CHILDREN DENTAL SERVICES

OVERVIEW

This manual describes the South Dakota Medicaid dental benefits and related limitations of service for children age 20 and younger. Per ARSD 67:16:01:06.02 covered services must be medically necessary. Services that cosmetic or otherwise not medically necessary are not covered by South Dakota Medicaid. For a complete listing of CDT procedure codes covered for children, please refer to the Children Dental Services fee schedule.

Providers are encouraged to refer to the Predetermination manual for information about requesting review of services prior to treatment.

The South Dakota Medicaid benefit year is July 1 through June 30.

ELIGIBLE PROVIDERS

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 tenens 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.

Dentists must be licensed under the provisions of SDCL 36-6A or licensed under the laws of the state they are practicing in.

Indian Health Services and Tribal 638 Providers
Indian Health Services (IHS) billing NPIs must be enrolled and recognized as an active IHS provider with Medicaid. Eligible individuals are required to be enrolled with South Dakota Medicaid. Dentist must be licensed under the provisions of SDCL 36-6A.

Providers enrolling as Tribal 638 providers must submit the most current copy of their 638 contract that describes the services recognized as 638 eligible services with the other provider enrollment materials.

Both IHS and Tribal 638 providers must submit the Tribal/IHS Ownership & Controlling Interest Disclosure form with the other provider enrollment materials.

Dentists working for IHS must also complete paperwork for the dental vendor. The dental vendor can be contacted at professionalrelations@deltadentalsd.com.
FQHC Providers
Facilities must meet the definition of a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) or a Rural Health Clinic (RHC) as defined in 42 CFR § 405.2401 as either. FQHC and RHC billing NPIs must be enrolled with Medicare and recognized as an FQHC or RHC to enroll in South Dakota Medicaid. This requirement does not apply to stand-alone FQHC dental clinics.

Dentists working for an FQHC/RHC must also complete paperwork for the dental vendor. The dental vendor can be contacted at professionalrelations@deltadentalsd.com.

ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS

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.

The following recipients are eligible for medically necessary services covered in accordance with the limitations described in this chapter:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coverage Type</th>
<th>Coverage Limitations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid/CHIP Full Coverage</td>
<td>Medically necessary services covered in accordance with the limitations described in this chapter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid – Pregnancy Related Postpartum Care Only (47)</td>
<td>Medically necessary services covered which began during pregnancy or other dental needs in accordance with the limitations described in this chapter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicaid – Pregnancy Related Coverage Only (77)</td>
<td>Medically necessary services covered in accordance with the limitations described in this chapter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unborn Children Prenatal Care Program (79)</td>
<td>Medically necessary services covered in accordance with the limitations described in this chapter.</td>
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</table>

Refer to the Recipient Eligibility manual for additional information regarding eligibility including information regarding limited coverage aid categories.

PERIODICITY SCHEDULE

South Dakota Medicaid has adopted the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) recommended dental periodicity schedule. South Dakota Medicaid strongly encourages providers to consider the following recommendations in addition to those listed on the AAPD dental periodicity schedule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommendation</th>
<th>Age</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6 to 12 months</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Periodontal assessment** | X | X
---|---|---
**HPV vaccine/oral cancer education** | X | X

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Referral to SD QuitLine</th>
<th>Parent/Caregiver</th>
<th>Parent/Caregiver</th>
<th>Parent/Caregiver</th>
<th>Patient and Parent/Caregiver</th>
<th>Patient and Parent/Caregiver</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Referral to primary care physician, if needed</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### COVERED SERVICES

**General Coverage Principles**

Providers should refer to the [General Coverage Principles](#) manual for basic coverage requirements all services must meet. These coverage requirements include:

- The provider must be properly enrolled;
- Services must be medically necessary;
- The recipient must be eligible; and
- If applicable, predetermine the treatment plan.

The manual also includes non-discrimination requirements providers must abide by.

#### Examinations

- Two periodic or comprehensive evaluations are covered in a benefit year.
- Oral evaluation for patient under three years of age and counseling with primary care giver (includes caries risk assessment).
- Comprehensive evaluations are a benefit once per recipient, per office.
- Two problem focused evaluations are covered in a benefit year. Problem focused evaluations require clinical documentation.
- One caries risk assessment is covered in a benefit year.

#### Radiographs

- Non-diagnostic radiographs are not covered.
- Panoramic radiographs are only a benefit when needed for fractures, position of third molars, and pathology of bone structure, anomalies, or full mouth extractions.
- Full mouth series of radiographs, including bitewings, are a benefit only when needed to show rampant caries or in conjunction with extractions or to check for pathology or root fractures of vital teeth.
- Bitewings are covered twice in a benefit year.
- All radiographs must be labeled and identified with the patient name, provider name, orientation of the film (Right-R/Left-L) and date taken.
• A panoramic radiograph with bitewings, including any necessary periapical radiographs, is considered a full mouth series of radiographs and paid as such.
• A series of radiographs is considered a complete series if the total fee equals or exceeds the fee for a complete series.
• A full mouth series of radiographs, including a panoramic radiograph, is a benefit once only in a five-year period unless special medical necessity is documented.
• Bitewing radiographs and a full mouth series of radiographs or a panoramic radiograph will not be allowed on separate dates within a current treatment plan.

Preventative

• Routine prophylaxis is covered twice in a benefit year.
• Topical application of fluorides is covered twice in a benefit year.
• Dental sealants are covered on non-cavitated, unrestored permanent bicuspid and molars and primary molars once in a two-year period.
  o Sealants are not covered when placement of sealant and restoration is performed on the same date on the same surface.
  o The fee for sealants includes repair or replacement within two years.
• Interim caries arresting medicament application (Silver Diamine Fluoride) is a benefit on primary and permanent teeth. A maximum of two applications per tooth, per year, per patient is allowed. A lifetime maximum of four treatments per tooth, per patient is allowed. Future restoration is only allowed if medically necessary and a covered South Dakota Medicaid benefit. Reimbursement for teeth requiring restoration prior to one year after application of Silver Diamine Fluoride will be reduced by the amount the provider was reimbursed for the application of Silver Diamine Fluoride when done by the same office. Signed informed consent is strongly encouraged.
• Fluoride gels, rinses, tablets or other preparations intended for home application are not covered.

Space Maintenance

• Space maintainers are a benefit for children under the age of 15 only when necessary to maintain occlusion.
• Fee for space maintainers includes installation and removal.
• When space maintainers are requested, any missing or soon to be replaced primary tooth/teeth must be designated on the claim form.
• Space maintainers will not be covered if the radiograph reveals absence of occlusal bone over the succedaneous tooth.

Restorative

• Periapical films are required for anterior restorations when the comprehensive treatment plan exceeds $500.00.
• Bitewing films are required for posterior restorations, except when a root canal is clinically or radiographically indicated. If a root canal is clinically or radiographically indicated, a periapical film is required.
• Amalgam or resin restorations for treatment of caries is allowed. If the tooth can be restored with such material, crowns are not a benefit.
• Tooth and soft tissue preparation, cement or temporary bases, acid etch, polishing, impressions, and local anesthesia are considered components of, and included in, the fee for a completed restorative procedure.
• Replacement of an existing restoration is covered once only in a 12-month period and only when medically necessary due to decay/fracture.
• Payment is made for one restoration in each tooth surface irrespective of the number of restorations placed.
• Proximal Class III restorations are considered single surface restorations.
• Payment is made for the same tooth surface only once in a 12-month period unless documentation supports the medical necessity of the replacement.
• The fee for pins and/or a preformed post is part of the fee for the core. A separate fee is not allowable.
• Procedures, appliances, or restorations done for cosmetic purposes are not covered.
• Inlays and Onlays are not covered.
• Permanent crowns are only covered on anterior and first bicuspids (teeth #5-12 and #21-28) for children from the age of 12 to the age of 21.
• Crowns are a benefit for the replacement of tooth structure for the treatment of decay and/or fracture to the extent that no other routine restorative procedure will satisfy the replacement.
• Stainless steel crowns require pre-operative films and clinical notes.
• Stainless steel crown replacement is covered once in a 24-month period
• Crowns will not be covered on periodontally and endodontically compromised teeth.
• Crowns are covered once in a five-year period unless documentation supports the medical necessity of a replacement.
• Use final cementation date as the date of service for crowns.

**Endodontics**

Providers should seek predetermination for all root canal therapy. Root canal therapy will not be approved without clinical notes or other documentation of the patient’s comprehensive dental needs. Pre-operative radiographs are required for predetermination and post-operative radiographs must be submitted with the claim for payment.

• Root canals are covered once per permanent tooth.
• Treatment films, clinical procedures, and follow-up care are included in the fee for the completed root canal.
• Incomplete/inadequate root canal treatment is not covered.
• Retreatment of root canal, if approved, is only a benefit after 24 months of the original treatment.
• Use final treatment date as the date of service (i.e., the final filling of the canal).
**Periodontics**
Providers should seek predetermination for all periodontal services. Periodontal services will not be approved without clinical notes describing the course of treatment, accompanied by appropriate radiographs and complete periodontal charting. Probing depths must be 4 millimeters or greater to qualify for this benefit.

Periodontal treatment should use treatment limited to the direct, least invasive measures necessary to achieve a therapeutic result. The initial phase of treatment should include removal of deposits and recipient education regarding home dental hygiene measures. A recipient’s motivation and skill in oral hygiene measures must be demonstrated and well documented before surgical intervention is attempted.

- Root planing and scaling is covered once in a 24-month period.
- Root planing and scaling is allowed for all four quadrants on the same date of services
- Periodontal scaling cannot be billed on the same date of service as a prophylaxis or periodontal maintenance.
- Periodontal maintenance is covered only for recipients with a history of root planing and scaling or periodontal surgery.
- Periodontal maintenance therapy is covered twice per year in lieu of any routine prophylaxis.
- Allowance for periodontal surgery includes all necessary postoperative care, finishing procedures and evaluations for three months.
- Either root planing or subgingival curettage, but not both, is a covered benefit only once in a 24-month period.

**Prosthodontic-Removable**
Providers should seek predetermination for all removable prosthodontics. A diagram of the teeth to be replaced in the partial and the teeth to be clasped is required. In addition, indicate whether it is the initial placement or a replacement of existing prosthesis. If it is a replacement, indicate why it must be replaced.

- Fixed Prosthodontics (bridges) are not covered.
- Partial dentures and complete dentures are covered for age 16 and older.
- Partial dentures are not a benefit if more than 8 teeth remain in posterior occlusion (not limited to natural teeth).
- Relines, rebases, dentures, or partials are covered only once in a five-year period and if the existing denture/partial is no longer serviceable.
- Relines in conjunction with immediate dentures are a benefit any time following placement of the immediate denture.
- Adjustments are allowed only after six months have elapsed following initial placement of a denture/partial and are limited to 2 adjustments per denture/partial per benefit year.
- Fee for repair of any prosthodontic appliance cannot exceed one-half of the fee for a new appliance/restoration.
• Tissue conditioning is a treatment reline using material designed to heal unhealthy ridges prior to more definitive final restoration. Tissue conditioning is a benefit only if the patient is eligible for rebase, reline or a new prosthesis.
• It is necessary that all operative procedures be completed prior to fabrication of prosthodontic appliances.
• Complete/Immediate dentures will not be authorized if it would be impossible or highly improbable for a recipient to adjust to a new prosthetic appliance. This is particularly applicable in cases where the patient has been without dentures for an extended time or where the recipient may exhibit a poor adaptability due to psychological and/or motor deficiencies and medical debilitation.
• Dentures/partials will not be covered when lost or stolen in a long-term care facility pursuant to 42 CFR 483.25. If the recipient is under full care of the facility due to physical or mental conditions, the facility is responsible for the cost of replacement.
• For recipients not residing in a long-term care facility who have prosthodontic appliances lost/stolen, replacement is not covered unless supporting documentation of a police report or an insurance claim is provided.
• Use the seat date as the date of service for prosthodontics.

Interim Partial Dentures
Providers should seek predetermination for interim partial dentures (flipper) for missing permanent teeth. Interim partial dentures are covered only once in a five-year period and if the existing denture/partial is no longer serviceable. Interim partials dentures share the five-year frequency limit with dentures and partials.

Oral Surgery
Claims for Oral Surgery codes listed on the Children Dental Services fee schedule must be filed with the dental vendor. Claims for Oral Surgery codes not listed on the Children Dental Services fee schedule must be filed directly with South Dakota Medicaid. Fee information for the oral surgery codes not listed on the Children Dental Services fee schedule can be located on the Physician Services fee schedule.

• Routine post-operative visits and local anesthesia are considered part of and included in the fee for the surgical procedure.
• Alveoloplasty is not covered when done in conjunction with a surgical extraction.
• Edentulous alveoloplasty procedures are covered to correct surgical or anatomical deformities, or developmental and pathological abnormalities which are not generally part of the normal extraction process except by report.
• Extractions of third molars must be medically necessary. If one or more third molar meets medical necessity, all asymptomatic third molars may be removed at the same time. General dentists should use the Third Molar Referral form when referring patients with Medicaid for third molar extractions. While this form does not replace documentation in the patient's clinical notes, it can act as a mechanism for referring patients with sufficient information about why the referral is being made. The oral surgeon can then submit a predetermination request with support for
the medical necessity requirement. The Third Molar Referral Form is available in an electronic, fillable version by sending a request to sdmedicalaid@deltadentalsd.com.

- The following are medically necessary reasons for extractions:
  - Presence of severe pain or swelling.
  - Documented recurrent episodes of pericoronitis.
  - Cellulitis (pericoronitis) or abscess, may be associated with tooth in oral communication lacking space for normal eruption.
  - Non-treatable (or not covered) severe caries, pulpal pathology, fractured tooth.
  - Severe periodontitis or periapical pathology.
  - Associated cysts or neoplasms or other radiographic pathology.
  - Internal or external resorption of tooth or adjacent teeth.
  - Misaligned tooth causing acute or chronic inflammation, or impaired orofacial function.
  - Prophylactic measure (which alone does not constitute medical necessity).
  - Preventing proper alignment of permanent teeth or proper development of the arch.

- Extraction of asymptomatic teeth is not covered. The following may be exceptions:
  - Teeth which are involved with a cyst, tumor, or other neoplasm.
  - Extraction of all remaining teeth in preparation for a full prosthesis.
  - Misaligned tooth that causes intermittent gingival inflammation.
  - Radiographically visible pathology that fails to elicit symptoms.

Adjunctive General Services

- Palliative procedures for the relief of pain is covered in emergency situations. Code D9110 is to be used only if no other code describes the service provided. No charge should be made under this code when another procedure, for example a restoration or extraction has been performed on the same tooth on the same day.

- Analgesia (nitrous oxide) is covered once per date of service.

- General anesthesia and conscious sedation should be billed in fifteen-minute increments and must be reported on the claim. If the service is rendered in a dental office by an anesthesiologist or CRNA, the claim must be submitted directly to South Dakota Medicaid on a CMS 1500 claim form or via a 837P electronic transaction. Four units of sedation are covered per date of service.

- House/extended care facility calls includes visits to nursing homes, long-term care facilities, hospice sites, and institutions. This is not to be used for school sites. This is allowed once per recipient/per day when billed in conjunction to at least one reimbursable service.

Anesthesia for Dental Services

Anesthesiologist or CRNAs that provide anesthesia services in a dental office must submit the claim to South Dakota Medicaid on a CMS 1500 claim form or via an 837P electronic transaction. Services must be rendered in compliance with applicable requirements in ARSD Ch. 20:43:09.

General Anesthesia/Sedation

Sedation and general anesthesia are not covered for the following situations:
• For a healthy, cooperative recipient with minimal dental needs;
• A very young patient with minimal dental needs that can be addressed with therapeutic interventions (ex. silver diamine fluoride) and/or treatment deferral;
• Patient/practitioner convenience; and
• Predisposing medical conditions which would make general anesthesia inadvisable.

For recipients that are not excluded from coverage based on one of the above criteria, sedation or general anesthesia is covered if:
• The recipient is unable tolerate treatment without sedation or general anesthesia; or
• The recipient would become unmanageable when receiving treatment in a usual dental office setting without sedation or general anesthesia due to medical, emotional, or developmental limitations, and/or it is required based on the scope of treatment needs.

Documentation must include why the individual cannot receive necessary dental services unless the provider administers sedation or general anesthesia and informed consent.

Only one type of dental anesthesia code (general, nitrous oxide, intravenous conscious sedation, or non-intravenous conscious sedation) is billable per date of service per recipient.
• D9222 and D9223 may be reimbursed for a member on the same date of service.
• D9239 and D9243 may be reimbursed for a member on the same date of service.

Hospital or Ambulatory Surgical Center Call
Most dental care and/or oral surgery is effectively provided in an office setting. Services may only be provided in a hospital or ambulatory surgical center if the patient has documented medical or behavioral conditions that necessitate the treatment plan be performed in a hospital or ambulatory surgical center setting. Generally, these services will be performed under general anesthesia/sedation. If services are performed under general anesthesia/sedation, the services must meet the general anesthesia coverage requirements.

A hospital call (D9420) is only reimbursable if the service is performed in a licensed hospital or licensed ambulatory surgical center. A hospital call is only reimbursable for dates of service on which other covered services are performed in a hospital setting. A hospital call, if provided, should be billed on the same claim form as the other covered service. If a claim for payment is received for a hospital call and there are no other covered service listed on the claim form or no Medicaid claims history record indicating that another covered service was previously reimbursed for the same date of service as the hospital call, the hospital call will be non-covered.

In addition, services provided in a hospital or ambulatory surgical center must be:
• Consistent with the diagnosis and treatment of the patient’s condition.
• In accordance with standards of good medical/dental practice.
• Required to meet the dental needs of the patient and undertaken for reasons other than the convenience of the recipient or his/her dentist.
• Performed in the least costly setting required by the patient’s condition.
Medical necessity must be documented in the recipient’s clinical records and submitted with the predetermination or claim. It is strongly recommended that all hospital or ambulatory surgical center dental services are predetermined.

**DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS**

**General Requirements**
Providers must keep legible medical and financial records that fully justify and disclose the extent of services provided and billed to South Dakota Medicaid. These records must be retained for at least 6 years after the last date a claim was paid or denied. Please refer to the [Documentation and Record Keeping](#) manual for additional requirements.

**REIMBURSEMENT AND CLAIM INSTRUCTIONS**

**Reimbursement**
A claim for dental services must be submitted at the provider’s usual and customary charge. Payment for dental services is limited to the lesser of the provider’s usual and customary charge or the fee listed on the South Dakota Medicaid’s Dental Services Children Services fee schedule.

**IHS/Tribal 638 and FQHC Reimbursement**
IHS/Tribal 638 providers and FQHC providers services will be reimbursed at the established encounter rate for all non-fee-for-service reimbursable services associated with the visit.

Payment at the encounter rate is considered payment in full for all services on the claim. If an individual service on the claim is a non-covered service, the encounter rate paid for other services on the claim is considered payment in full. The non-covered service is not separately billable to the patient.

Only one dental service encounter is reimbursable per date of service, per recipient.

Encounters that are normally rendered during a single visit may not be unbundled for the purpose of generating multiple encounters. IHS/tribal clinics and FQHC providers must not develop procedures or otherwise ask recipients to make repeated or multiple visits to complete what is considered a reasonable and typical office visit unless it is medically necessary. The medical necessity of multiple visits must be documented in the patient’s clinical notes.

Examples of unbundling services for the purpose of generating multiple encounters include:

- Conducting a limited, problem focused exam with images one day and having the patient return the following day for extraction.
- Conducting a comprehensive exam and having the patient return three days later for silver diamine fluoride application.
- Treating decay on tooth 9 with a filling one day and having the patient return for a filling on tooth 8 the following week.
Fee-for-Service
IHS/Tribal 638 providers and FQHC providers will be reimbursed on a fee-for-service basis instead of the encounter rate for the following services:

- Prosthodontics, removable – D5000-D5899
- Maxillofacial prosthetics – D5900-D5999
- Orthodontics – D8000-D8999

These services must be submitted on a separate claim from any other services. If these services are included on the same claim as other services, the claim will be paid at the encounter rate.

Dental services rendered by tribal owned entity that are not included in the 638 Contract are eligible for reimbursement at the lower of the provider’s usual and customary charge or the South Dakota Medicaid fee schedule rate.

Claim Instructions
Refer to the ADA Claim Instructions for information regarding completing a claim form.

Timely Filing
South Dakota Medicaid’s dental vendor must receive a provider’s completed claim form within 6 months following the month the service was provided. Requests for reconsiderations will only be considered if they are received within the timely filing period or within 3 months of the date a claim was denied. The time limit may be waived or extended by South Dakota Medicaid in certain circumstances. Providers should refer to the General Claim Guidance manual for additional information.

Third-Party Liability
Medicaid recipients may have one or more additional source of coverage for health services. South Dakota Medicaid is generally the payer of last resort. Providers must pursue the availability of third-party payment sources. Providers should refer to the General Claim Guidance manual for additional information.

DEFINITIONS

1. “Aid Category”, a number that designates the type of coverage the recipient is eligible for under the Medicaid program.

2. “Emergent dental services”, services medically necessary to immediately alleviate severe pain, acute infection, or trauma.

3. “Predetermination”, (also known as prior authorization) is the process of obtaining information about anticipated coverage and payment for a treatment plan before the treatment is started.

REFERENCES

- Administrative Rule of South Dakota (ARSD)
QUICK ANSWERS

1. The service I provided my patient is not a covered benefit under the Medicaid program, but my patient has a special circumstance that I think should be considered. How do I request special consideration?

   Please contact Delta Dental of South Dakota at 1-877-841-1478 or customer.service@deltadentalsd.com to discuss the situation and request special consideration of the claim. You will be asked to submit any supporting documents that demonstrate the special circumstances (i.e., letter from medical doctor).

2. How do I determine which code(s) to submit for the services I provide to my patients with South Dakota Medicaid coverage?

   South Dakota Medicaid reimburses codes from the Current Delta Terminology (CDT). Providers must accurately code claims according to the service provided regardless if the code is listed on the South Dakota Medicaid Dental Fee Schedule or not. If a patient requires a service that is not covered by South Dakota Medicaid, the provider should notify the patient that the service is not be covered prior to performing the work in accordance with the Billing a Recipient manual.