

# North Dakota School-Based Sealant Programs: 2019-2020

School-based sealant programs bring preventive oral health care to the students. Preventive services include dental screens, oral health education, fluoride varnish application, and dental sealants.<sup>1</sup> In North Dakota, there are two organizations that provide school-based sealant programs:

1. SEAL!ND through the North Dakota Department of Health Oral Health Program
2. The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile in partnership with Bridging the Dental Gap, Inc.



## Dental Sealants<sup>1</sup>

Dental sealants are thin coatings that, when painted on, protect chewing surfaces of back teeth (molars) from food and germs and prevent cavities. Once applied, sealants protect against 80% of cavities for two years and continue to protect against 50% of cavities for up to four years.

Combining the efforts of SEAL!ND and the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile's School-Based Sealant Program, in North Dakota during the 2019-2020 school year:



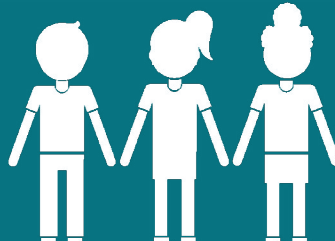
100

schools participated in a school-based sealant program



4,106

students had a dental screen



4,098

students received fluoride varnish



6,917

teeth were protected with dental sealants

# SEAL!ND

SEAL!ND has been providing dental sealants, oral health education, dental screenings, and referrals for students throughout North Dakota dating back to 2012. The state Department of Health Oral Health Program continues to administer SEAL!ND utilizing dollars from both the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Health Resources and Services Administration. SEAL!ND provides services to a majority (80%) of the schools participating in a school-based sealant program. Some children were unable to sit for the dental screen, or they were absent for the first screen but were then able to receive fluoride varnish. Because of this, more children received varnish than those who received a full screen.



80

participating schools



3,578

students had a dental screen



3,617

students received fluoride varnish



6,225

teeth were protected with dental sealants

## Ronald McDonald Care Mobile

The Ronald McDonald Care Mobile provides mobile dental care in a variety of settings, and host their own school-based sealant program in partnership with Bridging the Dental Gap.



20

participating schools



505

students had a dental screen



460

students received fluoride varnish



692

teeth were protected with dental sealants

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### For More Information

Visit the North Dakota Oral Health Program webpage at <https://oral.health.nd.gov>  
Visit the Center for Rural health webpage at <https://ruralhealth.und.edu/what-we-do/oral-health>

### Citations

1. [cdc.gov/oralhealth/dental\\_sealant\\_program/index.htm](https://oralhealth.dental_sealant_program/index.htm)