

How to Obtain Dental Care in California

If you have Medi-Cal



- You will use your Medi-Cal Benefit Identification Card to access dental care. There is no separate card for dental benefits.
- Visit the [Smile, California site](#) to find a Medi-Cal dentist.
- Or call: 1 (800) 322-6384.

What does Medi-Cal Cover?

- For a list of the most common dental services available, see the [Medi-Cal Dental Member Handbook](#). [The Medi-Cal Dental Member Handbook is also available in Farsi.](#)
- In general, Medi-Cal pays for preventive care, such as exams and teeth cleaning twice a year for children and once a year for adults.
- For adults aged 21 and over: some dental work, but NOT all may be covered. Always ask about possible costs before work is done.
- For children up to age 21: most dental work is covered.

If you have an Employer Plan

- You must opt into your employer-offered plan. You will pay for some of the cost for dental insurance and your employer will cover some of the cost.
- Choose a dentist from the employer plan.
- Be prepared to ask for any out-of-pocket costs, as dental care is expensive even with insurance.

If you do not have Medi-Cal and do NOT have an employer plan, you can obtain a plan on the state health insurance exchange

- Use the official California state [“Covered California” website](#).
- Be careful of “look alike” sites!
- Or Call: 1-800-300-1506.
- Note: You MUST enroll in a plan within 60 days of a qualifying life event (such as losing Medi-Cal or employment-based insurance).
- If you enroll in a plan and have any change in income during the year, you must report the change to Covered CA! The amount you pay for insurance will then be adjusted.