

South Dakota Medicaid Orthodontic Benefit



Eligibility

Braces are only covered when a child has an extreme need due to difficulty eating, chewing, speaking, or breathing. All braces must be pre-approved by South Dakota Medicaid.

You must also be receiving regular cleanings and exams from your dentist, take care of your teeth at home, and not have any cavities that need to be treated.



Approval Process

- 1 Visit your dentist.
- 2 Your dentist will complete the Pre-Orthodontic Certification Form.
- 3 Take the certification form to an orthodontic provider who accepts Medicaid.
- 4 The orthodontic provider will assess your need for braces.
- 5 South Dakota Medicaid will review and determine if braces are medically necessary.
- 6 If you're approved, South Dakota Medicaid will send you a letter to schedule an Orthodontic Education Session over the phone and ask you to sign an agreement.
- 7 After you complete the call and agreement, you can start orthodontic treatment.

How to Find a Dentist or Orthodontic Provider



Orthodontic coverage is a once in a lifetime benefit.

For more information about your South Dakota Medicaid Dental Benefits contact
1-877-841-1478 or **sdmedicaid@deltadentalsd.com**

Patient responsibilities



- Schedule and keep appointments.
- Let the orthodontic provider office know if you can't make it to an appointment.
- Follow the instructions the orthodontic provider gives you about taking care of your braces.
- Continue to go to your regular dentist for cleanings.
- Let the orthodontic provider know if you have to move before your braces come off.

Every appointment is important



- Having braces takes around two years and lots of appointments.
- Going to appointments as scheduled gets you done on time.
- Treatment might take longer if you miss an adjustment.
- Going to appointments helps your orthodontic provider detect potential problems.
- The only way for your orthodontic provider to know if things are going as planned is to see your mouth.

Taking care of teeth with braces



- Teeth with braces can still get cavities and have other problems.
- Brush after every meal and floss as instructed to avoid decay and stains – you don't want food getting caught under your braces!
- Avoid sticky foods.
- Eat raw or crunchy foods in smaller, bite size pieces.
- Call your orthodontic provider right away if you have a loose or broken bracket or wire.



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South Dakota
Department of
Social Services

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