About the In-School Dental Program

Big Smiles brings licensed dental professionals into schools to provide dental care to students during the school day. The goal is to make it easier for children to get the care they need without parents having to miss work, arrange transportation or schedule a separate appointment.

Q1. What is the in-school dental program?

A. Big Smiles is a dental care program that comes directly to school. A licensed dental team sets up inside the school and provides care to students during the school day.

Q2. Why should parents sign up their child?

A. It's an easy way for children to receive dental care without leaving school. It can help prevent cavities, catch dental problems early and reduce the chance of tooth pain that can make it hard for children to eat, sleep, concentrate or learn.

Q3. Is this a dental screening or a real dental visit?

A. It is a real dental visit. Students are seen by licensed dental professionals, and the care provided is similar to what a child may receive in a dental office.

Q4. What services are provided?

A. Services may include dental exams, cleanings, fluoride treatments, sealants, X-rays, and cavity treatment, if needed.

Q5. How is the in-school dental program paid for?

A. Big Smiles bills each child's Medicaid, CHIP or private dental insurance, just like a dental office would. That allows the program to provide care at no cost to the school and, for most families, no out-of-pocket cost.

Q6. What if a child already has a dentist?

A. That's great. Families who already have a dental home are encouraged to continue care with their regular dental office. The in-school dental program is another convenient option for families who choose to use it. Because insurance is billed, the school visit will show up as one of the child's covered dental visits.

Q7. Do parents need to come to school for the visit?

A. No. Parents do not need to be present. Children can receive care during the school day after a parent or guardian completes the permission form.

Q8. How do parents sign up?

A. Parents complete the permission form sent home by the school or sign up online at **www.MySchoolDentist.com**

BigSmilesDental.org
888.833.8441