



# D3 SCHOOL-BASED DENTAL SEALANT PROGRAM

## Information for Teachers

### WHY ARE DENTAL SEALANTS IMPORTANT?

- Cavities are the most common childhood disease and are almost totally preventable.
- Children have two sets of molars that come in, first between the ages 6 and 9 and second between 10 and 14.
- Sealants should be applied as soon as molars grow in to act as a barrier to prevent cavities
- If placed early enough, sealants are proven to prevent four out of five cavities

### BEFORE STUDENTS GET DENTAL SEALANTS

- Send home the permission form and parent fact sheet. These forms come stapled together.
- Collect the completed permission forms, both YES and NO responses.
- Dental3 needs your help to serve as many students as possible. Please encourage and follow-up with students to return their permission slips.
- Show this fun and helpful video about what sealants are so the students know what to expect to make the process run as smoothly as possible
  - <http://mchoralhealth.org/seal/video.html>

### WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE DENTAL TEAM ARRIVES?

- The dental team brings in portable equipment and sets up in the location chosen by your school.
- Children with approved permission forms are screened and receive sealants if appropriate. It takes only 1-2 minutes to screen and 15-30 minutes to apply sealants to a child.
- The flow of children will be steady and organized, minimizing interruption to the classroom and time out of class for the children.