



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™  
EL PASO

Woody L. Hunt School of Dental Medicine



# **A Dental School for West Texas & the Borderlands**

## **The Motivation**

**General dentists are not evenly distributed across Texas**

**53% of general dentists are located in the 5 most populated counties: contiguous to existing dental schools**

**67% Dentist shortage in El Paso compared to the U.S.**

**50% of El Paso residents never visited a dentist**

***In the past 10 years, only 22 (<1%) of 2,390 Texas dental graduates have chosen to practice in West Texas.***

# Creating a Dental School – Accreditation Approval

*October 2019*

**Texas Higher  
Education  
Coordinating  
Board  
(THECB)**

*November 2019*

**Southern  
Association of  
Colleges and  
Schools  
Commission on  
Colleges  
(SACSCOC)**

*February 2020*

**Commission on  
Dental  
Accreditation  
(CODA)**



# Creating a Dental School – Goals

The mission of the Woody L. Hunt School of Dental Medicine (WLHSDM) is to **improve the oral health** of the people of Texas and the greater El Paso community by: **focusing on the unique** oral and overall health care needs of the border populations; demonstrating **excellence** in education, research, and patient care; and providing **leadership** to the practicing community and other area stakeholders.





# Creating a Dental School – Innovative “Accelerated” Curriculum



Case based/symptom-based learning

Integration of biomedical, clinical and dental sciences

Emphasis on clinical decision-making, active reasoning/  
synthesis, and competency-based education

Early clinical experience

Certificate in Public Health

Spanish is requirement for graduation



## Where to put the dental school?

Medical Science Bldg II  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

- Office of the Dean
- Dental Learning Center (DLC)
- 5 conference rooms
- Dental student lounge
- Faculty offices



# Dental Learning Center (DLC)

- 25,000 Sq. Ft.
- Dental Simulation Clinic
- Complete digital workflow



# Dental Learning Center

80 “state-of-the-art” simulation stations





# Dental Learning Center

Electric handpieces, intra-oral camera, scaler and curing light  
Computer-aided design and manufacturing (CAD/CAM) technology



# Texas Tech Dental Oral Health Clinic



- Construction commenced July 28, 2020
- 40,000 ft<sup>2</sup>
- 145 dental operatories
- Student and faculty care providers
- Emergency care clinic
- Computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing (CAD/CAM) software technology

*Our clinic gives our students the hands on training they need to be successful in their dental careers after graduation by getting them to treat patients in their first year of dental school*



# Texas Tech Dental Oral Health Clinic

## Student care operatories



# Texas Tech Dental Oral Health Clinic

## Student care operatories





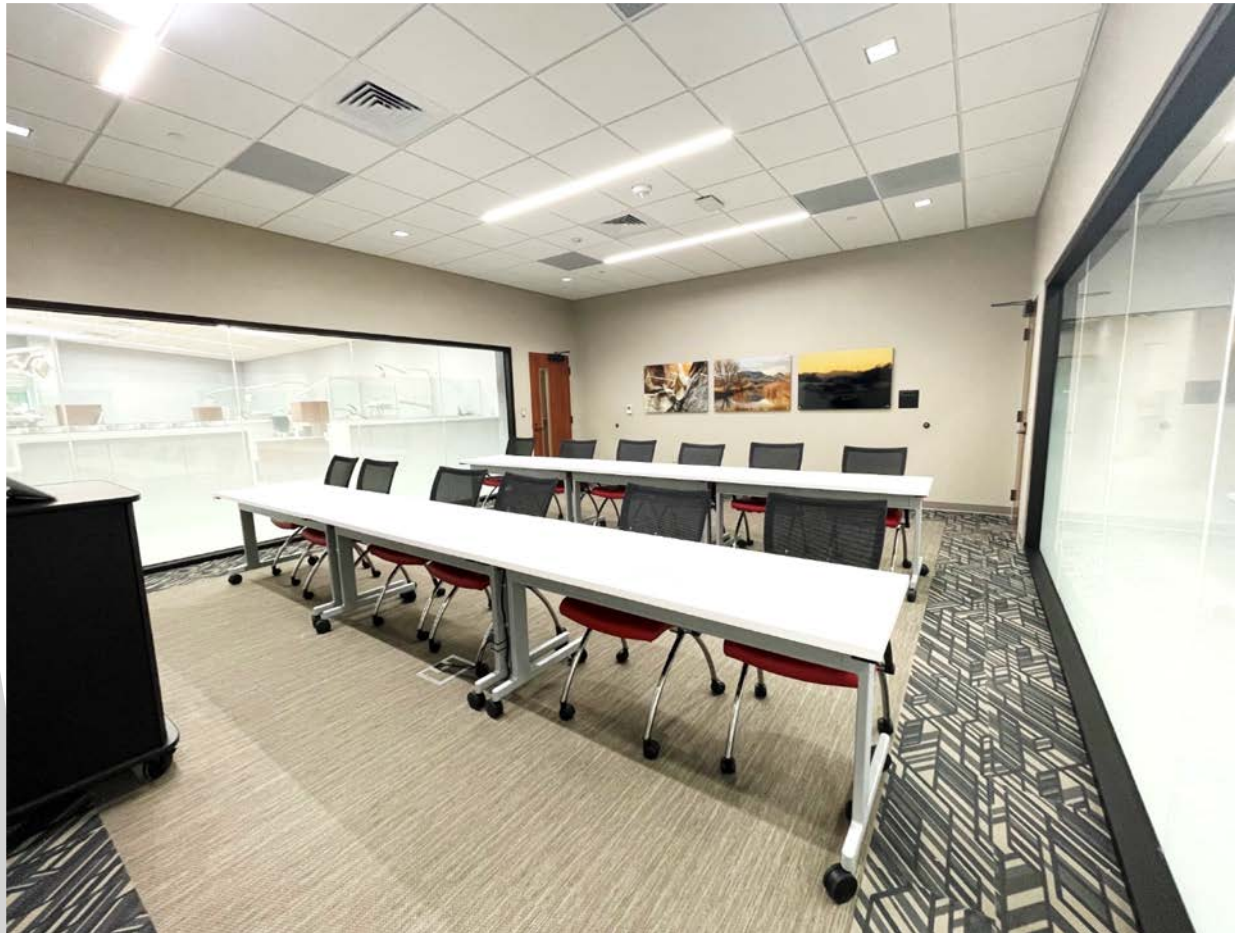
# Texas Tech Dental Oral Health Clinic

## Faculty care operatories



# Texas Tech Dental Oral Health Clinic

## Rounds classroom





# What did we look for in a WLHSDM student?

## 1. Personal Attributes

## 2. Academic Accomplishments

## 3. Life Experiences

## 4. Contribution to the Guiding Principles

- Awareness of oral and overall health needs of their future dental home communities
- Discovery of new knowledge
- Culturally competent
- Commitment to the community and its people
- Collaboration
- Professionalism, ethical conduct, excellence in clinical care
- Provide leadership in the community

# Overall Application 2020-2021 Cycle

**965** Total applicants

Avg GPA: **3.5**

Avg SGPA: **3.4**

Avg DAT: **20**

**32** El Pasoans applied: **3.3%**

**107** West Texans applied: **11%**

**885** In-State

**80** Out of State

Interviewed **320** applicants

## Diversity:

- White/Caucasian: 36%
- Asian: 31%
- Hispanic: 22%
- African American: 6%
- Multiracial: 3%





# WLHSDM's Inaugural Class of 2025

**40 Students**

Avg GPA: **3.6**

Avg SGPA: **3.5**

Avg DAT: **20**

**7 El Pasoans: 18%**

**17 West Texans: 43%**

**23 Non-West Texans: 53%**

**38 In-State**

**2 Out of State**

## Diversity:

- White/Caucasian: 38%
- Hispanic: 35%
- Asian: 20%
- African American: 5%
- Multiracial: 2.5%

## Gender:

- Female: 65%
- Male: 35%

**21 different undergraduate universities represented in our inaugural class**



# HUNT

SCHOOL of  
DENTAL MEDICINE  
TTUHSC EL PASO

Our students  
come from  
**ALL OVER**  
**TEXAS**  
and beyond!









TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY  
HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER™  
EL PASO

Woody L. Hunt School of Dental Medicine

**Questions?**