



Where Can People With Special Needs Obtain Dental Care?

Assistance programs vary from state to state, so you may want to contact your state dental society or state health department to ask if there are programs in your area.

The ADA Council on Access, Prevention and Inter-professional Relations suggests the following:

- Inform the dentist about your special health condition.
- Ask if the dentist has training and/or experience in treating patients with you or your child's specific condition.
- Ask if the dental facility is accessible to the disabled.
- Call or write the dental director at your state department of public health. Visit www.astdd.org.
- Contact the nearest dental school clinic or hospital dental department, especially if it is affiliated with a major university. Visit www.ada.org/prof/ed/programs/search_ddsdmd_us.asp
- Contact the Special Care Dentistry and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry for a referral. Visit <http://scdonline.org> or www.aapd.org.
- Also, the National Oral health Information Clearinghouse may have useful information at www.nidcr.nih.gov/healthinformation/specialcareresources/
- Contact the National Foundation of Dentistry for the Handicapped (NFDH), a charitable affiliate of the American Dental Association since 1988. The NFDH, via several programs, facilitates the provision of comprehensive dental care for needy disabled, elderly, and medically compromised individuals. Visit www.nfdh.org.

