

2024 KADA Summer Mentorship Program

Program Committee

Hyejin Jeon, DDS

Jenny Jeon, DDS, MS

Paul Kang, DDS

Alyssa Kim, DDS

Lauren Kim, DDS

Sara Kim, DMD

Sam Lee, DMD, MS

Doo Yong Lim, DDS

Jonathan Song, DDS

Program Vision: To create and foster professional relationships between future and existing members of the Korean American Dental Association (KADA).

Program Mission: To develop community awareness of the profession through a variety of experiences, with the goal of aiding aspiring dentists to matriculate into dental schools.

Program Introduction: Through direct shadowing, lectures and seminars, practical workshops, and school tours, KADA seeks to elevate aspiring dental professionals to its ranks. The multi-week summer mentorship program has been produced by KADA since 2010, and has supported dozens of young Korean Americans from the greater Los Angeles area to achieve their goals of becoming dentists. After completion of their dental studies, former participants will hopefully return to KADA as active members and contribute to our profession. Expected time commitment is eight hours a week.

Program Participants: College undergraduates (juniors and seniors) and postgraduates interested in a career in dentistry are our target group. High school students will not be allowed to participate. Acceptance into the program is not limited to those of Korean descent. Historically, cohort sizes have been 10-25 participants.

Program Fee: \$800 per participant. This includes meals during lectures, materials for all activities, and a graduation banquet.

Program Schedule:

Orientation	June 22
Lecture 1	June 25
Tour 1	June 28
Lecture 2	July 9
Tour 2	July 12
Tour 3	July 19
Lecture 3	July 23
Hands On Seminar	July 27
Tour 4	August 2
Lecture 4	August 6
Banquet	August 10

Program Overview

Dentist Shadowing: This will be the bulk of the time commitment. Participants will be required to complete a minimum of 30 hours of shadowing, which translates to about a half day per week. Participants will be responsible for their own involvement in the program. During these visits to mentor offices throughout the greater Los Angeles area, participants will be able to observe the daily activities of KADA member dentists. This is an excellent way to gain insight into dentistry and develop meaningful professional relationships.

Biweekly Lectures: KADA dentists will speak on a variety of topics, including the different dental specialties and the application cycle. Participants will learn about the broad world of dentistry and its many career paths. Dinner will be provided. Lectures will be held on Tuesday evenings in Downtown LA. Attendance is mandatory.

Practical Workshop: There will be a practical hands-on workshop. This year, the course will introduce the students to alginate impressions, intraoral scanning and three-dimensional printing, and basic oral radiography. The workshop will also include a mock interview, in which participants can engage

with a panel of dentists to simulate a dental school interview. Attendance is mandatory.

School Tours: KADA has strong connections with the dental schools of USC, UCLA, Loma Linda University, and Western University. Participants will have the opportunity to receive information and guided tours from admissions officers, as well as Q&A sessions with current dental students and faculty. Tours will be held on Fridays. Attendance is optional.

Banquet: The conclusion of the program will consist of a recognition ceremony for the participants and the KADA members who have volunteered their time. Certificates of completion will be awarded to participants who have satisfactorily completed the requirements of the program.

Additional Support: To provide a truly complete introduction to dentistry for the participants, the program may also support them by providing a committee letter of recommendation for dental school applicants. This benefit will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. In addition, participants may receive invitations to future KADA events, along with formal recognition to the entire KADA membership.