

Adult Dental Coverage



This flyer provides an overview of dental services for all adults age 21 and older covered by Washington Apple Health (Medicaid).

Covered services

Diagnostic Procedures

Exams

- ◆ Initial comprehensive exam – once per client, per provider or clinic
- ◆ Periodic exam – 1 every 6 months
- ◆ Limited exam – as needed

X-rays

- ◆ Complete series (FMX) – 1 every 3 years
- ◆ 4 bitewings – every 12 months
- ◆ Panorex – every 3 years (A panorex is a two-dimensional dental x-ray that displays both the upper and lower jaws and teeth in the same film.)
- ◆ Periapical – as needed (a possible abscess is a common need)

Preventive Services

- ◆ Prophylaxis (cleaning) – 1 every 12 months
- ◆ Fluoride application (varnish)
 - 21 and older – 1 every 12 months
 - Residents of alternative living facility – 3 every 12 months

Basic Restorative (fillings)

- ◆ Composite or amalgam restorations - once per tooth in a 2-year period

Periodontal (gum disease)

- ◆ Scaling and root planing – every 2 years per quadrant
- ◆ Perio maintenance – once every 12 months

Endodontic (root canal)

- ◆ Anterior (front) teeth only – upper and lower

Dentures/Partials

- ◆ Complete dentures – covered, with prior authorization required
- ◆ Partial dentures, resin based (acrylic) – covered, with prior authorization required
- ◆ Rebase and reline of dentures – 1 in a 3-year period, at least 6 months after original dentures inserted
- ◆ **Replacement of partials** – may be covered if existing dentures are at least 3 years old

Oral Surgery

- ◆ Simple extractions, surgical extractions, biopsies, intraoral and extraoral incise, and drain
- ◆ Nitrous oxide sedation covered.

As of May 1, 2014, oral and other sedation methods or general anesthesia is considered on a case-by-case basis when a client has a medical condition for which general anesthesia is medically necessary (for example, tremors, seizures, behavioral health conditions, and breathing difficulties). Prior authorization is required.

Services that are not covered

- ◆ Bridges
- ◆ Implants
- ◆ Crowns

DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES (DDD)

For adults with this designation, all coverage is the same as "Covered services" above, along with the following additions:

- ◆ Topical fluoride – 3 times per year
- ◆ Sealants – covered for posterior teeth
- ◆ Crowns – stainless steel only, covered for posterior teeth with supporting documentation

Washington State
Health Care Authority

HCA administers Washington Apple Health (Medicaid)

For more information about your covered dental benefits, contact: Health Care Authority 1-800-562-3022

To find a provider that accepts Washington Apple Health, visit: <https://fortress.wa.gov/hca/p1findaprovider/>