

December 15, 2024

Dear Missouri Dental Students,

The **MDA Foundation Dental Scholarship Program** is now open to receive applications. The MDA is committed to supporting its future member dentists. We will award up to six **\$5,000** scholarships for the 2025-2026 academic year. They are competitive and will be based upon a matrix of leadership, future vision and scholarly achievement. The winners will be selected from all eligible applicants. The scholarship program is an initiative of the MDA Foundation in cooperation with the Missouri Dental Association. Applications must be postmarked (or received via email) by **Friday, February 14, 2025**.

Eligibility

- Students must be entering their 3rd or 4th year of dental school in fall 2025.
- Students must be graduates of a Missouri high school and must have been a resident of Missouri for a minimum of five years.
- Applicants should intend to practice in the state of Missouri after graduation.
- Previous recipients of MDA Foundation Scholarships are ineligible for a second MDAF Scholarship.

**APPLICATIONS ARE DUE FEBRUARY 14, 2025.
APPLICANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THEIR STATUS
NO LATER THAN MARCH 31, 2025.**

Please carefully review the included application for specifics on:

- Application Requirements (including Missouri residency)
- Required Supportive Materials Checklist
- Essay Question
- Zoom Interview availability
- Check the correct box if you wish for your application materials to be reviewed by the Missouri Section of the American College of Dentists for separate consideration of its scholarship program.

We encourage you to be thoughtful in your essay question response, as it tells us the most about you and will account for 65% of the review process.

Send completed application and supporting documents to Margie Kunze by email at margie@modentalmail.org or mail to MDA Foundation, 3340 American Ave, Jefferson City MO 65109. If mailing, please submit your application singled sided with no staples. You may also contact Margie with any questions about the process. Thank you for your interest in our scholarships program and best wishes!

Sincerely,



Jeremy Bowen, DDS (UMKC 2007)
Chair, MDA Foundation

Dental Scholarship Application

\$5,000 Scholarship for the 2025-2026 Academic Year

» Application & Supportive Materials Deadline February 14, 2025 «

Contact Information		
Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip:
Phone (Day/Cell):	Email:	

Applicants must meet all of the following requirements for consideration.

Application Requirements		
1. Are you a full-time dental student who in fall 2025 will be entering your 3rd or 4th year of the program leading to a DDS or DMD degree?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
2. Have you been a resident of Missouri for a minimum of five years?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
3. Were you a resident of Missouri at the time of dental school application?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
4. Did you graduate from a Missouri High School?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
<i>High School Name & City:</i>		
<i>Graduation Year:</i>		
5. Have you received a previous scholarship from the MDA Foundation?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO
6. On a scale of 100, how likely are you to practice in Missouri after graduation?		
7. Dental School Graduation Year		

Applicants must submit all of the following materials with completed application.

Required Supportive Materials Checklist
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified copy of your dental school transcripts via secure email from the school or sealed transcript via mail. *Unofficial transcripts are not accepted. GPA is 15% of your score.
<input type="checkbox"/> Completed Curriculum Vitae (CV) or resume. CV is 20% of your score
<input type="checkbox"/> Completed Essay Question (included) as an attached, separate document. Essay is 65% of your score.
<input type="checkbox"/> High-quality digital photo of yourself to appear in the MDA <i>Focus</i> publication should you be selected as a scholarship recipient. Email photo to margie@modentalmail.org . Your signature below will serve as a release to use the photo.

MDA Foundation Dental Scholarship Essay Question

The MDA Foundation's vision in Improving Missouri Smiles. As such the Foundation Scholarship is designed to support third and fourth year dental students who come from Missouri and plan to practice in Missouri. To help us know our candidates better, please take some time and give a thoughtful response to the essay prompt below. Tell us about you and what your resume doesn't cover.

Please write a short essay on the following prompt:

"The vision of the Foundation is to aid in "Improving Missouri Smiles" through education programs, access-to-care initiatives and community collaborations. What is your reason for wanting to "Improve Missouri Smiles"? Please write a short essay on how your past experience(s) have shaped your career goals to align with this vision, and how organized dentistry will aid in this goal."

Essay Evaluation Criteria

- Must not exceed 500 words
- Must be typed and single-sided
- Must be focused and well-reasoned
- Must demonstrate a clear understanding of the issue/topic
- Must demonstrate your own opinion and stance of the topic

Essays and materials will be reviewed by members of the MDA Foundation Board. For more information about the Missouri Dental Association visit modental.org

Zoom Interview

The Foundation will conduct Zoom interviews with the finalists to help with selection. You must be available during one of two evening time slots the week of March 10-14,2025. Exact dates and times TBA later. Each candidate interview will last no longer than 10 minutes.

Application Verification: I hereby attest that all information contained herein and in the accompanying application materials is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I further agree that knowingly providing false information in this application will result in my not being considered for the scholarship and will result in action for repayment of any monies awarded if the information is later found to be false. I authorize that officers and staff of the MDA Foundation, or its agents, may receive and verify all information pertinent to this application.

American College of Dentists: The Missouri Section of the American College of Dentists will also be awarding scholarships from the submitted applications. The College is comprised of dentists recognized for their leadership and contributions to the dental profession. Its emphasis is the promotion of ethics and professionalism in dentistry. Students are eligible for both scholarships provided consent is given to share information. Check the box below if you wish to be considered for both programs.

I consent to share my application and accompanying materials with the Missouri Section of the American College of Dentists for consideration of their scholarship program.

Student Signature:	Date:
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Applicants will be notified of the board's decisions by mail no later than March 31, 2025. Scholarship funds will be paid as \$2,500 per semester for the fall 2025 and spring 2026 semesters. All scholarship funds are specifically designated for tuition assistance and will be paid directly to the school.

Send completed applications and supportive materials by FEBRUARY 14, 2025 to:

Margie Kunze - margie@modentalmail.org

Or mail to: **MDA Foundation, 3340 American Avenue, Jefferson City MO 65109**