Instructions for receiving and installing the updated OMLSMS application are below. While these will serve as baseline instructions, given that the application is connecting to a database that we do not have control of, there is always room for errors to occur along the way. Therefore, even though we will give detailed instructions below, we will be available for the next week or so to come in person and meet to install it directly on the OML computers, if necessary. We are also available by email (can contact [cjconnor@email.unc.edu](mailto:cjconnor@email.unc.edu)) or on Zoom to meet and work this out at virtually any time. **READ TO THE BOTTOM FOR AN IMPORTANT NOTICE!**

While detailed instructions will be listed below, we have also made a video tutorial that we encourage you to watch. We believe that it will be useful in ensuring the software is installed smoothly. Also note that we have gone through efforts to provide extensive documentation, so please look through the UserDocumentation file inside the project folder for more information. Furthermore, this document will include a brief description of the system before going into the instructions. With that, instructions (and a video) will follow below.

First and foremost, this system, as you know, is a Python application that connects to the OML Database at the UNC Adams School of Dentistry. This application utilizes numerous third-party extensions, which we will explain how to install below. We have also tried our best to ensure the connection settings that existed previously carried over through the updates, but these may need to be changed if errors arise. You currently have a version of the system that runs on older components, and we have our attempt at a full system upgrade. It theoretically runs just as it already does in the older version, with the exception of how the application is launched (which I explain in the video).

Now, follow the link to the GitHub repository: <https://github.com/matthewreddy/OMLSMS>

Next, click the green “Code” button and click “Download Zip.” This will give you the project folder (which we will also email). Next, install the latest version of Python (be sure to check box to add to PATH). After that, open your Command Prompt on Windows, and enter the following commands to install all dependencies:

Install and ensure you are running Python 3 in the 64-bit architecture.

Install (or upgrade) pip by running the following:

python -m ensurepip --upgrade

Now pip can be used to install dependencies. Install PyQt5 by running:

pip install PyQt5

Install pywin32 by running:

pip install pywin32

Install Django by running:

pip install Django

Ensure that the version installed is 5.0.

Install mssql-django by running:

pip install mssql-django

Ensure that the version installed is 1.5.

Install Reportlab by running the following:

pip install Reportlab

Ensure that the version installed is 2.7.

Install xhtml2pdf by running (this may need to be done after installing Reportlab):

pip install xhtml2pdf

Ensure that the version installed is 1.5.

Install ghostscript by running the following:

pip install ghostscript

Install ODBC Driver 17 at <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-us/sql/connect/odbc/download-odbc-driver-for-sql-server?view=sql-server-ver16>.

From there, drag the downloaded project folder to the intended place (we recommend inside the shared drive and inside the folder with the old OMLSMSv2 download, as they can be located together just in case). Once you are there, in the File Explorer, enter the “db\_rewrite” folder, then right click the name at the top in the directory and copy the address. Enter the Command Prompt again, run “cd [paste the address you just copied]” – finally, run “python omldb.py” in the command prompt, and the application should launch.

All of the steps I just described are in the following video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l183G1HuWms>

**IMPORTANT:** We kept the old settings that were there previously for connecting to the OML database. However, without actually using the OML system ourselves, we have no way of knowing if our changes impact this, and we also have no way of knowing if anything changed with the server itself that we would need to reflect on our end, especially as it is our understanding that changes are/will be made soon to the OML servers, per IT. Therefore, if something cannot connect to the database, THE ONLY WAY TO CHANGE THE CONNECTION IS TO CHANGE VALUES IN THE CODE ITSELF (this is due to how the system was structured prior to our involvement in the project – we would have likely done this differently if we started fresh). So, if there is an error following any of the steps, we would likely have to go in and manually make these changes. Therefore, please let us know of any errors and we will either meet at the Dental School in person to do a manual installation, or we can attempt to guide the OML (or IT staff) via Zoom on which values to change in the settings. Again, please feel free to contact us; this is merely a guide to hopefully get most of the way there, but we are here to help ensure things are installed completely!