



**FOUNDATION<sup>®</sup>**

Big Love for Little Teeth

**Call for Access to Care Grant  
Applications 2022 Guidelines**



Big Love for Little Teeth

# Introduction

The AAPD Foundation is the nation's largest dentist-led foundation dedicated exclusively to child oral health. As the charitable arm of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, the Foundation believes every child deserves comprehensive and continuously accessible oral health care, regardless of location, background, and barriers.

The Foundation issues an array of grants to clinics and institutions specifically providing care to underserved children. Since 2010, the AAPD Foundation has issued more than \$6.5 million in grants and commitments helping 139 organizations provide Dental Homes for more than 573,000 children.

Beginning July 30, 2021, through October 1, 2021, we are accepting applications for one-year, \$20,000 Access to Care Grants for awards to be issued in April 2022. All eligible organizations are encouraged to apply.



# We're all about Dental Homes

The AAPD defines a Dental Home as the ongoing relationship between the dentist and the patient, inclusive of all aspects of oral health care, delivered in a comprehensive, continuously accessible, coordinated, and family-centered way.

The AAPD Foundation supports organizations that demonstrate an understanding of the direct link between their funding request and how their efforts will provide children with Dental Homes.

Beyond reporting to the Foundation the progress toward goals as stated in their applications, grant recipients are required to provide benchmark data on net patient numbers (not specific patients) including:

- \* **Recall rates**
- \* **Caries at recall**
- \* **Caries risk assessment**
- \* **No shows**

Specific reporting requirements are detailed in grant agreements with award recipients.



## What is an Access to Care Grant?

The Access to Care Grant is a single year of funding up to \$20,000 awarded to organizations that effectively demonstrate their ability to provide Dental Homes to children.

Our application is open-ended, containing a series of questions and information requests that will help us get a better understanding of your organization and what it is trying to accomplish. We will consider all reasonable requests to support salaries, clinical supplies, instruments, outreach, transportation, new initiatives within established organizations, or similar activities/interventions that directly impact the dental home. Applicants must demonstrate how their proposed activity, and the AAPD Foundation's support of that activity, directly leads to children having a Dental Home.





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# “The Big Authority on Little Teeth” wants to help you

Nearly two-thirds of all 2021 applicants reported economic hardships in their communities likely would drive an increased need for pediatric dental services. Beyond our financial support, our broad network of grantees, and resources via the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, can make us a valuable collaborator.

To help us better understand how we can help you, the AAPD Foundation requires applicants also to demonstrate how our support will make a difference in their communities. We want to know what makes your organization special and why it is best suited to deliver on your request.

## Does my organization qualify?

All non-private dental and/or medical organizations located in the United States and its Territories are welcome to apply. This includes :

- \* Nonprofit 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) organizations
- \* University-affiliated dental schools, their clinics and adjunct locations
- \* Community college-affiliated programs
- \* Local health jurisdictions, county health departments, and hospitals/clinics
- \* Non-qualified organizations include
- \* Private dental practices and/or individual practitioners
- \* Newly-incorporated/startup organizations
- \* Non-domestic programs of US-based organizations

Only initiatives under the direct supervision of a dentist (pediatric dentist preferred, but not required) are considered.

# How does the application evaluation process work?

Following an initial screening, eligible applications are subject to up to three rounds of comprehensive review:

## Initial review.

Every eligible application is evaluated by pediatric dentists, working in teams of two, assessing proposals for their demonstrated support of the Dental Home. The best scoring applications from each review team are sorted and ranked. The top performing applications (this total varies annually, based on budget) advance to the next stage. The AAPD Foundation does not disclose the number of grants it plans to award at any point during the application or review process.

## Grants and Programs Committee review.

Members of the Foundation's grants committee review applications moved to the second round. First-round scoring is not a factor in the second round. At least four pediatric dentists evaluate each application utilizing the same scoring system as the initial review. All second-round applications are ranked based on second-round scores. The Committee then convenes to make its final evaluations for recommendation to the Foundation Board of Trustees.

## Board of Trustees review.

The Board receives the recommended applications and their final rankings for final consideration and approval.

## What do our reviewers want to see from you in the grant process?

Our reviewers want to see what makes your organization special in providing Dental Homes for children and what it means for your community. Most importantly, the reviewers want to understand your project's goal(s) and request for funds. Please refrain from submitting generalized information that does not provide details about your specific program. We are well versed on national oral health concerns. The Foundation is here to help and wants to help as many organizations as possible; our reviewers need to understand your request.

Answer directly all inquiries and provide clear, concise, and relevant information on your application. Reviewers are trained to evaluate ONLY what is provided in the application. They do not conduct additional research. The Foundation reserves the right to seek additional information for applications being considered in the later stages of the review process.





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# Frequently Asked Questions

## Does the Access to Care Grant have age restrictions?

The AAPD Foundation funds applications providing care for patients 18 and younger, consistent with Medicaid and The Children's Health Insurance Program eligibility requirements. We particularly are interested in initiatives providing care to ages 8 and younger.

## Is my organization a startup?

The Foundation defines a "startup" as a newly-established organization/clinic within the first three years of formal incorporation and/or receiving its 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(6) nonprofit designation. New initiatives by established organizations will be considered.

## Can I apply if my organization is a previous or current Access to Care Grant applicant?

Yes! The Foundation does not cap how many times an organizations can apply to the grant and welcome all eligible organizations to apply for an Access to Care Grant. However, please note that being a previous grantee does not guarantee future Access to Care Grant support.

## My organization is from a rural/suburban area or sees a smaller amount of patients, does that count against us?

No, the Foundation reviews each application based on the goals presented, the funding request, and sustainability of the program.

For a complete list of Frequently Asked Questions, please see the full list located on the Foundation's [grant page](#). If you have any additional questions after reviewing both documents, please call (312) 337-2169 ex. 39.