

# Glossary of Health Coverage & Medical Terms

This glossary has many commonly used terms, but isn't a full list. These glossary terms and definitions are intended to be educational and may be different from the terms and definitions in your plan. Some of these terms also might not have exactly the same meaning when used in your policy or plan, and in any such case, the policy or plan governs. (See your Summary of Benefits and Coverage for information on how to get a copy of your policy or plan document.)



For a digital version of the Glossary of Health Coverage & Medical Terms scan the QR code with your mobile device.

## Allowed Amount

**Maximum amount on which payment is based for covered health care services. This may be called "eligible expense," "payment allowance" or "negotiated rate." If your provider charges more than the allowed amount, you may have to pay the difference. (See Balance Billing.)**

## Appeal

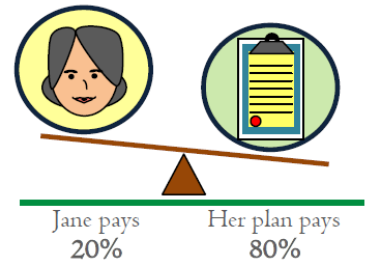
A request for your health insurer or plan to review a decision or a grievance again.

## Balance Billing

When a provider bills you for the difference between the provider's charge and the allowed amount. For example, if the provider's charge is \$100 and the allowed amount is \$70, the provider may bill you for the remaining \$30. A preferred provider may not balance bill you for covered services.

## Co-insurance

Your share of the costs of a covered health care service, calculated as a percent (for example, 20%) of the allowed amount for the service. You pay co-insurance *plus* any deductibles you owe. For example, if the health insurance or plan's allowed amount for an office visit is \$100 and you've met your deductible, your co-insurance payment of 20% would be \$20. The health insurance or plan pays the rest of the allowed amount.



## Complications of Pregnancy

Conditions due to pregnancy, labor and delivery that require medical care to prevent serious harm to the health of the mother or the fetus. Morning sickness and a non-emergency caesarean section aren't complications of pregnancy.

## Co-payment

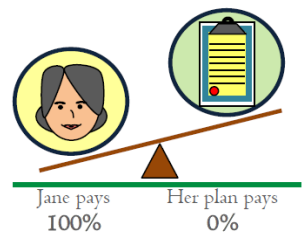
A fixed amount (for example, \$15) you pay for a covered health care service, usually when you receive the service. The amount can vary by the type of covered health care service.

## Deductible

The amount you owe for health care services your health insurance or plan covers before your health insurance or plan begins to pay. For example, if your deductible is \$1000, your plan won't pay anything until you've met your \$1000 deductible for covered health care services subject to the deductible. The deductible may not apply to all services.

## Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

Equipment and supplies ordered by a health care provider for everyday or extended use. Coverage for DME may include: oxygen equipment, wheelchairs, crutches or blood testing strips for diabetics.



## Emergency Medical Condition

An illness, injury, symptom or condition so serious that a reasonable person would seek care right away to avoid severe harm.

## Emergency Medical Transportation

Ambulance services for an emergency medical condition.

## Emergency Room Care

Emergency services you get in an emergency room.

## Emergency Services

Evaluation of an emergency medical condition and treatment to keep the condition from getting worse.

# Glossary of Health Coverage & Medical Terms (continued)

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## Excluded Services

Health care services that your health insurance or plan doesn't pay for or cover.

## Grievance

A complaint that you communicate to your health insurer or plan.

## Habilitation Services

Health care services that help a person keep, learn or improve skills and functioning for daily living. Examples include therapy for a child who isn't walking or talking at the expected age. These services may include physical and occupational therapy, speech-language pathology and other services for people with disabilities in a variety of inpatient and/or outpatient settings.

## Health Insurance

A contract that requires your health insurer to pay some or all of your health care costs in exchange for a premium.

## Home Health Care

Health care services a person receives at home.

## Hospice Services

Services to provide comfort and support for persons in the last stages of a terminal illness and their families.

## Hospitalization

Care in a hospital that requires admission as an inpatient and usually requires an overnight stay. An overnight stay for observation could be outpatient care.

## Hospital Outpatient Care

Care in a hospital that usually doesn't require an overnight stay.

## In-network Co-insurance

The percent (for example, 20%) you pay of the allowed amount for covered health care services to providers who contract with your health insurance or plan. In-network co-insurance usually costs you less than out-of-network co-insurance.

## In-network Co-payment

A fixed amount (for example, \$15) you pay for covered health care services to providers who contract with your health insurance or plan. In-network co-payments usually are less than out-of-network co-payments.

## Medically Necessary

Health care services or supplies needed to prevent, diagnose or treat an illness, injury, condition, disease or its symptoms and that meet accepted standards of medicine.

## Network

The facilities, providers and suppliers your health insurer or plan has contracted with to provide health care services.

## Non-Preferred Provider

A provider who doesn't have a contract with your health insurer or plan to provide services to you. You'll pay more to see a non-preferred provider. Check your policy to see if you can go to all providers who have contracted with your health insurance or plan, or if your health insurance or plan has a "tiered" network and you must pay extra to see some providers.

## Out-of-network Co-insurance

The percent (for example, 40%) you pay of the allowed amount for covered health care services to providers who do not contract with your health insurance or plan. Out-of-network co-insurance usually costs you more than in-network co-insurance.

## Out-of-network Co-payment

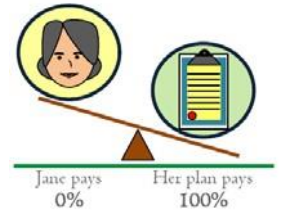
A fixed amount (for example, \$30) you pay for covered health care services from providers who do not contract with your health insurance or plan. Out-of-network co-payments usually are more than in-network co-payments.



# Glossary of Health Coverage & Medical Terms (continued)

## Out-of-Pocket Limit

The most you pay during a policy period (usually a year) before your health insurance or plan begins to pay 100% of the allowed amount. This limit never includes your premium, balance-billed charges or health care your health insurance or plan doesn't cover. Some health insurance or plans don't count all of your co-payments, deductibles, co-insurance payments, out-of-network payments or other expenses toward this limit.



## Physician Services

Health care services a licensed medical physician (M.D. – Medical Doctor or D.O. – Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine) provides or coordinates.

## Plan

A benefit your employer, union or other group sponsor provides to you to pay for your health care services.

## Preauthorization

A decision by your health insurer or plan that a health care service, treatment plan, prescription drug or durable medical equipment is medically necessary. Sometimes called prior authorization, prior approval or precertification. Your health insurance or plan may require preauthorization for certain services before you receive them, except in an emergency. Preauthorization isn't a promise your health insurance or plan will cover the cost.

## Preferred Provider

A provider who has a contract with your health insurer or plan to provide services to you at a discount. Check your policy to see if you can see all preferred providers or if your health insurance or plan has a "tiered" network and you must pay extra to see some providers. Your health insurance or plan may have preferred providers who are also "participating" providers. Participating providers also contract with your health insurer or plan, but the discount may not be as great, and you may have to pay more.

## Premium

The amount that must be paid for your health insurance or plan. You and/or your employer usually pay it monthly, quarterly or yearly.

## Prescription Drug Coverage

Health insurance or plan that helps pay for prescription drugs and medications.

## Prescription Drugs

Drugs and medications that by law require a prescription.

## Primary Care Physician

A physician (M.D. – Medical Doctor or D.O. – Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine) who directly provides or coordinates a range of health care services for a patient.

## Primary Care Provider

A physician (M.D. – Medical Doctor or D.O. – Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine), nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist or physician assistant, as allowed under state law, who provides, coordinates or helps a patient access a range of health care services.

## Provider

A physician (M.D. – Medical Doctor or D.O. – Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine), health care professional or health care facility licensed, certified or accredited as required by state law.

## Reconstructive Surgery

Surgery and follow-up treatment needed to correct or improve a part of the body because of birth defects, accidents, injuries or medical conditions.

# Glossary of Health Coverage & Medical Terms (continued)

## Rehabilitation Services

Health care services that help a person keep, get back or improve skills and functioning for daily living that have been lost or impaired because a person was sick, hurt or disabled. These services may include physical and occupational therapy, speech-language pathology and psychiatric rehabilitation services in a variety of inpatient and/or outpatient settings.

## Skilled Nursing Care

Services from licensed nurses in your own home or in a nursing home. Skilled care services are from technicians and therapists in your own home or in a nursing home.

## Specialist

A physician specialist focuses on a specific area of medicine or a group of patients to diagnose, manage, prevent or treat certain types of symptoms and conditions. A non-physician specialist is a provider who has more training in a specific area of health care.

## UCR (Usual, Customary and Reasonable)

The amount paid for a medical service in a geographic area based on what providers in the area usually charge for the same or similar medical service. The UCR amount sometimes is used to determine the allowed amount.

## Urgent Care

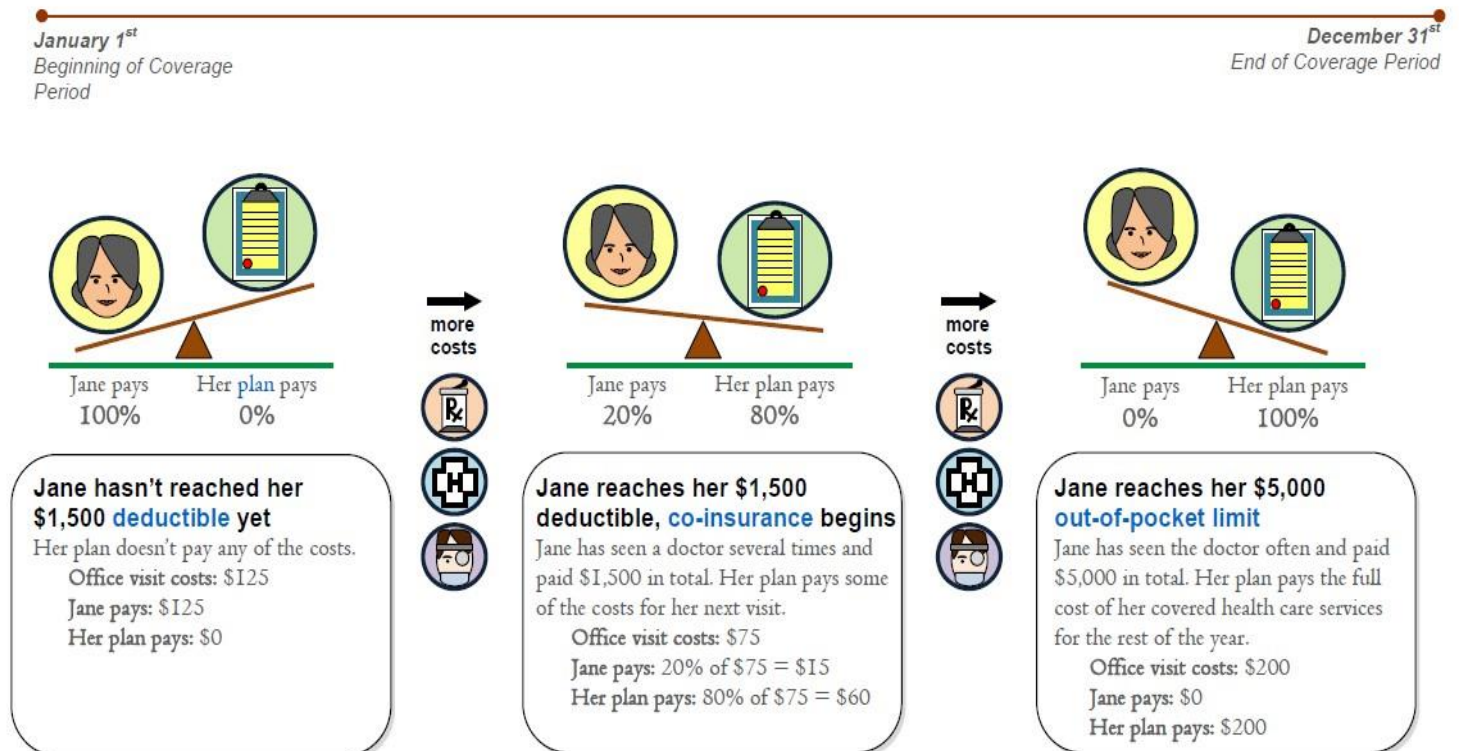
Care for an illness, injury or condition serious enough that a reasonable person would seek care right away, but not so severe as to require emergency room care.

## How You and Your Insurer Share Costs - Example

Jane's Plan Deductible: \$1,500

Co-insurance: 20%

Out-of-Pocket Limit: \$5,000



# Annual Notices

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Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requires a group health plan to provide a Notice of Special Enrollment Rights annually to all employees who are eligible to participate in the plan.

## Notice of Special Enrollment Rights (Qualifying Event)

### “Special Enrollment Rights”

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 the employer stops contributing toward your or your dependents’ other coverage). However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after your or your dependents’ other coverage ends (or after the employer stops contributing toward the other coverage). 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 30 days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption. To request special enrollment or obtain more information, contact Deidre Hall, Human Resources (817) 426-9642.

## Women’s Health and Cancer Rights

### Notice of Rights to Reconstructive Surgery Following Mastectomy

The Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 was signed into law on October 21, 1998. The Act requires that all group health plans providing medical and surgical benefits with respect to a mastectomy must provide coverage for all of the following:

- Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy has been performed;
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce symmetrical appearance; and
- Prosthesis and treatment of physical complications of all stages of mastectomy, including lymphedemas.

This coverage must be provided in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and patient.

This coverage may be subject to co-payments, annual deductibles and co-insurance provisions as is deemed appropriate and as is consistent with the co-payments, annual deductibles and co-insurance for other benefits under the plan or coverage. Federal law requires this coverage. In addition, our Plan will not deny you eligibility or continue eligibility to enroll or renew coverage under the terms of the Plan, solely for the purpose of avoiding this coverage, or to penalize incentives (monetary or otherwise) to an attending provider, to include the provider to provide care to you in a manner inconsistent with the coverage required under the Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998.

## Newborns’ and Mothers’ Health Protection Act

Group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under Federal law, restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less 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 insurance issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours).

# Annual Notices (continued)

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## **Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)**

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 deals with how an employer can enforce eligibility and enrollment for health care benefits, as well as ensuring that protected health information which identifies you is kept private.

You have the right to inspect and copy protected health information which is maintained by and for the plan for enrollment, payment, claims, and case management. If you feel that protected health information about you is incorrect or incomplete, you may ask your benefits administrator to amend the information. For a full copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices, describing how protected health information about you may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to the information, contact Benefits Administration.

**DISCLAIMER:** The HIPAA Privacy Rule is effective beginning April 14, 2003. The Privacy Rule is intended to safeguard protected health information (PHI) created and held by health care providers, health plans, health information clearing houses and their business associates. The provisions of the Privacy Rule have significant impact on those who deal with health information and on all citizens with regard to their personal PHI. Our health insurance broker and all of our contracted plans adhere to the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

This is not a Grandfathered plan.



# Annual Notices (continued)

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## **Important Notice from City of Burleson About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and 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 City of Burleson and about your options under Medicare's prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether or not you want to join a Medicare drug plan. If you are considering joining, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered at what cost, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice.

There are two important things to know about your current coverage and Medicare's prescription drug coverage:

1. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.
2. City of Burleson has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by United Healthcare is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is therefore considered Creditable Coverage. Because your existing coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare drug plan.

### **When Can You Join A Medicare Drug Plan?**

You can join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from October 15<sup>th</sup> to December 7<sup>th</sup>.

However, if you lose your current creditable prescription drug coverage, through no fault of your own, you will also be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan.

### **What Happens To Your Current Coverage If You Decide To Join A Medicare Drug Plan?**

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your current City of Burleson coverage will be affected. See pages 7-9 of the CMS Disclosure of Creditable Coverage to Medicare Part D Eligible Individuals Guidance (available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/CreditableCoverage>), which outlines the prescription drug plan provisions/options that Medicare eligible individuals may have available to them when they become eligible for Medicare Part D.

If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current City of Burleson coverage, be aware that you and your dependents will not be able to get this coverage back.



# Annual Notices (continued)

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## **When Will You Pay A Higher Premium (Penalty) To Join A Medicare Drug Plan?**

You should also know that if you drop or lose your current coverage with City of Burleson and don't join a Medicare drug plan within 63 continuous days after your current coverage ends, you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) to join a Medicare drug plan later.

If you go 63 continuous days or longer without creditable 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 that coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without creditable coverage, your premium may consistently be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this higher premium (a penalty) as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following November to join.

### ***For More Information About This Notice Or Your Current Prescription Drug Coverage....***

Contact the Medicare office for further information at 866-746-4234. **NOTE:** You will receive this notice annually and at other times in the future such as before the next period you can enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage, and if this coverage through City of Burleson changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time.

### ***For More Information About Your Options Under Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage....***

More detailed information about your Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is in the "Medicare & You" handbook. You'll get a copy of the handbook in the mail every year from Medicare. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare prescription drug plans.

For more information about Medicare prescription drug plans:

- Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://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

For people with limited income and resources, extra help in paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. Information about this extra help is available from the Social Security Administration (SSA) online at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), or you can call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

**Remember: Keep this Creditable Coverage 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).**

**Date:** October 12, 2019 – October 11, 2020

**Name of Entity/Sender:** City of Burleson





# Annual Notices (continued)

## 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](http://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](http://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](http://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, 2019. Contact your State for more information on eligibility –

<b>ALABAMA – Medicaid</b>	<b>FLORIDA – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://myalhipp.com/">http://myalhipp.com/</a> Phone: 1-855-692-5447	Website: <a href="http://flmedicaidprecovery.com/hipp/">http://flmedicaidprecovery.com/hipp/</a> Phone: 1-877-357-3268
<b>ALASKA – Medicaid</b>	<b>GEORGIA – Medicaid</b>
The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment Program Website: <a href="http://myakhipp.com/">http://myakhipp.com/</a> Phone: 1-866-251-4861 Email: <a href="mailto:CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com">CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com</a> Medicaid Eligibility: <a href="http://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/medicaid/default.aspx">http://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/medicaid/default.aspx</a>	Website: <a href="http://dch.georgia.gov/medicaid">http://dch.georgia.gov/medicaid</a> - Click on Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Phone: 404-656-4507
<b>ARKANSAS – Medicaid</b>	<b>INDIANA – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://myarhipp.com/">http://myarhipp.com/</a> Phone: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)	Healthy Indiana Plan for low-income adults 19-64 Website: <a href="http://www.in.gov/fssa/hip/">http://www.in.gov/fssa/hip/</a> Phone: 1-877-438-4479 All other Medicaid Website: <a href="http://www.indianamedicaid.com">http://www.indianamedicaid.com</a> Phone 1-800-403-0864
<b>COLORADO – Health First Colorado (Colorado’s Medicaid Program) &amp; Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)</b>	<b>IOWA – Medicaid</b>

Health First Colorado Website: <a href="https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/">https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/</a> Health First Colorado Member Contact Center: 1-800-221-3943/ State Relay 711 CHP+: Colorado.gov/HCPF/Child-Health-Plan-Plus CHP+ Customer Service: 1-800-359-1991/ State Relay 711	Website: <a href="http://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid-a-to-z/hipp">http://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid-a-to-z/hipp</a> Phone: 1-888-346-9562
<b>KANSAS – Medicaid</b>	<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/">http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/</a> Phone: 1-785-296-3512	Website: <a href="http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oii/documents/hippapp.pdf">http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oii/documents/hippapp.pdf</a> Phone: 603-271-5218
<b>KENTUCKY – Medicaid</b>	<b>NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP</b>
Website: <a href="http://chfs.ky.gov/dms/default.htm">http://chfs.ky.gov/dms/default.htm</a> Phone: 1-800-635-2570	Medicaid Website: <a href="http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/">http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/</a> Medicaid Phone: 609-631-2392 CHIP Website: <a href="http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html">http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html</a> CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710
<b>LOUISIANA – Medicaid</b>	<b>NEW YORK – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/subhome/1/n/331">http://dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/subhome/1/n/331</a> Phone: 1-888-695-2447	Website: <a href="https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/">https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/</a> Phone: 1-800-541-2831
<b>MAINE – Medicaid</b>	<b>NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/public-assistance/index.html">http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/public-assistance/index.html</a> Phone: 1-800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711	Website: <a href="https://dma.ncdhhs.gov/">https://dma.ncdhhs.gov/</a> Phone: 919-855-4100
<b>MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP</b>	<b>NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/masshealth/">http://www.mass.gov/eohhs/gov/departments/masshealth/</a> Phone: 1-800-462-1120	Website: <a href="http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/">http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/</a> Phone: 1-844-854-4825
<b>MINNESOTA – Medicaid</b>	<b>OKLAHOMA – Medicaid and CHIP</b>
Website: <a href="http://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/seniors/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/medical-assistance.jsp">http://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/seniors/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/medical-assistance.jsp</a> Phone: 1-800-657-3739	Website: <a href="http://www.insureoklahoma.org">http://www.insureoklahoma.org</a> Phone: 1-888-365-3742
<b>MISSOURI – Medicaid</b>	<b>OREGON – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm">http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm</a> Phone: 573-751-2005	Website: <a href="http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx">http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx</a> <a href="http://www.oregonhealthcare.gov/index-es.html">http://www.oregonhealthcare.gov/index-es.html</a> Phone: 1-800-699-9075
<b>MONTANA – Medicaid</b>	<b>PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP">http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP</a> Phone: 1-800-694-3084	Website: <a href="http://www.dhs.pa.gov/provider/medicalassistance/healthinsurancepremiumpaymenthippprogram/index.htm">http://www.dhs.pa.gov/provider/medicalassistance/healthinsurancepremiumpaymenthippprogram/index.htm</a> Phone: 1-800-692-7462
<b>NEBRASKA – Medicaid</b>	<b>RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://dhhs.ne.gov/Children_Family_Services/AccessNebraska/Pages/accessnebraska_index.aspx">http://dhhs.ne.gov/Children_Family_Services/AccessNebraska/Pages/accessnebraska_index.aspx</a> Phone: 1-855-632-7633	Website: <a href="http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/">http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/</a> Phone: 401-462-5300
<b>NEVADA – Medicaid</b>	<b>SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid</b>
Medicaid Website: <a href="https://dwss.nv.gov/">https://dwss.nv.gov/</a> Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900	Website: <a href="https://www.scdhhs.gov">https://www.scdhhs.gov</a> Phone: 1-888-549-0820



<b>SOUTH DAKOTA - Medicaid</b>	<b>WASHINGTON – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://dss.sd.gov">http://dss.sd.gov</a> Phone: 1-888-828-0059	Website: <a href="http://www.hca.wa.gov/free-or-low-cost-health-care/program-administration/premium-payment-program">http://www.hca.wa.gov/free-or-low-cost-health-care/program-administration/premium-payment-program</a> Phone: 1-800-562-3022 ext. 15473
<b>TEXAS – Medicaid</b>	<b>WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://gethipptexas.com/">http://gethipptexas.com/</a> Phone: 1-800-440-0493	Website: <a href="http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/bms/Medicaid%20Expansion/Pages/default.aspx">http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/bms/Medicaid%20Expansion/Pages/default.aspx</a> Phone: 1-877-598-5820, HMS Third Party Liability
<b>UTAH – Medicaid and CHIP</b>	<b>WISCONSIN – Medicaid and CHIP</b>
Medicaid Website: <a href="https://medicaid.utah.gov/">https://medicaid.utah.gov/</a> CHIP Website: <a href="http://health.utah.gov/chip">http://health.utah.gov/chip</a> Phone: 1-877-543-7669	Website: <a href="https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p1/p10095.pdf">https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p1/p10095.pdf</a> Phone: 1-800-362-3002
<b>VERMONT– Medicaid</b>	<b>WYOMING – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://www.greenmountaincare.org/">http://www.greenmountaincare.org/</a> Phone: 1-800-250-8427	Website: <a href="https://wyequalitycare.acs-inc.com/">https://wyequalitycare.acs-inc.com/</a> Phone: 307-777-7531
<b>VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP</b>	
Medicaid Website: <a href="http://www.coverva.org/programs_premium_assistance.cfm">http://www.coverva.org/programs_premium_assistance.cfm</a> Medicaid Phone: 1-800-432-5924 CHIP Website: <a href="http://www.coverva.org/programs_premium_assistance.cfm">http://www.coverva.org/programs_premium_assistance.cfm</a> CHIP Phone: 1-855-242-8282	

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since January 31, 2019, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security Administration  
[www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa](http://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](http://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](mailto:ebsa.opr@dol.gov) and reference the OMB Control Number 1210-0137.

OMB Control Number 1210-0137 (expires 12/31/2020)

# Annual Notices (continued)

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## HEALTH INSURANCE MARKETPLACE COVERAGE OPTIONS AND YOUR HEALTH COVERAGE

### Part A

#### General Information

When key parts of the health care law took effect in 2014, there was 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 ended January 31, 2020 unless you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period.

#### 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.

#### Does Employer Health Coverage Affect Eligibility for Premium Savings through the Marketplace?

Yes. If you have an offer of health coverage from your employer that meets certain standards, you will not be eligible for a tax credit through the Marketplace and may wish to enroll in your employer's health plan. However, you may be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your monthly premium, or a reduction in certain cost-sharing if your employer does not offer coverage to you at all or does not offer coverage that meets certain standards. If the cost of a plan from your employer that would cover you (and not any other members of your family) is more than 9.5% of your household income for the year, or if the coverage your employer provides does not meet the "minimum value" standard set by the Affordable Care Act, you may be eligible for a tax credit.

**Note:** If you purchase a health plan through the Marketplace instead of accepting health coverage offered by your employer, then you may lose the employer contribution (if any) to the employer-offered coverage. Also, this employer contribution -as well as your employee contribution to employer-offered coverage- is often excluded from income for Federal and State income tax purposes. Your payments for coverage through the Marketplace are made on an after-tax basis.

#### How much is the tax penalty if I don't have health coverage in 2020?

If you don't have health insurance in 2020, you'll pay the **higher** of these two amounts:

- **2.5% of your yearly household income** (Only the amount of income above the tax filing threshold, about \$10,150 for an individual in 2014, is used to calculate the penalty.) The maximum penalty is the national average premium for a Bronze plan.
- **\$695 per person (\$347.50 per child under 18)** The maximum penalty per family using this method is \$2,085.



# Annual Notices (continued)

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## **How Can I Get More Information?**

For more information about your coverage offered by your employer, please check your summary plan description or contact Deidre Hall, Human Resources (817) 426-9642.

The Marketplace can help you evaluate your coverage options, including your eligibility for coverage through the Marketplace and its cost. Please visit [HealthCare.gov](http://HealthCare.gov) for more information, including an online application for health insurance coverage and contact information for a Health Insurance Marketplace in your area.

## **Part B**

### **Information About Health Coverage Offered by Your Employer**

This section contains information about any health coverage offered by your employer. If you decide to complete an application for coverage in the Marketplace, you will be asked to provide this information. This information is numbered to correspond to the Marketplace application.

1. Employer name: City of Burleson
2. Employer Identification Number (EIN): 75-6000475
3. Employer address: 141 West Renfro Street
4. Employer phone number: (817) 426-9642
5. City: Burleson
6. State: TX
7. ZIP code: 76028
8. Who can we contact about employee health coverage at this job? Human Resources

# Annual Notices (continued)

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## General Notice Of COBRA Continuation Coverage Rights

### **\*\* Continuation Coverage Rights Under COBRA \*\***

#### **Introduction**

You're getting this notice because you recently gained coverage under a group health plan (the Plan). This notice has important information about your right to COBRA continuation coverage, which is a temporary extension of coverage under the Plan. **This notice explains COBRA continuation coverage, when it may become available to you and your family, and what you need to do to protect your right to get it.** When you become eligible for COBRA, you may also become eligible for other coverage options that may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage.

The right to COBRA continuation coverage was created by a federal law, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA). COBRA continuation coverage can become available to you and other members of your family when group health coverage would otherwise end. For more information about your rights and obligations under the Plan and under federal law, you should review the Plan's Summary Plan Description or contact the Plan Administrator.

**You may have other options available to you when you lose group health coverage.** For example, you may be eligible to buy an individual plan through the Health Insurance Marketplace. By enrolling in coverage through the Marketplace, you may qualify for lower costs on your monthly premiums and lower out-of-pocket costs. Additionally, you may qualify for a 30-day special enrollment period for another group health plan for which you are eligible (such as a spouse's plan), even if that plan generally doesn't accept late enrollees.

#### **What is COBRA continuation coverage?**

COBRA continuation coverage is a continuation of Plan coverage when it would otherwise end because of a life event. This is also called a "qualifying event." Specific qualifying events are listed later in this notice. After a qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage must be offered to each person who is a "qualified beneficiary." You, your spouse, and your dependent children could become qualified beneficiaries if coverage under the Plan is lost because of the qualifying event. Under the Plan, qualified beneficiaries who elect COBRA continuation coverage [*choose and enter appropriate information: must pay or aren't required to pay*] for COBRA continuation coverage.

If you're an employee, you'll become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

- Your hours of employment are reduced, or
- Your employment ends for any reason other than your gross misconduct.

If you're the spouse of an employee, you'll become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

- Your spouse dies;
- Your spouse's hours of employment are reduced;
- Your spouse's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
- Your spouse becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); or
- You become divorced or legally separated from your spouse.



# Annual Notices (continued)

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Your dependent children will become qualified beneficiaries if they lose coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

- The parent-employee dies;
- The parent-employee's hours of employment are reduced;
- The parent-employee's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
- The parent-employee becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (Part A, Part B, or both);
- The parents become divorced or legally separated; or
- The child stops being eligible for coverage under the Plan as a "dependent child."
- Sometimes, filing a proceeding in bankruptcy under title 11 of the United States Code can be a qualifying event. If a proceeding in bankruptcy is filed with respect to the City of Burleson, and that bankruptcy results in the loss of coverage of any retired employee covered under the Plan, the retired employee will become a qualified beneficiary. The retired employee's spouse, surviving spouse, and dependent children will also become qualified beneficiaries if bankruptcy results in the loss of their coverage under the Plan.

## **When is COBRA continuation coverage available?**

The Plan will offer COBRA continuation coverage to qualified beneficiaries only after the Plan Administrator has been notified that a qualifying event has occurred. The employer must notify the Plan Administrator of the following qualifying events:

- The end of employment or reduction of hours of employment;
- Death of the employee;
- Commencement of a proceeding in bankruptcy with respect to the City of Burleson or
- The employee's becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both).

**For all other qualifying events (divorce or legal separation of the employee and spouse or a dependent child's losing eligibility for coverage as a dependent child), you must notify the Plan Administrator within 60 days after the qualifying event occurs. You must provide this notice to: City of Burleson Human Resources; 141 W. Renfro Burleson, TX 76028**

## **How is COBRA continuation coverage provided?**

Once the Plan Administrator receives notice that a qualifying event has occurred, COBRA continuation coverage will be offered to each of the qualified beneficiaries. Each qualified beneficiary will have an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Covered employees may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their spouses, and parents may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their children.

COBRA continuation coverage is a temporary continuation of coverage that generally lasts for 18 months due to employment termination or reduction of hours of work. Certain qualifying events, or a second qualifying event during the initial period of coverage, may permit a beneficiary to receive a maximum of 36 months of coverage.

There are also ways in which this 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage can be extended:



# Annual Notices (continued)

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## ***Disability extension of 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage***

If you or anyone in your family covered under the Plan is determined by Social Security to be disabled and you notify the Plan Administrator in a timely fashion, you and your entire family may be entitled to get up to an additional 11 months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 29 months. The disability would have to have started at some time before the 60th day of COBRA continuation coverage and must last at least until the end of the 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage.

## ***Second qualifying event extension of 18-month period of continuation coverage***

If your family experiences another qualifying event during the 18 months of COBRA continuation coverage, the spouse and dependent children in your family can get up to 18 additional months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 36 months, if the Plan is properly notified about the second qualifying event. This extension may be available to the spouse and any dependent children getting COBRA continuation coverage if the employee or former employee dies; becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); gets divorced or legally separated; or if the dependent child stops being eligible under the Plan as a dependent child. This extension is only available if the second qualifying event would have caused the spouse or dependent child to lose coverage under the Plan had the first qualifying event not occurred.

## **Are there other coverage options besides COBRA Continuation Coverage?**

Yes. Instead of enrolling in COBRA continuation coverage, there may be other coverage options for you and your family through the Health Insurance Marketplace, Medicaid, or other group health plan coverage options (such as a spouse's plan) through what is called a "special enrollment period." Some of these options may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage. You can learn more about many of these options at [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov).

## **If you have questions**

Questions concerning your Plan or your COBRA continuation coverage rights should be addressed to the contact or contacts identified below. For more information about your rights under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), including COBRA, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and other laws affecting group health plans, contact the nearest Regional or District Office of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) in your area or visit [www.dol.gov/ebsa](http://www.dol.gov/ebsa). (Addresses and phone numbers of Regional and District EBSA Offices are available through EBSA's website.) For more information about the Marketplace, visit [www.HealthCare.gov](http://www.HealthCare.gov).

## **Keep your Plan informed of address changes**

To protect your family's rights, let the Plan Administrator know about any changes in the addresses of family members. You should also keep a copy, for your records, of any notices you send to the Plan Administrator.

## **Plan contact information**

City of Burleson Health Plan  
Human Resources  
(817) 426-9641



# Annual Notices (continued)

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## NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES

This Notice is for CITY OF BURLESON ("City of Burleson") employees/retirees (and their dependents) participating in the City of Burleson health plans (medical, dental, and vision, which together have been designated as the City of Burleson Healthcare Arrangement (the "Plan"). If you are not currently participating in these plans, but begin participating in the future, this Notice will apply to you once you begin participating.

### **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.**

Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the Plan is required to:

- take reasonable steps to ensure the privacy of your personally identifiable health information;
- give you this Notice of our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to medical information about you (the participant);
- and follow the terms of this Notice.

In addition to the requirements above, this Notice is intended to inform you about:

- The Plan's uses and disclosures of Protected Health Information (PHI);
- your privacy rights with respect to your PHI;
- the Plan's duties with respect to your PHI;
- your right to file a complaint with the Plan and to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and
- the person or office to contact for further information about the Plan's privacy practices.

The term "Protected Health Information" (PHI) includes all individually identifiable health information transmitted or maintained by the Plan, regardless of form (oral, written, electronic).

If you have any questions about this Notice, please contact the Privacy Officer. The address to contact the Privacy Officer is as follows:

Privacy Officer  
Wanda Bullard  
Director of Human Resources  
141 Renfro Street  
Burleson, Texas 76028  
(817) 426-9641

### **Who Will Follow This Notice**

This Notice describes the health information practices of the Plan, and that of third parties that provides services to the Plan. All references to "you" include employee/retiree participants and their dependent(s) who participate in the Plan.

# Annual Notices (continued)

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## **Our Pledge Regarding Medical Information**

The Plan understands that medical information about you and your health is personal. The Plan is committed to protecting medical information about you. The Plan creates a record of the health care claims reimbursed under the Plan for Plan administration purposes. This Notice applies to all of the health records that the Plan maintains. Your personal doctor or health care provider may have different policies or Notices regarding the doctor's use and disclosure of your medical information created in the doctor's office or clinic.

The Plan will not use or disclose your PHI that is genetic information about you for underwriting purposes.

This Notice will tell you about the ways in which the Plan may use and disclose medical information about you. It also describes the Plan's obligations and your rights regarding the use and disclosure of medical information.

## **Notice of PHI Uses and Disclosures**

*Required PHI Uses and Disclosures.* Upon your request, the Plan is required to give you access to certain PHI in order to inspect and copy it.

Use and disclosure of your PHI may be required by the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to investigate or determine the Plan's compliance with the privacy regulations.

## **Uses and Disclosures to Carry Out Treatment, Payment and Health Care Operations**

The Plan and its business associates will use PHI without your consent, authorization or opportunity to agree or object to carry out treatment, payment and health care operations. The Plan also will disclose PHI to the Plan Sponsor, City of Burleson, for purposes related to treatment, payment and health care operations. The Plan Sponsor has amended its plan documents to protect your PHI as required by federal law.

*Treatment* is the provision, coordination or management of health care and related services. It also includes, but is not limited to, consultations and referrals between one or more of your providers. For example, the Plan may disclose to a treating orthodontist the name of your treating dentist so that the orthodontist may ask for your dental X-rays from the treating dentist.

*Payment* includes, but is not limited to, actions to make payment (including billing, claims management, subrogation, plan reimbursement, reviews for medical necessity and appropriateness of care, utilization review and preauthorization).payment for the health care services you receive. For example, the Plan may tell your health care provider about your medical history to determine whether a particular treatment is experimental, investigational or medically necessary or to determine whether the Plan will cover the treatment. The Plan may also share medical information with a utilization review or precertification service provider. Likewise, the Plan may share medical information with another entity to assist with the adjudication or subrogation of health claims or to another health plan to coordinate benefit payments.

Furthermore, the Plan may, for payment purposes, take actions to make coverage determinations. For example, the Plan may tell a doctor whether you are eligible for coverage or what percentage of the bill will be paid by the Plan.



# Annual Notices (continued)

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*Health Care Operations* include, but are not limited to, quality assessment and improvement, reviewing competence or qualifications of health care professionals, underwriting, premium rating and other insurance activities relating to creating or renewing insurance contracts. It also includes disease management, case management, conducting or arranging for medical review, legal services and auditing functions including fraud and abuse compliance programs, business planning and development, business management and general administrative activities. For example, the Plan may use information about your claims to refer you to a disease management program, project future benefit costs or audit the accuracy of its claims processing functions.

Other examples include the Plan using your health information to review the performance of our staff and vendors. The Plan may also use your information and the information of other members to plan what services the Plan needs to provide, expand, or reduce. The Plan may disclose your health information as necessary to others who the Plan contracts with to provide administrative service, which includes the Plan's lawyers, auditors, accreditation services, and consultants, for instance.

## **Uses and Disclosures that Require Your Written Authorization**

Your express written authorization must be received before the Plan sells any PHI about you. Also, your written authorization generally will be obtained before the Plan will use or disclose psychotherapy notes about you from your psychotherapist. 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. The Plan may use and disclose such notes when needed by the Plan to defend against litigation filed by you.

In addition, your written authorization is required for any marketing communication which includes a communication about a product or service that encourages you to buy or sue the product or service being marketed. However, if there is no direct or indirect fee to the Plan, an authorization is not required. Moreover, communications the Plan makes about its own health care products or services, communications for treatment purposes, and communications for purposes of case management or Personal Health Support or to recommend alternative treatments, therapies, providers or settings of care are accepted from the authorization requirement.

## **Use and Disclosures that Require that You be Given an Opportunity to Agree or Disagree Prior to the Use or Release**

Disclosure of your PHI to family members, other relatives and your close personal friends 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.

## **Uses and Disclosures for which Consent, Authorization or Opportunity to Object is not Required**

Use and disclosure of your PHI is allowed without your consent, authorization or request under the following circumstances:

*To Avert a Serious Threat to Health or Safety.* The Plan may disclose your health information if the Plan decides that the disclosure is necessary to prevent serious harm to the public or to an individual. The disclosure will only be made to someone who is able to prevent or reduce the threat.

# Annual Notices (continued)

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**Organ and Tissue Donation.** If you are an organ donor, the Plan may release medical information to organizations that handle organ procurement or organ, eye or tissue transplantation or to an organ donation bank, as necessary to facilitate organ or tissue donation and transplantation.

**Military and Veterans.** If you are a member of the armed forces, the Plan may release medical information about you as required by military command authorities. The Plan may also release medical information about foreign military personnel to the appropriate foreign military authority.

**Workers' Compensation.** The Plan may release medical information about you for workers' compensation or similar programs.

**Public Health Risks.** The Plan may disclose medical information about you for public health activities. These activities generally include the following:

- to prevent or control disease, injury or disability;
- to report births and deaths;
- to report child abuse or neglect;
- to report reactions to medications or problems with products;
- to notify people of recalls of products they may be using;
- to notify a person who may have been exposed to a disease or may be at risk for contracting or spreading a disease or condition;
- to notify the appropriate government authority if the Plan believes a participant has been the victim of abuse, neglect or domestic violence. The Plan will only make disclosure if you agree or when required or authorized by law.

**Health Oversight Activities.** The Plan may disclose medical information to a health oversight agency for activities authorized by law. These oversight activities include, for example, audits, investigations, inspections, and licensure. These activities are necessary for the government to monitor the health care system, government programs, and compliance with civil rights laws.

**Law Enforcement.** The Plan may release medical information if asked to do so by law enforcement official:

- in response to a court order, subpoena, warrant, summons or similar process;
- to identify or locate a suspect, fugitive, material witness, or missing person;
- about the victim of a crime if, under certain limited circumstances, the Plan is unable to obtain the person's agreement;
- about a death the Plan believes may be the result of criminal conduct;
- about criminal conduct at the hospital; and
- in emergency circumstances to report a crime, the location of the crime or victims, or the identity, description or location of the person who committed the crime.

**Coroners, Medical Examiners and Funeral Directors.** The Plan may release medical information to a coroner or medical examiner. This may be necessary, for example, to identify a deceased person or determine the cause of death. The plan may also release medical information about patients of a hospital to funeral directors as necessary to carry out their duties.

**National Security and Intelligence Activities.** The Plan may release medical information about you to authorized federal officials for intelligence, counterintelligence, and other national security activities authorized by law.

**Inmates.** If you are an inmate of a correctional institution or under the custody of a law enforcement official, the Plan may release medical information about you to the correctional institution or law enforcement official. This release would be necessary (1) for the institution to provide you with health care; (2) to protect your health and safety or the health and safety of others; or (3) for the safety and security of the correctional institutions.



# Annual Notices (continued)

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## **Rights of Individuals**

*Right to Request Restrictions on PHI Uses and Disclosures.* You may request the Plan to restrict uses and disclosures of your PHI to carry out treatment, payment or health care operations, or to restrict uses and disclosures to family members, relatives, friends or other persons identified by you who are involved in your care or payment for your care. For example, you could ask that the Plan not use or disclose information about a surgery you had. The Plan is not required to agree to your request.

You or your personal representative will be required to complete a form to request restrictions on uses and disclosures of your PHI. To request restrictions, you must make your request in writing to the Privacy Officer. In your request, you must tell the Plan (1) what information you want to limit; (2) whether you want to limit the Plan's use, disclosure or both; and (3) to whom you want the limits to apply, for example, disclosures to your spouse.

## **Right to Inspect and Copy PHI**

You have the right to inspect and copy medical information that may be used to make decisions about your Plan benefits. You also have a right to inspect and obtain a copy of your PHI contained in a "designated record set," for as long as the Plan maintains the PHI.

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

The requested information will be provided within 30 days if the information is maintained on site 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.

To inspect and copy medical information that may be used to make decisions about you or to inspect and copy a designated record set, you must submit your request in writing to the Privacy Officer, c/o CITY OF BURLESON, HR. If you request a copy of the information, the Plan may charge a fee for the costs of copying, mailing or other supplies associated with your request. If access is denied, you or your personal representative will be provided with a written denial setting forth the basis for the denial, a description of how you may exercise those review rights and a description of how you may complain to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

## **Right to Amend PHI**

You have the right to request the Plan to amend your PHI or a record about you in a designated record set for as long as the PHI is maintained in the designated record set or by the Plan.

To request an amendment, your request must be made in writing and submitted to: Privacy Officer, c/o CITY OF BURLESON. In addition, you must provide a reason that supports your request.

# Annual Notices (continued)

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The Plan has 60 days after the request is made to act on the request. A single 30-day extension is allowed if the Plan is unable to comply with the deadline. The Plan may deny your request for an amendment if it is not in writing or does not include a reason to support the request. In addition, the Plan may deny your request if you ask the Plan to amend information that:

- is not part of the medial information kept by or for the Plan;
- was not created by the Plan, unless the person or entity that created the information is no longer available to make the amendment;
- is not part of the information which you would be permitted to inspect and copy; or is accurate and complete.

If the request is denied in whole or part, the Plan must provide you with a written denial that explains the basis for the denial. You or your personal representative may then submit a written statement disagreeing with the denial and have that statement included with any future disclosures of your PHI.

## **The Right to Receive an Accounting of PHI Disclosures**

At your request, the Plan will also provide you with an accounting of disclosures by the Plan of your PHI during the six years prior to the date of your request. However, such accounting need not include PHI disclosures made: (1) to carry out treatment, payment or health care operations; (2) to individuals about their own PHI; or (3) prior to the compliance date.

If the accounting cannot be provided within 60 days, an additional 30 days is allowed if the individual is given a written statement of the reasons for the delay and the date by which the accounting will be provide.

If you request more than one accounting within a 12-month period, the Plan will charge a reasonable, cost-based fee for each subsequent accounting.

To request an accounting of disclosures, your request must be made in writing and submitted to the Privacy Officer, c/o CITY OF BURLESON, HR. In addition, you must provide a reason that supports your request and in what form you want the list (for example, paper or electronic).

## **The Right to Request Confidential Communications**

You have the right to request that the Plan communicate with you about medical matters in a certain way or at a certain location. For example, you can ask that the Plan only contact you at work or by mail.

To request confidential communications, you must make your request in writing to the Privacy Officer, c/o CITY OF BURLESON, HR. The Plan will not ask you the reason for your request. The Plan will accommodate all reasonable requests. Your request must specify how or where you wish to be contacted.





# Annual Notices (continued)

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## **The Right to Receive a Paper Copy of This Notice Upon Request**

You have a right to receive a paper copy of this Notice even if you have previously received a copy or agreed to receive this Notice electronically. You may also obtain a copy of this Notice on the intranet.

To obtain a paper copy of this Notice, please contact the Privacy Officer, c/o CITY OF BURLESON, HR.

## **A Note About Personal Representatives**

You may exercise your rights through a personal representative. Your personal representative will be required to produce evidence of his/her authority to act on your behalf before that person will be given access to your PHI or allowed to take any action for you. Proof of such authority may take one of the following forms:

- a power of attorney for health care purposes, notarized by a notary public;
- a court order of appointment of the person as the conservator or guardian of the individual; or
- an individual who is the parent of a minor child

The Plan retains discretion to deny access to your PHI to a personal representative to provide protection to those vulnerable people who depend on others to exercise their rights under these rules and who may be subject to abuse or neglect. This also applies to personal representatives of minors.

## **The Plan's Duties**

*The Duty to Notify in Case of a Breach.* The Plan is required by law to notify any affected individuals of a breach of unsecured PHI.

*The Plan's Rights and Responsibilities to Change This Notice.* The Plan is required by law to maintain the privacy of PHI and to provide individuals (participants and beneficiaries) with Notice of its legal duties and privacy practices.

This Notice is effective beginning April 14, 2003, and the Plan is required to comply with the terms of this Notice. However, the Plan reserves the right to change their privacy practices and to apply the changes to any PHI received or maintained by the Plan prior to that date. If a privacy practice is changed, a revised version of this Notice will be provided to all past and present participants and beneficiaries for whom the Plan still maintains PHI. You will receive a copy of any revised Notice from the Plan by mail or by e-mail, but only if e-mail delivery is offered by the Plan and you agree to such delivery.

Any revised version of this Notice will be distributed within 60 days of the effective date of any material change to the uses or disclosures, the individual's rights, the duties of the Plan or other privacy practices stated in this Notice.

# Annual Notices (continued)

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## **Minimum Necessary Standard**

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 to the following situations:

- disclosures to or requests by a health care provider for treatment;
- uses or disclosures made to the individual;
- disclosures made to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services;
- uses or disclosures that are required by law; and
- uses or disclosures required for the Plan's compliance with legal regulations.

This Notice does not apply to information that has been de-identified. De-identified information is information that does not identify an individual and with respect to which there is no reasonable basis to believe that the information can be used to identify an individual.

In addition, the Plan may use or disclose "summary health information" to City of Burleson for obtaining premium bids or modifying, amending or terminating the Plan, which summarizes the claims history, claims expenses or type of claims experienced by individuals for whom City of Burleson has provided health benefits under the Plan; and from which identifying information has been deleted in accordance with HIPAA.

## **Your Right to File a Complaint with the Plan or the HHS Secretary**

If you believe that your privacy rights have been violated, you may complain to the Privacy Officer, c/o CITY OF BURLESON, HR. You may also file a complaint with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201. The Plan will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

## **Other Uses of PHI**

Other uses and disclosures of PHI not covered by this Notice or the laws that apply to us will be made only with your written authorization. If you provide us with an authorization to use or disclose PHI about you, you may revoke that authorization, in writing, at any time. If you revoke your authorization, we will no longer use or disclose PHI about you for the reasons covered by your written authorization. We are unable to take back any disclosures we have already made with your authorization and that we are required to retain our records of the care that we provided to you.

Authorizations for Psychiatric Notes, Genetic Information, Marketing, & Sale In general, and subject to specific conditions, we will not use or disclose psychiatric notes without your authorization; we will not use or disclose PHI that is genetic information for underwriting purposes; we will not sell your PHI, i.e. receive direct or indirect payment in exchange for your PHI, without your authorization; we will not use your PHI for marketing purposes without your authorization; and we will not use or disclose your PHI for fundraising purposes unless we disclose that activity in this Notice.



# Annual Notices (continued)

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Personal Representatives We may disclose your PHI to individuals authorized by you, or an individual designated as your personal representative, provided that we have received your authorization or some other Notice or documentation demonstrating the legal right of that individual to receive such information. Under HIPAA we do not have to disclose PHI 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; or
- 2) treating such person as your personal representative could endanger you; and
- 3) in the exercise of professional judgment, it is not in your best interest to treat the person as your personal representative.

Spouses and other Family Members With only limited exceptions, we will send all mail to the employee. This may include information regarding a spouse or dependents also covered under the Plan. Information includes, but is not limited to, Plan statements, benefit denials, benefit debit cards and City of Burleson information.

## **Conclusion**

PHI use and disclosure by the Plan is regulated by a federal law known as HIPAA (the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act). You may find these rules at 45 *Code of Federal Regulations* Parts 160 and 164. This Notice attempts to summarize the regulations. The regulations will supersede any discrepancy between the information in this Notice and the regulations.

**Questions: Call Deidre Hall at 817-426-9642**

# Annual Notices (continued)

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The benefits described in this booklet are for represented employees only.

The City of Burleson expect to continue these plans indefinitely but reserve the right to modify, amend, suspend or terminate any plan at any time and for any reason without prior notification.

You will be notified of any changes to these plans and how they affect your benefits, if at all. The plans described in this booklet are governed by insurance contracts and self-insured plan documents, which are available for examination by request of your HR Department. We have attempted to make the explanation of the plans in this booklet as accurate as possible. However, should there be a discrepancy between this booklet and the provisions of the insurance contracts or plan documents, the provisions of the insurance contracts or plan documents will govern. In addition, you should not rely on any oral descriptions of the plans, since the written descriptions in the insurance contracts or plan documents will always govern.

Fall 2019 for 2020 Plan Year

