

THE BRIDGE

News from Delta Dental of Tennessee

The Knoxville Riverwalk,
Knoxville, Tenn.

SPRING 2022

Re-credentialing at Medicare Standards

Dramatic changes in health care delivery have occurred due to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act and the baby boomer generation transitioning into Medicare and Medicare Advantage Programs. It is expected that enrollment in the Medicare Advantage dental plans will continue to grow as individuals with long-standing employer-based benefits retire and learn that adult dental benefits under Medicare are limited.

Over the next several months, Delta Dental of Tennessee will be re-credentialing our entire network of providers to be available for potential partnerships with Medicare Advantage health care carriers. While Delta Dental providers already adhere to most of the necessary credentialing and re-credentialing requirements, there will be a few additional items needed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to participate in Medicare Advantage plans, including:

- **Exclusion from the Medicare Preclusion Lists**
- **Exclusion from the Office of Inspector General List (OIG)**
- **Fraud, Waste and Abuse (FWA) annual training** (for your convenience, an FWA training program will be available soon on our website)
- **Completion of a Compliance Attestation form**

Beginning in April 2022, providers can expect information from DentalXChange via the email address provided to Delta Dental to start their re-credentialing process. Once providers have completed the requirements this year, they will be set for the next three years.

We appreciate all of our dentists' participation as a Delta Dental network provider. That partnership is essential in helping us to ensure healthy smiles across Tennessee.

For more information and to download the initial letter sent to providers, visit DeltaDentalTN.com/Dentists.





Scan the QR Codes to the right to download the All Smiles Shine app on your iOS or Android device



App Store



Google Play

There's an app for that!

Visiting the dentist can be an intimidating experience, especially for kids. The buzzing noises and strange tools aren't always comforting, and they can be particularly overwhelming for people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). About 1 in 54 children are diagnosed with ASD, and some research shows that those with ASD have a higher risk of dental disease. That's why InfiniTeach developed the All Smiles Shine app.

Created in partnership with Project Accessible Oral Health (PAOH) and Delta Dental, the All Smiles Shine app's purpose is to help the autism and intellectual and developmental disabilities communities learn about oral health care, practice preventive care at home, and prepare for an upcoming visit to the dentist. The app's features are designed to help alleviate anxiety and encourage better habits through evidence-based autism

interventions and best practices in technology development, as identified by the National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorder. By embedding these evidence-based practices into the app, people with ASD and their families, can customize the experience to their needs. Those features include:

- **At-home videos that support preventive care practices, a flossing and brushing tracker with rewards, and how to prepare for a dental visit.**
- **Personalized sensory preferences, interests, and calming tools to share with the dentist.**
- **Picture schedules, breathing exercises, emotion identifiers and more.**
- **Caregiver tips and tricks for daily brushing, flossing and healthy eating.**

Become a Disabilities Dentistry Clinician Expert

With the goal of helping to improve access to dental care for individuals with disabilities, Penn Dental Medicine has established a new continuing education series through the support of Delta Dental.

- **Live webinars and on-demand courses**
- **Open to any U.S. licensed dentist and their support personnel at no charge**
- **Dentists completing 18 or more of the courses within a three-year period will receive a certificate of completion from Penn Dental Medicine, an ADA CERP Provider, as a Disabilities Dentistry Clinician Expert.**

Did you know?
In the United States, there are nearly 57 million people with disabilities.



Register for a free course at
www.dental.upenn.edu/disabilitiescare

New Delta Dental Groups

Delta Dental of Tennessee welcomes the following new groups. You can check eligibility and coverage details in real time with Dental Office Toolkit (DOT), or call customer service at 800-223-3104. If you need to register for DOT, email ProfessionalRelations1@DeltaDentalTN.com.

OmniPoint Surgical Associates, LLC	Brentwood	Long Ragsdale & Waters PC	Knoxville
CoreCivic of Tennessee, LLC	Brentwood	Brown Bag Catering	Knoxville
HK Architects	Chattanooga	ACE Electric Service Company, LLC	Knoxville
Porter Warner Industries	Chattanooga	Benchmark Associates, Inc.	Knoxville
A-1 Heating Cooling and Electrical Inc.	Clarksville	Lakeland Golf Club	Lakeland
Preferred Medical Systems, LLC	Cordova	Wilson County Motors	Lebanon
Sweet Dough	Cordova	Brimer Steel Erectors, Inc.	Louisville
Foundation Property Management, LLC	Cordova	Brain Candy Management, LLC	Madison
Direct Coil USA	Fayetteville	Vienna Coffee Company	Maryville
Moody's Tire & Auto Service, Inc.	Franklin	The Urology Group, P.C.	Memphis
R Holdings, LLC	Gallatin	Roof Pro, LLC	Memphis
Jeff Roberts Corporation	Hendersonville	RP Tracks, Inc.	Memphis
Dennison Enterprises, LLC	Jackson	Benefits Blueprint Partners	Mount Juliet
CNK Enterprises, LLC	Johnson City	Envision Productions, Inc. dba Envision, Inc.	Nashville
Raven 22 Solutions Group, LLC	Jonesborough	Greer Sign Company, Inc.	Nashville
Clean Residential Services, Inc.	Kingsport	Triumph Strategies	Nashville
DMGx, LLC dba Big Wheel	Knoxville	Family & Children's Service	Nashville
Jackson Central Group	Knoxville	Pet Community Center	Nashville
Realty Executives	Knoxville	Ameritronica, Inc.	Nashville
Larkin Express Logistics, LLC	Knoxville	Town of New Tazewell	New Tazewell
		Hearthstone, Inc.	Newport
		Crown Construction & Development, LLC	Oakland
		Telegenix Splicing, LLC	Shelbyville
		Oldham Hospitality	Townsend

New Delta Dental Providers

Delta Dental of Tennessee welcomes our new and returning contracted providers. You can check eligibility and coverage details in real time with Dental Office Toolkit (DOT), or call customer service at 800-223-3104. If you need to register for DOT, email ProfessionalRelations1@DeltaDentalTN.com.

Carlton Baskin	Alcoa	Barry Mercer	Knoxville
Mark Dake	Bartlett	Spencer Shoff	Knoxville
Bryan Hiller	Bartlett	Jeremiah Taylor	Knoxville
Ashley Humphreys	Brentwood	Grant Kelley	Lebanon
John Lunsford	Chattanooga	Garrett Hardy	Lenoir City
Tom Eldridge	Clarksville	Enelys Moreno Hernandez	Lenoir City
Veran Fairrow	Clarksville	Paul Johnson	Livingston
Ja Eun Lee	Clarksville	George Steedley	Madisonville
Jason Roedig	Clarksville	Sidney Anthony	Maryville
Spencer Stanley	Clarksville	Laura Gart	Maryville
Anna Truong	Clarksville	Joseph Benson	Memphis
Tosha Williams	Clarksville	Cheryl Bird	Memphis
Sviatoslav Bouz	Cleveland	Jessica Daves	Memphis
Bimala Gharti	Cleveland	Paul Gwengi-Anam	Memphis
Bora Kim	Cleveland	Stephanie Holsey	Memphis
Charles Puryear	Cleveland	Carline Isme	Memphis
Holly Bishop	Clinton	Grace Kim	Memphis
Enrique Bursian	Columbia	Luke Taylor	Memphis
Joel Nichols	Dickson	Chadwick Augusty	Murfreesboro
Anna Enger	Farragut	Ian Haggard	Murfreesboro
Kyle Birkmeyer	Franklin	Hitendra Patel	Murfreesboro
Lauren Santos	Franklin	Robert MacArthur	Nashville
Joseph Zacharias	Franklin	Corey Paulino	Nashville
Bradley Beisiegel	Goodlettsville	Barbara Thompson	Nashville
Daniel Greare	Goodlettsville	Christopher Crain	Smyrna
Sarah Carlisle	Hampton	Morgan Gurley	Smyrna
Robert McDowell	Hendersonville	Vijay Mohamed	Smyrna
Erin Tao	Hendersonville	Candace Simmons	Smyrna
Elliott Deweese	Hermitage	Monica Williams	Smyrna
Karishma Manji	Knoxville		

Mouthguards: Essential at Every Age



Good oral hygiene habits start early, and that includes the use of mouthguards while playing sports. It is estimated that more than three million teeth are knocked out each year in youth sporting events, according to the National Youth Sports Safety Foundation, and it's the athletes who don't wear mouthguards that are 60 times more likely to damage their teeth.

In an effort to help make wearing mouthguards a habit, Delta Dental of Tennessee donated boil and bite mouthguards to youth sports teams with athletes 10 years old and younger throughout the state. Partnering with Special Olympics of Tennessee and a group of local professional athletes, Delta Dental was able to provide thousands of young athletes their own mouthguard, from Dyersburg to Kingsport, Tennessee. Even the athletes representing Team Tennessee at the 2022 USA Games in Orlando for Special Olympics Tennessee will be able to train and compete with a mouthguard from Delta Dental, proving that mouthguards are essential at every age and ability level.

"I've always worn a mouthpiece ever since I've

played football since little league days," said Tennessee Titans free safety Kevin Byard. "When you talk about concussions in football, when you have a mouthpiece and you have something to bite down on when you're making a tackle or you're making a block, it decreases the chance of you having a concussion. It's very important, so I would encourage everybody to wear a mouthpiece."

Scan the QR code to the left to watch Byard's message to young athletes, as well as former Nashville Predator Hal Gill's description of how mouthguards have protected him throughout his 17-year professional hockey career.

"An American Association of Orthodontists survey found that 84 percent of children do not wear mouthguards while playing organized sports because they are not required to," said Dr. Phil Wenk, CEO and president of Delta Dental of Tennessee. "Think about how every one of those kids is 60 times more likely to damage their teeth."

Delta Dental offers resources for your patients, including descriptions of a variety of mouthguards, cleaning and care guidelines, and tips for what to do if a child does get a tooth knocked out.



Learn more at [DeltaDentalTN.com/mouthguards](https://www.DeltaDentalTN.com/mouthguards).



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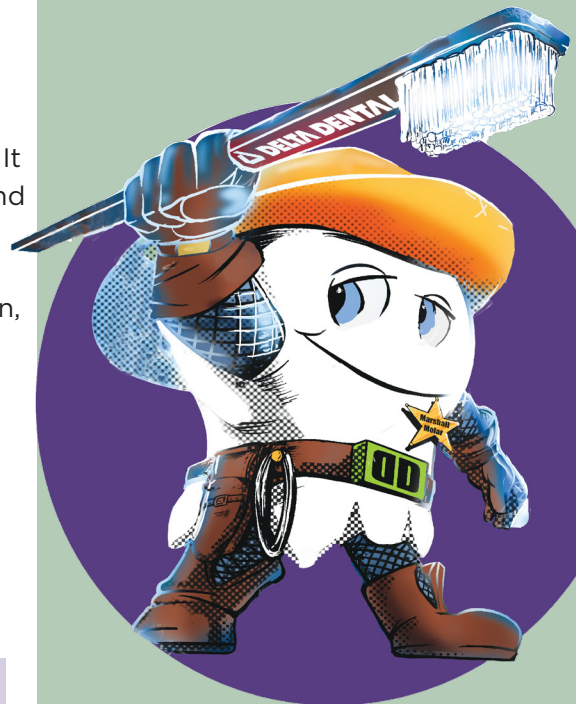
Get Ready for Smile Power Week 2022!

It's like Christmas for the oral health field in Tennessee! Smile Power Week is coming up in just a few short weeks. It was created to promote healthy smiles across the state, and it's also the perfect time to highlight the work of Tennessee charitable dental clinics and our network providers.

According to research by the American Dental Association, 45 percent of low-income adults say they avoid smiling, and 68 percent of them sometimes find life, in general, less satisfying due to the condition of their mouths and teeth. To help draw attention to this situation, community partners all over the state come together for a week in June to help Tennesseans get back their healthy smiles. This year, Smile Power Week will be June 13-17, 2022.

Let us help your dental office celebrate

Email marketing@deltadentaltn.com to request copies of Grin! for Kids, complete with activity pages and fun facts to make learning about the importance of oral health fun for kids. Hand them out to your smallest patients to help them unleash their Smile Power! View the latest issue online at DeltaDentalTN.com/Marshall-Molar-Kids-Corner.



June 13-17, 2022