

## SENIOR INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

Northwest Regional Council  
600 Lakeway Drive, Suite 100  
Bellingham, WA 98225  
(360) 738-2500 or (360) 380-8121

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### Dental Resources in Whatcom County

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#### Low Cost Dental Clinics

There are limited options for adults on Medicaid who need dental care in Whatcom County. The following clinics usually accept Medicaid. Most of them also offer a sliding fee payment schedule (what you pay is related to your income). Some of these clinics have very long waiting lists. Call each one to get specific details.

Sea Mar Dental Clinic  
4455 Cordata Parkway  
Bellingham WA 98226  
(360) 738-3016

Interfaith Dental Clinic  
220 Unity Street  
Bellingham WA 98225  
(360) 676-6177

Lummi Dental Clinic  
2592 Kwina Rd.  
Bellingham WA 98225  
(360) 384-0464

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Clinic opens at 7:45 am  
for adults with  
emergencies. Call to  
make an appointment  
for non-emergent care.

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for adults with  
emergencies.

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Persons must be  
Federally-recognized  
tribal members.

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#### Bellingham Technical College Dental Clinic

The BTC Dental Clinic is a dental assisting training facility open to the public.

*Address:*  
Building C  
3028 Lindbergh Avenue  
Bellingham WA 98225

*For appointments:*  
(360) 752-8349

*Clinic hours:*  
Thu & Fri 8 – 2  
October - July

8:00 am - 2:00 pm  
This clinic is operated as part of an occupational training program. It is open Thursdays and Fridays during the school calendar year - October through June.  
Dental fees are lower than those in private practices. The clinic performs exams, preventative services, restorative services, crowns and bridges, root canals, and prosthetics (dentures and partials). You are expected to pay in full on the day of your visit. Call to see if the clinic is accepting new patients.

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## **WSDA Outreach (formerly Dental Access)**

A Program of the Washington Dental Association

If you are over 65 or disabled, a Washington State resident, and have no dental insurance, you may apply for the Dental Outreach program. Under this program, several dentists who are members of the Washington Dental Association will give a 25% discount. You must have a moderately low income (\$24,492 for a single person and \$33,000 for a couple), and pay the discounted amount in full at the time of service. If you are 60 or older and wish to be screened and referred, call Senior Information & Assistance at (360) 738-2500. Younger disabled people must enroll through the Dental Association: 1-800-448-3368.

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## **Dental Insurance**

Some insurance agents can offer you dental insurance. Consider the following before purchasing:

1. Be aware of the limitations of each policy. Often people call for insurance when they have a current need, but most policies have a waiting period before major work can be done. Others have limited coverage for certain procedures.
2. Determine your need for insurance by reviewing your past dental health and your ability to pay the monthly premiums. (For example, sometimes the cost of a yearly exam and cleaning is less than the annual premium for the insurance - which may increase annually.)
3. Companies currently offering dental insurance to individuals in Whatcom County can be contacted directly or through an insurance agent.

AARP (members only)

1-866-583-2092

Regence Blue Shield

1-888-344-8234 (one provider in Whatcom Co)

Spirit Dental Insurance

1-800-620-5010 (reimburses part of dental costs)

Call the Insurance Consumer Hotline for further information at 1-800-562-6900.

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## **Dental Discount Plans**

The concept behind dental discount plans is that you pay a monthly fee, go to a participating dentist, and receive discounted dental services. These types of programs may appear to be insurance, but are not. The Office of the Insurance Commissioner does not regulate them.

Smart Smile

Bright Now Dental

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## **Dental Care of Persons with Disabilities (DECOD)**

DECOD at the University of Washington (UW) helps people with developmental disabilities that need special dental care at their clinic in Seattle. The clinic will bill Medicaid, DVR, and other third-party insurers. For an application package call (206) 543-4619.

Medicaid recipients may be eligible for transportation to appointments – call (360) 738-4554.

Location: Room B239 - UW Health Sciences Building - Seattle

Located on NE Pacific St. (between 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE and Montlake Bridge)