




States should ensure Medicaid recipients have transportation access

Many low-income people aren't able to reach dental appointments on time because they don't have reliable transportation. **States are responsible for making sure that Medicaid recipients have access to**  **transportation**—for example, by reimbursing for mileage or other costs, contracting with taxis or transportation companies, or even reimbursing the cost of lodging and meals.



Laws and policies can address barriers to oral health care for children of immigrants



U.S.-born children of undocumented immigrants may qualify for public insurance coverage—**but they face many other barriers to oral health care**, including:

- Families' fear of deportation
- Lack of services in new immigrant communities
- Avoiding services because of the stigma and bias they face
- Parents' inability to get time off work for appointments

Laws and policies can help address these barriers and make it easier for these children to get the care they need.



States can implement national standards for culturally competent health care

Health services that aren't linguistically and culturally appropriate can contribute to health disparities. To improve health equity, **more states can adopt the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health and Health Care (CLAS Standards)**, which aim to provide training and improve cultural sensitivity, plain language, and interpretation services.



Laws and policies can require oral health care providers to offer convenient appointment times

For people to get the care they need, **oral health care providers must offer appointment times that work for the people they serve**. For example, federally qualified health centers are required to offer services at times and places that are convenient for their communities.



Federal discrimination laws protect people when receiving oral health care

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 **protects people from discrimination based on their race, color, or national origin in programs that receive federal funding**, including oral health care services and providers. Other federal laws protect people from discrimination based on disability, age, sex, and religion. The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Office for Civil Rights is responsible for enforcing these rights.