About the Dental Referral Program

The Dental Referral Program (DRP) is a partnership between Champaign County Health Care Consumers (CCHCC) and area dentists to provide discounted dental care to adults with no dental coverage. The first appointment to get established with a dentist is $15, and includes a comprehensive exam and x-rays. After the first appointment, Dental Referral Program members receive 20, 40, or 60 percent off of the dentist's regular fees, depending on their income.

If you believe that you are eligible for the DRP and want to enroll, please call (217) 352-6533.

Eligibility and Enrollment

The Dental Referral Program is available to all adults who are over the age of eighteen, living in households with incomes at or below 200% of the poverty line (please see the back side for the income eligibility guidelines), and do not have private dental insurance. Medicaid recipients that are 19 or older are eligible.

To Enroll in the Program, Individuals Must:

1. Call (217) 352-6533 to schedule an appointment.
2. Attend an eligibility screening and application appointment at the CCHCC office.
3. Provide documentation of all household income (check stubs, tax form, SSI letter, etc.).

During the screening and application appointment, a CCHCC Advocate will assist applicants in completing the DRP application, selecting a dentists' office, and scheduling an initial dental appointment. Most often, when DRP applicants leave the eligibility screening and application appointment, they know the date of their initial dental appointment and have directions to the dentist's office.

What if I have an emergency or am in pain?

The Dental Referral Program is not able to provide emergency appointments as it can take several weeks to make an appointment with a dentist. However, most dental emergencies are due to infections, or abscesses. Abscesses cause extreme pain and usually swelling or redness. If you have swelling or pain, you might have an infection, and it is a good idea to see a medical doctor as soon as possible. **An infection is a very real medical problem that must be addressed immediately.** Applicants can go to their regular doctor, the Emergency Room, or to a Convenient Care location to seek treatment. While the infection must be treated, these medical providers will only treat the infection (i.e. antibiotics, painkillers), and cannot give dental care.

Concerns about the cost of an Emergency Room visit should not prevent getting needed treatments for infections or other health care needs. Both local hospitals have discount programs for low-income patients. You will be able to apply for assistance after receiving your bill. Applicants, who meet the DRP's income guidelines, may qualify for a 100% discount on any hospital charges. If you would like assistance applying for a hospital discount program, please call the CCHCC Consumer Health Hotline to set up an appointment at (217) 352-6533. Or to inquire about billing discounts, you may call these numbers:

Carle's *Financial Assistance Program*: (888) 712-2753
OSF Healthcare's *Financial Assistance Program*: (800) 421-5700

Provisions of the Dental Referral Program

New clients pay $15 for an initial appointment with a participating dentist. This appointment covers an oral exam and x-rays. The dentist and the client will arrange for additional treatment, with payment based on a sliding fee scale. Dental Referral Program members will receive one of three discount levels: 20%, 40%, or 60% off the dentist's usual charges. The discount level is determined by the individual's family size and household income. If your DRP dentist refers you to a dental specialist (i.e., oral surgeon, orthodontist), the DRP discount does not apply to these dental services. If you have more questions about what specific services the discount applies to, do not hesitate to ask the Dental Advocate during your screening appointment.

Payment is expected on the date of service, unless the patient and dentist agree to an alternative plan in advance.

Missed Appointments

Due to the significant need for the Dental Referral Program's services, missed dental appointments cannot be tolerated. Clients must call the dentist office 24 hours in advance to cancel an appointment. If one appointment is missed with a DRP dentist, that dentist will not see you again. If a second appointment is missed, you can longer be a Dental Referral Program member.

Likewise, you must call CCHCC at (217) 352-6533 at least 24 hours in advance if you are not able to make the scheduled enrollment appointment.

Income Eligibility Guidelines for Sliding Scale Discount (2019)

Family Size	60% Off (Pay40%) **100% FPL**	40% Off (Pay 60%) **150% FPL**	20% Off (Pay80%) **200% FPL**
1	<$12,490	<$18,735	<$24,980
2	$16,910	$25,365	$33,820
3	$21,330	$31,995	$42,660
4	$25,750	$38,625	$51,500
5	$30,170	$45,255	$60,340
6	$34,590	$51,885	$69,180
7	$39,010	$58,515	$78,020
8	$43,430	$65,145	$86,860
Each additional person	+$4,420	+$6,630	+$8,840