

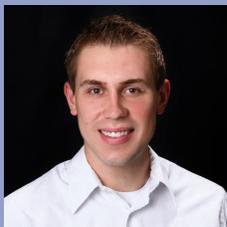


Fulfilling Iowa's Need for Dentists

The Fulfilling Iowa's Need for Dentists (FIND) Program is one of the best recruitment tools to attract high quality oral healthcare professionals to rural Iowa communities. The FIND program offers dental education loan repayment awards to dentists in exchange for agreeing to practice in a dental shortage area and dedicating 35 percent of patient visits to underserved populations for a five-year period. Since its inception by Delta Dental of Iowa in 2002, the program has placed 52 private-practice dentists in rural Iowa communities, providing 223,000 patient visits and more than 638,000 dental services to underserved Iowans. The IDA is asking legislators to **increase the state funding for FIND from \$100,000 to \$500,000 to ensure more dentists can care for underserved Iowans.**

Making a Difference

"As an out of state provider, the FIND program **incentivized me to start my practice in Iowa** to help with my student loans. Thanks to the FIND program, our practice has grown, and **we have added two more pediatric dentists to our practice to help serve many underserved pediatric patients** in the area." — Ryan Hajek, DDS, 2018 FIND Award recipient serving Pottawattamie County



"Growing into my role as a dental care provider in Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties has given me a sense of worth that has **cemented my future as a general dentist practicing in rural Iowa ... turning a five year contract into a career-long commitment.**"

— Anthony Brantner, DDS, 2013 FIND Award recipient serving Kossuth and Palo Alto Counties

"Delta Dental's Loan [Repayment] Program gave me an opportunity to fill a void in the dental community by helping those underserved. I have met many families that **were not receiving care because of the drive they had to make to an office that accepted their insurance.**"

— Cassie Berens, DMD, 2017 Loan Repayment Award recipient serving Cass County



About IDA

Representing over 1,800 dentists, the IDA is the largest oral health association in Iowa. More than 80 percent of Iowa's practicing dentists are members of the IDA. The IDA's broad membership throughout the state and across all specialties reflects a unique commitment by dentists to work together to enhance their profession on behalf of their patients and all Iowans. Each member of the IDA is also a member of one of Iowa's 10 district dental societies and the American Dental Association.

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