



# Iowa Department of Human Services

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## INFORMATIONAL LETTER NO.1667

**DATE:** May 3, 2016

**TO:** Iowa Medicaid Dental Providers and Managed Care Organizations

**FROM:** Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS), Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME)

**RE:** Dental Wellness Plan

**EFFECTIVE:** Immediately

Dental coverage for the Iowa Health and Wellness Plan began on May 1, 2014. A comprehensive dental benefit was established called the Dental Wellness Plan (DWP). The plan utilizes a new commercial framework designed to improve oral health by incentivizing preventive services and compliance with treatment plans while providing cost effective comprehensive coverage.

The IME operates the DWP through an “Any Willing Provider” contract. Delta Dental of Iowa (DDIA) has been the sole Dental Benefit Administrator (DBA) since the program was established and will continue to be a benefit administrator of the DWP.

On August 28, 2015, a letter was sent to Managed Care of North America (MCNA) acknowledging their interest and intent in becoming the second DBA for the IME. MCNA was provided with the federal requirements necessary to participate in the DWP. Dental offices across the state have been contacted by MCNA as they begin to establish their own DWP network.

The IME wishes to clarify additional requirements for participation in the DWP. In accordance with 42 C.F.R. § 438 any dental benefit administrator wanting to participate in DWP, must first meet the following federal requirements in addition to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and DHS approval, prior to participation in the DWP contract. The federal requirements are as follows:

- The DBM must demonstrate an adequate provider network,
- Accept the terms and conditions of the DWP contract, and
- Complete a readiness review process that assures operational capacity.

If you have any questions please contact the IME Provider Services Unit at 1-800-338-7909, or email at [IMEproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us](mailto:IMEproviderservices@dhs.state.ia.us).

Thank you for your continued participation in the DWP network.