

Dental Blue®  
*The right choice*



# Dental Blue PPO Program 1

## Summary of Benefits



MASSACHUSETTS

# Dental Blue PPO Program 1

Preventive Benefit Group	Basic Benefit Group
<b>No Deductible</b>	<b>\$50 Per Member/\$150 Per Family Calendar-Year Deductible</b>
<b>Full Coverage*</b>	<b>80% Coverage*</b>
\$1,000 Calendar-Year Benefit Maximum	
<p><b>Diagnostic</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One complete initial oral exam, including initial dental history and charting of the teeth and supporting structures</li> <li>• Full mouth X-rays, seven or more films, or panoramic X-ray with bitewing X-rays once each 60 months</li> <li>• Bitewing X-rays once each six months</li> <li>• Single tooth X-rays as needed</li> <li>• Study models and casts used in planning treatment once each 60 months</li> <li>• Periodic or routine oral exams once each six months</li> <li>• Emergency exams</li> </ul> <p><b>Preventive</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Routine cleaning, scaling, and polishing of the teeth once each six months</li> <li>• Fluoride treatment once each six months (members under age 19)</li> <li>• Sealants on permanent bicuspid and molar surfaces (members under age 14). Benefits are provided for one application per bicuspid or molar surface each 48 months.</li> <li>• Space maintainers needed due to premature tooth loss (members under age 19)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Restorative</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amalgam (silver) fillings (limited to one filling for each tooth surface in a 12-month period)</li> <li>• Composite resin (tooth color) fillings on front teeth (limited to one filling for each tooth surface in a 12-month period).</li> <li>• Composite resin fillings on a single-surface back tooth (bicuspid and molars) in a 12-month period. (Benefits will continue to be provided for amalgam fillings toward the cost of multiple surface composite resin fillings. You pay any balance).</li> <li>• Pin retention for fillings</li> <li>• Stainless steel crowns on baby teeth and on first permanent adult molars (members under age 16)</li> </ul> <p><b>Oral Surgery</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tooth extraction</li> <li>• Root removal</li> <li>• Biopsies</li> </ul> <p><b>Periodontics (gum and bone)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Periodontal scaling and root planing once per quadrant each 24 months</li> <li>• Periodontal surgery once per quadrant each 36 months</li> <li>• Periodontal maintenance following active periodontal therapy once each three months</li> </ul> <p><b>Endodontics (roots and pulp)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Root canal therapy (permanent teeth, once per lifetime per tooth)</li> <li>• Retreatment root canal therapy on permanent teeth, once in a lifetime for each tooth</li> <li>• Therapeutic pulpotomy on primary or permanent teeth</li> <li>• Other endodontic surgery to treat or remove the dental root</li> </ul> <p><b>Prosthetic Maintenance</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Repair of partial or complete dentures, crowns, and bridges once each 12 months</li> <li>• Adding teeth to an existing complete or partial denture</li> <li>• Rebase or reline of dentures once each 36 months</li> <li>• Recementing of crowns, inlays, onlays, and fixed bridgework once each 12 months</li> </ul> <p><b>Other Services</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Occlusal adjustments once each 24 months</li> <li>• Services to treat root sensitivity</li> <li>• Emergency dental care to treat acute pain or to prevent permanent harm to a member**</li> <li>• General anesthesia when administered in conjunction with covered surgical services</li> </ul>

\*Benefits are reduced by 20% when services are received from a non-network provider.

\*\*Emergency care services are not subject to the calendar-year deductible. When you require emergency care by a non-network dentist, benefits are provided for the same level of benefits that are available for services by a network dentist.

Welcome to Dental Blue PPO Program 1, a dental plan designed to manage the cost of dental services. Dental Blue PPO offers a wide network of dentists. Dentists who participate with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island and the DenteMax Network of Dentists are also part of the Dental Blue PPO Network. Using network dentists will minimize your out-of-pocket expenses.

## Your Dentist

If you already have a dentist and you want to know if he or she participates in the Dental Blue PPO network, you may call the dentist, refer to the most current dental provider directory, or call Member Service at the toll-free telephone number shown on your Dental Blue ID card.

If you would like help choosing a dentist, you may call the Physician Selection Service at **1-800-821-1388**. You may also access the online dental provider directory at [www.bluecrossma.com](http://www.bluecrossma.com).

## Your Benefits

Benefits are subject to the deductible and co-insurance (if applicable), and the benefit maximum amounts chosen by your group. Payments are based on whether or not you receive services from a network or non-network dentist. Please refer to the chart to the left for the amounts your group has chosen for you.

Many covered services have specific time or age limits associated with them. For example:

- Cleanings are provided only once each six months.
- Fluoride treatments are provided only for members under age 19.

## Pre-Treatment Estimates

If your dentist expects that your dental treatment will involve covered services that will cost more than \$250, he or she should send a copy of the “treatment plan” to Blue Cross Blue Shield before services are rendered. A treatment plan is a detailed description of the procedures that the dentist plans to perform and includes an estimate for the charges for each service.

Once the treatment plan is reviewed, you and your dentist will be notified of the benefits available.

Remember, the payment estimate is based on your eligibility status and the amount of your calendar-year benefit maximum at the time the estimate is received and reviewed. (The actual payment may differ if your available calendar-year benefit maximum or eligibility status has changed.)

## Multi-Stage Procedures

Your dental plan provides benefits for multi-stage procedures (these are procedures that require more than one visit) as long as you are enrolled under the plan on the date that the multi-stage procedure is completed. A participating dentist will send a claim for a multi-stage procedure to Blue Cross Blue Shield for processing only after the completion date of the procedure.

You will be responsible for all charges for multi-stage procedures if your plan has been cancelled before the completion date of the procedure

## How Network Dentists Are Paid

Payments are based on the allowed charge for covered services. Network dentists agree to accept the allowed charge as payment in full. You pay only your deductible and co-insurance (if applicable), and charges beyond your calendar-year benefit maximum.

## How Non-Network Dentists Are Paid

Payments are based on 80% of the network coverage levels for covered services. The dentist’s charges are used to calculate your benefits. You will be responsible for your deductible and co-insurance (if applicable), and the difference between the Blue Cross Blue Shield payment and the dentist’s actual charges.

For example, if 80% of your dental expenses would have been covered had you used a network provider, only 64% of such expenses will be covered if you use a non-network provider.

This provision does not apply to emergency care services. Benefits for emergency care are paid based on the network level of benefits, but calculated based on the dentist’s actual charge.

## When Coverage Begins

You are covered, without a waiting period, from the date you enroll in the plan.

## Dependent Benefits

This plan covers dependents to age 26, or for two calendar years after the dependent last qualified as a dependent under the Internal Revenue Code, whichever comes first. Additionally, this plan may cover unmarried full-time students or other unmarried dependents who do not otherwise qualify as eligible dependents. Please see your plan description (and riders, if any) for exact coverage details.

## If You Have to File a Claim

Network dentists will send claims to Blue Cross Blue Shield for you. Just show them your Dental Blue PPO ID card. The payment will be sent directly to your dentist when claims are received within one year of the completed service.

If you receive care from a non-network dentist, you may have to submit the claim yourself. If you file, send the Attending Dentist's Statement with the original itemized bills. Any benefit payment will be sent to you. You can get Attending Dentist's Statements from Member Service.

Any claims that you file should be sent to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, P. O. Box 986030, Boston, MA 02298. All member-submitted claims must be submitted within two years of the date of service.

The Blue Cross Blue Shield Grievance Program is fully described in the plan description.

## Other Information

Coordination of benefits, or COB, applies to plan members who are covered by another plan for health care expenses. COB ensures that payments from all health care plans do not exceed the total charges billed for covered services.

Your plan description has a subrogation clause. This does not affect the scope of benefits. It allows claim payments to be retracted when a member recovers payment for the same charges from a third party due to liability for injury.

## Enhanced Dental Benefits

Enhanced Dental Benefits for certain dental care services are available if you are a member who has been diagnosed with either diabetes, coronary artery disease, or you are a member who is pregnant. Contact Member Service for more information.

## Questions? Call 1-800-262-BLUE (2583).

For questions about Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, visit the website at [www.bluecrossma.com](http://www.bluecrossma.com).

**Limitations and Exclusions.** These pages summarize your dental plan. Your plan description and riders define the full terms and conditions in greater detail. Should any questions arise concerning benefits, the plan description and riders will govern. For a complete list of limitations and exclusions, refer to your plan description and riders.

