

Canada Dental Benefit

Dear Oral Health Professional,

Nobody knows better than you that seeing an oral health professional is important not only for our oral health, it is essential for overall health as well. In Canada, one third of Canadians do not have dental insurance and are unable to visit an oral health professional to prevent or treat oral diseases because it is too expensive. That is why the Government of Canada is taking concrete measures to address cost barriers to dental care for families in Canada.

The new interim Canada Dental Benefit will be available for children under 12 in families who have an adjusted net income of less than \$90,000 and who do not have access to private dental insurance. It will allow eligible families to receive upfront, direct payments per child up to \$650 per year, for two years, for oral health services. The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) will be processing the applications and payments for the benefit, and applications will start being accepted starting on December 1, 2022.

With this benefit, which will run until 2024, families can start addressing some of the basic dental care that their young children need while the Government continues to develop a long-term Canadian dental care program.

We have prepared some helpful tools and resources to answer questions about the interim Canada Dental Benefit and to better equip you to help your patients, clients, and members understand and access the benefit.

The communications toolkit contains the following products.

- The Canada Dental Benefit: What You Need to Know: This is a good starting
 document for you and your members/clients to learn more about the new, interim
 Canada Dental Benefit.
- <u>Shareable social media material</u>: We have provided some messaging that you can use on your own social media channels to help your members, patients and clients be informed about the Canada Dental Benefit.
- <u>Infographic</u>: We have provided an 11X17 sheet that you might find useful for your own staff/members, or for sharing with clients/patients.
- Information sheet in <u>Punjabi</u>, <u>Cantonese</u> and <u>Mandarin</u>: We have provided a textonly version of the Infographic in the form of an information sheet in languages that may be common in your communities.
- <u>Poster:</u> We have provided a poster to put up in high traffic areas that directs people to Canada.ca/dental for more information.

As a trusted oral health professional, we are asking for your support in distributing our educational information and informing patients/clients of this important benefit so that more kids can visit you to get brighter smiles. Please feel free to use and distribute this material to your patients/clients/members, partner organizations and other stakeholders. Resources will be updated as new information becomes available.

Thank you.



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