

III. Dental Services

A. Definitions.

For purposes of determination of payment usual and customary actual billed charge refers to the uniform amount the individual dentist charges in the majority of cases for a specific dental procedure or service.

“Dental School Faculty Dentist” is a dentist who is employed by a state-supported school of dentistry.

B. Reimbursement for Outpatient and Inpatient Services.

- (1) The department shall reimburse participating dentists for covered services provided to eligible Medicaid recipients at the dentist’s actual billed charge not to exceed the fixed upper limit per procedure established by the department.
- (2) The department’s expansion of dental services includes coverage for adults and children for dentures, implants, root canals, extractions, restorations, and periodontics when medically necessary. This expansion will also include an additional cleaning per year for adults for a total of 2 cleanings per year (1 every 6 months). Expansion services beginning January 1, 2023.
- (3) With the exceptions specified in section (3), (4), (5), and (8) the upper payment limit per procedure shall be established by increasing the limit in effect on 9/30/00 by 32.78%, rounded to the nearest dollar. This rate of increase is based upon an allocation of funds by the 2000 Kentucky General Assembly and a comparison to rates of other states based upon a survey of Dental Fees by the American Dental Association. The DMS fee schedule rate was set as of October 31, 2008 and is effective for services provided on or after that date. All rates are published on the DMS website <http://www.chfs.ky.gov/dms/fee.htm>.
- (4) If an upper payment limit is not established for a covered dental service in accordance with (2) above, the department shall establish an upper limit by the following:
 - a. The state will obtain no less than three (3) rates from other sources such as Medicare, Workmen’s Compensation, private insurers or three (3) high volume Medicaid providers;
 - b. An average limit based upon these rates will be calculated; and
 - c. The calculated limit will be compared to rates for similar procedures to assure consistency with reimbursement for comparable services.
- (5) The following reimbursement shall apply:
 - a. Orthodontic Consultation, \$112.00, except that a fixed fee of \$56.00 shall be paid if:
 1. The provider is referring a recipient to a medical specialist;
 2. The prior authorization for orthodontic services is not approved; or
 3. A request for prior authorization for orthodontic services is not made.
 - b. Prior authorized early phase orthodontic services for moderately severe disabling malocclusions, \$1,367 for orthodontists and \$1,234 for general dentists..
 - c. Prior authorized orthodontic services for moderately severe disabling malocclusions, \$1,825 for orthodontists and \$1,649 for general dentists.
 - d. Prior authorized orthodontic services for severe disabling malocclusions, \$2,754 for orthodontists and \$2,455 for general dentists.
 - e. Prior authorized services for Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) therapy, an assessed rate per service not to exceed \$424.

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- (6) This reimbursement methodology does not apply to oral surgeons' services that are included within the scope of their licenses. Those services are reimbursed in accordance with the reimbursement methodology for physician services.
- (7) Medicaid reimbursement shall be made for medically necessary dental services provided in an inpatient or outpatient setting if:
- The recipient has a physical, mental, or behavioral condition that would jeopardize the recipient's health and safety if provided in a dentist's office; and
 - In accordance with generally accepted standards of good dental practice, the dental service would customarily be provided in an inpatient or outpatient hospital setting due to the recipient's physical, mental, or behavioral condition.
- (8) Supplemental payments will be made in addition to payments otherwise provided under the state plan to practice plans whose dentists qualify for such payments under the criteria outlined below in Part (a) of this section. The payment methodology for establishing and making the supplemental payments is provided below in Parts (b) and (c) of this section.
- To qualify for a supplemental payment under this section, dentists in the practice plan must meet the following criteria:
 - Be Kentucky licensed dentists;
 - Be enrolled as Kentucky Medicaid providers; and
 - Be members of a practice plan under contract to provide professional services at a state-owned academic medical center as determined by the Department.
 - For practice plans qualifying under Part (a) of this section, a supplemental payment will be made. The payment amount will be equal to the difference between Medicaid payments otherwise made to these practice plans and the average rate paid for the services by commercial insurers. The average commercial rates are determined by:
 - Calculating a commercial payment to charge ratio for all services paid to the eligible providers by commercial insurers using the providers' claims-specific data from the most currently available fiscal year;
 - Multiplying the Medicaid charges by the commercial payment to charge ratio to establish the estimated commercial payments to be made for these services; and
 - Subtracting the interim Medicaid payments already made for these services to establish the supplemental payment amount.
 - Practice plans eligible under Part (a) of this section will be paid on an interim claims-specific basis through the Department's claims processing system using the methodology outlined elsewhere in this state plan. The supplemental payment, which represents final payment for services, will be made on a quarterly basis or as determined by the Department.
- (9) The upper payment limit per procedure for a recipient under age twenty-one (21) shall be established by increasing the limit in effect on 9/30/07 by 30%, rounded to the nearest dollar. The 30% limit increase applied to all dental procedure codes, except dental procedure codes D2951, D0150, D0140, D0330, D1520, D1525, shall not be adjusted from the limit in effect on 9/30/07. The DMS fee schedule rate was set as of October 31, 2008 and is effective for services provided on or after that date. All rates are published on the DMS website <http://www.chfs.ky.gov/dms/fee.htm>