

DAVARION DAVID

CLASS OF 2021



STUDENT PROFILE

Hometown: Charlotte, NC

Undergraduate: Public Health w/ Pre-health Professions concentration & a Minor in African American studies

Career Aspirations: To become the first Dr. in my family through dentistry.

Professional School: UNC Adams School of Dentistry

What's been your favorite part of the journey to apply to professional schools?

The anticipation of it all. You go your whole college academic career preparing for the moment when you start applying, then the moment comes and its extremely satisfying seeing all your work laid out in front of you. As written word, you can see how far you've come and accomplished during your journey.

What were some of the challenges you came across when preparing to apply to schools (what was tougher than you expected)?

Finding the motivation to complete the applications, they were longer and more tedious at times than I expected. Also the cost behind applying for schools. I paid almost over 2k in fees for applications.

How did you prepare yourself for the process of applying to schools?

Making sure my grades and service events were where they needed to be, to be a competitive candidate. Then saving money all summer to get ready for the funds needed to apply.

Looking back, what advice would you give to students who are interested in professional schools? What do you wish you had known earlier?

Don't doubt yourself, if there's a will, there's a way. No school is out of your reach, so carry yourself as such. You are the commodity and not the consumer, these schools should want you and would be losing something themselves passing on you. Professional school applications can be scary but just know the work you've done to get here is sufficient.

What services or organizations would you recommend pre-professional students utilize?

Most definitely join some organizations in your career field but don't limit yourself to just those type of orgs. The schools I applied to found themselves being more interested in the orgs that were strictly about service or my entrepreneurial experiences. Assume everyone applying has some sort of experience in the field wether its clubs or internships, at that point your passions in other things can set you apart.

What organizations were you involved in as an undergraduate student?

TEAM, BSU, founding member of USNDA, and CLCE.

What type of shadowing did you do?

In person and virtually at dental offices.

What type of volunteering did you do?

A mix of dental related and community service around the Greenville community. With a heavy focus on helping kids in the community with homework and getting them active.

Did you do research? If so what was the topic?

N/A

What was your most rewarding experience at ECU?

Graduating after all the struggles endured during college. Wether it was grades or financial issues, the end result was still a cap and gown.

Any other advice, recommendations, suggestions, or comments?

Don't let the look of the journey discourage you, the hurdles create for a better story.