

PIMA COUNCIL ON AGING
Medicare/Health Insurance Counseling Program
8467 East Broadway Blvd.
Tucson, AZ 85710-4009
(520) 790-7262

DENTAL SERVICE PLANS

Pima Council on Aging provides the following information as a community service and not as an endorsement of any dental plan or office. **PCOA has no affiliation or financial interest in any particular dental plan or office.** But, because of the huge demand for assistance from seniors on fixed incomes for affordable dental services (which do not exist in sufficient quantities in our community), we have compiled this list to make comparison shopping easier. Be sure to practice due diligence as an informed consumer before engaging in extensive and expensive dental work. Check out the professional affiliation, background and references of the dentist or clinic you select.

As a rule, dental clinics, such as those listed in the yellow pages, have lower charges than do individual dental offices. However, this is not uniform. It is wise to call and ask for estimated costs for specific procedures, keeping in mind that dentistry is as much an art as a science and an estimate is not a guarantee of final price. It is also a good idea to ask about payment plans. Some dental offices offer discounts for cash payments while others offer monthly payment plans. Be sure to compare any interest charges with that of credit cards or a home equity line of credit. Also, be aware that dental service plans are not the same as dental insurance. Dental insurance is not always a good option for seniors. It is important to compare the cost of monthly premiums versus possible benefits. As always, read the fine print! Be aware of what service is actually covered, at what percent, for how many procedures in the benefit year or lifetime of the policy. Be aware of what is excluded as well; that excluded procedure may be the very one you will need!

DENTAL REFERRALS: Arizona Dental Association (520)881-7237 or www.azda.org

SLIDING FEE SCALE DENTAL CLINICS:

EL RIO SANTA CRUZ DENTAL CLINIC, 839 WEST CONGRESS, TUCSON, AZ 85745
CALL: (520)670-3758. This phone number is for all Centers.

MARANA DENTAL CLINIC, 13644 North Sandario Road, Marana, AZ 85653. CALL: (520)682-4111,
OPEN Mon -Fri, 7:30-6:00. Call for an appointment. Walk-in/Emergency only.

ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY DENTAL CLINIC, 140 WEST SPEEDWAY, SUITE 100, TUCSON
AZ 85705. CALL: (520)628-7871. St Elizabeth's members call for appointment or **Call to check status of program for registering.**

HOUSE CALLS/NURSING HOME VISITS:

Dr. Sharad Pandhi, 4701 North First Ave, Tucson, AZ 85718, (520)293-2166

LOW COST CLEANING, X-RAYS AND SELF-CARE EDUCATION:

PIMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DENTAL HYGIENE PROGRAM, West Campus, 2202 W Anklam Rd.
CALL: (520)206-6090 to schedule appointment. \$35 for cleaning, x-rays, instructions on brushing, flossing and gum care. Allow 2 1/2 hours for one clinic visit, three clinics visits to complete one treatment program. For self-care education visit: www.azdha.org

DENTURE CLINICS:

David Acosta, 4323 East Fifth St., (520)889-6622

Hugh Keeffe, 902 South Kolb, (520)917-7638 or www.hughdds@worldnet.att.net

J.C. Rose, 1616 South Fourth Ave., (520)624-6997

DENTAL COMPLAINTS:Arizona State Board of Dental Examiners, 5060 North 19th Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85015.(602)242-1492 or www.azdentalboard.org

The companies on this list offer reduced-cost dental plans to individuals, clients, couples and families. The rates charged for a year's membership vary. Some of the plans offer a greater discount on dental services than others. Some offer dental insurance only, while others include vision and/or prescription discounts. Call and ask for a brochure if any plan interests you. Most companies are very willing to mail a brochure upon request.

COMPANY NAME	TELEPHONE	*INTERNET ADDRESS
American Dental Plan	1-800-224-8810	www.dentalplans.com
American Health Systems	1-800-247-5056	(First year includes a one time enrollment fee of \$5)
Ameriplan USA	1-800-647-8421	www.ameriplansusa.com (One time enrollment fee of \$20)
Dental Care Advantage	1-888-540-9488	
Assurant	1-800-347-4090	www.assurantsaver.com (One time enrollment fee of \$35.00)
Employers Dental Services (you need not be employed)	1-800-722-9772 Tucson: 696-4343	(EDS requires a one-year agreement and \$10 set-up fee)
Fourstar Dental Plan	1-800-622-3030	www.fourstardental.com (One time enrollment fee of \$10.00)
Savon Dental Plan	1-800-809+3494	www.dontwaitforatoothache.com (There is a \$10.00 processing fee)
Signature Dental Plan	1-800-220-6203	www.gewellness.com (No processing fee)

*All branches of the Pima County Public Library offer internet access