For Patients: The Washtenaw County Reduced Fee Dental Initiative

What is the Reduced Fee Dental Initiative?

The Reduced Fee Dental Initiative is a program that allows low-income Washtenaw County residents to pay reduced fees to particular Washtenaw County dentists, who have agreed to take reduced fees for their services. Washtenaw County residents who are interested in this program can contact Ruth Kraut at 544-3068. We will certify that you live in Washtenaw County and will also certify your income level.

How do I get assigned to a dentist? Is this a one-time thing?

The participating dentists have agreed to take a certain number of patients at a reduced fee. Depending on the dentists' availability and your location, you will be assigned to a particular dentist. That dentist has agreed to take you on as a regular patient. We want you to use the dentist for cleanings, fillings, and any other dental needs throughout the year.

How much will I need to pay?

There are two levels of fees. People who are extremely low income will pay Level 1 fees. People who are very low income will pay Level 2 fees. Here are income limits for one, two, and three-person families, as examples. The fee schedule is on the back of this sheet. Your income certification is good for one year, and is based on gross income. The dentists are providing extremely generous discounts, but dental care can be expensive, especially for complicated procedures.

| 2012 Income Limits (annual) | Level 1 | Level 2 |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|
| 1-person family | \$18,350 | \$30,600 |
| 2-person family | \$21,000 | \$35,000 |
| 3-person family | \$23,600 | \$39,350 |

(For larger families higher limits apply.)

When do I pay?

<u>Payment is expected at the time that you get the services</u>, unless other arrangements are made in advance (and that would generally only happen for very expensive procedures). Generally you will be able to pay with cash, check, or credit card. Payment will be at a reduced fee level..

What if I have an emergency? (For instance, a tooth gets infected or a tooth breaks)

You now have a regular dentist. Call the dentist's number. If the office is closed, the dentist will have instructions as to what to do in an urgent situation.

What else do I need to know?

The program relies on your active participation in the program. That means:

*Show up, on time for your appointments. Dentists expect 48 hours notice (two days!) if you need to reschedule or cancel. Being a no-show is reason for removal from the program.

*Be prepared to pay at the time of your visit.

*Thank the dentist for participating in the program.