

States Which Directly Reimburse Dental Hygienists for Services under the Medicaid Program

The following 15 states are those which contain statutory or regulatory language allowing the state Medicaid department to directly reimburse dental hygienists for services rendered.



Arizona 2007

AHCCS Medical Policy Manual 610-1

Dental Hygienists in affiliated practice with a dentist who is also a Medicaid provider may be reimbursed for certain services included in the practice agreement with the dentist.



California 1998

Statute-1413

The State Medicaid rules provide for RDHAP's to be directly reimbursed.

All dental hygiene services provided by a Registered Dental Hygienist in Alternative Practice (RDHAP's) Pursuant to the practice act may be covered as long as they are within the scope of Dental benefits and they are necessary services provided by a registered dental hygienist in alternative practice.



Colorado 2001

25.5-4-411 (Formerly 26-4-414.3)

Authorizes reimbursement of unsupervised dental hygienists for services to children. Dental hygienists employed by a dentist, institution or clinic cannot submit claims individually. Dental hygienists who are directly reimbursed must identify Medicaid-participating dentists or any other licensed dentist for each child the dental hygienists serves.

Unsupervised dental hygienists may provide and bill for preventive services: oral prophylaxis, fluoride, sealants and oral hygiene instructions.

There are 64 dental hygienists enrolled as Medicaid providers.



Connecticut 2001

Medicaid Regulations, Sec. 17b-262-695

All dental hygienists who participate in Medicaid shall be public health dental hygienists.

The regulations cite what services will be reimbursed to dental hygienists and in which settings they can practice. Settings include a nursing home, a group home, a school without dental clinic, a hospital without a dental clinic and a community health center without a dental clinic.



Maine 2002

Bureau of Medical Services Regulations

MaineCare Benefits Manual 10-144, 25.07-5

Maine is somewhat unique in that entities are reimbursed but every dental hygienist who works for an enrolled entity must also enroll as a Medicaid provider.

Dental Hygiene services shall be reimbursed to entities enrolled as MaineCare providers employing or sponsoring licensed hygienist services allowed under Public Health Supervision. Entities wishing

to enroll as MaineCare providers must submit documentation showing they meet the requirements for Public Health Supervision status and must enroll all hygienists as MaineCare servicing providers with proof of licensure. Hygienists must meet the requirements of Public Health Supervision status to enroll.



Massachusetts 2009

Chapter 112 Section 51

The Massachusetts Dental Practice Act authorizes Public Health Dental Hygienists to be directly reimbursed by Medicaid. A rule change to enact the statute is pending.



Minnesota 2003

Minnesota Department of Human Services

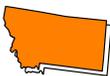
A policy change by the state department of human services was made in fall of 2002 allowing dental hygienists to apply for Medicaid provider numbers. This policy change was made in conjunction with collaborative practice. To obtain a provider number, a dental hygienist must complete the application form provided by the Minnesota Department of Human services. The provider must comply with rules relating to the delivery of services to individuals and to the submission of claims for such services.



Missouri 2001

Statute-332.311.1-2

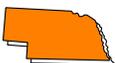
Dental hygienists with 3 years experience and practicing in a public health setting may provide fluoride treatments, oral prophylaxis and sealants, if appropriate, to children who are eligible for medical assistance without the supervision of a dentist. Hygienists are reimbursed for fluoride treatments, oral prophylaxis and sealants.



Montana 2006

Rule 37.86.1001

As of July 2006, dental hygienists practicing under public health supervision may provide preventive dental hygiene services.



Nebraska 2008

Rule 6.007

Lists dental hygienists as Medicaid dental providers.



New Mexico 2002

NMAC 8.310.7.10 New Mexico Medical Assistance Division Regulations

Dental hygienists, who are certified for collaborative practice, may provide dental hygiene services to Medicaid recipients as allowed by their scope of practice. The services that will be reimbursed are listed specifically in the section: oral prophylaxis, sealants, fluoride treatments, etc.



Nevada 2003

1003.20 (Dental Manual) Department of Human Resources

Although the Nevada Medicaid laws remain non-specific concerning providers, in 2003 the department began to issue provider numbers to dental hygienists practicing without supervision in public settings. The Dental Manual notes dental hygienists as providers.



Oregon 1999

**Medicaid Regulations, Office of Medical Assistance
OAR 410-.23-1040(a); OAR 410-123-1060(8)**

Medicaid will reimburse dental hygienists and denturists as well as dentists. It will also pay for services provided by a person under the supervision of a limited access permit dental hygienist.



Washington 1998

WAC 388-535-1070

Dental Hygienists are listed as providers eligible to enroll with the state medical assistance administration (MAA) to furnish and bill for dental-related services to eligible clients.



Wisconsin 2006

HFS 105.01 and 105.06

A rule passed in June 2006 enables dental hygienists certified as Medicaid providers by the Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services to be directly reimbursed for a specific set of preventive services, including: prophylaxis, fluoride treatments, sealants, and oral health evaluations.

Sources: State Practice Acts, State Medicaid Regulations, Division of Governmental Affairs

