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July 29, 2024

CERTIFIED LOCAL SCHOOL DENTAL SEALANT PROGRAM

This letter is to verify that All Smiles Community Oral Health is certified by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to provide dental sealant services in a school setting from August 1, 2024 - July 31, 2025.

Senate Bill 660, passed by the Oregon State Legislature in 2015, requires local school dental sealant programs to be certified by the Oregon Health Authority before dental sealants can be provided in a school setting.

Certification provides schools with assurance that a minimum set of standards will be met while delivering services. It also:

- Ensures that evidence-based practices are followed;
- Increases the coordination of services at a statewide level;
- Allows for better data collection; and
- Reduces the potential for redundancy of services provided.



All certified programs are required to continue to adhere to stringent CDC and OHA infection control guidance to ensure school and student safety.

Based on strong evidence of effectiveness in preventing tooth decay among children, school dental sealant programs are deemed an evidence-based best practice by the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Community Preventive Services Task Force. Most tooth decay (90%) occurs in the molars. School dental sealant programs can reduce tooth decay by half.

For more information about the Certification Program for Local School Dental Sealant Programs, please visit <http://www.healthoregon.org/sealantcert>.

If you have any questions, please contact Karen Phillips, School Oral Health Programs Coordinator, at (971) 412-0531 or karen.phillips@oha.oregon.gov

Sincerely,

Karen Phillips, MPH, RDH, EPP
School Oral Health Programs Coordinator
Oral Health Program
Oregon Health Authority, Public Health Division