

Joining the NEW HUSKY Dental Program

Helping our Connecticut Children and Families



Why should I participate in the new HUSKY dental program?

By becoming a HUSKY dental provider you'll be providing services and helping children who really need you. One in four of Connecticut children are in the HUSKY program. Their families could not afford to provide needed medical or dental care without HUSKY. Our HUSKY children need caring dentists and hygienists, in fact, they need you.

What is "new" about the HUSKY program?

As of September 1, 2008, all dental services under HUSKY will be 'carved out' and will operate independently from the 'managed care' non-dental medical program.

- Dental services for HUSKY children will no longer be provided through multiple managed care programs (MCOs). All of the dental services provided will be placed under one system.
- There will be a single Administrative Service Organization (ASO) instead of four MCOs and their dental subcontractors. The ASO will not assume any cost risk, unlike the former MCO structure. Currently, BeneCare is negotiating a contract to be the ASO with the Department of Social Services (DSS) to start on 9/1/2008.
- All providers will be paid by procedure code, with higher rates effective April 1, 2008.
- The program will not be only for HUSKY children & adults, it will include all children & adults in Medicaid and SAGA.
- The start date coincides with the transition in the non-dental portion of HUSKY. This will have the least amount of disruption to HUSKY members as possible and allow for continued building of the provider networks. On September 1, 2008, new contracts for the non-dental medical part of HUSKY go into effect for three MCOs: Aetna, AmeriChoice and Community Health Network.

What are the New Rates?

Below is a chart that shows some sample rates. The full schedule is available at www.ctdssmap.com. Select "Provider" and choose "Provider Fee Schedule," then scroll to the "Dental" area and select "4/1/2008".

PROCEDURE	OLD FEE	NEW FEE	PROCEDURE	OLD FEE	NEW FEE
Periodic oral exam	\$18	\$35	Sealant	\$18	\$40
Initial exam	24	65	Amalgam - 2 surface	38	114
Bitewing x-rays	16	32	Stainless steel crown	85	230
Cleaning	22	46	Pulpotomy	45	133
Fluoride treatment	15	29	Extraction single tooth	33	115

Why has this change taken place?

A coalition of organizations including the Greater Hartford Legal Aid, Connecticut State Dental Association, Connecticut Society of Pediatric Dentists, Connecticut Oral Health Initiative, Connecticut Dental Hygienists Association, Connecticut Dental Assistants Association, Connecticut Legal Services and others worked with the Connecticut Department of Social Services to get rates increased and the system improved.

Will the New System be Better and Easier to Use?

Yes, there are many improvements. For example:

- The ASO will track member no-show rates, if a member has a specified no show rate they will no longer have access

- to your office. The ASO will remind members of appointments, assist with scheduling & transportation.
- The ASO will also work with DSS to waive prior authorization requirements for targeted offices.
 - There will be Intensive Care Management and Case Coordination. Children at risk will get education and management services to help reduce the risk of caries or periodontal disease, in conjunction with the primary care dentist and primary care provider.
 - A “Dental Advisory Committee” representing advocacy groups, the Connecticut Dental Association, the UConn School of Dental Medicine, each specialty society and other state agencies, will assist DSS.

When should I sign up to be an enrolled dentist?

You should begin the enrollment process now. On September 1, 2008, the old MCOs will no longer provide dental benefits to HUSKY members. You must be enrolled through EDS in order to receive payment for ANY service delivered on or after this date.

How do I enroll to provide dental services?

You can enroll by going on line and downloading an application or you can call EDS directly and request a paper application. You may also choose to enroll on – line with an “Enrollment Wizard”. The website is www.ctdssmap.com. The application form itself is eight pages long. The contract you need to sign is 32 pages long including the pages with the instructions on how to fill out the forms.

How long does the credentialing process take until I can accept Medicaid patients?

After you submit the form, contract and attachments, it should take about a month. Of course individual situations may vary if the application is incomplete or if there are delays in verifying information.

If I am currently providing dental services will I be grandfathered into the new ASO arrangement?

Any provider credentialed with EDS will automatically be in the new dental program. Providers with BlueCare Family Plan (Healthplex) or Community Health Network (BeneCare) must separately enroll through EDS. Healthplex and/or BeneCare will contact current providers and will assist them by pre-filling the EDS application. You just verify the information, sign it, (if necessary add additional forms for e-payment, e-signature or group practice arrangements) and return it in the pre-addressed envelope.

Can I limit the number of HUSKY patients I take? Can I limit the geographic location of patients I take?

Yes, your network capacity is up to you. You may limit by town, zip code or other geographic factors.

Do I have to take all adult patients?

If you are a pediatric dentist, you only need to take children. If you treat adults with special needs, we ask that you consider treating a few patients in your practice. *However, DSS can not determine your member panel.* If you are a general dentist, we ask that you consider enrolling family units to help with the continuity of care with families.

Can I submit claims electronically? By paper? How quickly are clean claims paid?

Claims can be submitted electronically or through a clearinghouse. EDS offers free claims submission software. Payment is made directly to your bank with electronic fund transfer. Paper claims can be filed using an original-copy red ADA-2006 dental claim form using **black** ink. Completed claims with no errors are paid bi-weekly.

Whom do I call if I need help with credentialing, payment, claim forms or ... ?

Information is available on the website (www.ctdssmap.com) or call EDS Provider Relations Line at 800-842-8440. Starting September 1, 2008 there will be a toll-free number for the ASO.

Thank You

