The School of Dental Medicine at Case Western Reserve University is a
diverse and vibrant community and a private dental school located in
Cleveland, Ohio. Students select our school because of our reputation for
excellence, our first class predoctoral and postdoctoral dental education
programs that include our preceptor model of clinical instruction and our
strong commitment to patient care, research, interprofessional education
and community service.

Brief History
The School of Dental Medicine was organized June 21, 1892, as the
Dental Department of Western Reserve University. For the first 25 years of
its existence, the school was located in downtown Cleveland. In 1917, the
School of Dental Medicine became an integral part of the university, with
a building on Adelbert Road. In 2003, the name of the school officially
changed from the School of Dental Surgery to the School of Dental
Medicine, and the degree offered changed from Doctor of Dental Surgery
to Doctor of Dental Medicine.

In 2019, the School moved to the Sheila and Eric Samson Pavilion and
the Dental Clinic Building at the Health Education Campus of Case
Western Reserve University and Cleveland Clinic. The 477,000-square-
foot Samson Pavilion is home to dental, nursing, medical, and physician
assistant students. Being under one roof, and having some classes that
they'll all take together, encourages the communication and collaboration
that's required in the fast-paced field of health care. The new 132,000
square-foot Dental Clinic features state-of-the-art patient care facilities,
equipment and digital technology, including an ambulatory oral and
maxillofacial surgery center.

The Profession of Dentistry
The mission of dentistry is the protection and improvement of the
health of individuals and society with a concentration on oral health.
Professional activities encompass a wide variety of endeavors including
the clinical care of individuals, the prevention of disease, the discovery
of new knowledge, and the development of procedures and policies that
protect and improve health, especially for those populations at risk for
disease.

Because oral health is an important concern of society, the role of the
dentist continues to be essential and rewarding. Men and women who
are interested in scientific studies directly related to the welfare of
people should find a strong appeal in dentistry as a life work. It offers an
unusual opportunity for public service, community respect, and the use of
originality, compassion, and substantial skill and independent judgment
on a daily basis.

Mission Statement
The mission of the Case Western Reserve University School of Dental
Medicine is to provide outstanding programs in oral health education,
patient care, focused research and scholarship, and service that are of
value to our constituents. We will accomplish this in an environment
which fosters collegiality and professionalism, and that enables a diverse
group of students to become competent oral health care providers and
contribute to the health and well-being of individuals and communities.