

Orthodontic Policies and Procedures for Student Admittance

The Division of Orthodontics participates in the ADEA Postdoctoral Application Support Service (PASS) and National Postdoctoral Matching Program (MATCH). All the admission and program policies are aligned with the rules and procedures defined in these processes.

The Division of Orthodontics accepts 5-7 residents into the postgraduate program per year. The number of specific positions for each admission cycle will be notified to MATCH early in the application process. All positions will be offered through MATCH for each admission cycle. Applicants for the postgraduate programs will apply only through PASS by September 15th and submit a supplemental application by October 1st.

The applications will be reviewed by all full time faculty in the residency program, who will each identify which applicants should be considered for interview. Candidates will be evaluated and selected for interview based on a comprehensive review of their application, using criteria identified below. The faculty will meet and evaluate the pool of applicants identified by each faculty and select which applicants to invite for interview. Approximately 30-40 candidates (including all UConn applicants from the undergraduate and postgraduate programs) will be invited.

Interviews will be conducted over a two-day schedule. Chair and Program Director will give a general introduction of our three-year program as part of the interview process. Full time and part time Faculty members (when available) from our Division, and two residents from the graduating class will conduct the interviews. All candidates will be interviewed by two groups of faculty in 20-minute sessions. Candidates will be evaluated based on their academic record, personal statement, research experience, leadership skills, GRE's if available, extracurricular activities and their future plans.

A list of approximately 25 candidates will be ranked in order of preference based on the application selection criteria and interview scores. A rank order will be provided by each interviewer, which will be collated in a meeting at the end of second day of the interviews. Following a discussion by faculty and the two residents a final rank order list will be submitted to MATCH. Only candidates that have a complete application on file and have been interviewed for the specific application cycle will be placed on the list.

In the event that any of the available positions are not matched, the Division will follow the directive set by the Match. The rule states: "*these unmatched applicants and programs with positions available are free to contact each other and to negotiate directly with each other, independently of the Match, to fill available position*". Based on this, the Division will contact applicants directly from the pool of candidates that applied to the program, participated in the Match, and did not match with a program. Applicants who contact the program directly after not matching will also be considered. The program reserves the right to not fill an unmatched position/positions, if not satisfied with the pool of available candidates.

APPENDIX

Criteria for Candidate Selection

1. Class standing
2. GPA in dental school and undergraduate (college) school with honors recognition
3. Research experience in undergraduate and/or dental school
4. National Board passing score
5. Evidence of academic or community leadership
6. Clinical experience after dental school
7. Superlative letters of recommendation
8. Interests in the arts, sciences, and/or athletics
9. Preference to Connecticut residents or alumni

Not all candidates will possess each of the desired characteristics. Some undergraduate dental students are not ranked or receive numeric grades. We attempt to balance missing criteria with added excellence in those qualifications presented and interview performance.

Advanced Standing Student Acceptance Policy

On occasion, a candidate may be considered for the Advanced Standing Program. These candidates are required to have an international certificate in orthodontics. Acceptance to this position will be based on the same assessment of achievements as described for the residency program.

Applicants to this program will be interviewed by the same admission committee members and will be conducted during the same time period of the regular application cycle.

Applicants to the advanced standing student program will need to follow the same application guidelines and procedures described for the general application process. These include an application sent through PASS and enrollment to the MATCH program.