Dental Hygiene Admissions - FAQs

How do I keep track of my hours, and what information do I need for the application?

You can track your hours using any method you prefer, such as an Excel spreadsheet. Be sure to record the following information: where you shadowed, the practice's contact information, the dates you shadowed, the total hours, and a brief description of the experience.

Where can I complete community service hours, and what counts as leadership?

You can complete community service hours at various places, such as local non-profits, hospitals, schools, community centers, or dental clinics offering volunteering opportunities. Leadership can include roles like leading a team or project, holding an office in a student organization, coordinating events, or mentoring others.

Who can I choose for my letters of recommendation?

We require one letter from a dental professional, such as a dentist you've shadowed or worked with, and one from an academic professional, like a professor or instructor who can speak to your academic abilities and potential. It's best to select individuals who know you well and can provide a detailed and positive account of your skills and experiences.

What is the personal character statement?

The personal character statement is a reflection of your personal story and exploration of the field of dentistry. It's an opportunity to share your unique journey, motivations, and experiences. Dig deep and be creative – don't just say what you think we want to hear! Highlight what truly inspires you about dentistry and how your experiences have shaped your desire to pursue this career.

How recent do my experiences need to be?

Ideally, your experiences should be recent, within the last few years, to reflect your current interests and skills. However, significant experiences that occurred earlier but had a profound impact on your decision to pursue dentistry can also be valuable to include.

When do my experiences need to be completed?

Your experiences should be completed at the time you submit your application. You cannot go back later and add additional experiences or hours.