



# Dental Assistance for Seniors — Cheat Sheet

- **Donated Dental Services (DDS)** — Free care for qualifying seniors via the Dental Lifeline Network (apply by state).
- **Medicaid (by state)** — Some states include dental; check your state’s coverage and providers.
- **Medicare Advantage (Part C)** — Many plans include dental (cleanings, X-rays, sometimes major work).
- **VA Dental** — Eligible veterans may receive dental through the VA depending on status.
- **Community Health Centers (FQHCs)** — Sliding-scale dental clinics; ask for dental department.
- **Dental Schools** — Low-cost care by supervised students (cleanings, fillings, dentures).

**Tip:** Search your state page on GrantsForSeniors for programs and DDS application links.

Important Numbers & Links	
Medicare Helpline	1■800■MEDICARE (1■800■633■4227)
Find FQHC (HRSA)	<a href="http://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov">findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov</a>
VA Dental Care Info	<a href="http://va.gov/health-care/dental-care/">va.gov/health-care/dental-care/</a>
DDS Applications	<a href="http://dentallifeline.org">dentallifeline.org</a> (choose your state)



## Dental Assistance — 7-Step Action Plan

- 1) **Identify your coverage** List your current coverage and ID numbers.
- 2) **Check state Medicaid dental** Confirm adult dental benefits and in-network dentists.
- 3) **Apply for DDS** If eligible, complete your state application.
- 4) **Call a Community Health Center** Ask about sliding-scale fees and new patient options.
- 5) **Contact a Dental School** Ask about costs and wait times.
- 6) **Review Medicare Advantage options** Compare dental benefits and annual caps.
- 7) **Prepare for emergencies** Keep numbers for urgent dental care.



## **Dental Assistance — Eligibility & Documents Checklist**

- Photo ID (driver's license, state ID)
- Proof of income (Social Security, pension, etc.)
- Medicare/Medicaid cards
- Dental X-rays or records (if available)
- List of medications and medical conditions
- Proof of residency (utility bill or lease)
- DDS application and doctor's statement (if requested)
- Transportation plan to appointments





## Emergency Dental Help — Quick Card

- **Life-threatening:** Call 911 for bleeding, breathing issues, or facial trauma.
- **Urgent:** Severe tooth pain, broken tooth, or swelling — call your dentist's emergency line.
- Keep these contacts handy and posted in your home.

My Dentist (after-hours):	_____
Medicare 24-hr Nurse Line:	_____
Medicare Helpline:	1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)
Nearest ER / Hospital:	_____

For more details, visit <https://grantsforseniors.org/dental-assistance-for-seniors>

Disclaimer: This toolkit is for informational purposes only and not a substitute for professional medical or financial advice.