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Introducing the Canadian Dental Care Plan

Oral health is essential to our overall health, but we know how expensive it can be. A third of people living in Canada do not have dental insurance, and, in 2022, one in four Canadians reported avoiding visiting an oral health professional because of the cost. Delaying care can have wide-reaching impacts, including more expensive treatments and worsening health outcomes. I have heard from so many constituents across our communities who have shared their struggles with accessing dental care and want to see action to address this gap in our healthcare system.

The Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP) is a new dental benefit for uninsured Canadians who have a family net income of less than \$90,000.



That is why the Government of Canada is launching the Canadian Dental Care Plan (CDCP), which will help ease financial barriers to accessing oral health care for up to nine million uninsured Canadian residents with an adjusted family net income of less than \$90,000 who do not have access to dental insurance. The plan builds on the Canada Dental Benefit which will continue to support families with children under the age of 12 until June 30, 2024, and which has already supported close to 400,000 children.

Canadian Dental Care Plan Rollout

To meet anticipated demand and ensure a smooth onboarding process, the CDCP will be rolled out using a phased approach over the coming months, starting with seniors. Applications were first opened for seniors aged 87 and above in December 2023, expanding in phases to those aged 77 to 86 in January 2024, followed by those aged 72 to 76 in February 2024, then those aged 70 to 71 in March 2024. Individuals in these age groups who may be eligible will receive letters inviting them to apply, with instructions on how to validate their eligibility and apply by telephone. **Please go to Canada.ca/dental for more information.**

Canadian Dental Care Plan Phased Rollout

In May 2024, applications will shift to an online portal and will open for eligible seniors 65 and older. Persons with a valid Disability Tax Credit certificate and children under the age of 18 will be able to apply online starting June 2024. All remaining eligible Canadian residents between the ages of 18 and 64 will be able to apply online starting in 2025.

AGE GROUP	APPLICATION OPEN
Seniors aged 87 and above	Starting December 2023
Seniors aged 77 to 86 years	Starting January 2024
Seniors aged 72 to 76 years	Starting February 2024
Seniors aged 70 to 71 years	Starting March 2024
Seniors aged 65 to 69 years	Starting May 2024
Adults with a valid Disability Tax Credit certificate	Starting June 2024
Children under 18 years old	Starting June 2024
All remaining eligible Canadian residents	Starting 2025

Canadians who are enrolled in the CDCP will be able to start seeing an oral health provider as early as May 2024, starting with seniors. The start date to access oral health care services will vary based on when each group can apply and when enrolment is completed. Sunlife will confirm enrollment completion.

WHAT'S COVERED WITH THE CDCP?

A wide range of oral health care services will be covered under the CDCP to prevent and treat oral health disease. These include:

- Preventive services, including:
 - scaling (cleaning), polishing, sealants, and fluoride
- Diagnostic services, including:
 - examinations and x-rays
- Fillings
- Root canal treatments
- Complete and partial removable dentures
- periodontal services, ex. deep scaling
- oral surgery services, ex. extractions



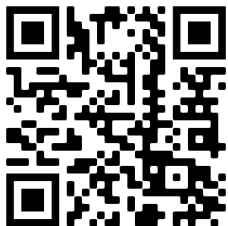
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WHO QUALIFIES?

To qualify for the CDCP, the following criteria must be met:

- no access to dental insurance*;
- an adjusted family net income of less than \$90,000;
- be a Canadian resident for tax purposes; and
- have filed their tax return in the previous year.

Canadian residents who have access to dental benefits through a social program offered by their province or territory and/or by the federal government will be eligible for the CDCP if they meet all the eligibility criteria.

* Not having access to dental insurance is defined as:

- not available through your employer or a family member's employer benefits; including health and wellness accounts;
- not available through your pension (previous employer) or a family member's pension benefits; or
- not purchased by yourself or by a family member or through a group plan from an insurance or benefits company.



I would like to acknowledge that our riding is located on the ancestral and unceded lands of the Squamish, Shíshálh (Sechelt), Lil'wat, Tsleil-Waututh, Musqueam, and N'Quatqua Nations.