



# NEW MEXICO PUBLIC SCHOOLS INSURANCE AUTHORITY

## Office of Executive Director

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### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- NM School Boards Association
- NM Superintendents Association
- Public Education Commission
- NM School Administrators
- NM National Education Association
- American Federation of Teachers N.M.
- Governor Appointees
- Educational Institutions at Large

**Date: November 15, 2024**

**Re: Extension of Wildfire Emergency Order for Lincoln County  
and Mescalero Apache Reservation**

**Dear NMPSIA Members,**

Effective September 18, 2024 the Wildfire Emergency Order for the Salt and South Fork fires was extended by Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham. The Order covers the areas described above and is in place **until the Emergency Order is renewed, modified, or rescinded by the Governor**. In response to this extension, **the New Mexico Superintendent of Insurance (OSI) has issued a Second Amended Emergency Order** on October 1, 2024 to assure affected individuals in these areas continue to have access to needed health care services and are able to maintain their health insurance coverage during this time.

Back on June 18, 2024, the OSI Emergency Order required health insurers to refill prescriptions early, cover out-of-network services, waive cost-sharing requirements, and cover replacements of essential medical supplies and equipment that had to be left behind due to evacuations.

New Mexico Public Schools Insurance Authority (NMPSIA) contracted health carriers will be providing the continued support to members who have been displaced and need assistance in Lincoln County and the Mescalero Apache Reservation. Identified members in the noted areas will be provided with the following requested support.

### **Medical Services**

- Waive member cost sharing and deductibles.
- Permit replacement of covered disposable medical supplies and durable medical equipment (DME) during the duration of this Order. Frequency limits are waived.
- Waive additional fees, charges, referrals, eligibility and prior authorization requirements for medically necessary services, whether emergent or not. This applies to benefits and services obtained from both in-network and out-of-network providers.
- Permit one hearing aid replacement during the pendency of this Order, waiving frequency limits.

**Prescription Services**

- Waive member early-refill time limits on active prescriptions and allow replacement of lost or damaged medication.

**Dental Services**

- Permit one replacement for dentures or other prosthodontic devices during the pendency of this Order, waiving frequency limits.

**Vision Services**

- Permit one eyeglass or contact lens replacement, waiving frequency limits.

**To Request Support:**

**If you need of any of these services and/or are in need of assistance, please visit the following link: <https://nmpsia.com/wildfire-relief.html> also via the NMPSIA website at: <https://nmpsia.com/> **Natural Disaster Relief** button to submit your request.**

You will be asked to provide minimal information, agree, and attest to the terms. After your information is submitted you may be contacted by the NMPSIA Employee Benefits Plan Administrator (Erisa Administrative Services, Inc.) or a NMPSIA representative to verify eligibility. After eligibility is verified the request will be reported to the health carriers for processing.

Sincerely,

NMPSIA Benefits