that you include your name, AADSAS number, and the relevant content of your communication. Of course, your professional manner of communication is always appreciated.
Candidates have praised our interview day format for being low-key and low-stress. Usually no more than 8 candidates are scheduled on a specific interview day, held typically on a work day when classes are in session. We often interview up to 40 candidates each week.

All interviewers are permitted to review your application prior to your interview (open-file). However, each interviewer has his/her own style and may opt not to review your file before meeting you. That said, all interviewers will generally review your file when completing the evaluation process. There may be some instances where you may have an additional faculty interviewer who is there to observe. The additional interviewer may ask questions, but only one faculty member will submit feedback.
All candidates in this group should arrive at the Office of Admissions by **8:30 am**. We do not serve breakfast, so you will need to be sure you allow yourself something to eat or drink prior to this time. The hospital cafeteria is open as early as 7:30 am. Once you arrive at the Office of Admissions, you will be handed a folder with financial aid information.

There will also be one required essay assignment. This essay is untimed and should be returned with your answers before you leave the School of Dental Medicine. You will not need any assistance or specialized science knowledge as we want to get an idea of how you think on your feet.

We also give you an opportunity to write down any updates to your file. This is a separate untimed but optional writing opportunity that you can submit before you leave. Most of our applicants will take advantage of this opportunity if they get interviewed in late fall or afterwards. However, most applicants have found the pre-submitted portfolio document to be sufficient in providing this update in a more comprehensive and thorough manner. So many applicants use the optional update as one final opportunity to disclose whether a new letter of evaluation is pending, new awards received, etc.
The interviewers, who all volunteer their time from their busy routines, will arrive at the Office of Admissions to get you. Our intention is to have all of our candidates in this group interviewed before 11:30 am, but we can schedule extra interviews during this time or after lunch.

At 11:30, we schedule time for you to meet with our registrar and financial aid director (Barbara Sciulli). If she is not available, the information in the folders that were handed to you in the beginning have the necessary information to address most of your questions. You are welcome to follow-up with her by email.

At noon, dental students will take you on a brief tour and then lunch to answer your specific questions directed at students. Students do not take part in file review or subsequent decisions on the candidates.

After lunch, if you have completed your interviews, you may have an additional opportunity to learn more about the School of Dental Medicine as scheduled for that day. If not, you may take that additional time to complete your on-site essays.

When you have finished your two interviews and have submitted the written on-site essay to the Office of Admissions secretaries, you are dismissed.
We realize that many of you are drawn to the research-intensive character of the School of Dental Medicine and of Case Western Reserve University. While we may not be able to answer all your questions regarding research, our program does encourage our students to consider research projects, especially those who wish to pursue careers in academic dentistry, specialty training, or other leadership in dentistry. Take the time to look through our website at some of the ongoing research conducted by our faculty in basic sciences, clinical sciences, and community health.

If you are interested in meeting any of our research faculty, make sure you email the faculty member as soon as you schedule your interview, and copy your email to the Office of Admissions (dentinterview@case.edu). Often many of our research faculty have been able to interview candidates who have demonstrated a common interest in their work and may want to inquire specifically about research opportunities we offer, but it is solely dependent on their availability. We try to see if they can meet with you and interview you, but such availability is completely dependent on the faculty member.
So before you begin to schedule your interview, we have some things you need to consider.

If you plan to fly out of Cleveland immediately after the interview, try to arrange your flight to leave no earlier than 5:00 pm, and make sure you notify the secretaries when you arrive for your interview day. Give yourself about 60 minutes to get to the airport.

Give yourself time to find the Office of Admissions (room DO1260 in the Dean's Suite)

Dress appropriately for the season.

In the appendix to this document are specific news items related to renovations taking place at the Cleveland International Airport (CLE).

It should also be noted that you should plan to dress appropriately for the anticipated weather forecast for the day. You can bring a carry-on-sized suitcase to help you change when you arrive at the Office of Admissions for your interviews, but make sure you give yourself enough time. Those suitcases can be left in the Office of Admissions.
We use the Eventbrite online free ticket system to manage our interviews. In your invitation, there is a link to the Eventbrite scheduling site, so select an available interview day that works best for you. When you sign up for your interview, you will also be asked a small questionnaire. Please note that once you have been invited, your invitation is only valid for a week until it is rescinded and your application is withdrawn.

If your plans change, you can change your interview day by reserving another available date and then cancelling your previous reservation (look under “My Tickets” in Eventbrite). You are able to change your interview dates until the week prior to a reservation. If you unable to change your interview date because it falls within 7 days, email dentinterview@case.edu to reschedule or cancel your interview day.

Finally, take down our office phone number, which is (216) 368-2461 for our interviewing candidates; our general phone number is (216) 368-2460. If something happens to you on interview day itself, leave a message on our office phone line. We prefer leaving our phones available for immediate communication with candidates on their interview days so be courteous to your peers and reserve the phone calls for emergency communication only.
Hired cars: We realize that more people are using hired car service, so we are setting up discounts with the more popular services which you can use for our interview day to or from the airport. CWRU has a corporate discount of 5% with GroundLink (http://www.cwru.edu/finadmin/security/travel/documents/GroundLinkCWRUUserGuide.pdf), and we have set up a one-time introductory discount code **CASE123**. Up to $25 off for a first ride on Lyft.

You are responsible for your own payment of the taxi fees, and the School and the University bear no liability for your ride.
Travel tips to Cleveland

- GPS: 2124 Cornell Road, 44106
  - Circle Dr and Cornell Rd (parking on next slide)
- RTA HealthLine bus (from downtown)
  - Cornell station stop (walk 0.25 miles to DS)
- RTA Cedar University light rail station
  - See section at the end

If you are traveling to our campus using a car, you can use a GPS-enabled device to locate the School of Dental Medicine at 2124 Cornell Road, Cleveland, Ohio 44106, or the crossroads of Cornell Road and Circle Drive. If you arrive before 8:15 am, there should be parking in the Lot 55 parking garage located beneath the platform of the medical/dental/nursing school. Parking will cost you at least $10 for the day.

If you are staying in a hotel downtown that does not have a shuttle, you can alternatively ride the HealthLine Bus from downtown Cleveland along Euclid Avenue to the Cornell Road Station located at University Hospitals Case Medical Center and the Seidman Cancer Center. From this stop you can walk towards the Dental School which is about a quarter mile away. You can pass the Starbucks, the Courtyard by Marriott, and the garage walkway bridge to get to the Clinic ground front entrance. A ride on the RTA is $2.25 each way or $5.00 for the entire day. There should be a ticket-issuing kiosk at the bus or train stations that should be purchased before entering the bus or train.

The Cedar-University light rail station for the red line trains was recently renovated and is an inexpensive option to come from or return to the airport. A ride on the train is also $2.25 each way. A section at the end goes over the landmarks for getting from the airport to the Cedar-University station to the dental school.
Unlike in previous years, the Delta Sigma Delta house does not have a room available for visiting DMD interview candidates this year.

**Popular hotels used by dental school DMD candidates**

**Courtyard by Marriott University Circle** (walking distance to dental school but expensive, CWRU rate possible?)

**Doubletree Hotel Lakeside Cleveland** (ask for CWRU rate, shuttle to campus)

**Holiday Inn Express – Cleveland Downtown** (ask for CWRU rate, take the Health Line to campus)

**Wyndham Cleveland Playhouse Square** (ask for CWRU rate, take the Health Line to campus)


Link to several hotel specials for CWRU guests. Please note that the bottom link on this page has instructions for reimbursement for visiting lecturers and faculty, but we do not reimburse you for travel expenses. You can ask for the CWRU rate when booking hotels though.

You may also find additional deals on discount hotel-booking sites with some of these hotels as well.
School of Dental Medicine parking information with map
http://dental.case.edu/parking/

If you need parking during your interview day, we strongly urge you to arrive early to reduce any potential hassle that comes with parking and then locating the School of Dental Medicine. Unless rates are changed, you should expect to pay $10-12 for a full day of parking. The most convenient garages with the most vacancies are University Hospital parking garages located next to Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital or the Seidman Cancer Center. You should be able to find assistance from these garages to the School of Dental Medicine. Alternatively there is visitor parking near Veale Center, but the availability is often limited. Finally there is a visitor parking lot located underneath the medical and dental schools, but most of the time, this lot fills up by 8:45 am.

If you are taking a taxi, you could be dropped off at the clinic entrance of the School of Dental Medicine across from the Bolwell building entrance and the Wolstein research building. Again, give yourself plenty of time to navigate to the School of Dental Medicine and then the Office of Admissions.

We are unable to validate parking for interviewing candidates.
How you find the Office of Admissions lounge depends on the entrance you take to enter the School of Dental Medicine.

This entrance is opposite the Bolwell Building entrance to University Hospitals and nearest the Wolstein Research Building.

You can enter the school at the ground floor level from the street through the general clinic lounge or from the Lot 5-55 garage pointing you to either the School of Nursing or the School of Dental Medicine. When you enter the ground floor, ask someone to point out directions to the elevator to the Dean’s office suite. Once you get to the elevators, go up to the first floor. Once you arrive, turn left and pass the double doors that mark the administration suite. After you pass the trophies and plaques on your right, look down into that section and you should see the Office of Admissions suite on the opposite side to the left in room DO 1260.

_Photograph taken from animated GIF on CWRU SODM website, accessed June 1, 2013._
This entrance is closest to the traffic-light intersection of Cornell Road and Circle Drive. Many faculty and students will cross this intersection en route to class.

You can enter the School of Dental Medicine from a back entrance that is most accessible from the intersection of Cornell and Circle Drives. Enter the back door where you will see the student mailboxes. There should be a sign to direct you to the Office of Admissions by pointing you to the right and through the double doors that mark the administration suite. Continue until you see the brick wall, and the Office of Admissions is on the other side.

_Script photograph from CWRU SODM archive._
Finally, you can also enter the School of Dental Medicine from the podium level which is one level above the street. Usually you will be at the same level as the Medical School Library and the cafeteria level of the Biomedical Research Building. Here you can also find the entrance to our Faculty Practice and Advanced Education in General Dentistry clinic. It is also on the first floor as you would also be if you came through the entrance closest to Cornell and Circle. After you enter the Faculty Practice/AEGD clinic lounge, walk through the historic displays and turn left. Through the double doors is the Dean’s administration suite. As previously mentioned, pass the trophy display and turn right to ultimately find the Office of Admissions Suite.

*Personal photograph.*
If you get lost, use the mobile app and the map link with your GPS program on your smartphone to navigate yourself to the campus.
Each candidate must participate in two separate interviews conducted in a highly conversational format. Each interview should be at least 20 minutes in length, but our Committee has recommended 30-minute limits. Every interviewer has his or her own style of interviewing, and the general goal is to get to know you better as well as your particular interest in an education at Case School of Dental Medicine. The interviewer also will try to address any of your questions about our program to the best of his/her knowledge. Interviewers are generally assigned at random to candidates, often on the day of the interview. Some interviewers may read the candidate’s files one day in advance, especially if you declare a strong interest in any of our dual degree programs. However, some interviewers will elect to meet you first and then review your file after your interview. Not all interviewers are members of the Admissions Committee, but the interviewers do contribute their evaluation in the process.
Most of our applicants come highly prepared for interview day, especially when it comes to their answers to typical interview questions such as the ones listed here. Make sure your answers reflect who you are personally with an appropriate professional polish and focus just as you would for any dental school interview. That said, keep in mind the vision for the incoming class and what qualities for the incoming members of the class the vision embodies when talking about your preparation for and desire to be part of our educational community.

Expected topics

- Tell me about yourself.
- Why are you interested in dentistry?
- What attracts you to CWRU SODM?
- What questions do you have for us?
We require a digital photograph in JPEG format to be submitted to us in advance of your interview day. The photograph should be passport-style, compliant with the guidelines articulated by the State Department for passports: http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/passports/photos/photos.html or the Passport Canada site: http://www.pptc.gc.ca/info/photos.aspx?lang=eng. However, you can smile in your photos that you send to us. (Grumpy cat meme, personalized.) You do not need to bring your passport for our inspection.

If you accept our offer for admission, we will use your photo to help our staff in Admissions and Student Services know who you are prior to your Orientation week. If you do not accept our offer, we will delete your photograph along with your application after incoming class orientation.
Finally, we are asking you to send us a document in advance that let us know “why Case?”. Since we do not have a school-specific application, we are giving you an opportunity to more clearly articulate why you want to attend Case School of Dental Medicine. We will accept one PDF document that you create to help us frame your application to answer this question. You can present this information as a text essay of any length or use presentation platforms like Microsoft Powerpoint, Google Presentations, Prezi, or Adobe Voice presentations to produce a PDF document for us.

This document can be email-attached to dentinterview@case.edu. While this supplemental document is not required, the Admissions Committee expects our most desirable applicants to take advantage of this opportunity to provide additional information that is often unable to be included in greater detail in the AADSAS application.

We consider your portfolio to be a sincere, honest expression of your desire to attend Case Western Reserve University. To this end we will retaining your electronic copy in your electronic file for the Admissions Committee and will print a copy for your physical file for interview evaluators. Please make sure
you make your document as concise as possible so that we are not wasting paper unnecessarily. The size limit is 4 MB, and send this document along with your photograph at least a week before your interview day.
Specific guidance
Our Admissions Committee wants to know your journey, your strengths, and your preparation to handle our exciting and challenging program, and we want to know why you want to be forever associated as a graduate of Case School of Dental Medicine. Some suggested topics that you may want to include in this document include greater detail about activities you designated as significant in your AADSAS application, examples of fine manual dexterity or creativity, information that you otherwise would want our Admissions Committee to consider that is not mentioned in the application, context that shows your resilience through personal or professional difficulties, or an update on an activity that you had begun at the time you submitted your AADSAS application. This document should reflect your personal creativity and your professional voice, so if you use material that is owned or copyrighted by others, we ask that you properly cite your sources or note any unpublished or confidential information as such. Feel free to include any non-text documentation to supplement this information. You can embed photographs or hyperlinks to videos or other websites that we can easily access so that we can better witness your creativity. The canvas is yours to create your portrait as a future Case dental student. **We are NOT looking for a replication or revision of your AADSAS application or personal essay.**

Admissions Committee members are generally impressed by the depth of self-reflection of each experience and how each serves as a foundation for benefitting from an education at our School of Dental Medicine. While each portfolio is evaluated holistically, appealing portfolios have appealed to screeners by showing personal and preprofessional growth towards a successful CWRU SODM education in dentistry, maximizing multimedia sources that document personal accomplishments, and presenting an organized and visually engaging presentation. In our interview candidate pool, “boilerplate” portfolios are more the norm than the appealing exception.

Additional note
While we encourage creativity in this task, we really urge you to stay within the guidelines (PDF only, no more than 4MB in size). Please do not send any videos directly to us, and any Powerpoints and Prezis should be sent to us as a PDF document, even if you wish to hyperlink to a more “engaging” format where your files are placed. We cannot “print” audio files or videos for review. Any deviation from this constraint may result in the exclusion of your portfolio document for review.
Although there are no formally structured questions in our process, we have a structured evaluation process that focuses on these areas of evaluation. When the Committee reviews your entire application, it will be looking for evidence of your academic readiness and preprofessional competencies that we feel best prepare you for our challenging curriculum. In addition to typical metrics and outcomes, the Committee is interested in assessing your successful habits of inquiry, comprehension of the culture of health care through clinical exposure, and strategies you have mastered to maintain or manage your personal wellness in the midst of various challenges and difficulties you have faced. We are also seeking to evaluate your development and mastery of preprofessional competencies that are technically required of you when you are beginning your dental education and training.
It is usually good practice to contact the Office of Admissions to confirm their attendance for their interview days and the specific expected time of arrival. This is done when the applicant sends the portfolio document and personal photograph. This allows candidates an opportunity to update any contact information when the Admissions Committee decides on a candidate’s file. You should also print your Eventbrite ticket confirming your day and time for the interview.

When you send us this confirmation email, please note in the subject line your name and “interview confirmation,” and don’t forget to include your AADSAS number and your date/time of interview to help us locate your reservation and file more quickly. Again, if you have information regarding a tight departure from Cleveland on your interview day, please let us know especially on the day of your interview, and make sure you arrive EARLY (even as early as 8:00 am).
After your interview day, it is a common courtesy among our applicants to follow-up on any conversation or information you learned from interview day from our faculty, students, or staff. This communication can be sent by email to dentinterview@case.edu or written form to be placed in your application file. You are encouraged to ask your interviewers for their email address if you wish to send them a follow-up email.

Decisions to admit are usually not influenced by thank-you communications. However, if there is a significant update in your file that you feel is an important update to your AADSAS application, other than your Academic Update, the Office of Admissions welcomes disclosures sent by email that can be electronically attached to your file.

If there is a significant update in your activities that can be documented with an additional letter of evaluation, we welcome direct delivery of one additional letter of evaluation after your interview day that provides us better insight of an activity that you are updating for our files. All additional letters of evaluation should be received within 1 week after your interview date whenever possible.

Finally, the Office of Admissions often will send admissions process updates through its social media channels on Facebook, Twitter, and Student Doctor Network. Please use these media to keep informed of our process.
Application process update

- Dr. Chuck followup on the application process
  - Prezi presentation available
- Round 1 offer notification update
  - Webchat on the CWRU SODM communications protocol for December 1 notification.
  - Usually scheduled for mid-November.
  - Live session will NOT be recorded.

For round 1 offers: Dr. Chuck will update you later on about the admission process after you have interviewed at the School of Dental Medicine. ADEA schools are expected to adhere to a moratorium of delivering offers of admission until December 1, but each school has a different communications protocol to notify you of our decision. Dr. Chuck already has this embedded in one of his presentations on the application process, but he normally conducts a reminder webchat for all applicants expecting a decision on December 1 by the middle to end of November. The date and time will be emailed to everyone who interviewed, and you must be present to receive the information as the session will not be recorded due to the highly sensitive nature of the presentation.

For applicants who are interviewed subsequently in December and into the spring, separate update webchats may be scheduled as deemed necessary from Dr. Chuck. Otherwise announcements will be made through social media.
On behalf of the Office of Admissions, we hope this presentation helps you with your interview day preparation along with other materials designed to guide you to be accepted to our innovative program. Do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions, and we look forward to meeting you on your interview day!

Office of Admissions
Emil Chuck, Ph.D., Director
Brian Sherman, M.A., Assistant Director
Antonise Harris, Secretary
Dianne Wagner, Secretary

*Personal photograph.*
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Personal photograph.
This section is for travelers who are flying to Cleveland.
Airlines that serve Cleveland include United, Delta, American, Southwest, Frontier. The airport website is http://www.clevelandairport.com/.
The Cleveland Airport posts updates about the construction at http://www.clevelandairport.com/news/updates/cle-airport-construction. The Airport is recommending that travelers arriving to the airport come by 90-120 minutes before their scheduled take-off.
For US citizens/permanent residents, TSA Pre-Check will greatly facilitate your wait at Cleveland and likely at other airports. Go to https://www.tsa.gov/tsa-precheckR-application-program for more information. Canadian citizens are encouraged to register for Nexus (http://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/prog/nexus/menu-eng.html).
If you arrive to Cleveland Hopkins International Airport, most applicants will likely be able to get around without renting a car. Most will get to their hotel or campus by taxi, by hired car (such as Lyft and Uber), and by our light rail/public transportation system (RTA).
If you are going by taxi, there is a common taxi stand on the baggage claim level in the same area as the historic Superman exhibit near Baggage Claim 10.
If you go to the end of the baggage claim area, you’ll see a window and a line-up area for taxi service. There is technically only one contracted taxi service that transports passengers away from CLE.
If you contact hired cars/limosines prior to your arrival, I will presume you will receive instructions on where to meet your car. That said, there is a lot of construction going on that affects the pick-up areas near baggage claim and some of the receiving areas at arrivals. Give yourself plenty of time and a lot of battery life on your mobile phone to be sure you can connect.
The most inexpensive option is the RTA light rail from the airport. Granted, a lot of applicants will take the RTA from their interview back to the airport directly without going back to their hotels, as a one-way ticket costs just $2.25. If you are coming from the airport, you can stop downtown at the Tower City station to access many of the hotels located downtown, then you can take the Health Line (also for $2.25) to campus. A direct route to the University is also possible if you want to get off at the Cedar-University Circle Station, then you can walk to the Dental School or any of the hotels nearest to us.
By light rail

- Find the Welcome Center (baggage claim level), and go to the basement level.
By light rail

- The basement has the Stephanie Tubbs Jones gallery, honoring the former Congresswoman and CWRU alumna.
By light rail

- The RTA Airport station is to the left of the stairs to the parking garage and limo pickup area.
I will note many of the pay stations around the city don’t always function properly. I would usually just use my debit or credit card first to get a ticket, but often the readers aren’t working either. So be sure you carry $2.25 in exact change with you... with some extra quarters in case the coin/bill accept mechanisms are not working. Yes, if I had no other choice but to use cash, I would suggest to feed a quarter in first to be sure the machine works, and if it doesn’t move to the next machine. *(Don’t be a dummy like Dr. Chuck and put in a dollar’s worth of quarters without noticing the machine wasn’t acknowledging receipt or giving any of the coins back, like he did during this trip where he was taking these pictures.)*
By light rail

- Trains usually leave around every 15 minutes.
- It takes about 45 minutes to get to the Cedar-University Station from the Airport, and vice versa.

For information about the Cedar-University station: http://www.riderta.com/facilities/cedaruniversity. It should include a notice that the elevators are working.

Notice in this picture that once you get out, there may be some shuttle buses for the University Circle area waiting.
Once you get off the train at Cedar-University, go to the EXIT to street. There's only one way off the platform. There is an elevator that takes you to the entrance plaza level.
If the weather is bad or you have a lot of items to carry, you may opt to take a Circlelink bus to get to the School of Dental Medicine. The Circlelink bus should stop next at Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital. Once you get off the shuttle, go down the walkway towards the building with the clock at the top. Inside is the Biomedical Research Building, which is part of the School of Medicine. Once inside, there should be someone from campus security at the front desk in the ground lobby who can direct you further to the dental school. Usually the easiest path is through the nursing school and Lot 55 garage for patient parking and visitors.

Once at the entrance plaza, you can take a ramp or stairs back up to where the shuttle bus stop is. If you are going to the dental school, it is a short 10 minute walk so don’t wait for the shuttles unless it’s a really nasty weather day. Here are pictures to get to the dental school on foot.

Notice the parking garage structure in common to these pictures as a landmark. There’s also a large windmill behind the garage.
Walking to SODM

- Cross the bridge to the CWRU/University Hospitals campus.
Notice the smokestacks. On the other side is the medical school/dental school platform area where you can access the podium level entrances to the dental school.

You can also walk towards Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital and take the walkway towards the clocktower building (Biomedical Research Building) to access the dental school at the ground/clinic level through the patient garage.
If you get lost, don’t forget to use your m.app!