



# Dentistry IN SOUTH DAKOTA

Allied Staff News

## Open the Door to Medicaid Patients

Approximately 150,000 people in South Dakota rely on Medicaid for their healthcare needs, but just one-third of them accessed a dentist last year. As a result, there is growing concern about access to dental care for Medicaid patients. Recent improvements in the Medicaid program offer the opportunity to address those concerns.

There are several factors affecting the current lack of access to dental care, chief among them is a full decade of reimbursement rates below the cost of overhead in most dental offices. That changed this year, with a fee adjustment to 70% of average billed charges, providing an opportunity for dental offices to reengage in the Medicaid Program.

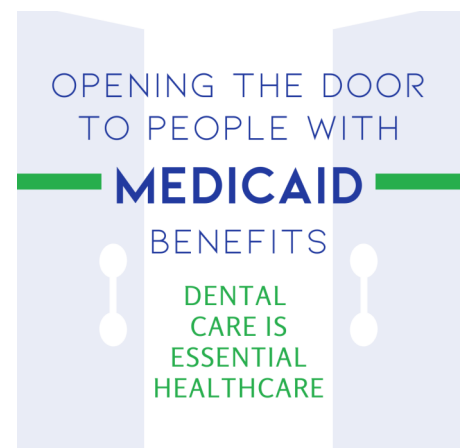
“The dental profession has a wonderful opportunity to both figuratively and literally open our doors to people with Medicaid benefits,” said SDDA President Dr. Thane Crump. Working with the Department of Social Services and the South Dakota Legislature, we have addressed the major barriers that kept many dental practices from seeing patients with Medicaid benefits.

Members of the South Dakota Dental Association (SDDA) are committed to providing dental care to more patients with Medicaid benefits. “Opening the Door to Dental Care” is the theme of a campaign asking every dentist to add one person with Medicaid benefits, per week, to their patient base through the end of 2024.

“Many hands make light work. If everyone does a little, collectively we can achieve much,” said Dr. Crump. “Accepting one new patient per week or one family each month is a huge benefit to that person or that family and a small commitment on behalf of the dentist,”

Beginning July 1, 2023 Medicaid rates will increase to 70% of average billed charges. This is a 23% increase over current rates. The new rates will be posted on the SDDA’s website by July 1.

Crump said he understands that offices may have reservations about accepting more patients covered by Medicaid, but support is available. Delta Dental of South Dakota administers dental benefits for the State’s Medicaid program and offers services to dental offices to help serve Medicaid patients. “Whether it’s more information for a better understanding about the program, assistance enrolling as a provider, or training office staff, they are a great resource to help maximize what Medicaid can offer,” he said. To learn more about the SDDA’s “Opening the Door” campaign, go to: <https://www.sddental.org/about-us/open-the-door-to-dental-care>.



## New SDDA Staff Member

Amy Petersen-Kolb of Onida joined the SDDA staff in February of 2023. Amy is the Program Coordinator for Donated Dental Services, Sunshyne Smiles, and One Smile Programs as well as working with the Dental Foundation scholarships and grant applications.

Amy was born in Pierre, SD and has lived in the Onida and Pierre areas most of her life. She is a graduate of Sully Buttes High School as well as the University of South Dakota. She and her husband Paul live in Onida and have two sons, Garrett 21, and Griffin 19. Amy is involved with her church as a choir member, bell choir director, and deacon. Amy enjoys spending time with her family, golfing, gardening, traveling, and being outdoors.

## CONTINUING EDUCATION CALENDAR

The listing of these programs is provided as a service to SDDA Newsletter subscribers, and does not mean that these programs have been endorsed or approved by the SD Dental Association or the SD State Board of Dentistry. All members are cautioned to evaluate the programs on their own merit.

### SOUTH DAKOTA DENTAL ASSOCIATION 2024 ANNUAL SESSION

Contact: Melissa Afdahl, 605-609-1152  
melissa@sddental.org, www.sddental.org

**May 16-18, 2024; Sioux Falls, SD**

### WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Contact: 605-718-2410; email: corped@wdt.edu

- **Third Friday of the month (AM)**

American Heart Association CPR Class for Healthcare Professionals

- **Third Friday of the month (PM)**

American Heart Association CPR Recertification for Healthcare Provider

- **Dental Radiology (2-day course)**

July 8-9, 2023 and August 5-6, 2023 in Rapid City

- **Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen Sedation (2-day course)**

July 21-22, 2023 in Rapid City

### SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Contact: 605-367-4607

or corporateeducation@southeasttech.edu

- **Dental Radiology**

November 17, 2023

### LAKE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Contact: Nicole Pahl, 605-882-5284, ext. 362;

Nicole.Pahl@lakeareatech.edu

<https://www.lakeareatech.edu/corporate-education/corporate-education-registration/>

#### Home Study Radiology Courses available:

- Radiology Safety
- Radiography Production

## Bridge the Gap

The pace of employment changes within dental offices has increased dramatically and dental offices and employees can find each other quickly through the SDDA's online career center. Dental offices can easily post job opportunities and view job seeker profiles that match specific criteria. Add a listing to our job board, promote your post, search using expanded filtering options, and set up digest emails based on the criteria YOU are looking for in potential candidates. Job seekers have the option to reply directly back to you – right from your listing! Go to Bridge the Gap on sddental.org to post your listing.



### CPR COURSES

**CPR:** Contact: Tia Meyer; 605-842-5672 or meyertia@hotmail.com

**CPR Solutions:** Local instructor with 20 years of CPR teaching experience. We provide AHA and Red Cross BLS/ACLS/PALS certification [www.cprsiouxfallssd.com](http://www.cprsiouxfallssd.com); [sfcpresolutions@gmail.com](mailto:sfcpresolutions@gmail.com); 605-525-4CPR (4277). Will travel.

### UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

Contact: Dept. of Dental Hygiene, 605-658-5960

#### Nitrous Oxide/Oxygen Sedation Course

- July 20, 2023

#### AAP Periodontology Guidelines

- July 21, 2023

#### Advanced Instrumentation

- July 28, 2023

#### Home Study Courses available:

- Radiology Interpretation, Pathology & Anomalies
- Errors of PA's, BWS & Panoramic Radiography
- Oral Effects of Head & Neck Radiation Therapy
- Radiation Safety
- Portable Dental Radiography • SDF

### ADA CE ONLINE

Contact: [www.ada.org/goto/ceonline](http://www.ada.org/goto/ceonline)

### AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF DENTAL BOARDS

Contact: 1-800-621-8099

- "The Dental Patient Record"

SAVE THE DATE <sup>+</sup> <sup>+</sup>  
Saturday, October 7, 2023

Help children receive the dental care they deserve



#### Volunteers Needed:

- Dentists
- Hygienists
- Assistants
- Office Staff

Contact: [miranda.mielke710@gmail.com](mailto:miranda.mielke710@gmail.com) or [melissa@sddental.org](mailto:melissa@sddental.org) to volunteer today and make a difference!



## Classified Ads

**Dakota Family Dentistry in Huron, SD** is seeking a full-time or part-time registered dental hygienist to join our team. The ideal candidate should be dedicated to providing excellent patient care with exceptional service. This is an outstanding opportunity to practice in a well-established clinic with a great team! Benefits include sign-on bonus, competitive pay, 401K with profit-sharing, paid sick leave, paid vacation, paid dues, paid licenses, in-house family dental benefit, paid CE, and 6 paid holidays. Visit our website at [www.dakotafamilydentistry.org](http://www.dakotafamilydentistry.org) to learn more about us or to print off a job application. You can also call 605-352-6999 to inquire and get an application. E-mail: [office@dakotafamilydentistry.org](mailto:office@dakotafamilydentistry.org); OR mail: Dakota Family Dentistry; 1010 Dakota Ave. S.; Huron, SD 57350

**Dental Hygienist:** Are you a dental hygienist looking for a change? Delta Dental of South Dakota's Mobile Program has opportunities for dental hygienists. These opportunities include both—full time and/or part-time flexible schedules, including working specific weeks and/or months out of the year. The dental hygienists will work under collaborative supervision in southwest South Dakota, primarily on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation. The dental hygienists will join a team providing preventive services and oral health education in schools, Head Starts, etc. Extensive travel is required. Excellent salary and benefits including health, dental, vision, life/long term disability insurance, paid holidays, vacation/sick leave, 401k, and more. For more information visit [www.deltadentalsd.com](http://www.deltadentalsd.com). Submit a cover letter and resume to: [summer.sporrer@deltadentalsd.com](mailto:summer.sporrer@deltadentalsd.com). Questions? Contact Summer Sporrer at 605-494-2569.

**The University of South Dakota Department of Dental Hygiene** is looking for **retired dental assistants** who are willing to fill in for reception and dental assisting duties on an as needed basis. Please contact the Department Chair: Miranda Drake for more information ([miranda.drake@usd.edu](mailto:miranda.drake@usd.edu) and/or 605-658-5964).

**Dental assistant** for Armour Dental. We are looking for a dental assistant in Armour SD. We are willing to train and pay for x-ray certifications if needed. 17\$/hr 3 days a week with an option for 4 if you want. Contact: [frontdesk@armourdentclinic.com](mailto:frontdesk@armourdentclinic.com).

## New Law Clarifies Fees for Providing Copies of Patient Records

Historically there has been some confusion about what health care providers are allowed to charge when they reproduce a record at the request of a patient. The law simply said: "The licensee may require before delivery that the patient pay the actual reproduction and mailing expense". Every provider had their own interpretation and the amount charged to the patient varied tremendously.

**A new law will go into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup> providing specifics on what health care providers can charge for providing copies of patient records. The law states the following:**

A health care provider or a medical records company may charge the following fees:

- (1) For a paper copy of a medical record not specified below, the fee may not exceed ten dollars for the first ten pages and thirty-three cents for each additional page;
- (2) For an electronic copy of a medical record not specified below, the fee may not exceed twenty-five cents per page;
- (3) For a printed copy of an x-ray, magnetic resonance imaging, computerized tomography scan, or any other form of medical imaging, the fee may not exceed ten dollars; and
- (4) For an x-ray, magnetic resonance imaging, computerized tomography scan, or any other form of medical imaging copied onto a compact disc, digital video disc, or other transportable electronic media, the fee may not exceed fifteen dollars.

A health care provider or medical records company may also impose a charge to cover the cost of postage or shipping, together with any applicable tax. If a patient directs a health care provider or a medical records company to provide a copy of the patient's medical record directly to another person designated by the patient, or if a third party requests a copy of a patient's medical record pursuant to an authorization signed by the patient, the healthcare provider or medical records company may charge, in addition to any other fee allowed, a fee to search for the medical record, regardless of whether any record is found. The search fee may not exceed eighteen dollars.

A health care provider may not charge a patient a fee for access to the patient's electronic health information through a patient portal.

## Five Compliance Tips for Office Managers

At PCIHIPAA, we're here to help your practice get compliant and stay compliant. When it comes to getting your office compliant and maintaining that compliance, where do you begin to start?

### Designate a Privacy and Security Officer for your office.

Your office is a team, but that team needs a manager to A) Create and implement the office's policies and B) To enforce those policies. HIPAA does allow for this to be the same individual.

### Continuous security training and awareness.

Your employees cannot be expected to follow the HIPAA policies if they have never been properly trained.

### Establish a Workstation Use Plan to manage your employee's access.

HIPAA requires you to maintain a log clearly showing each employee's level of access to PHI.

### Review your Business Associate Agreements to make sure you are fully protected.

You want to make sure you are not sharing any PHI with a Business Associate that has not signed an air-tight agreement with an Indemnification clause.

### Perform an annual Risk Assessment to identify and address any vulnerabilities.

A practice can be fined for a violation they were unaware of, if said violation was something that could have been avoided if the practice had done their due diligence. It is your responsibility to understand where you are vulnerable.

It is your responsibility to protect your practice by protecting your patients. The surest way to ensure you are doing this is to have the plans and policies in place, available to all employees, and continuously reinforced. Need help? As a South Dakota Dental Association member, your practice has access to the best rates on PCIHIPAA's OfficeSafe Solution for HIPAA, OSHA, and PCI compliance. The first step, is completing your complimentary HIPAA Risk Assessment. Visit the SDDA website to get started.

## Dentistry in South Dakota

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Published quarterly by:

**South Dakota Dental Association**

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**Member publication:** American Association of Dental Editors

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*Advertising rates and circulation data will be furnished by request.*

**Rectangle**  
HEALTH

PCIHIPAA was recently purchased by Rectangle Health