



## THE FACTS ABOUT I-Smile™ @ School

### What is I-Smile™ @ School?

I-Smile™ @ School is a dental program that provides no-cost dental screenings, dental sealants, fluoride varnish, and education for students. This dental program takes place during the school day and students miss very little class time.

### Why is dental care so important?

Cavities can impact a student's ability to learn, eat, and speak properly, sleep, and build self-confidence. Dental sealants and fluoride varnish help protect the teeth and prevent cavities. They save time, money and the discomfort related to cavities and are important for your child's health!



### You Should Know...

#### What is a dental screening?

- A dental screening is a simple look in the mouth to check the condition of the teeth and determine if dental sealants or fluoride varnish are needed.
- A dental screening does not take the place of a dental checkup at a dental office.

#### What are dental sealants?

- A dental sealant is a tooth-colored material that is applied to the chewing surfaces of back teeth.
- Sealants protect teeth from germs and food that can cause cavities.

#### When should a child's teeth be sealed?

- A child's back teeth should be sealed as soon as they erupt. These teeth usually come in around the ages of 6 and 12 years.

#### How are dental sealants applied?

- Applying sealants is simple and painless.
- The teeth are cleaned and the sealant liquid is painted in the grooves of the chewing surfaces with a small brush.

#### How long do dental sealants last?

- Sealants can last for many years if your child takes good care of his or her teeth.
- Sealants should be checked at each dental visit and reapplied if needed.

#### What is fluoride varnish?

- Fluoride varnish is a sticky liquid that is quickly and easily applied to all tooth surfaces.
- It tastes good and should be applied 2-4 times each year to reduce a child's risk of cavities.

#### How much do these services cost?

- All I-Smile™ @ School program services are provided at no-cost.

<sup>1</sup> US Department of Health and Human Services. Oral Health in America: A Report of the Surgeon General-- Executive Summary. Rockville, MD: US Department of Health and Human Services, National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research, National Institutes of Health, 2000.



### Contact information

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