

Endodontics Timeline and Tips

Timeline for UCSF Dental Students Interested in Endodontics Residency

D1/D2 Years

- Focus on academics, become involved in endodontics research.
- Cultivate relationships with professors and shadow in the endodontics clinic.
- Participate in extracurriculars relevant to endodontics and volunteer through community service.
- Consider joining the American Association of Endodontists.
- Shadow and talk with endodontists in private practice.

D3 Year

Summer

- Seek out as many endo cases, possibly through ER patients.
- Build relationships with endodontics faculty, ask questions and shadow if possible.
- Research program requirements and what the focus of each school is.

Fall

- Consider prospective letter writers and cultivate relationships with the professors that you will eventually request letters of recommendation from.
- Research programs that interest you and make a list of residencies to apply to.
- Continue to seek out as many endodontics cases as possible.
- Set up appointments with the dean, Dr. Reddy, for recommendation letters and help.

Winter/Spring

- Prepare to take the ADAT (if considering programs that require it).
- Externships and night clinic begin, plan for this expenditure of time and added work.
- Write personal statement and have it reviewed .
- **Reach out to programs that you are interested in and make plans to visit early.** This will help you determine if the program is the right fit and make yourself stand out!
- Request letters of recommendation from faculty.
- Consider taking the ADAT if you want to apply to a school that requires it.

D4 Year

May

- Consider completing a clerkship in endodontics, allowing you to do posterior teeth in clinic.
- Pass Applications open early in May – begin filling out applications.

June

- Consider doing an externship at a particular school of interest
- Go on as many interviews as possible!
- Send thank you cards to programs/interviewers.

Sep – Nov

- Take INDBE
- Most endodontics programs accept applicants in September and October.
- Apply for a GPR or AEGD if you did not get into a endodontics program.

December

- Reach out to your new program, thanking them for this opportunity.

Dec – Jan

- If not already completed, schedule/study for INDBE.

May

- Make sure to complete all requirements for dental school graduation.

June

- Graduate from dental school!
- Consider becoming an associate for a number of years before reapplying.

June – July

- Residency begins!

ENDODONTICS RESIDENCY TIPS

- Get as much experience as possible! Pursue as many cases as possible. Do as many procedures as possible that will lend themselves to endo. For example, rubber dam as often as possible, take on pulpotomies and pulpectomies, etc.
- Be involved and push yourself in extracurriculars and academics. But at the same time don't stretch yourself too thin.
- Get to know the endodontics faculty! They are an invaluable resources and can teach you the skills you need to become a worthy candidate.
- Even if most programs do not accept fresh graduates from dental school, you are still encouraged to apply. Interviews are the best way to know the culture and expectations of each program. Also it will show that you have gone above and beyond the next time you reapply.
- AEGD/GPR residency programs give you the time and safety of supervision to refine your clinical skills. Most fresh graduates do not have the repetitions and experience necessary to be competent in endodontics residency.
- The Endodontics Clerkship program is highly recommended for all students interested in endodontics residency programs.
- Each program is different. Talk to residents or program directors to see what the focus is. Some programs are more research focused some programs are more clinical focused.
- Join the American Association of Endodontics, AAE, read journals, and be involved. Endodontics is a tight knit community and you never know who you will rub shoulders with.
- If applying, start your application early. Endo deadlines are generally earlier than most other specialties. Aim to start beginning of spring quarter.
- Help out in Sim Lab! The underclassmen will love you for it and you will gain more experience as well. The beginning of endodontics residency is practiced on extracted teeth as well.
- Shadow an endodontist in private practice to get more flavor for what the specialty is about.