



## GROUP DENTAL PLAN



## DELTA DENTAL PPO PLUS PREMIER<sup>®</sup> SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

## CLAIMS ADMINISTERED BY DELTA DENTAL OF IOWA

***Important Caution:*** A document like this Summary Plan Description *must* be reviewed and prepared by the employer's legal counsel *before* it is adopted by the employer and distributed to its plan participants. In addition to this Summary Plan Description, the employer should prepare and adopt its own separate plan document[s].

Group Number: 33526 - 400  
Effective Date: 1/1/2025  
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# INTRODUCTION

University of Northern Iowa maintains the University of Northern Iowa Group Dental Plan (“the Dental Plan”) for the exclusive benefit of and to provide dental benefits to their eligible full-time employees, their eligible spouses, and eligible children. These benefits, including information about who is eligible to receive benefits, are summarized in this document, which constitutes the Summary Plan Description.

Claims for reimbursement of dental benefits under the Dental Plan are administered by Delta Dental of Iowa (hereafter “Delta Dental”) pursuant to a contract between University of Northern Iowa and Delta Dental.



# INTERPRETING THIS SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

It is important that you understand all parts of this Summary Plan Description to get the most out of your benefits. To help make the information easier to understand, we use the words *you* and *your* to refer to you and your other eligible Covered Persons who have enrolled for coverage under this Dental Plan. In other places, we use the word *participant* to refer to the employee enrolled under the Dental Plan and the words *beneficiary* or *beneficiaries* to refer to the participant's eligible Covered Persons who are enrolled under the Dental Plan. The words, *we*, *us*, and *our* refer to University of Northern Iowa, the Plan Administrator for your Dental Plan. Finally, the term *Plan Sponsor or Group Sponsor* refers to your employer or other sponsor of this Dental Plan.

We will interpret the provisions of this Summary Plan Description and determine the answers to all questions that arise under it. Pursuant to a contract with Delta Dental, we have delegated our administrative discretion to initially determine whether you meet the Dental Plan's written eligibility requirements, or to interpret any other term of this Dental Plan. In addition, if any benefit in this Summary Plan Description is subject to a determination of dental necessity and dental appropriateness, Delta Dental will make that factual determination. Our interpretations and determinations and those of Delta Dental are final and conclusive.

In this Summary Plan Description we sometimes refer to certain laws and regulations. Laws and regulations can and do change from time to time. If you have a question as to how laws and regulations may apply to your coverage please contact your employer or group sponsor.

To administer your benefits properly, there are certain rules you must follow. Different rules appear in different sections of this Summary Plan Description. We urge you to become familiar with the entire Summary Plan Description.



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# GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE DENTAL PLAN

For your convenience, we have listed below certain basic, plan-identifying information.

Plan Name:	University of Northern Iowa Group Dental Plan
Plan Year:	January 1 – December 31
Plan Number:	33526
Original Effective Date:	June 1, 1998. The Dental Plan has been amended several times since its original effective date.
Plan Sponsor:	University of Northern Iowa 027 Gilchrist Hall Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0034 319-273-2521
Plan Sponsor's Employer Identification Number:	42-6004333
Plan Administrator:	University of Northern Iowa 027 Gilchrist Hall Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0034 319-273-2521 Attention: Benefits Administrator

Claims Administrator:

Delta Dental of Iowa  
1-800-544-0718

Named Fiduciary:

University of Northern Iowa  
027 Gilchrist Hall  
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0034  
319-273-2521

Funding Medium and Type of Plan Administration:

Benefits under the Dental Plan are self-funded by University of Northern Iowa and are paid directly out of the company's general assets. There is no insurance policy, trust, or other fund from which benefits are paid. The Dental Plan is self-administered by University of Northern Iowa. Pursuant to a contract between Delta Dental and University of Northern Iowa, Delta Dental acts as the Claims Administrator for the Dental Plan on behalf of the Plan Administrator. Although claims for reimbursement under the Dental Plan are submitted to Delta Dental for a determination of eligibility, processing, and initial payment, University of Northern Iowa, and not Delta Dental, is at all times responsible for payment of all claims under the Plan.

Source of Contributions:

Contributions for the Dental Plan are made in part by University of Northern Iowa and in part by employees' pre-tax payroll deductions.

Agent for Service of Legal Process:

President  
University of Northern Iowa  
027 Gilchrist Hall  
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0034  
319-273-2521

**Legal Plan Document & Disclaimer:** This Summary Plan Description summarizes the principal features of the Dental Plan in a general manner. The complete terms and conditions of the Dental Plan are contained in the Group Dental Plan legal document adopted by University of Northern Iowa and in portions of this Summary Plan Description. You can obtain a copy of the Group Dental Plan legal document from the Plan Administrator.



## Delta Dental of Iowa

### Employee Summary of Covered Services and Benefits

#### University of Northern Iowa - High Plan

Deductibles, Maximums & Eligibility	Delta Dental PPO <sup>SM</sup>	Delta Dental Premier <sup>®</sup> / Non Par
- Individual Deductible	\$0	\$0
- Family Deductible	\$0	\$0
- Deductible applies to Check-Ups and Teeth Cleaning?	No	No
- Benefit Period Maximum	\$1,500	\$1,500
- Eligible children to age	26	26
- Full-time (unmarried) students eligible to age	99	99
- Does Individual Deductible apply to Orthodontics?	No	No
- Orthodontic lifetime maximum	\$1,500	\$1,500
- Orthodontics: Eligible children to age	19	19
- Orthodontics: Full-time students eligible to age	19	19
- Adult Orthodontics	No	No
<b>Benefits</b>		
<b>Check-Ups and Teeth Cleaning</b>	0%	0%
<b>(Diagnostic and Preventive Services)</b>		
- Dental Cleaning		
- Oral Evaluations		
- Fluoride Applications		
- X-Rays		
- Sealant Applications		
- Space Maintainers including re-cementing		
<b>Cavity Repair and Tooth Extractions</b>	10%	20%
<b>(Routine and Restorative Services)</b>		
- Emergency Treatment		
- General Anesthesia/Sedation		
- Restoration of Decayed or Fractured Teeth		
- Limited Occlusal Adjustments		
- Routine Oral Surgery		
- Posterior Composites		
<b>Root Canals (Endodontic Services)</b>	40%	50%
- Apicoectomy		
- Direct Pulp Cap		
- Pulpotomy		
- Retrograde Fillings		
- Root Canal Therapy		
<b>Gum and Bone Diseases (Periodontal Services)</b>	40%	50%
- Conservative Procedures (Non-surgical)		
- Complex Procedures (Surgical)		
- Periodontal Maintenance Therapy		
<b>High Cost Restorations (Cast Restorations)</b>	50%	50%
- Cast Restorations		
- Crowns		
- Inlays		
- Onlays		
- Post and Cores		
- Recementing Crowns/Inlays/Onlays		
<b>Dentures and Bridges (Prosthetic Services)</b>	50%	50%
- Bridges		
- Dentures		
- Repairs and Adjustments		
- Recementing of Bridges		
- Implants		
<b>Straighter Teeth (Orthodontics)</b>	50%	50%
<b>Additional Options</b>		
-Enhanced Benefits Program	Included	Included
-Annual Maximum Carryover - To Go <sup>SM</sup>	Included	Included

This dental plan includes the Enhanced Benefits Program (EBP) which allows additional benefits for Covered Person(s) with designated dental or medical conditions. Please refer to your dental benefits document for details.

This dental plan includes the Annual Maximum Carryover – To Go<sup>SM</sup> for carryover of unused Benefit Period Maximums to the next benefit contract year. Please refer to your dental benefits document for details.

The percentage shown is the coinsurance amount that is the responsibility of the Covered Person.

This is a general description of coverage. It is not a statement of your contract. Actual coverage is subject to terms and conditions specified in the benefits document itself and enrollment regulations in force when the benefits become effective. Certain exclusions and limitations apply. Please refer to your dental benefits document for details.

# DENTAL PLAN ADMINISTRATION

The administration of the Dental Plan is under the supervision of the Plan Administrator, University of Northern Iowa. The Benefits Administrator of University of Northern Iowa is the person who acts on behalf of the Plan Administrator. The principal duty of the Plan Administrator is to see that the terms of the Dental Plan are carried out in accordance with its terms, for the exclusive benefit of persons entitled to participate in the Plan. The Company bears all costs of administering the Plan and for paying all claims.

Under a contract with Delta Dental, the Plan Administrator has delegated its authority to Delta Dental to act as the Claims Administrator for the Dental Plan and to determine the initial eligibility for and the amount of any benefits payable under the Dental Plan and for prescribing the procedures to be followed and the forms to be used by you pursuant to the Dental Plan. We have further delegated to Delta Dental, as the Claims Administrator, the authority to require you to furnish it with such information as it determines is necessary for the proper administration of the Dental Plan. If you have general questions regarding the Dental Plan, please contact the Plan Administrator. However, if you have specific questions concerning eligibility for and/or the amount of any benefits payable under the Dental Plan, please contact Delta Dental.

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Your Delta Dental PPO Plus Premier™ coverage is administered by Delta Dental of Iowa. By encouraging preventive care, this dental program is designed to help contain dental costs. The key component of the Delta Dental PPO Program is their panel of Delta Dental PPO Dentists hereafter referred to as “PPO Panel Dentists”. You may seek care from almost any dentist you wish. However, there are usually advantages when you receive services from PPO Panel Dentists or Participating Delta Dental Dentists. “Participating Delta Dental Dentists,” in this Summary Plan Description, are dentists who participate with Delta Dental of Iowa’s Premier Program or their local Delta Dental Member Company’s Premier Program, but do not participate as a PPO Panel Dentist.

Your payment responsibilities are also outlined in this section of your Summary Plan Description. How much you pay for Covered Services depends on the benefit category of the service you receive and the dentist you receive services from. It is most often to your financial advantage to receive services from a PPO Panel Dentist or a Participating Delta Dental Dentist.

## WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PPO PANEL DENTISTS

Delta Dental has contracting relationships with PPO Panel Dentists throughout the state. Delta Dental’s contracts with PPO Panel Dentists include an applicable fee schedule or the Maximum Plan Allowance. See **Understanding Payment Vocabulary** later in this section. This applicable fee schedule or Maximum Plan Allowance usually results in savings to you. When you receive services from PPO Panel Dentists who participate with Delta Dental of Iowa or any other Delta Dental Member Company, all of the following statements are true:

- PPO Panel Dentists agree to accept their local Delta Dental Member Company’s PPO Schedule, which may result in savings for Covered Services.
- Your deductible or coinsurance responsibility may be **less** for Covered Services you receive from a PPO Panel Dentist than it would be from a Participating Delta Dental Dentist or a nonparticipating dentist.
- PPO Panel Dentists agree to file claims for you.
- Delta Dental settles claims directly with PPO Panel Dentists. You are responsible for any deductible and coinsurance amounts you may owe. See **Understanding Amounts You Pay to Share Costs** later in this section.
- PPO Panel Dentists agree to handle The Notification Program for you. See **The Notification Program** section.

- PPO Panel Dentists agree that he or she will only be paid the lesser of (i) his or her Billed Charge, or (ii) the applicable fee schedule or Delta Dental's Maximum Plan Allowance for Covered Services. See **Understanding Payment Vocabulary** later in this section.

## **WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT PARTICIPATING DELTA DENTAL DENTISTS**

Delta Dental has contracting relationships with Participating Delta Dental Dentists throughout the state. Delta Dental of Iowa contracts with Participating Delta Dental Dentists include payment arrangements based on Delta Dental's applicable fee schedule or the Maximum Plan Allowance. See **Understanding Payment Vocabulary** later in this section. The applicable fee schedule or Maximum Plan Allowance usually results in savings to you. When you receive services from Participating Delta Dental Dentists who participate with Delta Dental of Iowa or a Delta Dental Member Company, all of the following statements are true:

- Participating Delta Dental Dentists agree to accept their local Delta Dental Member Company's payment arrangement, which may result in savings for Covered Services
- Your deductible or coinsurance responsibility may be more for Covered Services you receive from a Participating Delta Dental Dentist who is not a PPO Panel Dentist.
- Participating Delta Dental Dentists agree to file claims for you.
- Delta Dental settles claims directly with Participating Delta Dental Dentists. See **Understanding Amounts You Pay to Share Costs** later in this section.
- Participating Delta Dental Dentists agree to handle The Notification Program for you. See **The Notification Program** section.
- Participating Delta Dental Dentists agree that he or she will only be paid the lesser of (i) his or her billed charge, or (ii) the applicable fee schedule or Delta Dental's Maximum Plan Allowance for Covered Services. See **Understanding Payment Vocabulary** later in this section.

## **WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT DENTISTS WHO DO NOT PARTICIPATE WITH DELTA DENTAL**

When you receive services from nonparticipating (non-par) dentists, you will not receive any of the advantages that Delta Dental contracts with PPO Panel Dentists or Participating Delta Dental Dentists offer. As a result, when you receive services from nonparticipating dentists, all of the following statements are true:

- Delta Dental does not have contracting relationships with nonparticipating dentists and they do not agree to accept their local Delta Dental Member

Company's PPO payment arrangement or any other payment arrangement. This means you are responsible for any difference between your nonparticipating dentist's Billed Charge and the Delta Dental nonparticipating dentist fee schedule. See **Understanding Payment Vocabulary** later in this section.

- Nonparticipating dentists are not responsible for filing your claims.
- Delta Dental settles claims with you, not nonparticipating dentists. However, for Iowa nonparticipating dentists, the payment will be mailed to you but the check may be payable to the nonparticipating dentist. You are responsible for paying your dentist in full, including any Deductible, Member Coinsurance and non-approved charges you may owe. See **Understanding Payment Vocabulary** later in this section.
- Nonparticipating dentists do not agree to handle The Notification Program for you. See **The Notification Program** section.
- Nonparticipating dentists may charge for "infection control," which includes the costs for services and supplies associated with sterilization procedures. You are responsible for any extra charges billed by a nonparticipating dentist for "infection control." (All dentists are legally required to follow certain guidelines to protect their patients and staff from exposure to infection. However, PPO Panel Dentists and Participating Delta Dental Dentists incorporate these costs into their normal fees and do not charge an additional fee for "infection control.")
- Nonparticipating dentists do not agree that he or she will only be paid the lesser of (i) his or her Billed Charge, or (ii) the applicable fee schedule or Delta Dental's Maximum Plan Allowance for Covered Services, as do Participating Delta Dental Dentists in certain situations. See **Understanding Payment Vocabulary** later in this section.

## **QUESTIONS DELTA DENTAL ASKS WHEN YOU RECEIVE DENTAL CARE**

Even though a procedure may appear in a given section such as **Benefits**, you should note that before you are eligible to receive benefits, Delta Dental first answers all of the following questions:

### **Is the Procedure Dentally Necessary?**

All of the following must be true for a procedure to be considered dentally necessary:

- The diagnosis is proper; and
- The treatment is necessary to preserve or restore the basic form and function of the tooth or teeth and the health of the gums, bone, and other tissues supporting the teeth.

### Is the Procedure Dentally Appropriate?

All of the following must be true for a procedure to be considered dentally appropriate:

- The treatment is the most appropriate procedure for your individual circumstances; and
- The treatment is consistent with and meets professionally recognized standards of dental care and complies with criteria adopted by Delta Dental; and
- The treatment is not more costly than alternative procedures that would be equally effective for the treatment or maintenance of your teeth and their supporting structures. **If you receive services which are more costly than those equally effective for the treatment or maintenance of your teeth and supporting structures, you are responsible for paying the difference.**

### Is the Procedure Subject to Contract Limitations?

Contract limitations refer to amounts that are your responsibility based on your contractual obligations with Delta Dental. Examples of contract limitations include all of the following:

- Amounts for procedures that are not dentally necessary or dentally appropriate.
- Amounts for procedures that are not covered by this Dental Plan. See **Services Not Covered**.
- Amounts for procedures that have limitations associated with them. For example, teeth cleaning is covered twice per benefit period. More frequent teeth cleaning may not be a benefit even if your dentist verifies that it is dentally necessary and dentally appropriate. See **Benefits** for a description of covered procedures and limitations associated with certain procedures.
- Amounts for procedures that have reached contract maximums. See the **Summary of Benefits and Payment** chart at the beginning of this Summary Plan Description.
- Any difference between the dentist's Billed Charge and the applicable fee schedule or the Maximum Plan Allowance. **Please note:** This only applies if you receive services from a nonparticipating dentist or procedures that are not Covered Services.
- Deductible(s) and Member Coinsurance.

### DELTA DENTAL'S PAYMENT POLICY

Delta Dental's policy is to send payment for treatment after it is completed—not before.

For example, Delta Dental will send payment for:

- A crown when it is seated.
- A fixed or removable prosthesis when it is inserted.
- A root canal when it is filled.



## **UNDERSTANDING PAYMENT VOCABULARY**

### **Anniversary Date**

The Anniversary Date is the renewal date of the contract between your employer or group sponsor and Delta Dental of Iowa.

### **Benefit Period**

A benefit period is the same as a calendar year. It begins on the day your coverage goes into effect and starts over each January 1. This is true for as long as you have coverage. The benefit period is important for calculating your deductible and benefit period maximum, if applicable.

### **Billed Charge**

The billed charge is the amount a dentist bills for a specific dental procedure.

### **Covered Services**

Covered Services means dental services allowed as a result of being insured by, or included under a dental plan administered by, Delta Dental (or by a Delta Dental Member Company).

### **Delta Dental Member Company**

Delta Dental Member Company means a company that is an active member or affiliate member of Delta Dental Plans Association, as defined in the Delta Dental Plans Associations Bylaws.

### **Eligible Covered Person(s)**

Covered Person means any individual eligible for dental benefits under a dental program that is insured or administered by Delta Dental (or by a Delta Dental Member Company). An Eligible Covered Person is an employee who has met the employer's eligibility requirements and the employee's eligible Spouse and eligible Child(ren).

### **Maximum Plan Allowance**

Maximum Plan Allowance is the amount which Delta Dental establishes as its maximum allowable fee for certain Covered Services provided by dentists who participate in the Delta Dental Premier Program. For services billed by dentists outside of Iowa, the Maximum Plan Allowance is based on information from that state's Delta Dental Member Company.

The Maximum Plan Allowance is established by Delta Dental for dental services contained in the “Current Dental Terminology” published by the American Dental Association from time to time. It is developed from various sources that may include, but are not limited to, contracts with dentists, the simplicity or complexity of the procedure, the Billed Charge for the same procedure by dentists in the same geographic area and with similar training and skills, and a leading economic indicator, such as the Consumer Price Index.

### **PPO Schedule**

The PPO Schedule is a reduced fee schedule for certain Covered Services. Some Participating Delta Dental Dentists, who are other than general practice dentists, will be considered PPO Panel Dentists except that their payment will be based on the lesser of their Billed Charge or the Maximum Plan Allowance rather than on the PPO Schedule. The Participating Delta Dental Dentists who have agreed to be PPO Panel Dentists will be listed in the Delta Dental of Iowa PPO Panel Dentist Directory.

## **UNDERSTANDING AMOUNTS YOU PAY TO SHARE COSTS**

### **Deductible**

Deductible is the fixed dollar amount you pay for Covered Services for each Eligible Covered Person in a Benefit Period before benefits are available under this Dental Plan. This amount is shown on the **Summary of Benefits and Payment** chart at the beginning of this Summary Plan Description, if applicable.

### **Member Coinsurance**

Member Coinsurance is the amount, calculated using a fixed percentage, you pay each time you receive certain Covered Services. These amounts are shown on the **Summary of Benefits and Payment** chart at the beginning of this Summary Plan Description.

Member Coinsurance payments begin once you meet any applicable Deductible amounts. Member Coinsurance is calculated off the applicable fee schedule or the Maximum Plan Allowance, as the case may be. In general, the percentage of coinsurance you pay depends on the benefit category of the service you receive and participation status of your dentist.

## **Enhanced Benefits Program (EBP)**

The Enhanced Benefits Program offers additional oral health services to Eligible Covered Persons with qualifying dental or medical conditions. Qualifying participants may be eligible for:

- Additional cleanings
- Topical Fluoride Application

For information regarding the dental or medical conditions that may qualify you for additional cleanings and/or topical fluoride applications visit Delta Dental of Iowa's website – [www.deltadentalia.com](http://www.deltadentalia.com) – or call us. See **Benefits** section for additional information.

**If you qualify, it is your responsibility to register for the additional dental benefits.**

## **Benefit Period Maximum or Annual Maximum**

The Benefit Period Maximum or Annual Maximum is the maximum benefit each Covered Person is eligible to receive for certain Covered Services in a Benefit Period. The Benefit Period Maximum is reached from claims settled under this Summary Plan Description in a Benefit Period. This amount is shown on the **Summary of Benefits and Payment** chart at the beginning of this Summary Plan Description.

Services received from **Benefit Category: Straighter Teeth** are excluded from your benefit period maximum.

## **Annual Maximum Carryover (To Go<sup>SM</sup>)**

A Covered Person may carry over any qualified, unused portion of their Annual Maximum Benefit from the prior Benefit Period, subject to the following guidelines:

- A Covered Person that was not covered for the full Benefit Period immediately preceding the current Benefit Period may receive a prorated award based on the beginning date of their benefit coverage.
- A Covered Person must have submitted at least one claim during the Benefit Period that would apply to his/her Annual Maximum where the allowed dollar amounts are greater than zero dollars.
- The Carried over amount may not exceed the amount of the regular Annual Maximum, and the total combined Annual Maximum may not exceed twice the regular Annual Maximum.

**Please Note:** When an Eligible Covered Person changes from the Plan Holder to a spouse or dependent child or vice versa the Deductible, Benefit Period Maximum, and Annual Maximum Carryover ToGo<sup>SM</sup> dollars all start over.

**Lifetime Maximum**

In a Covered Person's lifetime, total benefits are limited by dollar amount for **Benefit Category: Straighter Teeth**. This amount is shown on the **Summary of Benefits and Payment** chart at the beginning of this Summary Plan Description.

**HELPING WHEN YOU HAVE QUESTIONS**

If you have any questions after reading this Summary Plan Description, please call Delta Dental. For your convenience, Delta Dental has listed their toll-free number on the back cover of this Summary Plan Description.

# BENEFITS

## CHECK-UPS AND TEETH CLEANING DIAGNOSTIC AND PREVENTIVE SERVICES

### Dental Cleaning (Prophylaxis)

Removing plaque, tartar (calculus), and stain from teeth.

*Limitation:* Dental cleaning is a benefit only twice per benefit period.

**Please Note:** Delta Dental of Iowa's Enhanced Benefits Program (EBP) offers up to 2 additional dental cleaning benefits for Covered Persons with designated dental or medical conditions. Total cleanings for qualifying participants in EBP are limited to no more than 4 per benefit period. For information regarding the dental or medical conditions that may qualify you for additional cleanings, visit Delta Dental's website, or contact Delta Dental. For your convenience, Delta Dental has listed their toll-free number on the back cover of this Summary Plan Description. If you qualify for the additional cleaning(s), it is your responsibility to register at [www.deltadentalia.com](http://www.deltadentalia.com) or call Delta Dental of Iowa.

### Oral Evaluations

Oral evaluations include all types of dental examinations including preventive examinations, comprehensive examinations, consultations, and problem focused evaluations.

*Limitation:* These evaluations/examinations are a benefit twice per benefit period.

### Topical Fluoride Applications

Professionally administered procedure in which the dental surfaces are coated with a fluoride solution or gel to discourage decay.

*Limitation:* Topical fluoride is a benefit only for eligible beneficiaries who are children under age 19 once every 12 consecutive months.

**Please Note:** Delta Dental of Iowa's Enhanced Benefits Program (EBP) offers topical fluoride applications as a benefit for all other eligible Covered Persons once every 12 consecutive months only when a qualifying dental or medical condition is present. For information regarding the dental or medical conditions that may qualify you for topical fluoride applications, visit Delta Dental's website, or contact Delta Dental. For your convenience, Delta Dental has listed their toll-free number on the back cover of this Summary Plan Description. If you qualify for topical fluoride applications, it is your responsibility to register at [www.deltadentalia.com](http://www.deltadentalia.com) or call Delta Dental of Iowa.

## **X-Rays:**

### **Bitewing X-Rays**

Bitewing is an x-ray that shows the crowns of the upper and lower teeth simultaneously and that is held in place by a tab between the teeth.

*Limitation:* These x-rays are a benefit only once every 12 consecutive months.

### **Full-Mouth X-Rays**

Full-mouth x-rays include a combination of individual x-rays such as periapical, bitewing or occlusal taken by a dentist on the same service date.

A panoramic x-ray is a benefit if full-mouth x-rays have not been performed within 5 consecutive years of the panoramic x-ray.

*Limitation:* Full-mouth or panoramic x-rays are a benefit only once every 5 consecutive years.

### **Occlusal X-Rays**

Occlusal x-rays capture all the upper and lower teeth in one image while the film rests on the biting surface of the teeth.

*Limitation:* These x-rays are a benefit only once every 12 consecutive months.

### **Periapical X-Rays**

A radiographic image of a tooth, or limited number of teeth, that includes the crown and root portions.

### **Sealant/Preventive Resin Applications**

Filling decay-prone areas of the chewing surface of molars.

*Limitation:* Sealant/Preventive Resin applications are a benefit once per permanent first and second molars for eligible beneficiaries who are children under age 15.

*Sealants and Preventive Resins for primary teeth, wisdom teeth, or teeth that have already been treated with a restoration are not a benefit.*

### **Space Maintainers for Missing Back Teeth**

Space maintainers are passive appliances designed to prevent tooth movement.

*Limitation:* Space maintainers are a benefit only for eligible beneficiaries who are children under age 15.

### **Recementation of Space Maintainers**

Recementation of space maintainer that has become loose.

## **CAVITY REPAIR AND TOOTH EXTRACTIONS ROUTINE AND RESTORATIVE SERVICES**

### **Emergency Treatment (Palliative Treatment)**

Treatment to relieve pain or infection of dental origin.

### **General Anesthesia/Sedation**

*Limitation:* General anesthesia and intravenous sedation are benefits only when provided in conjunction with covered oral surgery and when billed by the operating dentist.

### **Restoration of Decayed or Fractured Teeth**

Pre-formed or stainless steel restorations and restorations such as silver (amalgam) fillings, and tooth-colored (composite) fillings.

*Limitation:* Restorations are a benefit once every 24 months per tooth.

### **Limited Occlusal Adjustment**

Reshaping the biting surfaces of one or more teeth.

*Limitation:* Limited occlusal adjustment is a benefit only twice every 12 consecutive months.

### **Routine Oral Surgery**

Including removal of teeth, and other surgical services to the teeth or immediate surrounding hard and soft tissues that are being performed due to disease, pathology, or dysfunction of dental origin.

### **Alveoplasty**

Surgical procedure for recontouring supporting bone, sometimes in preparation for a prosthesis.

## **ROOT CANALS ENDODONTIC SERVICES**

### **Apicoectomy/Periradicular Surgery**

Surgery to repair a damaged root as part of root canal therapy or to correct a previous root canal.

## **Direct Pulp Cap**

Covering exposed pulp with a dressing or cement to protect it and promote healing and repair.

## **Pulpotomy**

Removing the coronal portion of the pulp as part of root canal therapy. When performed on a baby (primary) tooth, pulpotomy is the only procedure required for root canal therapy.

## **Retrograde Fillings**

Sealing the root canal by preparing and filling it from the root end of the tooth.

## **Root Canal Therapy**

Treating an infected or injured pulp to retain tooth function. This procedure generally involves removal of the pulp and replacement with an inert filling material.

# **GUM AND BONE DISEASES PERIODONTAL SERVICES**

*Please note:* Certain procedures in this category should receive Delta Dental's review *before* they are performed. See **The Notification Program** section.

## **Full Mouth Debridement**

*Limitation:* Full mouth debridement is a benefit once in a lifetime after 36 months have elapsed since last dental cleaning (prophylaxis).

## **Conservative Periodontal Procedures (Root Planing and Scaling)**

Removing contaminants such as bacterial plaque and tartar (calculus) from a tooth root to prevent or treat disease of the gum tissues and bone which support it.

*Limitation:* Conservative periodontal procedures are a benefit only once every 24 consecutive months for each quadrant of the mouth.

## **Complex Periodontal Procedures**

Various surgical interventions designed to repair and regenerate gum and bone tissues that support the teeth.

*Limitation:* Complex periodontal procedures are a benefit only once every 36 consecutive months for each tooth or quadrant of the mouth for natural teeth only.

**Note:** A quadrant is one of the four equal sections of the mouth into which the jaws can be divided and represents four or more contiguous teeth or bounded teeth spaces.



## **Periodontal Maintenance Therapy**

Includes various maintenance services such as pocket depth measurements, dental cleaning (oral prophylaxis), removal of stain, and root planing and scaling.

*Limitation:* This procedure may follow conservative or complex periodontal therapy. When this procedure immediately follows complex or conservative periodontal therapy, benefits are available up to four times in the first benefit period and twice per benefit period, thereafter. This procedure replaces the dental cleaning benefit (prophylaxis) described under **Check-Ups and Teeth Cleaning** earlier in this section.

**Please Note:** Delta Dental of Iowa's Enhanced Benefits Program (EBP) offers up to 2 additional dental cleaning benefits for Covered Persons with designated dental or medical conditions. Total cleanings for qualifying participants in EBP are limited to no more than 4 per benefit period. For information regarding the dental or medical conditions that may qualify you for additional cleanings, visit Delta Dental's website, or contact Delta Dental. For your convenience, Delta Dental has listed their toll-free number on the back cover of this Summary Plan Description. If you qualify for the additional cleaning(s), it is your responsibility to register at [www.deltadentalia.com](http://www.deltadentalia.com) or call Delta Dental of Iowa.

## **HIGH COST RESTORATIONS CAST RESTORATIONS**

**Please note:** Certain procedures in this category should receive Delta Dental's review *before* they are performed. See **The Notification Program** section.

Procedures in this category are a benefit once every 5 consecutive years beginning from the date the cast restoration is cemented in place.

### **Cast Restorations for Complicated Tooth Decay or Fracture**

Restoring a tooth with a cast filling (including local anesthesia) when the tooth cannot be restored with a silver (amalgam) or tooth-colored (composite) filling.

### **Crowns**

Restoring form and function by covering and replacing the visible part of the tooth with a precious metal, porcelain-fused-to-metal, or porcelain crown. *Crowns placed for the primary purpose of periodontal splinting, cosmetics, altering vertical dimension, restoring your bite (occlusion), or restoring a tooth due to attrition, abrasion, erosion, and abfraction are not a benefit.* *Limitation:* Crowns are a benefit only if the tooth cannot be restored with a routine filling.

## **Inlays**

Restoring a tooth with a cast metallic or porcelain filling.

*Limitation:* **Inlay benefits are limited to the amount paid for a silver (amalgam) filling.**

## **Onlays**

Replacing one or more missing or damaged biting cusps of a tooth with a cast restoration.

## **Posts and Cores**

Preparing a tooth for a cast restoration after a root canal when there is insufficient strength and retention.

## **Recementation of Cast Restorations**

Recementation of an inlay, onlay, or crown that has become loose.

*Limitation:* Benefits are limited to once every 12 consecutive months after 6 months have elapsed since initial placement.

# **DENTURES AND BRIDGES PROSTHETICS**

*Please note:* Certain procedures in this category should receive Delta Dental's review *before* they are performed. See **The Notification Program** section.

*Please note:* Dentures, bridges, and dental implants (prosthetics) are a benefit once every 5 consecutive years.

## **Bridges**

Replacing missing permanent teeth with a dental prosthesis that is cemented in place and can only be removed by a dentist. Also covered are bridge repairs.

## **Dentures (Complete and Partial)**

Replacing missing permanent teeth with a dental prosthesis that is removable.

Denture repair and relining are also covered.

*Limitation:* Relining is available only if performed one year or more after the initial placement of the denture and then once every 2 years thereafter.

## **Dental Implants**

Dental implants which are surgically placed in the jaw bone, including attachment of devices to a surgically placed implant in the jaw.

## **Denture Adjustments**

*Limitation:* Denture adjustments will be limited to two per denture per benefit period after 6 months have elapsed since initial placement.

## **Tissue Conditioning**

*Limitation:* Tissue conditioning will be limited to two per denture every 36 consecutive months.

## **STRAIGHTER TEETH CORRECTIVE ORTHODONTICS**

Corrective Orthodontics services are orthodontic procedures, or directly associated procedures, that move teeth to correct an abnormal dental relationship between and among teeth.

### **Benefits received for Corrective Orthodontics apply to the Lifetime Maximum.**

*Limitation:* Corrective Orthodontic services for proper alignment of teeth are a benefit only for eligible beneficiaries who are children under age 19.

When a Corrective Orthodontic treatment plan is established, Delta Dental of Iowa will calculate an initial payment at the time the banding takes place. The balance of the allowed fee will then be divided into payments over the course of treatment, providing coverage still exist.

If Corrective Orthodontic treatment is stopped for any reason before it is completed, Delta Dental of Iowa will pay only for Covered Services and supplies actually received.

No benefits are available for charges made after treatment stops or after the termination of coverage.

Delta Dental of Iowa payment for treatment in progress extends only to the months of treatment received while covered under the plan. Delta Dental of Iowa will determine the months eligible for coverage.

## **Diagnostic Cast**

Diagnostic cast is a replica of the teeth and tissues made from an impression; also called a study model.

*Limitation:* Diagnostic cast is a benefit only in conjunction with orthodontic treatment.

# SERVICES NOT COVERED

This Dental Plan *does not* provide benefits for dental treatment listed in this section. **Please note:** Even if the treatment is not specifically listed as an exclusion, it may not be covered under this Dental Plan. Call Delta Dental if you are unsure if a certain service is covered. For your convenience, Delta Dental has listed their toll-free number on the back cover of this Summary Plan Description.

## **EXCLUSIONS**

### **Anesthesia or Analgesia**

You are not covered for local anesthesia or nitrous oxide (relative analgesia) when billed separately from the related procedure.

### **Broken Appointments**

You are not covered for any fees charged by your dental office because of broken appointments.

### **Complete Occlusal Adjustment**

You are not covered for services or supplies used for revision or alteration of the functional relationships between upper and lower teeth.

### **Complications of a Non-Covered Procedure**

You are not covered for complications of a non-covered procedure.

### **Congenital Deformities**

You are not covered for services or supplies to correct congenital deformities, such as a cleft palate.

### **Controlled Release Device**

You are not covered for services or supplies used for the controlled release of therapeutic agents into diseased crevices around your teeth.

### **Cosmetic in Nature**

You are not covered for services or supplies which have the primary purpose of improving the appearance of your teeth, rather than restoring or improving dental form or function.

**Desensitizing Medicament or Resin**

You are not covered for the application of desensitizing medicament or resin for cervical and/or root surface sensitivity either on a per tooth or per visit basis.

**Drugs**

You are not covered for prescription, non-prescription drugs, medicines or therapeutic drug injections.

**Effective Date**

You are not covered for services or supplies received before the effective date of your coverage under this Dental Plan.

**Experimental or Investigative**

You are not covered for services or supplies that are considered experimental, investigative or have a poor prognosis. Peer reviewed outcomes data from clinical trials, Food and Drug Administration regulatory status, and established governmental and professional guidelines will be used in this determination.

**Government Programs**

You are not covered for services or supplies when you are entitled to claim benefits from governmental programs (except Medicaid).

**Guided Tissue Regeneration**

You are not covered for services or supplies to encourage regeneration of lost periodontal structures.

**Incomplete Services**

You are not covered for dental services that have not been completed.

**Indirect Pulp Caps**

You are not covered for indirect pulp caps.

**Infection Control**

You are not covered for *separate* charges for “*infection control*,” which includes the costs for services and supplies associated with sterilization procedures. Delta Dental Dentists incorporate these costs into their normal fees and will not charge an additional fee for “*infection control*.”

**Lost or Stolen Appliances**

You are not covered for services or supplies required to replace lost or stolen dental appliances.

**Medical Services or Supplies**

You are not covered for services or supplies which are medical in nature, including dental services performed in a hospital, treatment of fractures and dislocations, treatment of cysts and malignancies, and accidental injuries.

**Military Service**

You are not covered for services or supplies which are required to treat an illness or injury received while you are on active status in the military services.

**Payment Responsibility**

You are not covered for services or supplies when someone else has the legal obligation to pay for your care, and when, in the absence of this Dental Plan, you would not be charged.

**Periodontal Appliances**

You are not covered for services or supplies for periodontal appliances (bite guards) to reduce bite (occlusal) trauma due to tooth grinding or jaw clenching.

**Periodontal Splinting**

You are not covered for services or supplies used for the primary purpose of reducing tooth mobility, including crown-type restorations.

**Plaque Control Programs, Oral Hygiene Instructions, and Dietary Instructions**

You are not covered for services or supplies used for plaque control, oral hygiene, and/or dietary instructions.

**Provisional Crowns, Bridges or Dentures**

You are not covered for services or supplies for provisional crowns, bridges or dentures.

**Repair, Replacement or Duplication of Orthodontic Appliances**

You are not covered for services or supplies required to repair, replace or duplicate any orthodontic appliance.

## **Sales Tax and Fees**

We do not pay sales tax or fees billed by dentists for dental services.

## **Services Not Provided in a Dental Office Setting**

You are not covered for services that are not provided in a dental office setting. Exceptions may be made for care provided by teledentistry, in a mobile dental unit, hospital setting, or long term care facility.

## **Specialized Services**

You are not covered for specialized, personalized, elective materials and techniques or technology which are not reasonably necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of dental disease or dysfunction. Specialized services represent enhancements to other services and are considered optional.

## **Straighter Teeth - Corrective Orthodontics**

An Eligible Covered Person, who is age 19 or older is not covered for Corrective Orthodontics.

## **Temporary or Interim Procedures**

You are not covered for temporary or interim procedures.

## **Temporomandibular Joint Dysfunction (TMD)**

You are not covered for expenses incurred for diagnostic x-rays, appliances, restorations or surgery in connection with Temporomandibular Joint Dysfunction (TMD) or myofunctional therapy.

## **Termination**

Whether or not Delta Dental has approved a treatment plan, you are not covered for treatment received after the date your coverage terminates.

## **Treatment By Other Than A Licensed Dentist**

You are not covered for services or treatment performed by other than a licensed dentist or his or her employees. Covered Services provided in states where other types of dental providers can practice independently are allowed.

## **Treatment in Progress**

You may not be covered for services or supplies related to treatment which began prior to the effective date of this dental plan.

**Unerupted Teeth**

You are not covered for the prophylactic removal of unerupted teeth (asymptomatic and nonpathological). This means we will not pay for the removal of any tooth that is not visible and not causing harm.

**Workers' Compensation**

You are not covered for services or supplies that are or could have been compensated under Workers' Compensation laws, including services or supplies applied toward satisfaction of any deductible under your employer's Workers' Compensation coverage.



# THE NOTIFICATION PROGRAM

This section explains the notification program you or your dentist should follow before you receive certain benefits available under this Dental Plan.

This program is the checks and balances of your dental coverage. It helps:

- Determine that services are dentally necessary and dentally appropriate;
- Confirm the benefits of your Dental Plan.

## THE APPROVAL

The purpose of the notification program is to help control the cost of your benefits — not to keep you from receiving dentally necessary and dentally appropriate treatment.

You should notify Delta Dental of Iowa before you receive the following benefits:

- Complex Periodontal Surgery
- High Cost Restorations including Crowns, Onlays, and Bridges
- Dental Implants

**You should also notify Delta Dental of Iowa before you receive treatment from any benefit category that will exceed \$200.**

Delta Dental's review is based on the treatment plan submitted by your dentist.

## THE TREATMENT PLAN

A treatment plan describes the treatment your dentist has recommended for you and helps Delta Dental determine if the procedure is a benefit of your Dental Plan as well as dentally necessary and dentally appropriate.

### When to Submit a Treatment Plan

You will need to file a treatment plan only if your dentist is nonparticipating — PPO Panel Dentists and Participating Delta Dental Dentists agree to file for you.

A complete treatment plan includes the plan of treatment and x-rays. Please send the x-rays within 15 working days of receipt of the proposed treatment plan.

## Where to Send a Treatment Plan

Submit the proposed treatment plan, along with x-rays and supporting information to:

*Delta Dental of Iowa  
P.O. Box 9000  
Johnston, IA 50131-9000*

## THE TREATMENT PLAN REVIEW

Once Delta Dental receives the treatment plan and proper documentation, Delta Dental will let you and your dentist know if the treatment plan is approved within 15 working days. Delta Dental will take one of the following three actions when they receive your treatment plan:

- **Accept** it as submitted.
- **Recommend an alternative benefit.** If Delta Dental asks you to receive an independent diagnosis from a dentist of Delta Dental's choice, Delta Dental will pay for the exam.
- **Deny the treatment plan** because:
  - The procedure is not a benefit of this Dental Plan;
  - You did not receive an independent exam after Delta Dental asked you to; or
  - The procedure is not dentally necessary and dentally appropriate.

## Reconsideration Request of Treatment Plan

If Delta Dental denies a treatment plan, you can resubmit it with additional documentation and ask Delta Dental, in writing, to reconsider. If necessary, Delta Dental will ask you to receive an independent diagnosis from an independent dentist of Delta Dental's choice—Delta Dental will pay for the exam.

**Please note:** Although Delta Dental may approve a treatment plan, neither Delta Dental nor this Dental Plan are necessarily liable for the actual treatment you receive from your dentist.

# FILING CLAIMS

Once you receive dental services, Delta Dental needs to receive a claim to determine the amount of your benefits. The claim lets Delta Dental know the services you received, when you received them, and from which dentist. You will need to file a claim only when you use a nonparticipating dentist who does not agree to file a claim for you —PPO Panel Dentists and Participating Delta Dental Dentists file for you.

## **WHEN TO FILE YOUR CLAIM**

After you receive services, you should file a claim only if your dentist has not filed one for you. Delta Dental may deny payment of a claim submitted more than 365 days after the date services were rendered.

You should file a claim only **after** the procedure is completely finished. Do not file for payment before a procedure is completed.

If you need a claim form or have any questions after reading this section, please call Delta Dental or visit their website [www.deltadentalia.com](http://www.deltadentalia.com). For your convenience, Delta Dental has listed their toll-free number on the back cover of this Summary Plan Description. If you must file your own claim, send it to the following address:

*Delta Dental of Iowa  
P.O. Box 9000  
Johnston, IA 50131-9000*

## **FILING WHEN YOU HAVE OTHER COVERAGE COORDINATION OF BENEFITS**

You may have other insurance or coverage that provides the same or similar benefit(s) as this Dental Plan. If so, Delta Dental will work with your other insurance company or carrier or health plan. The benefits payable under this Dental Plan when combined with the benefits paid under your other coverage will not be more than 100 percent of either Delta Dental's payment arrangement amount or the other carrier's or health plan's payment arrangement amount.

### **What You Should Do**

When you receive services, you need to let Delta Dental know that you have other coverage. Other coverage includes: group insurance, other group benefit plans (such as HMOs, PPOs, and self-insured programs); Medicare or other govern-

mental benefits; and the medical benefits coverage in your automobile insurance (whether issued on a fault or no-fault basis). To help Delta Dental coordinate your benefits, you should:

- Inform your dentist by giving him or her information about your other coverage at the time you receive services. Your dentist will pass the information on to Delta Dental when the claim is filed.
- Indicate that you have other coverage when you fill out a claim form by completing the appropriate boxes on the form. Delta Dental will contact you if any additional information is needed.

You must cooperate with Delta Dental and provide requested information about your other coverage. If you do not give Delta Dental necessary information, your claims will be denied.

### **What Delta Dental Will Do**

There are certain rules Delta Dental follows to help determine which coverage pays first when you have other insurance or coverage that provides the same or similar benefits as this Dental Plan. Here are some of the rules:

- The coverage **without coordination of benefits** pays first when both coverages are through a group sponsor such as an employer, but one coverage has coordination of benefits and one does not.
- The dental benefits of your **auto coverage** will pay before this coverage if the auto coverage does not have a coordination of benefits provision.
- The coverage which you have as **an employee or contract holder** participant pays before the coverage which you have as a plan beneficiary spouse or child.
- The coverage you have as **the result of your active employment** pays before coverage you hold as a retiree or under which you are not actively employed.
- The coverage with the **earliest continuous effective date** pays first when none of the above rules apply.

If none of the guidelines just mentioned apply to your situation, Delta Dental will use the Coordination of Benefits (COB) guidelines adopted by the Iowa Insurance Division to determine payment to you or to your PPO Panel Dentist or Participating Delta Dental Dentist (as the case may be).

### **What You Should Know About Beneficiaries Who Are Children**

To coordinate benefits for a child the following rules apply. For a child who is:

- **Covered by both parents** who are not separated or divorced or if they are, neither parent has primary physical custody, the coverage of the parent whose

birthday occurs first in a calendar year pays first. If another carrier does not use this rule, then the other plan will determine which coverage pays first.

- **Covered by separated or divorced parents** and a court decree says which parent has financial or dental insurance responsibility, that parent's coverage pays first.
- **Covered by separated or divorced parents** and a court decree does not stipulate which parent has financial or dental insurance responsibility, then the coverage of the parent with custody pays first. The payment order for this child is as follows: custodial parent, spouse of custodial parent, other parent, and spouse of other parent.

If none of these rules apply, the parent's coverage with the earliest continuous effective date pays first.

## **DENIED CLAIMS AND APPEALS PROCEDURES**

### **CLAIM DENIALS**

Pursuant to our contract with Delta Dental, we have delegated the responsibility for evaluating all claims for reimbursement to Delta Dental as the Claims Administrator. Delta Dental will decide your claim within a reasonable time not longer than 30 days after it is received. This time period may be extended, however, where a claim is incomplete or there are other circumstances beyond Delta Dental's control. In such a case, Delta Dental will provide you with written notice of any required extension in the time for them to respond, including the reasons for such an extension and information on the date on which a decision is expected to be made. If an extension is necessary because a claim is incomplete, the written notice to you will also request that you provide Delta Dental with certain additional information within 45 days. The time period for Delta Dental to respond to your claim can be extended for an additional 15 days from the date on which Delta Dental receives the requested additional information.

Delta Dental may obtain the advice of independent dentists or require such other evidence as it deems necessary to decide your claim.

If Delta Dental denies your claim, in whole or in part, you will be furnished with a written notice setting forth the following information:

1. The specific reasons for the denial;
2. Reference to the specific provisions of the Dental Plan on which the denial is based;

3. A description of any additional material or information necessary for you to complete your claim and an explanation of why such material or information is necessary; and
4. Appropriate information as to the steps to be taken if you wish to appeal the decision of Delta Dental, including your right to submit written comments and have them considered, your right to review (on request and at no charge) relevant documents and other information..

## **APPEALING A DENIED CLAIM OR ADVERSE BENEFIT DETERMINATION**

### **Your Initial Request For A Review**

If Delta Dental of Iowa does not pay all or part of your claim and you think the service should be covered, you or your representative can ask for a full and fair review of that claim. To file for a review, submit a request within 180 days of receiving the notice from Delta Dental of Iowa, including the reason why you disagree with Delta Dental claim decision, documents, records and any other information related to the claim. Include your name, patient's name and your identification number on all documents.

### **Delta Dental's Reply**

Within 30 days of receiving your request, Delta Dental of Iowa will send you their written decision and indicate any action they have taken. However, when special circumstances arise, Delta Dental of Iowa may require 60 days. Delta Dental of Iowa will notify you in the event they require additional days. After that time, Delta Dental will make the final decision on the claim based on the information they have in your file.

### **Reviewing Records**

Upon your request, Delta Dental of Iowa will provide you free of charge, access to and copies of all documents, records and other information relevant to your claim for benefits. You can review records that deal with your request from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Central Standard Time, Monday through Friday, at Delta Dental of Iowa's Johnston, Iowa location. Since so many records are electronically filed, please call Delta Dental of Iowa in advance so they can have copies ready for you.

Send your request to:

Delta Dental of Iowa  
P.O. Box 9010  
Johnston, IA 50131-9010  
Or call 1-800-544-0718

Delta Dental will review your request and decide your appeal within a reasonable time not longer than 60 days after it is submitted and will notify you of its decision in writing. The individual who decides your appeal will not be the same individual who decided your initial claim denial and will not be that person's subordinate. Delta Dental may secure the advice of independent dentists or others and require such evidence as it deems necessary to decide your appeal, except that any dental or other expert consulted in connection with your appeal will be different from any expert consulted in connection with your initial claim. The identity of any dental or other expert consulted in connection with your appeal will be provided. If the decision on review affirms the initial denial of your claim, you will be given a notice of denial on review that provides the following information:

1. The specific reason(s) for the denial;
2. The specific provisions of the Dental Plan on which the decision is based;
3. A statement of your right to review (on request and at no charge) relevant documents and other information;
4. If Delta Dental relied on an "internal rule, guideline, protocol, or other similar criterion" in making the decision, a description of the specific rule, guideline, protocol, or other similar criterion or a statement that such a rule, guideline, protocol, or other similar criterion was relied on and that a copy of such rule, guideline, protocol, or other similar criterion will be provided free of charge to you upon request.

# ELIGIBILITY

## COVERAGE ELIGIBILITY

You are eligible to be a participant in the Dental Plan if you are an employee who has met your employer's eligibility requirements or if you are either the eligible spouse or an eligible child of an employee who has met the employer's eligibility requirements.

## ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Each full-time employee who began work before the effective date of this Dental Plan is eligible to enroll for benefits on the effective date of this Dental Plan. If a full-time employee does not enroll at the time of the original enrollment of the group, the employee is eligible to apply at the regular reopening of the group.

New full-time employees are eligible to apply for coverage:

- Within 30 calendar days following the date of employment. The application must be received by us no later than the second monthly group statement following eligibility; or
- At the regular reopening of the group after the date of employment.

**Please Note:** For faculty, a full-time employee means an employee who works a minimum of 20 hours per week for a minimum of two consecutive semesters. For staff, a full-time employee is defined as those who work in a non-temporary position for at least 30 hours per week for at least nine consecutive months.

## WHEN BENEFITS BEGIN

Your rights to receive benefits under this Dental Plan begin on your effective date. If you have just started a new job, check with us or your plan sponsor to find out your effective date.

**Please note:** Before you receive benefits under this Dental Plan, you have agreed on the application for benefits (or in documents kept by Delta Dental or us) to release any necessary information requested about you so Delta Dental can process claims for benefits. You must allow any healthcare provider or his or her employee to give Delta Dental information about a treatment or condition. If Delta Dental does not receive the information requested, or if you withhold information in your application, your benefits may be denied.



If you fraudulently use the identification card or misrepresent or conceal material facts in your application, then Delta Dental may terminate your benefits.

## **ELIGIBLE COVERED PERSONS**

An eligible Covered Person is an employee who has met the employer's eligibility requirements and the employee's spouse and/or eligible child(ren).

Spouse means your husband or wife as the result of a marriage that is legally recognized in Iowa or a domestic partner (same sex spouse) approved by the University of Northern Iowa.

An eligible child can be your natural child, a child placed with you for adoption or a legally adopted child, a child for whom you have legal guardianship, a stepchild, or a foster child. To be an eligible beneficiary, a child must meet at least one of the following standard requirements:

- The child is under age 26.
- The child is age 26 or older, not married, and a full-time student. For an eligible child to be considered a full-time student they must be enrolled in an accredited institution of higher learning, such as a college, university, nursing or trade school, and carry enough hours to be classified by the institution as full-time. Full-time student status continues during regularly scheduled school vacation periods, and during absence from class in which enrolled for up to four months due to a physical or mental disability. The disability must be substantiated by a written statement from a physician.
- The child is a dependent of the child's parent and is totally or permanently disabled, either physically or mentally. If the dependent child is permanently disabled, the disability must have existed before the child was age 19 or while the child was a full-time student under 26 years of age, and the child must have had continuous qualifying dental coverage without a break of 63 days or more since the child turned age 19 or while the child was a full-time student under age 26.

A child who has been placed in your home for the purpose of adoption or who you have adopted shall be eligible for coverage as of the date of placement for adoption or as of the date of actual adoption, whichever occurs first.

## **ELIGIBLE CHILD(REN) COVERAGE TERMINATES**

Coverage for eligible children turning age 26 will terminate at the end of the calendar year in which they turn age 26. If the eligible child is a full-time student who

is unmarried and over age 26, coverage will terminate at the end of the month in which they cease to be a full-time student.

## **QUALIFIED MEDICAL CHILD SUPPORT ORDER (QMCSO)**

If you have a child and we receive a Medical Child Support Order recognizing the child's right to enroll in this Dental Plan and/or any other benefit plan, we will promptly notify both you and the child that the order has been received. We also will inform you and the child of our procedures for determining whether the order is a Qualified Medical Child Support Order. You may obtain, without charge, a copy of QMCSO procedures from your employer.

## **WHEN BENEFITS END**

Your eligibility for benefits under this Dental Plan will terminate at the end of the month for any of these reasons:

- You become ineligible for coverage under this Dental Plan. See *Eligibility* earlier in this section.
- You become unemployed. Termination of your coverage for this reason applies only if you receive your coverage through us.
- We decide to discontinue or replace this coverage.
- Delta Dental decides to terminate this Dental Plan by giving written notice to us 90 days prior to termination.

Your coverage will end if any of the following occurs:

- You use your dental benefits fraudulently or you fraudulently misrepresent or conceal material facts in your application. If this happens, Delta Dental will recover any claim payments made.
- Delta Dental will not pay claims if we fail to make payment to Delta Dental when due.

## **Authority to Terminate, Amend, or Modify**

We have the authority to terminate, amend, or modify the benefits and coverage described in this Summary Plan Description at any time. Any amendment or modification will be in writing and will be as binding as this Summary Plan Description. If this Dental Plan is terminated, you may not receive benefits.

## **CONTINUED COVERAGE (COBRA)**

There are some federal and state laws that may affect your dental benefits. These laws apply to continuing your coverage when you are no longer eligible for this Dental Plan.

## **Coverage Continuation Under Federal Law — COBRA**

The Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) applies to employers with 20 or more employees. COBRA entitles you, your eligible spouse, and your eligible children to a continuation of coverage under this Dental Plan if coverage is lost due to any of the following qualifying events:

- Death of the employee covered under this Dental Plan.
- Termination of employment for reasons other than gross misconduct.
- A reduction in hours causing loss of coverage.
- Divorce or legal separation.
- The employee covered under this Dental Plan becomes entitled to Medicare.
- Child/Children are no longer considered eligible by our eligibility rules.
- The employer from whom the covered employee retired files bankruptcy under federal law (in certain cases).

*Please note:* You, your eligible spouse, or your eligible children are responsible for notifying us of a dissolution of marriage, legal separation or a child losing eligibility status.

If you wish to continue your benefits, you must complete an election form and submit it to us within 60 days of the later of the date:

- You are no longer covered; or
- You are notified of the right to elect COBRA continuation coverage.

You will be responsible for paying any premiums to us for the continuation of benefits under this Dental Plan. Depending on how you qualify, you may continue your coverage for up to 18 or 36 months.

If during the period of COBRA coverage, a child is born to you or placed with you for adoption, the child can be covered under COBRA coverage and can have election rights of his or her own.

If you or any other eligible Covered Person(s) who have elected COBRA coverage is determined to be disabled under the Social Security Act during the first 60 days of continuation coverage, your COBRA coverage may continue for up to 29 months. The 29-month period will apply to you, your eligible spouse, and/or eligible child(ren) who elected COBRA coverage. You must provide notice of the disability determination to us within 60 days after the determination.

If you lose your coverage, contact us. We will help you with any necessary paperwork and let you know the cost of continuing your coverage.

### **Length of Coverage under COBRA**

Continuation coverage ends at the earliest of one of these events:

- The last day of the 18-, 29-, or 36-month maximum coverage period, whichever is applicable.
- The first day (including grace periods, if applicable) on which timely payment is not made.
- The date on which we cease to maintain any group plan (including successor plans).
- The first day on which a beneficiary is actually covered by any other group plan. However, if the new group plan contains an exclusion or limitation relating to any preexisting condition of the beneficiary, then coverage will end on the earlier of the satisfaction of the waiting period for preexisting conditions contained in the new group plan or upon the occurrence of any one of the other events stated in this section.
- The date the qualified beneficiary is entitled to Medicare benefits.

## **COVERAGE CHANGES**

### **QUALIFYING EVENTS CHANGING COVERAGE**

Certain events may require you to change who is covered by this Dental Plan. These events may include:

- **Active Duty in the Military** of an eligible child or spouse
- **Appointment as a Legal Guardian** of a child
- **Birth or Adoption** of a child
- **Care of a Foster Child** (when placed in your home by an approved agency)
- **Completion of Full-time Schooling** of a child age 26 or older
- **Death**
- **Divorce, Annulment, or Legal Separation of a participant**
- **Eligible Child** (who no longer meets eligibility requirements) reaches age 26
- **Exhaustion of COBRA Coverage**
- **Marriage**
- **Spouse or Child Loses Eligibility for Qualifying Dental Coverage** or we cease contributions for qualifying dental coverage. In this case, your eligible spouse and any eligible children previously covered under the prior qualifying dental coverage are eligible for coverage under this Dental Plan.
- **Spouse's Medicaid, or Child's Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) or Healthy And Well Kids in Iowa (Hawki) coverage is**

terminated as a result of losing eligibility or the Eligible Covered Person becomes eligible for a premium assistance subsidy under Medicaid or CHIP. This special enrollment opportunity is provided by the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act (CHIPRA). You must request this special enrollment opportunity within 60 days of losing Medicaid, CHIP, or Hawki coverage or within 60 days of when eligibility for the premium assistance is determined.

## **NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE**

You must notify Delta Dental of Iowa within 31 days of the date of the event that changes the status of your eligibility. Delta Dental of Iowa must be notified within 60 days of the date of the event that changes the status of your eligibility for births, adoptions, or due to a change in eligibility status for Medicaid, CHIP, or Hawki. You can ask your employer or group sponsor to help you make this request. If a change to your eligibility is not made within 31 days of an event, the person(s) affected may lose coverage. **Upon notification of a member's death, Delta Dental will only return premiums for a period of up to 18 months following the date of death.**

**Please Note:** You must notify Delta Dental when there is a change in your marital status (i.e. divorce or legal separation) or a child loses eligibility status.

## **COVERAGE TERMINATION EFFECTS OF TERMINATION**

If your coverage is terminated for fraud, misrepresentation, or the concealment of material facts:

- **Delta Dental will not pay** for any services or supplies provided after the date the coverage is terminated.
- **This Dental Plan will retain legal rights.** This includes the right to initiate a civil action based on fraud, concealment, or misrepresentation.
- Delta Dental may, at their option, **declare the coverage void.**

If your coverage is terminated for reasons other than fraud, concealment, or misrepresentation of material facts, Delta Dental will stop benefits the day your coverage is terminated.

## **DELTA DENTAL'S RIGHT TO RECOVER PAYMENTS PAYMENT IN ERROR**

If for any reason Delta Dental makes payment under this Dental Plan in error, Delta Dental may recover the amount Delta Dental paid.

## **SUBROGATION**

Once you receive benefits under this Dental Plan arising from an illness or injury, the Dental Plan will assume any legal right you have to collect compensation, damages, or any other payment related to the illness or injury, including benefits from any of the following:

- The responsible person's insurer.
- Uninsured motorist coverage.
- Underinsured motorist coverage.
- Other insurance coverage.

You and your other eligible Covered Person(s) agree to all of the following:

- You will let Delta Dental know about any potential claims or rights of recovery related to the illness or injury;
- You will furnish any information and assistance that Delta Dental determines Delta Dental will need to enforce the Dental Plan's rights;
- You will do nothing to prejudice the Dental Plan's rights and interests;
- You will not compromise, settle, surrender, or release any claim or right of recovery described above, without getting Delta Dental's written permission;
- You must reimburse Delta Dental to the extent of benefit payments made under this Dental Plan if payment is received from the other party or parties;
- You must notify Delta Dental if you or your beneficiaries have the potential right to receive payment from someone else;
- You must cooperate with Delta Dental to ensure that Delta Dental's rights to subrogation are protected.

## **OTHER INFORMATION NOTICE**

You may send any notice to the Dental Plan at the following address:

*Delta Dental of Iowa  
P.O. Box 9010  
Johnston, IA 50131-9010*

Any notice from Delta Dental to you is valid when sent to your address as it appears on Delta Dental's records or the address of the group through which you are enrolled.

You may contact our Claims Administrator at the following address:

*Delta Dental of Iowa  
P.O. Box 9010  
Johnston, IA 50131-9010*

## **NONASSIGNMENT**

Benefits for Covered Services described in this Summary Plan Description are for your personal benefit and cannot be transferred or assigned to anyone else without our consent. Any attempt to assign your rights under this Dental Plan or rights to payment without our consent will be void.

## **GOVERNING LAW**

To the extent not superseded by the laws of the United States, this Summary Plan Description will be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the state of Iowa. Any action brought because of a claim under this Dental Plan will be litigated exclusively in the state or federal courts located in the state of Iowa and in no other.

## **LEGAL ACTION**

No legal or equitable action may be brought against Delta Dental because of a claim under this Dental Plan, or because of the alleged breach of the terms of this Dental Plan more than two years after the end of the calendar year in which the services or supplies were provided.

## **INFORMATION IF YOU ARE OR A MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY IS ENROLLED IN MEDICAID**

### **Assignment of Rights**

This Dental Plan will provide payment of benefits for Covered Services to a participant, beneficiary, or any other person who has been legally assigned the right to receive such benefits under requirements established pursuant to Title XIX of the Social Security Act (Medicaid).

### **Enrollment Without Regard to Medicaid**

Your receipt or eligibility for medical assistance under Title XIX of the Social Security Act (Medicaid) will not affect your enrollment as a participant or beneficiary of this Dental Plan, nor will it affect Delta Dental's determination of any benefits paid to you.

### **Acquisition by States of Rights of Third Parties**

If payment has been made by Medicaid and Delta Dental has a legal obligation to provide benefits for those services, then Delta Dental will make payment of those benefits in accordance with any state law under which a state acquires the right to such payments.

# GLOSSARY

**Benefit Category** refers to a grouping of benefits related to a specific type of dental service. For example, **Benefit Category: Check-ups and Teeth Cleaning** includes the following diagnostic and preventive services:

1. Dental Cleaning.
2. Oral Evaluations (includes consultations and problem focused exams).
3. Topical Fluoride Applications.
4. X-rays (Bitewing, Full Mouth, Occlusal, Extraoral, Periapical).

**Benefit Period** is the same as a calendar year. It begins on the day your coverage goes into effect and starts over each January 1. This is true for as long as you have coverage.

**Benefit Period Maximum** is the maximum benefit each Covered Person is eligible to receive for certain Covered Services during a benefit period.

**Benefits** mean those dentally necessary and dentally appropriate procedures that qualify for payment under this Dental Plan.

**Cast** means a laboratory procedure in which a restoration is pre-constructed from a material such as gold or porcelain.

**Cast Restorations** restore teeth to acceptable form and function when the tooth cannot be restored with a routine filling.

**Claims Payment (Delta Dental Payment)** is the amount that is discharged when your claim is processed.

**Coinsurance** is the amount, calculated using a fixed percentage, you pay each time you receive certain Covered Services.

**Contract** includes any application you submitted to us or your employer or group sponsor for coverage, any agreement or group policy we have with your employer or group sponsor, any application completed by your employer or group sponsor, this Summary Plan Description, and any riders or amendments.

**Contractholder** refers to you who signed for this Dental Plan.



**Contract Limitations** are amounts that are your responsibility based on your contractual obligations with us. Examples of contract limitations include services that are not covered; services that are not dentally necessary; and services that are subject to limitations.

**Coordination of Benefits (COB)** applies when you are covered by more than one group contract or commercial insurance policy providing benefits for like services. COB is a method of limiting insurance coverage to no more than 100 percent of either our payment arrangement amount or the other carrier's payment arrangement amount.

**Covered Person** means any individual eligible for dental benefits under a dental program that is insured or administered by Delta Dental (or by a Delta Dental Member Company).

**Covered Services** are those dentally necessary and dentally appropriate procedures listed in the Benefits section of this Summary Plan Description.

**Creditable Coverage** means any of the following types of coverage that you, the Covered Person, had without a break in coverage of 63 days or more:

- A group health plan
- Health insurance coverage
- Part A or B of Title XVIII of the Social Security Act (Medicare)
- Title XIX of the Social Security Act (Medicaid)
- Chapter 55 of Title 10, United States Code
- A medical care program of the Indian Health Service or of a tribal organization
- A State health benefits risk pool
- A health plan offered under Chapter 89 of Title 5, United States Code
- A public health plan (as defined in regulations)
- A health benefit plan under Section 5(e) of the Peace Corps Act

**Deductible, if applicable** is a fixed dollar amount you pay for Covered Services for each Covered Person in a Benefit Period before benefits are available.

**Delta Dental Member Company** means a company that is an active member or affiliate member of Delta Dental Plans Association, as defined in the Delta Dental Plans Associations Bylaws.

**Dentally Appropriate** means:

- The treatment is the most appropriate procedure for your individual circumstances.

- The treatment is consistent with and meets professionally recognized standards of dental care and complies with criteria adopted by us.
- The treatment is not more costly than those equally effective for the treatment or maintenance of your teeth and supporting structures.

**Dentally Necessary** means:

- The diagnosis is proper.
- The treatment is necessary to preserve or restore the basic form and function of the tooth or teeth and the health of the gums, bone, and other tissues supporting the teeth.

**Dentist** means an individual who is licensed to practice dentistry under the laws of Iowa or who is licensed in the state where you receive services.

**Effective Date** is the date upon which this coverage goes into effect.

**Eligible Child** means your natural child, a legally adopted child, a child placed with you for adoption, a child for whom you have legal guardianship, a stepchild, or foster child. To be eligible for coverage, the child must be either 26 years of age or younger, an unmarried full-time student over age 26, or totally or permanently disabled, either physically or mentally. If the dependent child is permanently disabled, the disability must have existed before the child was age 19 or while the child was a full-time student under 26 years of age, and the child must have had continuous creditable coverage without a break of 63 days or more since on or before that birthday. A child who has been placed in your home for the purpose of adoption or whom you have adopted shall be eligible for coverage as of the date of placement for adoption or the date of actual adoption, whichever occurs first.

**Emergency** is a condition which requires immediate dental care for the relief of pain or infection of dental origin.

**Endodontics** is the treatment or removal of injured or infected tissue within the crown and root of the tooth.

**Family Coverage** means coverage for you and your eligible spouse, your eligible common law partner, or same or opposite sex domestic partner, and your eligible child(ren).

**Full-time Student** claiming status as a full-time student the child must be enrolled in an accredited institution of higher learning, such as a college, university, nursing or trade school. The child must carry enough hours to be classified by the institution as full-time. Full-time student status continues during:

- Regularly scheduled school vacation periods; and
- Absence from class, in which enrolled, for up to four months due to a physical or mental disability. This disability must be substantiated by a written statement from a practitioner.

**Group** is the particular employing individual, agency, corporation, partnership, or company which has entered into this agreement to provide dental coverage to their eligible employees or eligible Covered Persons and is responsible for appointing a Plan Administrator.

**Identification Card** is a card issued to you by Delta Dental of Iowa. The information on the card, especially the identification number, is required to process your claims correctly and answer questions you may have. You should carry your identification card with you at all times and present it to your provider at the time you receive care.

**Implants** are surgically placed devices within or on the jaw bone as a means of providing for a dental replacement which will eventually support a fixed or removable prosthesis.

**Lifetime Maximum** is the total benefits which are limited by a dollar amount for **Benefit Category: Straighter Teeth**. This amount is shown on the **Summary of Benefits and Payment** chart at the beginning of this Summary Plan Description.

**Limitation** is a certain condition placed on a benefit that limits coverage.

**Maximum Plan Allowance** is the amount which Delta Dental establishes as its maximum allowable fee for the dental services under the Delta Dental Premier Program. For services billed by dentists outside of Iowa, the Maximum Plan Allowance is based on information from that state's Delta Dental Member Company.

**Medical Child Support Order** A Medical Child Support Order means any judgment, decree, or order (including approval of a settlement agreement) issued by a court of competent jurisdiction that:

- Provides for child support with respect to a Covered Person's child or a child of their spouse or provides for coverage to such a child, is made pursuant to a State domestic relations law, and relates to benefits under the benefit plan of the Covered Person; or

- Enforces a law relating to medical child support described in Code of Iowa Chapter 252E (1995) or Section 1908 of the Social Security Act with respect to a group plan.

**Nonparticipating (non-par) Dentist** is a dentist who does not hold a valid participating agreement with Delta Dental (or with a Delta Dental Member Company) at the time you receive Covered Services.

**Occlusal Adjustment (Complete)** is a complex procedure which requires several appointments and is intended to revise or alter the functional relationships between your upper and lower teeth. Mounting study casts on an articulating instrument is necessary for pre-treatment analysis.

**Occlusal Adjustment (Limited)** is a procedure to reshape the biting surfaces of one or more teeth.

**Orthodontics** are orthodontic procedures, or directly associated procedures, that move teeth to correct an abnormal dental relationship between and among teeth.

**Our** means The Plan Administrator.

**Participating Dentist** is a dentist who holds a valid participating agreement with Delta Dental (or with a Delta Dental Member Company) at the time you receive Covered Services.

**Periodontal Services** means treatment for gum and bone diseases.

**Plan Holder** refers to you who signed for this Dental Plan.

**PPO Schedule** is a reduced fee schedule for certain Covered Services.

**Practitioner** means any individual recognized by Delta Dental, licensed and/or accredited to provide Covered Services.

**Prosthetics** is the replacement of missing permanent teeth by fixed or removable devices such as bridges and dentures.

**Provider** means a dental practitioner or dental facility.

**Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO)** A Qualified Medical Child Support Order is a Medical Child Support Order that recognizes a specified person's right to enroll in the benefit plan for which the employee or his/her children are eligible. A QMCSO includes the following information:

- The name and last known mailing address (if any) of the child and the name and mailing address of each child specified in the order as entitled to enroll in the group plan;
- A reasonable description of the type of coverage to be provided or the manner in which the type of coverage is to be determined;
- The period to which the order applies; and
- Each plan to which the order applies,

To be a Qualified Medical Child Support Order, the order cannot require a benefit plan to provide any type or form of benefit, or any option, not otherwise provided under the plan, except to the extent necessary to meet the requirements of Code of Iowa Chapter 252E (1995) or Section 1908 of the Social Security Act with respect to a group plan.

**Root** is the anatomic portion of the tooth that is covered by cementum and is normally contained in the socket (alveolus).

**Root Canal** is the portion of the pulp cavity inside the root of a tooth which houses nerves and blood vessels.

**Root Planing** is removal of infected cementum from the root surface of a tooth.

**Root Scaling** is removal of disease-causing substances from the root surface of a tooth.

**Single Coverage** means coverage for the employee only.

**Spouse** refers to your husband or wife as the result of a marriage that is legally recognized in Iowa, your eligible common law partner, or your eligible same or opposite sex domestic partner.

**Straighter Teeth** see Orthodontics.

**Subrogation** means our rights when you or your other eligible Covered Persons receive benefits under this Summary Plan Description required as the result of

illness or injury and you have a lawful claim against another party or parties for compensation, damages or other payment.

**Termination Date** is the date your coverage ends under this Dental Plan. See **When Benefits Ends** under the **Eligibility** section.

**Treatment Plan** describes the treatment your dentist has recommended for you and helps us determine if the procedure is a benefit of your coverage as well as dentally necessary and dentally appropriate.

**Us** means The Plan Administrator.

**We** means The Plan Administrator.

### **X-rays –**

- **Bitewing X-rays** show the visible part of the teeth of both the upper and lower jaws and are used to detect cavities and periodontal disease.
- **Extraoral X-rays** show the jaw and are used for the orthodontic analysis or to detect fractures, jaw disorders, or other abnormalities. These x-rays are taken from outside the mouth.
- **Full Mouth X-rays** includes a series of periapical and bitewing x-rays showing the teeth and underlying structures of the entire mouth.
- **Occlusal X-rays** show the underlying structures of the teeth and are used to detect cysts and pathologies. These x-rays are taken from inside the mouth.
- **Panoramic** an extraoral film that provide a continuous view of the teeth and associated structures. It is used for orthodontics and for detection of fractures, temporomandibular joint disease, cysts, and tumors. It is take with a unit having a swinging arm that moves from one side of the arch to the other.
- **Periapical X-rays** show the tooth and underlying structures for one or more teeth.

**You and Your** means you, the employee/retiree, and your eligible Covered Person(s) who qualify for coverage under this Dental Plan.



**Delta Dental of Iowa  
P.O. Box 9000  
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Toll Free: 1-800-544-0718  
Local: 1-515-261-5500

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