

Orange County Ryan White Dental Services
Patient Frequently Asked Questions
Yearly Limit for Dental Services



This document has information about changes to the Ryan White Dental Program. Starting on **March 8, 2021**, the Ryan White Dental Program will begin a yearly limit for dental services for each patient. The questions and answers below are based on information known as of February 26, 2021.

1. **What is the yearly limit for the Ryan White Dental Program?**

The yearly limit (March-February) is the amount that a patient has to cover any dental service allowable under the Ryan White Dental Program. For 2021, the yearly limit is \$900 per patient for dental services provided from March 8, 2021 through February 28, 2022. The yearly limit is based on the Ryan White fiscal year and may change every year based on funding available. See page three (3) for an example of the yearly limit.

2. **What dental services does the yearly limit cover?**

The yearly limit covers services allowable under the Ryan White Dental Program.

3. **What dental services are not covered by the yearly limit?**

Dental implants, cosmetic procedures, periodontal services, complex root canals, or oral surgery that need specialist care are not covered. Your Ryan White dentist may provide these services for a fee or help refer you to other dental offices or dental schools that may charge for these services.

4. **How will I know I have reached the yearly limit?**

Your Ryan White dentist will let you know when you have reached the yearly limit and talk to you about your options if you still need dental services.

5. **What are my options if I have reached the yearly limit and I still need dental services?**

You have three (3) options if you have reached the yearly limit and still need dental services:

- Option one (1) is to be placed on a waitlist for dental services not covered by the yearly limit. If the Ryan White Dental Program has extra funding during the year, you will be taken off the waitlist on a first come first serve basis.
- Option two (2) is to pay out of pocket for services not covered by the yearly limit. Your Ryan White dentist may provide the services for a fee or help refer you to other dental offices that may provide services for a fee.
- Option three (3) is to be referred by your Ryan White dentist to a local dental school (e.g., UCLA School of Dentistry) that may provide services at no cost or for a fee.
- You are responsible for all fees after you have met the yearly limit if you choose options two (2) or three (3).

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6. **What are my options if I have reached the yearly limit for dental services under the Ryan White Dental Program and I have Medi-Cal Dental (formerly Denti-Cal)?**
If you have Medi-Cal Dental, your Ryan White dentist can still provide services covered by Medi-Cal Dental after you have reached the yearly limit.
7. **How can I be added to the waitlist if I have reached my yearly limit?**
Your Ryan White dentist will submit the request for you to be added to the waitlist. Once you are removed from the waitlist, the dental office will call you to schedule an appointment.
8. **Whom can I contact to ask about my status on the waitlist?**
You can contact the Ryan White Dental Coordinator at (714) 834-6651 to ask about your status on the waitlist.
9. **If I had dental services approved before the yearly limit took effect will the request for approval need to be resubmitted?**
No, if dental services were approved before the yearly limit took effect, the request does not need to be resubmitted for approval if the authorization for these services is still valid (not expired). However, the yearly limit still applies. Your Ryan White dentist will talk to you about your options before starting services if the dental services authorized are more than the yearly limit. See question five (5) above for more information.
10. **Are there any other changes to the Ryan White Dental Program?**
No, there are no other changes to the Ryan White Dental Program at this time. All other requirements, including eligibility for services and referral process, remain the same.
11. **Whom can I contact if I have more questions about the yearly limit for dental services?**
You can contact your Ryan White Eligibility Worker or Case Manager to help answer any other questions you might have.

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Example of the Yearly Limit for the Ryan White Dental Program:

- Ryan White has a yearly limit of \$900 per patient for dental services.
- You get a dental filling in January. The cost for that filling is \$60. Ryan White will cover the full cost of the filling; you now have \$840 left of your yearly limit for dental services for the year.
- In March, you get a root canal. The cost for the root canal is \$400. Ryan White will cover the full cost of the root canal; you now have \$440 left of your yearly limit for dental services for the year.
- In October, you get a crown. The cost for the crown is \$500. Because the cost of the crown is more than the \$900 yearly limit, you have the option to be placed on a waitlist, pay for the services out of pocket, or be referred to a dental school that may charge a fee for services.
- The Ryan White Dental Program covers the cost of dental services up to \$900; you are responsible for the cost of any services above the \$900.
- At the start of the new Ryan White fiscal year (March 1), your yearly limit will reset to \$900.