NEW YORK STATE
ORAL HEALTH
COALITION

Policy Agenda
2026-2027

Support the re-establishment of the Bureau of Dental Health within New York State Department of Health.

Support the authorization of dental therapy in New York to improve access to prevention and treatment services.

Support the Dental Care for Veterans Act (H.R. 210) that would require the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to provide dental care in the same manner as other medical services, helping to integrate oral health into whole-person health care for veterans and addresses a significant coverage gap.

Coordinate a Veterans Oral Health Roundtable in 2027 with key stakeholders to develop actionable recommendations aligned with national, state, and regional efforts.

Support inclusion of veteran oral health in New York State Department of Health Community Health Planning.

- Community Health Needs Assessments (CHNAs)
- Community Health Improvement Plans (CHIPs)
- Local health planning efforts

Support training on treating individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) a required continuing education component for dentists and dental hygienists' re-licensure in New York State.

Support reform and expansion of the RE95 reimbursement program.

- Simplify administrative requirements and billing processes associated with the RE95 designation.
- Increase provider awareness of the 20% Medicaid reimbursement increase available for treating eligible IDD patients.

Support creation of a statewide provider directory and referral network for IDD patients.

Support legislation that allows parents and guardians to administer fluoride varnish when under the supervision of a provider.

Support expanding Medicaid reimbursement for fluoride varnish to include pregnant women and children older than six in medical offices.