

UCLA School of Dentistry Postdoctoral Certificate and Residency Programs – Admissions Policy

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Our Goal

The UCLA School of Dentistry is proud to provide some of the finest dental postdoctoral certificate and residency training programs in the world. Admission to these prestigious programs is highly competitive.

The UCLA School of Dentistry strives to maintain a postdoctoral certificate and residency admissions process that fosters matriculation of the most promising candidates in the country. The process is designed to enable the acceptance of applicants strong in intellect, ethical standards, motivation, curiosity, social responsibility, and leadership potential.

Our Values

Values implicit to, and supportive of, the UCLA School of Dentistry's admissions goal include the following:

- Residency program admissions are part of an educational process directed toward resident autonomy and intellectual maturity.
- Residents' knowledge, skills, and attitude contribute significantly to quality education.
- Residents' thoughts, ideas, and passions are worthy to be engaged and respected.
- Diversity and variety contribute to residents' education.
- The admissions process must reflect the high integrity, fairness, and accountability expected of our residents.

Our Policies

The UCLA School of Dentistry adheres to strict admission policies when selecting candidates for these programs. These policies ensure that candidates are selected in a fair, impartial, unbiased, and transparent manner and include the following:

- Each program must follow a standard protocol when selecting candidates for specialty training.
- The admission process must adhere to the protocol of the individual program and be documented.
- The admissions protocol for each program must be included on the School's website.

- Each program must maintain records that document the decisions made during each program admissions cycle.
- Membership in each admissions committee shall be defined and include at least one faculty from outside the section(s) in which the program resides.
- Admissions committee members with a conflict of interest regarding a particular candidate must recuse themselves from voting or participating in discussions pertaining to the candidate. Conflicts of interest include, but are not limited to, a family members, candidates with close personal or family relationships, and business associates or their family members.
- Unless their absence violates CODA regulations, faculty members cannot serve on a program's admission committee during the admission cycle when an immediate family member is a candidate for admission to that program.
- Each admissions committee member shall acknowledge receipt of, and agree to abide by, this document and all application policies pertinent to the committee.
- Admissions Conflict Review Committee
 The Admissions Conflict Review Committee (ACRC) must review the qualifications of any candidate whenever a real or perceived conflict of interests exists. This review must be completed prior to offering residency positions to candidates or submitting the rank order list to the Postdoctoral Dental Matching Program. The ACRC is composed of the chair of the Postdoctoral Certificate and Residency Programs Committee (or his/her designee) and two additional program directors to be selected with the consensus of the chair and the Associate Dean for Clinical Dental Sciences. The Associate Dean for Clinical Dental Sciences (or his/her designee) serves as an ex-officio member without vote. Cases for review are forwarded to the ACRC by the residency admissions committee or by any admissions committee member. Examples of cases to be reviewed by the ACRC include candidates who are faculty, staff, or donors of the School of Dentistry; family members of faculty, staff, or donors; and candidates who worked under a faculty research mentor within the section.