

PROVIDER BULLETIN

From MCNA Dental for Louisiana Medicaid Providers

January 16, 2026

Introducing the Special Needs Pediatric Dental Incentive Program



MCNA Dental is pleased to introduce the **Special Needs Pediatric Dental Incentive Program (SNPDIP)** for our EPSDT network providers. We recognize 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 MCNA'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.

Goal 1: Expand Provider Training and Education

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

- MCNA 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.
- MCNA 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.

Goal 2: Increase Acceptance of New Special Needs Members

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

- MCNA 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**.

Goal 3: Enhance Compensation for Active Special Needs Care

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

- After Goal 1 and Goal 2 payments are distributed, MCNA 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).

MCNA remains committed to partnering with our providers to ensure that children with special needs receive the comprehensive, 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. Together, we can expand access, elevate quality, and strengthen the system of care for the members and families who rely on us most.

As always, our dedicated Provider Relations team is always available to provide you and your team with plan benefit support. Please email our team directly at **LA_PR_Dept@mcna.net**. You can also reach our Provider Hotline at 1-855-701-6262, Monday through Friday 7am - 7pm, CST (Central Standard Time). We sincerely appreciate your participation with MCNA and value the service you provide to our members.