

# A Dental Home and Your Child.

## Ensuring a Healthy Smile for a Lifetime



### Dental Homes: What Are They?



A **dental home** is an established dental care facility where your child can know their dentist and is comfortable to receive care of their teeth in a familiar and consistent place.

*The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) recommends that children visit a dentist and establish a dental home by the time they are one year old.*

### Benefits of a Dental Home

- **Comprehensive Care:** To guarantee that your child's oral health needs are satisfied, dental homes provide immediate, restorative, and preventive treatments for maintaining oral health.
- **Individualized Care:** Dental homes take into account your child's particular needs, including any special requirements and/or special needs.
- **Preventive Care:** Dental homes put a strong emphasis on using preventative measures and routine checkups to safeguard your child's healthy teeth and gums.
- **Oral Care Education:** Dental homes educate patients on proper dental hygiene practices, which change as a kid matures and develops.
- **Cultural Sensitivity:** Dental homes respect your language and cultural heritage, ensuring that your kid is raised in a welcoming and comfortable atmosphere.


### Your Rights as a Parent or Guardian

As a parent or guardian, your rights include:

- knowing that the person providing your child's dental care is qualified and competent.
- To disclose or explain the information about the fees associated with dental examinations and procedures.
- To inquire about your child's dental care and to receive clear, comprehensive responses.
- If you feel that your child's dental procedures are unneeded or unsuitable, you have the right to decline them.
- To anticipate that dental services will be provided in a safe environment with appropriate infection control and sterilization procedures.

Source: American Dental Association Statement on Patient Rights and Responsibilities, 2009





## Your Responsibilities as a Parent or Guardian

As a parent or guardian, your responsibilities are:

- Helping your child to maintain proper oral hygiene by helping them brush and floss their teeth each day.
- Giving a precise and thorough account of your child's dental and medical history.
- Asking questions and participating in health-related decision-making in relation to your child's dental care.
- To the best of your abilities, adhere to the care plan that has been prescribed for your child.
- Keep all of your appointments and swiftly reschedule them if required.
- Assuming responsibility for promptly paying the expenses associated with your child's dental care.

Source: American Dental Association Statement on Patient Rights and Responsibilities, 2009



## Find a Dental Home Today

Resources to establish a dental home that are searchable by your home ZIP code:

- Illinois State Dental Society Find a Dentist <https://www.isds.org/for-the-public/find-a-dentist>

- Listing of Dental clinics for people with limited financial ability Find a Dental Clinic <https://www.isds.org/for-the-public/find-a-dental-clinic>

- Illinois' Federally Qualified Health Centers <https://findahealthcenter.hrsa.gov/>

*Many of these comprehensive health centers base their fees on financial ability.*

- Illinois Medicaid Dental Program  
At either of the below websites, choose Illinois, your plan, and enter the zip code for a listing of dentists in your geographic area.

**InsureKidsNow.gov**  
<https://www.InsureKidsNow.gov>

Find a Dentist by visiting  
<https://govservices.dentaquest.com/Router.jsp?component=Main&source=Logon&action=ProviderDirectory2&state=IL&locale=en>



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