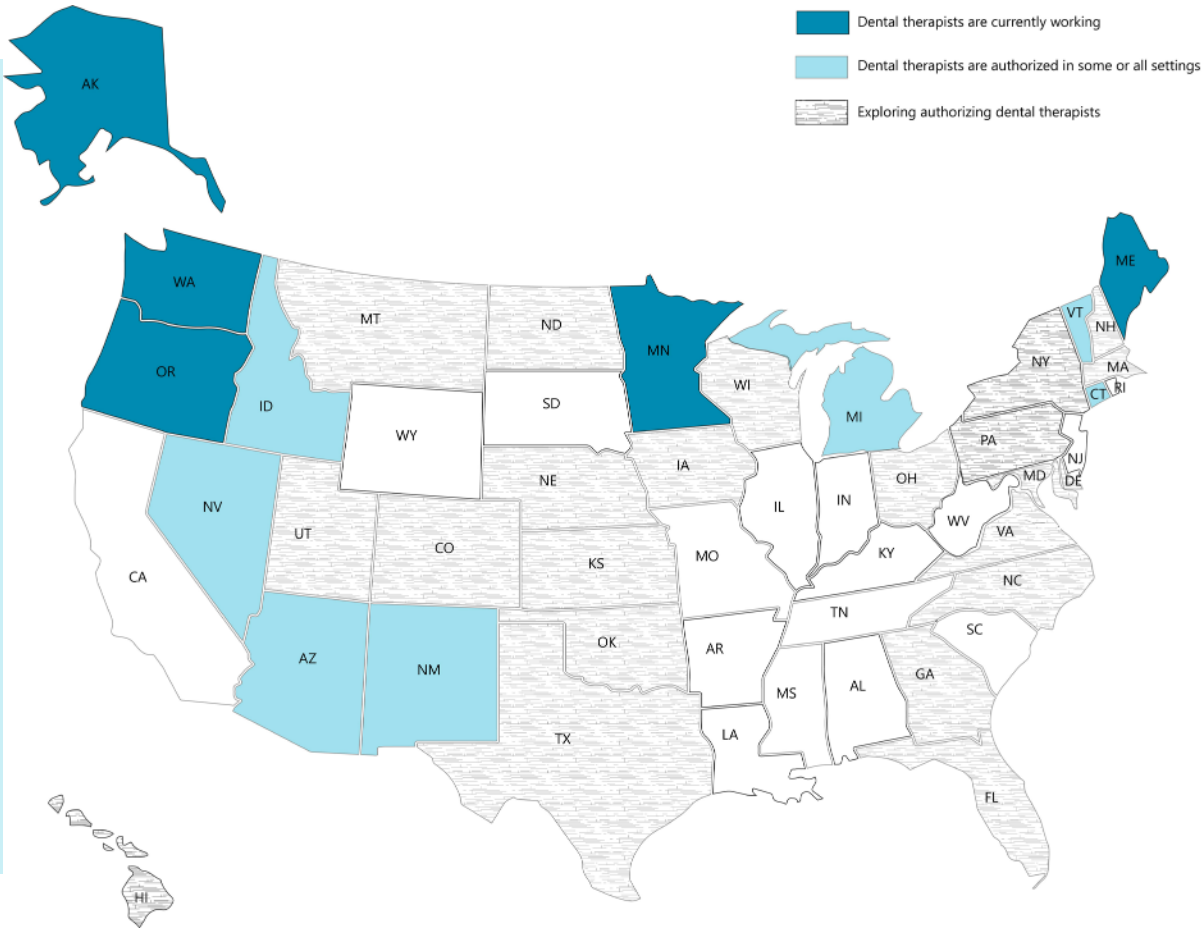
DENTAL THERAPY MOMENTUM

There is increasing momentum for dental therapists across the country with

OVERWHELMING SUPPORT FROM ALL SECTORS

– dentists, service organizations, businesses, dental hygienists, nonprofits, labor unions, local governments, Tribal leaders and educational entities, among others.

Dental therapists are currently working or authorized in 12 states with statewide legislation being considered or actively explored in a growing number of states across the country.

In 2015, the **Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA)** officially recognized dental therapy as a profession and adopted national education standards for dental therapists. During the public comment period, more than 200 partners (including many community organizations, Tribal organizations, dentists, community colleges, dental hygienists and former government leaders) signed on to or submitted comments to ensure the CODA standards reflected the evidence.

In 2020, **Iḷisaġvik College's Alaska Dental Therapy Educational Program (ADTEP)** became the first dental therapy educational program to receive full accreditation from CODA.