

## Smile Programs...the mobile dentists

Phone: 1-888-833-8441 Fax: 1-888-330-4331

Smile Programs coordinates an in-school dental visit. Our mission is to increase the quality of life for children by ensuring dental services including exams, cleanings, fluorides, x-rays, sealants, education, referrals and other simple dental services such as fillings.

### Our program:

- All children (ages 12 months-18 years old) are eligible
- No child is turned away based on ability to pay
- Grants are readily given with a parent's signature (No proof financial status is asked)
- Grants are private, ongoing and never run out
- We provide and complete all paperwork for state mandated requirement of dental exam
- We provide permission forms and letters to the parent for every child (Spanish forms available)
- Teams are made up of a licensed dentist and two staff including registered dental hygienist(s)
- Every child is given a "report card" to take home
- Dental referrals are provided if additional dental work is needed
- A copy of the dental exam is left with the school for the child's school file
- OSHA and HIPAA compliant
- Strict adherence to the CDC Guidelines for Infection Control; Practical Infection Control for Dental Sealant Programs in a Portable Dental Care Environment as presented at The National Public Health Dental Sealant Conference

Smile Programs has been coordinating dental care to children,  
families and communities for almost 15 years.

[mobiledentists.com](http://mobiledentists.com)





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### **Frequently asked questions**

#### **Why should we have the dental team at our school?**

The U.S. Surgeon General and the Centers for Disease Control recommend in-school dental prevention and sealant programs for low-income children. Do you know that four out of five low-income children never see a dentist in a year? It has also been determined that 85% of all decay in children occurs in this group of low-income children. Dental disease can be serious and lead to severe infections that can have serious health and learning consequences. Dental decay is highly preventable and the goal of our program is to serve the most vulnerable children who don't see a dentist.

#### **Who provides the dental services?**

Team members are a caring group of local dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants who are devoted to the importance of outreach dentistry and serving our most vulnerable children. Every dentist and dental hygienist working in the schools is a locally licensed clinician.

#### **What types of services are provided?**

The dental team provides a thorough dental examination or screening, dental cleaning, fluoride treatment, x-rays and sealants. Additionally, the dentist can provide dental services that may include: fillings, simple extractions of baby teeth, and other minimally invasive procedures.

#### **What are sealants?**

Sealants are plastic-like protective coatings painted on the chewing surfaces of the back teeth to seal the grooves and pits. These are the areas that are most likely to

decay. In fact 85% of all decay occurs in the pits and grooves of the back teeth. When sealants are placed on the back teeth, they act as a physical barrier to decay and prevent cavities from forming. It is a quick and painless procedure that is highly recommended by the U.S. Public Health Service, the U.S. Surgeon General and the Centers for Disease Control.

### **Is there a cost to our school or district?**

No. There's no cost to the school or district.

### **Is there a fee to the families of the children?**

Most dental insurances, including Medicaid, cover 100% of the services that are provided.

### **How many people actually come to our location?**

The teams generally include a dentist, registered dental hygienist and a dental assistant.

### **How do I schedule a dental visit?**

It's easy. Just call us toll-free at 1-888-833-8441 and ask for Chanel Yono or email us at [caringdental@mobiledentists.com](mailto:caringdental@mobiledentists.com). Please let us know which dates are best for you and your students so we can arrange our visit to suit your school schedule.

### **What do we need to prepare for a visit?**

We ask you to do only two things before the visit: 1) Hand out the permission slips to the children and/or parents and return the permission slips to us in the provided pre-paid, addressed envelopes; and 2) Identify a space about 12x12-feet where the team set up the "dental office."

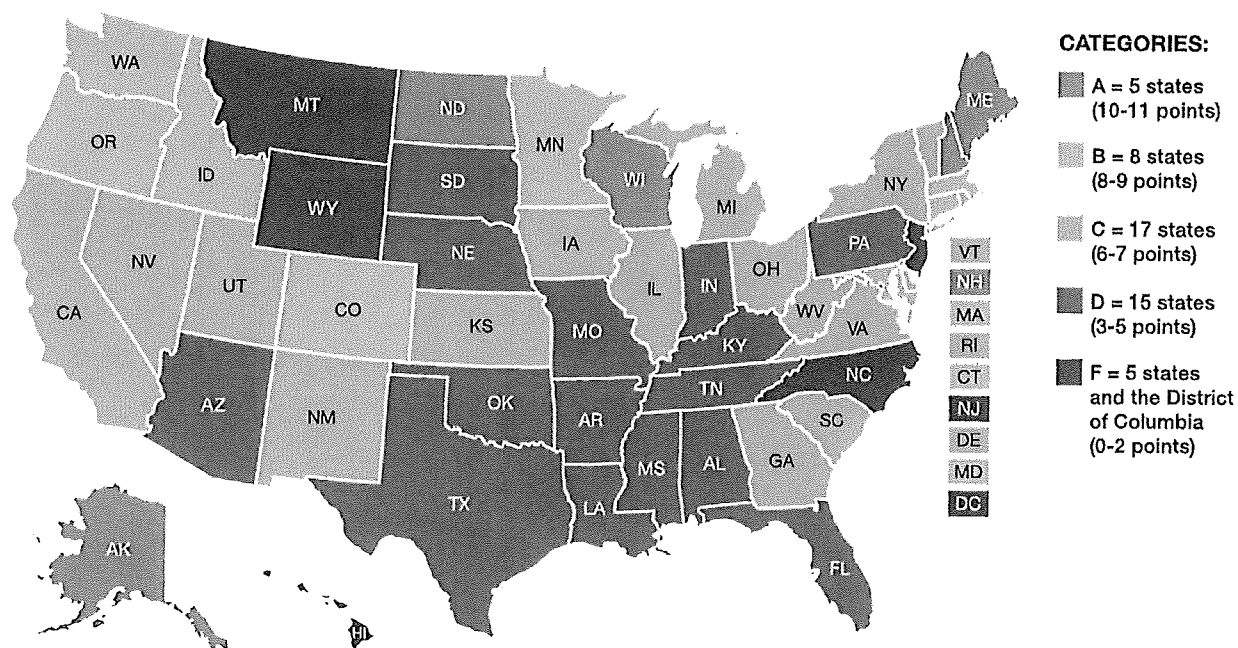
**Our mission is to enhance the quality of life for children by coordinating dental care and a positive dental experience.**

## HOW THE STATES PERFORMED

FIGURE 1:

### OVERALL STATE GRADES

States were given specific points for each benchmark, and grades — on a scale of A to F — were based on the total points earned. (For an explanation of each benchmark and an overview of how points were assigned, see pages 23–25.)



Source: Pew Center on the States, 2012.

The grades in this report should be viewed in the larger context of oral health prevention. For example, New Hampshire's status as a top performer in this report should be tempered by the fact that only 43 percent of the state's residents whose homes are connected to public water systems receive fluoridated water.<sup>17</sup> By contrast, Kentucky does a better

job than almost any state at providing fluoridated water to its residents but lacks most of the policies needed to expand dental sealants to more low-income children.<sup>18</sup>

School-based sealant programs remain an underutilized preventive strategy, despite their proven benefits.