

Alberta Average Dental Fee Report – 2016

This report provides an average fee and a fee range for the most common dental procedures performed in Alberta. These procedures make up more than 90 per cent of all dental claims.

The information in this report reflects:

- the actual charges billed by general dental practitioners in the province of Alberta;
- the amount submitted prior to any dental insurance coverage; and
- dental costs only. It does not include any lab fees that may be part of a treatment plan.

It is important to ask your dental service provider to electronically submit a predetermination (cost estimate) to your dental insurer prior to your appointment. Your dental service provider can quickly check how much your dental insurance coverage will pay for dental procedures and how much, if anything, you will have to pay.

Your plan may not cover the full cost of the procedure or your dental provider may charge more than the maximum fee allowed by your plan.

This report is intended for use as a reference by Albertans.

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Diagnosics

The diagnosis of illness or other problem(s)

A regular, periodic dental recall examination, frequently referred to as a dental "checkup," involves reviewing an individual's medical history, and an evaluation of structures of the head and neck, both inside and outside of the mouth.

Procedure Description	Below Average	Average	Above Average
Examination and Diagnosis, Complete, Primary Dentition	\$56.12	\$77.36	\$98.59
Examination and Diagnosis, Complete, Mixed Dentition	\$82.65	\$105.43	\$128.21
Examination and Diagnosis, Complete, Permanent Dentition	\$95.00	\$110.30	\$130.00
Examination and diagnosis, Limited oral, Previous Patient (recall). Examination of hard and soft tissues, including checking of occlusion and appliances, but not including specific tests	\$63.00	\$72.94	\$84.55
Examination and Diagnosis, Specific Examination and evaluation of a specific situation in a localized area	\$62.65	\$73.00	\$85.00
Examination and Diagnosis, Emergency. Examination and Diagnosis for the investigation of discomfort and/or infection in a localized area	\$64.00	\$73.00	\$86.40
Examination and Diagnosis, Periodontal	\$102.48	\$224.00	\$265.00

Radiographs

Imaging technique used to view internal structure (X-rays)

X-rays, if necessary, are taken at the recall appointment to evaluate the health around your teeth and to see if there are any hidden cavities. Typically, these are called bitewing x-rays.

Procedure Description	Below Average	Average	Above Average
Periapical 1 Image	\$26.00	\$30.00	\$35.11
Periapical 2 Images	\$52.00	\$60.00	\$70.22
Intraoral, Bitewing 2 Images	\$41.00	\$49.00	\$58.00
Intraoral, Bitewing 4 Images	\$65.01	\$85.19	\$105.37
Panoramic 1 Image	\$85.00	\$96.00	\$110.00

Preventative

Measures taken to prevent decay or disease as opposed to treatment

The time for each individual's cleaning varies, based on each person's habits and tendency to build up calculus. A cleaning for an adult with good dental habits and diet may involve 30 minutes of scaling (2 units) and 15 minutes (1 unit) of polishing.

Procedure Description	Below Average	Average	Above Average
Polishing 1 unit	\$59.00	\$68.00	\$76.30
Polishing ½ unit	\$29.50	\$34.00	\$38.15
Scaling 1 unit	\$65.00	\$73.00	\$80.00
Scaling 2 units	\$130.00	\$146.00	\$160.00
Scaling 3 units	\$195.00	\$219.00	\$240.00
Scaling 4 units	\$260.00	\$292.00	\$320.00
Scaling ½ unit	\$32.50	\$36.50	\$40.00
Topical Fluoride	\$23.11	\$32.94	\$42.77
Sealant, Pit and Fissure	\$23.81	\$37.08	\$50.36

Restorative

Treatment to restore health

Fillings restore tooth structure, generally as a result of cavities. Many different filling materials are available including amalgam and composite resin. Amalgam is a silver colored alloy used in dental restorations. Composite resin is a tooth colored filling material (white filling). Teeth have 5 sides and the complexity of restoring the tooth increases as the number of surfaces involved increases. The location in the mouth and the type of material used also affects the difficulty of the filling.

A crown, also called a cap, is the covering of a tooth with metal, porcelain, or porcelain fused to metal. It covers teeth that are weakened by decay or severely damaged or chipped. The crown restores the tooth and protects it from further damage.

Procedure Description	Below Average	Average	Above Average
Restorations, Amalgam, Non-Bonded, Primary Teeth	\$110.00	\$140.00	\$175.00
Restoration, Amalgam, Non-Bonded, Permanent Molar, Two surfaces	\$120.53	\$153.00	\$203.20
Restorations, Prefabricated, Metal, Primary Teeth, Primary Posterior	\$160.39	\$236.62	\$312.85
Restorations, Permanent Anteriors, Bonded, One surface	\$104.31	\$143.69	\$183.08
Restorations, Permanent Anteriors, Bonded, Two surfaces	\$147.00	\$172.00	\$220.00
Restorations, Permanent Anteriors, Bonded, Three surfaces	\$173.94	\$198.35	\$249.76
Restorations, Tooth Colored, Permanent Posteriors, Bonded Permanent Bicuspids, One surface	\$114.84	\$150.65	\$186.46
Restorations, Tooth Colored, Permanent Posteriors, Bonded Permanent Bicuspids, Two surfaces	\$166.42	\$209.87	\$253.31
Restorations, Tooth Colored, Permanent Posteriors, Bonded Permanent Bicuspids, Three surfaces	\$187.13	\$245.79	\$304.45
Restorations, Tooth Colored, Permanent Posteriors, Bonded, Permanent Molars, One	\$115.58	\$157.47	\$199.37

Procedure Description	Below Average	Average	Above Average
Restorations, Tooth Colored, Permanent Posteriors, Bonded, Permanent Molars, Two surfaces	\$190.00	\$222.00	\$261.00
Restorations, Tooth Colored, Permanent Posteriors, Bonded, Permanent Molars, Three surfaces	\$202.39	\$262.83	\$323.27
Restorations, Tooth Colored, Primary Posterior, Bonded, Two surfaces	\$165.35	\$198.00	\$233.77
Crown, Porcelain/Ceramic/Polymer Glass, Fused to Metal Base	\$800.00	\$938.00	\$1,150.00

Endodontics

Procedures involving the treatment of the dental pulp

A root canal is the treatment of a tooth with damaged pulp. A root canal involves completely removing the pulp, sterilizing the pulp chamber and root canals, and filling these spaces with sealing material. Teeth may have 1 to 4 or more root canals inside them. Many front teeth have 1 root canal and many molar teeth have 3 root canals.

Procedure Description	Below Average	Average	Above Average
Pulpotomy, Primary Teeth, Concurrent With Restorations (But Excluding Final Restoration)	\$68.70	\$83.00	\$157.00
Root Canal, Permanent Teeth/Retained Primary Teeth, One Canal	\$610.45	\$697.00	\$843.55
Root Canal, Permanent Teeth/Retained Primary Teeth, Two Canals	\$860.00	\$1,015.00	\$1,155.42
Root Canals, Permanent Teeth/Retained Primary Teeth, Three Canals	\$1,033.71	\$1,187.00	\$1,396.20

Periodontics

Prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of periodontal disease and/or oral inflammation.

Root planing removes the bacteria-impregnated layer of cementum from the surface of the tooth root to prevent or treat periodontitis. Cementum is a thin layer of hard connective tissue that covers the root of the tooth.

Procedure Description	Below Average	Average	Above Average
Periodontal, Root Planing, One unit	\$68.00	\$79.00	\$93.00
Periodontal, Root Planing, Two units	\$136.00	\$158.00	\$186.00
Periodontal, Root Planing, Three units	\$143.70	\$239.62	\$336.18
Periodontal, Root Planing, Four units	\$278.14	\$346.66	\$415.17
Periodontal, Root Planing, Five units	\$400.37	\$459.44	\$518.52

Prosthodontics

Design, manufacture, and fitting of artificial replacements for teeth and other parts of the mouth

Removable - A denture replaces teeth on either the upper or lower jaw.

Fixed - A bridge is a dental restoration that replaces one or more missing teeth.

Procedure Description	Below Average	Average	Above Average
Denture Complete, Standard, Maxillary	\$726.00	\$900.00	\$1,650.00
Denture Complete, Standard, Mandibular	\$726.00	\$900.00	\$1,650.00
Dentures, Partial, Free-end, Cast Frame/Connector, Clasps and Rests, Mandibular	\$729.90	\$899.00	\$1,465.00
Denture, Repair, Complete Denture, Impression Required, Maxillary	\$116.10	\$153.33	\$229.00
Denture Adjustments, Partial or Complete Denture, Minor, One Unit	\$53.71	\$75.87	\$98.03
Denture, Reline, Direct Complete Denture, Maxillary	\$168.30	\$229.00	\$302.10
Pontics, Porcelain/Ceramic/ Polymer Glass, Fused to Metal	\$361.65	\$462.00	\$748.00
Retainers, Porcelain/Ceramic/Polymer Glass, Fused to Metal Base	\$802.91	\$950.00	\$1,164.00

Oral Maxillofacial Surgery

Specialized treatment in many diseases, injuries and defects in the head, neck, face, jaw and the hard and soft tissues of the Oral (mouth) and Maxillofacial (jaw and face) region

Tooth extraction is the removal of a tooth from its socket in the bone.

Procedure Description	Below Average	Average	Above Average
Removals, Erupted Teeth, Uncomplicated, Single tooth	\$112.03	\$141.40	\$186.00
Removals, Erupted Teeth, Complicated, Odontectomy, (extraction), Erupted Tooth, Surgical Approach, Requiring Surgical Flap and/or Sectioning of Tooth	\$204.96	\$255.00	\$315.80
Surgical Installation of Implant with Cover Screw per Implant	\$1,600.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,600.00

Orthodontics

Treatment of improper bites and crooked teeth

Usually resolved using braces and/or clear aligners to move the patient's teeth.

Procedure Description	Below Average	Average	Above Average
Orthodontic Observation - for Tooth Guidance (i.e., tooth position, eruption sequence, serial extraction supervision, etc.) per appointment	\$56.45	\$84.00	\$137.14
Appliances, Removable, Cross-Bite Correction, Maxillary, Simple	\$217.54	\$345.00	\$500.00

Adjunctive General Services

Procedures within this category include anesthesia

Procedure Description	Below Average	Average	Above Average
General Anesthesia, Four Units Of Time	\$205.93	\$375.88	\$545.83
General Anesthesia, Provision Of Dental And Anesthetic Facilities, Equipment And Supplies, Six Units Of Time	\$159.80	\$383.66	\$607.52
Anesthesia, Conscious Sedation , Nitrous Oxide, Two Units Of Time	\$43.38	\$86.64	\$129.90

Glossary

Term	Definition
Amalgam	A metallic mixture used to replace the physical and mechanical properties of a tooth.
Bicuspid	A tooth with two cusps (rounded surfaces) located in front of the molars
Bruxism	Grinding of the teeth
Caries	Common term for tooth decay
Calculus (Tartar)	A form of hardened dental plaque
Dental Pulp	Tissue that contains blood vessels and nerves within a tooth
Dentition	Development of teeth and their arrangement in the mouth
Extraction	Non-surgical removal of a tooth or tooth parts
Impaction	A tooth that has not completely come up to the surface and is positioned up against another tooth, bone or soft tissue
Intraoral	Situated, occurring, or performed within the mouth
Malocclusion	Misalignment or incorrect relation between the teeth of the two dental arches when they approach each other as the jaws close
Molar	Large flat topped grinding teeth located near the back of the mouth
Mucosal Tissue	Lining of the mouth and throat
Occlusal	The biting or contacting surfaces of opposing teeth
Odontectomy	Surgical removal of a tooth or tooth parts
Panoramic	A view of all the teeth and nearby structures on one image
Periapical	The area surrounding the end of the tooth root
Periodontal (gum)	The surrounding and supporting tissue of a tooth
Periodontal Disease	Usually begins with gingivitis. The gums appear reddened at the margins, slightly swollen and bleed when gently provoked by tooth brushing or flossing.
Pontics	Term for an artificial tooth on a bridge
Pulpotomy	Removal of a portion of the tooth pulp
Root Canal	Space inside the root of a tooth which contains the pulp tissue
Root Planing	Involves smoothing rough spots on the roots of the teeth that can promote gum disease by trapping and holding bacteria
Scaling	Process of removing dental plaque and calculus
Tomography	X-ray technique that produces an image as though the object were cut in half showing the inside structure