



30           **26-18-2.6. Dental benefits.**

31           (1) (a) ~~[The]~~ Except as provided in Subsection (8), the division shall establish a  
32 competitive bid process to bid out Medicaid dental benefits under this chapter.

33           (b) The division may bid out the Medicaid dental benefits separately from other  
34 program benefits.

35           (2) The division shall use the following criteria to evaluate dental bids:

36           (a) ability to manage dental expenses;

37           (b) proven ability to handle dental insurance;

38           (c) efficiency of claim paying procedures;

39           (d) provider contracting, discounts, and adequacy of network; and

40           (e) other criteria established by the department.

41           (3) The division shall request bids for the program's benefits:

42           (a) in 2011; and

43           (b) at least once every five years thereafter.

44           (4) The division's contract with dental plans for the program's benefits shall include  
45 risk sharing provisions in which the dental plan must accept 100% of the risk for any difference  
46 between the division's premium payments per client and actual dental expenditures.

47           (5) The division may not award contracts to:

48           (a) more than three responsive bidders under this section; or

49           (b) an insurer that does not have a current license in the state.

50           (6) (a) The division may cancel the request for proposals if:

51           (i) there are no responsive bidders; or

52           (ii) the division determines that accepting the bids would increase the program's costs.

53           (b) If the division cancels the request for proposals under Subsection (6)(a), the  
54 division shall report to the Health and Human Services Committee regarding the reasons for  
55 the decision.

56           (7) Title 63G, Chapter 6, Utah Procurement Code, shall apply to this section.

57           (8) (a) The division may:

58           (i) establish a dental health care delivery system and payment reform pilot program for  
59 Medicaid dental benefits to increase access to cost effective and quality dental health care by  
60 increasing the number of dentists available for Medicaid dental services; and

61           (ii) target specific Medicaid populations or geographic areas in the state.

62           (b) The pilot program shall establish compensation models for dentists and dental  
63 hygienists that:

64           (i) increase access to quality, cost effective dental care; and

65           (ii) use funds from the Division of Family Health and Preparedness that are available to  
66 reimburse dentists for educational loans in exchange for the dentist agreeing to serve Medicaid  
67 and under-served populations.

68           (c) The division may amend the state plan and apply to the Secretary of Health and  
69 Human Services for waivers or pilot programs if necessary to establish the new dental care  
70 delivery and payment reform model. The division shall evaluate the pilot program's effect on  
71 the cost of dental care and access to dental care for the targeted Medicaid populations. The  
72 division shall report to the Legislature's Health and Human Services Interim Committee by  
73 November 30th of each year that the pilot project is in effect.