

Help get dental services to kids at your school who need it

Students in Madison-area elementary and middle schools will have access to the Celebrate Smiles dental program during the 2022-23 school year. This program provides free check-ups as well as preventive sealants, fluoride varnish and other needed treatment to kids at school who might otherwise go without dental care.

Dental pain is one of the leading causes of absenteeism for school children in Wisconsin. This ongoing partnership between the Madison Metropolitan School District and Access Community Health Centers gets kids the dental treatment they need to be healthy, stay in class and keep learning.

When Celebrate Smiles visits a school, program staff provide services in a mobile dental clinic outside each school with portable dental equipment to provide services to students who have parental permission to participate. Some screening and fluoride treatment services will continue in designated areas within some schools as well.

Celebrate Smiles provides restorative services at many schools during a one- to two-week period. At some schools, a team provides one to three days of preventive services, screenings and fluoride varnish application, referring students who need restorative care to an Access dental clinic. Finally, a dental team returns to schools during a half to one full day for a second fluoride varnish application and to recheck sealants.

NEW FOR 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR. For the 2022-23 school year, Celebrate Smiles staff will provide services in a mobile dental clinic that is furnished with portable dental equipment and located outside each school it visits. The Celebrate Smiles Care Mobile will be available to students who have parental permission to participate. Some screening and fluoride treatment services will continue in designated areas within some schools as well. Click <u>HERE</u> for the tentative schedule for the Celebrate Smiles program for the coming year.

NEW CONSENT PROCESS. The Celebrate Smiles consent process has moved to an online-only version. Parents/guardians can use the following links to register their child for the Celebrate Smiles program for the coming year:

- English Consent Forms
- Spanish Consent Forms
- Hmong Consent Forms

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP GET CARE TO STUDENTS

Talk with colleagues about the program and encourage them to help students sign up.

- Advocate for students who need care by working with your school nurse to boost participation with families.
- Use school announcements to promote the program, giving dates Celebrate Smiles will be at your school and asking students to have their families complete the consent so they can participate.
- Spread the word about Celebrate Smiles coming to your school to families and your school community through newsletters, events and social media.

Please call (608) 852-2781 with any questions.