How to Find and Pay for Dental Care

Smile, your Medi-Cal benefits include dental coverage!
The Medi-Cal program offers many benefits to members including covered dental services.

How do I apply for Medi-Cal?
You do not need to apply separately for dental coverage. It is already a part of the Medi-Cal program.

How do I find a dentist that accepts Medi-Cal?
Visit SmileCalifornia.org to find a dentist that accepts Medi-Cal near you or call 1-800-322-6384.

How do I pay for dental care?
As a Medi-Cal member, your benefits include dental coverage at little or no cost to you!

You are covered for these services:
• Dental exams (every 12 months)
• Teeth cleaning (every 12 months)
• Scaling and root planing
• Fluoride varnish (every 12 months)
• X-rays
• Fillings
• Crowns*  
• Root canals
• Partial and full dentures
• Denture relines
• Tooth removal
• Emergency services

*Crowns on molars or premolars (back teeth) may be covered in some cases.

Visit SmileCalifornia.org or call 1-800-322-6384 for more information about how to find a Medi-Cal Dentist near you.

The call is free. Medi Cal Dental representatives are available to assist you from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For information on how to apply for Medi-Cal, please visit www.CoveredCA.com or you can call 1-800-300-1506.
Tooth decay is the destruction of your tooth enamel, the hard outer layer of your teeth. It may cause cavities or even tooth loss.

Aging and Dental Health
As we age we are more prone to developing oral health problems. Here are some common dental problems you may face as you age.

1. Tooth Decay
   Tooth decay is the destruction of your tooth enamel, the hard outer layer of your teeth. It may cause cavities or even tooth loss.

2. Gum Disease
   Gum disease is an infection of the gum tissue that supports the teeth.

3. Tooth Loss
   Tooth loss is a process in which one or more teeth come loose and fall out. Gum disease is one of the leading causes of tooth loss.

4. Receding Gums
   Receding gums is when your gums pull back from the tooth surface, exposing the root surfaces of your teeth. This leaves the teeth at risk of decay, infection, and loss.

Here are a few more important tips:
- Brush your teeth at least twice a day with fluoride toothpaste.
- Floss your teeth at least once a day.
- Limit sugary snacks and drinks, which can lead to cavities.
- Limit alcohol intake and avoid all forms of tobacco use which can lead to stained teeth, bad breath, and can cause cancer.
- Use your Medi-Cal dental benefit and see your dentist yearly.

Regular dental visits are important to prevent problems. Dentists check for oral health problems, some that might not even be noticeable.

Check-ups can help find cavities, gum disease, and other problems before they lead to more serious issues like pain, infection and tooth loss.

Dental visits are covered for Medi-Cal members. Find a dentist accepting new patients at SmileCalifornia.org.

Does your smile need a ride to the dentist?
To get transportation to your next dental appointment, call the Telephone Service Center phone line at 1-800-322-6384.