









# Child Dental Benefits Schedule

The Child Dental Benefits Schedule (CDBS) covers part or the full cost of some basic dental services for children and teenagers aged 0 to 17.

## Eligibility

You will get a letter to confirm if your child is eligible for the CDBS.

Eligibility is assessed at the start of each calendar year and is valid for the whole year.

A child is eligible if:

- they are aged 0–17 years for at least 1 day of the calendar year
- eligible for Medicare, and
- getting an eligible payment from us at least once a year, or have a parent getting a payment from us at least once a year.

## Types of payments

Payment Recipient	Receives
Child's parent, carer, or guardian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Family Tax Benefit Part A</li><li>• Parenting Payment</li><li>• Double Orphan Pension</li></ul>
Child or Teenager	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ABSTUDY</li><li>• Family Tax Benefit Part A</li><li>• Carer Payment</li><li>• Disability Support Pension</li><li>• Parenting Payment</li><li>• Special Benefit</li><li>• Youth Allowance</li><li>• Department of Veterans' Affairs allowances under the:</li><li>• Veterans' Children Education Scheme (if aged 16-17)</li><li>• Military Rehabilitation and Compensation Act Education and Training Scheme (if aged 16-17)</li></ul>
Teenager's partner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Family Tax Benefit Part A</li><li>• Parenting Payment</li></ul>

## Benefits available under the Child Dental Benefits Schedule

You can claim up to \$1132 over 2 consecutive calendar years for each eligible child. The 2-year cap period starts when a child first gets an eligible dental service.

If a child does not use all of their \$1132 in the first year, they can use the remaining amount in the second year if they are still eligible. If you do not use the full amount within the 2 calendar years, you can not use the remaining funds. You will have to wait for a new 2 year cover period to start.

You also will not be able to use any remaining funds once your child is no longer eligible.

Benefits cover a range of services including examinations, X-rays, cleaning, fissure sealing, fillings, root canals and extractions.

Benefits are not available for orthodontic or cosmetic dental work and can not be paid for any services provided in a hospital.

CDBS services won't count towards the Medicare Safety Net or the Extended Medicare Safety Net thresholds.

## Process for using the Child Dental Benefits Schedule

You can confirm your child's eligibility and balance amount using your Medicare online account at [my.gov.au](https://my.gov.au) or calling the Medicare general enquiries line on **132 011**.

Make an appointment with a private or public dental provider and let them know you're eligible for the CDBS. At the time of the appointment, the dentist must discuss your child's treatment and any related costs with you before providing the services. After this you need to sign a consent form.

When the dentist has provided the services, they will bulk bill you or charge you for the services.

## Claiming benefits under the Child Dental Benefits Schedule

If your dentist bulk bills, you don't need to submit a claim.

If your dentist doesn't bulk bill, you need to pay the account and claim your benefit from us.

You can submit a claim:

- electronically at the dental surgery, if your dentist offers electronic claiming
- using the Express Plus Medicare mobile app
- using your Medicare online account through myGov
- by downloading the Medicare claim form and posting it to the address on the form
- in person at a service centre.

You can not claim a benefit under the CDBS and from a private health insurer for the same dental service.

## Check or update your details for the Child Dental Benefits Schedule

Eligibility is based on details held by Centrelink and the Department of Veterans' Affairs.

If your circumstances change, you need to update your family details:

- through your Centrelink online account at **my.gov.au**
- by calling the Department of Veterans' Affairs on **133 254**.

You can update your bank account details with Medicare using your Medicare online account through myGov.

## For more information

- go to **servicesaustralia.gov.au/childdental** for more information in English
- go to **servicesaustralia.gov.au/yourlanguage** where you can read, listen to or watch information in your language
- go to **servicesaustralia.gov.au/forms** for a list of our forms in English
- call **131 202** to speak with us in your language about Centrelink payments and services
- call **132 011** for Medicare and **131 272** for Child Support. Let us know if you need an interpreter, and we will arrange one for free.

Note: calls from your home phone to '13' numbers from anywhere in Australia are charged at a fixed rate. That rate may vary from the price of a local call and may also vary between telephone service providers. Calls to '1800' numbers from your home phone are free. Calls from public and mobile phones may be timed and charged at a higher rate.

## Disclaimer

The information contained in this publication is intended only as a guide to payments and services.

It is your responsibility to decide if you wish to apply for a payment and to make an application, with regard to your particular circumstances.