

## Health First Colorado Medicaid Network Overview – November 2017

Based on data obtained from the Henry J. Kaiser Foundation, Colorado reported a total of 3,638 active dentists as of April 2017.

<https://www.kff.org/other/state-indicator/total-dentists/?currentTimeframe=0&selectedRows=%7B%22states%22:%7B%22colorado%22:%7B%7D%7D%7D&sortModel=%7B%22colId%22:%22Location%22,%22sort%22:%22asc%22%7D>

The Health First Colorado Medicaid program has a total of 1821 dental providers active with DentaQuest statewide:

- 1629 – Dentists (approximately 44.78% of all active Colorado dentists)
  - Three dentists in El Paso county have closed panels (existing patients only)
  - 1629 see children
  - 1581 see adults
- 192 – Hygienists
  - One hygienist in Garfield County has closed panel (existing patients only)
  - 192 see children
  - 191 see adults

The chart below reflects access for Regions and Statewide:

MCO: State of Colorado												
SFQ: Q3 2017												
Dental Region	Total Number of Members	Total Number of Members Residing in Urban Counties	Total Number of Members Residing in Rural Counties	Percent of Members in Urban Counties Residing w/in 30 Miles of One Open Practice General Dentist	Percent of Members in Rural Counties Residing w/in 50 Miles of One Open Practice General Dentist	Percent of Total Members Residing w/in 50 Miles of One Pediatricist	Percent of Total Members Residing w/in 50 Miles of One Endodontist	Percent of Total Members Residing w/in 50 Miles of One Oral Surgeon	Percent of Total Members Residing w/in 50 Miles of One Orthodontist	Percent of Total Members Residing w/in 50 Miles of One Periodontist	Percent of Total Members Residing w/in 50 Miles of One Prosthodontist	Percent of Total Members Residing w/in 50 Miles of One Hygienist
Central and Southeastern Colorado	655,186	483,191	171,995	100.00%	80.00%	96.60%	71.90%	96.40%	97.80%	79.30%	96.30%	96.60%
Central and Northwestern Colorado	462,704	419,142	43,562	99.90%	97.70%	99.20%	95.50%	98.30%	98.30%	95.50%	92.80%	99.30%
Western Colorado	183,789	26,508	157,281	99.10%	98.50%	84.10%	0.00%	84.00%	88.80%	15.30%	0.00%	98.00%
Statewide		1,141,740	170,105	99.90%	96.60%	96.00%	70.80%	96.90%	97.00%	76.60%	83.30%	98.00%

- Colorado has roughly 1,311,845 (urban + rural) members on Medicaid.
  - 1,141,740 Health First Colorado members reside in urban counties
    - 99.9% of all Health First Colorado members who live in urban counties reside within 30 miles of a General Dentist.
  - 170,105 Health First Colorado members reside in rural counties
    - 96.6% of all Health First Colorado members who live rural counties, reside within 50 miles of a general dentist

- 96.00% of all Health First Colorado members reside within 50 miles of a Periodontist.
- 70.80% of all Health First Colorado members reside within 50 miles of an Endodontist.
- 96.90% of all Health First Colorado members reside within 50 miles of an Oral Surgeon.
- 97.00% of all Health First Colorado members reside within 50 miles of an Orthodontist.
- 76.60 % of all Health First Colorado members reside within 50 miles of a Periodontist.
- 83.30% of all Health First Colorado members reside within 50 miles of a Prosthodontist.
- 98.00% of all Health First Colorado members reside within 50 miles of a Hygienist.

### **Chaffee County**

Chaffee county is considered a rural area and has approximately 3,994 members with an access rate of 100% for general dentists.

Currently, there are no specialists enrolled with Medicaid and located within Chaffee County. While there are no providers currently enrolled that reside within the county, contiguous counties within mileage range may also provide access.

Specialty access rates (within 50 miles) for Chaffee county are as follows:

- Pedodontist – 63.90%
- Endodontist - .00%
- Oral Surgeon – 98.30%
- Orthodontist - 2.00%
- Periodontist - .00%
- Prosthodontist - .00%

### **Summary**

Access to specialty providers, specifically endodontists and periodontists is challenging statewide except for Central and Northwestern Colorado. In looking at data from other Medicaid programs, recruitment of specialists is consistently low. Overall, providers who choose to not participate in Medicaid programs cite the following reasons:

- Low fees
- High member no show rate
- Administrative burden of enrolling
- Administrative burden of reimbursement process

DentaQuest monitors the licensing board and competitors on a quarterly basis to identify recruitment opportunities.