



SWEDISH MEDICAL CENTER GENERAL PRACTICE RESIDENCY

ADMISSION CRITERIA

Eligibility Criteria:

Only applicants from ADA-accredited (USA and Canadian) dental schools are eligible to apply.

Application Process:

All applicants must use the Postdoctoral Application Support Service (PASS). Completed applications will be reviewed by a committee composed of the faculty of the program. The packet will be considered *en toto*; weaknesses can be offset by strengths.

The following criteria will be considered in determining if a candidate is to be offered an interview:

- 1) Statement of intent. The applicant should demonstrate a clear reason for wanting postdoctoral education in General Dentistry, and it should be clear their goals will be met by our curriculum.
- 2) Interest in future specialization is *not* a negative. If applicable, the applicant should articulate how GPR training will augment their future specialty training.
- 3) National Boards, Part I must be taken and passed. Higher scores will help the application.
- 4) Class ranking, where available, will be considered as a good indicator of academic progress. The top 25-33% is preferred, but not mandatory.
- 5) GPAs will be reviewed in the context of potential grade inflation and/or heavy competition.
- 6) Letters of recommendation should describe excellent motivation, maturity, curiosity/inquisitiveness, ability, interest and personality. Technical skills must be sufficient to allow general supervision.
- 7) Most importantly, throughout their application materials, the applicant should demonstrate that what our program offers is of high interest to them and that they will be a dedicated and interested learner.

Our philosophy is that we do not need the top of the class, nor do we shun the bottom of the class. We are searching for motivated learners who will enjoy the program, put their heart and soul into it, get as much out of it as they can, work well as a team, and go on to apply the knowledge in their future practices. *We simply want the best candidates for our program.*

Invitations for interview are issued in October of each year. The candidates spend an entire day visiting with us so that they can tour our office and hospitals and meet with the faculty and residents. Interviews are intended to both identify high-quality candidates for our program and allow each candidate an opportunity to evaluate our program for its appropriateness to their postgraduate training goals and expectations. The intent of the interviews is to make the final decision about who best fits our program from a personality, work-ethic, teamwork, and learner point of view.

Selection Process:

After the interviews are completed, the interviewing faculty will meet and discuss the applicants. Submitted materials will be revisited as necessary and the final rank order list generated. Those candidates who are ranked will be ranked in order of preference, recognizing that the top 3 positions are equivalent.

The Swedish Medical Center GPR participates in the National Matching Service. All applicants must utilize their procedures and agree to their restrictions. Candidates will be officially notified by the Matching service with a follow-up phone call from the Program Director.