



# State of Michigan

## State Retiree Dental Plan

Delta Dental PPO™ Our national PPO program  
utilizing our Delta Dental PPO™ and Delta Dental Premier® networks

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### WELCOME!

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Delta Dental Plan of Michigan, Inc. is a nonprofit dental care corporation, doing business as Delta Dental of Michigan. Delta Dental of Michigan is the state's dental benefits specialist. Good oral health is a vital part of good general health, and your State Retiree Dental Plan is designed to promote regular dental visits. We encourage you to take advantage of this program by calling your Dentist today for an appointment.

The benefits described in this booklet are provided under the self-funded State Retiree Dental Plan administered by Delta Dental Plan of Michigan, Inc. (Delta Dental) under the direction of the Michigan Civil Service Commission, Employee Benefits Division (MCSC, EBD). These benefits are not insured with Delta Dental, but will be payable from funds administered by MCSC, EBD.

MCSC, EBD is responsible for implementing State Retiree Dental Plan benefits and future changes in benefits. Delta Dental will provide certain services on behalf of MCSC, EBD through an administrative services only contract. Information concerning people enrolled under the State Retiree Dental Plan may be reviewed by Delta Dental of Michigan.

This document is not a contract. Rather, it is intended to be a summary description of benefits. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this benefit booklet. However, if statements in this booklet differ from applicable Delta Dental coverage documents, then the terms and conditions of those coverage documents will prevail.

Effective 01/01/2023

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

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State of Michigan Summary of Benefits Chart .....	2
<b>I. Eligibility Guidelines .....</b>	<b>3</b>
Retiree/Pension Recipient .....	3
Dependents .....	3
Dual Enrollment.....	3
Applying for Coverage .....	4
Cancellation of Coverage .....	4
Continuation of Coverage .....	4
<b>II. Summary of Benefits .....</b>	<b>5</b>
Diagnostic & Preventive Services.....	5
Basic Services .....	5
Major Services.....	6
Orthodontic Services .....	6
<b>III. Selecting a Dentist .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>IV. Accessing Your Benefits.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>V. How Payment is Made.....</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>VI. Exclusions and Limitations .....</b>	<b>8</b>
Exclusions.....	8
Limitations .....	11
<b>VII. Claim Appeals.....</b>	<b>14</b>
Formal Claims Appeal Procedure .....	14
Manner and Content of Notice.....	15
<b>VIII. General Conditions.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>IX. Glossary .....</b>	<b>17</b>

**State of Michigan Summary of Benefits**

**State Retiree Dental Plan**

**Group No. 8600 & 8601**

**Delta Dental  
PPO Dentist\*\*\***

**Delta Dental  
Premier Dentist**

**Nonparticipating  
Dentist\***

**Covered Services:**

	Plan Pays	You Pay	Plan Pays	You Pay	Plan Pays	You Pay
<b>Diagnostic &amp; Preventive Services</b>						
<b>Diagnostic and Preventive Services</b> - Used to diagnose and/or prevent dental abnormalities or disease (includes exams, cleanings and fluoride treatments)	100%	0%	100%	0%	100%	0%*
<b>Emergency Palliative Treatment</b> - Used to temporarily relieve pain	90%	10%	90%	10%	90%	10%*
<b>Radiographs</b> - X-rays	100%	0%	90%	10%	90%	10%*
<b>Basic Services</b>						
<b>Sealants*</b> - Dental sealants to prevent decay of first and second permanent molars for dependents under age 14.	70%	30%	50%	50%	50%	50%*
<b>Minor Restorative Services</b> - Used to repair teeth damaged by disease or injury (for example, fillings)	100%	0%	90%	10%	90%	10%*
<b>Extractions**</b> - Simple and surgical extractions, including preoperative and postoperative care	100%	0%	90%	10%	90%	10%*
<b>Oral Surgery Services **</b> - Dental surgery, including preoperative and postoperative care, but not including extractions	90%	10%	90%	10%	90%	10%*
<b>Endodontic Services **</b> - Used to treat teeth with diseased or damaged nerves (for example, root canals)	100%	0%	90%	10%	90%	10%*
<b>Periodontic Services **</b> - Used to treat diseases of the gums and supporting structures of the teeth	100%	0%	90%	10%	90%	10%*
<b>Major Restorative Services</b> - Used when teeth can't be restored with another filling material (for example, crowns)	90%	10%	90%	10%	90%	10%*
<b>Veneers (cosmetic bonding)</b> - For dependents age 8 through 19 for the eight anterior teeth if damaged by specific conditions.	100%	0%	90%	10%	90%	10%*
<b>Major Services</b>						
<b>Prosthetic Services</b> - Used to replace missing natural teeth (for example, bridges****, implants, and dentures)	70%	30%	50%	50%	50%	50%*
<b>Relines</b> - Relines and rebase to dentures	70%	30%	50%	50%	50%	50%*
<b>Prosthetic Repairs</b> - Repairs to bridges, implants, and dentures	100%	0%	50%	50%	50%	50%*
<b>Orthodontic Services</b>						
<b>Orthodontic Services</b> - Used to correct malposed teeth (for example, braces)	75%	25%	60%	40%	60%	40%*
<b>Maximum Payment</b>						
\$1,500 per person total per Plan Year (January through December) on Diagnostic & Preventive Services, Basic Services, and Major Services. Delta Dental's payment for Orthodontic Services will not exceed a lifetime maximum of \$1,500 per eligible person.						
<b>Michigan State Police Troopers and Sergeants who retired on or after October 1, 1987</b> \$2,000 per person total per Plan Year (January through December) on Diagnostic & Preventive Services, Basic Services, and Major Services. Delta Dental's payment for Orthodontic Services will not exceed a lifetime maximum of \$1,750 per eligible person.						

\*In the event that you seek treatment from a nonparticipating dentist, you may be responsible for more than the percentage indicated above. Please see the "How Payment is Made" section of this certificate for additional details.

\*\*There are limited procedure codes within these services that are exempt from the Plan Year maximum.

\*\*\*If you seek services from a Delta Dental PPO dentist, your benefit coverage levels are enhanced.

\*\*\*\*Fixed bridge abutment crowns may be paid at the Major Restorative benefit level if payment for a (single) crown could be made due to the condition of the tooth being restored.

\*Sealants are covered 100% for dependents under age 14 for Michigan State Police Troopers and Sergeants that retired on or after October 1, 1987. In the event that you seek treatment from a nonparticipating dentist, you may be responsible for more than the indicated percentage. Please see the "How Payment is Made" section of this certificate for additional details.

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## I. Eligibility Guidelines

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### *Retiree/Pension Recipient*

You are eligible to enroll in the Dental Plan if you are a State of Michigan retiree or surviving dependent and a member of the State Employees Retirement System.

### *Dependents*

You may continue to cover your legal spouse and any of your unmarried children, as long as they meet the requirements outlined in this section. These dependents can include your child(ren) by birth, legal adoption, or legal guardianship while they are in your custody and dependent on you for support.

You will need to provide proof of dependents' eligibility. When properly enrolled, your dependent's State Retiree Dental Plan coverage is effective the same day as yours.

Note: If you receive your pension benefit from the State as the beneficiary of a deceased State employee or retiree, you are eligible for enrollment in the Dental Plan. However, if you marry or remarry, you are not eligible to enroll that spouse or any children of that marriage.

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### *Dependents in the Armed Forces*

No person will be considered a dependent while in the armed forces of any country.

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### *Dependents Under the Age of 19*

Dependents under the age of 19 are eligible if they reside with you or if you are legally responsible for their health care.

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### *Dependents Between the Ages of 19 and 26*

Dependents who meet the eligibility requirements may continue to be covered under the State Retiree Dental Plan as a member after they reach the age of 19. This dependent coverage may continue to the end of the month in which they turn 26 if they remain eligible. Coverage for these dependents will be exactly the same as yours.

To be eligible, these dependents must meet all of the following requirements.

Your natural or adopted child may be covered as a dependent, as long as he or she is:

- ◆ unmarried;
- ◆ between the ages of 19 and 26;
- ◆ regularly attending school (at least half-time enrollment);

- ◆ living with you at least half the time; and
- ◆ dependent on you to provide at least 50 percent of their support.

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### *Dependents Under Guardianship*

Children who are under your guardianship are eligible to age 18; there is no extension to age 26 for students.

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### *Stepchildren*

Stepchildren of the retiree (not stepchildren of the retiree's spouse) are eligible as dependents to age 19 if they were covered as dependents when the retiree was an active employee, and as long as the stepchildren are not covered under any other health care plan. The stepchildren must live with the retiree at least half the time and must be dependent on the retiree to provide at least 50 percent of their support.

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### *Foster Children*

Foster children are not eligible for coverage.

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### *Incapacitated Children*

If your enrolled dependent is an incapacitated child, your coverage for this child will automatically continue at and beyond age 19 as long as (1) he or she continues to be incapacitated and (2) coverage does not terminate for any other reason. Your child will be considered incapacitated if he or she is unable to earn his or her own living because of a mental or physical impairment and he or she depends chiefly on you for support and maintenance. The disability must have started before the 19<sup>th</sup> birthday. Before your child turns 19, you must contact the Office of Retirement Services for additional information on the continuation of coverage. Proof that your child is incapacitated must be submitted periodically.

### *Dual Enrollment*

No person may be covered as both a "retiree" and "dependent", nor as a dependent child of more than one retiree. If you and your spouse are both eligible retirees of the State of Michigan, dental coverage may be carried separately or as one enrollment with dependent coverage. Your children may NOT be listed on both your and your spouse's (or your and your ex-spouse's) State Retiree Dental Plan if you maintain separate enrollments.

## ***Applying for Coverage***

If you retire any time prior to the end of the month with a pension beginning the first of the next month, coverage is automatically continued to the end of the month under your existing plan.

To activate your retiree dental coverage, you must choose dental insurance at the time you apply for retirement.

If your dependents are properly enrolled at the time you enroll, their State Retiree Dental Plan coverage is also effective the same day as yours.

If you do not enroll at retirement, or if you do not enroll your eligible dependents at that time (or when newly acquired), you will be given other opportunities to enroll. If you enroll later, your coverage will begin six months following the first day of the month in which the Retirement System received your completed insurance application.

### ***Family Status Change***

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Mid-year changes in your enrollment will be allowed during the Plan Year based on what the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) calls a “family status change.” These changes occur if you lose or need coverage because:

- ◆ you get married or divorced;
- ◆ a child is born or adopted;
- ◆ you gain legal guardianship of a child;
- ◆ your spouse begins or ends employment;
- ◆ your spouse changes from part-time to full-time (or vice versa) or takes an unpaid leave of absence resulting in a significant change in your coverage; or
- ◆ there is a significant change in your coverage (or your spouse’s coverage) through your spouse’s (non-State of Michigan) employer plan.

If you wish to enroll a newly acquired dependent after your coverage becomes effective, or if another family status change occurs, notify the Office of Retirement Services in writing within 31 days.

The coverage effective date for a newly acquired dependent will be the date he or she is acquired (by birth, adoption, or legal guardianship). The effective date for any family status changes (marriage, divorce) will be the first day of the month following the family

status change or after enrollment, whichever is later.

## ***Cancellation of Coverage***

### ***Retirees/Recipients***

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An election may be revoked or changed at any time if the change is the result of a change in family status as defined under Internal Revenue Code Section 125. The cancellation effective date will be the last day of the last month in which a dependent contribution is paid. In the event of divorce, the spouse’s cancellation effective date will be the date of divorce.

Your dependent’s coverage under the State Retiree Dental Plan will automatically terminate unless continued with direct payment of the full premium for a period not to exceed 36 months (or except as explained under “Continuation of Coverage”) in the event of the following, whichever occurs first:

- ◆ the 30<sup>th</sup> day after a retiree/recipient’s death;
- ◆ when your dependent no longer meets the definition of an eligible dependent (Note: Ex-spouses are not eligible);
- ◆ on the last day of the month for which you made any required dependent premium contribution; or
- ◆ when the entire group contract is discontinued.

### ***Loss of Eligibility During Treatment***

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If you or your eligible dependent loses eligibility while receiving dental treatment, only Covered Services received while you or your eligible dependent were covered under the Plan will be payable.

Certain procedures begun before the loss of eligibility may be covered if they are completed within a 60-day period measured from the date of loss of eligibility. In those cases, Delta Dental evaluates those services in progress to determine what portion, if any, is payable by the State Retiree Dental Plan through Delta Dental. The balance of the total fee is your responsibility.

## ***Continuation of Coverage***

When your enrollment or your dependent’s enrollment in the State Retiree Dental Plan has been cancelled, you or your dependent may be eligible for the continuation of benefits as explained below.

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## Death of Retiree/Recipient

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In the event of your death, State Retiree Dental Plan coverage will automatically continue for your dependent if he or she will receive an immediate monthly survivor's pension benefit from the State of Michigan.

If your dependent is not going to receive a monthly pension benefit following your death, coverage will end 30 days following your death unless (1) you are a member of the defined contribution retirement plan, or (2) your dependent continues State Retiree Dental Plan coverage pursuant to Federal COBRA regulations. (See "COBRA Continuation").

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## COBRA Continuation

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You and your enrolled dependents may continue terminated State Retiree Dental Plan coverage for up to 36 months by paying the full monthly premium (including the share that is paid by the State) directly to the State of Michigan.

Enrolled dependents may also continue State Retiree Dental Plan coverage for up to 36 months by paying the full monthly premium (including the share that is paid by the State) directly to the State. Dependents may continue coverage if the coverage is terminated as a result of the employee's death, divorce, or legal separation (if the legal separation caused the loss of coverage).

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## COBRA Notification and Application

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**You or a family member must notify the Office of Retirement Services when a divorce or legal separation occurs or when a dependent child is no longer eligible.** For all other qualifying events, the Office of Retirement Services will notify you and your enrolled family members of your right to continue terminated coverage.

In any case, you (or your dependents) must apply for the continuation of terminated coverage no later than 60 days from the date of your qualifying event or the date coverage ended, whichever is later. This continuation opportunity will end if an application is not submitted or the full COBRA premium is not paid within the stated time limits.

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## II. Summary of Benefits

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Enrolled retirees and covered dependents are entitled to those covered dental services listed below to the extent specified in bargaining unit contracts or the Compensation Plan and

summarized in the State of Michigan Retiree Summary of Benefits.

### ***Diagnostic & Preventive Services***

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#### Diagnostic & Preventive Services

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Services and procedures to evaluate existing conditions and/or to prevent dental abnormalities or disease. Covered Services include examinations/evaluations, prophylaxes (cleanings), fluoride treatments for enrolled dependents under age 19, and space maintainers for enrolled dependents under age 14.

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#### Brush Biopsy

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Oral brush biopsy procedure and laboratory analysis used to detect oral cancer.

Using this diagnostic procedure, Dentists can identify and treat abnormal cells that could become cancerous, or they can detect the disease in its earliest and most treatable stage.

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#### Emergency Palliative Treatment

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Emergency treatment to temporarily relieve pain.

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#### Radiographs

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X-rays as required for routine care or as necessary for the diagnosis of a specific condition. Covered Services include full mouth X-rays once every five years, and bitewing X-rays no more than once in a Plan Year unless special need is shown.

### ***Basic Services***

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#### Sealants

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Dental sealants to prevent decay of first and second permanent molars for enrolled dependents under age 14.

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#### Oral Surgery Services

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Extractions and dental surgery, including preoperative and postoperative care. (Please note: there are limited procedure codes within this service that are exempt from the Plan Year maximum.)

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#### Endodontic Services

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The treatment of teeth with diseased or damaged nerves. Covered Services include root canals and periapical services to treat the root of the tooth. (Please note: there are limited procedure codes within this service that are exempt from the Plan Year maximum.)

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## Periodontic Services

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The treatment of diseases of the gums and supporting structures of the teeth. Covered Services include periodontal surgery to remove diseased gum tissue surrounding the teeth, provisional splinting to stabilize teeth, occlusal adjustments to correct the biting surface of a tooth, periodontal scaling to remove tartar from the root of the tooth, and treatment of gingivitis and periodontitis (diseases of the gums and gum tissue). (Please note: there are limited procedure codes within this service that are exempt from the Plan Year maximum.)

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## Restorative Services

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Services to rebuild and repair your teeth damaged by disease, decay, fracture, or injury. Restorative services include:

- ◆ Minor restorative services, such as amalgam (silver) fillings, and resin (white) fillings on anterior teeth.
- ◆ Major restorative services, such as onlays and crowns, when the teeth cannot be restored with another filling material, such as amalgam or resin.

### **Major Services**

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#### Prosthodontic Services

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Services and appliances that replace missing natural teeth, such as bridges, endosteal implants, partial dentures, and complete dentures.

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#### Relines and Repairs

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Relines and repairs to bridges, partial dentures, and complete dentures.

#### **Orthodontic Services**

Services, treatment, and procedures to correct malposed teeth (abnormal bite), including diagnostic services rendered in conjunction with orthodontics. Diagnostic services include cephalometric films, diagnostic casts, and photos. They also include appliance therapy, functional/myofunctional therapy (when provided by a dentist in conjunction with appliance therapy), and non-surgical treatment of an atypical or extended skeletal case.

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## III. Selecting a Dentist

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The State Dental Plan provides you the opportunity to see any provider you choose, regardless of whether that provider participates in Delta Dental's networks. While you can visit any provider, you will save the most money by visiting a dentist from one of two provider networks: Delta Dental PPO and Delta Dental Premier.

The difference between the two networks is that you will receive greater savings when you receive care from a Delta Dental PPO network provider. This is because providers who participate in the Delta Dental PPO network agree to accept the lowest fees as payment in full. If you choose to visit a Delta Dental Premier provider, you will still receive the same protections and coverage as you would with a Delta Dental PPO provider, but it may cost more, as the Delta Dental Premier providers accept a different fee schedule as payment in full.

If you see a dentist who does not participate in either the Delta Dental PPO or Delta Dental Premier network, you will still be covered, but you may have to pay more. In this case, Delta Dental would pay you directly based on the dentist's submitted fee or Delta Dental's nonparticipating dentist fee, whichever is less. You would be responsible for paying the dentist whatever he or she charges, and you may have to submit your own claims.

A list of Participating Dentists will be provided upon request. Although this list is accurate as of the date printed on it, changes may occur. To verify that a Dentist is a Participating Dentist, you can use Delta Dental's online Dentist Directory at [www.DeltaDentalMI.com](http://www.DeltaDentalMI.com) or call 800-524-0150.

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## IV. Accessing Your Benefits

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To use your Plan, follow these steps:

1. Please read this benefit booklet carefully so you are familiar with your benefits, payment methods, and terms of your Plan.
2. Make an appointment with your Dentist and tell him or her that you have dental benefits with Delta Dental. If your Dentist is not familiar with your Plan or has questions, have him or her contact Delta Dental by (a) writing Delta Dental, Attention: Customer Service, PO Box 9089, Farmington Hills, Michigan, 48333-

9089, or (b) calling the toll-free number, 800-524-0150.

3. After you receive your dental treatment, you or the dental office staff will file a claim form, completing the information portion with:
  - a. The Subscriber's full name and address;
  - b. The Subscriber's ID number;
  - c. The name and date of birth of the person receiving dental care;
  - d. The group's name and number.

#### Notice of Claim Forms

Delta Dental does not require special claim forms. However, most dental offices have claim forms available. Participating Dentists will fill out and submit your dental claims for you. Mail claims and completed information requests to:

**Delta Dental  
PO Box 9085  
Farmington Hills, Michigan 48333-9085**

#### Pre-Treatment Estimate

A Pre-Treatment Estimate is not required to receive payment, but it allows claims to be processed more efficiently and allows you to know what services may be covered before your Dentist provides them. You and your Dentist should review your Pre-Treatment Estimate Notice before treatment. Once treatment is complete, the dental office will submit a claim to Delta Dental for payment.

#### Written Notice of Claim and Time of Payment

Because the amount of your Benefits is not conditioned on a Pre-Treatment Estimate decision by Delta Dental, all claims under This Plan are Post-Service Claims. All claims for Benefits must be filed with Delta Dental within one year of the date the services were completed. Once a claim is filed, Delta Dental will determine coverage within 30 days of receiving it. If there is not enough information to decide your claim, Delta Dental will notify you or your Dentist within 30 days. The notice will (a) describe the information needed, (b) explain why it is needed, (c) request an extension of time in which to determine coverage, and (d) inform you or your Dentist that the information must be received within 45 days or your claim will be denied. You will receive a copy of any notice sent to your Dentist. Once Delta Dental receives the requested information, it has 15 days to determine coverage. If you or your Dentist does

not supply the requested information, Delta Dental will have no choice but to deny your claim. Once Delta Dental determines coverage, it will notify you within five days.

#### Authorized Representative

You may also appoint an authorized representative to deal with Delta Dental on your behalf with respect to any benefit claim you file or any review of a denied claim you wish to pursue (see the Claims Appeal Procedure section). Call Delta Dental's Customer Service department, toll-free, at 800-524-0150, or write them at PO Box 9089, Farmington Hills, Michigan, 48333-9089, to request a form to designate the person you wish to appoint as your representative. While in some circumstances your Dentist may be treated as your authorized representative, generally only the person you have authorized on the last dated form filed with Delta Dental will be recognized. Once you have appointed an authorized representative, Delta Dental will communicate directly with your representative and will not inform you of the status of your claim. You will have to get that information from your representative. If you have not designated a representative, Delta Dental will communicate directly with you.

#### Questions and Assistance

Questions regarding your plan or coverage should be directed to Delta Dental's Customer Service department, toll-free, at 800-524-0150. You may also write to Delta Dental's Customer Service department, PO Box 9089, Farmington Hills, Michigan, 48333-9089. When writing to Delta Dental, please include your name, the group's name and number, the Subscriber's ID number, and your daytime telephone number.

### V. How Payment is Made

1. If your Dentist is a Delta Dental PPO Dentist and a Delta Dental Premier Dentist, Delta Dental will base payment on the lesser of:
  - a. The Submitted Amount;
  - b. The Delta Dental PPO Dentist Schedule; or
  - c. The Maximum Approved Fee.

Delta Dental will send payment to your Delta Dental PPO Dentist, and you will be responsible for any difference between Delta Dental's payment and the Delta Dental PPO Dentist Schedule or the Maximum Approved



Fee for Covered Services. You will be responsible for the lesser of the Delta Dental PPO Schedule Amount, the Maximum Approved Fee, or your Dentist's Submitted Amount for most commonly-performed non-covered services. For other non-covered services, you will be responsible for your Dentist's Submitted Amount.

2. If your Dentist is a Delta Dental PPO Dentist but is not a Delta Dental Premier Dentist, Delta Dental will base payment on the lesser of:

- a. The Submitted Amount; or
- b. The Delta Dental PPO Dentist Schedule.

Delta Dental will send payment to your Delta Dental PPO Dentist, and you will be responsible for any difference between Delta Dental's payment and the Delta Dental PPO Dentist Schedule for Covered Services. You will be responsible for the lesser of the Delta Dental PPO Schedule Amount or your Dentist's Submitted Amount for most commonly-performed non-covered services. For other non-covered services, you will be responsible for the Dentist's Submitted Amount.

3. If your Dentist is not a Delta Dental PPO Dentist but is a Delta Dental Premier Dentist, Delta Dental will base payment on the lesser of:

- a. The Submitted Amount; or
- b. The Maximum Approved Fee.

Delta Dental will send payment to your Delta Dental Premier Dentist, and you will be responsible for any difference between Delta Dental's payment and the Maximum Approved Fee for Covered Services. You will be responsible for the lesser of the Maximum Approved Fee or your Dentist's Submitted Amount for most commonly-performed non-covered services. For other non-covered services, you will be responsible for your Dentist's Submitted Amount.

4. If your Dentist does not participate in Delta Dental PPO or Delta Dental Premier, Delta Dental will base payment on the lesser of:

- a. The Submitted Amount; or
- b. The Nonparticipating Dentist Fee.

Delta Dental will usually send payment to you, and you will be responsible for making

payment to your Dentist. You will be responsible for any difference between Delta Dental's payment and your Dentist's Submitted Amount.

5. For dental services rendered by an Out-of-Country Dentist, Delta Dental will base payment on the lesser of:

- a. The Submitted Amount; or
- b. The Out-of-Country Dentist Fee.

Delta Dental will usually send payment to you, and you will be responsible for making payment to your Dentist. You will be responsible for any difference between Delta Dental's payment and your Dentist's Submitted Amount.

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## VI. Exclusions and Limitations

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### *Exclusions*

**Delta Dental will make no payment for the following services or supplies. All charges for the following services will be your responsibility (though your payment obligation may be satisfied by insurance or some other arrangement for which you are eligible):**

1. Services for injuries or conditions payable under Workers' Compensation or Employer's Liability laws. Services received from any government agency, political subdivision, community agency, foundation, or similar entity.

NOTE: This provision does not apply to any programs provided under Title XIX of the Social Security Act; that is, Medicaid.

2. Services or supplies, as determined by Delta Dental, for correction of congenital or developmental malformations, with the exception of congenitally missing teeth.
3. Cosmetic surgery or dentistry for aesthetic reasons, as determined by Delta Dental.
4. Services started or appliances started before a person became eligible under This Plan. This exclusion does not apply to orthodontic treatment in progress.
5. Prescription drugs (except intramuscular injectable antibiotics), premedication, medicaments/ solutions, and relative analgesia.
6. General anesthesia and intravenous sedation for (a) surgical procedures, unless

- medically necessary, or (b) restorative dentistry.
7. Charges for hospitalization, laboratory tests, histopathological examinations, and miscellaneous tests.
  8. Charges for failure to keep a scheduled visit with the Dentist.
  9. Services or supplies, as determined by Delta Dental, for which no valid dental need can be demonstrated.
  10. Services or supplies, as determined by Delta Dental that are investigational in nature, including services or supplies required to treat complications from investigational procedures.
  11. Services or supplies, as determined by Delta Dental, which are specialized procedures or techniques.
  12. Services or supplies, as determined by Delta Dental, which are not provided in accordance with generally accepted standards of dental practice.
  13. Treatment by other than a Dentist, except for services performed by a licensed dental hygienist or other dental professional, as determined by Delta Dental, under the scope of his or her license as permitted by applicable state law.
  14. Services or supplies excluded by the policies and procedures of Delta Dental, including the Processing Policies.
  15. Services or supplies for which no charge is made, for which the patient is not legally obligated to pay, or for which no charge would be made in the absence of Delta Dental coverage.
  16. Services or supplies received due to an act of war, declared or undeclared.
  17. Services or supplies covered under a hospital, surgical/medical, or prescription drug program.
  18. Caries preventive medicament.
  19. Services or supplies that are not within the categories of Benefits selected by the State of Michigan and that are not covered under the terms of this Certificate.
  20. Fluoride rinses, self-applied fluorides, or desensitizing medicaments.
  21. Preventive control programs (including oral hygiene instruction, caries susceptibility tests, dietary control, tobacco counseling, home care medicaments, etc.).
  22. Space maintainers for maintaining space due to premature loss of anterior primary teeth.
  23. Lost, missing, or stolen appliances of any type or replacement or repair of orthodontic appliances or space maintainers.
  24. Cosmetic dentistry, including repairs to facings posterior to the second bicuspid position.
  25. Prefabricated crowns used as final restorations on permanent teeth.
  26. Appliances, surgical procedures, and restorations for increasing vertical dimension; for altering, restoring, or maintaining occlusion; for replacing tooth structure loss resulting from attrition, abrasion, abfraction, or erosion. This exclusion will not apply to Orthodontic Services as limited by the terms and conditions of the contract between Delta Dental and the State of Michigan.
  27. Implant/abutment supported interim fixed denture for edentulous arch.
  28. Soft occlusal guard appliances.
  29. Paste-type root canal fillings on permanent teeth.
  30. Repair, relines, or adjustments of occlusal guards.
  31. Chemical curettage.
  32. Services associated with overdentures.
  33. Metal bases on removable prostheses.
  34. The replacement of teeth beyond the normal complement of teeth.
  35. Personalization or characterization of any service or appliance.
  36. Temporary crowns used for temporization during crown or bridge fabrication.
  37. Posterior bridges in conjunction with partial dentures in the same arch.
  38. Precision abutments, attachments and stress breakers.
  39. Biologic materials to aid in soft and osseous tissue regeneration when submitted on the same day as tooth extraction, periradicular surgery, soft tissue grafting, guided tissue regeneration, and periodontal or implant bone grafting.

40. Bone replacement grafts and specialized implant surgical techniques, including radiographic/surgical implant index.
41. Appliances, restorations, or services for the diagnosis or treatment of disturbances of the temporomandibular joint (TMJ).
42. Diagnostic photographs and cephalometric films, unless done for orthodontics.
43. Myofunctional therapy.
44. Mounted case analyses.
45. Molecular, antigen, or antibody testing for a public health related pathogen.
46. Any and all taxes applicable to the services.
47. Processing policies may otherwise exclude payment by Delta Dental for services or supplies.

**Delta Dental will make no payment for the following services or supplies. Participating Dentists may not charge Eligible Persons for these services or supplies. All charges from Nonparticipating Dentists for the following are your responsibility:**

1. The completion of forms or submission of claims.
2. Consultations, patient screening, or patient assessment when performed in conjunction with examinations or evaluations.
3. Local anesthesia.
4. Caries risk assessment performed on a Member age 2 or under.
5. Acid etching, cement bases, cavity liners, and bases or temporary fillings.
6. Infection control.
7. Temporary, interim, or provisional crowns.
8. Gingivectomy as an aid to the placement of a restoration.
9. The correction of occlusion, when performed with prosthetics and restorations involving occlusal surfaces.
10. Diagnostic casts, when performed in conjunction with restorative or prosthodontic procedures.
11. Palliative treatment, when any other service is provided on the same date except X-rays and tests necessary to diagnose the emergency condition.
12. Post-operative X-rays, when done following any completed service or procedure.
13. Periodontal charting.
14. Pins and preformed posts, when done with core buildups for crowns, onlays, or inlays.
15. A pulp cap, when done with a sedative filling or any other restoration. A sedative or temporary filling, when done with pulpal debridement for the relief of acute pain prior to conventional root canal therapy or another endodontic procedure. The opening and drainage of a tooth or palliative treatment, when done by the same Dentist or dental office on the same day as completed root canal treatment.
16. A pulpotomy on a permanent tooth, except on a tooth with an open apex.
17. A therapeutic apical closure on a permanent tooth, except on a tooth where the root is not fully formed.
18. Retreatment of a root canal by the same Dentist or dental office within two years of the original root canal treatment.
19. A prophylaxis or full mouth debridement, when done on the same day as periodontal maintenance or scaling and root planing.
20. Scaling in the presence of gingival inflammation when done on the same day as periodontal maintenance.
21. Prophylaxis, scaling in the presence of gingival inflammation, or periodontal maintenance when done within 30 days of three or four quadrants of scaling and root planing or other periodontal treatment.
22. Full mouth debridement when done within 30 days of scaling and root planing.
23. Scaling and debridement in the presence of inflammation or mucositis of a single implant, including cleaning of the implant surfaces without flap entry and closure, when performed within 12 months of implant restorations, provisional implant crowns and implant or abutment supported interim dentures.
24. Scaling and debridement in the presence of inflammation or mucositis of a single implant, when done on the same day as a prophylaxis, scaling in the presence of gingival inflammation, periodontal maintenance, full mouth debridement, periodontal scaling and root planing, periodontal surgery or debridement of a peri-implant defect.
25. Full mouth debridement, when done on the same day as comprehensive evaluation.

26. A sealant, sealant repair, preventive resin restoration or interim caries arresting medicament is not payable when done on the same day as a sealant, sealant repair, preventive resin restoration or interim caries arresting medicament performed on the same tooth.
27. An occlusal adjustment, when performed on the same day as the delivery of an occlusal guard.
28. Reline, rebase, or any adjustment or repair within six months of the delivery of a partial denture.
29. Adjustments, temporary relines, or tissue conditioning within three months of delivery of an immediate denture.
30. Tissue conditioning, when performed on the same day as the delivery of a denture or the reline or rebase of a denture.
31. Periapical and/or bitewing X-rays, when done within a clinically unreasonable period of time of performing panoramic and/or full mouth X-rays, as determined solely by Delta Dental.
32. Charges or fees for overhead, internet/video connections, software, hardware or other equipment necessary to deliver services, including but not limited to teledentistry services.
33. Capture only images which are not associated with any interpretation or reporting.
34. Frenulectomy when performed on the same day as any other surgical procedure(s) in the same surgical area by the same dentist or dental office.
35. Implant removal when performed within three (3) months of an implant/mini-implant on the same tooth by the same dentist or dental office.
36. Processing policies may otherwise exclude payment by Delta Dental for services or supplies.

### ***Limitations***

**The Benefits for the following services or supplies are limited as follows. All charges for services or supplies that exceed these limitations will be your responsibility. All time limitations are measured from the actual date (i.e. to the day) of the applicable prior dates of services in our records with any Delta Dental**

### **Plan or, at the request of your group, any dental plan:**

1. Bitewing X-rays are payable once per Plan Year. Panoramic or full mouth X-rays (which include bitewing X-rays) are payable once in any five-year period. Additional X-rays are allowed by a specialist.
2. Any combination of teeth cleanings (prophylaxes, full mouth debridement and periodontal maintenance procedures) are payable three times per Plan Year. Full mouth debridement is payable only once in a lifetime.
3. Oral examinations and evaluations (not including limited problem focused evaluations or patient screenings) are payable twice per Plan Year, additional evaluations are allowed by a specialist.
4. Patient screening is payable once per Plan Year except when performed in conjunction with examinations or evaluations.
5. Preventive fluoride treatments are payable twice per Plan Year for people under age 19.
6. Bilateral space maintainers are payable for people age 13 and under.
7. Unilateral space maintainers are payable once per quadrant per lifetime for people age 13 and under.
8. A distal shoe space maintainer is payable for first permanent molars once per quadrant for people age 8 and under.
9. Sealants are payable once per three-year period on first and second molars for people under age 14.
10. Cast restorations (including jackets, crowns, and onlays) and associated procedures (such as core buildups and post substructures) are payable once in any five-year period per tooth. Subsequent minor restoration of the same tooth are subject to this five-year limitation.
11. Veneers are only payable on the eight upper and lower anterior (front) teeth for children ages eight through 19, if required because of severe tetracycline staining, severe fluorosis, hereditary opalescent dentin or amelogenesis imperfecta.
12. Crowns or onlays are payable only for extensive loss of tooth structure due to caries (decay) or fracture.

13. Individual crowns over implants are payable at the prosthodontic benefit level once in a five-year period.
  14. Substructures, porcelain, porcelain substrate, and cast restorations are not payable for people age 11 and under.
  15. Hard full or partial arch occlusal guards are payable once every five years.
  16. An interim partial denture is payable only for the replacement of permanent anterior teeth for people age 16 and under or during the healing period for people age 17 and over.
  17. Biological materials to aide in soft and osseous tissue regeneration are payable once per natural tooth in a 36-month period.
  18. Prosthodontic Services limitations:
    - a. One complete upper and one complete lower denture are payable once in any five-year period.
    - b. A removable partial denture, implant, a crown over an implant, or a fixed bridge for any person can be covered once in any five-year period unless the loss of additional teeth requires the construction of a new appliance.
    - c. A removable unilateral partial denture is payable once per quadrant in any five-year period unless the loss of additional teeth requires the construction of a new appliance.
    - d. Fixed bridges and removable cast partial dentures are not payable for people age 15 and under.
    - e. A reline or the complete replacement of denture base material is payable once in any three-year period per appliance.
    - f. Implant removal is payable once per lifetime per tooth or area.
    - g. Implant maintenance is payable once per Plan Year.
    - h. Removal of a broken implant retaining screw is payable once in a 5-year period.
  19. Orthodontic Services limitations:
    - a. If the treatment plan terminates before completion for any reason, Delta Dental's obligation for payment ends on the last day of the month in which the patient was last treated.
    - b. Upon written notification to Delta Dental and to the patient, a Dentist may terminate treatment for lack of patient interest and cooperation. In those cases, Delta Dental's obligation for payment ends on the last day of the month in which the patient was last treated.
  20. Delta Dental's obligation for payment of Benefits ends on the last day of coverage. However, Delta Dental will make payment for Covered Services provided on or before the last day of coverage, as long as Delta Dental receives a claim for those services within one year of the date of service.
  21. When services in progress are interrupted, Delta Dental will not issue payment for any incomplete services; however, Delta Dental will calculate the Maximum Approved Fee that the dentist may charge you for such incomplete services, and those charges will be your responsibility. In the event the interrupted services are completed later by a Dentist, Delta Dental will review the Claim to determine the amount of payment, if any, to the Dentist in accordance with Delta Dental's policies at the time services are completed.
  22. Care terminated due to the death of an Eligible Person will be paid to the limit of Delta Dental's liability for the services completed or in progress.
  23. Optional treatment: If you select a more expensive service than is customarily provided, Delta Dental may make an allowance for certain services based on the fee for the customarily provided service. You are responsible for the difference in cost. In all cases, Delta Dental will make the final determination regarding optional treatment and any available allowance.
- For example, if a metal crown is a suitable restoration and you chose to have a more costly material used for your crown, the plan will pay only the amount that it would have paid for a full metal crown. You are responsible for the difference in cost. Listed below are services for which Delta Dental will provide an allowance for optional treatment. Remember, you are responsible for the difference in cost for any optional treatment.

- a. Plastic, resin, porcelain fused to metal, and porcelain crowns (including implant crowns) on posterior teeth – Delta Dental will pay only the amount that it would pay for a full metal crown.
  - b. Overdentures – Delta Dental will pay only the amount that it would pay for a conventional denture.
  - c. Plastic, resin, or porcelain/ceramic onlays on posterior teeth – Delta Dental will pay only the amount that it would pay for a metallic onlay.
  - d. Inlays, regardless of the material used – Delta Dental will pay only the amount that it would pay for an amalgam or composite resin restoration.
  - e. All-porcelain/ceramic bridges – Delta Dental will pay only the amount that it would pay for a conventional fixed bridge.
  - f. Implant/abutment supported complete or partial dentures – Delta Dental will pay only the amount that it would pay for a conventional denture.
  - g. Gold foil restorations – Delta Dental will pay only the amount that it would pay for an amalgam or composite restoration.
  - h. Stainless steel crowns with esthetic facings, veneers or coatings – Delta Dental will pay only the amount that it would pay for a conventional stainless steel crown.
24. Maximum Payment:
- a. The maximum Benefits payable in any one Plan Year will be limited to the Maximum Payment stated in the Summary of Dental Plan Benefits.
  - b. Delta Dental's payment for Orthodontic Services will be limited to the lifetime Maximum Payment stated in the Summary of Dental Plan Benefits.
25. Caries risk assessments are payable once in any 12-month period for Members age 3-18.
26. Assessments of salivary flow by measurement are payable once in any 36-month period.
27. Scaling and debridement in the presence of inflammation or mucositis of a single implant is payable once per tooth in any 24-month period.
28. A sealant, sealant repair, preventive resin restoration or interim caries arresting medicament is not payable when done on the same day as restorations involving the occlusal surface.
29. Interim caries arresting medicament is payable twice per tooth per Benefit Year and is limited to five (5) applications per day.
30. One cone beam CT is allowed within a twelve (12) month period except when performed for TMD treatment.
31. Processing Policies may limit Delta Dental's payment for services or supplies.
- Delta Dental will make no payment for services or supplies that exceed the following limitations. All charges are your responsibility. However, Participating Dentists may not charge Eligible Persons for these services or supplies when performed by the same Dentist or dental office. All time limitations are measured from the actual date (i.e. to the day) of the applicable prior dates of services in our records with any Delta Dental Plan or, at the request of your group, any dental plan:**
- 1. Amalgam and composite resin restorations are payable once in any two-year period, regardless of the number or combination of restorations placed on a surface.
  - 2. Core buildups and other substructures are payable only when needed to retain a crown on a tooth with excessive breakdown due to caries (decay) and/or fractures.
  - 3. Recementation of a crown, onlay, inlay, veneer, space maintainer, or bridge within six months of the seating date.
  - 4. Retention pins are payable once in any two-year period. Only one substructure per tooth is a Covered Service.
  - 5. Root planing is payable once in any two-year period.
  - 6. Periodontal surgery is payable once in any three-year period.
  - 7. A complete occlusal adjustment is payable once in any five-year period. The fee for a complete occlusal adjustment includes all adjustments that are necessary for a five-year period. A limited occlusal adjustment is not payable more than three times in any five-year period. The fee for a limited occlusal

adjustment includes all adjustments that are necessary for a six-month period.

8. Tissue conditioning is payable twice per arch in any three-year period.
9. The allowance for a denture repair (including reline or rebase) will not exceed half the fee for a new denture.
10. Services or supplies, as determined by Delta Dental, which are not provided in accordance with generally accepted standards of dental practice.
11. Scaling and debridement in the presence of inflammation or mucositis of a single implant is payable once per tooth in any 24-month period when performed by the same office.
12. A sealant, sealant repair, preventive resin restoration or interim caries arresting medicament is not payable when done on the same day as restorations involving the occlusal surface when performed by the same office.
13. A sealant, sealant repair or preventive resin restoration is not payable when performed within 24 months of a sealant, sealant repair or preventive resin restoration performed on the same tooth.
14. One caries risk assessment is allowed on the same date of service.
15. One caries risk assessment is allowed within a twelve (12) month period when done by the same dentist/dental office.
16. One assessment of salivary flow by measurement is allowed within a twelve (12) month period when done by the same dentist/dental office.
17. Processing Policies may limit Delta Dental's treatment.

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## VII. Claims Appeal Procedure

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If you receive notice of an Adverse Benefit Determination and you think that Delta Dental incorrectly denied all or part of your claim, you or your Dentist should contact Delta Dental's Customer Service department and ask them to check the claim to make sure it was processed correctly. You may do this by calling the toll-free number, 800-524-0150, and speaking to a telephone advisor. You may also mail your inquiry to the Customer Service Department at PO Box 9089, Farmington Hills, Michigan, 48333-9089.

When writing, please enclose a copy of your Explanation of Benefits and describe the problem. Be sure to include your name, telephone number, the date, and any information you would like considered about your claim. This inquiry is not required and should not be considered a formal request for review of a denied claim. Delta Dental provides this opportunity for you to describe problems, or submit an explanation or additional information that might indicate your claim was improperly denied, and allow Delta Dental to correct any errors quickly and immediately.

Whether or not you have asked Delta Dental informally to recheck its initial determination, you can request a formal review using the Formal Claims Appeal Procedure described below.

### ***Formal Claims Appeal Procedure***

If you receive notice of an Adverse Benefit Determination, you, or your authorized representative, should seek a review as soon as possible, but **you must file your request for review within 180 days** of the date that you received that Adverse Benefit Determination.

To request a formal review of your claim, send your request in writing to:

**Dental Director  
Delta Dental  
PO Box 30416  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7916**

Please include your name and address, the Subscriber's Member ID, the reason why you believe your claim was wrongly denied, and any other information you believe supports your claim. You also have the right to review the contract between Delta Dental and your employer or organization and any documents related to it. If you would like a record of your request and proof that Delta Dental received it, mail your request certified mail, return receipt requested.

The Dental Director or any person reviewing your claim will not be the same as, nor subordinate to, the person(s) who initially decided your claim. The reviewer will grant no deference to the prior decision about your claim. The reviewer will assess the information, including any additional information that you have provided, as if he or she were deciding the claim for the first time. The reviewer's decision will take into account all comments, documents,

records and other information relating to your claim even if the information was not available when your claim was initially decided.

If the decision is based, in whole or in part, on a dental or medical judgment (including determinations with respect to whether a particular treatment, drug, or other item is experimental, investigational, or not medically necessary or appropriate), the reviewer will consult a dental health care professional with appropriate training and experience, if necessary. The dental health care professional will not be the same individual or that person's subordinate consulted during the initial determination.

The reviewer will make a determination within 60 days of receipt of your request. If your claim is denied on review (in whole or in part), you will be notified in writing. The notice of an Adverse Benefit Determination during the Formal Claims Appeal Procedure will meet the requirements described below.

#### ***Manner and Content of Notice***

Your notice of an Adverse Benefit Determination will inform you of the specific reasons(s) for the denial, the pertinent plan provision(s) on which the denial is based, the applicable review procedures for dental claims, including time limits and that, upon request, you are entitled to access all documents, records and other information relevant to your claim free of charge. This notice will also contain a description of any additional materials necessary to complete your claim, an explanation of why such materials are necessary, and a statement that you have a right to bring a civil action in court if you receive an Adverse Benefit Determination after your claim has been completely reviewed according to this Formal Claims Appeal Procedure. The notice will also reference any internal rule, guideline, protocol, or similar document or criteria relied on in making the Adverse Benefit Determination, and will include a statement that a copy of such rule, guideline or protocol may be obtained upon request at no charge. If the Adverse Benefit Determination is based on a matter of medical judgment or medical necessity, the notice will also contain an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment on which the determination was based, or a statement that a copy of the basis for the scientific or clinical

judgment can be obtained upon request at no charge.

The Adverse Benefit Determination notice will inform you of your right to a managerial-level conference to complete the formal grievance procedure. If your claim is denied in whole or in part after you have completed this required Claims Appeal Procedure, or Delta Dental fails to comply with any of the deadlines contained therein, you may request an external review from the commissioner. You must do so within 60 days of the date you received either our final determination or the date our final determination was due. Mail your request for an external review to:

Department of Insurance and Financial Services  
Appeals Section  
Health Plans Division  
PO Box 30220  
Lansing, MI 48909-7720

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## **VIII. General Conditions**

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### **Coordination of Benefits (Dual Coverage)**

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This coordination of benefits provision is designed to provide maximum coverage, but not to exceed 100 percent of the total fee for a given treatment plan.

Please note, for married State of Michigan employees and retired State of Michigan employees who are both enrolled in any of the State Dental Plans, there is no coordination of benefits. Coordination of benefits is available between the State Retiree Dental Plan and any other group dental plan.

The primary dental program (as specified below) will pay all of the benefits it would owe as if no other coverage was involved. The secondary program will then pay all of the benefits it would owe as if no other coverage was involved, up to 100 percent of the subscriber's liability under that plan. In no case is any program required to pay more than it would have paid without any coordination of benefits.

The program covering the patient as an "employee" is primary over the program covering the patient as a "dependent."

If a dependent child is covered by both parents, the plan covering the parent whose birthday occurs earliest in the calendar year is primary



over the other parent's plan. This birthday rule does not apply when the parents are divorced or legally separated, unless the specific terms of the court decree state that the parents will share custody without stating that one parent is responsible for the dental care expenses of the child. In cases where a court decree designates financial responsibility to one parent, the order of benefits determination is outlined below.

In the case of an enrolled dependent child of divorced or legally separated parents, claims will be paid in the following order of priority:

1. The plan covering the child as a dependent of the parent who, under the terms of a divorce decree, has the responsibility for the dental care of the child. In no event will a child be eligible for enrollment unless he or she meets the criteria in the Eligibility section.
2. The plan covering the child as a dependent of the custodial parent.
3. The plan covering the child as a dependent of the custodial parent's spouse.
4. The plan covering the child as a dependent of the non-custodial parent.

If you are enrolled as a Subscriber under more than one plan, the plan that has covered you the longest is primary over the other. However, a program that covers the Subscriber as a laid-off or retired employee (or as the dependent of a laid-off or retired employee) will have a lower priority than a plan that does not.

Contact Delta Dental for information on alternative rules that may apply to dental plans issued outside of Michigan.

#### Assignment

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Services and Benefits are for the personal benefit of Eligible Persons and cannot be transferred or assigned, other than to pay Participating Dentists directly.

#### Subrogation and Right of Reimbursement

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To the extent that This Plan provides or pays Benefits for Covered Services, Delta Dental is subrogated to any right you and/or your Dependent has to recover from another party or entity, including but not limited to, that party's insurer, or any other insurer that you or your Dependent may have, which would have been the primary payer if not for the payments made

by Delta Dental. This includes but is not limited to, automobile, home, and other liability insurers, as well as any other group health plans.

To the extent that Delta Dental has a subrogation right, you and/or your Dependent must:

Provide Delta Dental with any information necessary to identify any other person, entity or plan that may be obligated to provide payments or benefits for the Covered Services that were paid for by Delta Dental,

Cooperate fully in Delta Dental's exercise of its right to subrogation and reimbursement,

Not do anything to prejudice those rights (such as settling a claim against another party without notifying Delta Dental, or not including Delta Dental as a co-payee of any settlement amount),

Sign any document that Delta Dental determines is relevant to protect Delta Dental's subrogation and reimbursement rights, and

Provide relevant information when requested.

The term "information" includes any documents, insurance policies, and police or other investigative reports, as well as any other facts that may reasonably be requested to help Delta Dental enforce its rights. Failure by you or your Dependent to cooperate with Delta Dental may result, at the discretion of Delta Dental, in a reduction of future benefit payments available to you or your Dependent under This Plan of an amount up to the aggregate amount paid by Delta Dental that was subject to Delta Dental's equitable lien, but for which Delta Dental was not reimbursed.

#### Obtaining and Releasing Information

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While you are an Eligible Person, you agree to provide Delta Dental with any information it needs to process your claims and administer your Benefits. This includes allowing Delta Dental access to your dental records.

#### Dentist-Patient Relationship

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Eligible Persons are free to choose any Dentist. Each Dentist maintains the dentist-patient relationship and is solely responsible to the patient for dental advice and treatment and any resulting liability.

## Late Claims Submission

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Delta Dental will make no payment for services or supplies if a claim for such has not been received by Delta Dental within one year following the date the services or supplies were completed. In the event that a Participating Provider submits a Claim more than one year from the date of service, Delta Dental will deny that portion of the claims that Delta Dental would have paid if the claim had been timely submitted, and such denied portion of the Claim will not be chargeable to the Member.

However, you may be responsible for any applicable Deductible or Copayment. In the event that a Non-participating Provider submits a Claim more than one year from the date of service, Delta Dental will deny the Claim and you may be responsible for the full payment.

## Change of Certificate or Contract

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No changes to this Certificate, your Summary of Dental Plan Benefits, or the underlying contract are valid unless Delta Dental approves them in writing.

## Actions

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No action on a legal claim arising out of or related to this Certificate will be brought until 30 days after notice of the legal claim has been given to Delta Dental, unless prohibited by applicable state law. In addition, no action can be brought more than three years after the legal claim first arose or after expiration of the applicable statute of limitations, if longer. Any person seeking to do so will be deemed to have waived his or her right to bring suit on such legal claim. Except as set forth above, this provision does not preclude you from seeking a judicial decision or pursuing other available legal remedies.

## Change of Status

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You must notify Delta Dental, through the Office of Retirement Services at 800-381-5111, of any event that changes the status of an Eligible Dependent. Events that can affect the status of an Eligible Dependent include, but are not limited to, marriage, birth, death, divorce, and entrance into military service.

## Right of Recovery Due to Fraud

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If Delta Dental pays for services that were sought or received under fraudulent, false, or misleading

pretenses or circumstances, pays a claim that contains false or misrepresented information, or pays a claim that is determined to be fraudulent due to your acts or acts of your Eligible Dependents, it may recover that payment from you or your Eligible Dependents. You and your Eligible Dependents authorize Delta Dental to recover any payment determined to be based on false, fraudulent, misleading, or misrepresented information by deducting that amount from any payments properly due to you or your Eligible Dependents. Delta Dental will provide an explanation of the payment recovery at the time the deduction is made.

## Legally Mandated Benefits

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If any applicable law requires broader coverage or more favorable treatment for you or your Eligible Dependents than is provided by this Certificate, that law shall control over the language of this Certificate.

## IX. Glossary

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**Amalgam** – Silver filling used to restore posterior (back) teeth.

**Anesthesia (General)** – The condition, resulting from administration of anesthetics, in which the patient is rendered completely unconscious and completely without conscious pain.

**Anesthetic** – A drug that produces a loss of feeling or sensation, such as novocaine.

**Appliance** – An artificial device that provides healing effects or is used to assist in performing an intended function.

◆ **Fixed** – An appliance that is cemented to the teeth or attached by adhesive materials.

◆ **Removable** – An appliance that is not cemented to the teeth and can be removed from the mouth and replaced at will.

**Bitewing** – Dental X-ray picture showing a part of either the right or left upper and lower jaw.

**Bridgework** – A replacement for one or more missing or extracted natural teeth.

◆ **Fixed** – Supported and held in place with crowns cemented to the natural teeth that are used as abutments and cannot be removed.

◆ **Removable** – A partial denture retained by attachments that can be removed from the mouth and replaced at will.

**Children** – Your natural Children, stepchildren, adopted Children, Children by virtue of legal

guardianship, or Children who are residing with you during the waiting period for adoption or legal guardianship.

**Clasp** – The most common attachment for a removable partial denture. It is constructed of metal and used as a stabilizing and retaining device to keep the denture in place.

**Completion Dates** – Some procedures may require more than one appointment before they can be completed. Treatment is complete:

- ◆ For dentures and partial dentures, on the delivery dates;
- ◆ For crowns and bridgework, on the cementation dates;
- ◆ For root canals and periodontal treatment, on the date of the final procedure that completes treatment.

**Control Plan (Delta Dental)** – The Delta Dental Plan that contracts with your group. The Control Plan will provide all claims processing, service, and administration for a group. Your Control Plan is Delta Dental of Michigan. The Control Plan will be referred to as Delta Dental in this document.

**Copayment** – As provided by your Plan, the percentage of the charge, if any, that you will have to pay for Covered Services.

**Covered Services** – The unique benefits selected in your Plan. The State of Michigan Summary of Benefits for retirees lists the Covered Services provided by the State Retiree Dental Plan.

**Crown** – The portion of a tooth covered by enamel and visible above the gum. Some common types of artificial crowns include full cast crowns used for the teeth that chew the food, porcelain crowns (resembling the color of the natural tooth) generally used on front teeth, and stainless steel crowns generally used in restoring children's primary teeth.

**Delta Dental** – Delta Dental Plan of Michigan, Inc., a nonprofit dental care corporation providing dental service benefits. Delta Dental is not a commercial insurance company.

**Delta Dental Plan** – An individual dental benefit plan that is a member of the Delta Dental Plans Association, the nation's largest, most experienced system of dental health plans.

**Delta Dental PPO (Point-of-Service)** – Delta Dental's national preferred provider organization program that can reduce your out-of-pocket expenses if you receive care from one of Delta

Dental's PPO Dentists. This program has back-up coverage through Delta Dental Premier when treatment is received from a non-PPO Dentist.

**Delta Dental Premier** – Delta Dental's national fee-for-service dental benefits program that covers you when you go to a non-PPO Dentist.

**Dental Hygienist** – A person who has been trained to remove tartar and stains from the surface of the teeth and who may provide additional services and information on the prevention of oral disease.

**Dental Services** – Care and procedures employed by dentists for the diagnosis or treatment of dental disease, injury, or abnormal conditions based on valid dental need according to accepted standards of dental practice.

**Dentist** – A person licensed to practice dentistry in the state or country in which dental services are rendered.

- ◆ **Delta Dental PPO Dentist (PPO Dentist) or Participating Dentist** – a Dentist who has signed an agreement with the Delta Dental Plan in his or her state to participate in Delta Dental PPO. Delta Dental PPO Dentists agree to accept Delta Dental's fee determination as payment in full for Covered Services.
- ◆ **Delta Dental Premier Dentist (Premier Dentist) or Participating Dentist** – a Dentist who has signed an agreement with the Delta Dental Plan in his or her state to participate in Delta Dental Premier. Delta Dental Premier Dentists agree to accept Delta Dental's fee determination as payment in full for Covered Services.

Wherever a term of this Certificate differs from your state Delta Dental and its agreement with a Participating Dentist, the agreement in that state with that Dentist will be controlling.

- ◆ **Nonparticipating Dentist** – a Dentist who has not signed an agreement with Delta Dental to participate in Delta Dental PPO or Delta Dental Premier.
- ◆ **Out-of-Country Dentist** – A Dentist whose office is located outside of the United States and its territories. Out-of-Country Dentists are not eligible to sign participating agreements with Delta Dental.

**Denture** – A removable prosthetic appliance replacing missing natural teeth.

**Fluoride** – A chemical solution that is applied to the teeth for the purpose of preventing dental decay.

**Gingivectomy** – A surgical procedure involving cutting away diseased gums.

**Malposed Teeth** – The abnormal positioning and relation of the upper and lower teeth when they come together.

**Maximum Approved Fee** – A system used by Delta Dental to determine the approved fee for a given procedure for a given Delta Dental Premier Dentist. A fee meets Maximum Approved Fee requirements if it is the lowest of:

- ◆ The Submitted Amount.
- ◆ The lowest fee regularly charged, offered, or received by an individual Dentist for a dental service, irrespective of Dentist's contractual agreement with another dental benefits organization.
- ◆ The maximum fee that the local Delta Dental Plan approves for a given procedure in a given region and/or specialty, under normal circumstances.

Delta Dental may also approve a fee under unusual circumstances.

Participating Dentists are not allowed to charge Delta Dental patients more than the Maximum Approved Fee for the Covered Service. In all cases, Delta Dental will make the final determination about what is the Maximum Approved Fee for the Covered Service.

**Maximum Payment** – The maximum dollar amount Delta Dental will pay in any benefit period or lifetime for covered dental services. (See the Summary of Benefits.)

**Nonparticipating Dentist Fee** – The maximum fee allowed per procedure for services rendered by a Nonparticipating Dentist.

**Onlay** – A preformed restoration that covers the entire chewing surface of a tooth and does not extend down to the gum.

**Optional Treatment** – A service or treatment other than that customarily provided or for which there is no dental need.

**Orthodontics** – That branch of dentistry concerned primarily with the detection, prevention, and correction of abnormalities in the positioning of teeth in relationship to the jaws. Commonly, straightening teeth.

**Out-of-Country Dentist Fee** – The maximum fee allowed per procedure for services rendered by an Out-of-County Dentist.

**Periapical** – Pertaining to the area of the tooth around the apex (tip) of the root.

**Periodontal Disease** – Disease that weakens and destroys the gums, bones, and membranes surrounding the teeth.

**Plan Year** – The time period in which the Plan's payments for covered services accumulate toward the maximum payment. The State Retiree Dental Plan's Plan Year is January to December.

**Plaque** – A sticky substance made up of bacteria, dead tissue cells, and debris that accumulates on the teeth.

**Post-Service Claims** – Claims for benefits that are not conditioned on your seeking advance approval, certification, or authorization to receive the full amount of any covered benefit. In other words, Post-Service Claims arise when you receive the dental service or treatment before you file a claim for the benefit payment.

**PPO Dentist Schedule** – The maximum amount allowed per procedure for services rendered by a PPO Dentist as determined by that Dentist's local Delta Dental Plan.

**Pre-Treatment Estimate** – An estimate of the costs of Covered Services to be provided. A Dentist may submit his or her treatment plan to Delta Dental before providing services. Delta Dental reviews the treatment plan and advises you and your Dentist of what services are covered by your Plan and what Delta Dental's payments may be. Delta Dental's payment for predetermined services depends on continued eligibility and the annual or lifetime Maximum Payments available under your Plan. You are not required to seek a Pre-Treatment Estimate. You will receive the same benefits under your Plan whether or not a Pre-Treatment Estimate is requested. A Pre-Treatment Estimate is merely a convenience so that you will know before the dental service is provided how much, if any, of the cost of that service is not covered under your Plan. Since you may be responsible for any cost not covered under your Plan, this is likely to be useful information for you when deciding whether to incur those costs.

**Processing Policies** – Delta Dental's policies and guidelines used for Pre-Treatment Estimate and

payment of claims. The Processing Policies may be amended from time to time.

**Prophylaxis** – Removal of tartar and stains from the teeth.

**Prosthesis** – An artificial replacement of one or more natural teeth and/or associated structures.

**Pulpectomy** – The complete surgical removal of the pulp (nerve) of a tooth. A step in root canal treatment.

**Pulpotomy** – The partial removal of the pulp (nerve) of a tooth, usually performed on children as a treatment after dental caries (cavities) or a fracture has penetrated to the pulp.

**Restoration** – A broad term applied to any amalgam filling, resin filling, jacket, or crown that restores or replaces loss of tooth structure. The term applies to the end result of repairing, restoring, or reforming the shape, form, and function of part or all of one or more teeth.

**Root Canal Treatment** – The removal of the diseased pulp (nerve) tissue to the ends of the root. It is usually performed by completely removing the pulp, sterilizing the pulp chamber and the canals of the root, and filling the canals with a plastic sealing material.

**Root Planing** – The smoothing of roughened root surfaces with instruments that remove deposits and plane the root surfaces.

**Space Maintainers** – A fixed or removable appliance to prevent the movement of teeth, usually in children.

**State of Michigan Retiree Dental Plan** – (State Retiree Dental Plan or Plan) is the self-insured fee-for-service/cost management program that provides dental benefits to enrolled members.

**Submitted Amount or Submitted Fee** – The fee a Dentist bills to Delta Dental for a specific treatment.

**Subscriber** – An eligible employee enrolled in the State of Michigan Retiree Dental Plan. A Subscriber may enroll his or her eligible dependents.

**Urgent Care Claims** – Those potentially life-threatening claims as defined in the U.S. Department of Labor Regulations at 29 CFR 2560.503-1(M)(1)(I). Any such claims that may arise under this dental coverage are not considered to be Pre-Service Claims and are not subject to any Pre-Treatment Estimate requirements.

Any person who, with intent to defraud or knowing that he or she is facilitating a fraud against an insurer, submits an application or files a claim containing a false or deceptive statement is guilty of insurance fraud.

Insurance fraud significantly increases the cost of health care. If you are aware of any false information submitted to Delta Dental, please call our toll-free hotline. Only anti-fraud calls can be accepted on this line.

**ANTI-FRAUD TOLL-FREE HOTLINE:**

**800-524-0147**

# CUSTOMER SERVICE

If you have any questions that are not answered in this benefit booklet, or for names of Delta Dental PPO Dentists in your area, please call the Customer Service department at Delta Dental of Michigan:

**800-524-0150**

**Monday through Friday**

**8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time**

This information is also available in alternative accessible formats upon request.  
For further information, call the Michigan Relay Center for the hearing impaired:

**7-1-1**

Or use Delta Dental's online Dentist Directory at:

**[www.deltadentalmi.com/SOM](http://www.deltadentalmi.com/SOM)**

You can easily verify your own benefit, claims and eligibility information online 24 hours a day, seven days a week by visiting [www.deltadentalmi.com/SOM](http://www.deltadentalmi.com/SOM) and selecting "Log-in/Register" in the upper corner. The Consumer Toolkit will also allow you to print claim forms and ID cards, search our dentist directories, and read oral health tips.

You may send written inquiries to:

**Delta Dental of Michigan  
Customer Service  
PO Box 9089  
Farmington Hills, MI 48333-9089**

Please include your group name (State of Michigan Retiree State Plan), your group number (8600-defined benefit or 8601-defined contribution), the Subscriber's ID number, and your daytime telephone number on any written inquiries.



Form No. 0152M  
St of MI Retiree  
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