





**STATE OF WISCONSIN**  
**Department of Employee Trust Funds**  
A. John Voelker  
SECRETARY

Wisconsin Department  
of Employee Trust Funds  
PO Box 7931  
Madison WI 53707-7931  
1-877-533-5020 (toll free)  
Fax 608-267-4549  
etf.wi.gov

August 6, 2024

Julie Woletz  
[REDACTED]

Dear Julie Woletz:

Thank you for your email from July 23, 2024, to the Department of Employee Trust Funds (ETF) Group Insurance Board (Board) feedback mailbox expressing your concern about your dental provider no longer contracting with Delta after the end of the year. You stated your desire to have the Universities of Wisconsin consider a different dental plan, one that “keeps pace with the cost of dental cost reimbursements to clinics.”

While the Board does not oversee the contracts between program vendors and providers or dictate the providers with whom vendors contract, we recognize the importance of your concern. As a result, your concerns were shared with Delta and their response has been incorporated in this letter.

Delta regularly evaluates the marketplace to ensure competitive reimbursement levels that align with industry standards. In February 2023, Delta increased reimbursement rates for frequently performed dental procedures. This adjustment, which considered provider access, cost of care, and market positioning, resulted in fee increases for over 75% of Wisconsin general dentists. Delta maintains 98% of its dental providers annually and is dedicated to expanding its network.

Delta has the largest dental network in the state. Delta’s Premier Network includes 2,780 unique dentists and 4,278 access points in Wisconsin. There are currently 63 other in-network general dentists within 15 miles of Cambridge, WI, where your current dentist’s office is located.

There has been a national trend of dental providers leaving insurance networks. A [report](#) from the American Dental Association Health Policy Institute, dated February 2023, revealed that 16% of dental providers had dropped out of any dental insurance network between Jan. 1 and Feb. 13, 2023. Additionally, 21% intended to leave networks within the following three months.

August 6, 2024

Julie Woletz

Page 2

ETF is committed to providing quality dental insurance benefits while keeping our plans affordable. We value your feedback and will continue to work with Delta to ensure their network meets our members' needs.

I hope that you have found the information provided in this letter helpful. If you have any further questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out using the contact information provided below.

Sincerely,

Tom Rasmussen, Life and Dental Insurance Program Manager

Office of Strategic Policy

Department of Employee Trust Funds

[Tom.rasmussen@etf.wi.gov](mailto:Tom.rasmussen@etf.wi.gov)

(608) 266-0994