

mock interview: **DENTAL**



INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Tell me about yourself.
2. What are your greatest strengths?
3. What is an example of a weakness?
4. What will you do if you don't get into dental school?
5. What has been your most rewarding experience working with others?
6. What is your favorite hobby or downtime activity? How does this help you handle stress?
7. Tell me about a challenge that you had to overcome. What steps did you take?
8. What aspects of your life and experiences do you think make you a good candidate for dental school?
9. You are not doing so well in a science course and overhear classmates discussing how they can cheat. What do you do?
10. Please explain your grades and DAT scores.
11. What do you feel are the most important qualities in being a good dentist? How do you fill those qualities?
12. Tell me about a time that exemplifies your leadership abilities.
13. Do you have any questions for us?

MORE PRACTICE

1. What is your opinion of health care reform and how will it affect your future?
2. Tell me about your most meaningful experience helping someone.
3. What do you feel is the most controversial topic in the dental profession? What is your opinion on it?
4. How have you handled working with someone that you did not like?
5. What have been your best and worst shadowing experiences?
6. Tell me about a time when you have been in an ethically questionable situation. How did you react?

CHECKLIST

First Impression

- ☐ Appears prepared and confident
- ☐ Speaks positively and clearly
- ☐ Smiles ☺

Non-Verbal Communication

- ☐ Maintains enthusiasm and confidence
- ☐ Keeps eye contact
- ☐ Uses proper facial expressions

Verbal Communication

- ☐ Answers questions completely and concisely
- ☐ Uses STAR method to answer the questions
- ☐ Shows professional knowledge and attitude
- ☐ Avoids using filler words (e.g., "um")
- ☐ Highlights the strengths with examples
- ☐ Explains steps taken to make improvement on weakness

SELF EVALUATION

1. My three biggest interview strengths are:
2. The three things I would have liked to change:
3. What were the hardest questions? What will my answer for them be next time?

TIPS FOR SUCCESS

1. Use **Big Interview** <https://missouri.biginterview.com> to record yourself answering questions and share the link with people who can evaluate you. Watch tutorial videos and learn about ways to best prepare and answer questions.
2. **Research the program** and use this knowledge to answer questions thoroughly and ask the interviewer informed questions at the end of the interview.
3. Dress professionally and make a **confident first impression**: be early, show engaging body language, make good eye contact, and smile.
4. Utilize the **STAR** (Situation Task Action Result) method to answer questions where you are asked to provide examples.
5. **Target your responses** to what the interviewer is looking for and be ready to share your relevant skills and experiences: be specific and tell stories or give examples that are genuine to you.
6. Follow up with a **thank you** email and/or letter within 24-48 hours after the interview.
7. Ask **current dental students** about their experience at their programs and that the application process was like, which may help you decide which college or university is the best fit for you.
8. **Check more information**:
<https://www.asdanet.org/index/get-into-dental-school/post-application/interview-tips>

next steps:

Talk with a Career Specialist for one-on-one assistance: <https://career.missouri.edu/connect>
Check out more resources at <https://career.missouri.edu> > Resources tab