



Patrick Sandoval
Interim Executive Director

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.
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January 20, 2022

Dear NMPSIA Members Enrolled in a Medical Plan,

The Biden Administration announced that, starting January 15th, private insurance companies will be required to cover at-home COVID-19 tests. This means consumers with private health insurance coverage will be able to get these tests for free. Insurance companies and health plans are required to cover eight free at-home tests per covered individual per month.

- NMPSIA will cover a limit of 8 over the counter (OTC) tests per 30-day period (or per calendar month) for each member or dependent enrolled under the plan. That means a family of four, all on the same plan, would be able to get 32 of these tests covered by our Pharmacy Benefit Manager, per month.
- Tests will be reimbursed regardless of whether the individual has an order or individualized clinical assessment from a health care provider. This includes eligible tests purchased online or at a retail pharmacy.
- OTC tests are to be used only for an individual's own personal use, or by use of an insured family member.
- NMPSIA is not required to cover testing (including an OTC COVID-19 test) for employment purposes, travel, or surveillance testing.
- COVID-19 OTC tests purchased prior to January 15, 2022 are not eligible for reimbursement.

NMPSIA medical carriers (Blue Cross Blue Shield, CIGNA, Presbyterian) will not be reimbursing insured members for OTC COVID-19 test. Claims reimbursement for NMPSIA members can be completed through Express Scripts (ESI) who is contracted as NMPSIA's Pharmacy Benefit Manager.

- In order to be reimbursed for an OTC COVID-19 test, the test must be approved by ESI and be on the First Data Bank List.
 - You can find a copy of the list at https://nmpsia.com/pdfs/Express_Scripts_First_Bank_Data_List.pdf.
 - The First Data Bank List will be updated accordingly to include additional approved tests.

NMPSIA continues to work diligently with ESI to gather information on the claim reimbursement process to make available on our website at <https://nmpsia.com/COVID-19.html>. When NMPSIA receives this information an updated communication will be distributed to all members.

If you have any questions please contact the NMPSIA office at (505) 988-2736 or (800) 548-3724 to speak to a benefits representative.

Sincerely,

NMPSIA Benefits