

Veteran Dental Fact Sheet for Community Partners



Background

[House Bill 4095 \(2022\)](#) created the Oregon Veteran Dental Program, which expanded Oregon Health Plan (OHP) dental services to eligible populations in Oregon. The Oregon Health Authority (OHA) and Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) are now accepting applications for this program.

The Oregon Veteran Dental Program is separate and distinct from VA Dental Care offered by the Veterans Health Administration (VHA).

This fact sheet is intended to provide helpful information to veterans and military connected communities in Oregon.

Who is eligible for the program?

People who:

- Live in Oregon;
- Are not eligible for OHP (Medicaid);
- Are a veteran as described in [Oregon Revised Statute \(ORS\) 408.225](#), except the veteran may be discharged or released under honorable conditions or other conditions; and
- Have income at or below 400 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). Income limits change every year. You can access information about the income limits for OHP on [this chart](#) (page 4).

Once determined eligible for the Veteran Dental Program, veterans will need to provide discharge documentation. To view the list of discharge documents accepted by OHA/ODHS, [visit this Veterans Administration website](#).

Application and enrollment

People can apply for the program using the OHP application. This is to review for Medicaid eligibility first. Ineligibility of Medicaid is a program requirement, as written in HB 4095. If determined ineligible for Medicaid, OHA/ODHS will then screen for Oregon Veteran Dental Program eligibility. This may result in three different scenarios:

- **Scenario 1:** If the veteran is determined eligible for full OHP, they will be automatically enrolled and sent a notification via mail. The veteran will have full OHP medical, dental and behavioral health care coverage. Veterans have the option to decline full OHP coverage but must contact OHA/ODHS to do so. We cannot review for the Veteran dental program as a stand-alone benefit if full OHP coverage is declined.
- **Scenario 2:** If determined ineligible for full OHP, the veteran will be screened for the new dental program. If determined eligible for the dental program, coverage may begin immediately (unless their eligibility begins the following month). The veteran will need to submit discharge documentation to keep ongoing dental coverage.
- **Scenario 3:** If determined ineligible for both full OHP and the new dental program, veterans are encouraged to reach out to the VHA, a County or Tribal Veteran Service Officer (VSO), or current health care provider to discuss other forms of health care coverage or earned benefits. Veterans aged 65 and older may also wish to contact [Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance \(SHIBA\)](#) to discuss coverage through Medicare.

Because the initial [House Bill 4095 \(2022\)](#) had a limited budget, OHA/ODHS prepared for a potential capacity limit for the program. However, with the passage of [House Bill 5029 \(2023\)](#) which provides additional funding, OHA/ODHS continue to monitor enrollment closely and do not anticipate reaching program capacity in the near future.

If there is ever a time where capacity is reached, OHA/ODHS will:

- Create a wait list for all eligible veterans who cannot be enrolled due to capacity limits.
- Notify veterans they have been added to the list.
- Invite veterans to complete a new OHP application, should OHA/ODHS have additional capacity for the program. OHA/ODHS will send invitations in the order veterans were added to the list. To keep their spot on the list, veterans will need to complete their new OHP application within 45 days of the invitation.

Applying for services through the Oregon Veteran Dental Program should not impact a veteran's existing services administered through federal

veteran health programs. If a veteran is concerned about impact to their existing benefits, OHA/ODHS encourages working with local County or Tribal Veteran Service Officers (VSOs), or the appropriate VA or Department of Defense (DOD) points of contact.

How to apply

To apply, veterans can do one of the following:

Apply online:

- Go to ONE.Oregon.gov to login or create an account.

Paper application:

Paper applications are available in multiple languages.

- Download and print an application online by going to OHP.Oregon.gov/Apply; or
- Have an application mailed by calling OHP Customer Service at 1-800-699-9075.

Need help?

Veterans can get help with the online or paper application by connecting with an [OHP community partner](#). They can also visit any Aging and People with Disabilities, Self-Sufficiency Programs or Area Agency on Aging office to complete an application in person with a worker. If going into an office, it is best to call ahead to schedule an appointment. Find contact information for state offices at Oregon.gov/DHS/Offices.

For questions about the program or to check the status of an application, people can call OHP Customer Service at 1-800-699-9075.

Helpful information

When starting a new application, the following information may be helpful to have available:

- Discharge paperwork from the Armed Forces, including Reserve Components
- Ability to confirm time spent on active duty

- Information about you and the members of your household.
Examples include:
 - Name and Date of Birth
 - Social Security Numbers for everyone in your household who may qualify and want benefits and who have an SSN
 - Contact Information, including a valid Mailing Address
 - Income, Expenses, and Tax Deductions for everyone included on your federal income tax return
 - Any Private Health Insurance information

If applying online at [ONE.Oregon.gov](https://one.oregon.gov), an open application may be started and stopped. People should click “next” or “save” to save information on the current screen. Please note, the system times out after 10 minutes of idle activity. [People applying may also want to refer to the application guide.](#)

After applying, the application will be automatically processed and if eligible, the veteran will be sent an approval notice by mail. If there is missing information on the application, OHP Member Services will attempt to contact the applicant by phone. If there is no response, a ‘Missing Information’ notice will be sent by mail. Email is not used to correspond, but applicants can opt into email notifications letting them know they have a message or notice in their ONE account.

Services available

If eligible for full OHP, or OHP dental through the Oregon Veteran Dental Program, veterans will:

- Receive the same OHP dental benefits. [Learn what is covered under OHP dental benefits.](#)
- Enroll in a local Coordinated Care Organization (CCO). This happens 1 or 2 weeks after OHP eligibility begins. [Find CCO contact information, member material and information about covered services.](#)

CCOs are networks of all types of health care providers (physical health care, addictions and mental health care and dental care providers) who

work together in their local communities to serve people who receive coverage under OHP. CCOs make sure members have access to the services they need. For dental care, they work with local dental plans to deliver care.

Once enrolled with a CCO, veterans can ask their CCO about how to find a provider and access dental services. The CCO will mail new members a welcome packet. The packet will contain a CCO member ID card and information about covered services.

Many organizations who serve veterans have asked questions specific to dentures. Dentures may be covered with OHP Dental. [Learn more about OHP dental benefits](#) or [contact the CCO for more information](#).

Some veterans do not have medical coverage for prescription drugs. Because medications are sometimes a critical part of dental care, the Oregon Veteran Dental Program will provide coverage for most of these medications through the [ArrayRx program](#). Veterans will receive a separate identification card that they may present to a pharmacy. Coverage will be limited to medications prescribed by a dental professional and will be limited to a defined list of medications (a “formulary”). Coverage will not include medications intended for continuous or prolonged therapy, like fluoride toothpaste or tobacco cessation products.

For additional questions regarding services prior to enrollment, veterans may contact the Client Services Unit by calling 1-800-273-0557.

Finding a dental provider

Once enrolled in the dental program, veterans will find a provider by contacting their CCO. Veterans can ask their CCO about how to find a provider and access dental services. The CCO will mail new members a welcome packet that will contain a CCO member ID card and information about covered services.

Additional resources

Resource name	Link
County or Tribal Veteran Service Officer (VSO) Locator	https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/vso-search
Military Culture Training – PsychArmor Military Culture Course Modules	https://deploymentpsych.org/military-culture-course-modules

Resource name	Link
Military Culture Training for Community Providers – U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs	https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/docs/providers/VA-FS_Military-Culture-Training.pdf
Oregon Department of Human Services Caregiver Support Program	https://www.oregon.gov/DHS/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/SUA/Pages/Family-Caregiver-Program.aspx
Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs	https://www.oregon.gov/odva/pages/default.aspx
<p>Oregon Department of Veterans' Affairs Advocacy Coordinators:</p> <p>Aging Veterans Services</p> <p>Houseless Veterans</p> <p>Justice Involved Veterans</p> <p>LGBTQ+ Veterans</p> <p>Women Veterans</p> <p>Student Veterans</p>	<p>AVS: https://www.oregon.gov/odva/agency-programs/avs/Pages/default.aspx</p> <p>Houseless: https://www.oregon.gov/odva/Resources/Pages/Homeless-Veterans.aspx</p> <p>Justice Involved: https://www.oregon.gov/odva/Resources/Pages/Justice-Involved-Veterans.aspx</p> <p>LGBTQ+: https://www.oregon.gov/odva/Resources/Pages/LGBTQ-Veterans.aspx</p> <p>Women: https://www.oregon.gov/odva/Resources/Pages/Women-Veterans.aspx</p> <p>Students: https://www.oregon.gov/odva/Resources/Pages/Student-Veterans.aspx</p>
<p>Oregon Health Authority Veterans Behavioral Health</p> <p>Veterans Behavioral Health Liaison</p>	https://www.oregon.gov/oha/hsd/amh/pages/veterans.aspx#:~:text=Staffed%20by%20veterans%20and%20others,There%20is%20hope

Resource name	Link
Oregon Health Plan (OHP) Application Process	https://www.oregon.gov/oha/HSD/OHP/Pages/apply.aspx
Oregon Housing and Community Services	https://www.oregon.gov/OHCS/pages/index.aspx
Oregon Military Department	https://www.oregon.gov/omd/pages/home.aspx
Senior Health Benefits Administration (SHIBA)	https://shiba.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx?utm_source=shiba&utm_medium=egov_redirect&utm_campaign=https%3A%2F%2Fhealthcare.oregon.gov%2Fshiba%2F
Trauma Informed Oregon	https://traumainformedoregon.org/
U.S. Veterans Affairs Caregiver Support Program	https://www.caregiver.va.gov/
U.S. Veterans Affairs Community Care Network	https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/programs/veterans/CCN-Veterans.asp
U.S. Veterans Affairs Dental Care	https://www.va.gov/health-care/about-va-health-benefits/dental-care/
U.S. Veterans Affairs Health Center Locator	https://www.va.gov/directory/guide/state.asp?dnum=ALL&STATE=OR
Veterans Crisis Line – Dial 988 then Press 1	https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/
Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 20 Northwest Network	https://www.va.gov/directory/guide/region.asp?ID=20