South Dakota Medicaid Denture Coverage



What's covered?

5-year frequency:
You may qualify for new dentures, partials, flippers, or a reline once every five years. Medicaid will only pay for replacements if:

- Your current dentures don't work anymore.
- It's been five or more years since Medicaid paid for your last set or reline.
- The 5-year rule applies to all types of dentures. If you get a partial denture now and later lose all your teeth within five years, you will not be eligible for a full denture until the 5-year period is over.

Annual maximum:
Replacement flippers, repairs, adjustments, and relines may count toward the annual maximum. Dentures, partials, and flippers do not count toward the $2,000 annual maximum for adults.

What do these terms mean?



Flippers:
Fill in the gap created by one or more missing teeth. They are not as strong as other options and can be taken out.



Partial dentures:
Replace multiple missing teeth while keeping some of your natural teeth.



Immediate dentures:
Placed right after removing your natural teeth so you're not without teeth.



Complete dentures:
Replace all teeth on the top, bottom, or both if you have no natural teeth left.

Ask your dentist which type is best for you!

Questions about Medicaid dental benefits?

1-877-841-1478 sdmedicaid@deltadentalsd.com

Coverage year is July 1 – June 30

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South Dakota Department of Social Services

Adult coverage starts at age 21

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How are dentures made?

It is important to know that it can take 5 or more visits to get a good fitting denture.

Flippers and partial dentures

Step 1:
Check-up, impressions & X-rays
The dentist checks your mouth and takes impressions (or molds) and x-rays of your teeth and gums.

Step 2:
Design & fit
The lab creates the flipper or partial denture. You may need a few visits to make sure it fits comfortably.

Step 3:
Wearing
Start using your partial denture to chew and smile. If it feels uncomfortable, go back to your dentist for adjustments.

Immediate dentures

Step 1:
Planning, X-rays & removal
The dentist takes impressions (or molds) and x-rays before removing your teeth and places the denture right after removal.

Step 2:
Adjustments
Your gums may shrink as they heal, so the denture might feel loose. The dentist will adjust it as needed, which may require several visits. You may need a reline. If your immediate denture is relined, the 5-year frequency restarts.

Complete dentures

Step 1:
Impressions, X-rays & creation
The dentist takes impressions (or molds) and x-rays of your mouth. The lab makes the denture to match your mouth and bite. This process usually takes 3 or 4 trips to the dental office.

Step 2:
Fit & adjustments
When you get the denture, give it time. It may not feel normal right away. The dentist will make adjustments, which might take several visits.

Getting used to your new dentures

It may take time to get used to your new dentures. You might need several visits to get the best fit. Always return to the same dentist for adjustments. Start with soft foods, practice talking, and follow your dentist's care instructions.



Tips for success



- See your dentist at least once a year, even if you have dentures or partials. They will check your mouth, jawbones, and screen for oral cancer.
- Dentures might feel strange at first. Be patient as you get used to them.
- Getting the right fit takes time and several appointments. Don't give up!

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