



MARQUETTE
UNIVERSITY

School of Dentistry



Building on *your foundation*

From your first day as a student at the Marquette University School of Dentistry, you will begin building your future as a dentist.

Day by day and year by year, our D.D.S. program prepares you with the knowledge, skills, compassion and confidence to provide your patients with excellent care, take your career in any direction and serve your community as a leader in dentistry.

D1 ORIENTATION OUTINGS | BOND WITH CLASSMATES | CONNECT WITH MENTORS |
DIDACTIC INSTRUCTION | SIM LAB EXPERIENCE | CLINIC ROTATIONS

D2 SHARPEN SKILLS | MORE SIM LAB EXPERIENCE | CLINIC ROTATIONS |
LEARN ABOUT SPECIAL CARE DENTISTRY | LEADERSHIP ROLES

D3 TRANSITION TO FULL-TIME CLINIC | SCHEDULE AND CONFIRM PATIENTS |
COMPREHENSIVE TREATMENT PLANNING | COMMUNITY CLINIC ROTATIONS

D4 FULL-TIME CLINIC | COMPLETE TREATMENT PLANS | COMPLETE ALL REQUIRED
PROCEDURES | MENTOR D1s AND D2s

Build Your Community

From the time we welcome you as a D1 student, you'll experience our commitment to your success. It is our highest priority, and it begins with fostering a sense of belonging. With first-year traditions like Milwaukee brewery tours, mentor dinners and the White Coat Ceremony, you'll forge those critical bonds with your classmates that will help you be there for one another when the going gets tough.

Early clinical exposure

From the very first week, D1 students begin to augment and apply classroom learning in our dental clinics, including our specialty and community-based clinics. As you observe and assist D3, D4 and graduate students, you might help with a pediatric checkup, learn about the treatment plan for a complex adult case or even take patient X-rays. You'll also participate in dental rounds presentations on your clinical cases and related patient-care issues. By summer, you'll be handling patient cleanings on your own in our main clinics.

Classmates catch up at the School of Dentistry's cafe during a break from classes and lab work.



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D1 STUDENT

Manaal Nasir, H Sci '25
Hometown: Mequon, Wisconsin

Every Marquette dentist I talked to throughout my decision process spoke about the great clinical skills they were taught, and it made me confident I'd achieve my goals and be well educated. Once I toured the school, my decision was even easier. The upperclass students talked about the collaborative and welcoming community that every person worked hard to create, and you could really feel it. I knew I wanted to be part of building this community.



LIFE AS A D1:

Manaal tackles the week

MONDAY

I'm in the sim lab all day for our operative dentistry class. Most weeks we have a short quiz at 8 a.m. — starting the week off strong! After a lecture and small group demos, we have the rest of the day to work on our assigned exercises. The faculty provides feedback and grades our work. You get really close with the people around you in sim lab, and each pod has its own personality.

TUESDAY

This semester we have gross anatomy, which consists of a lecture and lab. We spend a lot of time learning anatomy, but you don't truly understand the intricacies of the head and neck until you're dissecting yourself. After lunch, we have a full afternoon of classes on foundations of oral health and then three hours of pathophysiology.

WEDNESDAY

My classes are in the morning — I have oral biology with Dr. Guentsch, who teaches both semesters of D1 year, so we really get to know him. Afternoons are clinical rotations, which range from radiology to assisting an upperclass student on a procedure. My clinic has 25 students from our class and two group leaders. We stay with our assigned clinics for all four years, so you become like a family. Everyone is always super welcoming and ready to help us learn more.

THURSDAY

I'm back in the sim lab for dental anatomy on Thursday mornings. It's my favorite class because we get to wax and relax, listening to music while we practice. We have a different rotation each week in the afternoons; it might be a public health education rotation at a local school, working in the pediatric clinic, or assisting in a graduate clinic.

FRIDAY

"Perio Fridays" are our hygiene instruction days. Dental hygienists teach us how to do proper cleanings and educate our patients on maintaining good oral health. Our first patients are our classmates!

Sharpen Your Skills

The payoff of your long hours of studying during the D1 year? Greater knowledge, leading to higher confidence in your abilities. As a D2, you're logging less time in the lecture halls and more time at your bench in Marquette's state-of-the-art simulation lab, developing and mastering the advanced hand skills you'll need next year when you step into comprehensive patient care.

Network and lead

Getting involved in affiliate groups and organized dentistry can expand your network and broaden your perspective. Marquette dental students run active chapters of the American Student Dental Association, Student National Dental Association (connecting dental students of color) and more. These groups offer leadership opportunities, promote collaboration with fellow Marquette dental students, and facilitate connections with students, practitioners and dental educators from all over the country.

A dental student works at her own dedicated station in Marquette's simulation lab, a modern space engineered for hands-on and collaborative learning.



LIFE AS A D2:

Allison finds balance

7 AM

I get up, do yoga and get ready to commute to campus.

7:30 AM

I arrive at school, then either set up my bench in sim lab for that day's project or study prior to lectures.

8 AM

Most days consist of being in the sim lab learning how to do different fillings, crowns and bridge preps, root canals, and even creating a full denture. Some days consist of morning lectures.

NOON

Lunch break! I usually find a place in the cafe to eat and chat with friends or find a place to study.

1–4:30 PM

When we're not in the sim lab, we're doing rotations in different clinics such as special care, pediatric or urgent care. The rotations consist of continuing to do "prophys" (dental cleanings) on patients, taking full mouth X-rays for screening, and assisting.

5 PM

I get back home and usually start making dinner for me and my sister, and then we take our dog, Obi, on a walk. It's nice to get outside after a full day in school.

7 PM

I like to study before bed, so it is fresh in my brain when I get up in the morning. It is especially important to keep up with the lecture materials in the D2 year since you learn a lot about oral pathology and pharmacology. Both are important to know because you see patients more in the summer.

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D2 STUDENT

Allison Sikowski

President, Marquette University School of Dentistry Class of 2027
Hometown: Clarkston, Michigan

A unique aspect of Marquette's School of Dentistry is that no matter what you have going on, someone will be there to help you. Whether it's a classmate, an upperclassman, a peer mentor or faculty member, you feel supported throughout your entire journey. That support — like the tutoring program, for example — made the transition from undergrad to dental school easier and smoother than I thought it would be.





“The clinical experience here offers hands-on training, mentorship and diverse cases that build confidence, empathy and a strong foundation for professional and personal growth.”

Dr. Dwayne Karateew

Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs and Patient Care and Clinical Professor of Surgical Sciences



A Commitment to Service

The School of Dentistry embodies Marquette University’s Jesuit ideals of being “a person for others.” Defining dentistry as a helping profession, we emphasize a compassionate approach to caring for the whole patient and a commitment to caring for the underrepresented and underserved. Service is built into our curriculum, championed and modeled by our faculty, and embraced by our students. As the only dental school in the state, our work makes a profound impact on public and economic health not only in Milwaukee, but throughout Wisconsin.

Championing Community Health

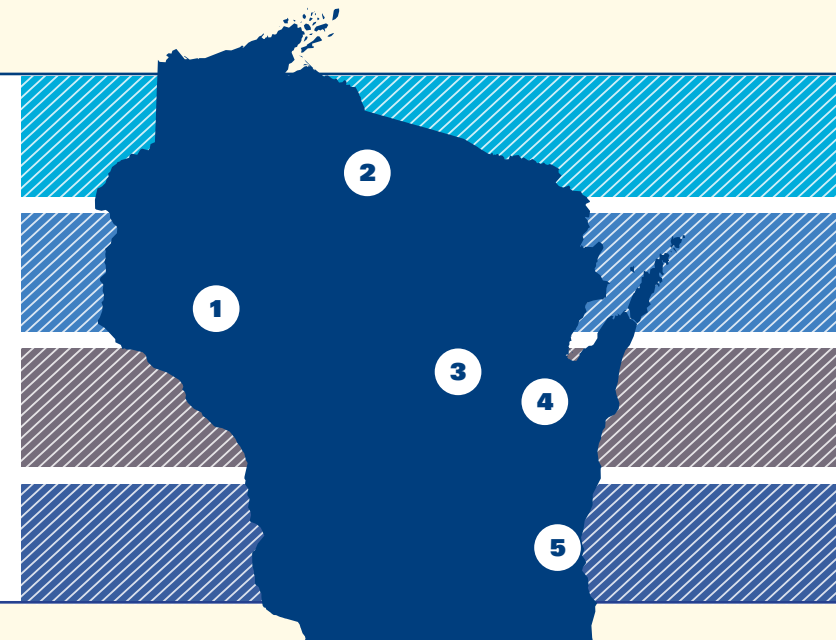
Public and community health outreach is an important aspect of a Marquette dental education. Students go out into the community to provide screenings, cleanings and education at elementary schools; deliver care and education to elderly populations through our community and professional partnerships; and serve all of our dental clinic patients, close to 43% of whom are eligible for coverage under the state’s Medicaid insurance.

Special Care Dentistry

Marquette’s curriculum incorporates critical training around caring for special needs patients, an area of growing interest in the profession and among our dental students. Beginning in D2 year, students receive special patient care training in the classroom and through rotations at area care facilities to observe providers, before advancing to clinical rotations in our state-of-the-art Delta Dental Urgent and Special Care Clinic, opened in 2024. Marquette’s thriving chapter of the Special Care Dentistry Association (SCDA) is one of 11 in the country and is widely considered among the most active, offering students opportunities for additional learning and service activities.

OUR COMMUNITY-BASED DENTAL CLINICS

- 1 | Health Education Center**
Chippewa Valley Technical College,
Eau Claire
- 2 | Peter Christensen Dental Clinic**
Lac du Flambeau
- 3 | Ministry Dental Center**
Stevens Point
- 4 | Tri-County Dental**
Fox Valley Technical College, Appleton,
(includes a mobile clinic)
- 5 | School of Dentistry Clinic**
Milwaukee



Mission Statement

At the Marquette University School of Dentistry, we strive for excellence in dental education, clinical oral health care, research and leadership contributing to the advancement of the profession consistent with Marquette’s mission of service to others.

OUR NEXT CLASS

Each year, we invest in 100 students — 50 in-state and 50 out-of-state — with the spirit, discipline and passion to succeed in our program. In addition to academic achievement, we consider the following characteristics:

- Quality of college/university attended
- Course selection rigor
- Trend of performance (GPA)
- DAT score (Canadian DAT accepted)
- Orientation to the profession
- Motivation and values
- Extracurricular/leadership/service background
- Personal interview

National draw

We attract prospective students from every region of the United States and countries around the world. Though many applicants are Wisconsin residents, each class comprises an intentional balance of in- and out-of-state students. For a profile of this year’s first-year (D1) class, visit marquette.edu/dentistry/admissions.

Pre-dental Requirements

College studies should be completed at a four-year accredited college or university. The minimum entrance requirement is 90 semester credits* of liberal arts study, including:

ENGLISH	6 SEMESTER CREDITS
GENERAL CHEMISTRY	8 SEMESTER CREDITS
ORGANIC CHEMISTRY	8 SEMESTER CREDITS
BIOLOGY OR ZOOLOGY	8 SEMESTER CREDITS
PHYSICS	8 SEMESTER CREDITS
BIOCHEMISTRY	3 SEMESTER CREDITS
ELECTIVES	49 SEMESTER CREDITS
TOTAL	90 SEMESTER CREDITS

All science courses, with the exception of biochemistry, must include laboratory instruction. Suggested pre-dental science electives include anatomy, cell biology, genetics, microbiology and physiology. Math courses are suggested in preparation for physics and advanced chemistry.

*You may apply after completing at least 60 semester hours of the minimum 90 semester hours required of pre-dental college work. (Candidates with baccalaureate degrees earned before dental school enrollment may be most competitive.)

Credentials Checklist

First-year (D1) and transfer students

- ☐ AADSAS application form
- ☐ Application fee
- ☐ Official college transcripts (all) and dental school transcripts (transfer)
- ☐ Official DAT score (Canadian DAT accepted)
- ☐ Three letters of recommendation (One pre-health committee letter will be accepted in place of three individual letters.)
- ☐ Letter from the dean of your transfer school (transfer)

Foreign advanced standing

- ☐ CAAPID application form
- ☐ Application fee
- ☐ Course-by-course evaluation of dental school transcripts (ECE preferred)
- ☐ Integrated National Boards
- ☐ Three letters of recommendation
- ☐ Official TOEFL scores (may be requested)

Students seeking a transfer from a U.S. dental school and foreign-trained dentists seeking licensure to practice in the United States may apply for advanced standing. Advanced-standing candidates **must** complete three years of study at Marquette. Admission depends on space availability in the second-year (D2) class.

You should **APPLY FOR ADMISSION** 12 to 15 months before the date of your expected enrollment.

You must apply using the ADEA Associated American Dental Schools Application Service. **AADSAS APPLICATIONS can be found at aadsas.liaisoncas.com/applicant-ux/#/login.**

Applications are processed from June 1 through January 1. Offers of admission begin December 15. **For optimal consideration, all completed application materials should be received by September 1.**



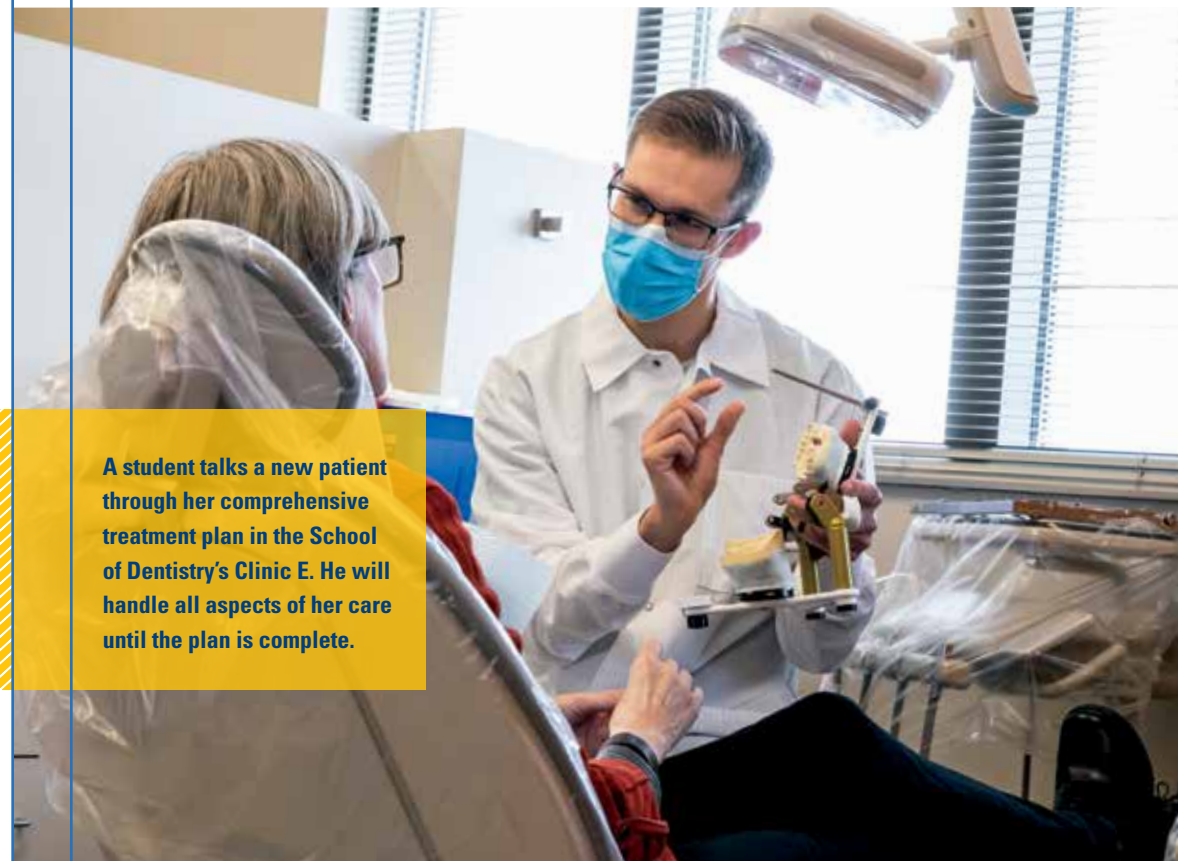
Practice Patient Care

Welcome to your new home away from home: the dental clinic. In the D3 year, patient care is your top priority. Marquette’s patient-centered model of educating future dentists gives our students the most robust clinical experience possible, immersing them in comprehensive treatment planning and care for a diverse variety of patients, often with multiple and complex dental needs.

Care for the underserved

Your clinic experience will take you outside the dental school building and into underserved communities to provide emergency and comprehensive patient care. You’ll work at our Community Dental Clinic-South, which serves much of Milwaukee’s Latinx population, and complete multiday rotations to our partner clinics that primarily serve patients from rural Wisconsin. These clinics expand care access by accepting Medicaid insurance and/or providing care for free or on a sliding fee scale.

A student talks a new patient through her comprehensive treatment plan in the School of Dentistry’s Clinic E. He will handle all aspects of her care until the plan is complete.



LIFE AS A D3:

Jermaine’s journey in clinic

SUMMER

Shifting from predominantly classroom-based learning to spending most of the day in the clinic presents an entirely new set of challenges. One of the greatest sources of support during this period has been the guidance and encouragement of upperclassmen, whose experience has helped us acclimate to the clinical environment and navigate this transition more smoothly.

FALL

Adjusting to the routine of seeing patients while managing a small course load wasn’t as difficult as I had anticipated. Staying organized and maintaining an up-to-date schedule played a key role in making this semester feel much more manageable and seamless.

WINTER

As my patient interactions increased and I remained diligent in my studies, I began collaborating with my Clinic D group leader to make steady progress toward fulfilling graduation requirements. The winter semester became an opportunity to refine my clinical skills, enhance my diagnostic abilities and develop greater efficiency in managing my time.

SPRING

I gained extensive experience in restorative and prosthodontic procedures in the clinic. Various rotations also broadened my exposure. With the D4 class graduating, it is now my class’s turn to help guide the incoming D2 students as they step into the clinical setting — because at the end of the day, we are one big family supporting each other through this journey.

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D3 STUDENT

Jermaine Walls

President, Marquette School of Dentistry Class of 2026; Co-president, Marquette Chapter, Student National Dental Association
Hometown: Chicago, Illinois

One of the advantages that drew me to Marquette was its emphasis on early clinical exposure. Marquette is among the few dental schools in the United States that provides first-year students with hands-on clinical experience beginning in their very first semester. From assisting upperclass students to performing our initial prophylaxis procedures, early clinical immersion established the standard for the comprehensive, patient-centered education we receive here. I also appreciate that Marquette enables students to use handpieces and cultivate essential manual skills from the outset.



D4

Prepare for Success

During your final year, you will continue to handle all aspects of patient care from start to finish, solving a variety of dental challenges for a diverse patient population. The more you practice, the better, faster and more confident you become. Whether your next step is general practice, an advanced education program or a specialized residency, you will graduate prepared to achieve your goals and make a difference as a dentist.

Pay it Forward

New D1s and D2s now look up to you and your classmates. You'll have opportunities to share your knowledge, such as tutoring groups of students in the sim lab or helping individual students prepare for their practical evaluations.

Clinical and Translational Research

Marquette dental students interested in research will find ample opportunities to work on faculty-directed research projects that help broaden the knowledge base of evidence-based dentistry.

Postgraduate Advancement

Endodontics | Orthodontics | Periodontics | Prosthodontics | Dental Biomaterials (*certificate*)

Students work in our 4,700-square-foot research space, which boasts three laboratories, an imaging suite, surgical suites for clinical trials and a cell culture room.



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D4 STUDENT

John Kerns

Hometown: Muskego, Wisconsin

Clinic time — all our time — in D4 year is the culmination of what we've learned in our didactic and clinical work. By now, we've built relationships with our faculty and peers, and our clinical judgments become more independent. We begin to act on the trust we've earned. While freeing, this supervised autonomy ushers in feelings of naivety for what we've yet to learn. Luckily at Marquette, D4s have ideal resources and experienced faculty to engage with our own curiosities. Through more challenging cases or honors courses, we begin to practice those interests that make us eager to learn and display in our profession upon graduation.



LIFE AS A D4:

John gets it all done

7:15 AM

Being a D4, I don't need to wake up extra early for class before clinic.

7:55 AM

I make my morning latte and leave for school. I have a 30-minute commute, so I challenge myself to finish the latte by the time I arrive to avoid cavities from the sugar.

9 AM

I press play on my mini-speaker. I've become known in my clinic for having the best clinic-appropriate music playlist, which brings levity to everyone's morning. I then bring my patient up from the waiting area to my clinic operator. While the appointments are allotted for three hours, my working speed improves over time so I can get more done at each appointment.

NOON

I clean up my cubicle, grab a protein bar for lunch and prepare for the afternoon. I prefer to spend any extra time socializing or getting another small coffee at the Brew. I may also call my girlfriend, who's in law school.

1 PM

Typically, the second appointment of the day begins. Some days, when I have a lot of admin work, I'll do that instead: scheduling and confirming patients, consulting on treatment plans with my supervising faculty or enhancing clinical photos of cases.

4 PM

After cleaning up, I stay a bit later to finish up admin or lab work. But I always make sure the work doesn't conflict with pickleball time.

6:15 PM

Pickleball time. Then I'll come home and cook. On days without pickleball, I like to grab tacos with some friends to debrief about our weeks. Both pickleball and debrief sessions are essential, clearly.

MIDNIGHT

I'm hopefully asleep, so long as I finished some reading or an episode of "Survivor."

WELCOME TO THE FRESH COAST

It's easy to fall in love with Milwaukee and all that it has to offer. Marquette's location puts you in proximity to it all. In addition to Lake Michigan and its shoreline's beaches, bike paths and other activities, you'll find world-class performing arts, high-profile professional sports, and innovative restaurants, breweries and nightlife. Visit the iconic Milwaukee Art Museum. Rock out at Summerfest, the world's largest outdoor music festival. Enjoy beautiful architecture on a walk, bike ride or drive through the city's unique neighborhoods. You'll find it easy to get around and explore this gem of a city.

A FEW OF
OUR FAVORITE
THINGS TO DO
IN MILWAUKEE:

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Hit up a Bucks
game at the
Fiserv Forum.
D1 student

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Going to the
Public Market.
D2 student

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Mojito nights with
dental school buddies.
D3 student

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Walks on the
lakefront or RiverWalk.
Checking out the
Historic Third Ward.
D4 student



We invite you to visit.

Call our Admissions Office to schedule a tour and see the School of Dentistry, Marquette and Milwaukee.

Dental Admissions

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Marquette University, in accordance with its Jesuit tradition and Guiding Values, is committed to fostering a diverse community of outstanding faculty, staff, and students, as well as ensuring equal educational opportunity, employment, and access to services, programs, and activities, without regard to an individual's race, color, national origin, religion, age, disability, sex, gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, marital status, pregnancy, predisposing genetic characteristic, or military status. Employees, students, applicants or other members of the University community (including but not limited to vendors, visitors, and guests) may not be subjected to harassment that is prohibited by law, or treated adversely or retaliated against based upon a protected characteristic.

The University's policy as well as federal and state laws and regulations prohibit unlawful discrimination and harassment. These laws include the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, and Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as Amended by the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972. These laws prohibit discrimination and harassment, including sexual harassment and sexual violence.

If you feel that you have been subjected to sexual harassment, discrimination or sexual misconduct, please contact Marquette University's Title IX Coordinator: Alumni Memorial Union, Room 437, P.O. Box 1881, Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881, (414) 288-7206, or Office for Civil Rights; 230 S. Dearborn St., 37th Floor, Chicago, IL 60604, (312) 730-1560. To read the entire Marquette University Non-Discrimination Statement, visit marquette.edu/nondiscrimination.



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