

Effective January 1, 2018, Alberta Blue Cross will be referencing the Alberta Dental Association and College fee guide as the basis of payment for your dental claims.



### What is a dental fee guide?

The Alberta Dental Association and College (ADA&C) developed a provincial fee guide to begin to create a standard rate for dental services throughout Alberta. It does this by outlining suggested fees for individual dental procedures.

It is important to note that dentists are not required to follow these fees and that, because there is no standard of billing of dental services in Alberta, dental offices across Alberta charge varying amounts for dental services.

### What is changing?

The basis of payment for your plan, the Alberta Blue Cross Usual and Customary (U&C) dental fees, will now align with the ADA&C fee guide. Even though your plan references the ADA&C guide, you may still face out-of-pocket costs—as dentists are not required to follow the new guide. Should your dental provider charge more than the ADA&C allows, you will be responsible for the difference.

### Getting the most out of your dental benefits

Because different dentists can charge very different rates for dental services, it's important to be as informed as possible before getting dental work done. Here are some things you can do to be the best dental consumer possible:

- Visit [www.dentalhealthalberta.ca](http://www.dentalhealthalberta.ca) and search for "fee guide." This will allow you to view the ADA&C and see the suggested fees for any dental procedure.
- Ask your dentist if they charge according to the "Alberta Dental Association and College fee guide." This will give you an idea of whether or not your dentist is charging the fees recommended in the ADA&C guide.
- Most dentists are able to electronically submit a predetermination to Alberta Blue Cross prior to your appointment. This allows your dental provider to check how much your plan pays for dental procedures and how much, if anything, you would have to pay out-of-pocket.

Learn more about your benefits by visiting the mobile-friendly Alberta Blue Cross member services site at [ab.bluecross.ca](http://ab.bluecross.ca) and clicking "Sign in."



**For your reference, the back of this page contains the 2018 ADA&C fees for 30 common dental procedures.**

# The 2018 ADA&C fee guide common procedures

Please consult your plan contract or benefit booklet for full information about any co-payment levels required by your plan.

## We're here to help!

If you have any questions about your dental benefits, please call Alberta Blue Cross Customer Services at



780-498-8000 (Edmonton and area)  
403-234-9666 (Calgary and area)  
or 1-800-661-6995 (toll free).

### Examples of Alberta Dental Fee Guide for some typical services

#### Adult checkup (recall/cleaning) **\$332.42**

Recall exam, two images (bitewing), two time units scaling, one time unit polishing, fluoride.

#### Restoration ("filling") **\$289.87**

Four surface amalgam (silver) filling—permanent molar, two pins for filling.

#### Three-unit bridge **\$2,243.90\***

Retainer (crown) for fixed bridge, pontic for fixed bridge (to replace missing tooth), retainer (crown) for fixed bridge.

#### Crown **\$825.44\***

Porcelain fused to metal crown.

\* plus lab fees

Service description	Maximum amount
Complete examination (new patient—all permanent teeth)	<b>\$101.48</b>
Recall examination (checkup)	<b>\$64.19</b>
One image (periapical)	<b>\$27.60</b>
Three images (periapical)	<b>\$67.40</b>
Two images (bitewing)	<b>\$45.08</b>
Four images (bitewing)	<b>\$78.37</b>
Panoramic image (whole mouth)	<b>\$88.32</b>
Polishing (up to 15 minutes)	<b>\$59.84</b>
Scaling (removal of tartar, up to 15 minutes)	<b>\$67.16</b>
Fluoride	<b>\$28.99</b>
Pit and fissure sealant (first tooth)	<b>\$32.63</b>
Pit and fissure sealant (each additional tooth, same area)	<b>\$16.32</b>
Two surface amalgam (silver) filling—primary tooth	<b>\$128.80</b>
Three surface amalgam (silver) filling—permanent anterior tooth/bicuspid	<b>\$188.29</b>
Two surface amalgam (silver) filling—permanent molar	<b>\$140.76</b>
Four surface amalgam (silver) filling—permanent molar	<b>\$242.48</b>
Two pins for filling	<b>\$47.39</b>
Three surface composite (white) filling—permanent anterior tooth	<b>\$187.57</b>
Two surface composite (white) filling—permanent bicuspid	<b>\$199.38</b>
One surface composite (white) filling—permanent molar	<b>\$149.60</b>
Porcelain fused to metal crown	<b>\$825.44*</b>
Lab processed veneer	<b>\$825.44*</b>
Root canal therapy (three roots)	<b>\$1,127.65</b>
Root planing (removal of tartar, etc. from roots; up to 30 minutes)	<b>\$145.36</b>
Complete upper denture	<b>\$810.00*</b>
Pontic for fixed bridge (to replace missing tooth)	<b>\$438.90*</b>
Retainer (crown) for fixed bridge	<b>\$902.50*</b>
Uncomplicated tooth removal (first tooth)	<b>\$134.33</b>
Uncomplicated tooth removal (each additional tooth in same area)	<b>\$134.33</b>
Tooth removal—complete bone coverage	<b>\$479.00</b>

\* plus lab fees

