

MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

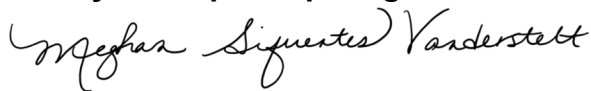
NOTICE OF PROPOSED POLICY

Public Act 280 of 1939, as amended, and consultation guidelines for Medicaid policy provide an opportunity to review proposed changes in Medicaid policies and procedures.

Please review the policy summary and the attached materials that describe the specific changes being proposed. Let us know why you support the change or oppose the change.

Submit your comments to the analyst by the due date specified. Your comments must be received by the due date to be considered for the final policy bulletin.

Thank you for participating in the consultation process.



**Director, Bureau of Policy and Strategic Engagement
Health Services Administration**

Project Number:	2628-Dental	Comments Due:	August 20, 2026	Proposed Effective Date:	October 1, 2026
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Mail Comments to: Elizabeth Pitts

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Policy Subject: Healthy Kids Dental (HKD) Program Changes

Affected Programs: Medicaid, MIChild

Distribution: Dentists, Dental Clinics, Dental Health Plans, Medicaid Health Plans, Highly Integrated Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Tribal Health Centers, Local Health Departments

Policy Summary: Effective October 1, 2026, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) will no longer offer two Dental Health Plans (DHPs) for beneficiaries eligible for the Healthy Kids Dental (HKD) benefit. All HKD beneficiaries will be enrolled in a dental plan administered by Delta Dental of Michigan. In addition, this policy also announces that children who reside in a child caring institution (CCI) are no longer excluded from HKD enrollment. These children will receive dental benefits through the HKD program and be automatically enrolled into a DHP.

Purpose: The purpose of this bulletin is to announce changes to the HKD program effective October 1, 2026. Children in CCIs will be enrolled in the HKD program and the HKD benefit will be administered statewide by Delta Dental of Michigan.

Proposed Policy Draft

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Health Services

Distribution: Dentists, Dental Clinics, Dental Health Plans, Medicaid Health Plans, Highly Integrated Dual Eligible Special Needs Plans, Federally Qualified Health Centers, Tribal Health Centers, Local Health Departments

Issued: September 1, 2026 (proposed)

Subject: Healthy Kids Dental (HKD) Program Changes

Effective: October 1, 2026 (proposed)

Programs Affected: Medicaid, MICHild

Note: Implementation of this policy is contingent upon approval of a Waiver Amendment by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS).

The purpose of this bulletin is to announce changes to the Healthy Kids Dental (HKD) program effective October 1, 2026. Children in Child Caring Institutions (CCIs) will be enrolled in the HKD program and the HKD benefit will be administered statewide by Delta Dental of Michigan.

Beneficiaries in CCIs

All beneficiaries who are under 21 years of age are eligible for HKD in accordance with either Title XIX (Medicaid) or Title XXI (Children's Health Insurance Program [CHIP]) of the Social Security Act requirements unless specifically excluded from enrollment. Excluded populations include, but are not limited to, children in foster care who reside in a court treatment facility, mental health facility, detention center, out-of-state foster home or facility, or in a jail.

Effective October 1, 2026, children who reside in a CCI are no longer excluded from HKD enrollment. These children will receive dental benefits through the HKD program and be automatically enrolled into a DHP. MDHHS will mail confirmation letters to all affected beneficiaries/parents/guardians notifying them of their DHP enrollment.

Dental Health Plan (DHP) Changes

Vendor Selection

Bulletin MSA 18-33 established parameters for HKD as the program became a permanent, statewide dental managed care program and announced two Dental Health Plan (DHP) vendors. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) contracts with DHPs, selected through a competitive bid process, to provide dental services to eligible

children on Medicaid. The selection process is described in a Request for Proposal (RFP) released by Central Procurement Services, Michigan Department of Technology, Management & Budget. The DHP contract specifies populations served, scope of the benefits, and contract provisions with which the DHP must comply.

October 1, 2026 is the beginning of a new contract cycle, and there are variances in the DHP plans referenced in MSA 18-33. Information on the contract awarded effective October 1, 2026 can be found in the [HKD contract award press release](#). Any future changes to DHP vendors can be found on the [MDHHS Newsroom webpage](#). (Refer to the Dental chapter of the [MDHHS Medicaid Provider Manual](#) for additional information on HKD.)

Transitional Information for HKD Providers and Beneficiaries

Providers Currently Accepting Both HKD Plans

Providers who currently accept both Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Delta Dental of Michigan HKD plans will notice minimal changes. Beneficiaries assigned to a provider accepting both plans will remain with the same provider. Prior authorizations approved by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan will be honored by Delta Dental of Michigan for 90 days from enrollment.

Providers Only Accepting Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan HKD Plan

Providers who only accept the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan HKD plan have the option of joining the Delta Dental of Michigan HKD provider network. For information on joining the Delta Dental of Michigan HKD provider network refer to: <https://www.deltadentalmi.com/join-our-networks>. However, if a provider chooses to remain outside the Delta Dental of Michigan provider network, Delta Dental of Michigan will auto-assign the beneficiary to a new provider, if the beneficiary does not select one.

If a beneficiary is in the middle of ongoing treatment and discontinuing the treatment would cause the beneficiary to suffer serious detriment to their oral health, the provider or the beneficiary may request “continuity of care” from Delta Dental of Michigan to continue treatment with the Blue Cross Blue Shield provider for up to six (6) months.

Beneficiary Information

Beneficiaries enrolled in the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan HKD plan will receive written notification of the upcoming change from MDHHS and Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. The beneficiary will also receive a notice from Delta Dental of Michigan with plan and assigned provider information.

If beneficiaries/parents/guardians have any questions, they may call their current dental health plan at:

- Blue Cross Blue Shield at 1-800-936-0935

- Delta Dental at 1-866-696-7441

The beneficiary/parent/guardian may also call Michigan ENROLLS toll-free at 1-800-975-7630. Persons with hearing and speech disabilities may call the TTY number at 1-888-263-5897. The office hours are Monday through Friday 8 am to 7 pm.