

Additional benefits when you need them: Delta Dental's Special Health Care Needs Benefit

Your Delta Dental of North Carolina benefits plan includes enhanced benefits for covered members (children and adults) with a special health care need.



For 6.5 million people in the U.S. with intellectual or developmental disabilities, oral health care can be inaccessible or overwhelming.

Delta Dental is changing that.

What are special health care needs? As defined by the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, special health care needs include any physical, developmental, mental, sensory, behavioral, cognitive, or emotional impairment or limiting condition that requires medical management, health care 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.

What is included in the benefit?

- Additional visits to the dentist's office and/or consultations that can be helpful prior to the first treatment to help patients learn what to expect and what is needed for a successful dental appointment. Additional exam benefits will be allowed for this purpose.
- Up to four total dental cleanings in a benefit year.
- Treatment delivery modifications, including anesthesia, necessary for dental staff to provide oral health care for patients with sensory sensitivities, behavioral challenges, severe anxiety or other barriers to treatment.

How do I/my spouse/my dependent use this benefit?

- Members with a special health care need should let their dentist know that their Delta Dental plan includes the Special Health Care Needs Benefit and that they have a special health care need.
- To help your dentist better understand the benefit and how to bill Delta Dental for services provided, we suggest you take the "Special Health Care Needs Benefit Provider Instructions" flyer with you to your next dental visit (*download flyers at deltadentalinc.com/specialneeds or scan the QR code*).

