

## **The New Healthy Smiles Ontario Program**

Good oral health is important to the overall health of children and youth. It's very important to start seeing a dentist when your child is 12 months old and to keep going regularly. Healthy Smiles Ontario pays for regular check-ups, preventive care and treatment.

### **WHO IS ELIGIBLE?**

Children and youth 17 and under may be eligible if:

- They are residents of Ontario; and
- They are members of a household that meets the income eligibility requirements.

Note: Children 17 and under are automatically eligible and automatically enrolled in Healthy Smiles Ontario when they or their family receive: Ontario Works, Temporary Care Assistance, Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities or the Ontario Disability Support Program. Children and youth with other dental insurance coverage are no longer automatically excluded.

### **HOW DO I ENROLL?**

- Go to [ontario.ca/healthysmiles](http://ontario.ca/healthysmiles)
- Call ServiceOntario INFOLine toll-free at 1-844-296-6306 (TTY toll-free at 1-800-387-5559)
- Your local public health unit can also help you enroll.

Go to [ontario.ca/healthysmiles](http://ontario.ca/healthysmiles) to find out which public health unit serves your area

Once enrollment has been confirmed you will receive a Healthy Smiles Ontario dental card. The dental card must be presented to your dental provider at each visit to receive dental care under the program.

### **WHAT SERVICES ARE COVERED?**

- Regular visits to a licensed dental provider, such as a dentist or dental hygienist
- Dental services including check-ups, cleaning, fillings, x-rays and scaling
- Urgent or emergency oral health issues

### **WHERE TO ACCESS DENTAL CARE INCLUDING EMERGENCY DENTAL CARE?**

- If you have a dentist, contact their office to find out if they participate in Healthy Smiles Ontario
- If you do not have a dentist, contact your local public health unit for help
- Go to [ontario.ca/healthysmiles](http://ontario.ca/healthysmiles) to find out which public health unit serves your area

### **WHY IS ORAL HEALTH IMPORTANT?**

Cavities and gum disease can be painful and can lead to serious infections, affecting the growth of adult teeth. Pain can result in loss of sleep, affect a child's ability to eat, and can impact a child's ability to learn and attend school. Good oral health is important for your child's self-esteem, sense of well-being, and their overall health. Prevent oral health problems before they start!

To find out more about Healthy Smiles Ontario, visit [www.healthunit.org/dental](http://www.healthunit.org/dental) ; call the Health ACTION Line at 1-800-660-5853; email us at [hso@healthunit.org](mailto:hso@healthunit.org) or text 613-207-0187. You can also connect with us on Facebook and twitter @LGLHealthUnit for important public health updates.