

WOMEN'S HEALTH AND CANCER RIGHTS ACT

On October 21, 1998 the federal government passed the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998. As part of our plan's compliance with this Act, we are required to provide you with this annual notice outlining the coverage that this law requires our plan to provide.

Our group health plan has always provided coverage for medically-necessary mastectomies. This coverage includes procedures to reconstruct the breast on which the mastectomy was performed, as well as the cost of necessary prostheses (implants, special bras, etc.) and treatment of any physical complications resulting from any stage of the mastectomy. However, as a result of this federal law, the plan now provides coverage for surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to achieve a symmetrical appearance and any complications that could result from that surgery.

The following benefits must be provided if benefits are provided for a mastectomy:

1. Coverage for reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy is performed.
2. Coverage for surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance with the breast on which the mastectomy is performed.
3. Coverage for prostheses and physical complications resulting from any stage of the mastectomy, including lymphedemas.

These benefits are subject to the same deductible, copays and coinsurance that apply to mastectomy benefits under the plan.

NEWBORNS' AND MOTHERS' HEALTH PROTECTION ACT OF 1996

Group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under federal law, restrict benefits for a hospital stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to fewer than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or fewer than 96 hours following a cesarean section.

However, federal law generally does not prohibit the mother's or newborn's attending provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable). In any case, plans and issuers may not under federal law require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan or the issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours).

TAMAQUA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT - 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 IT CAREFULLY.

The Privacy Rule under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) requires your self-funded health plan(s) (SFHP) including your Health Care Reimbursement Account (HCRA) to keep protected health information private and to give you this notice of its legal duties and privacy practices for protected health information. The SFHP must obey the terms of this notice as now in effect. The SFHP can change the terms of this notice and the privacy practices it describes at any time. The change must agree with the Privacy Rule. Any change will apply to all protected health information held by the SFHP. If there is a change, the change will not happen until you receive a new notice describing it. You will receive your new notice either at work or at the mailing address that you gave your employer.

The Privacy Rule allows the SFHP to use and disclose your medical information in order to decide if you are eligible for benefits and to handle reimbursement claims and any appeals.

When the SFHP discloses medical information to your employer and its employees that handle SFHP matters, the information will be kept confidential. Also, the company hired to help run the SFHP and its employees will protect your privacy. Your employer agrees not to use or disclose the information for decisions about your employment (including fitness for duty determinations) or any other benefit or employee benefit plan. If an employee does not keep your medical information private, he will be disciplined.

If someone obtains, accesses, uses, or discloses your protected health information in a way not permitted under the Privacy Rule, the event will be investigated. You will receive a report of this breach if it compromises your protected health information.

If you do not give us a written authorization, the SFHP will not make any other uses or disclosures. Without your specific authorization, we cannot sell, use, or disclose your information for marketing or any other purpose. If your spouse or adult child files a claim without you, the SFHP will not discuss the claim with you without authorization from your spouse or adult child. An authorization can be revoked in writing. A revocation will not change anything the Plan has already done based on the earlier authorization.

YOUR PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION RIGHTS.

- You have the **right to request restrictions** on the use and disclosure of medical information used for claims or Plan operations. Your spouse and dependents may ask that their medical information not be disclosed to you. The Plan is not required to agree to the restriction.

- You have the **right to receive confidential communications** of medical information in a different way or at a different address, if you are in danger. The Plan will agree to reasonable requests. A reasonable request: (1) is in writing; (2) identifies the information; (3) states that disclosure of all or part of this information could endanger you; (4) tells how to handle the reimbursement; and (5) gives another address or other way to contact you.
- You have the **right to see and copy** your medical information. You will be allowed to see this information, except for one reason. If a licensed health care professional determines this will endanger someone, you will be denied access. Your request must be in writing and can only apply to records held by the Plan. You do not have the right under these rules to see or copy health information in your employment file.

The Plan will respond in 30 days after receipt of the request. If the information is not on-site, the Plan will tell you in 30 days and will provide the information in 60 days of the request. If this cannot be done, the Plan will explain the reasons for the delay in writing and will give you the date by which it will provide the information. It cannot delay beyond this date.

You can see your medical information during normal business hours at a place named by the Plan Administrator. If you request copies, the Plan will charge \$0.25 per page plus the cost of mailing. If the Plan does not have the information, and it knows where to find the information, it will tell you.

- You have the **right to amend** your medical information. Since the Plan does not create this information, you should contact your health care provider to change your medical information and send the amended information to the Plan. However, if the creator of the medical information is not available, you may file a written amendment request with the Plan. The request must explain why you believe the information creator is not available and why the change is necessary. If the information is not a part of its records or if it determines the current information on file is accurate and complete, the Plan will deny the request.

The Plan will respond in 60 days after receipt of the request. If your request cannot be met in 60 days, the Plan will explain the reasons for the delay in writing and will give you the date by which it will respond. This date cannot be more than 90 days after your request. It cannot delay beyond this date.

If the Plan agrees, in whole or in part, it will tell you, identify the affected records, and attach the amendment to them. If you tell the Plan to tell anyone else, it will make reasonable efforts to send the amendment within a reasonable time to those persons.

If the Plan denies the request, in whole or in part, it will give you a written denial that states: (1) the reason; (2) how to send a written statement disagreeing with the denial; and (3) how to complain to the Plan or to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. If you do not send a statement of disagreement, you may ask the Plan to include your amendment request and the denial with any future disclosures of the medical information. The Plan may write a rebuttal to your statement of disagreement. If there is a rebuttal, the Plan must send you a copy.

- You have the **right to receive a record of medical information disclosures** that have been made within the last 6 years. This record will not include disclosures to you or any you agreed to by an authorization form. The record will exclude disclosures to your employer that were made as a part of handling a claim. If you request more than one report in the same 12-month period, the Plan will charge a fee after the first report of \$25 per report.

- You have the **right to get a copy** of this notice from the Plan by just asking.

If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a written complaint with the Contact Person. To file a complaint with the Plan hand-deliver or mail it to the address below. Please be as specific as possible and include any evidence you may have. Neither your employer nor the Plan will retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

If you do not get a response to your complaint in 30 days or if for any reason you do not feel comfortable filing your complaint with the Contact Person, contact:

Joan Nowak
Benefits Administrator
138 W Broad St., PO Box 112
Tamaqua, PA. 18252
570-668-2570 Ext. 1040

By law you can file a complaint with the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. You may obtain further information regarding this option from your Office for Civil Rights (OCR) regional office or the web at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/index.html>. OCR complaints should be filed within 180 days of the occurrence.

You may request more information from the Contact Person:

Joan Nowak
Benefits Administrator
138 W Broad St., PO Box 112
Tamaqua, PA. 18252
570-668-2570 Ext. 1040

HIPAA SPECIAL ENROLLMENT NOTICE

This notice is being provided so that you understand your right to apply for group health insurance coverage outside of the annual open enrollment period. You should read this notice regardless of whether or not you are currently covered under the Group Health Plan. The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requires that employees be allowed to enroll themselves and/or their dependent(s) in an employer's Group Health Plan under certain circumstances, described below, provided that the employee notified the employer **within 30 days** of the occurrence of any following events:

- Loss of health coverage under another employer plan (including exhaustion of COBRA coverage);
- Acquiring a spouse through marriage; or
- Acquiring a dependent child through birth, adoption, placement for adoption or foster care placement.

Effective April 1, 2009, the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 creates two new special enrollment rights for employees and/or their dependents. In addition to the special enrollment rights set forth above, all group health plans must also permit eligible employees and their dependent(s) to enroll in an employer plan if the employee requests enrollment under the group health plan **within 60 days** of the occurrence of following events:

- Loss of coverage under Medicaid or a state child health plan: If you or your dependent(s) lose coverage under Medicaid or a state child health plan, you may request to enroll yourself and/or your dependent(s) in our group health plan not later than 60 days after the date coverage ends under Medicaid or the state child health plan.
- Gaining eligibility for coverage under Medicaid or a state child health plan: If you and/or your dependent(s) become eligible for financial assistance from Medicaid or a state child health plan, you may request to enroll yourself and/or your dependent(s) under our group health plan, **provided that your request is made not later than 60 days after the date that Medicaid or the state child health plan determines that you and/ or your dependent(s) are eligible for such financial assistance.** If you and/or your dependent(s) are currently enrolled in our group health plan, you have the option of terminating your and/or your dependent's enrollment in our group health plan and enroll in Medicaid or a state child health plan.

Please note that once you terminate your enrollment in our group health plan, your dependent's enrollment will be also terminated.

Failure to notify us of your loss or gain of eligibility for coverage under Medicaid or a state child health plan within 60 days will prevent you from enrolling in our plans and/or making any changes to your coverage elections until our next open enrollment period.

To request special enrollment, or if you have questions regarding special enrollment rights, please contact the Human Resources Department.

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 July 31, 2023. Contact your State for more information on eligibility:

ALABAMA – Medicaid

Website: <http://myalhipp.com/> Phone: 1-855-692-5447

ALASKA – Medicaid

The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment Program
Website: <http://myakhipp.com/> Phone: 1-866-251-4861
Email: CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com
Medicaid Eligibility: <https://health.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/default.aspx>

ARKANSAS – Medicaid

Website: <http://myarhipp.com/>
Phone: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)

CALIFORNIA – Medicaid

Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program
Website: <http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp>
Phone: 916-445-8322
Fax: 916-440-5676
Email: hipp@dhcs.ca.gov

COLORADO – Health First Colorado (Colorado’s Medicaid Program) & Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) Health First Colorado Website: https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/ Health First Colorado Member Contact Center: 1-800-221-3943/ State Relay 711 CHP+: https://hcpf.colorado.gov/child-health-plan-plus CHP+ Customer Service: 1-800-359-1991/ State Relay 711 Health Insurance Buy-In Program (HIBI) https://www.mycohibi.com/ HIBI Customer Service: 1-855-692-6442	MISSOURI – Medicaid Website: https://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm Phone: 573-751-2005	RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid Website: http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/ Phone: 1-855-697-4347 or 401-462-0311 (Direct Rlte Share Line)
FLORIDA – Medicaid Website: https://www.flmedicaidtprerecovery.com/flmedicaidtprerecovery.com/hipp/index.html Phone: 1-877-357-3268	MONTANA – Medicaid Website: http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP Phone: 1-800-694-3084 Email: HSHIPPPProgram@mt.gov	SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid Website: https://www.scdhhs.gov Phone: 1-888-549-0820
GEORGIA – Medicaid GA 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	NEBRASKA – Medicaid Website: http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov Phone: 1-855-632-7633 Lincoln: 402-473-7000 Omaha: 402-595-1178	SOUTH DAKOTA - Medicaid Website: https://dss.sd.gov Phone: 1-888-828-0059
INDIANA – 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	NEVADA – Medicaid Medicaid Website: http://dhcfp.nv.gov Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900	TEXAS – Medicaid Website: https://www.hhs.texas.gov/services/financial/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-program Phone: 1-800-440-0493
IOWA – Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki) Medicaid: https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members Phone: 1-800-338-8366 Hawki: http://dhs.iowa.gov/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	NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid Website: https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/medicaid/health-insurance-premium-program Phone: 603-271-5218 Toll free number for HIPP: 1-800-852-3345 ext 5218	UTAH – Medicaid and CHIP Medicaid Website: https://medicaid.utah.gov/ CHIP Website: http://health.utah.gov/chip Phone: 1-877-543-7669
KANSAS – Medicaid Website: https://www.kancare.ks.gov/ Phone: 1-800-792-4884 HIPP: 1-800-967-4660	NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP Medicaid Website: http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/ Medicaid Phone: 609-631-2392 CHIP Website: http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710	VERMONT– Medicaid Website: https://dvha.vermont.gov/members/medicaid/hipp-program Phone: 1-800-250-8427
KENTUCKY – 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: KIHIPPPROGRAM@ky.gov KCHIP Website: https://kidshealth.ky.gov/Pages/index.aspx Phone: 1-877-524-4718 Kentucky Medicaid Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms	NEW YORK – Medicaid Website: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-541-2831	VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP Website: https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/famis-select https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs Medicaid/CHIP Phone: 1-800-432-5924
LOUISIANA – Medicaid Website: www.medicaid.la.gov or www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp Phone: 1-888-342-6207 (Medicaid hotline) or 1-855-618-5488 (LaHIPP)	NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid Website: https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/ Phone: 919-855-4100	WASHINGTON – Medicaid Website: https://www.hca.wa.gov Phone: 1-800-562-3022
MAINE – Medicaid Enrollment Website: https://www.mymaineconnection.gov/benefits/s/?language=en_US Phone: 1-800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711 Private Health Insurance Premium Webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms Phone: 1-800-977-6740 TTY: Maine relay 711	NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid Website: https://www.hhs.nd.gov/healthcare Phone: 1-844-854-4825	WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP 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)
MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP Website: https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pa Phone: 1-800-862-4840 TTY:711 email: masspremassistance@accenture.com	OKLAHOMA – Medicaid and CHIP Website: http://www.insureoklahoma.org Phone: 1-888-365-3742	WISCONSIN – Medicaid and CHIP Website: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm Phone: 1-800-362-3002
MINNESOTA – Medicaid 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	OREGON – Medicaid Website: http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx Phone: 1-800-699-9075	WYOMING – Medicaid Website: https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility Phone: 1-800-251-1269
PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid and CHIP Website: https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/HIPP-Program.aspx Phone: 1-800-692-7462 CHIP: https://www.dhs.pa.gov/CHIP/Pages/CHIP.aspx CHIP Phone: 1-800-986-KIDS (5437)		
To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since July 31, 2023, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either: 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.		
U.S. Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa 1-866-444-EBSA (3272)		
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services www.cms.hhs.gov 1-877-267-2323, Menu Option 4, Ext. 61565		
OMB Control Number 1210-0137 (expires 1/31/2026)		