Program Director: Dr. Steve Filler
Program Coordinator: Ms. Susie Talley
In the interest of maintaining and promoting good oral health and educating health professionals to the dental needs of their patients, the University of Alabama at Birmingham has established a Student Dental Health Program. All students in the Schools of Dentistry, Medicine, Nursing and Optometry will be enrolled in the Student Dental Health Program. This dental health program emphasizes prevention and maintenance of good oral health with provisions for limited treatment of acute disease or injury. This brochure will describe in some detail the services available to the students. If there are any further questions regarding the Student Dental Health Program or the facilities, please contact the office of the Student Dental Health Program.

Steven J. Filler, DDS, MS, MA
Student Dental Health Program

Students are automatically enrolled in the Student Dental Health Program upon matriculation. The failure to make use of the dental service will not be accepted as a reason for exemption from payment of fees or for refund for any quarter or semester. This requirement is not subject to waiver for non-use or because of other dental care plans the student may have available, unless written authorization is received from the Student Dental Health Program.

Once enrolled in school, the student will be given an appointment for an initial oral screening. At this time an assessment of the student’s dental health will be made and appropriate recommendations given. If at the time of the initial screening the oral health of the student is found not to be consistent with the pre-enrollment form or shows active dental disease, treatment may be recommended by Student Dental Health. The student may elect to complete this treatment by a dentist of their choice or through the clinics of the UAB School of Dentistry. These conditions shall be considered pre-existing and will be PAYABLE BY THE STUDENT, in addition to the current Student Dental Health fee. Prior to receiving any benefits from the Student Dental Health Program, it will be required of each enrollee to present themselves by appointment to the program clinic for the screening procedure. It will be to the advantage of the enrollee to expedite screening procedures to identify any unmet needs and establish eligibility for receiving benefits as soon as possible.

Dental service benefits become effective for regularly enrolled students on the day classes begin each term and continue for as long as the student is officially enrolled in the school and in the Student Dental Health Program.

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Students may be waived from the SDH program if the SDH waiver form and proof of dental insurance is submitted to our office. A letter from your dental insurance company with student(s) name, address, social security number and the type of dental coverage provided will serve as proof of insurance.

Should a dental emergency arise, the Student Dental Health Program should be called (205-924-5234). In most cases, emergencies can be accommodated during the day as well as during regular Student Dental Health Program evening hours. Should it not be possible to contact this office, emergency care only may be provided by a private practitioner and this bill submitted to the Student Dental Health Program for consideration. Any payment is limited to reasonable and customary fees and only to items covered by the Student Dental Health Program.

Should treatment be required in one of the specialty areas, such as orthodontics, periodontics, fixed prosthodontics, or oral surgery, the program will be able to arrange a consultation appointment for students even though the program cannot assume the actual treatment cost.