

Tips for Maximizing Sealant Program Efficiency

- Collect consent forms one to two weeks in advance of the date you plan to provide services. This will allow time for the health histories to be reviewed and charts to be prepared. Also, if forms are returned without complete information, including signatures, there will be time to resend to parents for completion.
- Use colored paper for consent forms; parents can locate the form easily and teachers can locate the form on their desk more easily.
- In programs covering a large geographic area, complete schools that are in close proximity to each other. When scheduling screenings, sealants, or education classes which require only a partial day, schedule retention checks at a school nearby to fill the balance of the day.
- Check with the school nurse, teacher and principal to make sure there are no field trips, testing, special guests, parties, etc., for the classes being screened or receiving sealants.
- Keep a list of schools that could be scheduled on short notice, i.e., 1-2 days, in case of an unforeseen cancellation.
- Dollies or moving carts are useful for moving equipment. Large canvas bags, plastic storage boxes of varying sized make storing and carrying supplies easier.
- Box style fans can assist teams with temperature control and ventilation. This is important when using resin-based sealants.
- An extras kit, with extension cords, power strips, duct tape, extra light bulbs, screwdriver, pliers, and equipment service contact information is essential.
- Set up equipment before school starts. Be ready to begin when the first bell rings. Plan on working the entire school day; working partial days is not efficient. A child who walks home from school may be seen last; missing the school bus is not an issue.
- Always have one child in the chair receiving sealants and one child waiting and watching the procedure. Remember... the school's primary focus is on education and out of class time should be kept to a minimum.
- After receiving sealants, the student returns to class and sends another student to receive his/her sealants.
- Equipment maintenance schedules should be developed and followed with manufacturer input.