Promoting Oral Health in Schools
A Resource Guide
Third Edition
PROMOTING ORAL HEALTH IN SCHOOLS: A RESOURCE GUIDE
THIRD EDITION

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Schools are ideal settings in which to reach children and adolescents and, through these children and adolescents, families and community members. During childhood and adolescence, oral health behaviors develop, along with beliefs and attitudes. Children and adolescents are receptive to new information, and the earlier healthy oral habits are established, the greater their impact. Messages about achieving and maintaining good oral health can be reinforced regularly throughout the school years. Encouraging children and adolescents to adopt healthy oral health habits equips them with skills enabling them to make healthy decisions and adopt healthy lifestyles.

Schools can provide supportive environments for promoting oral health. A safe physical environment in the playground and throughout a school can help reduce the risk of oral trauma. If appropriate policies and practices are in place, necessary action can be taken in case of a dental emergency. School policies and practices to ensure that healthy foods are offered for school meals, in vending machines, and for school events promote healthy eating behaviors beginning at an early age. More important, schools may be a place for children and adolescents at the highest risk for oral disease to access oral health care via school-based or school-linked services. Schools can also serve as vital channels to communities. School personnel can target health-promotion activities to homes and communities. Students can pass health-promotion messages on to family members. And schools can take the lead in integrating oral health into their general health curricula.

The National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center (OHRC) developed this publication, *Promoting Oral Health in Schools: A Resource Guide* (3rd ed.), to help health professionals, program administrators, educators, parents, and others promote oral health and prevent oral disease in school-age children and adolescents. The resource guide is divided into two sections. The first section describes materials, such as brochures, fact sheets, guidelines, curricula, and reports. The second section lists federal agencies, national professional associations, resource centers, and national coalitions that may serve as resources.

Our intent is to share resources that are useful and that represent current science and practice. For further information, we encourage you to contact the organizations listed. Your state and local departments of health, state and local oral health-related associations and societies, state or local oral health coalitions, and university-based libraries are additional sources of information. OHRC will update the resource guide periodically, and we would appreciate hearing from you if you know of any relevant resources that are not included in this edition.
We are grateful to our partners at the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors and the School-Based Health Alliance for facilitating the external review of the resource guide.
MATERIALS
The materials listed in this section were published from 2011 to 2016.

**GENERAL**

**BE AN ORAL HEALTH CHAMPION: HOW SCHOOL-BASED CLINIC STAFF CAN HELP STUDENTS ACHIEVE GOOD ORAL HEALTH**

This document provides information that school-based clinic staff can use to help improve students’ oral health. The document offers tips for promoting oral health with students and parents, describes other problems that students with poor oral health may have, and offers tips for incorporating oral health into the school setting and for working with others in the community. The document emphasizes the important effect that staff can have on students’ lives by helping students achieve good oral health. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


**BEST PRACTICE APPROACHES: PROVEN AND PROMISING BEST PRACTICES FOR STATE AND COMMUNITY ORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS**

This resource provides information to help state, territorial, and community oral health programs develop public health best practices. Contents include reports on public health strategies that are supported by evidence for their impact and effectiveness. Topics include coordinated school health programs; school fluoride and dental sealant programs; children with special health care needs; surveillance systems; water fluoridation; and workforce development. The resource also provides access to state and community practice examples that illustrate successful implementation of best practice approaches. [Funded in part by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


**CHILD AND ADOLESCENT ORAL HEALTH ISSUES**

This fact sheet provides health professionals with information on issues related to child and adolescent oral health. Topics include dental caries, access to care, children and adolescents with special health care needs, dental sealants, fluorides, nutrition, injury and violence, and tobacco. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


**COMPREHENSIVE ORAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR IMPROVING CHILDREN’S AND ADOLESCENTS’ ORAL HEALTH THROUGH SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS**

This paper provides an overview of comprehensive oral health services offered in school-based health centers to assist those interested in initiating and implementing such centers. Topics include an overview and history of school-based health services, examples of national and state programs, administration, partnership and collaboration, financial and nonfinancial support, and evaluation. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]

DEFINITIONS, ORAL HEALTH POLICIES, AND CLINICAL GUIDELINES

This resource comprises definitions, policies, and clinical guidelines of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. New, revised, and reaffirmed policies and guidelines address topics such as use of fluoride, use of dental bleaching, infection control, caries-risk assessment and management, restorative dentistry, and informed consent.


DENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH WHITE PAPERS AND POLICY STATEMENTS

These statements reflect the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors’ stance on public oral health issues. Topics include community water fluoridation, dental amalgam, dental sealants and bisphenol A, fluoride supplements, fluoride toothpaste, fluoride varnish, health care reform, Healthy People 2020 and the oral health leading health indicator, integrating oral health education into health-education curricula in schools, integrating oral health into the school health model, nutrition education and healthy eating in school settings, preventing tobacco use and eliminating exposure to secondhand smoke, school-based fluoride mouthrinse programs, school-based or school-linked mobile or portable services, and school-based dental sealant programs.


ENGAGING SCHOOLS TO SUPPORT BETTER ORAL HEALTH FOR LOW-INCOME CHILDREN

This brief describes the role that school-based oral health programs can play in addressing access to oral health care for children and adolescents from families with low incomes. It highlights opportunities for state Medicaid agencies and public health programs to support school-based efforts to improve oral health among students. Contents include an overview of school-based oral health programs, a discussion of how to engage school decision-makers and other key stakeholders in advancing school-based oral health, and information about challenges and considerations related to working to engage schools and students and their families in oral health.


THE GUIDE TO COMMUNITY PREVENTIVE SERVICES: IMPROVING ORAL HEALTH

These resources provide evidence-based recommendations and findings about what works to improve public oral health. Strategies are reviewed and interventions outlined in three key areas: (1) prevention of dental caries, (2) prevention of oral and pharyngeal cancers, and (3) prevention of oral and facial injuries. Recommendations include community water fluoridation, school-based or -linked dental-sealant-delivery programs, early cancer detection, and the use of protective gear for the head and the mouth during contact sports.


INTEGRATING ORAL HEALTH INTO SCHOOL HEALTH PROGRAMS AND POLICIES

This guidebook is designed to help school board members and administrators create a school-based oral health infrastructure. The guidebook contains background information, policy-development tools, and other strategies for addressing students' oral health needs. Topics include providing comprehensive school-based support for oral health, the school board's role in policy development, and lessons from school oral health programs. Resources such as a policy development worksheet, a policy work plan and timeline, and sample school board policies are also included.
MOBILE AND PORTABLE DENTAL SERVICES IN PRESCHOOL AND SCHOOL SETTINGS: COMPLEX ISSUES

This brief highlights issues confronting communities and states providing oral health services in education settings using self-contained motorized mobile vans, nonmotorized mobile trailers, or portable dental equipment. Contents include background information on oral health services in preschools and schools and specific strategies to address key issues. Recommendations for action at the national, state, and local levels are included. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


POSITION STATEMENT: INTEGRATING ORAL HEALTH SERVICES INTO COLORADO SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS

This paper outlines cost-effective and evidence-based approaches for integrating preventive oral health services into Colorado school-based health centers. It discusses (1) the need for preventive oral health services for detecting and treating dental caries and addressing oral health disparities and (2) the impact of caries on children’s health, social welfare, and educational and economic status. The paper also discusses community, school-wide, and patient-centered approaches in school-based health centers.


REACHING NEW HEIGHTS IN HEALTH WITH SCHOOL-BASED ORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS

This paper addresses the role of school-based oral health programs in improving the oral health of Massachusetts’ children by increasing access and removing barriers to care for all children. Topics include the prevalence of oral disease in children;
preventing oral disease with community water fluoridation, topical fluoride, and dental sealants; the role of school health professionals; and types of school-based oral health programs. Additional topics include program types, billing for services, informed consent, client health records, referrals, infection control, and cessation of operation. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


**RESOURCE HIGHLIGHTS**

These resources for professionals highlight materials and websites on oral health topics. Topics include children and adolescents with special health care needs, dental caries, dental home, dental sealants, fluoridated water, fluoride varnish, health literacy, injury, K–12 education, mobile and portable services, nutrition, primary care, quality improvement, school health services, school readiness, and tobacco. Some of the materials and websites are available in Spanish. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


**SAFETY NET DENTAL CLINIC MANUAL**

This manual is designed to help dental clinic staff with all aspects of clinic development and ongoing operations. Chapter topics include partnerships and planning, facility design and staffing, financing, clinic operations, quality improvement, and program sustainability. Links to sample policies, efficiency tips, professional standards, supply lists, floor plans, design tips, equipment photographs, customizable budget worksheets, funding strategies, quality-improvement plans, fact sheets, and websites are included. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


**SAMPLE LETTER TO DENTIST, DENTAL HYGIENIST: JOIN SCHOOL WELLNESS COUNCIL**

This sample letter can be used by school nurses to invite a dentist or dental hygienist to join a school’s wellness council. The letter provides a brief rationale for why it is important for schools to promote oral health among students, explains the purpose of a school wellness council, and describes how the dentist or dental hygienist would work with council members to achieve goals.


**SAMPLE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

This sample memorandum of understanding can be customized to serve as an agreement between a school district and an oral health professional providing oral health services to students. The document includes information about the scope of the agreement, terms of the agreement, insurance and liability, and the independent contractor status of the program.


**SAMPLE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)**

This sample memorandum of understanding can be customized to serve as an agreement between a sponsoring agency, school, and school district. The document includes information about support (facilities, equipment and supplies, handling emergencies, program components) that the
school will provide to oral health program staff. It also includes information about the services (on-site services, referrals) that the oral health program staff will provide to the school.


SCHOOL HEALTH POLICY: AN AVENUE TO COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

This report presents findings from an evaluation of a project designed to provide technical assistance to local stakeholders in developing, promoting, and adopting school oral health policies. Contents include a description of the project, the evaluation methods, a summary of findings from individual sites and overall, recommendations, and next steps.


SCHOOL NURSES’ SELF-ASSESSMENT OF ORAL HEALTH KNOWLEDGE

This tool is designed to help school nurses assess their knowledge of children’s oral health. Contents include multiple-choice questions on topics such as oral hygiene, screening, risk assessment, injuries, and nutrition. Once completed, the assessment may be downloaded with questions, answers, and explanations.


SELECTING A SCHOOL-BASED ORAL HEALTH CARE PROGRAM: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR SCHOOL STAFF

This document provides guidance on choosing a school-based oral health program in Michigan. Topics include why it is important for school health programs to be community focused and why community-based programs should be allowed to provide oral health services to students in schools. Additional topics include references, ownership, and funding; program eligibility, treatment options, follow-up and emergency care, and appointments; service location and equipment needs; supervision, quality assurance, informed consent, and referral; and data collection, record keeping, and sharing of health information.


SMILES FOR LIFE: A NATIONAL ORAL HEALTH CURRICULUM

This curriculum for health professionals and educators comprises eight courses addressing oral health. Topics include the relationship between oral health and systemic health; caries risk assessment, fluoride varnish, and counseling; oral examination; acute dental problems; and oral health for children, adults, pregnant women, and older adults. Pocket cards and applications for handheld devices summarizing key point-of-care information on oral health for children and adults and dental emergencies are available. A mobile application is also available.

STATE HEALTH DEPARTMENT LEADERSHIP IN ADDRESSING CHRONIC HEALTH CONDITIONS IN SCHOOLS: CASE STUDIES FROM MASSACHUSETTS AND MISSOURI

These case studies highlight the work and accomplishments of state health agencies in Massachusetts and Missouri in addressing chronic health conditions in the school environment. Topics include collaborating with health and education partners; strengthening school nursing infrastructure and health services, including oral health services; identifying and tracking students with chronic health conditions; and meeting management and care needs of students with chronic health conditions.


WHOLE SCHOOL, WHOLE COMMUNITY, WHOLE CHILD ORAL HEALTH TOOLKIT

This toolkit contains resources to help health professionals, teachers and school administrators, community health workers, parents, and others use a whole child approach to promoting oral health in schools and improving school-age children’s ability to learn. Contents include a fact sheet, a presentation, a capacity-building tool, and related resources.


EDUCATION

BRUSH TWO MINUTES TWICE A DAY! KEEP A HEALTHY GRIN!

This calendar is designed to assist parents and others in helping children maintain good oral health by tracking the number of times they brush their teeth with fluoridated toothpaste each day and the amount of time they spend brushing. Contents include information on how to brush and the role of dental sealants, flossing, and fluorides in preventing tooth decay. Tips on eating healthy and using mouthguards to prevent oral injuries are also included. The calendar is available in Arabic, English, Hmong, Russian, Spanish, Simplified Chinese, Somali, and Vietnamese.


CAPTAIN SUPERTOOTH

This program teaches students in kindergarten through third grade about the benefits of good oral hygiene. Captain Supertooth, a costumed superhero, educates children about toothbrushing, flossing, eating a balanced diet, and visiting the dentist. The program typically lasts about 30 minutes and can be tailored to fit a school’s needs. The program website features games and activities for children, tips and information for parents, and a curriculum and tools for teachers and school nurses.


CODE RED: THE ORAL HEALTH CRISIS IN YOUR CLASSROOM—EMPOWERING THE TEACHER TO TEACH ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION: A CURRICULUM RESOURCE REFERENCE

This handbook encourages teachers to incorporate oral health education into their lesson plans and
promotes information about curriculum resources for students in kindergarten through 12th grades. Contents include information about read-aloud books, songs and poems, and videos, as well as ideas for science experiments and field trips. Information about oral health programs, careers, and organizations is also included.


**DENTAL HEALTH EDUCATION RESOURCE GUIDE: PRESCHOOL THROUGH 2ND GRADE AND 3RD GRADE THROUGH 5TH GRADE**

This guide provides information and resources to help school-age children understand the importance of good oral health and preventive oral health care. The guide is divided into two sections. The first section is designed for students in preschool through second grade and the second for students in third through fifth grades. Each section contains goals, objectives, and age-appropriate games and puzzles.


**DENTAL PROFESSIONALS**

These resources for oral health professionals focus on promoting good oral health habits among children and their families. Contents include a video, posters, an activity sheet, take-home materials for parents, a coloring sheet, and a report card. Topics include toothbrushing, flossing, and mouth rinsing.


**FALL FOR SMILES**

These campaign resources for oral health professionals, families, and the media focus on the importance of regular dental visits, toothbrushing and flossing, and avoiding tobacco. Contents include an activity booklet with a coloring sheet, toothbrushing chart, and tip sheet; a promotion guide with press/letter templates, posters, and related items; a campaign booklet with information on how to get involved, tips for toothbrushing, and activities for families; a guide about social media and language; stories; a quiz; and a webinar. Images and a logo are also available.


**FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL CHILDREN’S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH**

These materials are designed to help oral health teams, teachers, and parents raise awareness about the importance of oral health during National Children’s Dental Health Month. Contents include a program-planning guide and posters and activity sheets in English and Spanish for children and adolescents.


**FLUORIDE: CAVITY FIGHTER**

This poster describes ways to maintain good oral health in children. Topics include drinking water that has fluoride; brushing teeth twice a day with the right amount of fluoridated toothpaste; eating healthy foods, limiting sweet drinks, sticky candies, and snacks; and talking to a dentist or doctor about fluoride treatment. The poster is available in English and Spanish.

FOR TEACHERS

These resources for educators focus on oral health in children. Contents include activity guides for kindergarten through third grade. Mobile applications, songs, posters, storybooks (in English and Spanish), a flip chart, a video, and educational games are also available.


FUTURE SMILES PROGRAM EVALUATION: TEACHER INTERVIEW SUMMARY

This report describes a study to evaluate a preventive oral health care program for children in the Clark County School District (Nevada). Contents include an executive summary, background information, study methods and results, and a conclusion. Topics include the value of the school-based program as perceived by teachers and recommendations for improving oral health services and delivery of services in schools.


HEALTHY SMILES, HEALTHY CHILDREN

This brochure for parents discusses oral problems including plaque, tooth decay, and gum disease, as well as tips for preventing such problems in children. Topics include toothbrushing, flossing, healthy snacks, flouride, dental sealants, and oral health care visits. Information about low-cost or no-cost dental insurance is also presented. The content is provided in English on one side and in Spanish on the other.


IMPROVING ORAL HEALTH LITERACY: TEACHING PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS THROUGH THE LESSONS IN A LUNCH BOX PROGRAM

This course for oral health professionals outlines steps for implementing the Lessons in a Lunch Box program, a strategy to address health literacy with elementary school students and their families. Contents include an overview of health literacy, information on how to present the program and register schools for the program, and resources. Topics include routine oral health maintenance, oral disease prevention, healthy eating, and careers in dentistry. Continuing education credits are available.


LAND OF SMILES

This curriculum is designed to teach students in kindergarten through third grade about oral health. Contents include videos and corresponding lesson plan activity sheets. Topics include tooth basics, cavities, plaque, visiting the dentist, and the relationship between healthy mouths and healthy bodies. The curriculum also includes live performances in schools and at community events.


MOUTH HEALTHY™ KIDS

These resources are designed to help oral health professionals and teachers educate children and students about good oral hygiene habits and the importance of oral health. Contents include videos, games and quizzes, and activity sheets. Lesson plans for students in preschool through eighth grade with materials to support the lesson plans, information about careers in dentistry, and sample presentations are also included. The resources are available in English and Spanish.
PROMOTING HEALTHY SMILES THROUGH EDUCATION AND PREVENTION

This brochure describes a program to assess the oral health status of school-age children and implement a public health intervention to reduce tooth decay. The fact sheet describes the following program components: surveillance and screening, education, prevention, and referral. Additional topics include community responsibilities, the benefits of fluoride, and fluoride varnish characteristics and application. Educational materials, screening forms, oral health supplies, training, and technical assistance are also discussed.


SMILE SAVERS ACTIVITY BOOKS

These activity books focus on the role of oral hygiene and nutrition in preventing tooth decay and bad breath. One book is designed for students in kindergarten through grade 4 and one for students in grades 5 and up. Activities include coloring pages, connect the dots, crossword puzzles, and word finds. Topics include toothbrushing and flossing and choosing healthy snacks.


TAR WARS®

These resources are designed to help coordinators, presenters, and teachers implement a tobacco-education program for students in grades 4 and 5. The program teaches students about the short-term consequences of tobacco use, the cost associated with using tobacco products, and the advertising techniques used by the tobacco industry to market their products to young people. Contents include

ORAL HEALTH LITERACY

This issue of the *Journal of the California Dental Association* focuses on oral health literacy. Topics include a national plan to improve health literacy in dentistry; the potential to address oral health literacy in K–12 schools; creating and maintaining health literate dental practices, clinics, and schools; and increasing health literacy for oral cancers among professionals and the public.

INJURY PREVENTION AND CARE

DENTAL EMERGENCY GUIDE

This fact sheet provides information on dental emergency first aid for school nurses or teachers in New Jersey. Situations discussed include losing a primary tooth, an avulsed (knocked out) tooth and bleeding care, a displaced or dislodged tooth, a broken or fractured tooth, a jaw dislocation or fracture, signs of a concussion, a toothache or abscess, and soft tissue injuries to the lips or tongue. Tips are also provided for managing prolonged bleeding or post-extraction bleeding as well as for dealing with broken dental braces or other appliances.


HANDLING ORTHODONTIC EMERGENCIES

This fact sheet for school nurses discusses how to handle problems involving dental braces. Contents include a list of tools and supplies, an illustrated description of the components of braces, and a list of treatments. Problems and responses to them are listed in the order of the least severe to the most severe and include food caught between teeth; ligatures coming off; discomfort; mouth sores; irritation of lips or cheeks; protruding wire; loose brackets, wires, or bands; and swallowed components. A presentation and accompanying script are also available for educating school nurses about the needs of students in orthodontic treatment.

NUTRITION

THE DRINK PYRAMID

This image and related resources are designed to help teachers, parents, and others promote healthy drink choices for children and adolescents. The resources include curricula for children ages 1–6 and for children and adolescents ages 7–18 containing lesson plans, pre-and post-tests, presentation slides, worksheets, and science experiments.


HEALTHY KIDS NEW MEXICO

These resources are designed to assist parents and teachers in motivating children to eat five or more fruits and vegetables a day, trim screen time to 2 hours a day, be active for at least 1 hour a day, and drink plenty of water every day. Contents include tips for parents, activities and lessons for teaching the importance of healthy eating and physical activity and for meeting state benchmarks and standards, a toolkit to help teachers implement the 21 Day Challenge in school, and a document to help parents and teachers track students’ progress in altering their eating and physical activity behaviors. The resources are available in English and Spanish. Data on the prevalence and implications of childhood obesity are also provided.


INCREASING ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER IN SCHOOLS

This toolkit describes key steps that schools can take to meet federal requirements for drinking water during meal periods, as well as to make drinking water available and accessible across the school campus. Topics include conducting a needs assessment of current drinking water policies and practices, developing a school water access plan, implementing the plan, and evaluating the success of the plan. Appendices include a school drinking water needs assessment checklist and planning guide, a diagram of water testing in schools, examples of water dispensers for schools, strategies for overcoming potential challenges, and water access key stakeholder interview questions.


KEEP IT FLOWING: A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO SCHOOL DRINKING WATER PLANNING, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR

This guide addresses the need for drinking water in schools and outlines steps for providing adequate numbers of drinking fountains and tap water dispensers in school buildings. The content is organized to mirror typical school organizational structure, providing information about policy and oversight for state and tribal agencies and information focused on implementation and maintenance for schools. Topics include access to free and safe drinking water within a convenient distance of any location on school grounds; factors that impact whether water is safe to drink and appealing to students, teachers, and staff; and campaigns and policies designed to increase student water consumption.


PARENTS MAKING WAVES: A TOOLKIT FOR PROMOTING DRINKING WATER IN SCHOOLS

This toolkit is designed to assist parents in improving access to drinking water at school. Contents include a tip sheet, a sample school wellness policy and letter to a school administrator, tools for conducting a drinking water inventory and observing students drinking water, and an action plan checklist. Topics include how to fund a school water program and ensuring that school water is safe,
understanding tap water sources, and promoting water intake in schools.


**SUGAR-SWEETENED BEVERAGES PLAYBOOK**

This guide presents a 10-strategy path to reduce sugar-sweetened beverage (SSB) consumption and improve health in communities and states. Contents include an example and a key resource, usually a model policy, for each strategy. Topics include public education campaigns and restrictions on the availability of SSBs. A poster is also available.


**WHERE’S THE SUGAR?**

This video is designed to help children, adolescents, and adults explore the connection between food and oral health. The video focuses on a simple math equation that illustrates how to measure the amount of sugar in snacks and encourages limiting sugar-sweetened beverages and foods for better oral health.


**SCHOOL READINESS**

**THE ABC’S OF ORAL HEALTH AT SCHOOL: ASSESSMENT, BEST RESOURCES AND COMMUNITY BASED INITIATIVES**

This archived webinar, held on October 15, 2014, describes oral health issues among children and adolescents and how school nurses can identify and use evidence-based resources to promote oral health and improve access to oral health care. Topics include conducting risk assessments, planning and implementing prevention programs, and mobilizing community partners to leverage resources and advocate for oral health in school-age children and adolescents.


**THE BASIC SCREENING SURVEY: CHILDREN’S ORAL HEALTH SCREENING IN COLORADO, 2011–2012**

This report discusses a statewide oral health screening survey of students in kindergarten and third grade enrolled in Colorado’s public elementary schools in 2011–2012. In addition to presenting key findings, the report discusses screening methods and provides detailed results. Results include information about burden among students in third grade, burden by age, burden by school socioeconomic status, burden by race and ethnicity, burden by sex, trends in results of oral health screening; and *Healthy People 2020* objectives. [Funded in part by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


**KINDERGARTEN ORAL HEALTH REQUIREMENT (UPD. ED.)**

This resource provides information on state legislation that requires an oral health assessment for children entering public school for the first time (at kindergarten or first grade). It contains information about the Kindergarten Dental Checkup Campaign, information for specific audiences (oral health professionals, parents and guardians, schools, and clinics), materials for children’s oral health, and information about finding oral health care. State-required assessment forms (parent letter
and waiver) are also available in English, Arabic, Armenian, Chinese, German, Hmong, Japanese, Khmer (Cambodian), Korean, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Spanish, Tagalog, and Vietnamese.


SCHOOL DENTAL SCREENINGS

These resources are intended for use by health professionals who conduct oral health screenings of students enrolled in elementary or high schools in Iowa. Contents include frequently asked questions, a screening certificate, and an exemption form. Information on rules and reporting is provided. A flyer for parents or guardians (in English and Spanish) is also included.


SCHOOL READINESS INITIATIVE: CONNECTING ORAL HEALTH AND SCHOOL READINESS

This document describes a statewide initiative to address the physical well-being and language development domains of school readiness by providing oral health education and outreach to young children and their families residing in Montana communities. Topics include results from a community-based survey to assess parents’ perceptions, attitudes, and opinions about oral health. Additional topics include how the results are being used, what parents and caregivers can do to ensure good oral health for children, tips on toothbrushing, and a list of Montana resources.


SYHC (SAN YSIDRO HEALTH CENTER) SCHOOL READINESS INITIATIVE: FINAL REPORT

This final report describes a program to provide young children from families with low incomes with health, developmental and behavioral, and oral health screenings before the children enter school. Topics include project goals and objectives, methodology, evaluation, results, and outcomes. The report also provides information on how the results will be disseminated and used. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


WEST VIRGINIA SCHOOL READINESS PROFILE 2014

This report details the types of programmatic and child outcome data available to county collaborative early childhood teams to assist them in establishing school-readiness goals. Contents include kindergarten-entry health data, including oral health data. Potential uses for the data are discussed.


SCREENING, EXAMINATION, AND CARE

2013–14 DIGITAL CENSUS REPORT

This report presents findings from a national survey of centers and programs connected with schools to document the role of school-based health centers (SBHCs) in meeting the health care needs of children and adolescents. The report describes the funding sources that support the SBHCs, policies, and characteristics of schools where SBHCs are located. The analysis and data presented in the report include SBHCs that provide primary care.
Topics include growth; access; comprehensive care, including behavioral health and oral health care; adolescent care; health system partnerships; sustainability; and accountability. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


**ADMINISTRATION MANUAL: WISCONSIN SEAL-A-SMILE**

This manual provides information on administering Seal-A-Smile (SAS)-funded projects in Wisconsin. The purpose of the SAS program is to improve the oral health of children through school-based dental sealant programs. Topics include project implementation, expenses, payment procedures, project changes, program oversight, performance benchmarks, reports and data collection, publicity, policies and procedures, and references. A request for reimbursement form and screening survey criteria are included as appendices.


**ARIZONA SCHOOL-BASED SEALANT PROGRAM (REV.)**

This brochure discusses the importance of dental sealants in preventing tooth decay in children and encourages parents and other caregivers to enroll their children in Arizona’s sealant program for students in grades 2 and 6 who are at risk for tooth decay. Data and key references from state and national reports on children’s oral health and overall well-being are cited throughout the brochure.


**ARKANSAS STATE DENTAL SEALANT PLAN (REV.)**

This document outlines a plan to promote the placement of dental sealants for children throughout the state of Arkansas. Contents include information about previous sealant efforts, a needs assessment, and the revision of the state sealant program. Additional topics include infrastructure, funding, and environment; the evaluation plan; and sustainability.


**BE SMART AND SEAL THEM! A SCHOOL-BASED DENTAL SEALANT MANUAL**

This manual provides information on planning, implementing, evaluating, and promoting a program that provides oral health screenings and dental sealants for students in second grade in Colorado. Contents include information about the program’s history and the sealant-placement process, school-based vs. school-linked programs, retention checks and follow-up, evaluation, and budget. The appendices contain surveys; consent letters, forms, and report cards for families; data and referral forms; a sample press release; a fact sheet and brochure on sealants; and other resources. Selected materials are available in English and Spanish. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


**BEST PRACTICES FOR THE APPLICATION OF DENTAL SEALANTS IN SCHOOL-BASED ORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS**

This fact sheet provides information about best practices for applying dental sealants in school-based oral health programs. Topics include
indications for sealant placement, tooth surface assessment, sealant placement, and sealant evaluation.


**CERTIFICATION FOR LOCAL SCHOOL DENTAL SEALANT PROGRAMS**

This document presents the final text rule requiring local school dental sealant programs to be certified by the Oregon Health Authority before dental sealants can be provided in a school setting. Contents include guidance on the requirements for certification, the application process for certification and recertification, monitoring of local school dental sealant programs, and decertification or provisional certification for programs out of compliance. Information about certification and clinical training is also available.


**COMPREHENSIVE ORAL HEALTH SERVICES THROUGH SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS: EXPERT WORKGROUP MEETING SUMMARY**

This report describes a meeting of children’s oral health experts held on November 2–3, 2011, to create a new grant program to support comprehensive oral health programs in school-based health centers. Contents include meeting objectives, remarks, policy implications and opportunities, promising practices, partnership and collaboration, financial and nonfinancial support, and evaluation. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


**THE DENTAL EXAMINATION COMPLIANCE STATUS OF KINDERGARTEN, SECOND, AND SIXTH GRADE CHILDREN IN ILLINOIS FOR SCHOOL YEAR 2013–2014**

This report summarizes statewide dental examination compliance and oral health status of children in kindergarten and second and third grades in Illinois. Contents include findings on the level of compliance and noncompliance for all students, public school students, and non-public-school students. Compliance and health status data are reported for the state as a whole, by counties, and by grade level. The report also discusses implications of the data across the state.


**DENTAL SEALANTS: PROVEN TO PREVENT TOOTH DECAY—A LOOK AT ISSUES IMPACTING THE DELIVERY OF STATE AND LOCAL SCHOOL-BASED SEALANT PROGRAMS**

This report provides an overview of program designs and key issues in school-based dental sealant programs. Topics include factors that may facilitate or hinder program financing, impact, and sustainability. The report describes the efforts of five states (Illinois, New York, Ohio, South Carolina, and Wisconsin) with longstanding school-based dental sealant programs and provides recommendations for promoting children’s oral health through such programs. Appendices include survey forms of pre-tested questions for state and local oral health and dental sealant programs.
GUIDELINES FOR MOBILE/PORTABLE DENTAL CARE PROGRAMS WORKING IN SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS

These guidelines are designed for evaluating proposals for establishing school-based oral health programs. The guidelines focus on helping to ensure the health and safety of all students who receive services provided by mobile and portable oral health programs in school-based settings and on helping to ensure that such services are coordinated and documented.


IMPLEMENTING SCHOOL-BASED SEALANT PROGRAMS IN FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS IN LOUISIANA

This document provides guidance on collaborating and partnering to implement school-based dental sealant programs in federally qualified health centers in Louisiana. Topics include applying for a license to operate portable and mobile dental equipment, infection control recommendations and standards, and information required in the consent form for student participation in the program.


Documenting the Link Between School-Based Health Centers and Academic Success: A Guide for the Field

This guide is designed to help school-based health center (SBHC) partners document the link between SBHC services, including oral health services, and academic indicators. The guide includes a review of the literature on the connection between health and academic achievement and strategies for demonstrating this link, ranging from simple, low-cost strategies to more in-depth methodologies. The advantages and disadvantages of each approach are discussed.


Fluoride Mouthrinse Program Manual

This manual provides program guidelines, procedures, and forms for Fluoride Mouthrinse Program coordinators, teachers, school administrators, and parents in Ohio. Topics include obtaining parental consent for participating students, mixing the mouthrinse, methods of implementation, options for student involvement, and tips for teachers during the rinse process.


INTEGRATING SUSTAINABLE ORAL HEALTH SERVICES INTO PRIMARY CARE IN SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS: A FRAMEWORK

This framework offers ideas for school-based health centers (SBHCs) to consider when integrating sustainable comprehensive oral health services into primary care to improve the quality of oral health care of school-age children and adolescents. The framework presents a description of six levels of integration to help SBHCs evaluate their current level of integration and ten key elements to more fully integrate sustainable comprehensive oral health services into primary care in SBHCs.


KEEP KIDS SMILING: PROMOTING ORAL HEALTH THROUGH THE MEDICAID BENEFIT FOR CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

This guide provides examples of successful approaches to improving oral health care access and use for children and adolescents enrolled in Medicaid. Contents include facts on oral health and why it is important, strategies for promoting oral health, and resources. Strategies include improving state Medicaid program performance through policy changes; maximizing provider participation; directly addressing children, adolescents, and their families; and partnering with stakeholders.


KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP ORAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT: CLARE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND HARRISON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

This report presents findings on oral health among children entering kindergarten in two Michigan school districts. Contents include key findings from oral health screenings conducted by dental hygienists and parent assessment. The report provides information about early childhood caries, treatment urgency, white spot lesions, teeth with untreated decay, treated teeth, and primary teeth by school district, insurance status, and gender.


LOUISIANA SEALS SMILES: SCHOOL-BASED DENTAL SEALANT PROGRAM MANUAL

This manual provides information on implementing a dental sealant program in communities and schools in Louisiana. Topics include program history, school-based vs. school-linked programs, planning and promoting a program, retention checks and follow-up, evaluation, and budget. Forms for clinic operation, data collection, and evaluation are included in the appendices.


MAKING MILWAUKEE SMILE: A REPORT ON EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE ORAL HEALTH OF MILWAUKEE CHILDREN 2011

This report describes a 3-year project to reduce the proportion of children with urgent oral health needs, increase participation in school-based oral health programs, and increase the role of primary care health professionals in addressing oral disease in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The project placed oral health care coordinators in schools and trained health professionals to perform oral health risk assessments, provide anticipatory guidance, and apply fluoride varnish. Report contents include a summary of the project's development process, objectives, and
evaluation methods; demographics and key findings; and project participants’ success stories.


**MARYLAND MIGHTY TOOTH: SCHOOL-BASED DENTAL SEALANT TRAINING PROGRAM**

This training program for school-based dental sealant program staff in Maryland provides information about the history, operations, and underlying principles of school-based dental sealant programs. Topics include guidelines for infection control in school-based programs, tooth selection and assessment for dental sealants, the sealant-application process, and program operations. Self-assessment quizzes are included.


**MEDICAID’S EARLY AND PERIODIC, SCREENING, DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT IN SCHOOLS AND THE FREE CARE RULE**

This newsletter describes the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic, and Treatment (EPSDT) program and opportunities for school districts to significantly expand the range of health care services, including oral health services, available to students from families with low incomes. Topics include the importance of having sufficient numbers and types of health professionals participating in Medicaid programs in their area, how providing Medicaid services in schools can help to address children’s and adolescents’ unmet health care needs, and federal guidance on Medicaid reimbursement for services that are provided at no charge (previously known as the Free Care Rule).


**MISSISSIPPI SEALS PROGRAM**

This resource provides information on efforts to provide oral-health-related prevention services, including screenings, fluoride varnish applications, and dental sealants, to students in Mississippi schools. It describes dental sealants, how the program works and who is eligible, and how schools and oral health professionals can get involved. A program flyer, enrollment forms for schools and providers, a parental consent form, and an oral health evaluation results form are also included.


**MISSOURI PREVENTIVE SERVICES PROGRAM: A REPORT FROM THE 2014–2015 SCHOOL YEAR**

This report highlights the accomplishments of a program to promote oral health among infants, children, and adolescents from birth to age 18 in Missouri through oral health education and preventive oral health services. Topics include information about oral health screening, fluoride varnish application, and referral for needed oral health care. Contents include the number of participants and percentages of children with poor oral hygiene, dental sealants, treated tooth decay, untreated decay, treatment urgency, white spot lesions, and early childhood caries. Recommendations are also provided.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT OF SCHOOL-BASED DENTAL SEALANT CAPACITY AND PRIORITY POPULATIONS IN ARKANSAS

This report identifies elementary schools in which 50 percent or more of students are eligible for free and reduced lunch (defined as high-risk) and existing dental sealant programs in Arkansas. Topics include the number of high-risk schools by county, the number of students in high-risk schools by county, high-risk schools with sealant programs, and high-risk schools by county with available dental offices.


OHIO’S SCHOOL NURSE TOOLKIT: A GUIDE TO HELP MAKE GOOD DECISIONS FOR YOUR SCHOOL’S ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM

This toolkit is designed to assist school nurses in planning and implementing an oral health program at their school or in their district. Topics include needs assessments; oral health care education for school nurses, for teachers, for students, and for families; prevention; screenings; and referrals.


ORAL HEALTH CONCERNS AND DENTAL CARE AMONG RHODE ISLAND MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS, 2013

This report presents data for students in public middle and high schools (grades 6–12) in Rhode Island on self-reported oral health concerns and receipt of oral health care. Topics include percentages of students who reported tooth or mouth pain or soreness, self-consciousness or embarrassment because of the teeth or mouth, and a dental visit during the past 12 months.


ORAL HEALTH SCHOOL-BASED SCREENING IN MONTANA

This newsletter issue focuses on school-based oral health screenings for dental caries and dental sealants among students in third grade in Montana. Topics include the history of oral health screenings in the state, program participation and activities, and key national health objectives for oral health. Recommendations for establishing a screening program are also included.


PARENT’S CONSENT FORM FOR CHILD PARTICIPATION IN TOOTH BRUSHING

This form (letter) is designed for dental hygienists to use in obtaining positive (active) parental consent for toothbrushing among students participating in state-mandated oral health screenings (grades 1, 3, and 7) and oral health education (grades K through 8) in Pennsylvania.


PARTNERING TO MAKE ORAL HEALTH A PRIORITY

This videocast outlines school nurses’ role in providing oral health leadership in school settings. Topics include providing oral health information and resources, establishing parent partnerships,
providing preventive oral health care, and responding to dental emergencies.


PARTNERING TO SEAL-A-SMILE: A REPORT ON THE SUCCESS OF WISCONSIN SCHOOL-BASED DENTAL SEALANT PROGRAMS

This report provides an overview of Wisconsin’s Seal-a-Smile program, including highlights of the program’s expansion and findings from data collected annually from 2005 to 2010, as well as data collected from other school-based programs. Topics include dental caries rates, children served, dental-sealant-retention rates, and other measures.


PROMISING PRACTICES TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO ORAL HEALTH CARE IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

This issue brief presents findings from a literature review of oral health programs and lessons learned from seven Rural Health Care Services Outreach Program (Section 330A) grantees. Topics include program models, resources needed to support programs, program evaluation and sustainability strategies, and implications for communities. The brief also shares approaches and tools.


PROOF OF SCHOOL DENTAL EXAMINATION FORM

This form is designed to assist school districts, oral health professionals, and parents in documenting the oral health status and service needs of children in kindergarten and second and third grades in Illinois. Topics include the presence of dental sealants, dental caries experience and restoration history, untreated caries, soft tissue pathology, and malocclusion; the need for urgent treatment, restorative care, and preventive care; and other service needs.


PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM GUIDANCE: DHEC SCHOOL-BASED DENTAL PREVENTION PROGRAM (UPD. ED.)

This manual provides expectations and standards for programs that enter into a memorandum of agreement with the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, School-Based Dental Prevention Program. Topics include regulatory compliance, program operation, data management and monitoring, and reporting requirements. Supporting documents and educational resources are included.


SAVE OUR SMILES FLUORIDE MOUTH RINSE PROGRAM FOR NEW JERSEY SCHOOLS: PROGRAM MANUAL

This manual provides instructions for implementing a school-based fluoride mouth rinse program for students in first through sixth grades in New Jersey schools. The manual contains information on program administration and procedures,
including coordinator responsibilities and record keeping. Background information, parent permission slips in English and Spanish, a training documentation form, and other resources are included.


**SCHOOL-BASED DENTAL SEALANT PROGRAM MANUAL**

This manual provides professional recommendations and states’ expectations for school-based dental sealant programs (SBSPs) funded by the Ohio Department of Health (ODH). Contents include local program operations, regulatory compliance, compliance with ODH policies, sealant program eligibility, sample program forms, clinical materials and methods, retention checks, Medicaid billing and collection, reimbursement guidelines, health professional enrollment, filing claims, performance benchmarks and performance standards, reporting, ODH program reviews, and compliance with other ODH requirements. The appendices contain sample forms, records, letters, and other practice-related materials.


**SCHOOL-BASED DENTAL SEALANT PROGRAM: REFERENCE GUIDE FOR TOOTH SURFACE ASSESSMENT AND SELECTION**

This guide for professionals participating in Ohio’s dental sealant program provides information about the criteria and methods for deciding sealant placement. Topics include visual assessment to detect surface cavitation and/or signs of dentinal involvement before sealant placement, differences between noncavitated and cavitated dental caries lesions, and selecting sealants for repair or replacement. Photographs are included.


**SCHOOL-BASED DENTAL SEALANT PROGRAMS**

This fact sheet for consumers presents information on school-based dental sealant programs. Topics include what dental sealants are, what school-based dental sealant programs are, evidence showing that the programs work, and recommendations for programs. Links to resources such as national reports, fact sheets, best practices, and research are included.


**SCHOOL-BASED FLUORIDE RINSE PROGRAM: PARENT PERMISSION FORM**

This form is designed to assist schools in raising awareness about and participation in a school fluoride rinse program for students in grades 1–6 who have other sources of fluoride but who may be at risk for tooth decay owing to other factors. Contents include information about fluoride and space for parents to indicate whether they want their child to take part in the free, weekly fluoride rinse program. The form is available in English, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Somali.

SCHOOL-BASED FLUORIDE TABLET PROGRAM: PARENT PERMISSION FORM

This form is designed to assist schools in raising awareness about and participation in a school fluoride tablet program for students in grades K–6 who live in areas without optimum levels of fluoride in the water supply and who are not taking fluoride tablets at home. The form includes information about fluoride and has space for parents to indicate whether they want their child to take part in the free, weekly fluoride tablet program. The form is available in English, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese, and Somali.


SCHOOL-BASED HEALTH CENTERS IN NEW YORK STATE: ENSURING SUSTAINABILITY AND ESTABLISHING OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH

This report examines the transition of Medicaid reimbursements from a fee-for-service methodology to one that involves managed care organizations and the impact of the transition on the viability of school-based health centers in New York. Contents include a brief history of school-based health centers, who they serve, and where they are located; service provision and staffing; cost of service and implications for public health and students' academic performance; sources of financing and sponsorship; recommendations for ensuring sustainability; and opportunities for growth.


SCHOOL-BASED ORAL HEALTH CARE: A CHOICE FOR MICHIGAN CHILDREN

This document describes the role of school-based oral health programs (SBOHPs) in improving access and removing barriers to oral health care for students in Michigan. Contents include information about the different types of care that can be offered in SBOHPs, including screening and education, fluoride rinse, fluoride varnish, and dental sealants. The document also explains the differences between preventive and comprehensive care, including services provided, necessary equipment, and services commonly referred out.


SEAL AMERICA: THE PREVENTION INVENTION (3RD ED.)

This manual is designed to assist health professionals in initiating and implementing a school-based dental sealant program. Staff of established programs may also find the manual of interest as they work to improve specific aspects of their programs. Topics include gaining and maintaining community support; staffing; purchasing dental equipment and supplies; funding; developing forms and records, tracking students, and collecting and analyzing data; referral and follow-up; and program evaluation. A video is also available. [Fundied by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


SEAL RI! SCHOOL BASED DENTAL SEALANT PROGRAM 2013–14

This web map provides data from SEAL RI!, a partnership between the Rhode Island Department of Health and community organizations to provide free oral health services, such as dental sealants,
to children while they are in school. Contents of the site are presented by school district. Topics include the percentage of schools served by SEAL RI!, the percentage of schools with 50 percent or more of students eligible for the Free and Reduced School Meal Program (FSRM), the percentage of schools with 50 percent or more students eligible for FSRM and served by SEAL RI!, the percentage of students in first through third grades screened by SEAL RI!, and the percentage of students in first through third grades who received at least one first molar sealant. Additional topics include the number of students in first through third grades who received at least one first molar sealant, and the number of first molar teeth with sealants placed.


SMART MOUTHS, SMART KIDS: IMPROVING DENTAL HEALTH FOR COLORADO STUDENTS

This toolkit provides information and resources on assessing the feasibility of initiating school-linked oral health services and designing and building a sustainable school oral health program. Contents include resources for generating ideas, assessing community needs, creating a budget, developing a business plan, providing a rationale for activities, framing an idea, building a program, and maintaining and sustaining a successful school oral health program. The toolkit also includes a data application (a targeted and focused electronic health record) that can be used to monitor children’s oral health status over time.


STATES STALLED ON DENTAL SEALANT PROGRAMS

This report presents findings from a survey of dental directors and state dental boards to assess progress on four benchmarks reflecting the reach, efficiency, and effectiveness of state dental sealant programs. Topics include the extent to which sealant programs are serving high-need schools, whether dental hygienists are allowed to place sealants in school programs without a dentist’s prior exam, whether states collect data and participate in a national database, and the proportion of students receiving sealants across the state. State fact sheets are also available.


SURVEY OF SCHOOL-BASED ORAL HEALTH PROGRAMS OPERATED BY HEALTH CENTERS: DESCRIPTIVE FINDINGS

This paper presents findings from a national survey and follow-up focus groups on oral health programs located in school-based health centers and operated by health centers. Topics include integrated services, schools and students served, delivery model, months and days of operation, program services and staff, referrals, client sources, financial report frequency, billing, and payers. Additional topics include starting a school-based oral health program, funding start-up capital expenses, promising practices, and future directions.


TOOTH TUTOR DENTAL ACCESS PROGRAM

This resource describes a program to help families, oral health professionals, elementary school nurses, and others ensure that every child has access to preventive, restorative, and continuous oral health care. Contents include information about screening and oral health education in the classroom. A video for parents about toothbrushing is also available.

WASHINGTON STATE SCHOOL-BASED SEALANT AND FLUORIDE VARNISH PROGRAM GUIDELINES (3RD ED.)

These guidelines aim to facilitate the implementation of school-based dental-sealant and fluoride-varnish programs in Washington. Topics include the assessment of populations at risk for dental caries, infrastructure, Medicaid coverage and reimbursement, staffing, policies and procedures, data collection, scheduling, quality assurance, sealant and fluoride varnish guidelines, student referral, and process and outcome evaluation. Information on state laws, memoranda of understanding, checklists, products, and supplies is also provided.


WEST VIRGINIA FLUORIDE MOUTHRINSE PROJECT INSTRUCTION MANUAL

This manual for school personnel and volunteers describes procedures and requirements for administering and implementing a school-based fluoride mouthrinse (FMR) project in West Virginia. Contents include information about roles and responsibilities, operation, administration guidelines, recommendations for FMR coordinators and teachers, and implementation and site visits. The manual also contains forms and related materials on topics such as procedural options, student involvement, and adaptations for students with special health care needs.


WISHES: WISCONSIN IMPROVING SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES PROJECT

This manual is designed to help school districts improve the health services they provide to students. Contents include a school-health-services assessment tool; injury and illness protocols; sample policies and procedures for emergency nursing services, concussion management, managing and preventing acute reactions to foods in the school setting, and medication administration; and nurse procedures. The manual also contains training for unlicensed assistive personnel on hand hygiene, oral care, feeding, transfers, and diapering for students who are in need of such care while at school.


SURVEILLANCE

2012 IOWA THIRD GRADE ORAL HEALTH SURVEY REPORT

This report describes the process and results of the spring 2012 open-mouth survey of students in third grade in Iowa. Topics include the prevalence of untreated tooth decay in children and the impact of untreated tooth decay on a child's ability to eat, sleep, and learn in school; the role health insurance plays in accessing or obtaining care; and a comparison of oral health status to results from earlier surveys. Contents include objectives, methods, survey results, and a discussion of the results.

2013: HEALTHY SMILES/HEALTHY GROWTH—WISCONSIN’S THIRD GRADE CHILDREN

This report presents key findings on oral health and growth status from a survey of students in third grade in Wisconsin public schools. Results are compared to results from earlier surveys. Topics include treated tooth decay, untreated decay, dental caries experience, urgency of need for oral health care, dental sealants, and body mass index for age (underweight, healthy weight, overweight, and obese).


2014 ORAL HEALTH SURVEY OF SOUTH DAKOTA CHILDREN

This report presents information about the importance of oral health and findings from a survey on the oral health status and treatment needs of students in third grade in South Dakota. Topics include who was screened, tooth decay experience, untreated tooth decay, dental sealants, need for oral health care, dental insurance coverage, and time elapsed since the last dental visit. The report also discusses next steps and strategies to improve children’ oral health. Information about the survey methods, data tables, a letter to parents, a screening form, and a consent form and parent questionnaire are also included.


2014 SUMMARY OF THE ORAL HEALTH STATUS OF CHILDREN IN INDIANA AGED 8–9 YEARS

This report presents results from a statewide survey and several surveillance projects on the oral health of children ages 8–9 in Indiana. Topics include untreated tooth decay, the presence of dental restorations and extractions, decay experience, and the presence of dental sealants on permanent molars.


ASTDD BASIC SCREENING SURVEY FOR CHILDREN PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION TOOL (UPD.)

This toolkit provides information and resources for planning and conducting an oral health screening of preschool- and school-age children. Contents include a manual, examiner training slides, a guide for screeners, and reference documents. The manual is available in English and Spanish.


COUNT YOUR SMILES, 2011–2012

This report describes findings of a Michigan survey on oral disease and oral health access for third grade children in various regions in the state. Topics include a review of the survey methods, population demographics and response rates, caries experience, untreated oral disease, urgency of needed oral health care, fluorosis, toothache, and problems in obtaining oral health care.


 FALLING SHORT: MOST STATES LAG ON DENTAL SEALANTS

This report presents results of a nationwide survey on four indicators in state dental-caries-prevention strategies: (1) having dental sealant programs in schools where a large percentage of students are from families with low incomes, (2) allowing dental hygienists to place sealants in school-based
programs without requiring a dentist’s exam, (3) regularly collecting data on the oral health of school-age children and submitting these data to a national oral health database, and (4) meeting the national Healthy People 2010 sealant goal. A chart summarizes state benchmarks and whether they were met.


**GUIDANCE ON SELECTING A SAMPLE FOR A SCHOOL-BASED ORAL HEALTH SURVEY**

This document provides sampling guidelines for state and territorial health agencies and other jurisdictions planning to conduct a school-based oral health survey. Topics include appropriate sampling designs, steps for and examples of the sampling process, what to do if a school refuses to participate, and information about specialized data-analysis software.


**HEALTHY SMILES HEALTHY BODIES SURVEY 2015: THE ORAL HEALTH OF ARIZONA’S KINDERGARTEN AND THIRD GRADE CHILDREN**

This brief summarizes data from a statewide oral health screening of children in kindergarten and third grade attending Arizona’s public schools. Contents include information on the prevalence of tooth decay in the primary and permanent teeth of children in Arizona compared to the general U.S. population screened between 2005 and 2010 as part of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. It also describes the prevalence of dental sealants. Topics include oral health disparities in the prevalence of decay experience, untreated decay, and dental sealants. Information about the data source and methods, definitions, and data tables are included.


**HEALTHY SMILES, HEALTHY GROWTH, 2013–2014: ASSESSING THE ORAL HEALTH STATUS AND BODY MASS INDEX OF THIRD GRADE CHILDREN IN ILLINOIS**

This report presents findings from an assessment of the oral health and weight status of children in third grade in Illinois. Contents include information about the survey methods, oral health disparities, growth disparities, and conclusions. Results are compared to results from earlier surveys.


**THE NEW HAMPSHIRE 2013–14 THIRD GRADE HEALTHY SMILES-HEALTHY GROWTH SURVEY: AN ORAL HEALTH AND BODY MASS INDEX ASSESSMENT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE THIRD GRADE STUDENTS**

This report presents findings from a statewide survey on the oral health, height, and weight status of students in third grade in New Hampshire. Contents include the survey background, a description of children participating in the oral health screening, and height and weight measurements, methods, and results. It includes data on children participating in the survey by county and statewide prevalence of tooth decay experience, dental sealants, treatment urgency, and overweight and obesity. Data are presented by sex and National School Lunch program participation at the school level and region level.

OKLAHOMA ORAL HEALTH NEEDS ASSESSMENT 2013: THIRD GRADE CHILDREN

This report presents data and analyses derived from a statewide assessment of oral health status indicators (prevalence of dental caries, caries experience, dental sealants, missing teeth, and need for oral health treatment) among students in third grade in Oklahoma. Contents include a description of the research design and the sample; consent; data collection, entry, and analyses; confidentiality issues; and results. Comparison to Healthy People 2020 targets, data collection and reporting forms, materials for communicating with schools and parents, and descriptions of participants are provided.


THE ORAL HEALTH OF 6–9 YEAR OLD AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE CHILDREN COMPARED TO THE GENERAL U.S. POPULATION AND HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020 TARGETS

This brief presents findings from a national survey to assess the oral health status of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) students in kindergarten through third grade. Contents include information about the prevalence of tooth decay in the primary and permanent teeth of AI/AN students in kindergarten through third grade compared to those in the general U.S. population and to targets for Healthy People 2020. The brief also provides information about the prevalence of dental sealants.


THE ORAL HEALTH OF ALABAMA’S CHILDREN, 2010–2012

This document provides information about the oral health status of students in kindergarten and third grade throughout the state of Alabama. Topics include the number of children screened and the percentages of those with dental sealants, tooth decay experience, untreated decay, needing treatment, and needing urgent treatment. Results are stratified by child age, grade, and race/ethnicity; free or reduced price school lunch program level; dental district; and school.


THE ORAL HEALTH OF ALABAMA’S KINDERGARTEN AND THIRD GRADE CHILDREN COMPARED TO THE GENERAL U.S. POPULATION AND HEALTHY PEOPLE 2020 TARGETS

This brief provides information on the prevalence of tooth decay in the primary and permanent teeth of students in kindergarten and third grade in Alabama compared to children ages 6–9 in the general U.S. population and to Healthy People 2020 targets. The brief also describes the prevalence of dental sealants. Topics include decay experience, untreated decay, and oral health disparities. Information about the data source and methods, data tables, and definitions are included.

THE ORAL HEALTH OF MONTANA’S THIRD GRADE CHILDREN

This data brief presents information about the prevalence of decay in the primary and permanent teeth of students in third grade in Montana and compares data for this population with data for the general U.S. third grade population screened between 2005 and 2010 as part of the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. The brief also provides information about the prevalence of dental sealants. Topics include tooth decay experience, untreated decay, and oral health disparities.


ORAL HEALTH OF RHODE ISLAND CHILDREN

This report presents findings on the oral health status of children in third grade in Rhode Island. Contents include school sampling, data management and analysis, screening methods, screening participation, demographic characteristics of children, and oral health outcomes. Topics include tooth decay, dental sealants, impact of race and ethnicity, and socioeconomic status. The report also provides a comparison of the results to Healthy People 2020 objectives and to results from earlier surveys. Recommendations are included.


ORAL HEALTH STATUS OF FLORIDA’S THIRD GRADE CHILDREN 2013–2014

This report presents oral health screening results for children attending third grade in public elementary schools in Florida. Contents include screening survey methodology, demographic characteristics of participating children, and key findings on oral health indicators (untreated tooth decay, dental caries experience, dental sealants, treatment need, and urgent treatment need). A comparison of the results to Healthy People 2020 goals, limitations, and recommendations is also included. Additional contents include consent and screening forms; a parent letter and questionnaire; and information about other indicators including toothache, last dental visit, reason for last dental visit, need for care, reason for not seeking care, and medical and dental insurance.


ORAL HEALTH STATUS OF GEORGIA’S THIRD GRADE CHILDREN: FINDINGS FROM THE 2011 GEORGIA 3RD GRADE ORAL HEALTH SURVEY

This report describes an oral health survey of students in third grade in Georgia. Findings are presented on untreated tooth decay, presence of dental sealants, reported toothache, children with dental insurance, children who visited the dentist, and which groups have the most pressing oral health care needs.


ORAL HEALTH SURVEY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL CHILDREN, 2011–2012

This report provides findings from a statewide survey to assess oral health status and ability to access oral health care among students in kindergarten and third grade in Maryland. The survey comprises a questionnaire sent to parents, in-school screening, and a report sent to parents with the child’s screening results. Contents include the survey background and purpose, methods, results, and discussion. Topics include the percentage of...
results of the 2010/2011 survey of alaskan 3rd grade children: alaska oral health basic screening survey

This report presents findings from an oral health assessment of students in third grade in Alaska. The assessment comprised two parts: a consent form and questionnaire for parents or guardians to complete and a school-based clinical assessment provided by dentists operating under standardized survey guidelines. Data and statistics on demographics, a questionnaire, and screening variables are provided. Differences by body mass index percentile, gender, race/ethnicity, dental insurance status, Denali KidCare/Medicaid status, and clinical variables are included.


sentinel oral health surveys of ohio schoolchildren

This document describes statewide oral health surveys of students in public elementary schools in Ohio. The document contains graphs with data for the period 1998–2011. The data are presented by family income, race, and payment for oral health care. Topics include statewide trends for untreated dental caries, history of caries, dental sealants, dental visits, and students who experienced toothaches.


smile survey 2010

This report presents findings from a statewide oral health screening survey of students in kindergarten and third grade in public schools in Washington. Contents include facts about childhood tooth decay; survey methodology; and key findings on disparities, untreated decay and treatment needs, dental sealants, and Healthy People 2010 oral health objectives.
State oral health plan strategies are included. A fact sheet summarizing the report is also available.


**SMILES ACROSS KANSAS 2012: A SURVEY OF THE ORAL HEALTH OF KANSAS CHILDREN**

This report presents results from a statewide survey to assess the prevalence of dental caries in and preventive services for children in Kansas and the oral health services available to them. The survey collected information from students in third grade in 65 schools across the state. Topics include dental caries, dental restorations, dental sealants, access to care, insurance status, and frequency of dental visits. A discussion and recommendations, data-summary tables, a list of participants, survey forms, and references are included. [Funded by the Maternal and Child Health Bureau]


**STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ORAL HEALTH IN OREGON: 2014–2020**

This document outlines a plan for implementing cost-effective strategies to improve oral health while reducing disparities in access and quality in Oregon. The plan includes three priority areas: infrastructure, prevention and systems of care, and workforce capacity. Contents include information about the burden of oral disease; the need for a strategic plan; and objectives, strategies, and outcome measures for each priority area.


**THIRD GRADE FOLLOW-UP TO THE HEAD START IMPACT STUDY: FINAL REPORT**

This report discusses the impacts of Head Start on children and families when the children are in preschool through third grade. Topics include estimated impacts on parent-reported child oral health outcomes (care received) by year and age cohort. Information on significant subgroup impacts and differences in impact is also provided.


**THIRD GRADE ORAL HEALTH BASIC SCREENING SURVEY**

This fact sheet highlights selected findings from the first screening survey conducted in students attending third grade in public schools in Minnesota. Topics include dental sealants, dental caries experience, untreated tooth decay, ethnicity and race, and community socioeconomic status.

Organizations
Organizations

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS
11400 Tomahawk Creek Parkway
Leawood, KS 66211-2680
Telephone: (800) 274-2237
Fax: (913) 906-6075
E-mail: aafp@aafp.org
Website: http://www.aafp.org/home.html

The American Academy of Family Physicians works to transform health care and improve the health of individuals, families, and communities by serving the needs of family physicians.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY
211 East Chicago Avenue, Suite 1600
Chicago, IL 60611-2637
Telephone: (312) 337-2169
Fax: (312) 337-6329
Website: http://www.aapd.org

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) works to achieve optimal oral health for all children and adolescents, including those with special health care needs. AAPD serves primary care and specialty pediatric dentists, as well as general dentists who treat children and adolescents in their practices.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS
141 Northwest Point Boulevard
Elk Grove, IL 60007-1098
Website: http://www.aap.org

Campaign for Dental Health
E-mail: fluoride@aap.org
Website: http://ilikemyteeth.org

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP’s) Campaign for Dental Health (CDH) is a broad network of oral health advocates, health professionals, child and family organizations, and scientists who are working together to preserve the nation’s oral health gains. CDH shares facts about oral health and strategies, such as community water fluoridation, to prevent oral disease.

Council on School Health
E-mail: schoolhealth@aap.org
Website: http://www2.aap.org/sections/schoolhealth

AAP’s Council on School Health promotes sound school health policies and practices that ensure the health and safety of school-age children and adolescents through policy development, education, advocacy, and technical assistance. The council serves pediatricians and affiliate members representing various professional disciplines, including nurses, counselors, and other allied health professionals.

Section on Oral Health
Telephone: (847) 434-4779
E-mail: oralhealth@aap.org
Website: http://www2.aap.org/oralhealth/SOPDOH.html

AAP’s Section on Oral Health employs multiple forums to educate pediatricians; pediatric dentists; physician assistants; allied health professionals including dental hygienists, dental assistants, nurses, and nurse practitioners; pediatric residents; and pediatric dental residents. The section also focuses on advocacy for children’s oral health and on improving relationships and communication between dental homes and medical homes.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR COMMUNITY DENTAL PROGRAMS
635 West Seventh Street, Suite 309
Cincinnati, OH 45203
Telephone: (513) 621-0248
Fax: (513) 621-0288
E-mail: info@aacdp.org
Website: http://www.aacdp.com

The American Association for Community Dental Programs supports the efforts of staff working in city-, county-, and community-based programs serving the oral health needs of vulnerable populations.
The American Dental Association provides oral health information to dentists and consumers and works to advance the dental profession at the national, state, and local levels.

The American Dental Hygienists’ Association (ADHA) works to ensure access to high-quality oral health care; promote dental hygiene education, licensure, practice, and research; and represent the legislative interests of dental hygienists at the local, state, and federal levels. ADHA serves dental hygienists with the goal of helping them achieve their full potential as they seek to improve the public’s oral health.

The Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors promotes the establishment of national dental public health policy, assists state oral health programs in the development and implementation of programs and policies for preventing oral disease, builds awareness and strengthens public health professionals’ knowledge and skills by developing position papers and policy statements, provides information on oral health to health officials and policymakers, and conducts conferences for the dental public health community.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention works to combat disease and supports communities and citizens to do the same. The Division of Oral Health works to improve oral health and reduce oral health disparities by helping states improve their oral health programs, extending the use of proven strategies to prevent oral disease, enhancing efforts to monitor oral disease, contributing to the scientific knowledge base related to oral health and oral disease, and guiding infection control in dentistry.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) administers Medicare, Medicaid, the Children’s Health Insurance Program, and the Health Insurance Marketplace. CMS services are tasked with modernizing the nation’s health care system while providing high-quality care at a low cost. CMS strives to ensure a high-quality health care system, improve access to coverage, and contribute to good health for all Americans.
The Children’s Dental Health Project (CDHP) works to improve oral health for children and families by identifying and advancing solutions that are innovative and cost-effective and by promoting strategies that are grounded in research.

The Indian Health Service (IHS) is responsible for providing federal health services, including oral health services, to American Indians and Alaska Natives. The IHS dental portal serves as a centralized location where staff who work in Indian health care can locate resources to support the operation of effective clinical and community oral health programs.

The Maternal and Child Health Bureau provides leadership, in partnership with stakeholders, to improve the physical, mental, and oral health; safety; and well-being of the maternal and child health population, which includes all women, infants, children, and adolescents and their families.

The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD) serves the chronic disease program directors of each state and jurisdiction, connecting them to advocate for preventive health policies and programs, encourage knowledge sharing, and develop partnerships for health promotion. NACDD works to mobilize efforts to reduce chronic diseases and their associated risk factors through state and community-based prevention strategies.

The National Association of School Nurses (NASN) serves school nurses by developing educational programs, resources, and research and by working to influence stakeholders’ support for school nursing through advocacy. NASN supports school nurse objectives by publishing issue briefs and position statements on subjects affecting student health and school nursing to keep members updated on issues affecting their school communities.

The National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center responds to the needs of professionals working in states and communities with the goal of improving oral health services for pregnant women, infants, children, and adolescents, including those with special health care needs, and their families (MCH population). The resource center collaborates with government agencies, professional associations, foundations, policy and research centers, and voluntary organizations to gather, develop, and share information and materials to promote sustainable oral health services for the MCH population.
The National Network for Oral Health Access provides oral health professionals working in safety net programs with resources, learning opportunities, and advocacy with the goal of improving the oral health and overall health of populations that are underserved.

Oral Health America connects communities with resources to drive access to care, increase health literacy, and advocate for policies that improve overall health through better oral health for all Americans, including those who are most vulnerable.

PEW Charitable Trusts works to improve public policy by conducting analysis, linking diverse interests to pursue common causes, and providing the public with data that illuminate issues and trends.
Materials Produced by the National Maternal and Child Oral Health Resource Center

- Be an Oral Health Champion: How School-Based Clinic Staff Can Help Students Achieve Good Oral Health [tip sheet]
  http://mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/champion_sbhc.pdf

- Child and Adolescent Oral Health Issues [fact sheet]
  http://mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/issues.pdf

- Comprehensive Oral Health Services for Improving Children’s and Adolescents’ Oral Health Through School-Based Health Centers [paper]
  http://mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/sbhc_paper.pdf

- Fluoride Varnish: An Effective Tool for Preventing Dental Caries [fact sheet]
  http://mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/flvarnishfactsheet.pdf

- Integrating Sustainable Oral Health Services into Primary Care in School-Based Health Centers: A Framework [manual]
  http://mchoralhealth.org/framework

- Mobile-Portable Dental Manual
  http://mobile-portabledentalmanual.com/index.html

- Pain and Suffering Shouldn't Be an Option: School-Based and School-Linked Oral Health Services for Children and Adolescents [fact sheet]
  http://mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/schoolhealthfactsheet.pdf

- Preventing Tooth Decay and Saving Teeth with Dental Sealants (3rd ed.) [fact sheet]
  http://mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/OHDentSealantfactsheet.pdf

  http://mchoralhealth.org/PDFs/learningfactsheet.pdf

- Safety Net Dental Clinic Manual
  http://dentalclinicmanual.com

- Seal America: The Prevention Invention (2nd ed.) [manual]
  http://mchoralhealth.org/seal