

San Francisco Health Service System Health Service Board

Rates & Benefits

Review Delta Dental of California (Delta Dental) Self-Funded Active Employee PPO Plan 2021 Claims & Utilization Experience and Approve One-Time Suspension of the Stabilization Policy and Approve the Use of One-Half of the Stabilization Reserve Surplus as of December 31, 2021

March 10, 2022

Rate Stabilization Reserve — Recommendation

Today's Recommended Approval Actions

- 1) Suspend the HSB-approved Self-Funded Plans' Stabilization Policy (Stabilization Policy) on a one-time basis for the Delta Dental active employee PPO plan; and
- 2) Approve use of **one-half** of the December 31, 2021 stabilization reserve **Surplus**, or \$5,309,000 (one-half of \$10,618,000), to be applied towards buy-down across all rating tiers for the Delta Dental active employee PPO plan for plan year 2023.

The remaining Surplus carry forward balance for plan year 2024 and beyond is \$5,308,000.

This presentation will explain the derivation of this result and recommendation.

Today's dental presentation and recommendations are for active employees. The 2023 retiree dental plan renewals and experience information will be presented to the Health Service Board (HSB) at the April 14, 2022 meeting.



Rate Stabilization Reserve — Introduction

Stabilization Policy — General Background

The Health Service Board's (HSB's) Self-Funded Plans' Stabilization Policy requires an annual determination of the financial gain or loss for San Francisco Health Service System (SFHSS) self-funded / flex-funded plans. The Stabilization Policy states for each plan, the difference between the expected plan cost and actual claim/fee cost for a plan year is added to the existing stabilization reserve and amortized over a three-year rating period.

Today's Presentation Focus — Delta Dental Active Employee PPO Plan

This presentation focuses on the recommended adjustment to the Delta Dental of California (Delta Dental) self-funded active employee PPO plan rate stabilization reserve to reflect impact of calendar year 2021 claim and fee experience. That experience is contained in this presentation.

All other dental plans offered to SFHSS active employees and retirees are fully insured. Thus, the only dental plan where the Stabilization Policy applies is the active employee dental PPO plan.



Rate Stabilization Reserve — Recommendation Summary

Recommended Buy-Down for 2023 Rating — One-Half of Available Reserve

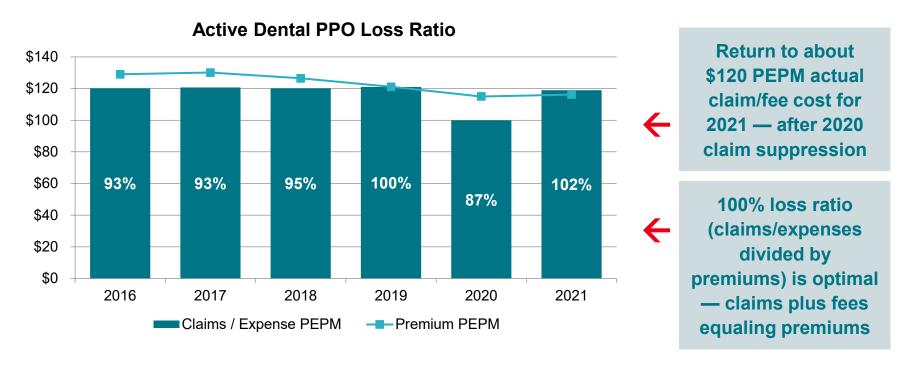
Active employee dental PPO plan claim experience ended the year favorably relative to premiums. As a result, it is recommended to the HSB that a higher level of rate stabilization reserve buy-down be applied to 2023 active employee dental PPO rating than the "per policy" one-third allocation, as a fiscally responsible approach to reduce the rate stabilization reserve balance. This will require the HSB to suspend the Self-Funded Plans' Stabilization Policy for Delta Dental Active Employee PPO plan for this cycle's approval. This is consistent with recent year actions taken on the rate stabilization reserve for this plan given recent favorable experience.

Today's recommendation is to apply a buy-down of 2023 rates in the amount of one-half of the available stabilization reserve, or \$5,309,000. This action would preserve a remaining carryforward balance in rate stabilization reserve of \$5,308,000 for use in 2024 and beyond rating. The recommended \$5,309,000 buy-down figure for 2023 rating compares to the \$12,229,000 buy-down figure (two-thirds of December 31, 2020 stabilization surplus balance) utilized in 2022 plan year rating.



2021 Claim/Fee Experience Summary

Claims in 2021 have returned to more typical levels after a substantially lower 2020 loss ratio for the active employee dental PPO plan (87%) due to COVID-19 pandemic claim suppression influences, especially in Q2-2020. Actual 2021 plan experience on a per employee per month (PEPM) basis was nearly identical to the claim/expense PEPM figures in years prior to 2020. In the chart below, the line represents PEPM premiums, and the bars represent actual PEPM claims/fees.





2021 Claim/Fee Experience Summary

The COVID-19 Pandemic Impacted Dental Plan Utilization Significantly

In typical years, about 1 out of 3 covered lives do not have a dental cleaning. In 2020, given the pandemic, this grew to 43% of covered lives without a dental cleaning. In 2021, this reverted more to typical levels—36% of covered lives in 2021 did not have a dental cleaning.

The relative distribution of services among type of care has remained consistent year-to-year:

Diagnostic & Preventive	Basic	Major			
Cleanings and X-rays	Fillings, Oral Surgery, Root Canals	Crowns, Inlays, Implants, Dentures, Bridges			
75% of services	21% of services	4% of services			

In 2021, 3% of total covered lives utilize orthodontic services—including 6% of children. This is similar to prior years.

Detailed month-by-month 2021 claim and headcount data for the Delta Dental Active Employee PPO Plan is contained in the Appendix.



Plan Design Variation by Type of Dentist Utilized

Three Benefit Levels — Member Costs are Lowest When Using PPO Dentists

Plan Feature	PPO Dentists	Premier Dentists	Out-of-Network						
Choice of Dentist	You may choose any licensed dentist. You will receive a higher level of benefit and lower out-of-pocket costs when using a Delta Dental PPO network dentist.								
Annual Deductible	No deductible								
Annual Plan Year Maximum	\$2,500 per person (excluding orthodontia)								
Benefit Coverage Level Paid by the Plan									
Cleanings and Exams	100% covered	100% covered	80% covered						
X-rays	100% covered	100% covered	80% covered						
Nitrous Oxide/Non-IV Sedation	90% covered	80% covered	60% covered						
Extractions	90% covered	80% covered	60% covered						
Fillings	90% covered	80% covered	60% covered						
Crowns	90% covered	80% covered	60% covered						
Dentures, Pontics, and Bridges	50% covered	50% covered	50% covered						
Endodontic/Root Canals	90% covered	80% covered	60% covered						
Oral Surgery	90% covered	80% covered	60% covered						
Implants	50% covered	50% covered	50% covered						
Orthodontia	50% covered to \$2,500 Lifetime Maximum	50% covered to \$2,000 Lifetime Maximum	50% covered to \$1,500 Lifetime Maximum						
Night Guards	80% covered (1x3year) 80% covered (1x3year) 80% covered (1								

NOTE: this exhibit contains plan summary information only. For a more detailed description of benefits and exclusions for each plan, please review the plan's Evidence of Coverage (EOC), available on sfhss.org



Plan Design Variation by Type of Dentist Utilized

Delta Dental Dentist Network Utilization — Three Benefit Levels

- Delta Dental has two levels of network dentists, based on level of plan discounts dentists are willing to accept
- Deepest discounts are for dentists in Delta Dental's PPO network
- Lesser discounts are for dentists in Delta Dental's Premier (2nd level) network
- No discounts are available for dentists choosing not to participate in either Delta Dental's PPO network or Delta Dental's Premier network
- Members receive the highest level of benefits by utilizing a Delta Dental PPO dentist, as exhibited on the previous page
- Though a higher level of member cost sharing for services is required for use of a Premier network dentist versus a PPO network dentist, benefits are higher for Premier dentist use than for use of a dentist not in any Delta Dental network
- Another key member benefit for using a Delta Dental network dentist (PPO network or Premier network) is no balance billing if service costs are high
- Balance billing can happen with use of an out-of-network dentist



Plan Design Variation by Type of Dentist Utilized

Delta Dental Dentist Network Utilization — Three Benefit Levels

- Members are encouraged to consider seeking Delta Dental PPO dentists for services
- Member coinsurance requirements will be less for many services when using a PPO dentist
- Overall service costs are generally less for PPO dentists given higher discounts for PPO network dentists versus Premier network dentists

SFHSS members can search for PPO network dentists (and Premier network dentists) at this weblink:

https://www1.deltadentalins.com/group-sites/ccsf/find-a-dentist.html

Weblink for SFHSS member Delta Dental group site:

https://www1.deltadentalins.com/group-sites/ccsf.html



Impact of Historical Experience on Rate Stabilization Reserve

Rate Stabilization Reserve Sur	olus/(Deficit) as of December 31
December 31, 2013	Not Yet Applicable
December 31, 2014	\$3,861,000
December 31, 2015	\$7,125,000
December 31, 2016	\$9,583,000
December 31, 2017	\$12,681,000
December 31, 2018	\$14,031,000
December 31, 2019	\$11,325,000
December 31, 2020	\$18,343,000
December 31, 2021	\$10,617,000
Surplus/(Deficit) Amo	ount Applied to Rating
2016 Plan Year	\$1,287,000
2017 Plan Year	\$2,375,000
2018 Plan Year	\$3,194,000
2019 Plan Year	\$4,227,000
2020 Plan Year	\$7,016,000
2021 Plan Year	\$5,663,000
2022 Plan Year	\$12,229,000
Percentage Buy-Do	wn Applied in Rating
2016 Plan Year	2.8%
2017 Plan Year	5.0%
2018 Plan Year	6.5%
2019 Plan Year	8.4%
2020 Plan Year	13.8%
2021 Plan Year	11.3%
2022 Plan Year	24.5%

Delta Dental Rate Stabilization reserve started in 2014 — significant surpluses have built up since, given the favorable plan experience documented earlier. This led to actuarial assumption changes in plan rating starting for the 2019 plan year.

HSB amortization decisions by rating year:

- 2016 2019: One-third of new stabilization reserve per HSB Stabilization Policy
- 2020 2021: One-half of new stabilization reserve
- 2022: Two-thirds of new stabilization reserve



Rate Stabilization Reserve—Reconciliation Calculation*

During every Rates and Benefits cycle, the claims experience for the prior calendar year is evaluated. Based on 2021 claims experience, \$4,503,000 should be added to the prior Delta Dental active employee PPO carry-forward rate stabilization reserve balance.

Calendar Year 2021 Plan Reconciliation (Actual versus Expected)	Expected	Actual
1 Total Projected Incurred Claims	\$48,243,000	\$43,542,393
2 Administration Expense — Delta Dental Fees	\$1,772,000	\$1,719,938
3 Total Cost (1+2)	\$50,015,000	\$45,262,331
4 Total Contributions	\$44,352,000	\$43,307,315
5 Revenue Shortfall/(Surplus) (3-4)	\$5,663,000	\$1,955,016
6 Increase/(Decrease) in Contingency Reserve		(\$795,175)
7 Total Shortfall/(Surplus) (Actual column: 5+6)		\$1,159,841
8 Adjustment to Stabilization Carry-Forward (Actual 7 – Expected 5): Aon Recommended Surplus to Add to December 31, 2020 Carry- Forward Stabilization Reserve to Calculate December 31, 2021 Amount (rounded to \$000)		\$(4,503,000)

^{*} See Appendix for descriptions of items listed above; expected column figures based on Aon rating calculations for 2021 plan year in Spring 2020; actual column figures provided by SFHSS Finance team.



Rate Stabilization Reserve — Calculation Detail

Rate Stabilization Reserve Calculation —Delta Dental Active Employee PPO Plan

Stabilization surplus balance as of December 31, 2020	(\$18,343,000)
Offset surplus amount applied in 2022 rate buy-down (2/3 per HSB action)	(\$12,229,000)
Prior carry-forward stabilization surplus balance	(\$6,114,000)
Recommended increase to the surplus based on 2021 experience	(\$4,503,000)
Stabilization surplus balance as of December 31, 2021	(\$10,617,000)
Calculated amount per recommendation to apply to 2023 rate buy-down	
(recommend 1/2 of stabilization surplus balance)	(\$5,309,000)
Updated carry-forward stabilization surplus for use after 2023	(\$5,308,000)



Rate Stabilization Reserve — Recommendation

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Appendix

- Reconciliation Calculation Notes
- 2021 Claim Experience



Reconciliation Calculation Notes (for page 13)

- 1. Estimated Incurred Claims including claim payments during January December 2021.
- 2. Administration Expense Calculated Delta Dental fees for administering January December 2021 claims using \$4.62 per employee per month (PEPM).
- 4. Total Contributions Annual premium revenue collected.
- 5. Revenue Shortfall/(Surplus) Difference in cost versus premium revenue collected.
- 6. Contingency Reserve Explicit reserve held to cover excess losses (amount presented in January 2022 HSB meeting).
- 8. Actual shortfall/(surplus) minus expected shortfall/(surplus) Amount added too existing stabilization reserve per HSB Stabilization Policy and amortized over three years.



2021 Claim Experience

Actual claim experience in 2021 returned to expected levels after significant impact of COVID-19 pandemic related dental claim suppression in 2020.

Month	EE Only	EE + 1	EE + 2	Total EEs	Total Depend.	Average Contract Size	EE Only Rate	EE+1 Rate	EE+2 Rate	Monthly Premiums	Admin. Fees	Actual Paid Claims	Paid Loss Ratio	Projected Incurred Claims	Incurred Loss Ratio
Jan-21	11,768	8,182	11,505	31,455	41,144	2.31	\$57.63	\$121.02	\$172.89	\$3,657,475	\$145,322	\$3,504,943	100%	\$3,715,868	106%
Feb-21	11,732	8,161	11,478	31,371	41,058	2.31	\$57.63	\$121.02	\$172.89	\$3,648,191	\$144,934	\$3,630,794	103%	\$3,482,561	99%
Mar-21	11,751	8,131	11,477	31,359	41,011	2.31	\$57.63	\$121.02	\$172.89	\$3,645,482	\$144,879	\$3,692,457	105%	\$4,047,118	115%
Apr-21	11,741	8,127	11,457	31,325	40,940	2.31	\$57.63	\$121.02	\$172.89	\$3,640,964	\$144,722	\$4,166,064	118%	\$3,468,004	99%
May-21	11,753	8,088	11,436	31,277	40,834	2.31	\$57.63	\$121.02	\$172.89	\$3,633,305	\$144,500	\$3,222,068	93%	\$3,243,958	93%
Jun-21	11,737	8,051	11,408	31,196	40,719	2.31	\$57.63	\$121.02	\$172.89	\$3,623,064	\$144,126	\$3,258,562	94%	\$3,897,798	112%
Jul-21	11,636	7,891	11,341	30,868	40,382	2.31	\$57.63	\$121.02	\$172.89	\$3,586,297	\$142,610	\$4,095,804	118%	\$3,427,843	100%
Aug-21	11,627	7,902	11,341	30,870	40,406	2.31	\$57.63	\$121.02	\$172.89	\$3,587,110	\$142,619	\$3,163,847	92%	\$3,425,877	99%
Sep-21	11,572	7,884	11,333	30,789	40,341	2.31	\$57.63	\$121.02	\$172.89	\$3,580,378	\$142,245	\$3,715,550	108%	\$3,129,480	91%
Oct-21	11,553	7,873	11,335	30,761	40,325	2.31	\$57.63	\$121.02	\$172.89	\$3,578,298	\$142,116	\$3,051,543	89%	\$3,256,390	95%
Nov-21	11,549	7,833	11,307	30,689	40,195	2.31	\$57.63	\$121.02	\$172.89	\$3,568,386	\$141,783	\$2,951,992	87%	\$3,138,437	92%
Dec-21	11,529	7,797	11,263	30,589	40,020	2.31	\$57.63	\$121.02	\$172.89	\$3,555,269	\$141,321	\$3,756,751	110%	\$4,374,123	127%
	Total/A	verages		31,046	40,615	2.31				\$43,304,220	\$1,721,176	\$42,210,375	101%	\$42,607,456	102%
	Surplus	(Deficit)										(\$627,332)		(\$1,024,413)	

NOTE: "Loss Ratio" = (claims + fees) divided by premiums

Data Source: Delta Dental of California year-end reporting for headcount, paid claims, and fees

