

## Frequently Asked Questions

### WHAT IS INVISALIGN® AND HOW DOES IT WORK?

Invisalign® is the brand name for an orthodontic treatment method that uses a series of custom made clear plastic trays (aligners) to reposition teeth. The clear BPA-free aligners look similar to teeth-whitening trays. A series of Invisalign aligners are custom-made for each patient to move teeth in the sequence determined by the patient's orthodontist. Over the course of treatment, patients are supplied with a series of aligners. Each aligner will make slight adjustments to tooth position, a process that is mapped out in advance by the orthodontist, specifically for each patient.

### HOW DO I FIND OUT IF INVISALIGN IS THE BEST OPTION FOR MY ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT?

You must first receive an initial evaluation from a Willamette Dental Group general dentist to determine if you are a candidate for any type of orthodontic treatment.

After you receive a referral from a Willamette Dental Group general dentist, you will schedule an appointment with a Willamette Dental Group orthodontist for your pre-orthodontic consultation. This consultation includes an initial exam, as well as X-rays and study models. The cost for this service is a total of \$150. These non-refundable fees are credited toward the total fees if you proceed with the recommended orthodontic treatment.

Your Willamette Dental Group orthodontist will determine your eligibility for Invisalign treatment during this pre-orthodontic consultation. Your recommended treatment plan will be provided to you with a cost and timeline estimate.

### WILL USING INVISALIGN RESULT IN COMPROMISED TREATMENT RESULTS?

Invisalign, like any other orthodontic treatment method, is dependent on appropriate diagnosis, patient cooperation, along with the skill and experience of the provider. Invisalign requires an increased commitment by the patient for carefully following instructions provided by their orthodontist. In general, it is the simpler cases of minor misalignment that are better suited for Invisalign treatment.

### DOES DENTAL BLUE CONNECT COVER INVISALIGN TEEN?

Dental Blue Connect covers the basic Invisalign product. At this time Willamette Dental Group does not offer Invisalign Teen® or other sub-products.

### IF I HAVE BEEN APPROVED FOR INVISALIGN TREATMENT FROM A DENTIST OR ORTHODONTIST OUTSIDE OF WILLAMETTE DENTAL GROUP, DO I AUTOMATICALLY BECOME A CANDIDATE FOR THE TREATMENT AT WILLAMETTE DENTAL GROUP?

No, we require that each patient is evaluated by a Willamette Dental Group general dentist for orthodontic treatment as well as by a Willamette Dental Group orthodontist to determine if Invisalign is the best option for each patient.

### WHAT IF I AM ALREADY USING INVISALIGN WITH ANOTHER DENTIST OR ORTHODONTIST AND I SWITCH TO DENTAL BLUE CONNECT?

Your individual case will be evaluated by a Willamette Dental Group orthodontist to determine your eligibility. If the treatment plan is accepted as is, we will prorate the treatment cost and request that the previous provider assigns your Invisalign case to us and send us your remaining aligners. There would not be any additional costs for the aligners unless revisions are needed.

### WHERE CAN I GET ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT FROM WILLAMETTE DENTAL GROUP?

Willamette Dental Group has licensed orthodontists in 27 office locations throughout Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Please log on to your online member account at **members.bcidaho.com** and select the **Dental Blue Connect logo**, to find your nearest location. All Willamette Dental Group orthodontists are trained Invisalign providers.

**Additional Questions?**  
**Call 1.855.433-6825**



### **HOW LONG DOES INVISALIGN® TREATMENT TAKE?**

The length of treatment depends on the severity of your case and can only be determined by your orthodontist; however, the average case takes about 12 months for adults. The length of time necessary for a teen patient may vary and can be determined by your orthodontist.

### **HOW OFTEN ARE INVISALIGN ALIGNERS WORN?**

For the most effective treatment, aligners must be worn 20 to 22 hours per day and removed only for eating, brushing and flossing.

### **HOW OFTEN WOULD I SEE MY ORTHODONTIST DURING INVISALIGN TREATMENT?**

Your orthodontist will schedule regular appointments once every six weeks. The goal of these visits is to ensure that your treatment is progressing as planned. Aligner trays are changed every two weeks.

### **HOW MUCH DOES INVISALIGN COST WITH DENTAL BLUE CONNECT?**

The cost of treatment is dependent on the severity of your individual case. As an orthodontia patient, you will be responsible for payment of the pre-orthodontia service copayments, a comprehensive orthodontia treatment copayment plus Invisalign charge and office visit copayments.

### **PRE-ORTHODONTIA SERVICE COPAYMENTS**

- Initial orthodontic examination ..... \$25
- Study models and X-rays ..... \$125
- Case presentation ..... \$0

The non-refundable, pre-orthodontic service copayments are credited toward the comprehensive orthodontic copayment if you proceed with treatment.

### **COST FOR COMPREHENSIVE TREATMENT**

*(More than 10 aligners)*

Your Plan's Comprehensive Orthodontia Treatment Copayment plus \$800 Invisalign charge.

### **COST FOR LIMITED TREATMENT**

*(10 aligners or less)*

Your Plan's Comprehensive Orthodontia Treatment Copayment plus \$200 per arch Invisalign charge

Treatment cost includes full consultation, X-rays, study models, case presentation, all required appliances, including aligners, and follow-up treatment.

### **ARE PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE FOR INVISALIGN TREATMENT COSTS?**

If total charges for your case exceed \$1,500, an initial down payment of \$1,500 is due when the treatment plan is accepted and initial impressions are taken. The remaining balance is paid over 12 months.

### **WHAT IF I LOSE OR DAMAGE ONE OF MY ALIGNERS?**

Replacement aligners cost \$75 each and can be ordered through your Willamette Dental Group orthodontist. Each aligner has a number so the orthodontist can reorder the appropriate aligner. We ask patients to keep their previous two-three aligners in case of loss or damage so we can determine which aligner needs to be reordered.

### **WHAT IF I LOSE COVERAGE OR NEED TO LEAVE WILLAMETTE DENTAL GROUP MID-TREATMENT?**

If your account is current (the Invisalign charges are paid for and any orthodontic payment plans up to date), Willamette Dental Group will prorate the treatment copayment and offer to forward the remaining aligners to your new orthodontist. The treatment fee will be prorated but any charges for the Invisalign aligners will not be eligible for any proration.

