



## Accessing Dental Care

### Getting oral health care for your child

Oral health screenings are essential for your child. Your baby should have an oral health check-up by a dentist or doctor by his first birthday — and at least annually. There are many places where you can get oral health care for your child, and you may be able to get help paying for it too! Ask your family's dentist or your baby's doctor to check your baby's teeth.

Many doctors have been trained to provide infant and toddler oral screenings. Ask your baby's doctor if he or she includes oral health services as part of well-child visits.

### Finding and paying for dental care

**Washington Dental Service:** If you are eligible for dental benefits with Washington Dental Service, your child may be eligible for Washington Dental Service benefits. Sign him up at birth or within the first three months thereafter. Just contact your human resources department at work to enroll your baby in your dental benefits plan. If your child is older than 3 months, enroll her at your next open-enrollment period. Washington Dental Service will pay dentists and doctors for delivering early oral care to enrolled infants and toddlers.

For help finding a dentist in your community, visit [www.DeltaDentalWa.com/BabyTeeth](http://www.DeltaDentalWa.com/BabyTeeth).



### Finding and paying for dental care (*continued*)

**Medicaid's Apple Health for Kids:** If your child is enrolled in Medicaid's Apple Health for Kids, he or she has dental coverage that includes preventive and restorative care. Medicaid will pay dentists and doctors for delivering early oral care to infants and toddlers.

**The Access to Baby and Child Dentistry program (ABCD):** links Medicaid-enrolled children from birth to 6 years to local dentists. Most counties in Washington offer ABCD programs. To find out if your community has an ABCD program, visit [www.KidsOralHealth.org](http://www.KidsOralHealth.org) and click on *Resources*.

**Other Coverage:** If your employer offers dental benefits, ask your human resources department if oral health services are covered for your child.

**Uninsured/Direct Payment:** Many dentists and doctors accept direct payment for delivering oral health services if your child does not have dental benefits. Community health center dental clinics may charge reduced rates, depending on your financial situation.

To find out if there is a community health center dental clinic in your area, visit [www.KidsOralHealth.org](http://www.KidsOralHealth.org).