

Our values include:

Patient Focus

- Oral health is an essential component of overall health
- Optimal oral health has no age limit
- Children's oral health is a foundation for a healthy lifetime
- Optimal oral health is achievable

Inter-professional Education

- Access to dental care is essential
- The pursuit of health is a right
- The dental profession has an obligation to work toward the improvement of oral health for all
- Professional oral care is an important part of the healthcare delivery system

Public Health

- Oral health education is important in the training of all health care providers and oral health consumer education is imperative
- Prevention is the cornerstone of community health



Contact your local health department for more information regarding programs or services listed in this brochure.

Dr. Julie Watts McKee
State Dental Director
Kentucky Oral Health Program
275 E. Main St., HS2W-B
Frankfort, KY 40621

JulieW.McKee@ky.gov
Phone: 502-564-3246
Fax: 502-564-0655
chfs.ky.gov



Kentucky Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.



Kentucky Oral Health Program

*Optimal Oral Health
for a
Lifetime of Smiles*



The Kentucky Oral Health Program (KOHP)

The KOHP has a long and proud history with the Department for Public Health. When Kentucky established a dental health program in 1928, it was the third state in the nation to have a public dental health program.

KOHP offers a variety of programs and services for the citizens of Kentucky. These programs offer services that include fluoride supplements, fluoride varnishes and hygiene services.

Kentucky's Strategic Plan for Oral Health

In 2017, Kentucky's Strategic Plan for Oral Health was released. Through a series of surveys, summits and meetings, stakeholders discussed many issues that impact the oral health of Kentuckians. The focus was narrowed down to the following subjects:

Workforce, Data Collection and Metrics, Dentistry as a Business, Inter-Professional Dental Medical Collaboration, Prevention, Oral Health Literacy, Policy and Emerging Issues.

Kentucky Public Health Dental Hygiene Program



This school based dental hygiene program is a specialized area of dental care by a registered

dental hygienist that advances the oral health of students and contributes to the well-being, academic success and lifelong achievement of students. There are currently ten local health departments and/or districts participating in this program with an average number of 10,000 children being seen per year.

KIDS SMILE - Fluoride Varnish Program

Fluoride varnishes are primarily used as a decay prevention therapy for pediatric patients at a high-risk for tooth decay. The KOHP provides funding for fluoride varnish programs in local health departments and offers training to local health department nurses in the areas of oral health screening and fluoride varnish applications. Individuals who benefit most from this program include children, ages 0—5 years, with a family history of decay, low levels of fluoride in their drinking water or limited access to dental care.

Kentucky Fluoridation Program

In 1951, the state of Kentucky began its first community water fluoridation efforts in Maysville. Community water fluoridation is mandatory (per KRS 211.190; KAR 902 115.010) for community water supplies serving a population of 1,500 people or more. Communities serving less than 1,500 may choose to fluoridate voluntarily. The Kentucky Fluoridation Program regulates the adjustment of fluoride levels in the community's drinking water as mandated. Each water facility is inspected and evaluated for compliance. Our mission is to ensure a safe product to the community as well as keeping our operators safe by following the regulations set by our state.

Other Programs Offered

- **Fluoride Supplement Program** - Supplies fluoride supplements to those whose home water supply is low in fluoride
- **Rural School Fluoridation Program** - Supplies fluoridated water to those rural area schools who are not served by a fluoridated water source
- **Kentucky Sealant Program** - Recognizes the pattern of identifying children at high risk for dental caries in schools with a high percentage of Free/Reduced Lunch programs

