

Are you claiming free dental treatment?

**Don't assume
you're entitled.**

If you claim when you're not entitled, even by mistake, you could face a **penalty charge of £100 plus the cost of your treatment.**



Check before you tick



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Information from the NHS.

When are you entitled to free dental treatment?

You may be entitled to free dental treatment because of your age and circumstances or if you are on certain benefits. More information is available in this document.

Your age and circumstances

You're entitled to free dental treatment if, when the treatment starts, you are:

- Under 18
- Under 19 and in full-time education
- Pregnant or have given birth in the last 12 months
- Staying in an NHS hospital and your treatment is carried out by the hospital dentist
- An NHS Hospital Dental Service outpatient (however, you may have to pay for your dentures or bridges).

Certain benefits

You're also **entitled to free dental treatment if**, when the treatment starts, you are named on a claim for:

- Income Support
- **Income-related** Employment and Support Allowance
- **Income-based** Jobseeker's Allowance
- Pension Credit **Guarantee Credit**

- Universal Credit and for the last assessment period there were no earnings or earnings within the allowed limit
- A valid NHS Tax Credit Exemption Certificate
- A valid HC2 Certificate

You're **not entitled** to free dental treatment if, when the treatment starts, you are named on a claim for:

- Incapacity Benefit
- **Contribution-based** Employment and Support Allowance
- **Contribution-based** Jobseeker's Allowance
- Disability Living Allowance
- Council Tax Benefit
- Housing Benefit
- Pension Credit **Savings Credit**, when paid on their own
- Medical conditions

Proving you're entitled to free dental treatment

If you're entitled to free dental treatment, you'll be asked to show written proof that you don't have to pay for your treatment. You'll also be asked to sign a form.

Checks are made on free treatment claims. If you claim when you're not entitled, even by mistake, you could face a **penalty charge of £100 plus the cost of your treatment**. That's why it's important you know your entitlement before you visit the dentist.

Help with dental costs

If you have applied to the NHS Low Income Scheme and have been issued with a HC3 certificate, you may be able to get help with the cost of your dental treatment.

You can apply for the NHS Low Income Scheme if your savings, investments or property (not including where you live) are **no more than £16,000**, or no more than **£23,250 if you permanently live in a care home**. Find out how to apply at:

www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/lowincomescheme

Call: **0300 330 1343**

Relay UK: **18001 0300 330 1341**

Relay UK is the new name for Next Generation Text.
Find out more at: www.relayuk.bt.com

What are the charges if you need to pay for your dental treatment?

The cost for your dental treatment depends on what you need to have done to keep your mouth, teeth and gums healthy. If you're not exempt from charges, you will only ever be asked to pay one charge for each complete course of treatment, even if you need to visit your dentist more than once to finish it. It will either be Band 1, Band 2 or Band 3:

Band 1 course of treatment - £22.70

This covers an examination, diagnosis (e.g. X-rays), advice on how to prevent future problems, a scale and polish if needed, and application of fluoride varnish or fissure sealant. Emergency treatment (when you need to see a dentist immediately) also costs £22.70.

Band 2 course of treatment - £62.10

This covers everything listed in Band 1 above, plus any further treatment such as fillings, root canal work or if your dentist needs to take out one or more of your teeth.

Band 3 course of treatment - £269.30

This covers everything listed in Bands 1 and 2 above, plus crowns, dentures and bridges.

What to do in the dental surgery

If you are not entitled to free dental treatment

If you know you're not entitled to free dental treatment, **don't claim**. The dental team will tell you how much you need to pay. If you claim, even by mistake, you could face a **penalty charge of £100 plus the cost of your treatment**.

Still unsure?

If you're not sure whether you're entitled to free dental treatment you should pay the charges and ask for the NHS receipt form FP64, or a receipt that shows the total NHS charge and the date you paid.

If you find out later that you're entitled to free or reduced cost treatment, you can apply for a refund for charges that were part of your NHS treatment. You must make your refund claim within three months of paying.

Ask your dentist for a HC5(D) refund form or to download and print the form visit:

www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/help-nhs-dental-costs

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You can also use the NHS eligibility checker online to find out what help you could get with the cost of your dental treatment and other NHS charges. Visit:
www.nhs.uk/checkbeforeyoutick

If you're entitled to free dental treatment

Make sure you take your proof of entitlement along to your appointment and tick the right box on the dental form.

For more information

Help with dental costs

For more information go to:

www.nhs.uk/healthcosts

Call: 0300 330 1343

Relay UK: 18001 0300 330 1343

Dental Exemption Checking Service

Call: 0300 330 1293

Relay UK: 18001 0300 330 1293

Medical and maternity exemption certificate helpline

Call: 0300 330 1341

Relay UK: 18001 0300 330 1341

NHS Tax Credit Exemption Certificate helpline

Call: 0300 330 1347

Relay UK: 18001 0300 330 1347

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NHS Low Income Scheme helpline

Call: **0300 330 1343**

Relay UK: **18001 0300 330 1343**

Prescription prepayment certificate (PPC) helpline

Call: **0300 330 1341**

Relay UK: **18001 0300 330 1341**

Benefits information

For more information go to:

www.gov.uk/dwp

Pension Service helpline

Call: **0800 731 0469**

Textphone: **0800 731 0464**

Relay UK: **18001 0800 731 0469**

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Find out more at **www.relayuk.bt.com**

Jobcentre Plus helpline

Jobseeker's Allowance, Income Support and Employment and Support Allowance

Call: **0800 169 0310**

Textphone: **0800 169 0314**

Relay UK: **18001 0800 169 0310**

Universal Credit helpline

Universal Credit full service

www.gov.uk/sign-in-universal-credit

Call: **0800 328 5644**

Textphone: **0800 328 1344**

Relay UK: **18001 0800 328 5644**

Tax Credits helpline

Call: **0345 300 3900**

Relay UK: **18001 0300 200 3100**

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Find out more at **www.relayuk.bt.com**

This leaflet is available in alternatives from:

www.nhs.uk/checkbeforeyoutick

Alternative formats including braille can also be obtained by calling **0300 330 1293** or Relay UK **18001 0300 330 1293**

Check before you tick

The information in this guide was correct as of December 2019.

The latest version is available at:
www.nhs.uk/checkbeforeyoutick

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