

Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment Reminders



Stanislaus County
Oral Health Program

2025

STEP 2 - Reminders

It is best practice to send at least three reminders—through the end of the school year or **May 31st**, whichever date comes first—to parents/ caregivers who have yet to return KOHA forms.

[English - Sample Reminder Letter Template](#)

[Spanish - Sample Reminder Letter Template](#)

[Smile California “Healthy Children are Ready to Learn” Video](#)

[Smile California KOHA Flyer and Poster:](#)



Don't forget to schedule your child's required dental assessment!

What is the Kindergarten Oral Health Assessment (KOHA)?
To make sure your child is ready for school, California law requires that children have a dental assessment by **May 31** in either kindergarten or first grade, whichever is their first year in public school.

Why is it important?
Poor oral health can affect a child's attendance, grades and overall performance in school. The KOHA helps ensure children are healthy and ready for a successful school year.

SCHOOL READINESS FACTS:

- Children who have poor oral health often miss more school and receive lower grades than children who don't.
- Children with cavities may also have difficulty eating, talking, and concentrating in school.
- Healthy smiles make children feel confident and good about themselves.
- Establishing good oral health habits in childhood helps create a lifetime of healthy smiles.

HOW TO COMPLETE THE KOHA:

- Look out for a registration form that will be distributed when you register your child for school.
- Visit or find your dental home.
- Complete the dental assessment 12 months before entering public school for the first time or by **May 31st** of their first year (kindergarten or 1st Grade).

1 in 5 children have untreated tooth decay in California.*

Why is it important to have a dental home?

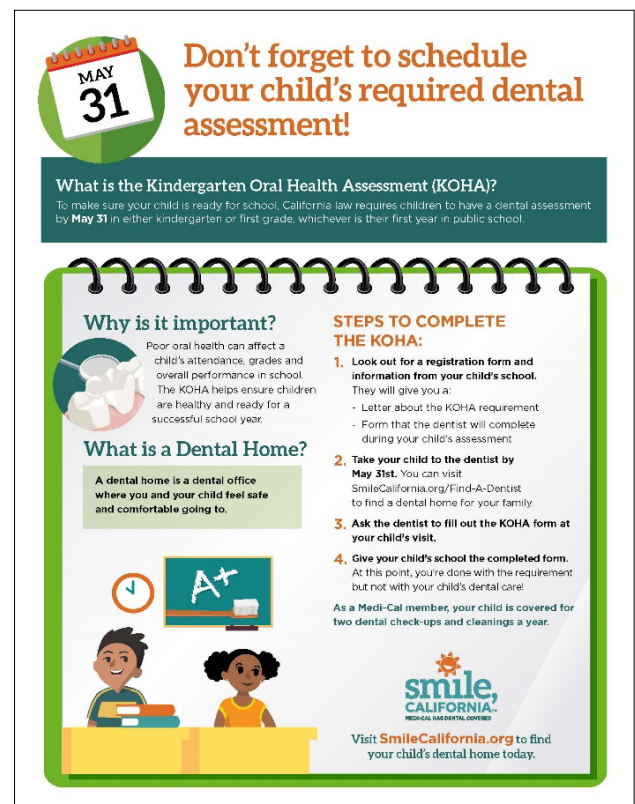
- It allows the dentist to establish a relationship with your family.
- It gives the dentist consistent opportunities to provide preventive treatment and find small issues before they become big.
- Children who develop a familiar relationship with their dentist are less likely to experience dental anxiety and are more likely to visit the dentist regularly into adulthood.

Medi-Cal covers dental check-ups every 6 months for children.

Visit SmileCalifornia.org to find your child's dental home today.

smile CALIFORNIA
MEDI-CAL HAS DENTAL COVERED

*2018-20 3rd Grade Basic Screening Survey, California Office of Oral Health
REV 04-2022



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What is a Dental Home?
A dental home is a dental office where you and your child feel safe and comfortable going to.

STEPS TO COMPLETE THE KOHA:

- Look out for a registration form and information from your child's school.**
They will give you a:
 - Letter about the KOHA requirement
 - Form that the dentist will complete during your child's assessment
- Take your child to the dentist by May 31st.** You can visit SmileCalifornia.org/Find-A-Dentist to find a dental home for your family.
- Ask the dentist to fill out the KOHA form at your child's visit.**
- Give your child's school the completed form.**
At this point, you're done with the requirement but not with your child's dental care!

As a Medi-Cal member, your child is covered for two dental check-ups and cleanings a year.

Visit SmileCalifornia.org to find your child's dental home today.

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MEDI-CAL HAS DENTAL COVERED

Flyer: [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Chinese](#)

Poster: [English](#) | [Spanish](#)

Contact Us

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