



What is the Fulfilling Iowa's Need for Dentists (FIND) project?

The FIND Project is committed to connecting dentists and underserved communities with the resources needed to combat Iowa's dental workforce shortage and ensure dental care is close to home for every Iowan.

FIND collaborates with communities and dentists on the recruitment and establishment of private practice dental offices located in underserved areas in Iowa.

Dental Loan Repayment

Through Delta Dental of Iowa, dentists can receive education loan repayment over a five-year commitment period to help address the oral health care needs of underserved Iowans.

Dentists who receive loan repayment in this program must practice in dental shortage areas and allocate at least 35 percent of patient visits to vulnerable populations, with a minimum of 15 percent of those visits to Medicaid-enrolled patients.

Practice Opportunities / Dental Workforce

The Iowa Practice Transitions Office (IPTO) at The University of Iowa College of Dentistry and Dental Clinics helps new dental graduates connect with active and potential practice opportunities in Iowa. The IPTO also provides demographics of dentists practicing in the state.

Through the American Dental Association Practice Transitions (ADAPT) Program, the Iowa Dental Association also assists the dental workforce to make the process of entering or leaving a dental practice more successful. This includes matching a dentist who is looking for a new practice with one who is trying to add an associate or partner or sell a practice.

Community Resources

Dentists can take advantage of community outreach efforts with Iowa Area Development Group (IADG) and their sponsoring utilities that have connections with local leaders to start things off right. Confidential, professional, and effective discussions can bring projects together and include assistance with local funding for FIND program match. Additionally, IADG and their partners have access to low interest loans for establishing dental practices.

The Iowa Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) I-Smile™ Program is a statewide initiative to connect Iowans with dental, medical, and community resources. Local I-Smile™ Coordinators work with dentists to help establish dental homes for underserved children and their families, and partner with community leaders in dental recruitment efforts. HHS also coordinates I-Smile™ Silver, a pilot project to improve dental care for adults.

Partner Contact Information

Dental Education Loan Repayment Program

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Practice Opportunities and Dental Demographics in Iowa

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Community Resources

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Dental Health Professional Shortage Data / I-Smile™ & I-Smile™ Silver Programs

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