

What are the best things about attending Marquette School of Dentistry?

For many students, it can be pretty nerve-wracking thinking about what it would be like going to a professional school away from home. Fortunately, Marquette's admissions committee does a great job at accepting awesome people. You can quickly make friends here and get involved in many student organizations. Students here try to maintain a good school/life balance. We study hard and play hard. There isn't any sense of cut-throat competition between classmates, but obviously that can vary depending on the makeup of the class. Our class is very unified, and we work together to succeed academically, clinically, and personally. Students here rally around those who are struggling in school or with personal issues. It is inspiring, and we seek to admit people with that type of compassion and selflessness.

There is convenient housing really close to the school. If you live off campus, the commute isn't bad. A parking pass in a gated lot cost around \$500-600 per year.

Marquette is a clinical school, and research is not forced upon you. However, the opportunity to become involved in research is available, and there are multiple faculty members students can work with.

You are in the clinic doing cleanings and oral examinations on patients during your third semester (summer) of your first year. It is an excellent way to learn how the clinic and software function. You will do recalls throughout your second year to fine tune your hand skills before you start getting assigned patients of your own in your third semester of second year. From what I have experienced, the clinic floor faculty have been great to work with. Most of the clinic leaders are well-liked by the dental students. They are willing to help you learn how to treatment plan, manage patients, and provide quality dental care. Most students graduate on time, but you need to be organized and efficient. If that's the case, you should have no problem fulfilling all the requirements.

Some classes in your first year are taught by undergraduate professors. Most students agree that the courses were fair, well-taught, and adequately prepared us for boards. The dental school professors and instructors are overall pretty good and enjoyable to work with. Of course, every school has a few faculty members that are difficult, unfair, and grumpy. There aren't a lot of those at Marquette, but there are a few.

Marquette has many specialty programs. If you're interested and have time, you can always go shadow and talk to the residents and faculty. It is a great way to learn and discover if specializing is right for you.

What are the worst things about attending Marquette Dental School?

It is not in a safe part of town. By that, I mean that you just need to use good judgement and be cautious. There have been robberies, murders, and theft near the dental school. Marquette has its own police department and provides shuttles for rides. For example, if

you're out late studying and need a ride back to your campus apartment, they could provide you with one.

There is a decent amount of redundant material that isn't necessarily important. For example, Marquette has a group of faculty that teach psychology and ethics, which are important to learn. However, these concepts seem to be taught multiple times and eventually it just becomes redundant to the point that you wish you could be spending your time doing more useful things (working on hand skills, being in clinic, etc.). There is one class during the second year that is extremely disorganized and should be taught later in school. It consistently receives poor reviews from students, but it seems like not much changes year after year.

Recently, the school has been short-staffed for faculty in the simulation lab and clinic. As a result, faculty members have been stretched pretty thin. For example, recently we had *one* periodontist on call for *all the clinics*. He was bouncing around clinics trying to do consultations. Things like that can take up your time in clinic. Most agree that the clinic is not run very efficiently. It's necessary to have faculty checks and supervision, but we wish we had more clinical faculty so that we could get the patient out of the chair faster and see more patients in a day. I think the max is 2 patients per day. That may be common across all dental schools, but I have heard some schools are able to accommodate more because they have enough faculty. It seems like Marquette has had quite a few faculty take other jobs across the country.

It'd be nice if the school had study rooms with windows, but it doesn't. Most students do not study at the school.

The orthodontic and endodontic classes are not very well taught. They can be interesting, but many students weren't that impressed by the courses and labs.

What do students need to know/what do you wish you knew before attending Marquette Dental School?

The first year or two will be difficult. It is a bit stressful with the course load and developing hand skills, but you can do it! Make sure to ask questions about the schools and reach out to students who are attending that school. Any admissions committee will always present their school in the best light, and Marquette does just that. If you want a true understanding and feel for the school, read the reviews on this site! Additionally, reach out to current students or past students who went here. We will be honest with you. I have enjoyed my experience here at Marquette. Yes, there are days that the curriculum or faculty make me want to pull my hair out, but I think that will occur at any dental school. There isn't anything that would make me regret choosing to come here, and I think I will be pretty well prepared to enter the profession once graduated.