



Dental School Application Checklist (2025 - 2026 Edition)



Feel overwhelmed by AADSAS? You're not alone — but you're about to be prepared.



This free, printable checklist will keep your dental dreams on track and your sanity intact.



Phase 1: Before You Start the AADSAS Application

- Create an ADEA account
- Make a list of 10–15 target dental schools (check tuition, prerequisites, and deadlines)
- Order official transcripts from all colleges attended
- Draft a master personal statement
- Ask 3–4 recommenders EARLY (professor, dentist, mentor)
- Write a resume + 'brag sheet' for recommenders
- Get DAT scheduled or scores uploaded (earlier = better)



Phase 2: Filling Out AADSAS

- **Personal Info:** Name, ID, contact — triple check
- **Academic History:** Every school + transcript uploaded
- **Coursework Entry:** Match transcript exactly — use school's course codes
- **Experiences:** Add shadowing, volunteering, jobs, leadership, research (limit fluff)
- **Awards:** List academic honors, grants, scholarships
- **Personal Statement:** Polished, proofread, emotionally honest
- **Program Selection:** Choose dental schools + set deadlines



Phase 3: Submission Timeline

- AADSAS Opens: **June 1**
- Best Submission Window: **June 15 – July 15** (15% higher acceptance odds)
- Verification Delay: 2–4 weeks — build this into your plan
- Secondaries begin arriving late July–August
- Interviews: Sept – Jan (Practice mock interviews by August!)



Bonus Pro Tips

- Practice STAR storytelling: Situation → Task → Action → Result
- Keep a Google Drive folder: docs, transcripts, screenshots, secondaries
- Check AADSAS and email 2–3x per week post-submission
- Always respond to schools within 48 hours — even just to confirm receipt
- Keep senior year grades strong (they still matter!)



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Your dental journey is just beginning — and you're more than ready for it.



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