

Specialty Dental Clinic Grant Program

Authorizing Statute

(Chapter 45, Budget Act of 2022, Section 47 (AB 178))

0977-101-0001—For local assistance, California
Health Facilities Financing Authority 65,000,000⁽¹⁾

Schedule:

0885-Health Facilities Grants
(1) and Loans 65,000,000⁽¹⁾

Provisions:

2. (a) Of the amount appropriated in this item, \$25,000,000 is available for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, 2028, for the California Health Facilities Financing Authority to implement the Specialty Dental Clinic Grant Program to support the construction, expansion, modification, or adaptation of specialty dental clinics in California to increase access to oral health care for the special health care needs populations.
- (b) The Department of Finance may transfer up to \$1,250,000 to Item 0977-001-0001 to administer the grants. Any funds transferred shall be available for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, 2030.
- (c) The California Health Facilities Finance Authority shall determine, in consultation with the California Dental Association and other stakeholders representing patients with special health care needs, disability and consumer advocates, and specialty dental providers, the competitive grant program application process, eligibility criteria, and methodology for distribution of the grants, up to \$5,000,000 per eligible entity, pursuant to this provision.
- (d) The California Health Facilities Financing Authority shall prioritize applications that do the following: support timely access, reduce geographic shortages, increase equity, and support quality of care, giving priority to applications that include plans to reduce the need for dental care using sedation or general anesthesia, including, but not limited to, prevention, early intervention, behavior support services and intervention, provider education, and community outreach activities that bring care to community sites.
- (e) Entities shall meet the criteria established by the California Health Facilities Financing Authority, which, at a minimum, shall include:
 - (1) A commitment to provide services to special needs populations, regardless of payer or health insurance provider, for a minimum of ten years upon final completion of construction, expansion, modification, or adaption of specialty dental clinics. The special needs population shall constitute at least 50 percent

¹ Of the amount appropriated in this item, \$40,000,000 is available for encumbrance or expenditure until June 30, 2025, for the California Health Facilities Financing Authority to implement the Nondesignated Public Hospital Bridge Loan Program II.

of the facility's total patient caseload. To the extent an eligible entity does not maintain the minimum patient caseload above, the entity shall repay the amount of the grant back to the California Health Facilities Financing Authority within five years at an interest rate established by the California Health Facilities Financing Authority.

- (2) The eligible entity shall be enrolled and certified as a provider with the Medi-Cal program and, if applicable, provide copies of valid contracts with local Medi-Cal managed care plans.
- (3) Submission of plans to the California Health Facilities Financing Authority that demonstrate the proposed entity's ability to serve patients with physical, cognitive, or developmental disabilities.
- (4) Proof of appropriate licensure of the facility or providers, including, but not limited to, professional licensure and applicable permits for general anesthesia, medical general anesthesia, conscious sedation, and oral conscious sedation.
- (h) "Special health care needs populations" include children and adults who have disabilities that prevent them from receiving routine or specialty care due to their physical, developmental, or cognitive condition.
- (i) Notwithstanding subdivision (e) of Section 15432 of the Government Code, "eligible entities" may include the following:
 - (1) Facilities licensed under Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 1200) of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code that provide, or intend to provide, dental services.
 - (2) Facilities licensed under Section 1250 of the Health and Safety Code that provide, or intend to provide, dental services.
 - (3) Licensed providers with the Medical or Dental Board of California that provide, or intend to provide, dental services.
 - (4) A dental college located in the state approved by the California Dental Board or the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association.
- (j) Notwithstanding Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, the California Health Facilities Financing Authority may implement, interpret, or make specific this provision, in whole or in part, by means of information notices or other similar instructions, without taking any further regulatory action.
- (k) For purposes of implementing this provision, the California Health Facilities Financing Authority may enter into exclusive or nonexclusive contracts, or amend existing contracts, on a bid or negotiated basis. Contracts entered into or amended pursuant to this provision shall be exempt from Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 14825) of Part 5.5 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, Section 19130 of the Government Code, and Part 2 (commencing with Section 10100) of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code.