

Form Summary

Name	Cameron Woodard
Email	camjamwood2003@gmail.com
Phone	405-229-8857
Birth date	12/25/2003
Age	18
Please Check All that Apply:	African American/Black
High School:	Edmond Santa Fe High School
High School Mailing Address:	1901 W. 15th
High School Guidance Counselor:	Erin Bickle
High School Contact Phone #	405-340-2230
GPA:	3.686
Class Rank:	172
Graduation Date:	05/13/2022
College Name:	Wichita State University
Intended Major/Field of Study:	Dental Hygiene
Church Name/Pastor (if member):	People's Church/Pastor Herbert Cooper
Community Service and/or Extra Curricular Activities (if any):	Track and Field - 3 Years City Rescue Mission - Volunteer to serve at the Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner People's Church Dream Team - Served in the PC Kids (3 year old or 4 year old) rooms Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. - Sigma Sigma Omega Chapter - Stuffed backpacks with school supplies People's Church Day of Hope - Distributed Backpack to students Edmond Santa Fe National Honor Society - Helped sort student ID badges for the upcoming school year.
Honors and Awards (if any):	National Honor Society - 3 year member Love's Travel Stop and Perry Publishing' Student of the Month - April 2022

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Please list below the names and amounts of any grants or scholarships you have been awarded for the coming school year:

Name of Award: Amount: Granted/Pending:

Community Scholars - \$3,000 - pending
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc - Beta Eta Lambda Chapter (Foundation) - \$1,000 pending
Edmond Rotary Club - \$1,000 - pending
Army Emergency Relief - \$2,850 - granted
American Legion - \$5,000 - pending

Please share your educational and career goals/aspirations and how you plan to move toward greatness:

My name is Cameron Jamir Woodard. I am a 2022 graduate of Edmond Santa Fe High School, located in Edmond, Oklahoma. I will be a second-generation college student. I work part-time as a crew member at Wendy's while maintaining a 3.686 GPA. I plan to major in dental hygiene while in college. I have been fascinated with oral health since I was ten years old. During one of my scheduled visits, I watched the hygienist clean my teeth with distinct precision. After the cleaning, I pondered in my head what the dentist was going to say. I was afraid they would tell me I had several cavities in my mouth. The dentist told me I did not have cavities or gum disease. But the dentist did not think I had enough room in my mouth for one of my molars to grow. They scheduled oral surgery to pull my back tooth and then wait for my wisdom tooth to grow in its place. Seven years later, the tooth is finally breaking through my gums!

I have researched and toured several college campuses and found both the University of Oklahoma and Wichita State University are schools that offer this major. While touring Wichita State University's campus, I observed current dental hygiene students practice giving shots to others. After watching the students and talking to the professor, I still feel confident knowing I am selecting the right profession.

In 2021, the Health Policy Institute (HPI) published findings into racial disparities in oral health. The article states, "Hispanics and Blacks are most likely to face cost barriers to dental care. Racial disparities in dental care use are smallest for children and largest for seniors. In 2017-18, 54.8% of white seniors visited a dentist; 40.5% of Asians; 31.8% of Hispanics; and 28.8% of Black seniors."

According to the Seattle Medium, there is less than four percent of black dentists in this country. A number which is slightly higher for dentist assistants and hygienists. This is also confirmed by the HPI's finding. In 2020, white dentists made up 70.2% of the dentist workforce; 18% were Asian; 5.9% were Hispanic; and 3.8% were Black. In comparison, in 2005, white dentists made up 79.8%; Asians were 11.8%; Hispanics were 4.2%; and Black dentists made up 3.7%.

Problems or needs of society I would like to address in my future career or profession: access to adequate dental care for African-Americans and other minorities and increase the number of African-American Dentist. Once I become a dentist I would like to provide "dental days" in the community. This will allow patients to come in and receive basic dental care (consultations, cleanings, fillings, extractions, etc.). My church, People's Church, provides a Day of Hope before the school year. During this day, students receive free backpacks, free haircuts and free dental care. I would volunteer my time to provide the free dental care. Additionally, I would also like to visit inner city schools to show

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them a dentist who looks like them and encourage them to consider dentistry.

According to the HPI's findings Educational debt levels for dental school graduates vary significantly by race. More than 20% of Asian dentists graduate with no student debt compared to less than 1% of Black dentists. Black dentists, by far, graduate with the highest levels of educational debt. My ultimate goal would be to provide a scholarship to minorities interested in dentistry.