



Somerset County Health Department
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Health Officer Danielle Weber, MS, RN

**SOMERSET COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
PURCHASING DIVISION
8928 SIGN POST ROAD, STE 2
WESTOVER, MARYLAND 21871**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL #2022-12

PROJECT: ORAL HEALTH GRANT

LOCATION: SOMERSET COUNTY, MARYLAND

Vendor Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ **Fax:** _____

Signature of Authorized Representative:

**Proposal Submission Deadline: Monday, May 9, 2022
4:00 p.m. EST**

**Submit To: Christie Taylor,
Purchasing Agent
Somerset County Health Dept.
8928 Sign Post Road
Westover, MD 21853**

I. Introduction

The Somerset County Health Department (SCHD) is announcing a request for proposals (RFP) for oral health providers to support oral disease and injury prevention and/or school dental sealant programs in Somerset County, Maryland. Funding for these programs is provided by the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) Office of Oral Health (OOH).

II. Background

Oral diseases are not self-limiting, and they increase in severity with time. As a result, medical, nutritional, psychological, educational, social, esthetic, and speech difficulties can originate from preventable oral disease and injury. The adverse consequences of dental caries and other oral disease include, pain, infection, tooth loss, and occasionally death. Studies have demonstrated that oral diseases can place individuals at risk for many preventable diseases. Studies have also established a correlation between periodontal disease and diabetes, with growing evidence that there may be a link between periodontal disease and cardiovascular disease. Adverse oral health conditions affect nearly all aspects of daily living, such as quality of life, physical well-being, self-esteem, economic productivity, and school performance, including attendance and readiness to learn.

A. School Dental Sealant Program

1. Prevention and Control of Dental Caries – Dental Sealants

Tooth decay may result in pain and other problems that affect learning in school-age children. Findings from scientific studies clearly show that school dental sealant programs are effective at halting tooth decay, yet access to oral health care remains a critical problem for underserved populations in Maryland. The 2015 – 2016 Survey of Oral Health Status of Maryland School Children, conducted by the University of Maryland, School of Dentistry, found that approximately 41.4% of school children in 3rd Grade had at least one tooth with a dental sealant. This falls below the Healthy People 2030 goal of 42.5% of children and adolescents who have received dental sealants on one or more of their primary or permanent molar teeth. Further, a considerable disparity in dental sealant presence continues to exist in different regions across Maryland. For example, the Eastern Shore had a lower prevalence of dental sealants than any other region in Maryland at 27.8%.

Dental sealants are generally applied in a dental clinic setting; however,

because of the relatively low proportion of high-risk children receiving dental sealants, alternative public health strategies have been enlisted, including the provision of dental sealants through school-based, school-linked, or mobile approaches.

School-based programs are conducted within education settings, with teams of dental providers utilizing fixed or portable dental equipment. School-based dental sealant delivery programs serve children unlikely to receive them otherwise, and these programs are especially important for reaching children from low-income families who are less likely to receive private dental care. Programs generally target schools by using the percentage of children eligible for federal free or reduced-cost lunch programs and/or those identified as Title I schools.

School-linked programs are connected with schools in some manner but deliver the sealants at a site other than the school (i.e., a clinic or private dental office). School-linked programs may present information, distribute consent forms, and conduct dental screenings at schools. Maryland school-linked dental sealant programs must be able to track and effectively link school programs to eventual sealant placement off-site.

Mobile programs refer to mobile self-contained motorized vans or non-motorized mobile trailers that can be placed in close proximity to a school.

III. Goals

The purpose of this grant is to help providers build and sustain capacity to provide oral disease prevention services, treatment services, and oral health education to communities and populations with an established need. The goal is to reduce oral disease and improve oral health for underserved children through efficient and effective interventions.

IV. Evaluation of Project

- A. The project will be evaluated for efficiency and effectiveness in meeting its intended goals and objectives. Objectives for this project include:
 1. Reduce the proportion of children and adolescents with dental caries experience in their primary or permanent teeth;
 2. Reduce the proportion of children and adolescents with untreated dental decay;
 3. Increase the proportion of children, adolescents who used the oral health care system in the past year;

4. Increase the proportion of low-income children and adolescents who received any preventive dental service during the past year;
5. Increase the proportion of children and adolescents who have received dental sealants on their molar teeth;

V. Funds

Funds should be used to cover the direct costs of the implementation and evaluation of an oral health intervention. This includes personnel costs only for the provision and application.

For this project, there is \$25,798 available.

VI. Application - Required Components

Application proposals should contain the following information:

- A. A detailed description of the program, including needs the program addresses, potential impact on the community, as well as services, interventions, and strategies/approaches for implementations;
- B. A detailed budget;
- C. A description of the organizational capacity to successfully implement proposed activities;
- D. identification of an appropriate target population based on the program description;
- E. A description of any potential challenges and how those challenges will be addressed, including alternative plans for how program activities will change and how funding will be utilized in the event that COVID-related closures impact planned activities;
- F. A brief description of an ODIP and/or Sealant success story, if previously funded;

VII. Timeline

RFP release date:	April 25, 2022
Pre-proposal virtual meeting date:	April 29, 2022
Proposal deadline:	May 9, 2022
Tentative award date:	July 1, 2022

COVER SHEET

(Please complete this page and submit with proposal)

Name of Organization	
Name of Project Director	
Mailing Address	
Physical Address (if different from above)	
Phone	
Email	
Federal Tax ID Number	
Title of Proposed Project	
Amount Requested	
How did your organization become aware of this RFP?	

Certification

I certify that all the information provided in this application is correct and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Name and Title	
Signature	
Date	