

Special Health Care Needs FAQ

1. What is a special healthcare need?

According to the American Academy of Dental Practice special health care needs include “any physical, developmental, mental, sensory, behavioral, cognitive, or emotional impairment or limiting condition that requires medical management, healthcare intervention, and/or use of specialized services or programs. The condition may be congenital, developmental, or acquired through disease, trauma, or environmental cause and may impose limitations in performing daily self-maintenance activities or substantial limitations in a major life activity.”

2. Who is eligible for the benefit?

To confirm patient eligibility, contact Benefit Services at 800.237.6060.

The program is not currently available for members covered by a Delta Dental Individual and Family™ plan.

3. Is a doctor's note required?

Delta Dental of Virginia does not require verification of a patient's special healthcare need.

4. Is there an age limit?

No, patients who have special needs will not age off of the program.

5. What is covered?

- **Exams:** Additional dental visits are covered, if needed. Procedure codes: D0120, D0145, D0150, D0160 and D0180.
- **Cleanings:** Up to four dental cleanings in a benefit year. Procedure codes: D1110, D1120, D4346, D4355 and D4910.
- **Treatment delivery modifications:** Which may be necessary for dental staff to provide oral health care. Procedure code: D9997.
Note: This procedure code must be included on all Special Health Care Needs benefit claims.
- **The use of anesthesia:** When necessary to provide dental care. Procedure codes: D9222, D9223, D9230, D9239, D9243.

Benefits are covered at 100% with no deductible when performed by a Delta Dental of Virginia in-network dentist. All services are still subject to the plan's annual maximum.

6. Are there additional limitations?

Some services may require review or approval and are considered case by case. A predetermination of benefits is strongly encouraged for those using these benefits.

For questions, contact Benefit Services at 800.237.6060.