

Important Changes for Our Delta Dental Patients

To Our Valued Delta Dental Patients,

We hope this message finds you well. After careful consideration, we have made the decision to transition to **out-of-network status** with Delta Dental effective **January 1, 2026**.

What does this mean for you?

- **You are still very welcome here.** Nothing changes about your ability to continue receiving care at Starfish Dental.
- You can still use your Delta Dental benefits in our office as an **out-of-network provider**.
- We will continue to submit claims to Delta Dental on your behalf.
- Delta Dental may send reimbursement checks directly to you. You can simply apply those payments toward your account.
- We remain committed to helping you maximize your benefits.

Why did we make this change?

Over the past several years, Delta Dental has become increasingly difficult to work with. Their reimbursement rates have not kept pace with rising costs, and their administrative requirements have created significant burdens on our practice. Most importantly, these constraints have begun to limit our ability to provide the highest quality, personalized care we believe our patients deserve.

After many months of discussion and reflection, we decided that remaining in-network would eventually require us to compromise the level of care we have always provided. We chose not to do that.

A note about the letter from Delta Dental

You may receive a letter from Delta Dental notifying you of this change and listing other in-network providers. Please know that **you are not required to change dentists**. This letter is standard procedure and does not mean you must leave our practice. We are happy to continue caring for you.

We're here for you

Our team remains fully committed to delivering the same high-quality, compassionate care you've come to expect from Starfish Dental. If you have any questions about this transition or how it may affect your specific plan, please don't hesitate to call or speak with Maribeth, Lori, Lisa, or Eve. We're happy to review your benefits with you personally.

Thank you for trusting us with your smile. We look forward to continuing to serve you for many years to come.

Warm regards,

Dr. Dag Zapatero

Starfish Dental