

Canada Dental Benefit

Newsletter article for the second Benefit period: We hope this information will assist you and your dental team in better understanding the Canada Dental Benefit.

The second period of the Canada Dental Benefit is here! This means parents and guardians of eligible children can now apply to help lower dental care costs for services received between July 1, 2023—June 30, 2024. Read our full-length article for more details.

Exciting News for Parents: Canada Dental Benefit, second benefit period opened on July 1, 2023!

It's been a big year for dental care in Canada. Last December, the Government of Canada launched the <u>Canada Dental Benefit</u> to help cover dental care expenses for eligible children under the age of 12 as the first step to help improve access to dental care. The benefit has already helped close to 340,000 children across Canada get brighter smiles and healthier teeth but there are still more kids to reach!

Starting July 1, 2023, the Government of Canada announced that applications for the second benefit period of the Canada Dental Benefit have opened. Eligible families will now be able to receive up-front, direct payments of up to \$650 per eligible child under 12 for out-of-pocket expenses paid for dental care services received between July 1, 2023, and June 30, 2024.

The Canada Dental Benefit helps pay for dental care services for eligible families with:

- a child or children under 12 as of July 1, 2023;
- an adjusted family net income of less than \$90,000; and
- no access to private dental care coverage.

The Benefit will support your child's dental care expenses, such as:

- orthodontic services;
- preventative services;
- restorative services;
- diagnostic services;
- oral surgery;
- endodontic services;
- periodontal services; and
- prosthodontic services.

You may also be eligible to receive an additional payment if your child received out-of-pocket dental care expenses over \$650, during either the first or second benefit period. More information on the additional payment eligibility is available on Canada.ca/dental.



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The rising cost of living has been a challenge for many Canadians, but no one should have to choose between oral health care for their kids and paying their bills at the end of the month. If you've been debating if now is the time to make a dental appointment for your child—check your eligibility at Canada.ca/dental or call 1-800-715-8836. The Canada Dental Benefit is helping to make dental care more accessible for a whole generation of children who will enjoy the health benefits for many years to come.

The Benefit is a key part of the Government of Canada's work to improve access to dental care for Canadians. However, we know that children are not the only ones who deserve access to affordable dental care. This is why Budget 2023 announced an investment of \$13 billion over five years, starting in 2023-24, and \$4.4 billion ongoing to implement the new Canadian Dental Care Plan. Once implemented, it will support up to nine million uninsured Canadians who have an annual family income of less than \$90,000, with no co-pays for those with family incomes under \$70,000, with the oral health care they need. The plan is expected to begin rolling out by the end of 2023 with an aim of full implementation by the end of 2025.

