



ORAL HEALTH KANSAS

2026 Public Policy Priorities

Oral Health Kansas advocates for local, state, and federal policies that increase access to dental care, especially for underserved and rural communities, while recognizing the impact of social drivers of health on Kansans' ability to achieve oral and overall health.

POLICY AREA	SPECIFIC INITIATIVE OR LEGISLATION	LEVEL OF SUPPORT
Increase financial capacity to pay for dental services	Reduce financial barriers associated with professional dental care. Full dental benefits for all Medicaid enrollees are a priority.	Partner and take the lead.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Advocate to increase the Medicaid dental rates to be consistent with commercial rates.• Ensure the hospital sedation dental care code G0330 remains competitively priced and applies to both hospitals and Ambulatory Surgical Centers.• Advocate with Congressional delegation for a comprehensive Medicare dental benefit, Medicaid adult dental benefits, and dental benefits for veterans.• Encourage elimination of administrative barriers for dental providers participating in KanCare.• Promote KanCare expansion.		
Increase access to providers	Ensure that all Kansans have access to comprehensive oral health care. Address policies and practices that would restrict or impact the ability of residents to access oral health care.	Support and advocate. Take the lead when appropriate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support initiatives to increase access to oral healthcare providers.<ul style="list-style-type: none">◦ Target populations include children, people with disabilities, and older adults.◦ Encourage expansion of oral health data collection and reporting under KanCare.◦ Actively engage the Managed Care Organizations in keeping accurate lists of their provider networks, increasing their dental provider network and exploring incentive programs.◦ Improve access to sedation dental care for people with disabilities, including by advocating that accurate lists of sedation dental providers be tracked and published by the KanCare program and Managed Care Organizations.• Lead Dental Medicaid Facilitator campaign to reduce oral health disparities by encouraging dental offices to treat children and adults with disabilities.		
Improve Public Oral Health	Engage in activities to increase the oral health of all Kansans using evidence-based public health strategies.	Support and advocate. Take the lead when appropriate.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preserve existing community water fluoridation in Kansas.• Support policies to reduce exposure to and harm from cigarettes, tobacco products and electronic cigarettes.• Encourage all early childhood organizations and agencies to align their policies by requiring dental visits by age one.		

Note: All bolded initiatives are those on which Oral Health Kansas plans to lead advocacy efforts.