

Dental Hygiene Admissions

2008

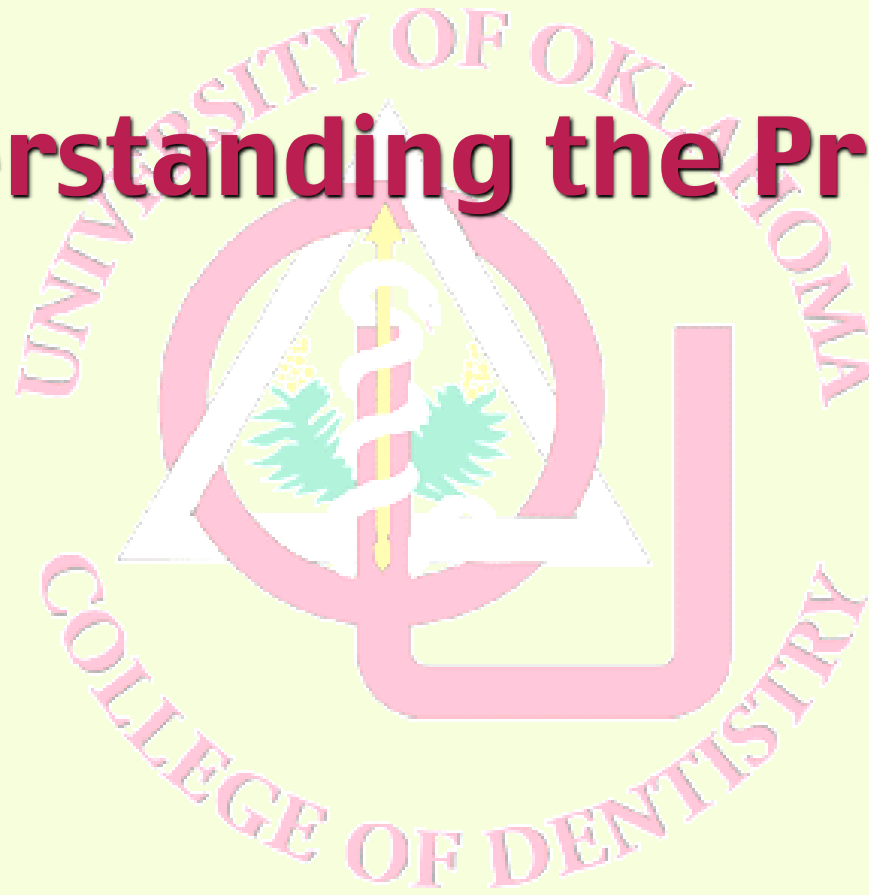
**How to Improve Your
Application**

Steps to Improve

- **Understand the Admissions Process**
 - Thoroughly read this PowerPoint
 - Request clarification if needed
- **Download and compare your academic statistics to those of the admitted class**



Understanding the Process



Basic Admission Requirements

- Minimum of 60 hours of pre-requisite coursework completed by end of summer semester prior to entering program from an accredited college or university
- Minimum GPA of 2.5 on 4.0 scale
- Good standing with all institutions
- Statement of Career Goals
- 2 letters of recommendation
- 40-hour shadowing of a **DENTAL HYGIENIST**

Timeline

- **Application deadline is January 15**
 - **Online Health Science Center application to HSC Admissions and Records**
 - **Send to Dental Hygiene Department**
 - **2 Letters of recommendation**
 - **New letters each year required if reapplying**
 - **40 hour shadowing form**
 - **Statement of career goals**
 - **New career statement required if reapplying**
- **Accepted applicants will be notified by letter mid April**

How Should I Select the Site that I Apply To?

- Goal of the program is to increase dental hygiene practitioners in rural Oklahoma
 - Admissions Committee attempts to accommodate candidate 1st choices
 - 2nd and 3rd choices given less consideration by Admissions Committee



Three Components of Applicant Score

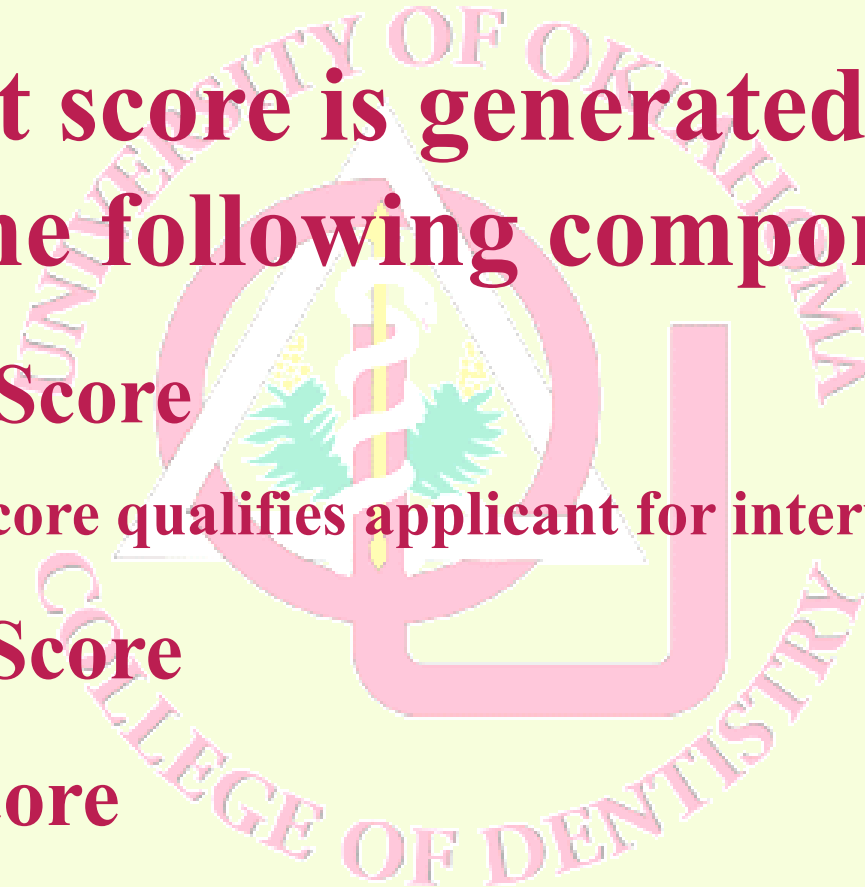
Applicant score is generated by the total of the following components:

-Academic Score

Academic score qualifies applicant for interview

-Interview Score

-Writing Score





The Academic Score

Academic Evaluation Criteria

- Cumulative GPA
- Science GPA
- GPA from last 60 hours of coursework
- Foundational GPA
- Coursework Completion Status
 - *All foundational coursework **MUST** be completed by May prior to August start of school
 - *All pre-requisite coursework **MUST** be completed by August start of school
- ACT Score
 - ≥21 suggested

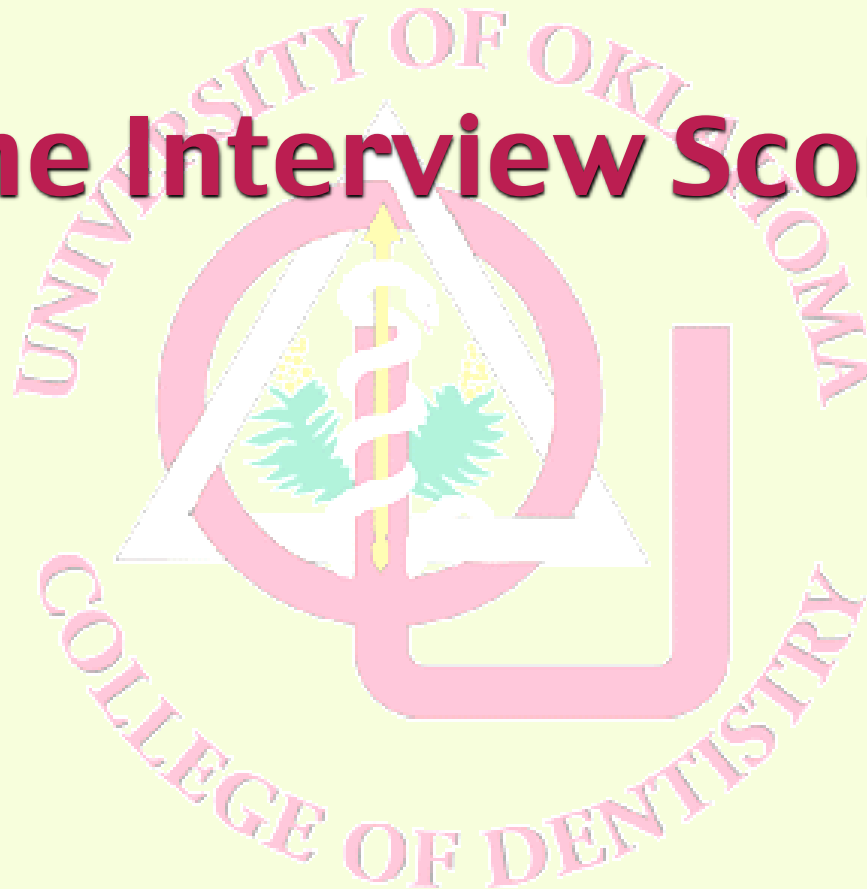
What are the Foundational Courses?

- ZOO 2124 Human Physiology
- ZOO 2234 or ZOO 2255 Human Anatomy
- CHEM 1315 General Chemistry with lab
- MBI0 2815 Introduction to Microbiology with lab
- HES 2823 Intro to Nutrition
- PSY 2003 Understanding Statistics
 - **OR** COMM 2513 Intro to Statistics
 - **OR** COMM 2843 Elements of Statistics
- ENGL 1213 Principles of English Composition II (**CLEP counts as "A"**)
- PSY 1113 Elements of Psychology

How Can You Improve Your Academic Score?

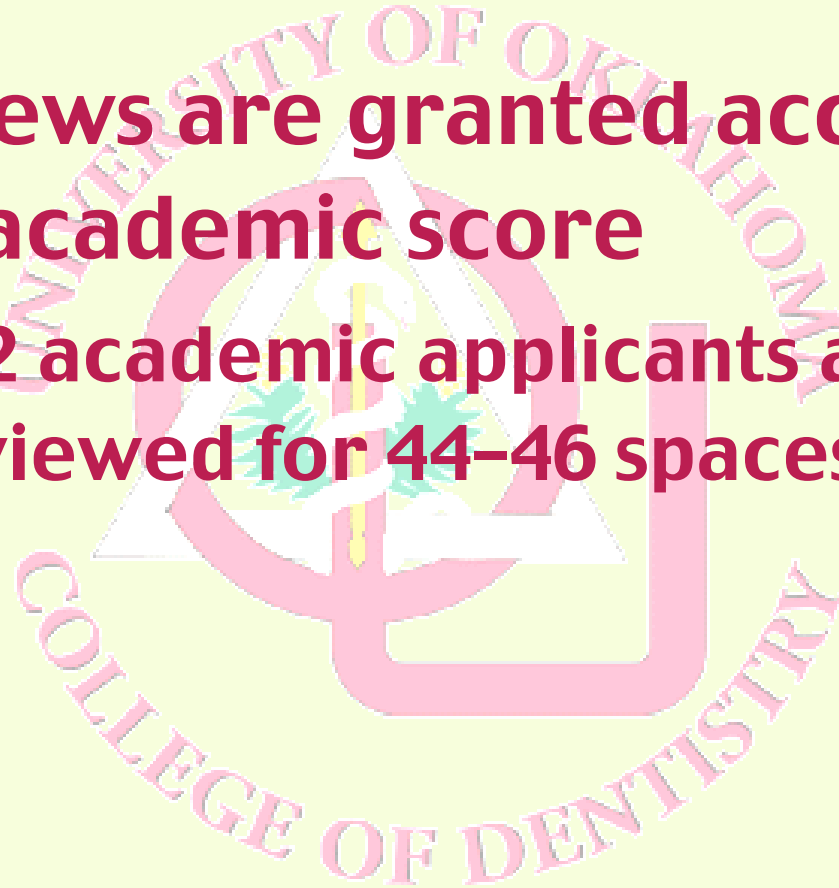
- Retake all foundational courses with a “C” or below
- Retake ACT – ACT prep courses are offered through Kaplan @ <http://www.kaptest.com/Kaplan/3/College/ACT;jsessionid=L4EK00J2NKZL5LA3AQJXBN3MDUCBE2HC> or Princeton Review @ <http://www.princetonreview.com/college/testprep/testprep.asp?TPRPAGE=195&TYPE=SAT-ACT-HOME>

The Interview Score



How Do I Get An Interview?

- Interviews are granted according to the academic score
 - Top 72 academic applicants are interviewed for 44-46 spaces at the 4 sites



Top Two Reasons for Failure to Be Granted an Interview

- **Incomplete Application**
 - One or more of required documents missing (ie. recommendation letters, shadowing hours, career statement, transcripts)
- **Academic Score Not Competitive**
 - Foundational and Last 60 GPA not competitive
 - Incomplete foundational coursework
 - Missing too many courses to be able to complete in time for fall admission

Interview Score Components

- **Knowledge of Profession**
- **Maturity**
- **Service Without Goal of Personal Gain**
- **Communication Skill**
- **Professional Appearance**



Interview Tips

- **Dress professionally**
 - **Business attire ONLY**
 - **Business suit preferred (skirt or slacks)**
 - **No gum chewing**
- **Maintain good posture**
- **Make eye contact with interviewers**
- **Use correct grammar**
- **Be able to discuss in professional terms a dental hygienist's role and responsibilities in dental office**

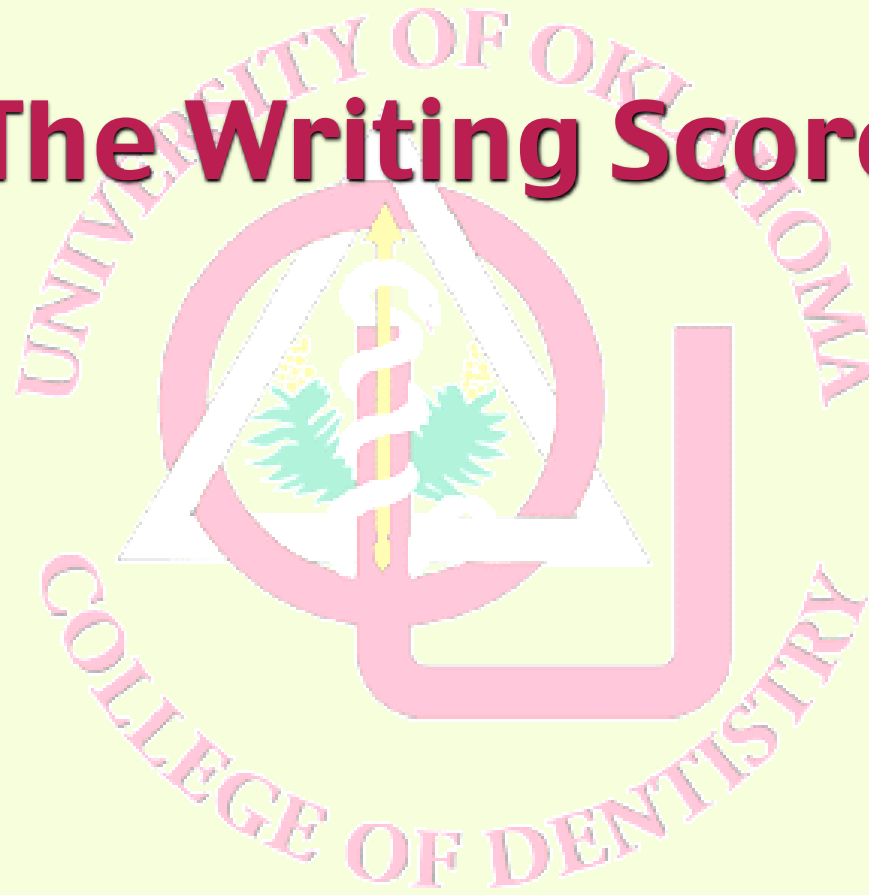
Optional Points That Can Increase Interview Score

- **Advanced degree**
 - Master's degree (does not include Bachelor's)
- **Extensive experience**
 - Formally trained Certified Dental Assistant
 - Active employment in dentistry for ≥ 2 years having earned sealant, coronal polishing, and radiography certificates

Point Deductions at Interview

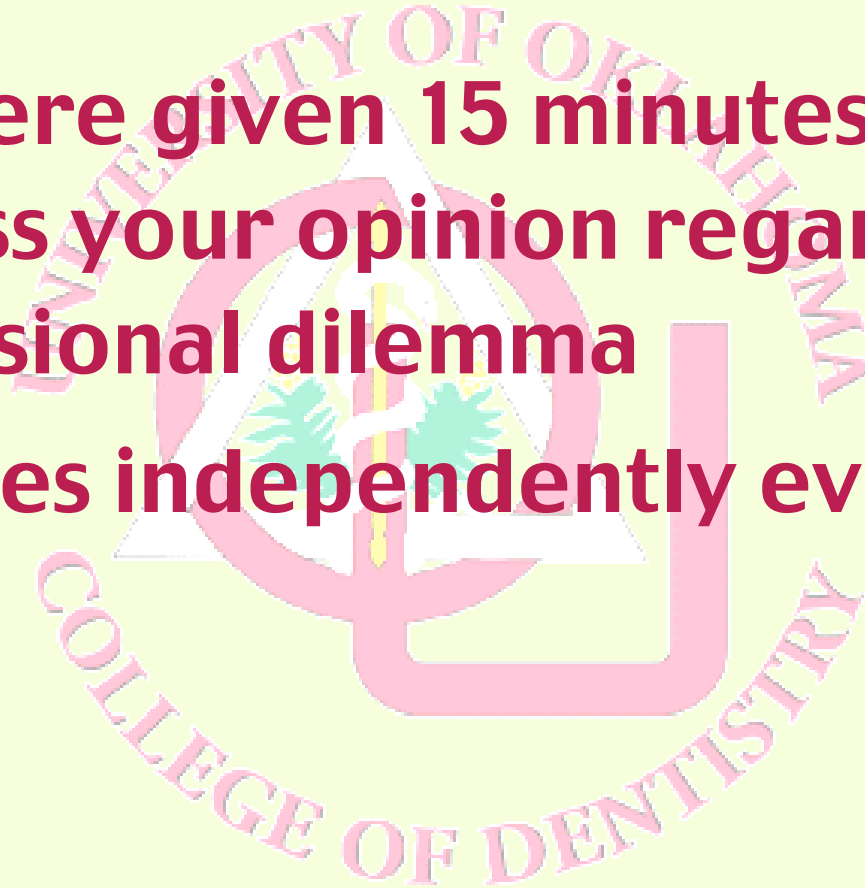
- **Predominance of coursework taken in small increments (-5)**
 - **3-6 hours of coursework without justification**
 - **Full-time employment**
 - **Primary caregiver responsibility for family member**

The Writing Score



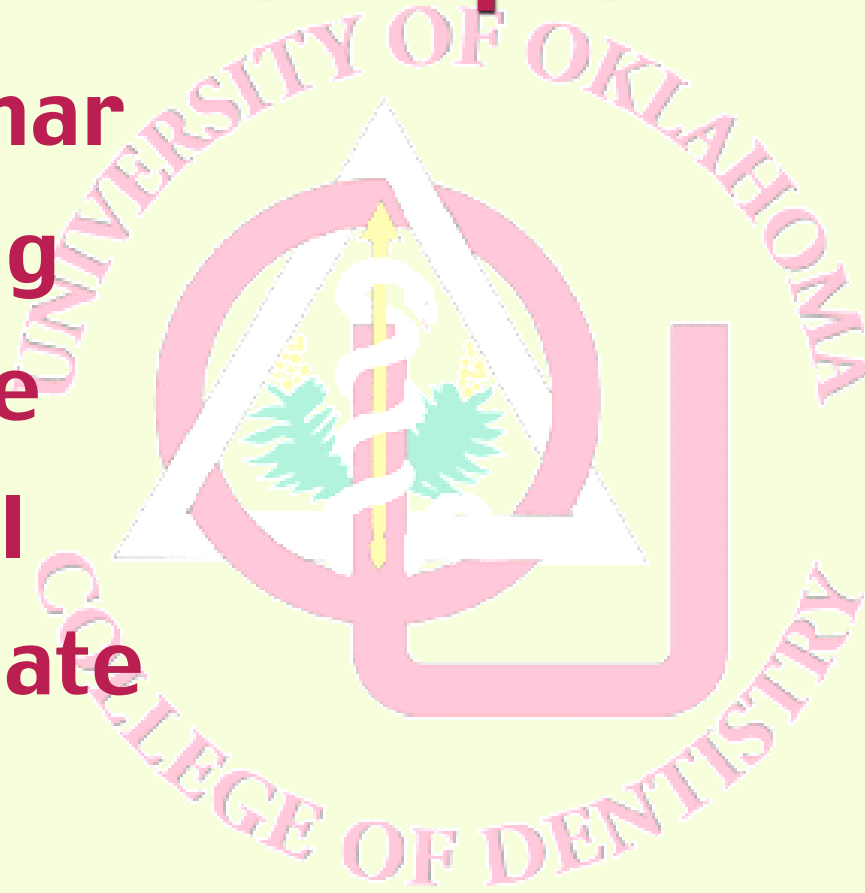
Process

- You were given 15 minutes to express your opinion regarding a professional dilemma
- 4 judges independently evaluated paper



Adjudication of Writing Sample

- Grammar
- Spelling
- Concise
- Logical
- Articulate
- Depth



How to Improve Your Writing

- Review your college English Composition notes
- Use correct sentence structure, capitalization, and punctuation
 - *Hint - dental hygienist and dentist are not capitalized unless at the beginning of a sentence!
- Access online writing websites such as <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/plan/boost-your-skills/50269.html>

Things to Consider

- ✓ **Reevaluate your personal motivation and commitment to becoming a dental hygienist**
- ✓ **Reevaluate your qualifications as a competitive applicant**



Keep in Mind

- Resubmitting your application **WITHOUT** demonstrated improvement will **NOT** improve your chances of being accepted
- Who your references are is **NOT** weighted heavily

DON'T GIVE UP!

