Personal Statement

Words of Advice

Not sure what to write about in your essay? Consider these ideas.

The **ADEA AADSAS application** requires a personal essay on why you wish to pursue a dental education. Where do you start? Admission committees are looking for individuals who are motivated, academically prepared, articulate, socially conscious, and knowledgeable about the profession. What can you tell admissions committees about yourself that will make you stand out?

Here are some tips:

- Be honest about how you became interested in studying dentistry. If becoming a dentist wasn't a childhood dream, that's fine, but explain how you discovered dentistry as a career possibility and what you have done to research the career.
- Have you observed or worked in dental offices? Explain what you've done to demonstrate your interest in dentistry. Talk to practicing dentists to increase your understanding of general dental practices.
- Do you have any special talents or leadership skills that could be transferable to the practice of dentistry?
- Express your commitment to helping others and mention any efforts made that enforce that commitment.
- Did you have to work to pay for your education? How has that made you a stronger applicant?
- To get where you are today, have you had to overcome hardships or obstacles? If so, how has this influenced your motivation for advanced education?

The personal statement explains why the applicant wants to pursue a dental career. The statement should not exceed 4,500 characters (including spaces, carriages, numbers, letters, etc.). Applicants should not make the statement specific to each dental school, as ADEA AADSAS will provide the statement to all dental schools designated in the application.

Tip: It is important to review the personal statement before submission because applicants will not be able to make revisions to this section of their application.