

# ACCESS TO BABY AND CHILD DENTISTRY (ABCD)

## OVERVIEW

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Early intervention, including routine preventive services starting at age 1, reduces the need for costly future restorative work. Access to Baby and Child Dentistry (ABCD) aims to increase access to dental services for Medicaid and CHIP eligible children ages 0-5 and emphasize non-traumatic treatment techniques and oral health education in early childhood, promoting good lifelong oral health practices. ABCD focuses on prevention and includes training for general providers in early pediatric techniques and education of parents and children on oral health issues.

## ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS

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In order to receive payment, all eligible servicing and billing provider's National Provider Identifiers (NPI) must be enrolled with South Dakota Medicaid. Servicing providers acting as a locum tenen provider must enroll in South Dakota Medicaid and be listed on the claim form. Please refer to the [provider enrollment chart](#) for additional details on enrollment eligibility and supporting documentation requirement.

South Dakota Medicaid has a streamlined enrollment process for ordering, referring, and attending physicians that may require no action on the part of the provider as submission of claims constitutes agreement to the South Dakota Medicaid Provider Agreement.

A participating Medicaid provider must complete the ABCD training in order to receive the enhanced reimbursement offered through the ABCD program. The provider will receive a certificate of participation following completion of the training.

Contact the dental vendor's Professional Relations Representatives at 1-877-841-1478 or [professionalrelations@deltadentalsd.com](mailto:professionalrelations@deltadentalsd.com) to request training materials.

## ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS

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All Medicaid and CHIP eligible children ages 0-5 are eligible to receive the enhanced services available under ABCD. Providers are responsible for checking a recipient's Medicaid ID card and verifying eligibility before providing services. Eligibility can be verified using South Dakota Medicaid's [online portal](#).

Refer to the [Recipient Eligibility](#) manual for additional information regarding eligibility including information regarding limited coverage aid categories.

## COVERED SERVICES

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### Procedures Qualifying for Enhanced Fees

Enhanced reimbursements will be given for the following procedures to ABCD certified providers when providing care for Medicaid eligible children ages 0-5:

- Comprehensive and periodic oral examinations (\$5.00);
- Routine restorations (amalgams and composites) (\$10.00);
- Stainless steel crowns (\$25.00); and
- Pulpotomies (\$15.00).

### **Procedures Qualifying for Enhanced Services**

Fluoride treatment/varnish is allowed up to three times per year for children ages 0-5.

Oral hygiene instruction is a benefit for children ages 3, 4 and 5. Oral hygiene instruction requires a parent/guardian participate in the educational session. Offices billing for oral hygiene instruction must document in the patient's clinical notes who was present during the educational session and what was discussed with the child and parent.

## **DEFINITIONS**

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1. "Oral hygiene instruction", education on oral hygiene given by the dental professional to the patient and family. May include instructions for home care. Examples include tooth brushing technique and flossing.

## **REFERENCES**

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- [Administrative Rule of South Dakota \(ARSD\)](#)
- [South Dakota Medicaid State Plan](#)
- [Code of Federal Regulations](#)

## **QUICK ANSWERS**

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### **1. Why should I participate in the ABCD program?**

By participating in the ABCD program, you will receive enhanced reimbursement for certain services you provide to Medicaid and CHIP eligible patients who are ages 0-5. By seeing children age 0-5, you will also be encouraging good oral hygiene throughout their lifetime, hopefully preventing the need for more costly restorative work.

### **2. How do I sign up to be an ABCD dentist?**

Contact the dental vendor's Professional Relations Representatives at 1-877-841-1478 or [professionalrelations@deltadentalsd.com](mailto:professionalrelations@deltadentalsd.com) to request training materials. Once you have completed the training curriculum, return the signed form and the dental vendor will do the rest.

**3. Can a dental hygienist complete the training on behalf of the dentist?**

Dental hygienists, dental assistants and other office staff are encouraged to complete the ABCD training. However, as claims are submitted using the dentist's NPI number, the supervising dentist must also complete the training to access the enhanced services for their patients.