

Medicare funded dental care for children

Children eligible for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule can receive Medicare funded treatment.

Medicare funded dental treatment for children at your local dentist

The Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) is a Medicare funded program providing dental care for eligible children for a range of services, including examinations, cleaning, x-rays, fillings, fissure sealants, extractions and root canal therapy. The CDBS does not cover orthodontics, cosmetic dental treatment, and mouthguards. If you receive Family Tax Benefit Part A or a relevant government payment, your child may be entitled to up to $1000 worth of dental treatment over a two-year period.

Where can I get treatment through the CDBS?

Your local dentist provides all of the services covered by the CDBS. When you make the appointment, let your dentist know you would like treatment under the CDBS. Your dentist can check your eligibility if you are unsure.

How to check if your child / children are eligible?

The program is means tested for those receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A and some other government payments for children aged between 2 and 17. If you are receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A, you should have received a letter from the Department of Human Services letting you know you are eligible for the CDBS. If you are only claiming Family Tax Benefit Part A annually, you will not have received a letter but you may still be eligible.

If you are unsure, it's quick and easy to check your eligibility. Call Medicare on 132 011 (7 days a week, 24 hours a day) or your dentist can check for you.

How does the $1000 cap work?

Eligible children may have up to $1000 of dental treatment over a two-year period. It begins at the start of the calendar year and any money not spent in the first year is carried over to the second year. You cannot claim benefits from both private health insurance and the CDBS for the same services.

Find out more by asking your dentist or visit www.humanservices.gov.au

Australian Dental Association
NSW Branch