

Enroll your child in SEAL RI! now

Your child will get:

- Check-up from a dentist
- Sealants
- Referral to a dentist, if needed



Sign and return the SEAL RI! consent form. Your child's school will hand out consent forms to all children. You can also download and print the consent form from the Rhode Island Department of Health's website at: health.ri.gov/oralhealth/about/sealants/

SEAL RI!

Agencies that provide SEAL RI! at schools

Bristol: East Bay Community Action Program

Central Falls: Blackstone Valley Community Health Center

Cranston: Comprehensive Community Action Program

Cumberland: Thundermist Health Center

East Providence: East Bay Community Action Program

Johnston: Comprehensive Community Action Program

Narragansett: Thundermist Health Center

Newport: East Bay Community Action Program

North Providence: Comprehensive Community Action Program

South Kingstown: Thundermist Health Center

Warwick: Comprehensive Community Action Program

Woonsocket: Thundermist Health Center

For more information and to find out if your child's school participates in SEAL RI!, visit:

health.ri.gov/oralhealth/about/sealants/

or call the Health Information Line

401-222-5960 / RIRelay 711

Rhode Island Department of Health

Fluoride and Sealant contact:

401-222-2744

ridoh.oralhealth@health.ri.gov



Help Your Child Get A Healthy Smile



Ask About Dental Sealants

If your child has cavities or tooth pain that will not go away, they can have trouble chewing and eating. They might also have a hard time focusing on school work or be afraid that other kids will make fun of their teeth.

SEAL RI! can help!

SEAL RI! is a school-based dental program that gives students dental check-ups and dental sealants. Dental sealants help prevent tooth decay and cavities for children age five to 10. This program does not cost anything for students or their parents.



What are dental sealants?

Dental sealants are thin, plastic coatings that are painted on your child's permanent molars (back teeth). Sealants fill in the grooves in the tooth and keep germs and pieces of food from getting stuck in the grooves. When germs and food get stuck in your child's tooth and are not brushed out with a toothbrush, tooth decay starts. It is important to put sealants on your child's first and second molars because those teeth are most likely to have decay and cavities.

Is a sealant better than a filling?

Yes, sealants protect your child's teeth. If there is decay or a cavity on a tooth, the tooth gets weaker and is damaged forever. A filling is not permanent, and each time a tooth is prepared for a filling, it gets weaker.



Tooth without sealant

Sealant is applied

Tooth with final sealant

How is a sealant put on the tooth?

Putting a sealant on a tooth is quick and easy. The tooth is cleaned, and a special gel is put on the tooth for a few seconds. The tooth is rinsed with water and dried. Then, the dental hygienist paints the sealant on the tooth and shines a light on the tooth to help the sealant set.

How long does a sealant last?

Sealants can last up to 10 years.

How can I enroll my child in SEAL RI!?

At the start of each school year, the school nurse teacher at your child's school will send consent forms home with your child's "back-pack mail". A parent or guardian must sign and return the consent form to the school. After the consent form is returned to the school, your child is enrolled in SEAL RI!.

What does my child get from SEAL RI!?

Every child who is enrolled in SEAL RI! gets a check-up and sealants for free. A dentist does the check-up, and a dental hygienist puts the sealants on the teeth. Some schools have space inside for the SEAL RI! program, and some schools have a mobile van that parks at the school. SEAL RI! can also help you find a dentist that is in your neighborhood.