

New Mexico Public Schools Insurance Authority (NMPSIA) Important Employee Benefit Program Notices

Updated July 2022

This document contains important employee benefit program notices of interest to you and your family. Please share this information with your family members. Some of the notices in this document are required by law and other notices contain helpful information. These notices are updated from time-to-time and some of the federal notices are updated each year. Be sure you review an updated version of this important notices document.

Si no entiende la información de este documento, póngase en contacto con la oficina de beneficios o recursos humanos de su empleador.

MID-YEAR CHANGES TO YOUR HEALTH CARE BENEFIT ELECTIONS

IMPORTANT: After an open enrollment period is completed, generally you **will not** be allowed to change your benefit elections or add/delete dependents until next years' open enrollment, unless you have a Special Enrollment Event or a Mid-year Change in Status Event as outlined below:

- **Special Enrollment Event:**

Loss of Other Coverage Event: If you are declining enrollment for yourself or your dependents (including your spouse) because of other health insurance or group health plan coverage, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage (or if your employer stops contributing toward your or your dependents' other coverage). However, you **must request enrollment within 31 days** after your or your dependents' other coverage ends (or after the employer stops contributing towards the other coverage).

Marriage, Birth, Adoption Event: In addition, if you have a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents. However, you **must request enrollment within 31 days** after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.

Medicaid/CHIP Event: You and your dependents may also enroll in this plan if you (or your dependents):

- Have coverage through Medicaid or a State Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and you (or your dependents) lose eligibility for that coverage. However, you must request enrollment within **60 days** after the Medicaid or CHIP coverage ends.
- Become eligible for a premium assistance program through Medicaid or CHIP. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days after you (or your dependents) are determined to be eligible for such assistance.

To request special enrollment contact your employer's benefits office or obtain more information at the Plan's designated Enrollment and Eligibility Administrator, ERISA Administrative Services at 800-233-3164.

- **Mid-Year Permitted Election Change in Status Event:**

When your employer pre-taxes your benefits, NMPSIA is required to follow Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations on if and when benefits can be changed in the middle of a plan year. The following events **may** allow certain changes in benefits mid-year, **if** permitted by the IRS:

- Change in legal marital status (e.g. marriage, divorce/legal separation, death).
- Change in number or status of dependents (e.g. birth, adoption, death).
- Change in employee/spouse/dependent's employment status, work schedule, or residence that affects their eligibility for benefits.

- Coverage of a child due to a QMCSO.
- Entitlement or loss of entitlement to Medicare or Medicaid.
- Certain changes in the cost of coverage, composition of coverage or curtailment of coverage of the employee or spouse's plan.
- Changes consistent with Special Enrollment rights and FMLA leaves.

You must notify the plan in writing within **31 days** of the mid-year change in status event by contacting your employer's benefits office or obtain more information at ERISA Administrative Services at 800-233-3164.

The Plan will determine if your change request is permitted and if so, changes become effective prospectively, on the first day of the month, following the approved change in status event (except for newborn and adopted children, who are covered back to the date of birth, adoption, or placement for adoption).

IMPORTANT REMINDER TO PROVIDE THE PLAN WITH THE TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (TIN) OR SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (SSN) OF EACH ENROLLEE IN A HEALTH PLAN

Employers are required by law to collect the taxpayer identification number (TIN) or social security number (SSN) of each medical plan participant and provide that number on reports that will be provided to the IRS each year. Employers are required to make at least two consecutive attempts to gather missing TINs/SSNs.

If a dependent does not yet have a social security number, you can go to this website to complete a form to request an SSN: <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/online/ss-5.pdf>. Applying for a social security number is FREE.

If you have not yet provided the social security number (or other TIN) for each of your dependents that you have enrolled in the health plan, please contact your employer's benefits office or obtain more information at ERISA Administrative Services at 800-233-3164.

MEDICARE NOTICE OF CREDITABLE COVERAGE REMINDER

If you or your eligible dependents are currently Medicare eligible, or will become Medicare eligible during the next 12 months, you need to be sure that you understand whether the prescription drug coverage that you elect under the Medical Plan options available to you through NMPSIA are or are not creditable with (as valuable as) Medicare's prescription drug coverage.

To find out whether the prescription drug coverage under the medical plan options offered by NMPSIA is or is not creditable you should review the Plan's Medicare Part D Notice of Creditable Coverage available at the back of this document or from <https://nmpsia.com/> and select the most current Program Guide.

PRIVACY NOTICE REMINDER

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996 requires health plans to comply with privacy rules. These rules are intended to protect your personal health information from being inappropriately used and disclosed. The rules also give you additional rights concerning control of your own healthcare information.

This Plan's HIPAA Privacy Notice explains how the group health plan uses and discloses your personal health information. You are provided a copy of this Notice when you enroll in the Plan. A copy of the Notice is provided at the back of this document and you can get another copy of this Notice from the New Mexico Public Schools Insurance Authority (NMPSIA) at 800-548-3724.

WOMEN'S HEALTH AND CANCER RIGHTS ACT OF 1998 (WHCRA) ANNUAL NOTICE REMINDER

You or your dependents may be entitled to certain benefits under the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 (WHCRA). For individuals receiving mastectomy-related benefits, coverage will be provided in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient for:

- All stages of reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed;
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance;
- Prostheses; and
- Treatment of physical complications of the mastectomy, including lymphedema.

These benefits will be provided subject to the same deductibles, copayment and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under the various medical plans offered by NMPSIA. For more information on WHCRA benefits, contact Cigna at 800-244-6224, NM Blue Cross Blue Shield at 888-966-7742, or Presbyterian Health Plan at 888-275-7737.

AVAILABILITY OF SUMMARY HEALTH INFORMATION: THE SUMMARY OF BENEFIT AND COVERAGE (SBC) DOCUMENT(S)

The health benefits available to you represent a significant component of your compensation package. They also provide important protection for you and your family in the case of illness or injury.

As required by law, across the US, insurance companies and group health plans like ours are providing plan participants with a consumer-friendly **Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC)** as a way to help understand and compare medical plan benefits. Choosing a health coverage option is an important decision. To help you make an informed choice, the SBC, summarizes and compares important information in a standard format.

Each SBC contains concise medical plan information, in plain language, about benefits and coverage, including, what is covered, what you need to pay for various benefits, what is not covered and where to go for more information or to get answers to questions. SBC documents are updated when there is a change to the benefits information displayed on an SBC.

Government regulations are very specific about the information that can and cannot be included in each SBC. Plans are not allowed to customize very much of the SBC documents. There are detailed instructions the Plan had to follow about how the SBCs look, how many pages long the SBC should be, the font size, the colors used when printing the SBC and even which words were to be bold and underlined.

A Uniform Glossary that defines many of the terms used in the SBC is available at <https://www.dol.gov/sites/default/files/ebsa/laws-and-regulations/laws/affordable-care-act/for-employers-and-advisers/sbc-uniform-glossary-of-coverage-and-medical-terms-final.pdf>.

The SBC for each medical plan option is available at the NMPSIA website: <https://nmpsia.com/> or for a paper copy contact NMPSIA at 800-548-3724.

PATIENT PROTECTION RIGHTS OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

The medical plans offered by NMPSIA do not require the selection or designation of a primary care provider (PCP). You have the ability to visit any network or non-network health care provider; however, payment by the Plan may be less for the use of a non-network provider.

You also do not need prior authorization from the Plan or from any other person (including a primary care provider) in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a health care professional who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology. The health care professional, however, may be required to comply with certain procedures, including obtaining prior authorization for certain services, following a pre-approved treatment plan, or procedures for making referrals. For a list of participating health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics or gynecology, contact Cigna at 800-244-6224, NM Blue Cross Blue Shield at 888-966-7742, or Presbyterian Health Plan at 888-275-7737.

NEWBORNS' AND MOTHERS' HEALTH PROTECTION ACT NOTICE

Hospital Length of Stay for Childbirth: Under federal law, group health plans, like this Plan, generally may not restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or the newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less than 96 hours following a cesarean section. However, the Plan may pay for a shorter stay if the attending Physician (e.g., Physician, or Health Care Practitioner), after consultation with the mother, discharges the mother or newborn earlier.

Also, under federal law, plans may not set the level of benefits or out-of-pocket costs so that any later portion of the 48-hour (or 96-hour) stay is treated in a manner less favorable to the mother or newborn than any earlier portion of the stay.

In addition, the Plan may not, under federal law, require that a Physician or other Health Care Practitioner obtain authorization for prescribing a length of stay of up to 48 hours (or 96 hours). However, to use certain providers or facilities, or to reduce your out-of-pocket costs, you may be required to obtain precertification. For information on precertification for a length of stay longer than 48 hours for vaginal birth or 96 hours for C-section, contact Cigna at 800-244-6224, NM Blue Cross Blue Shield at 888-966-7742, or Presbyterian Health Plan at 888-275-7737 to precertify the extended stay. If you have questions about this Notice, contact Cigna at 800-244-6224, NM Blue Cross Blue Shield at 888-966-7742, or Presbyterian Health Plan at 888-275-7737.

NOTICE TO ENROLLEES IN THE NMPSIA MEDICAL PLANS (A SELF-FUNDED NONFEDERAL GOVERNMENTAL GROUP HEALTH PLAN)

Group health plans sponsored by State and local governmental employers must generally comply with Federal law requirements in title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act. However, these employers are permitted to elect to exempt a plan from the requirements listed below for any part of the plan that is "self-funded" by the employer, rather than provided through a health insurance policy.

NMPSIA has elected to exempt the New Mexico Public Schools Insurance Authority (NMPSIA) Medical Plans from the following requirements:

- **Protections against having benefits for mental health and substance use disorders be subject to more restrictions than apply to medical and surgical benefits covered by the plan.**

The exemption from these Federal requirements will be effective for the 2022/2023 NMPSIA plan year beginning on July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The election may be renewed for subsequent plan years.

For the 2022/2023 plan year NMPSIA is going to continue to provide mental health and substance abuse benefits. These benefits are described in the current NMPSIA Program Guide, in the Summary of Benefits charts, in the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Rehabilitation rows (the guide is located on the website: <https://nmpsia.com/>). This

means that you will still have access to inpatient admissions and outpatient mental health and substance abuse services, but certain requirements of the Mental Health Parity regulations, such as certain documentation requirements, will not have to be met by the NMPSIA Medical plans.

NMPSIA reserves the right to amend the NMPSIA Medical Plans during the plan year and you will be notified of any plan amendments.

If you have any questions regarding this exemption, please contact NMPSIA Benefits at 800-548-3724.

KEEP THE PLAN NOTIFIED OF CHANGES IN ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You or your Dependents must promptly furnish to the Plan Administrator (ERISA Administrative Services) at 800-233-3164 information regarding change of name, address, marriage, divorce or legal separation, death of any covered family member, birth and change in status of a Dependent Child, Medicare enrollment or disenrollment, an individual no longer meeting the eligibility provisions of the Plan, or the existence of other coverage. Proof of legal documentation will be required for certain changes.

Notify the Plan of any of these changes within 31 days. Note that for certain events like divorce or a child reaching the limiting age for coverage, if you do not notify the Plan within 60 days of that change, the opportunity to elect COBRA will not apply.

Failure to give ERISA Administrative Services a timely notice of the above noted events may:

- a. cause you, your Spouse and/or Dependent Child(ren) to lose the right to obtain COBRA Continuation Coverage,
- b. cause the coverage of a Dependent Child to end when it otherwise might continue because of a disability,
- c. cause claims to not be considered for payment until eligibility issues have been resolved,
- d. result in your liability to repay the Plan if any benefits are paid on behalf of, or to, an ineligible person. The Plan has the right to offset the amounts paid against the participant's future medical, dental, and/or vision benefits.

In accordance with the requirements in the Affordable Care Act, your employer will not retroactively cancel coverage (a rescission) except when premiums and self-payments are not timely paid, or in cases when an individual performs an act, practice or omission that constitutes fraud, or makes an intentional misrepresentation of material fact that is prohibited by the terms of the Plan. **Keeping an ineligible dependent enrolled (for example, an ex-spouse, overage dependent child, etc.) is considered fraud.** If you have questions about eligibility for benefits, contact your employer's benefits office or obtain more information at ERISA Administrative Services at 800-233-3164.

COBRA COVERAGE REMINDER

In compliance with a federal law referred to as COBRA Continuation Coverage, this plan offers its eligible employees and their covered dependents (known as qualified beneficiaries) the opportunity to elect temporary continuation of their group health coverage when that coverage would otherwise end because of certain events (called qualifying events).

Qualified beneficiaries are entitled to elect COBRA when certain events occur, and, as a result of the event, coverage of that qualified beneficiary ends (together, the event and the loss of coverage are called a qualifying event). Qualified beneficiaries who elect COBRA Continuation Coverage must pay for it at their own expense.

Qualifying events may include termination of employment, reduction in hours of work making the employee ineligible for coverage, death of the employee, divorce/legal separation, or a child ceasing to be an eligible dependent child under the terms of the plan, if a loss of coverage results.

In addition to considering COBRA as a way to continue coverage, there may be other coverage options for you and your family. You may want to look for coverage through the Health Care Marketplace. See <https://www.healthcare.gov/>. In the Marketplace, you could be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your monthly premiums for Marketplace coverage, and you can see what your premium, deductibles, and out-of-pocket costs will be before you make a decision to enroll. COBRA eligibility does not limit your eligibility for coverage for Marketplace coverage or for the tax credit. Additionally, you may qualify for a special enrollment opportunity for another group health plan for which you are eligible (such as a spouse's plan) if you request enrollment within 30 days, even if the plan generally does not accept late enrollees.

The maximum period of COBRA coverage is generally either eighteen (18) months or thirty-six (36) months, depending on the qualifying event.

In order to have the chance to elect COBRA coverage after a divorce/legal separation or a child ceasing to be a dependent child under the plan, **you and/or a family member must inform the plan in writing of that event no later than 60 days after that event occurs**. That notice must be sent to your employer's benefits office or obtain more information at ERISA Administrative Services 800-233-3164 or PO Box 9054, Santa Fe, NM 97504 via first class mail and is to include the employee's name, the qualifying event, the date of the event, and the appropriate documentation in support of the qualifying event (such as divorce documents).

If you have questions about COBRA contact ERISA Administrative Services at 800-233-3164.

IMPORTANT NOTICES ATTACHED

The following pages include important notices for you and your family:

- Reminder about the Employer Notice About the Health Insurance Marketplace
- Medicare Part D Notice
- HIPAA Privacy Notice
- Notice about Premium Assistance with Medicaid and CHIP

EMPLOYER NOTICE ABOUT THE HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE

Your employer should distribute a notice to new employees when they are first hired. The notice is at least two pages long. To help you recognize the notice, here is a snapshot of a portion of the first page of the Notice:



New Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage Options and Your Health Coverage

Form Approved
OMB No. 1210-0149
(expires 5-31-2020)

PART A: General Information

When key parts of the health care law take effect in 2014, there will be a new way to buy health insurance: the Health Insurance Marketplace. To assist you as you evaluate options for you and your family, this notice provides some basic information about the new Marketplace and employment-based health coverage offered by your employer.

What is the Health Insurance Marketplace?

The Marketplace is designed to help you find health insurance that meets your needs and fits your budget. The Marketplace offers "one-stop shopping" to find and compare private health insurance options. You may also be eligible for a new kind of tax credit that lowers your monthly premium right away. Open enrollment for health insurance coverage through the Marketplace begins in October 2013 for coverage starting as early as January 1, 2014.

Can I Save Money on my Health Insurance Premiums in the Marketplace?

You may qualify to save money and lower your monthly premium, but only if your employer does not offer coverage, or offers coverage that doesn't meet certain standards. The savings on your premium that you're eligible for depends on your household income.

Important Notice from NMPSIA about Prescription Drug Coverage for People with Medicare

**This notice is for people with Medicare.
Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it.**

This Notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with the New Mexico Public Schools Insurance Authority (NMPSIA) and the prescription drug coverage available for people with Medicare. It also explains the options you have under Medicare's prescription drug coverage and can help you decide whether or not you want to enroll in that Medicare prescription drug coverage. At the end of this notice is information on where you can get help to make a decision about Medicare's prescription drug coverage.

- **If you and/or your family members are not now eligible for Medicare, and will not be eligible during the next 12 months, you may disregard this Notice.**
- **If, however, you and/or your family members are now eligible for Medicare or may become eligible for Medicare in the next 12 months, you should read this Notice very carefully.**

This announcement is required by law whether the group health plan's coverage is primary or secondary to Medicare. Because it is not possible for our Plan to always know when a Plan participant or their eligible spouse or children have Medicare coverage or will soon become eligible for Medicare we have decided to provide this Notice to all plan participants.

Prescription drug coverage for Medicare-eligible people is available through Medicare prescription drug plans (PDPs) and Medicare Advantage Plans (like an HMO or PPO) that offer prescription drug coverage. All Medicare prescription drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more drug coverage for a higher monthly premium.

NMPSIA has determined that the prescription drug coverage IS "CREDITABLE" under the following medical plan options:

- **Presbyterian Low Option Plan and Presbyterian High Option Plan**
- **Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico Low Option Plan**
- **Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico High Option Plan**
- **Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico Preferred EPO Plan**
- **Cigna Low Option Plan and Cigna High Option Plan**

"Creditable" means that the value of this Plan's prescription drug benefit is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as or more than the standard Medicare prescription drug coverage will pay.

Because the medical plan options noted above are, on average, at least as good as the standard Medicare prescription drug coverage, **you can elect or keep prescription drug coverage under the Presbyterian Low Option Plan, Presbyterian High Option Plan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico Low Option Plan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico High Option Plan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico Preferred EPO Plan, Cigna Low Option Plan or Cigna High Option Plan, and you will not pay extra if you later decide to enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage.** You may enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage at a later time, and because you maintain creditable coverage, you will not have to pay a higher premium (a late enrollment fee penalty).

REMEMBER TO KEEP THIS NOTICE

If you decide to join one of the Medicare drug plans, you may be required to provide a copy of this notice when you join to show whether or not you have maintained creditable coverage and, therefore, whether or not you are required to pay a higher premium (a penalty).

WHEN CAN YOU JOIN A MEDICARE DRUG PLAN?

Medicare-eligible people can enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan at one of the following three (3) times:

- When they first become eligible for Medicare; or
- During Medicare's annual election period (from October 15th through December 7th); or
- For beneficiaries leaving employer/union coverage, you may be eligible for a two-month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) in which to sign up for a Medicare prescription drug plan.

When you make your decision whether to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan, you should also compare your current prescription drug coverage, (including which drugs are covered and at what cost) with the coverage and cost of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area.

YOUR RIGHT TO RECEIVE A NOTICE

You will receive this notice at least every twelve (12) months and at other times in the future such as if the creditable/non-creditable status of the prescription drug coverage through this plan changes. You may also request a copy of a Notice at any time.

WHY CREDITABLE COVERAGE IS IMPORTANT (When you will pay a higher premium (penalty) to join a Medicare drug plan)

If you do not have creditable prescription drug coverage when you are first eligible to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan and you elect or continue prescription drug coverage under a **non-creditable** prescription drug plan, then at a later date when you decide to elect Medicare prescription drug coverage you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) for that Medicare prescription drug coverage for as long as you have that Medicare coverage.

Maintaining creditable prescription drug coverage will help you avoid Medicare's late enrollment penalty. This **late enrollment penalty** is described below:

If you go sixty-three (63) continuous days or longer without creditable prescription drug coverage (meaning drug coverage that is at least as good as Medicare's prescription drug coverage), your monthly premium may go up by at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have either Medicare prescription drug coverage or coverage under a creditable prescription drug plan. You may have to pay this higher premium (the penalty) as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage.

For example, if nineteen (19) months pass where you do not have creditable prescription drug coverage, when you decide to join Medicare's drug coverage your monthly premium will always be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. Additionally, if you go sixty-three (63) days or longer without prescription drug coverage you may also have to wait until the next October to enroll for Medicare prescription drug coverage.

WHAT ARE MY CHOICES?

You can choose any **one** of the following options:

Your Choices:	What you can do:	What this option means to you:
<p>Option 1</p>	<p>You can select or keep your current medical and prescription drug coverage with the Presbyterian Low Option Plan, Presbyterian High Option Plan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico Low Option Plan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico High Option Plan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico Preferred EPO Plan, Cigna Low Option Plan or Cigna High Option Plan, and you do not have to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan.</p>	<p>You will continue to be able to use your prescription drug benefits through the Presbyterian Low Option Plan, Presbyterian High Option Plan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico Low Option Plan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico High Option Plan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico Preferred EPO Plan, Cigna Low Option Plan or Cigna High Option Plan,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may, in the future, enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan during Medicare’s annual enrollment period (during October 15th through December 7th of each year). As long as you are enrolled in creditable drug coverage you will not have to pay a higher premium (a late enrollment fee) to Medicare when you do choose, at a later date, to sign up for a Medicare prescription drug plan.
<p>Option 2</p>	<p>You can select or keep your current medical and prescription drug coverage with the Presbyterian Low Option Plan, Presbyterian High Option Plan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico Low Option Plan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico High Option Plan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Mexico Preferred EPO Plan, Cigna Low Option Plan or Cigna High Option Plan, and also enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan.</p> <p>If you enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan you will need to pay the Medicare Part D premium out of your own pocket.</p>	<p>Your current coverage pays for other health expenses in addition to prescription drugs.</p> <p>If you enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan, you and your eligible dependents will still be eligible to receive all of your current health and prescription drug benefits. Having dual prescription drug coverage under this Plan and Medicare means that this Plan will coordinate its drug payments with Medicare, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For Medicare eligible Retirees and their Medicare eligible Dependents, Medicare Part D coverage pays primary and the group health plan pays secondary. For Medicare eligible Active Employees and their Medicare eligible Dependents, the group health plan pays primary and Medicare Part D coverage pays secondary. <p>Note that you may not drop just the prescription drug coverage under the medical plan in which you are enrolled. That is because prescription drug coverage is part of the entire medical plan. Generally, you may only drop medical plan coverage at this Plan’s next Open Enrollment period.</p> <p>Note that each Medicare prescription drug plan (PDP) may differ. Compare coverage, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PDPs may have different premium amounts; PDPs cover different brand name drugs at different costs to you; PDPs may have different prescription drug deductibles and different drug copayments; PDPs may have different networks for retail pharmacies and mail order services.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR OPTIONS UNDER MEDICARE'S PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is available in the "Medicare & You" handbook. A person enrolled in Medicare (a "beneficiary") will get a copy of this handbook in the mail each year from Medicare. A Medicare beneficiary may also be contacted directly by Medicare-approved prescription drug plans.

For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage:

- Visit www.medicare.gov
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see your copy of the Medicare & You handbook for their telephone number), for personalized help
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

Para más información sobre sus opciones bajo la cobertura de Medicare para recetas médicas.

Revise el manual "Medicare Y Usted" para información más detallada sobre los planes de Medicare que ofrecen cobertura para recetas médicas. Visite www.medicare.gov por el Internet o llame GRATIS al 1 800 MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). Los usuarios con teléfono de texto (TTY) deben llamar al 1-877-486-2048. Para más información sobre la ayuda adicional, visite la SSA en línea en www.socialsecurity.gov por Internet, o llámeles al 1-800-772-1213 (Los usuarios con teléfono de texto (TTY) deberán llamar al 1-800-325-0778).

For people with limited income and resources, extra help paying for a Medicare prescription drug plan is available. Information about this extra help is available from the Social Security Administration (SSA). For more information about this extra help, visit SSA online at www.socialsecurity.gov, or call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

For more information about this notice or your current prescription drug coverage contact:

NMPSIA
410 Old Taos Highway
Santa Fe, NM 87501
Phone Number: 1-800-548-3724

As in all cases, NMPSIA reserves the right to modify benefits at any time, in accordance with applicable law. This document (dated July 2022) is intended to serve as your Medicare Notice of Creditable Coverage, as required by law.



NEW MEXICO PUBLIC SCHOOLS INSURANCE AUTHORITY (NMPSIA)

NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW THIS NOTICE CAREFULLY.

The NMPSIA self-funded group health plan (hereafter referred to as the “Plan”) is required by law to take reasonable steps to maintain the privacy of your health information (called **Protected Health Information** or **PHI**) and to provide you with notice of its legal duties and privacy practices with respect to your Protected Health Information including:

1. The Plan’s uses and disclosures of PHI,
2. Your rights to privacy with respect to your PHI,
3. The Plan’s duties with respect to your PHI,
4. Your right to file a complaint with the Plan and with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and
5. The person or office you should contact for further information about the Plan’s privacy practices, and
6. To notify affected individuals following a breach of unsecured Protected Health Information.

The Plan Sponsor has amended its Plan documents to protect your PHI as required by Federal law.

PHI use and disclosure by the Plan is regulated by the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA). You may find these rules in Section 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 160 and 164. The regulations will supersede this Notice if there is any discrepancy between the information in this Notice and the regulations. The Plan will abide by the terms of the Notice currently in effect. The Plan reserves the right to change the terms of this Notice and to make the new Notice provisions effective for all PHI it maintains.

You may also receive a Privacy Notice from companies who offer Plan participants insured health care services, such as the Vision plan benefits. Each of these notices will describe your rights as it pertains to that plan and in compliance with the Federal regulation, HIPAA. This Privacy Notice however, pertains to your protected health information related to the NMPSIA self-funded medical plan options and COBRA Administration, (the “Plan”) and outside companies contracted to help administer Plan benefits, also called “business associates.”

Among other things, this Notice describes how your protected health information may be used or disclosed to carry out treatment, payment, or health care operations, or for any other purposes that are permitted or required by law.

If you have questions about any part of this Notice or if you want more information about the privacy practices at NMPSIA, please contact NMPSIA located at 410 Old Taos Highway, Santa Fe, NM 87501, or by telephone at 1-(800) 548-3724.

Your Protected Health Information

The term “**Protected Health Information**” (**PHI**) includes all information related to your past, present or future health condition(s) that individually identifies you or could reasonably be used to identify you and is transferred to another entity or maintained by the Plan in oral, written, electronic or any other form.

PHI does not include health information contained in employment records held by your employer in its role as an employer, including but not limited to health information on disability, work-related illness/injury, sick leave, Family or Medical Leave (FMLA), life insurance, dependent care flexible spending account, drug testing, etc.

PHI also does not include health information that has been de-identified. De-identified information is information that does not identify you and there is no reasonable basis to believe that the information can be used to identify you.

The Plan's Duties

The Plan is required by law to:

- Maintain the privacy of your protected health information (PHI);
- Inform you promptly if a breach occurs that may have compromised the privacy or security of your information;
- Provide you with certain rights with respect to your protected health information;
- Provide you and your eligible dependents with a copy of this Notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to your protected health information;
- Follow the terms of the Notice that is currently in effect; and
- Not use or share your information other than as described here unless you tell us in writing that we can. If you tell us we can share information, you may change your mind at any time and advise us in writing of such change.

Notice Distribution: The Notice will be provided to each person when they initially enroll for benefits in the Plan (the Notice is provided in the Plan's Enrollment/Program Guide). The Notice is also available on the Plan's website: <https://nmopsia.com/>. The Notice will also be provided upon request. Once every three years the Plan will notify the individuals then covered by the Plan where to obtain a copy of the Notice. This Plan will satisfy the requirements of the HIPAA regulation by providing the Notice to the named insured (covered employee) of the Plan; however, you are encouraged to share this Notice with other family members covered under the Plan.

Notice Revisions: If a privacy practice of this Plan is changed affecting this Notice, a revised version of this Notice will be provided to you and all participants covered by the Plan at the time of the change. Any revised version of the Notice will be distributed within 60 days of the effective date of a material change to the uses and disclosures of PHI, your individual rights, the duties of the Plan or other privacy practices stated in this Notice.

Material changes are changes to the uses and disclosures of PHI, an individual's rights, the duties of the Plan or other privacy practices stated in the Privacy Notice. Because our health plan posts its Notice on its website, we will prominently post the revised Notice on that website by the effective date of the material change to the Notice. We will also provide the revised notice, or information about the material change and how to obtain the revised Notice, in our next annual mailing to individuals covered by the Plan.

When the Plan May Use or Disclose Your Health Information

Under the law, the Plan may use and disclose your health information without your written authorization in the following cases:

- **At your request.** If you request it, the Plan is required to give you access to your PHI in order to inspect it and copy it.
- **As required by an agency of the government.** The Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services may require the disclosure of your PHI to investigate or determine the Plan's compliance with the privacy regulations.
- **For treatment, payment or health care operations.** The Plan and its Business Associates will use your PHI (except psychotherapy notes in certain instances as described below) without your consent, authorization or opportunity to agree or object in order to carry out treatment, payment, or health care operations.

1. **For Treatment.** We may use or disclose your protected health information to facilitate medical treatment or services by providers. **For example**, we may disclose providers, including doctors, nurses, technicians, medical students, or other hospital personnel who are involved in taking care of you to your treating specialist to enable your providers to confer regarding a treatment plan.
2. **For Payment.** We may use or disclose your protected health information to determine your eligibility for Plan benefits, to facilitate payment for the treatment and services you receive from health care providers, to determine benefit responsibility under the Plan, or to coordinate Plan coverage. **For example**, we may tell your health care provider about you to determine whether the Plan will cover the treatment recommended by your provider. We may also share your protected health information with a utilization review or pre-certification service provider. Likewise, we may share your protected health information with another entity to assist with the adjudication or subrogation of health claims or to another health plan to coordinate benefit payments.
3. **Health Care Operations.** We may use and disclose health information about you to carry out necessary insurance-related activities. Such activities may include underwriting, enrollment, premium rating and other activities relating to plan coverage; conducting quality assessment and improvement activities; patient safety activities; submitting claims for stop-loss coverage; conducting or arranging for medical review, legal services, audit services, and fraud and abuse detection programs; and business planning, management and general administration. If use or disclosure of protected health information is made for underwriting purposes, any such protected health information that is genetic information of an individual is prohibited from being used or disclosed. **For example**, we may use information about your medical claims to project future benefit costs.

The Plan may disclose PHI to the Plan Sponsor for purposes of treatment, payment, and health care operations in accordance with the Plan amendment. The Plan may disclose PHI to the Plan Sponsor for review of your appeal of a benefit or for other reasons related to the administration of the Plan.

Although the Plan does not routinely obtain psychotherapy notes, generally, an authorization will be required by the Plan before the Plan will use or disclose psychotherapy notes about you. Psychotherapy notes are separately filed notes about your conversations with your mental health professional during a counseling session. They do not include summary information about your mental health treatment. However, the Plan may use and disclose such notes when needed by the Plan to defend itself against litigation filed by you.

The Plan generally will require an authorization form for uses and disclosure of your PHI for sales or marketing purposes if the Plan receives direct or indirect payment from the entity whose product or service is being marketed or sold. You have the right to revoke an authorization at any time.

Use or Disclosure of Your PHI Where Consent, Authorization or Opportunity to Object Is Not Required

In general, the Plan does not need your written authorization to release your PHI if required by law or for public health and safety purposes. The Plan and its Business Associates are allowed to use and disclose your PHI **without** your written authorization (in compliance with section 164.512) under the following circumstances:

1. **Required by Law.** As required by law, we may use and disclose your health information. For example, we may disclose medical information when required by a court order in a litigation proceeding such as a malpractice action.
2. **Public Health.** As authorized by law, we may disclose your health information to public health authorities for purposes related to: preventing or controlling disease, injury or disability; reporting abuse or neglect; reporting domestic violence; reporting to the Food and Drug Administration problems with products and reactions to medications; and reporting disease or infection exposure.
3. **Proof of Immunization.** We may disclose information about you limited to proof of immunization to a school about an individual who is a student or prospective student of the school.
4. **Health Oversight Activities.** We may disclose your health information to health agencies during the course of audits, investigations, inspections, licensure and other proceedings related to oversight of the health care system.

5. **Judicial and Administrative Proceedings.** We may disclose your health information in the course of any administrative or judicial proceeding.
6. **Law Enforcement.** We may disclose your health information to a law enforcement official for purposes such as identifying or locating a suspect, fugitive, material witness or missing person, complying with a court order or subpoena and other law enforcement purposes.
7. **Coroners, Medical Examiners and Funeral Directors.** We may disclose your health information to coroners, medical examiners and funeral directors. For example, this may be necessary to identify a deceased person or determine the cause of death.
8. **Information of Decedent Related to Organ and Tissue Donation.** We may disclose your health information after you have died to organizations involved in procuring, banking or transplanting organs and tissues, as necessary.
9. **Public Safety.** We may disclose your health information to appropriate persons in order to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to the health or safety of a particular person or the general public.
10. **National Security.** We may disclose your health information for military, national security, prisoner and government benefits purposes.
11. **Military and Veterans.** If you are a member of the armed forces, we may release your protected health information as required by military command authorities. We may also release protected health information about foreign military personnel to the appropriate foreign military authority if required.
12. **Worker's Compensation.** We may disclose your health information as necessary to comply with worker's compensation or similar laws.
13. **Research.** We may disclose your health information to researchers when:
 - The individual identifiers have been removed; or
 - When an institutional review board or privacy board (a) has reviewed the research proposal; and (b) established protocols to ensure the privacy of the requested information, and approves the research.
14. **Disclosures to Plan Sponsors.** We may discuss your health information to the sponsor of your group health plan, for purposes of administering benefits under the plan. We share the minimum information necessary to accomplish these purposes.
15. **Business Associates.** We may contract with individuals or entities known as Business Associates to perform various functions on our behalf or to provide certain types of services. In order to perform these functions or to provide these services, Business Associates will receive, create, maintain, use and/or disclose your protected health information, but only after they agree in writing with us to implement appropriate safeguards regarding your protected health information. For example, we may disclose your protected health information to a Business Associate to administer claims or to provide support services, such as utilization management, pharmacy benefit management or subrogation, but only after the Business Associate enters into a Business Associate Agreement with us.

Any other Plan uses and disclosures not described in this Notice will be made only if you provide the Plan with written authorization, subject to your right to revoke your authorization, and information used and disclosed will be made in compliance with the minimum necessary standards of the regulation.

Disclosing Only the Minimum Necessary Protected Health Information

When using or disclosing PHI or when requesting PHI from another covered entity, the Plan will make reasonable efforts not to use, disclose or request more than the minimum amount of PHI necessary to accomplish the intended purpose of the use, disclosure or request, taking into consideration practical and technological limitations. However, the minimum necessary standard will not apply in the following situations:

- Disclosures to or requests by a health care provider for treatment,
- **Disclosures to You.** When you request, we are required to disclose to you the portion of your protected health information that contains medical records, billing records, and any other records used to make decisions regarding your health care benefits. We are also required, when requested, to provide you with an accounting of most disclosures of your protected health information where the disclosure was for reasons other than for treatment, payment, or health care operations, and where the protected health information was disclosed in accordance with your individual authorization.
- **Government Audits.** We are required to disclose your health information to the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services when the Secretary is investigating or determining our compliance with the HIPAA privacy rule.
- Uses of disclosures required by law, and
- Uses of disclosures required for the Plan's compliance with the HIPAA privacy regulations.

As described in the amended Plan document, the Plan may share PHI with the Plan Sponsor for limited administrative purposes, such as determining claims and appeals, performing quality assurance functions and auditing and monitoring the Plan. The Plan shares the minimum information necessary to accomplish these purposes.

In addition, the Plan may use or disclose "summary health information" to the Plan Sponsor for obtaining premium bids or modifying, amending or terminating the group health Plan. Summary health information means information that summarizes claims history, claims expenses or type of claims experienced by individuals for whom the Plan Sponsor has provided health benefits under a group health plan. Identifying information will be deleted from summary health information, in accordance with HIPAA.

Use or Disclosure of Your PHI Where You Will Be Given an Opportunity to Agree or Disagree Before the Use or Release

Disclosure of your PHI to family members, other relatives and your close personal friends without your written consent or authorization is allowed if:

- The information is directly relevant to the family or friend's involvement with your care or payment for that care, and
- You have either agreed to the disclosure or have been given an opportunity to object and have not objected.

Under this Plan your PHI will automatically be disclosed to your employer's benefits office as outlined below. If you disagree with this automatic disclosure by the Plan you may contact the Privacy Officer to request that such disclosure not occur without your written authorization:

- In the event of your death while you are covered by this Plan, when the Plan is notified it will automatically communicate this information to your employer's benefits office.
- In the event the Plan is notified of a work-related illness or injury, the Plan will automatically communicate this information to your employer's benefits office to allow the processing of appropriate paperwork.

Note that PHI obtained by the Plan Sponsor's employees through Plan administration activities will NOT be used for employment related decisions.

Your Personal Representatives

You may exercise your rights to your Protected Health Information (PHI) by designating a person to act as your Personal Representative. Your Personal Representative will generally be required to produce evidence (proof) of the authority to act on your behalf **before** the Personal Representative will be given access to your PHI or be allowed to take any action for you.

Under this Plan, proof of such authority will include (1) a completed, signed and approved Appoint a Personal Representative form; (2) a notarized power of attorney for health care purposes; (3) a court-appointed conservator or guardian; or, (4) for a Spouse under this Plan, the absence of a Revoke a Personal Representative form on file with the Privacy Officer. Note: Under the HIPAA privacy rule, we do not have to disclose information to a personal representative if we have a reasonable belief that:

- (1) You have been, or may be, subjected to domestic violence, abuse or neglect by such person;
- (2) Treating such person as your personal representative could endanger you; or
- (3) In the exercise of professional judgment, we believe it is not in your best interest to treat the person as your personal representative.

This Plan WILL AUTOMATICALLY recognize your legal Spouse as your Personal Representative and vice versa, without you having to complete a form to Appoint a Personal Representative. However, you may request that the Plan not automatically honor your legal Spouse as your Personal Representative by completing a form to Revoke a Personal Representative (copy attached to this notice or also available from the Privacy Officer).

If you wish to revoke your Spouse as your Personal Representative, please complete the Revoke a Personal Representative form (attached or available from the Privacy Officer) and return it to the Privacy Officer and this will mean that this Plan will NOT automatically recognize your Spouse as your Personal Representative and vice versa.

Because HIPAA regulations give adults certain rights and generally children age 18 and older are adults, if you have dependent children age 18 and older covered under the Plan, and the child wants you, as the parent(s), to be able to access their Protected Health Information (PHI), that child will need to complete a form to Appoint a Personal Representative to designate you (the employee/retiree) and/or your Spouse as their Personal Representatives.

The Plan will consider a parent, guardian, or other person acting *in loco parentis* as the Personal Representative of an unemancipated minor (a child generally under age 18) unless the applicable law requires otherwise. *In loco parentis* may be further defined by State law, but in general it refers to a person who has been treated as a parent by the child and who has formed a meaningful parental relationship with the child for a substantial period of time. Spouses and unemancipated minors may, however, request that the Plan restrict PHI that goes to family members as described above under the section titled "Your Individual Privacy Rights."

Statement of Your Individual Privacy Rights

1. **Right to Request Restrictions.** You have the right to request restrictions on certain uses and disclosures of your protected health information. The Plan is not required to agree to the restrictions that you request. If you would like to make a request for restrictions, you must submit your request in writing to NMPSIA's Administrative Office, 410 Old Taos Highway, Santa Fe, NM 87501.
2. **Right to Request Confidential Communications.** You have the right to receive your protected health information through a reasonable alternative means or at an alternative location (such as mailing PHI to a different address or allowing you to personally pick up the PHI that would otherwise be mailed), if you provide a written request to the Plan that the disclosure of PHI to your usual location could endanger you. To request confidential communications, you must submit your request in writing to NMPSIA's Administrative Office, 410 Old Taos Highway, Santa Fe, NM 87501. We are not required to agree to your request.
3. **Right to Inspect and Copy.** You have the right to inspect and obtain a copy (in hard copy or electronic form) of your protected health information (except psychotherapy notes and information compiled in reasonable contemplation of an administrative action or proceeding) contained in a "designated record set," for as long as the Plan maintains the PHI. You may request your hard copy or electronic information in a format that is convenient for you, and the Plan will honor that request to the extent possible. You may also request a summary of your PHI.

A **Designated Record Set** includes your medical records and billing records that are maintained by or for a covered health care provider. Records include enrollment, payment, billing, claims adjudication and case or medical management record systems maintained by or for a health plan or other information used in whole or in part by or for the covered entity to make decisions about you. Information used for quality control or peer review analyses and not used to make decisions about you is not included in the designated record set.

The Plan must provide the requested information within 30 days of its receipt of the request, if the information is maintained onsite or within 60 days if the information is maintained offsite. A single 30-day extension is allowed if the Plan is unable to comply with the deadline and notifies you in writing in advance of the reasons for the delay and the date by which the Plan will provide the requested information.

To inspect and copy such information, you or your personal representative must submit your request in writing to NMPSIA's Administrative Office, 410 Old Taos Highway, Santa Fe, NM 87501. If you request a copy of the information, we may charge you a reasonable cost-based fee. You may request your hard copy or electronic information in a format that is convenient for you, and we will honor that request to the extent possible. You may also request a summary of your PHI.

4. **Right to Request Amendment.** You or your personal representative have a right to request that the Plan amend your health information that you believe is incorrect or incomplete. We are not required to change your health information and if your request is denied, we will provide you with information about our denial and how you can disagree with the denial. To request an amendment, you must make your request in writing to NMPSIA's Administrative Office, 410 Old Taos Highway, Santa Fe, NM 87501. You must also provide a reason for your request.
5. **Right to Accounting of Disclosures.** You have the right to receive a list or "accounting of disclosures" of your health information made by us, except that we do not have to account for disclosures made for purposes of payment functions or health care operations, or made to you. To request this accounting of disclosures, you must submit your request in writing to NMPSIA's Administrative Office, 410 Old Taos Highway, Santa Fe, NM 87501. Your request should specify a time period of up to six years and may not include dates before April 14, 2003. The Plan has 60 days after its receipt of your request to provide the accounting. The Plan is allowed an additional 30 days if the Plan gives you a written statement of the reasons for the delay and the date by which the accounting will be provided. The Plan will provide one list per 12 month period free of charge; we may charge you for additional lists.
6. **Right to Paper or Electronic Copy.** You have a right to receive a paper or electronic copy of this Notice of Privacy Practices at any time. To obtain a paper copy of this Notice, send your written request to NMPSIA's Administrative Office, 410 Old Taos Highway, Santa Fe, NM 87501. This right applies even if you have agreed to receive the Notice electronically.
7. **Right to be Notified of a Breach.** You have the right to receive notification in the event that we (or a Business Associate) discover a breach of unsecured protected health information. Notice of a breach will be provided to you within 60 days of the breach being identified.
8. **Right to Choose Someone to Act for You.** You have the right to appoint a personal representative to act on your behalf with respect to your protected health information, such as if you have given someone medical power of attorney or if someone is your legal guardian.

To appoint a personal representative to act on your behalf, you must make your request in writing to NMPSIA's Administrative Office, 410 Old Taos Highway, Santa Fe, NM 87501. Your request must specify who the individual is that you are appointing, that individual's contact information, and in which matters the appointed individual may act on your behalf.

If you would like to have a more detailed explanation of these rights or if you would like to exercise one or more of these rights, contact NMPSIA's Administrative Office, 410 Old Taos Highway, Santa Fe, NM 87501, or by telephone at 1-800-548-3724.

Changes to this Notice of Privacy Practices

The Plan reserves the right to amend this Notice of Privacy Practices at any time in the future and to make the new Notice provisions effective for all health information that it maintains. We will promptly revise our Notice and distribute it to you whenever we make material changes to the Notice. Until such time, the Plan is required by law to comply with the current version of this Notice.

Your Right to File a Complaint

If you believe that your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with the Plan in care of the Plan's Privacy Officer, at the address listed on the first page of this Notice. Neither your employer nor the Plan will retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

Complaints about this Notice of Privacy Practices or about how we handle your health information should be directed to NMPSIA's Administrative Office, 410 Old Taos Highway, Santa Fe, NM 87501. Neither NMPSIA nor the Plan will retaliate against you in any way for filing a complaint. All complaints to NMPSIA must be submitted in writing.

You may also file a complaint (within 180 days of the date you know or should have known about an act or omission) with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services by contacting their nearest office as listed in your telephone directory or at this website <https://www.hhs.gov/ocr/about-us/contact-us/index.html>.

Privacy Officer

NMPSIA has designated a Privacy Officer to oversee the administration of privacy by the Plan and to receive complaints. The Privacy Officer may be contacted at:

Privacy Officer
NMPSIA Administrative Office
410 Old Taos Highway
Santa Fe, NM 87501

Effective Date of This Notice: July 1, 2022.

Attached (form to Revoke a Personal Representative)

NEW MEXICO PUBLIC SCHOOLS INSURANCE AUTHORITY (NMPSIA)

Form to Revoke a Personal Representative

Complete the following chart to indicate the name of the Personal Representative to be revoked:

	Plan Participant	Person to be Revoked as my Personal Representative
Name (print):		
Address (City, State, Zip):		
Phone:	()	()

I, _____ (Name of Participant or Beneficiary) hereby revoke the authority of _____ (Name of Personal Representative)

- to act on my behalf,
- to act on behalf of my dependent child(ren), named:

_____,
in receiving any protected health information (PHI) that is (or would be) provided to a personal representative, including any individual rights regarding PHI under HIPAA, effective _____, 20____.

I understand that PHI has or may already have been disclosed to the above named Personal Representative prior to the effective date of this form.

Participant or Beneficiary's Signature

Date

Once completed, please return this form to the:
Privacy Officer for New Mexico Public School Insurance Authority (NMPSIA)
410 Old Taos Highway Santa Fe, NM 87501
Phone: 1-800-548-3724

Premium Assistance Under Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

If you or your children are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP and you’re eligible for health coverage from your employer, your state may have a premium assistance program that can help pay for coverage, using funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs. If you or your children aren’t eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, you won’t be eligible for these premium assistance programs but you may be able to buy individual insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace. For more information, visit www.healthcare.gov.

If you or your dependents are already enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP and you live in a State listed below, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office to find out if premium assistance is available.

If you or your dependents are NOT currently enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, and you think you or any of your dependents might be eligible for either of these programs, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office or dial **1-877-KIDS NOW** or www.insurekidsnow.gov to find out how to apply. If you qualify, ask your state if it has a program that might help you pay the premiums for an employer-sponsored plan.

If you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, as well as eligible under your employer plan, your employer must allow you to enroll in your employer plan if you aren’t already enrolled. This is called a “special enrollment” opportunity, and **you must request coverage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium assistance**. If you have questions about enrolling in your employer plan, contact the Department of Labor at www.askebsa.dol.gov or call **1-866-444-EBSA (3272)**.

If you live in one of the following states, you may be eligible for assistance paying your employer health plan premiums. The following list of states is current as of January 31, 2022. Contact your State for more information on eligibility –

ALABAMA – Medicaid	CALIFORNIA – Medicaid
Website: http://myalhipp.com/ Phone: 1-855-692-5447	Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp Phone: 916-445-8322 Fax 916-440-5676 Email: hipp@dhcs.ca.gov
ALASKA – Medicaid	COLORADO – Health First Colorado (Colorado’s Medicaid Program) & Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)
The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment Program Website: http://myakhipp.com/ Phone: 1-866-251-4861 Email: CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com Medicaid Eligibility: http://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/medicaid/default.aspx	Health First Colorado Website: https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/ Health First Colorado Member Contact Center: 1-800-221-3943/ State Relay 711 CHP+: https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/child-health-plan-plus CHP+ Customer Service: 1-800-359-1991/ State Relay 711

	Health Insurance Buy-In Program (HIBI): https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/health-insurance-buy-program HIBI Customer Service: 1-855-692-6442
ARKANSAS – Medicaid	FLORIDA – Medicaid
Website: http://myarhipp.com/ Phone: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)	Website: https://www.flmedicaidtprecovery.com/flmedicaidtprecovery.com/hipp/index.html Phone: 1-877-357-3268
GEORGIA – Medicaid	MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP
A HIPP Website: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 1 GA CHIPRA Website: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/programs/third-party-liability/childrens-health-insurance-program-reauthorization-act-2009-chipra Phone: (678) 564-1162, Press 2	Website: https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pa Phone: 1-800-862-4840
INDIANA – Medicaid	MINNESOTA – Medicaid
Healthy Indiana Plan for low-income adults 19-64 Website: http://www.in.gov/fssa/hip/ Phone: 1-877-438-4479 All other Medicaid Website: https://www.in.gov/medicaid/ Phone 1-800-457-4584	Website: https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/children-and-families/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/other-insurance.jsp Phone: 1-800-657-3739
IOWA – Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki)	MISSOURI – Medicaid
Medicaid Website: https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members Medicaid Phone: 1-800-338-8366 Hawki Website: http://dhs.iowa.gov/Hawki Hawki Phone: 1-800-257-8563 HIPP Website: https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid-a-to-z/hipp HIPP Phone: 1-888-346-9562	Website: http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm Phone: 573-751-2005
KANSAS – Medicaid	MONTANA – Medicaid
Website: https://www.kancare.ks.gov/ Phone: 1-800-792-4884	Website: http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP Phone: 1-800-694-3084
KENTUCKY – Medicaid	NEBRASKA – Medicaid
Kentucky Integrated Health Insurance Premium Payment Program (KI-HIPP) Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: KIHIP.PPROGRAM@ky.gov	Website: http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov Phone: 1-855-632-7633 Lincoln: 402-473-7000 Omaha: 402-595-1178

<p>KCHIP Website: https://kidshealth.ky.gov/Pages/index.aspx Phone: 1-877-524-4718</p> <p>Kentucky Medicaid Website: https://chfs.ky.gov</p>	
LOUISIANA – Medicaid	NEVADA – Medicaid
<p>Website: www.medicaid.la.gov or www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp</p> <p>Phone: 1-888-342-6207 (Medicaid hotline) or 1-855-618-5488 (LaHIPP)</p>	<p>Medicaid Website: http://dhcfnv.gov</p> <p>Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900</p>
MAINE – Medicaid	NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid
<p>Enrollment Website: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms</p> <p>Phone: 1-800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711</p> <p>Private Health Insurance Premium Webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms</p> <p>Phone: -800-977-6740. TTY: Maine relay 711</p>	<p>Website: https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oi/hipp.htm</p> <p>Phone: 603-271-5218</p> <p>Toll free number for the HIPP program: 1-800-852-3345, ext 5218</p>
NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP	SOUTH DAKOTA - Medicaid
<p>Medicaid Website: http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/</p> <p>Medicaid Phone: 609-631-2392</p> <p>CHIP Website: http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html</p> <p>CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710</p>	<p>Website: http://dss.sd.gov</p> <p>Phone: 1-888-828-0059</p>
NEW YORK – Medicaid	TEXAS – Medicaid
<p>Website: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/</p> <p>Phone: 1-800-541-2831</p>	<p>Website: http://gethipptexas.com/</p> <p>Phone: 1-800-440-0493</p>
NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid	UTAH – Medicaid and CHIP
<p>Website: https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/</p> <p>Phone: 919-855-4100</p>	<p>Medicaid Website: https://medicaid.utah.gov/</p> <p>CHIP Website: http://health.utah.gov/chip</p> <p>Phone: 1-877-543-7669</p>
NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid	VERMONT– Medicaid
<p>Website: http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/</p> <p>Phone: 1-844-854-4825</p>	<p>Website: http://www.greenmountaincare.org/</p> <p>Phone: 1-800-250-8427</p>
OKLAHOMA – Medicaid and CHIP	VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP
<p>Website: http://www.insureoklahoma.org</p> <p>Phone: 1-888-365-3742</p>	<p>Website: https://www.coverva.org/en/famis-select https://www.coverva.org/en/hipp</p> <p>Medicaid Phone: 1-800-432-5924</p>

	CHIP Phone: 1-800-432-5924
OREGON – Medicaid	WASHINGTON – Medicaid
Website: http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx http://www.oregonhealthcare.gov/index-es.html Phone: 1-800-699-9075	Website: https://www.hca.wa.gov/ Phone: 1-800-562-3022
PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid	WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/HIPP-Program.aspx Phone: 1-800-692-7462	Website: https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/ http://mywvhipp.com/ Medicaid Phone: 304-558-1700 CHIP Toll-free phone: 1-855-MyWVHIPP (1-855-699-8447)
RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid and CHIP	WISCONSIN – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/ Phone: 1-855-697-4347, or 401-462-0311 (Direct RItE Share Line)	Website: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm Phone: 1-800-362-3002
SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid	WYOMING – Medicaid
Website: https://www.scdhhs.gov Phone: 1-888-549-0820	Website: https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility/ Phone: 1-800-251-1269

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since January 31, 2022, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor
Services
Employee Benefits Security Administration
Services
www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa
1-866-444-EBSA (3272)

U.S. Department of Health and Human
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid
www.cms.hhs.gov
1-877-267-2323, Menu Option 4, Ext. 61565

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) (PRA), no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The Department notes that a Federal agency cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it is approved by OMB under the PRA, and displays a currently valid OMB control number, and the public is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3507. Also, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if the collection of information does not display a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3512.

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average approximately seven minutes per respondent. Interested parties are encouraged to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Office of Policy and Research, Attention: PRA Clearance Officer, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room N-5718, Washington, DC 20210 or email ebsa.opr@dol.gov and reference the OMB Control Number 1210-0137.

OMB Control Number 1210-0137 (expires 1/31/2023)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE WELLNESS PROGRAM

The New Mexico Public Schools Insurance Authority (NMPSIA) Wellness Program is **voluntary** and is designed to **promote health or prevent disease**. The term Wellness Program includes both:

- a. ways that we help individuals identify and reduce health risk factors, like elevated blood pressure or excess weight, along with
- b. ways to help individuals with chronic conditions, like diabetes, take better care of their condition, for example by working with a coach to encourage you to take the medication the doctor prescribes for your chronic condition.

The NMPSIA Wellness Program also offers **incentives** for participation such as for completing a Health Risk Appraisal questionnaire and incentives if you positively change behavior such as increasing activity. Only employees enrolled in one of our medical plan options at a NMPSIA participating employer have the opportunity to qualify for the NMPSIA Wellness Program incentives. Incentives are able to be achieved at least **once a year**. The **time commitment required to achieve incentives in our NMPSIA Wellness Program is reasonable**. More information about our NMPSIA Wellness Program incentives are described at <https://nmpsia.com/wellnessWellBeing.html>.

The NMPSIA Wellness Program incentives have been reviewed and in accordance with law, do not exceed 30% of the total cost of employee-only coverage under the plan including employee & employer contributions.

- **Reasonable Alternative Standard:** If you think you might be unable to meet a standard for a certain reward under our NMPSIA Wellness Program, you might qualify for an opportunity to earn the same reward by a different means. If it is unreasonably difficult due to a medical condition for you to achieve the standards for the reward under the NMPSIA Wellness program, or if it is medically inadvisable for you to attempt to achieve the standards of the NMPSIA Wellness Program, then a reasonable alternative standard will be made available upon request. Contact the NMPSIA Benefits & Wellness team at (800) 548-3724 for information on the NMPSIA Wellness Program and for information on reasonable alternative standards and accommodations. NMPSIA will work with you and, if you wish, your doctor, to find an alternative NMPSIA Wellness Program standard with the same reward that is right for you in light of your health status. If your personal doctor states that the alternative is not medically appropriate, a more accommodating alternative will be provided.

NOTICE REGARDING THE WELLNESS PROGRAM

The New Mexico Public Schools Insurance Authority (NMPSIA) Wellness Program is a **voluntary** wellness program available to only employees enrolled in a NMPSIA medical plan and is designed to **promote health or prevent disease**. The program is administered according to federal rules permitting employer-sponsored wellness programs that seek to improve employee health or prevent disease, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, as applicable, among others.

If you choose to participate in the NMPSIA Wellness Program you may be asked to complete a voluntary health risk assessment or "HRA" that asks a series of questions about your health-related activities and behaviors and whether you have or had certain medical conditions, e.g., cancer, diabetes, or heart disease. You are not required to complete the HRA questionnaire, or to work with a health coach.

However, employees who choose to participate in the NMPSIA Wellness Program will receive an incentive as described by your medical plan. Although you are not required to complete the HRA or participate in health coaching, only employees who do so will receive the incentives.

Additional incentives offered by your medical plan may be available for employees who participate in certain health-related activities as described by your medical plan or achieve certain health outcomes as described by your medical plan. If you are unable to participate in any of the health-related activities or achieve any of the health outcomes required to earn an incentive, you may be entitled to a reasonable accommodation or an alternative standard. You may request a reasonable accommodation or an alternative standard by contacting the NMPSIA Benefits & Wellness team at (800) 548-3724.

The information from your HRA questionnaire will be used to provide you with information to help you understand your current health and potential risks, and may also be used to offer you services through the NMPSIA Wellness Program, such as health coaching. You also are encouraged to share your results or concerns with your own doctor.

Protections from Disclosure of Medical Information

NMPSIA and your elected medical plan are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your personally identifiable health information.

Information collected from the NMPSIA Wellness Program participants will not be received by your employer. Although the NMPSIA Wellness Program may use aggregate information it collects to design a program based on identified health risks, the NMPSIA Wellness Program and your medical plan will never disclose any of your personal information either publicly or to the employer, except as necessary to respond to a request from you for a reasonable accommodation needed to participate in the NMPSIA Wellness Program, or as expressly permitted by law. Medical information that personally identifies you that is provided in connection with the NMPSIA Wellness Program will not be provided to anyone at your employer and may never be used to make decisions regarding your employment.

Your health information will not be sold, exchanged, transferred, or otherwise disclosed except to the extent permitted by law to carry out specific activities related to the NMPSIA Wellness Program, and you will not be asked or required to waive the confidentiality of your health information as a condition of participating in the NMPSIA Wellness Program or receiving an incentive. Anyone who receives your information for purposes of providing you services as part of the NMPSIA Wellness Program will abide by the same confidentiality requirements. The only individual(s) who will receive your personally identifiable health information is (are) your medical plan in order to provide you with services under the NMPSIA Wellness Program.

In addition, all medical information obtained through the NMPSIA Wellness Program will be maintained by your medical plan, and no information you provide as part of the NMPSIA Wellness Program will be used in making any employment decision. Appropriate precautions will be taken by your medical plan to avoid any data breach, and in the event a HIPAA data breach occurs involving information you provide in connection with the NMPSIA Wellness Program, your elected medical plan will notify you immediately.

You may not be discriminated against in employment because of the medical information you provide as part of participating in the NMPSIA Wellness Program, nor may you be subjected to retaliation if you choose not to participate. If you have questions or concerns regarding this notice, or about protections against discrimination and retaliation, please contact the NMPSIA Benefits & Wellness team at (800) 548-3724.