

## Important Notice for Dentist who Treat State of Illinois Patients

As you know, the State of Illinois now has a budget. During the budget impasse, we worked tirelessly with the State of Illinois Department of Central Management Services (CMS) to provide interim relief and support to dentists who treat State of Illinois members.

The State of Illinois recently sold \$6 billion of bonds, \$3.9 billion of which is going to replenish the Health Insurance Reserve Fund. We are pleased to announce that CMS is working to release dental claim funds, and Delta Dental of Illinois will make applicable claim payments to dentists by the end of November. As has been practice, when we receive funding from the State, we release claims payments to dentists starting with the oldest claims first, but more frequently to our Delta Dental network dentists who cannot bill upfront.

The funds received from the State will bring the claim payment delay from 2015-2016 up through mid-2017 by the end of November for both network and non-network dentists. Claims for the other two State of Illinois Group Dental Plans (Local Care Dental Plan (LCDP) and College Choice Dental Plan (CCDP)) were not affected by the budget impasse.

We anticipate that funding from the State will continue and thus, claims payments will continue.

As a reminder, the State has a self-insured/self-funded dental plan, which means the State funds all the claims. When Delta Dental of Illinois receives claims payments from the State, we pass it through to dentists or State of Illinois members, depending on the claim. Delta Dental of Illinois is only able to pay State of Illinois member's claims when the State funds those claims.

The budget impasse and resulting backlog of bills has placed great strain on many, including dentists who have experienced extraordinary delays in payment by treating State of Illinois dental plan members. On behalf of the State of Illinois, Delta Dental of Illinois Board of Directors, management team and all of our associates, we want to express to each of you our deepest appreciation for your support and loyalty during this difficult time. We know the important role you play in ensuring State members and their eligible family members achieve and maintain good oral health.

If you have questions, please contact our Professional Relations department by email at [pr@deltadentalil.com](mailto:pr@deltadentalil.com) or phone at 630-718-4990.