



## School Dental Screenings

The beginning of a new school year is right around the corner. What a great time to make sure your family's dental health is the best it can be! Visiting the dentist is an important part of preparing for school. Regular check-ups can avoid painful toothaches and reduce the amount of time children miss from school.

### Iowa's School Dental Screening Requirement

The state of Iowa recognizes the importance of regular dental care in children's health, and has mandated that dental screenings be required for school enrollment. The dental screenings will help to detect dental problems and will teach children the importance of oral health. Detecting dental problems early can reduce costs for parents and will improve the child's health.



Parents of children entering kindergarten, 9th grade, and transfer students must show that their children have received a dental screening. A special form will be filled out by your provider and must be turned into the school.

Dental screening forms can be picked up at your child's school or by downloading from the [Scott County Health Department I-Smile™ Dental Screening Web page](#).

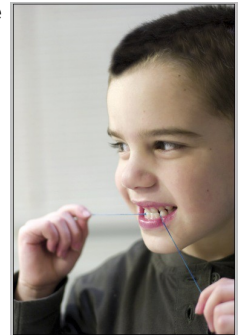
Dental screenings can be provided by a variety of health care workers. For students entering kindergarten, a dental screening performed by a dentist, dental hygienist, physician, physician assistant, or nurse is acceptable. For those students entering ninth grade, a dental screening by a dentist or dental hygienist is required.

### A Dental Home is Best!

Required dental screenings are a great step to improve dental health for school aged children. However, regular dental care, from a dental home, is best for assuring healthy teeth and gums for the long term. Dental care must start early as baby teeth begin to appear around age six months and are important for holding space in the jaws for the growing adult teeth. As a rule of thumb, children should start seeing a dentist by their first birthday. Regular check-ups by a dentist provides complete care that can include prevention, education, treatment, and emergency services. The dentist checks for any problem and helps parents learn how to care for teeth and correct unhealthy habits. Having a dentist that your child

regularly sees for these services means your child has a dental home! Everyone in your family should have a dental home—even you!

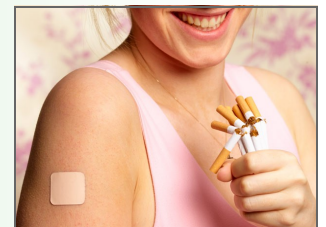
Need help finding a dental home? The Scott County I-Smile™ Coordinator is available to assist families living in Scott County who need help finding a dental home. The I-Smile™ Coordinator maintains a list of providers who accept Medicaid and *hawk-i* insurance and those accepting new patients. Call the Scott County I-Smile™ Coordinator at 563.326.8645 or visit [www.scottcountyiowa.com/health](http://www.scottcountyiowa.com/health).



## Quitline Iowa: Free Nicotine Replacement Products Still Available

The kids are going back to school and, as a parent or caregiver, you want to make sure they are happy, healthy, learning, and growing! One of the best ways to help your child succeed is to give them the healthiest and safest home that you can. Research shows that the home is where children spend the most time surrounded by secondhand smoke. So if you smoke, consider quitting.

- The Iowa Department of Public Health is offering four weeks of free nicotine patches or gum to Iowa smokers who choose to make a quit attempt using Quitline Iowa. This offer is only available while supplies last! Visit [www.quitlineiowa.org](http://www.quitlineiowa.org) or call 1-800-Quit-Now.
- Not ready to quit? Protect others around you by not smoking in your home, car, and public places. For tips on how to take the next step to being smoke-free at home, as well as information on quitting smoking, are available from the Tobacco-Free QC Coalition at [www.tobaccofreeqc.com](http://www.tobaccofreeqc.com).





## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- *Scott County Health Department will be closed Monday, September 2, 2013 in observance of Labor Day.*
- *Scott County Board of Health Meeting, Scott County Administrative Center, 1st Floor Boardroom, 12:00PM Thursday, September 19, 2013.*

### OUR MISSION:

The Scott County Health Department is committed to promoting, protecting and preserving the health of the community by providing leadership and direction as advocates for the individual, the family, the community and the environment we serve.

### OUR VISION:

As recognized and respected leaders in serving and protecting our citizens, we at the Scott County Health Department are committed to a safer, healthier community and environment. In so doing, we provide a multitude of services with Professionalism, Responsiveness, Involvement, Dedication, and Excellence.

## SCOTT COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Scott County Administrative Center, 4th Floor

600 West 4th Street

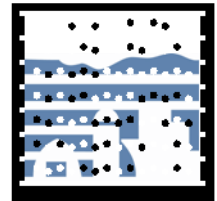
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**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.