Twenty-six high schools were represented by 46 students in the 2021 “Dash... into Dentistry” event at the LSU Health School of Dentistry (LSUSD) in April. The Central Louisiana Area Health Education Center (CLAHEC) worked with LSUSD school officials to facilitate the event, in which students were split into three separate days to ensure COVID distancing requirements were met. Students participated in activities specific to their program of interest—dental, dental hygiene or dental laboratory technology—including group discussions about programs, the admissions process and dental public health. At lunch-time Q&A sessions, panels of LSUSD students shared their own experienced with the high school students.

This program targets high school students from Central Louisiana AHEC's 17-parish service area that includes: Ascension, Avoyelles, Catahoula, Concordia, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Grant, Iberville, LaSalle, Livingston, Pointe Coupee, Rapides, St. Helena, Vernon, West Baton Rouge, West Feliciana, and Winn.

The Louisiana Dental Association (LDA) and the LSU Health School of Dentistry are partnering to launch the school’s inaugural mentorship program. Targeting entering D4 students, the program has attracted dozens of students and mentors. Special thanks to the Louisiana Dental Association and Brown & Brown Associates for sponsoring a lunch 'n learn for interested students on April 14. For more information about the program visit the LDA website at ladental.org.

The LSU Health School of Dentistry recognized students completing their Doctor of Dental Surgery, Dental Hygiene and Laboratory Technology Degrees on May 13 at the New Orleans Convention Center. Among the many awards given, their were 5 students recognized by the alumni association.