

**Rhode Island Medicaid
Covered Dental Benefits for Children Under Age 21**

Note: Treatment for children born after May 1, 2000 is managed through the RIteSmiles program, managed by United Healthcare. Call 1-866-375-3257 for details.

<u>Service</u>	<u>How Often & Description</u>
<i>Preventive Services</i>	
Routine dental exams	Every 6 months;
Cleanings	Every 6 months;
Fluoride varnish	Every 6 months;
Sealants	Covered only for permanent molars; One treatment per tooth every 5 years.
<i>Diagnostic Services</i>	
Radiographs*	Intraoral/complete series- Every 4 years; Bitewing- Once every calendar year; Panoramic Film- Every 4 years;
<i>Restorative Services</i>	
Fillings	As needed;
Crowns	As medically necessary;
Dentures, partial or complete	As medically necessary;
<i>Other Services</i>	
Space maintainers	As needed; Removable space maintainers will not be replaced. Medicaid will only pay once for recementation of any space maintainer.
Oral Surgery	Extractions (removing a tooth) or other mouth surgery; as medically necessary.
Orthodontics	As medically necessary in order to correct a handicapping malocclusion; (Requires prior authorization).

Other Dental Services

As medically necessary; (Requires prior authorization).

Emergency dental care services

As medically necessary;

*Regarding radiographs, Medicaid believes it is the dentist's responsibility to follow the ALARA Principle (As Low as Reasonably Achievable) to minimize the patient's radiation exposure and follows the recommendations developed by the American Dental Association and the Food and Drug Administration. For new patient adults or adolescents, recommendation is for individualized radiographic exam consisting of posterior bitewings with panoramic exam or posterior bitewings and selected periapical images. A full mouth intraoral radiographic exam is preferred when the patient has clinical evidence of generalized oral disease or a history of extensive dental treatment. Medicaid will not reimburse for both a full mouth series and panoramic radiographic in the same year.