

Dr. Maria A. Loza, DDS, MEd

- Attended undergrad and Dental School In Puerto Rico.
- Had a Private Practice in Puerto Rico for 21 years.
- Works full time in UTHHealth School of Dentistry.
- She is a Prosthodontist - (3 years of school after Dental School.)
 - Veneers, Crowns, Bridges, full mouth: tooth removal; with Denture appliance.
 - It is a lot of research, lab work, and continued education.

Dr. Victor Rodriguez, DDS, MEd

- General Dentist - Solo Practice
- Clinical Assistant Professor at UTSD.

BOTH are a part of the Hispanic Dental Association.

Interview:

- Do you have good hand skills?
 - How have you worked on them?
- Why do you want to be a dentist?
 - Be prepared to answer this with confidence and have a well articulated answer.
- Are you a good leader?
 - If so, what are you doing to be one?

Important Factors for Admission:

- Bachelor's Degree
- Shadowing
- Volunteer Experience
- High GPA
- DAT Score

Great Reasons to Consider Dentistry:

- Serving Others
- A Balanced Lifestyle
 - Flexibility to balance personal and professional life.
- Empower your patients
 - Give patient smiles they are proud to wear.
- Technology and Research
- Being a Leader
 - Find something to be a part of and gain experience.
- Prevention and Education
 - Being an Educator on the importance of oral health.
- Detect Disease
 - Treat Oral Health and Detect Disease- including cancer and cardiovascular.
- Be Creative
 - Use your artistic and scientific talents.
- Success Potential
 - With the aging population and increase in access to care, the demand for dentistry is on the rise.
- Self Employment
 - Own a dental practice and be your own boss.

Important Qualities:

- Critical thinking and problem solving skills
- Communication skills
- Detail Oriented
- Dexterity
- Interpersonal skills - work with a team
- Leadership skills
- Patience

DENTAL HEALTH INFO

- **What problems could poor dental health cause?**
 - Strokes, Heart Disease, Mouth Cancer, Diabetes, Gum Disease, Tooth Loss, Bad Breath, Dental Decay, and Lung Conditions.

GENERAL DENTISTS:

A TYPICAL DAY IN A GENERAL DENTIST

- **Clinical - 70%**
 - Spending time chairside with patients.
 - Writing charts, prescriptions, phone calls.
 - Reviewing treatment plans and cases.
- **Administrative -20%**
 - Payroll, staff issues, pay bills.
- **Non-Dental - 10%**
 - Emails, phone calls, meetings, organized Dentistry, personal errands.

Clinical Procedures:

- **Fillings 25%**
- **Crowns, Bridges 25%**
- **Cleanings, Exams 25%**
- **Root Canals 5%**
- **Orthodontics 5%**
- **Implants 5%**
- **Dentures/partials 5%**
- **Extractions 5%**
- **Whitening 5%**

Dentistry is constantly changing, and these statistics vary office to office, and person to person.