

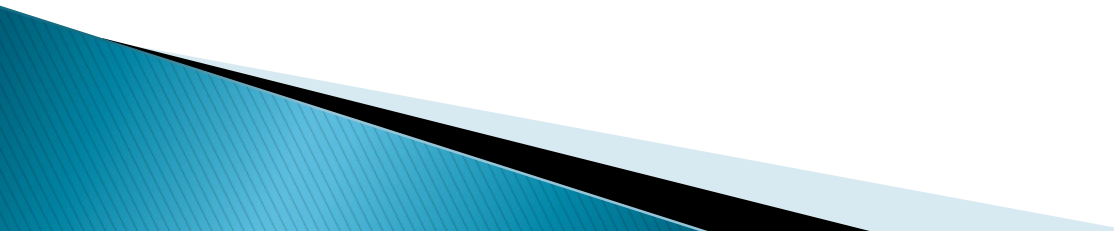


SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE  
CASE WESTERN RESERVE  
UNIVERSITY

# Summer Research Opportunities for Dental Students: 2024

- ▶ <http://dental.case.edu/research>  
(click on student summer research on the menu)

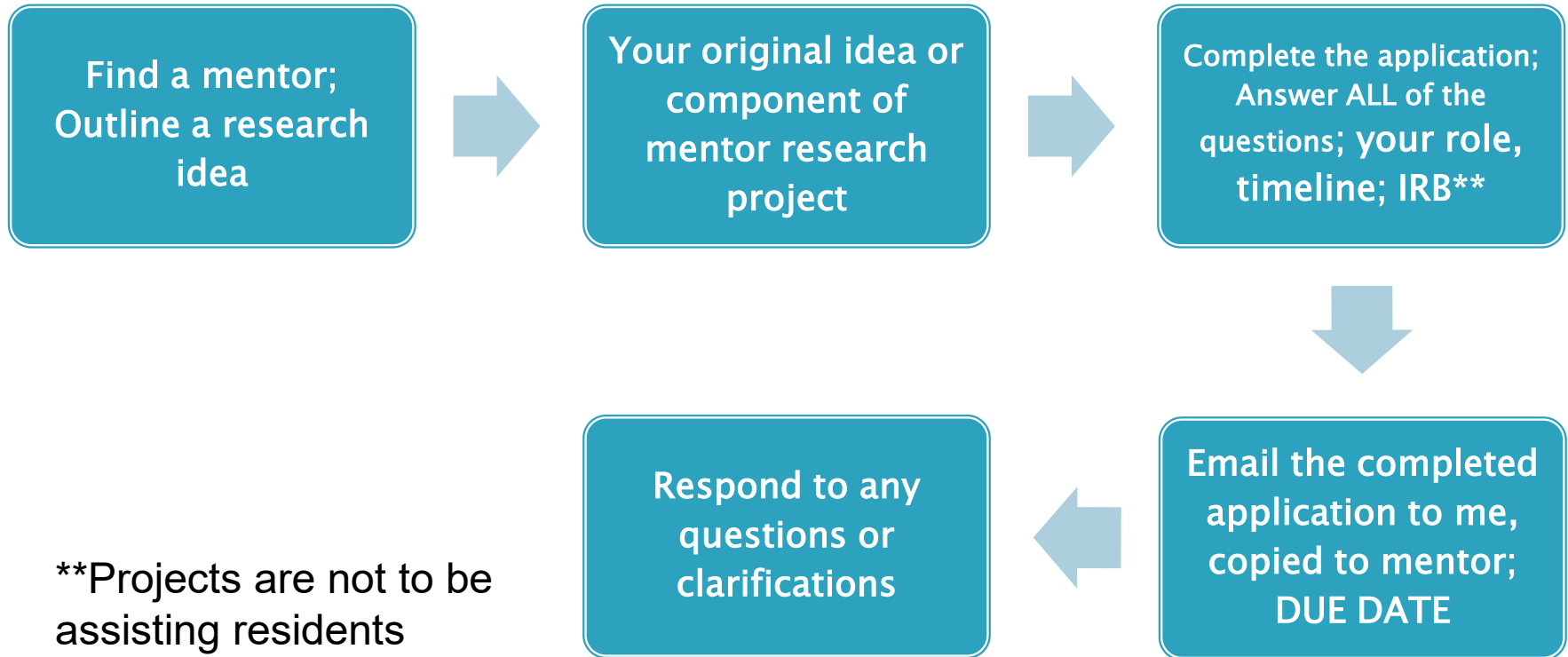
# Summer Research at SODM: D-CODAS: Design, Collect, Organize, Describe, Analyze; Share

- ▶ participate in the process of scientific investigation;
  - ▶ gain first-hand knowledge and experience with the methodology required for research;
  - ▶ collect, analyze and interpret the project data under the guidance of their faculty mentor;
  - ▶ present findings at local/national meetings
- 

# Program Structure

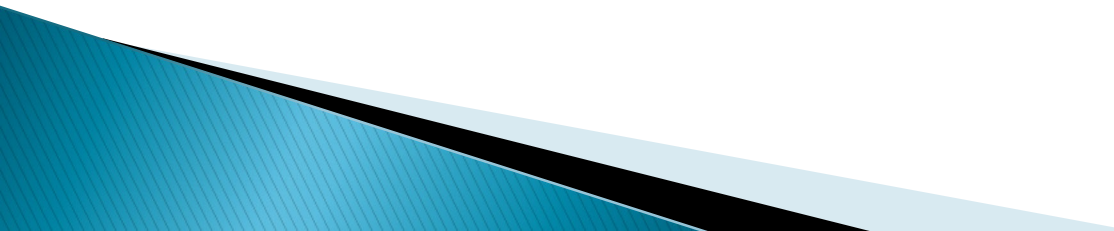
- ▶ 8-week, full-time commitment to project work
- ▶ No outside, full-time work
- ▶ Where the work is conducted depends on mentor; must have at least one SODM mentor
- ▶ Surveys, basic science, pre-clinical (materials), chart review
- ▶ **Attend the 2-3 summer research meetings**
- ▶ **Shared projects are discouraged; share stipend, share travel money**
- ▶ **Submit interim (June, 30) and final (July 30) progress report, documenting benchmarks.**

# General Steps to Apply

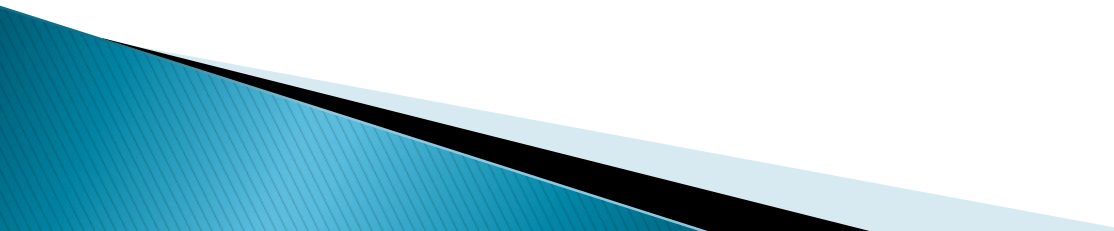


**Early April; APRIL 9 after the eclipse**

# Summer Research– Application

- **Complete an application; see website for application details & format ; email submission to me, mentor must be copied on email.**
  - **Address all of the questions on the application Your role, timeline. Provide details on the Methods, how / where will the work be conducted, how will you analyze the data collected.**
  - **The applications will be reviewed by members of the Research Committee.**
  - **You may be asked for details/clarification**
- 

# Your Responsibilities

- **Complete the project activities;** honor your time commitment. Communicate with mentor regarding your academic time obligation.
  - Get help with specific topics such as survey construction, data collection forms, etc.
  - Let me know if you are having issues; delays of any kind; need to unexpectedly leave during the summer;
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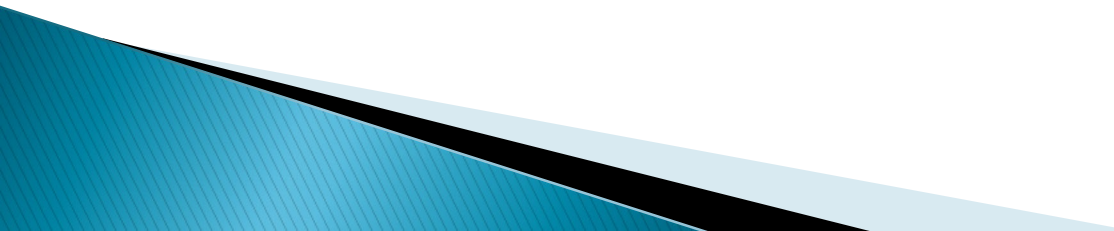
# Mentors

- ▶ Faculty is notified this week that students are seeking mentors
- ▶ No more than 2 students per mentor; ASK your mentor, check with me
- ▶ Mentors will evaluate and sign off on your progress;

## A good student mentee:

- identifies his/her needs and presents them to his/her mentor.
- is open-minded and ready to try the mentor's advice.
- makes explicit requests for help.
- is honest and able to bring up any issue
- respects and appreciates the mentor's effort

# What makes a successful project?

- ▶ Scope –all or mostly accomplished by Aug 1.
  - ▶ Having a dental school mentor – outside collaboration is permitted but if your project depends on outside activities out of your control.....
  - ▶ Your interest & persistence
  - ▶ Letting me know if you are having problems, or delays
- 



# Human Subjects Research

- **Special seminar about IRB submission and requirements in January for those interested in summer research**
- Submit IRB documents as needed (human subjects approval)– start ASAP
- **\*\*Any project that requires IRB review will require you to complete the CITI (human subjects protection) certificate. Online course – free.**
  - See dental school website; Research; Research Support; Credentialing & Certification –scroll down to CITI program, Initial Certification, GROUP 2
- **Before final approval, you will need to provide**
  - Evidence of CITI course completion
  - IRB application submitted, if needed
  - If project is already approved, you need to be added on the IRB if using identifiable information.

# Summer Stipend

## **Summer Stipend    Amount and number TBD**

Paid in 2 installments; July 31 and August 31. 2nd payment after progress reports and mentor signs off .

Progress benchmarks:

Before June 30 and 1<sup>st</sup> payment: Lit review and background, expanded from the application; IRB if required; Develop a data collection tool; a draft data entry database; Progress report

Submit final report for second payment.

# Key Points for 2024

- 1) At this time, funding is not guaranteed, but strongly anticipated for 10 spots
- 2) Even if you choose to complete a project with no support, you still must complete an application.
- 3) Clinic-based projects are unlikely, but not impossible.
- 4) The most likely projects to consider will be lab-based work, anonymous surveys, secondary data analysis; a chart review; if the mentor has a currently active IRB to which you would be added.
- 5) You must complete the human subjects training (online and free – takes several hours) and fill out a conflict of interest form for any human subjects project.
- 6) The process for selecting representatives for national meeting (funded travel) will be a Fall (October, 2024) at a SCADA Poster competition
- 7) See the Student Research Page for information.  
<https://case.edu/dental/research/student-research>

# Presentations

SCADA is the student research award; the award is a trip to the national dental research meeting to represent the CWRU dental school.

To be considered for the SCADA award: present at Fall (October, 2024) SCADA poster session here at CWRU. SCADA awardee must submit abstract and attend AADR in March 2025.

- **You are expected to give an ORAL presentation at Professional's Day in October;**
- **The expectation is that a project is completed so that students can present at a national meeting.**

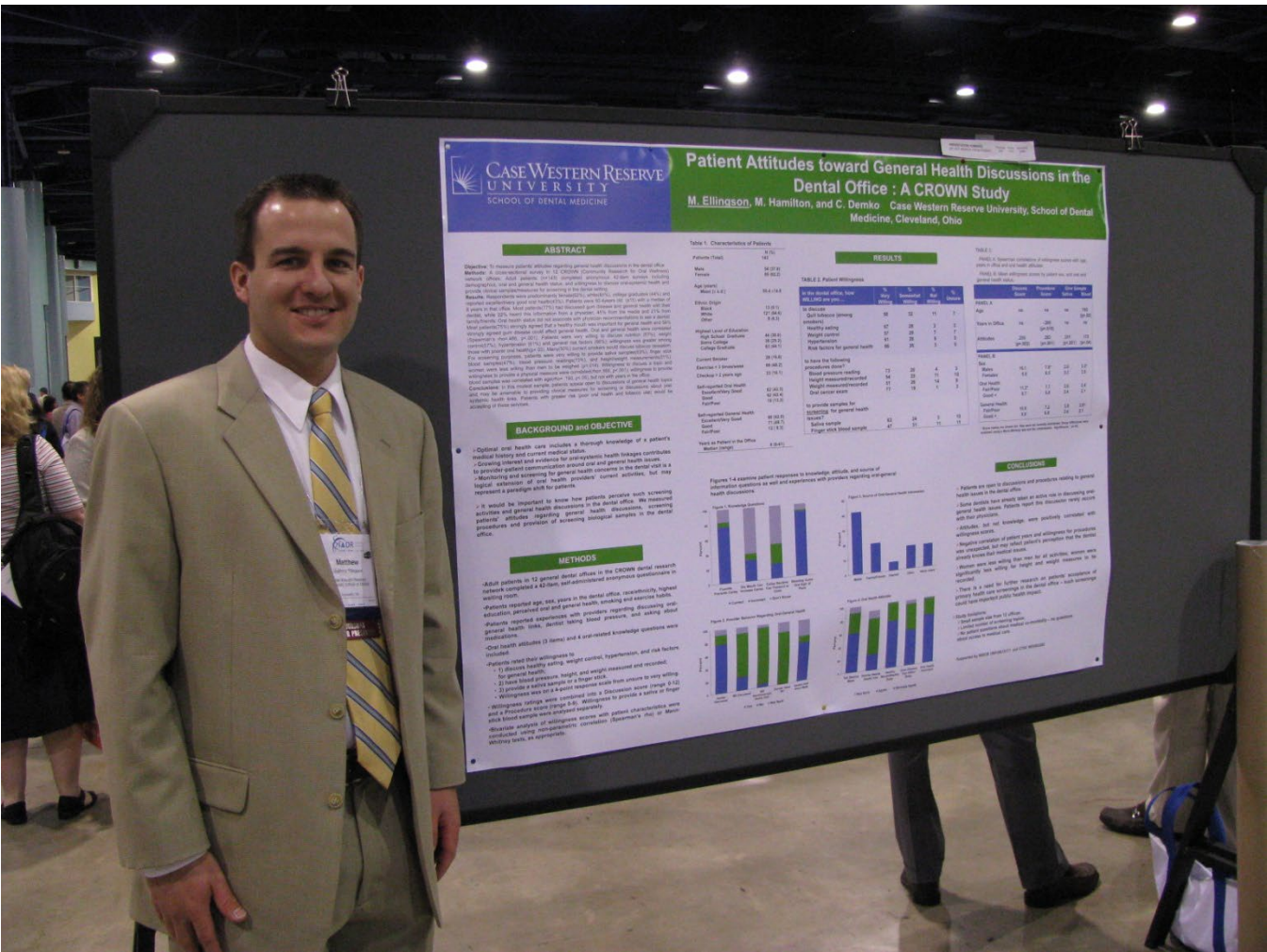
# Travel

Travel; there is typically 3 travel spots plus the SCADA award travel.

The SCADA winner receives external travel support

Special projects in oral pathology or TMJ

I hope to update this information; competitive travel award



**CASE WESTERN RESERVE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE**

## Patient Attitudes toward General Health Discussions in the Dental Office: A CROWN Study

M. Ellingson, M. Hamilton, and C. Demko Case Western Reserve University, School of Dental Medicine, Cleveland, Ohio

**ABSTRACT**

**Objective:** To measure patient attitudes regarding general health discussions in the dental office. **Methods:** A cross-sectional survey of 112 CROWN (Case Western Reserve University) dental students, 100 general dentists, and 100 patients. **Results:** Respondents were predominantly female (70%), white (72%), and aged 20-30 years. **Conclusion:** Patients showed a strong interest in general health discussions, but many felt that their dentist did not provide enough information on general health topics. Patients with higher education levels and those who were more health conscious were more likely to engage in general health discussions with their dentist.

**BACKGROUND and OBJECTIVE**

Optimal oral health care includes a thorough knowledge of a patient's medical history and current medical status. General health discussions contribute to providing patient education on general health issues in the dental visit. Monitoring and assessing patient attitudes toward general health discussions and providing of screening samples in the dental office.

**METHODS**

Adult patients in 12 general dental offices in the CROWN dental research network completed a 4-item self-administered questionnaire in a waiting room. Patients reported age, sex, years in the dental office, responsibility, highest reading level, education, perceived oral and general health, smoking and exercise habits. Patients reported experiences with previous screening regarding dental general health risks, dentist having blood pressure, and asking about general health. Oral health attitudes (3 items) and 6 oral-related knowledge questions were administered. Patients rated their willingness to:

- 1) discuss healthy eating, weight control, hypertension, and risk factors for general health.
- 2) have blood pressure, height, and weight measured and recorded.
- 3) provide a saliva sample or finger stick.

Willingness was on a 4-point response scale from unsure to very willing. Willingness ratings were compared with a 10-item oral-related knowledge score (0-10) and a 6-item oral-related knowledge score (0-6). Willingness was also compared with patient characteristics such as education, gender, and perceived oral health. Descriptive statistics were conducted using non-parametric statistical methods. Pearson's chi-square was used to compare willingness ratings by demographic characteristics.

**Table 1 Characteristics of Patients**

Patients (Total)	312
Male	54 (17.3%)
Female	258 (82.7%)
Age (Mean)	24.1 (SD 4.1)
Age (Range)	18-54
White	225 (72.1%)
Black	27 (8.7%)
Other	60 (19.2%)
High School or Less	100 (32.1%)
Some College	80 (25.6%)
College Graduate	80 (25.6%)
Post Graduate	52 (16.7%)
Current Smoker	30 (9.6%)
Former Smoker	20 (6.4%)
Never Smoked	162 (52.0%)
Self-reported Oral Health	100 (32.1%)
Excellent/Very Good	10 (3.2%)
Good	60 (19.2%)
Fair/Poor	30 (9.6%)
Very Poor	10 (3.2%)
Head of Patient in the Office	112 (35.9%)
Head of Household	100 (32.1%)
Head of Family	12 (3.8%)

**RESULTS**

**Table 2 Patient Willingness**

Willingness to Do	% of Patients	% of Patients	% of Patients
Discuss healthy eating, weight control, hypertension, and risk factors for general health	97	31	11
Have blood pressure, height, and weight measured and recorded	97	31	11
Provide a saliva sample or finger stick	97	31	11
Have blood pressure, height, and weight measured and recorded	97	31	11
Provide a saliva sample or finger stick	97	31	11



**Table 3 General Health Discussions in the Dental Office**

Discussion Topic	% of Patients	% of Patients	% of Patients
Healthy eating	97	31	11
Weight control	97	31	11
Hypertension	97	31	11
Blood pressure for general health	97	31	11

Patients are open to discussing and providing samples to general health issues in the dental office. Some patients may prefer oral or other risk in discussing oral general health issues. Patients report the discussion very much with their providers. Attitudes, but not knowledge were positively correlated with willingness scores. Knowledge questions of patient care and willingness for procedures were correlated. In one related patient's perception that the dentist should have more information on general health issues. However, most were willing to have more information on general health issues. There is a need for further research on patient attitudes of general health discussions in the dental office. Such knowledge should help improve patient health.

**CONCLUSIONS**

- Patients are open to discussing and providing samples to general health issues in the dental office.
- Some patients may prefer oral or other risk in discussing oral general health issues. Patients report the discussion very much with their providers.
- Attitudes, but not knowledge were positively correlated with willingness scores.
- Knowledge questions of patient care and willingness for procedures were correlated. In one related patient's perception that the dentist should have more information on general health issues.
- However, most were willing to have more information on general health issues.
- There is a need for further research on patient attitudes of general health discussions in the dental office. Such knowledge should help improve patient health.

# FAQs

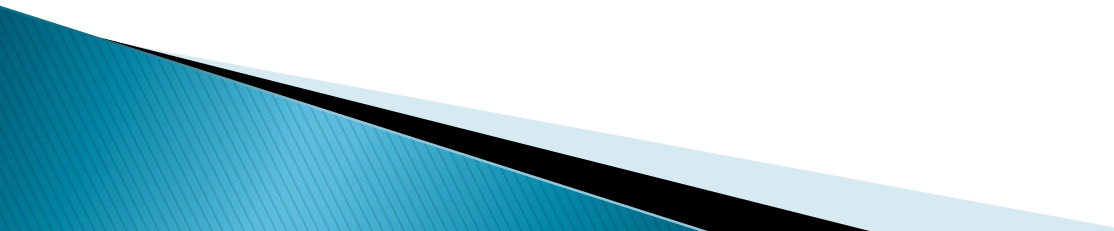
1. Off campus project? No

2. When conducted?

generally, mid-May through July 30; some flexibility;

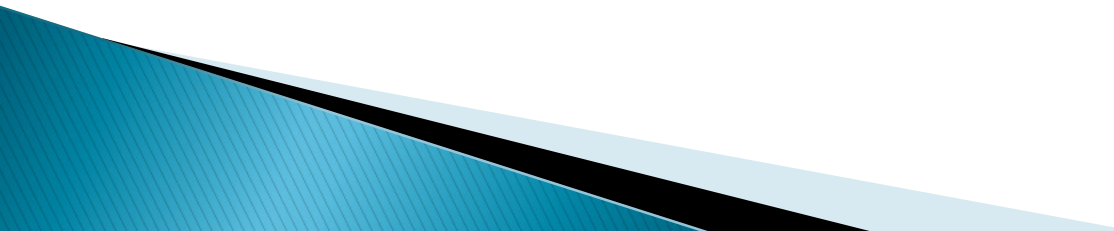
3. Shared projects?

Maybe, BUT any stipends will be reduced/shared. Two students only. If there is travel money, it will only be for one person or also shared. Project responsibilities for each individual should still be clearly outlined.





# 2025 AADO CR

- ▶ March 2025, New York City
  - ▶ Other possible meetings:  
ADEA, NOHC (public health);
- 



▶ QUESTIONS?