



Vision & Dental Resources

Introduction

Vision Services

In California, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) allowed expansion of Medi-Cal to cover adults with incomes below 138% of the federal poverty level and Covered California, a health insurance marketplace which provides a choice of private plans, was established. For low and moderate income enrollees enrolled through Covered California, subsidies are available to help reduce the cost of premiums.

Dental Services

Insurance plans through Covered California generally do not include dental coverage. Dental coverage for adults is not an essential health benefit, so dental coverage for adults is offered separately from health insurance plans. Medi-Cal provides dental benefits for eligible California residents at no additional cost.

Vision Health

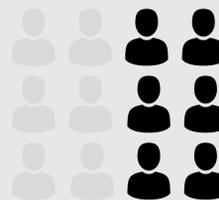
Out of the 8 million adults living in Los Angeles County, **11.7%** are uninsured. The decline in uninsured adults since the Affordable Care Act was implemented in 2010 has been accompanied by an increase in coverage by public insurance (primarily Medi-Cal) from 18.7% in 2011 to 33.6% in 2015.

COVID-19 Testing in LA County is **free to all residents**, with or without symptoms. Testing locations are present throughout the county, and many sites offer same-day appointments depending on availability.

3.4%

percentage of uninsured children under 17 years old in LA county

Cataracts affect more than 24.4 million Americans age 40 and older. By age 75, half of all American have cataracts.



54.5%

percentage of insured patients that rely on public insurance

Vision Health Resources

Medi-Cal Vision Benefits

With full-scope Medi-Cal, benefits include routine eye exams & eyeglasses every 24 months, as well as other services such as artificial eye services. Vision care benefits are included in all full-scope Medi-Cal plans. You can apply for Medi-Cal through Covered California. To read more about your benefits, go to <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/provgovpart/pharmacy/Pages/VisionBenefits.aspx>.

Vision Resources

For answers to questions about how to prepare for testing, who needs testing, and what to expect for testing, visit: <https://covid19.lacounty.gov/testing-faq/>

EyeCare America

<https://www.aao.org/eyecare-america>

Through the Senior Program, they offer free comprehensive eye exams and up to 1 year of care to people age 65 and older and have not seen an ophthalmologist in three or more years.

UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic (UMEC)

<https://uclahealth.org/mobile-eye-clinic/>

UMEC visits hundreds of LA communities annually to deliver free vision care. Ophthalmologists perform free basic eye examinations and determine the need for further treatment of any eye condition or disease. If needed, free eyeglasses are provided. Insurance isn't required.

Venice Family Clinic

<https://venicefamilyclinic.org/>

VFC sees patients with or without insurance. They offer a wide range of vision care services, including optometry and prescription glasses. In-house optometrists perform exams, and free eyeglass frames. However, you **must be a VFC patient** to access these services.

InfantSEE

<https://infantsee.org/>

Through this program, participating doctors of optometry provide a comprehensive infant eye assessment between 6 and 12 months of age free of charge regardless of income or insurance coverage.

Care Harbor LA Clinic

<https://careharbor.org/care-harbor-los-angeles/>

Care Harbor is a **three-day event** held in November. They offer free medical, dental and vision services to 1,000+ patients per day. Care Harbor vision care includes eye exams, retina scans and prescription glasses including bifocals and extreme corrections.

For Glasses

Respectacle: <http://respectacle.org/>

New Eyes: <https://new-eyes.org/application>

Costco Optical:

<https://www.costco.com/optical.html>

Adult Dental Health

Covered California offers two types of dental plans:

1. **HMO** (health maintenance organization) plans and PPO (preferred provider organization) plans. HMO plans are restricted to providers within the insurance network.
2. **PPO** cover providers outside of the network, generally with higher premiums and deductibles.

Medi-Cal offers dental coverage through the Medi-Cal Dental Program, or **Denti-Cal**, and eligible low-income residents do not need to apply separately to receive dental benefits. For adults, the coverage limit is \$1,800 every calendar year, although this may be increased for medically-required dental procedures.

Children's Dental Health

- Dental coverage for children under age 19 is considered one of the ten Essential Health Benefits, and therefore are **included in health plans offered through Covered California at no additional cost**.
- Some parents may choose to enroll their children in an optional family dental plan for additional dental coverage.
- Medi-Cal offers the same coverage to children under the Medi-Cal Dental Program at no additional cost, with extra services such as orthodontics and molar sealants covered.

Dental Resources

Western Dental Clinics:

<https://www.westerndental.com/en-us/current-offers/california-offers>

- Western Dental and Orthodontics is widely available in LA and accepts Medi-Cal and most insurance plans.
- Patients without insurance can still receive a free exam, x-ray, and consultation on dental services

California Dental Association:

<https://www.cda.org/Home/Public/Low-cost-Dental-Services>

- The CDA allows patients to search for clinics that offer free or discounted dental services.
- Patients can use the "Find a clinic" function to search for nearby providers that provide dental services at a subsidized or lower cost to patients without dental insurance.

UCLA Dental Clinics:

<https://www.dentistry.ucla.edu/patient-care/how-become-patient>

- Offers patient care and dental services, including cleaning, crowns, dentures, extractions, fillings, implants, and root canals at significantly reduced costs.
- New patients are first screened to determine if the General Clinic (pre-doctoral) is suitable for their needs; the oral health screening is provided free of charge.

Online Resources

- Covered California Dental Benefits (<https://www.coveredca.com/individuals-and-families/getting-covered/dental-coverage/family/>)
- Medi-Cal Dental Program (Denti-Cal) Member Handbook (https://www.denti-cal.ca.gov/Beneficiaries/Denti-Cal/Beneficiary_Handbook/)
- Covered California Dental Carriers (<https://www.coveredca.com/forsmallbusiness/plans/>)
- Denti-Cal Provider Network (<https://www.denti-cal.ca.gov/find-a-dentist/home>)