

# PROVIDER BULLETIN

From DentaQuest for Louisiana Medicaid Providers

February 6, 2026

## Introducing the Special Needs Pediatric Dental Incentive Program

DentaQuest is pleased to introduce the **Special Needs Pediatric Dental Incentive Program (SNPDIP)** for our EPSDT network providers. We are aware of the additional time, expertise, and financial investment required to care for members with special needs. This program is designed to support your efforts and ensure Medicaid reimbursement does not discourage providers from offering this critical care.

The SNPDIP will operate in two six-month evaluation periods each state fiscal year:

- July 1 – December 31
- January 1 – June 30

Because of delays during program launch, the full SFY 2026 annual funding will be distributed after the second evaluation period ending June 30, 2026. Total funding available to DentaQuest's EPSDT providers in SFY 2026 is \$4.65 million. This program is aligned with the goals outlined in Louisiana's Quality Strategy and includes the three core objectives outlined below.

### Expand Provider Training and Education

Increase access to care by growing the number of providers trained to treat members with special needs.

- DentaQuest will reimburse each practice \$1,000 for every group provider who completes qualifying special needs-related continuing education (CE) during the measurement period or within the prior 24 months.
- Providers who complete pediatric specialty residency programs during the measurement period will also receive CE credit.
- DentaQuest is partnering with the Louisiana Dental Association to ensure sufficient access to qualifying CE opportunities during SFY 2026. Additional details on how to submit documentation will be provided soon.

### Increase Acceptance of New Special Needs Members

Encourage practices to accept new special needs EPSDT members by rewarding initial comprehensive care.

- DentaQuest will award \$1,000 for each new patient comprehensive oral exam (CDT code D0150) performed on a special needs EPSDT member between January 1 and June 30, 2026.
- Claims must be received no later than July 31, 2026.



## Enhance Compensation for Active Special Needs Care

Ensure equitable compensation for providers treating both new and established special needs members.

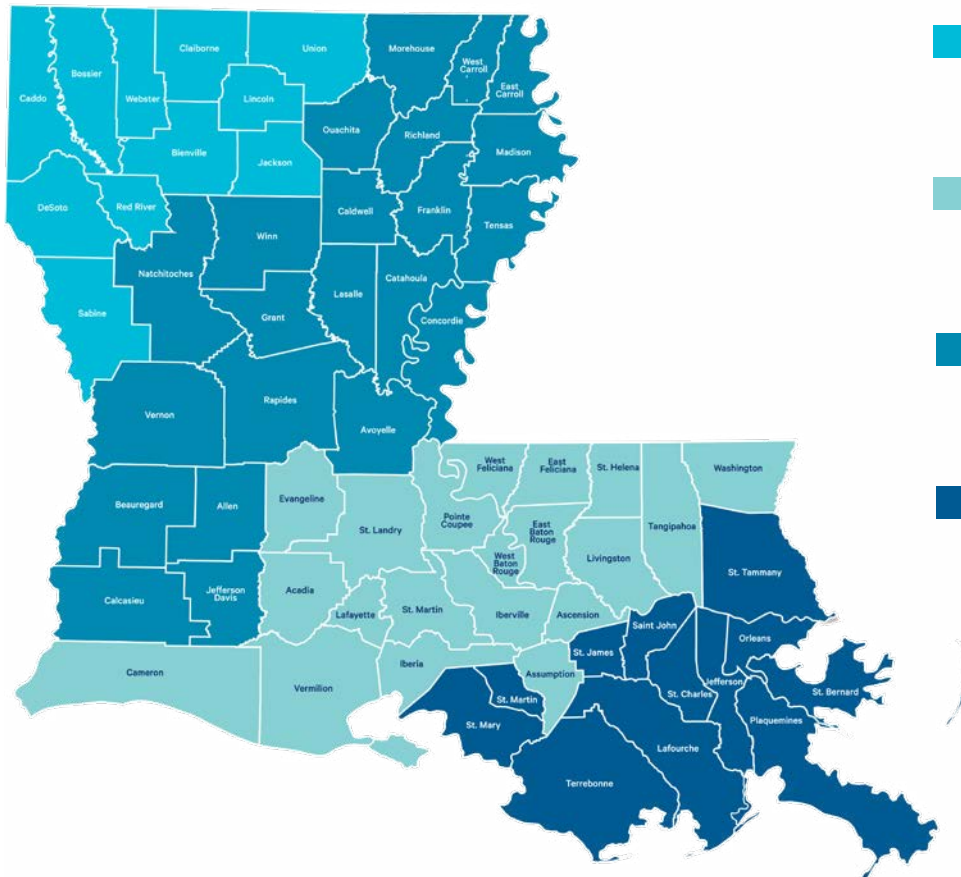
- After the first two objective payments are distributed, DentaQuest will allocate all remaining funds proportionally based on each provider group's share of total dollars paid for services delivered to special needs members during the measurement period.
- This incentive includes services provided between January 1 and June 30, 2026, with claims received by July 31, 2026.
- All services are eligible except CDT D9920 (Behavior Management).

DentaQuest is committed to partnering with our providers in serving children with special needs. It is important that children with special needs receive the comprehensive, timely and compassionate care they deserve. The Special Needs Pediatric Dental Incentive Program represents a meaningful investment in the providers who make this care possible, and we are grateful for your continued dedication to serving Louisiana's EPSDT population – working together to provide access and quality dental services to Louisiana members and families.

Our dedicated Provider Relations team is available to provide you and your team with plan benefit support. Please email our team directly at [LAProviders@dentaquest.com](mailto:LAProviders@dentaquest.com) or call your representative listed below.

We appreciate your continued participation serving DentaQuest members.

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