

## **WRAP Plan Document**

Revised 10/01/2025

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#### SUMMARY OF PLAN SPONSOR RESPONSIBILITIES

The Summary Plan Description, or SPD, is the main vehicle for communicating plan rights and obligations to participants and beneficiaries. As the name suggests, it is a summary of the material provisions of the plan document, and it should be understandable to the average participant of the employer. However, in the context of health & welfare benefit plans, it is not uncommon for the SPD to be a combination of a complete description of the plan's terms and conditions, such as a Certificate of Coverage, and the required ERISA disclosure language. **Note: An insurance company's Master Contract, Certificate of Coverage, or Summary of Benefits is not a plan document or SPD.** 

As the Plan Sponsor/Administrator, you will have sole responsibility to comply with all plan administration, implementation, amendments, filing, reporting, disclosure and plan compliance requirements imposed by the plan, ERISA, the Internal Revenue Code or any other applicable law, specifically including, but not limited to:

- Reviewing the sample documents (plan, summary plan description, and information) with legal counsel, executing the SPD Adoption Agreement, and distributing the summary plan description to employees on, or before their enrollment date, or within 90 days of enrollment.
- Ensuring that only common law employees participate in the plan [employees of companies described in IRC Section 414 (b), (c) or (m) and listed in the plan as participating affiliates may also participate] and ensuring that the terms of its plan document are enforced.
- Conducting initial and annual enrollments.
- Form 5500 Annual Returns. You may be required to file a Form 5500 Annual Return for the component benefit plans, (component benefit plans would be any self-funded or partially self-funded health plans sponsored by you through ERISA, Health Flexible Spending Accounts (FSA) with more than 100 employees are still required to file a Form 5500).
- Retaining documentation relating to plan operations that may be requested in an IRS or Department of Labor audit of plan operations including, but not limited to: executed copies of the plan, salary redirection agreements, plan amendments, resolutions adopting the plan, and Form 5500s for seven years after the close of each plan year.
- Employers with 20 or more employees must provide COBRA continuation benefits to those employees with a positive FSA Account balance on the date of the COBRA qualifying event.

# SECTION 1 RESOLUTION TO ADOPT

PLACE THIS PAGE AFTER TAB 1
SECTION 1 SHOULD CONSIST OF
THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION TO ADOPT

# JEFFERSON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES RESOLUTION TO ADOPT EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PLAN & ERISA WRAP SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

WHEREAS, Jefferson County Emergency Services has determined that it would be in the best interests of its employees to adopt an "Employee Benefit(s) Plan" allowing for medical and other benefit coverage, so-called; be it known that a vote was taken, and all were in favor.

RESOLVED, that Jefferson County Emergency Services adopt an "Employee Benefit(s) Plan," all in accordance with the specifications annexed hereto; and, be it known that the "Jefferson County Emergency Services Employee Benefits Plan" was executed.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that Jefferson County Emergency Services adopt the required ERISA "Wrap Summary Plan Description," with all of the specifications annexed hereto; be it known that the "Jefferson County Emergency Services Employee Benefits Plan SPD Document" was also executed.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Company undertake all actions necessary to implement and administer said Employee Benefit(s) Plan and distribute said ERISA Wrap SPD to all participants and their beneficiaries.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have executed my name for the above-named Company on October 1, 2025.

ATTEST:			
Witness			
Jessica James	 	 	

# SECTION 2 ERISA WRAP SPD DOCUMENT

PLACE ALL PAGES OF THE SPD DOCUMENT AFTER TAB 2

## JEFFERSON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES EMPLOYEE BENEFITS PLAN &

#### ERISA WRAP SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

#### **PLAN PURPOSE**

Jefferson County Emergency Services (the "Employer") maintains the **Employee Benefit(s) Plan** ("the Plan") for the exclusive benefit of its eligible employees and their eligible dependents. Benefits under the Plan are currently provided under a group health insurance contract ("the Group Health Insurance Contract") entered into between the Employer and Highmark WV.

Plan benefits, including information about eligibility, are summarized in the Certificate of Coverage, Member Payment Summary, and Provider & Facility Directory issued by Highmark WV, copies of which are available from your Human Resources Department, free of charge. These documents together with this document constitute the Summary Plan Description required by the federal law known as the Employee Retirement Income and Security Act ("ERISA"). Capitalized terms not otherwise defined in this document are defined in the Certificate of Coverage.

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As used in this Summary Plan Description (SPD), "Your" means an active Employee as described under "Who is Eligible."

#### SPECIFIC PLAN INFORMATION

Plan Name: Jefferson County Emergency Services Employee Benefit(s)

Plan

Type of Plan: A group health plan (a type of welfare benefits plan subject to

the provisions of ERISA).

Plan Year: October 1 to September 30

Effective Date: October 1, 2025

Plan Number: 501

Insurance Company: Highmark WV

Ancillary Insurance

Companies:

Sunlife NVA

Employer/ Plan Sponsor: Jefferson County Emergency Services

Jessica James

419 16th Avenue Ranson, WV 25438

Plan Funding and

Type of Administration: The Plan is fully insured. Benefits are provided under the Group

Health Insurance Carrier Contract between the Employer and Highmark WV. Claims for benefits are sent to Highmark WV, which is responsible for paying claims. Highmark WV and the Employer share responsibility for administering the Plan.

Insurance premiums for employees and their eligible dependents are paid in part by the Plan Sponsor out of its general assets, and in part by employees' payroll deductions.

Plan Sponsor's Employer

Identification Number: 55-6000333

Plan Administrator: Jefferson County Emergency Services

419 16th Avenue Ranson, WV 25438

Attention: Jessica James

Named Fiduciary: Jefferson County Emergency Services

419 16th Avenue Ranson, WV 25438

Agent for Service of

Legal Process: Jefferson County Emergency Services

419 16th Avenue Ranson, WV 25438

(304) 728-3287

Service of process may also be made on the Plan Administrator.

**Important Disclaimer**: Plan benefits are provided under a Group Health Insurance

Contract between the Employer and Highmark WV. If the terms of this summary document conflict with the terms of the Group Health Insurance Contract, the terms of the Group Health

Insurance Contract will control, unless superseded by applicable

law.

#### SUMMARY OF PLAN BENEFITS

The Plan provides eligible employees and their eligible dependents with health insurance. These benefits are provided under the Group Health Insurance Contract with Highmark WV. A summary of the benefits provided under the Plan is in the Certificate of Coverage issued by Highmark WV.

The Plan, through the Group Health Insurance Contract, provides benefits in accordance with the applicable requirements of federal laws, such as Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), Health Insurance Portability Accountability Act (HIPAA), Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act (NMHPA), Mental Health Parity Act (MHPA), Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act (WHCRA), Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA), and the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

#### Plan Administration

The administration of the Plan is under the supervision of the Plan Administrator. The principal duty of the Plan Administrator is to see that the Plan is carried out, in accordance with its terms, for the exclusive benefit of persons entitled to participate in the Plan without discriminating among them.

The Plan is fully insured. Benefits are provided under the Group Health Insurance Contract entered into between the Employer and Highmark WV. Claims for benefits are sent to Highmark WV, and Highmark WV, not the Employer, is responsible for paying them. Highmark WV is also responsible for determining eligibility for and the amount of any benefits payable under the Plan and prescribing claims procedures and forms to be followed to receive Plan benefits. Highmark WV also has the discretionary authority to require participants to furnish it with such information as it determines is necessary for the proper administration of claims for Plan benefits.

#### Claims and Appeals

Highmark WV is responsible for evaluating all benefit claims under the Plan. Highmark WV will decide your claim in accordance with its reasonable claims procedures, as required by ERISA. If your claim is denied, you may appeal to Highmark WV for a review of the denied claim and Highmark WV will decide your appeal in accordance with its reasonable procedures, as required by

ERISA. See the Certificate of Coverage for complete details regarding Highmark WV's claims and appeals procedures.

#### Amendment or Termination of the Plan

As Plan Sponsor, the Employer has the right to amend or terminate the Plan at any time. You have no vested or permanent rights or benefits under the Plan. Plan benefits will typically change from year-to-year and you should examine the SPD provided to you each year to determine the benefits of the Plan.

#### Other Materials

The Certificate of Coverage (including the Member Payment Summary, and the Provider & Facility Directory) issued by Highmark WV are part of the Summary Plan Description as attachments. Please refer to these materials for other important provisions regarding your participation in the Plan.

#### Who is Eligible

In order to be eligible for benefits you must be scheduled to work 35 or more hours per week. During the Employer Waiting Period, you must work the specified minimum required hours except for paid time off and hours you do not work due to a medical condition, the receipt of healthcare, your health status or disability. Highmark WV may require payroll reports from your employer to verify the number of hours you have worked as well as documentation from you to verify hours that you did not work due to paid time off, a medical condition, the receipt of healthcare, your health status or disability.

To determine whether your spouse and dependent children are eligible to participate in the Plan, please read the eligibility information contained in the Certificate of Coverage issued by Highmark WV.

The Plan will extend benefits to dependent children placed with you for adoption under the same terms and conditions as apply in the case of dependent children who are your natural children. Also eligible is any child covered under a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO) as defined by applicable law and determined by your Employer under its QMCSO procedures, a copy of which is available from your Human Resources Department, free of charge.

If eligible, you must complete an application form to enroll in the Plan and Highmark WV (available from your Human Resources Department) or otherwise comply with your Employer's enrollment procedures.

Coverage will terminate if you no longer meet the eligibility requirements. Coverage may also terminate if you fail to pay your share of the premium, if your hours drop below the required eligibility threshold, if you submit false claims, etc. (See the Certificate of Coverage for more information.) Coverage for your spouse and dependents stops when your coverage stops. Their coverage will also stop for other reasons specified in the Certificate of Coverage.

#### **Waiting Period**

You are eligible to participate on the first day of the month following completion of 1 consecutive month of active employment as an Eligible Employee.

#### Monthly Measurement Method Used For Determining Full-Time Employee Status

On Feb. 12, 2014, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) published final regulations on the employer shared responsibility rules. The final regulations provide two methods for identifying full-time employees for purposes of offering health plan coverage and avoiding a pay or play penalty—the monthly measurement method and the look-back measurement method.

A full-time employee is an employee who was employed, on average, at least 30 hours of service per week. The final regulations treat 130 hours of service in a calendar month as the monthly equivalent of 30 hours per service per week.

Jefferson County Emergency Services currently uses the monthly measurement method which involves a month-to-month analysis where full-time employees are identified based on their hours of service for each calendar month. This method is not based on averaging hours of service over a prior measurement period.

#### **Grandfathered Status**

The Company believes the Plan is a "grandfathered health plan" under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (the Affordable Care Act). As permitted by the Affordable Care Act, a grandfathered health plan can preserve certain basic health coverage that was already in effect when that law was enacted.

Being a grandfathered health plan means that your Plan may not include certain consumer protections of the Affordable Care Act that apply to other plans, for example, the requirement for the provision of preventive health services without any cost sharing. However, grandfathered health plans must comply with certain other consumer protections in the Affordable Care Act, for example, the elimination of lifetime limits on benefits.

Questions regarding which protections apply and which protections do not apply to a grandfathered health plan and what might cause a plan to change from grandfathered health plan status can be directed to the Plan Administrator. Because the Plan is subject to ERISA, you may also contact the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor at 1-866-444-3272 or www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform. This website has a table summarizing which protections do and do not apply to grandfathered health plans.

#### SPECIAL SITUATIONS, EXTENSION OF COVERAGE

FMLA does not apply to: (1) employers that do not employ 50 or more employees during 20 or more calendar workweeks in current or preceding calendar year; (2) employees at worksites with less than 50 employees, if the employer employs fewer than 50 employees within a 75-mile radius of that worksite. COBRA does not apply to groups with less than 20 employees in preceding year.

#### FMLA Leave Entitlement Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

Eligible employees who work for a covered employer can take up to 12 weeks of unpaid, jobprotected leave in a 12-month period for the following reasons:

- The birth of a child or placement of a child for adoption or foster care;
- To bond with a child (leave must be taken within one year of the child's birth or placement);
- To care for the employee's spouse, child, or parent who has a qualifying serious health condition;
- For the employee's own qualifying serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job;
- For qualifying exigencies related to the foreign deployment of a military member who is the employee's spouse, child, or parent.

An eligible employee who is a covered servicemember's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin may also take up to 26 weeks of FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember with a serious injury or illness.

An employee does not need to use leave in one block. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, employees may take leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule.

Employees may choose, or an employer may require, use of accrued paid leave while taking FMLA leave. If an employee substitutes accrued paid leave for FMLA leave, the employee must comply with the employer's normal paid leave policies.

#### **FMLA Benefits & Protection**

While employees are on FMLA leave, employers must continue health insurance coverage as if the employees were not on leave.

Upon return from FMLA leave, most employees must be restored to the same job or one nearly identical to it with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions.

An employer may not interfere with an individual's FMLA rights or retaliate against someone for using or trying to use FMLA leave, opposing any practice made unlawful by the FMLA, or being involved in any proceeding under or related to the FMLA.

#### **FMLA Eligibility Requirements**

An employee who works for a covered employer must meet three criteria in order to be eligible for FMLA leave. The employee must:

- Have worked for the employer for at least 12 months;
- Have at least 1,250 hours of service in the 12 months before taking leave;\* and
- Work at a location where the employer has at least 50 employees within 75 miles of the employee's worksite.

#### **Requesting FMLA Leave**

Generally, employees must give 30-days' advance notice of the need for FMLA leave. If it is not possible to give 30-days' notice, an employee must notify the employer as soon as possible and, generally, follow the employer's usual procedures.

Employees do not have to share a medical diagnosis, but must provide enough information to the employer so it can determine if the leave qualifies for FMLA protection. Sufficient information could include informing an employer that the employee is or will be unable to perform his or her job functions, that a family member cannot perform daily activities, or that hospitalization or continuing medical treatment is necessary. Employees must inform the employer if the need for leave is for a reason for which FMLA leave was previously taken or certified.

Employers can require a certification or periodic recertification supporting the need for leave. If the employer determines that the certification is incomplete, it must provide a written notice indicating what additional information is required.

<sup>\*</sup>Special "hours of service" requirements apply to airline flight crew employees.

#### **FMLA Employer Responsibilities**

Once an employer becomes aware that an employee's need for leave is for a reason that may qualify under the FMLA, the employer must notify the employee if he or she is eligible for FMLA leave and, if eligible, must also provide a notice of rights and responsibilities under the FMLA. If the employee is not eligible, the employer must provide a reason for ineligibility.

Employers must notify its employees if leave will be designated as FMLA leave, and if so, how much leave will be designated as FMLA leave.

#### **FMLA Enforcement**

Employees may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer.

The FMLA does not affect any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family or medical leave rights.

The Plan intends to comply with all existing FMLA regulations. If for some reason the information presented differs from actual FMLA regulations, the Plan reserves the right to administer the FMLA in accordance with such actual regulations.

For more information please see: <a href="https://www.dol.gov/general/topic/benefits-leave/fmla">https://www.dol.gov/general/topic/benefits-leave/fmla</a>

#### Military Leave Coverage

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) establishes requirements that employers must meet for certain employees who are involved in the uniformed services

As used in this provision, "Uniformed Services" means:

- The Armed Forces:
- The Army National Guard and the Air National Guard when engaged in active duty for training, inactive duty training, or full-time National Guard duty (pursuant to orders issued under federal law);
- The commissioned corps of the Public Health Service; and
- Any other category of persons designated by the President in time of war or national emergency.

As used in this provision, "Service in the Uniformed Services" or "Service" means the performance of a duty on a voluntary or involuntary basis in a Uniformed Service under competent authority and includes:

- Active duty;
- Active duty for training;
- Initial active duty training;
- Inactive duty training;
- Full-time National Guard duty,
- A period for which you are absent from your job for purpose of an examination to determine your fitness to perform any such duties;
- A period for which you are absent from your job for the purpose of performing certain funereal honors duty; and
- Certain service by intermittent disaster response appointees of the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS).

If you were covered under this Plan immediately prior to taking a leave for Service in the Uniformed Services, you may elect to continue your coverage under USERRA for up to 24 months from the date your leave for uniformed service began, if you pay any required contributions toward the cost of the coverage during the leave. This USERRA continuation coverage will end earlier if one of the following events takes place:

- 1) You fail to make a premium payment within the required time;
- 2) You fail to report to work or to apply for reemployment within the time period required by USERRA following the completion of your service; or
- 3) You lose your rights under USERRA, for example, as a result of a dishonorable discharge. If the leave is 30 days or less, your contribution amount will be the same as for active employees. If the leave is longer than 30 days, the required contribution will not exceed 102% of the cost of coverage. Coverage continued under this provision runs concurrently with coverage described below under the section entitled "COBRA Continuation Coverage."

If your coverage under the Plan terminated because of your Service in the Uniformed Services, your coverage will be reinstated on the first day you return to employment if you are released under honorable conditions and you return to employment within the time period(s) required by USERRA.

When coverage under this Plan is reinstated, all of the Plan's provisions and limitations will apply to the extent that they would have applied if you had not taken military leave and your coverage had been continuous. This waiver of limitations does not provide coverage for any illness or injury caused or aggravated by your military service, as determined by the VA. (For complete information regarding your rights under USERRA, contact your Employer.)

The Plan intends to comply with all existing regulations of USERRA. If for some reason the information presented in the Plan differs from the actual regulations of USERRA, the Plan Administrator reserves the right to administer the plan in accordance with such actual regulations.

**COBRA Continuation Coverage** (only applies to groups of 20+ employees in preceding year)

COBRA Continuation Coverage is a continuation of Plan coverage when coverage would otherwise end because of a life event known as a "qualifying event." The following are qualifying events:

- Termination of your employment for any reason except gross misconduct. Coverage may continue for you and/or your eligible dependents;
- A reduction in your hours. Coverage may continue for you and/or your eligible dependents;
- Your death. Coverage may continue for your eligible dependents;
- Your divorce or legal separation. Coverage may continue for your eligible dependents;
- Your becoming entitled to Medicare. Coverage may continue for your eligible dependents; and
- Your covered dependent child's ceasing to be a dependent child under the Plan. Coverage may continue for that dependent.
- If the Plan includes retiree coverage, Employer Bankruptcy is a qualifying event.

Note: To choose this continuation coverage, an individual must be covered under the Plan on the day before the qualifying event. In addition, your newborn child or child placed for adoption with you during a period of continuation coverage will remain eligible for continuation coverage for the remaining period of coverage even if you and/or your spouse terminate continuation coverage following the child's birth or placement for adoption.

#### **Notification Requirements**

Under the law, you or the applicable dependent has the responsibility to inform the Plan Administrator, in writing, within 60 days of a divorce or legal separation or of a child losing dependent status under the Plan. Failure to provide this written notification within 60 days will result in the loss of continuation coverage rights.

Your Employer has the responsibility to notify the Plan Administrator of your death, termination of employment, reduction in hours, or entitlement to Medicare within 30 days of the qualifying event.

Subject to the Plan Administrator being informed in a timely manner of the qualifying events described in the above paragraphs, the Plan will promptly notify you and other qualifying individual(s) of their continuation coverage rights. You and any applicable dependents must elect continuation coverage within 60 days after Plan coverage would otherwise end, or, if later, within 60 days of the notice of continuation coverage rights. Failure to elect continuation coverage within this 60-day period will result in loss of continuation coverage rights.

#### Trade Act of 2002

If you qualify for Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) as defined by the Trade Act of 2002, they you will be provided with an additional 60 day enrollment period, with continuation coverage beginning on the date of such TAA approval.

#### **Notice of Unavailability of Continuation Coverage**

If the Plan Administrator receives a notice of a qualifying event from you or your dependent and determines that the individual (you or your dependent) is not entitled to continuation coverage, the Plan Administrator will provide to the individual an explanation as to why the individual is not entitled to continuation coverage. This notice will be provided within the same time frame that the Plan Administrator would have provided the notice of right to elect continuation coverage.

#### **Maximum Period of Continuation Coverage**

The maximum period of continuation coverage is 36 months from the date of the qualifying event, unless the qualifying event is your termination of employment or reduction in hours. In that case, the maximum period of continuation coverage is generally 18 months from the date of the qualifying event.

However, if a qualifying individual is disabled (as determined under the Social Security Act) at the time of your termination or reduction in hours or becomes disabled at any time during the first 60 days of continuation coverage, continuation coverage for the qualifying individual and any non-disabled eligible dependents who are also entitled to continuation coverage may be extended to 29 months provided the qualifying individual or dependent, if applicable, notifies the Plan Administrator in writing within the 18-month continuation coverage period and within 60 days after receiving notification of determination of disability.

If a second qualifying event occurs (for example, your death or divorce) during the 18- or 29-month coverage period resulting from your termination of employment or reduction in hours, the maximum period of coverage will be computed from the date of the first qualifying event, but will be extended to the full 36 months if required by the subsequent qualifying event.

A special rule applies if the qualifying individual is your spouse or dependent child whose qualifying event was the termination or reduction in hours of your employment and you became entitled to Medicare within 18 months before such qualifying event. In that case, the qualifying individual's maximum period of continuation coverage is the longer of 36 months from the date of your Medicare entitlement or their otherwise applicable maximum period of coverage.

#### **Cost of Continuation Coverage**

The cost of continuation coverage is determined by the Employer and paid by the qualifying individual. If the qualifying individual is not disabled, the applicable premium cannot exceed 102 percent of the Plan's cost of providing coverage. The cost of coverage during a period of extended continuation coverage due to a disability cannot exceed 150 percent of the Plan's cost of coverage.

Premium payments for continuation coverage for you or your eligible dependent's "initial premium month(s)" are due by the 45th day after electing continuation coverage. The "initial premium month(s)" are any month that ends on or before the 45th day after you or the qualifying individual elects continuation coverage. All other premiums are due on the first of the month for which coverage is sought, subject to a 30-day grace period. Premium rates are established by your Employer and may change when necessary due to Plan modifications. The cost of continuation coverage is computed from the date coverage would normally end due to the qualifying event.

Failure to make the first payment within 45 days or any subsequent payment within 30 days of the established due date will result in the permanent cancellation of continuation coverage.

#### When Continuation Coverage Ends

Continuation of coverage ends on the earliest of:

- 1. The date the maximum continuation coverage period expires;
- 2. The date your Employer no longer offers a group health plan to any of its employees;
- 3. The first day for which timely payment is not made to the Plan;
- 4. The date the qualifying individual becomes covered by another group health plan. However, if the new plan contains an exclusion or limitation for a pre-existing condition of the qualifying

- individual, continuation coverage will end as of the date the exclusion or limitation no longer applies;
- 5. The date the qualifying individual becomes entitled to coverage under Medicare; and
- 6. The first day of the month that begins more than 30 days after the qualifying individual who was entitled to a 29-month maximum continuation period is subject to a final determination under the Social Security Act that he or she is no longer disabled.

Note: The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) requires that all health insurance carriers that offer coverage in the individual market accept any eligible individuals who apply for coverage without imposing a pre-existing condition exclusion. In order to be eligible to apply for such coverage from a carrier after ceasing participation in the Plan, you or your eligible dependents must elect continuation coverage under the Plan, continue through the maximum continuation coverage period (18, 29, or 36 months, as applicable), and then apply for coverage with the individual insurance carrier before a 63 day lapse in coverage. For more information about your right to such individual insurance coverage, contact an independent insurance agent or your state insurance commissioner.

#### **Notice of Termination Before Maximum Period of COBRA Coverage Expires**

If continuation coverage for a qualifying individual terminates before the expiration of the maximum period of continuation coverage, the Plan Administrator will provide notice to the individual of the reason that the continuation coverage terminated, and the date of termination. The notice will be provided as soon as practicable following the Plan Administrator's determination regarding termination of the continuation coverage.

The Plan intends to comply with all applicable law regarding continuation (COBRA) coverage. If for some reason the information presented in this Plan differs from actual COBRA requirements, the Plan reserves the right to administer COBRA in accordance with such actual COBRA requirements.

## YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT (ERISA)

As a participant in the Plan (which is a type of employee welfare plan called a "group health plan") you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ERISA provides that all group health plan participants shall be entitled to:

#### Receive Information About Your Plan and Benefits

Examine, without charge, at the Plan Administrator's office and at other specified locations, such as worksites and union halls, all documents governing the Plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series, if applicable) filed by the Plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

Obtain, upon written request to the Plan Administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the Plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) and updated Summary Plan Description. The Plan Administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.

Receive a summary of the Plan's annual financial report. The Plan Administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this summary annual report.

#### **Continue Group Health Plan Coverage**

Continue health care coverage for yourself, spouse or dependents if there is a loss of coverage under the Plan as a result of a Qualifying Event. You or your dependents may have to pay for such coverage. Review this Summary Plan Description and the documents governing the Plan on the rules governing your COBRA continuation coverage rights.

Reduction or elimination of exclusionary periods of coverage for preexisting conditions under the Plan, if you have creditable coverage from another group health plan. You should be provided a certificate of creditable coverage, free of charge, from a group health plan or a health insurance issuer when you lose coverage under a group health plan, when you become entitled to elect COBRA continuation coverage, when your COBRA continuation coverage ceases, if you request it before losing coverage, or if you request it up to 24 months after losing coverage.

#### **Prudent Actions by Plan Fiduciaries**

In addition to creating rights for Plan participants, ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the Plan. The people who operate the Plan, called "fiduciaries" of the Plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other Plan participants and beneficiaries. No one, including your employer, your union, or any other person, may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining a benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA.

#### **Enforce Your Rights**

If your claim for a benefit is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you have a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge, and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules.

Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of Plan documents or the latest annual report from the Plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in a Federal court. In such a case, the court may require the Plan Administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to \$110 a day until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the Plan Administrator. If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a state or Federal court. In addition, if you disagree with the Plan's decision or lack thereof concerning the qualified status of a medical child support order, you may file suit in Federal court. If it should happen that Plan fiduciaries misuse the Plan's money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a Federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful, the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds your claim is frivolous.

#### **Assistance with Your Questions**

If you have any questions about the Plan, you should contact the Plan Administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the Plan Administrator, you should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. You may also obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

#### **GENERAL NOTICES**

#### **Benefits after Childbirth (NMHPA)**

Group health plans may not, under federal law, restrict benefits for any hospital stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, and less than 96 hours following a caesarean section, unless the attending provider, after consultation with the mother, discharges the newborn earlier. A group health plan cannot require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan or third party administrator for a length of stay not in excess of these periods, but precertification may be required to reduce out-of-pockets costs or to use a certain provider or facility. Also, under federal law, issuers may not set the level of benefits or out-of-pocket costs so that any later portion of the 48-hour (or 96-hour) stay is treated in a manner less favorable to the mother or newborn than any earlier portion of the stay.

#### Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA)

GINA prevents discrimination by group health plans and insurance companies based on genetic information. Generally, this Plan and the insurance companies from which it has purchased coverage are not permitted to:

- Use genetic information to discriminate with respect to premiums or contributions;
- Request or require Participants and/or their Dependents to undergo genetic testing (except in specifically permitted situations);
- Collect genetic information for underwriting purposes or prior to enrollment under the Plan;
- Use genetic information to determine eligibility for coverage.

Genetic information includes any information about (i) an individual's genetic tests, (ii) the genetic tests of family members of such individual, and (iii) the manifestation of a disease or disorder in family members of such individual.

#### Women's Health & Cancer Rights Act (WHCRA)

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

- all stages of reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed;
- surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance;
- prostheses; and
- treatment of physical complications of the mastectomy, including lymphedema.

These benefits will be provided subject to the same deductibles and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under this plan. Therefore, the deductibles and coinsurances shown in the Benefit Description will apply.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

#### **Compliance with State and Federal Mandates**

With respect to the benefits and as applicable, the Plan will comply with the requirements of all applicable laws. If for some reason the information presented in this Wrap SPD differs from the actual requirements of any law, the Plan reserves the right to administer the Plan in accordance with those requirements.

#### No Contract of Employment

Nothing in this Plan shall be construed as a contract of employment between the Employer and any employee or Participant, or as a guarantee of any employee or Participant to be continued in the employment of the Employer, nor as a limitation on the right of the Employer to discharge any of its employees with or without cause.

#### Medical Loss Ratio Rebates under the Public Health Service Act

In certain circumstances under the Medical Loss Ratio Standards in § 2718 of the Public Health Service Act, rebates may be paid to this Plan based on the insurance carrier's medical loss ratio. Insurance carriers are required to provide Participants with a written notice of a rebate at the time the rebate is paid to the Plan. Any rebate received by the Employer may be retained by the Employer. Any portion of the rebate attributable to Participant contributions will be used for the benefit of the Participants. This may be done by, for example, lowering the Plan costs for those Participants who are enrolled during the next Plan Year, applying the rebate towards the cost of administering the Plan, implementing a wellness or other program to help reduce plan costs, providing additional taxable income to the Participants, or using the rebate in any other reasonable manner.

#### Additional Information Contained in Attached Benefit Descriptions

The following additional information about the Benefits is included in the Benefit Descriptions for the benefit (if applicable):

- Any additional procedures for enrolling in the Plan;
- A summary of benefits, though this may be provided as a separate document;
- A description of any premiums, deductibles, coinsurance or copayment amounts. The schedule of your contributions, if any, to the premium payment will be provided to you by the Employer;
- A description of any annual or lifetime caps or other limits on benefits;
- Whether and under what circumstances preventive services are covered;
- Whether and under what circumstances coverage is provided for medical tests, devices and procedures;
- Provisions governing the use of network providers (if any). If there is a network, the Benefit
  Description will contain a general description of the provider network and you will receive
  automatically, without charge, a list of providers in the network from the carrier or
  administrator;
- Whether and under what circumstances coverage is provided for any out-of- network services;
- Any conditions or limits on the selection of primary care physicians or providers of specific specialty medical care;
- Any conditions or limits applicable to obtaining emergency medical care;
- Any services requiring preauthorization or utilization review as a condition to obtaining a benefit service;
- A summary of the claim procedures. However, if the claims procedures are not included in the Benefit Description, a copy will be provided to you automatically, without charge from the insurance carrier or administrator;
- Provisions describing the coordination of benefits with the benefits provided under another similar plan in which you or another plan participant are enrolled;
- Any subrogation or reimbursement rights that prevent duplicate payments for your health care; and
- Any other benefit limitations and exclusions.

#### JEFFERSON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES

#### Schedule A

#### OTHER COVERAGE OPTIONS UNDER THE PLAN\*:

#### NAME OF COVERAGE

VISION CARE INSURANCE:

NVA

OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL INSURANCE:

Sunlife

<sup>\*</sup>The Employee contributions necessary to obtain the coverage options set forth in this Schedule A above will be communicated by the Employer to Eligible Employees at the time of Enrollment and in Schedule B. The required Employee contribution amounts will be considered as the maximum elective Employee contributions necessary for participation in each Plan option above.

Jefferson County Emergency Services Premium Election Form

Plan Year Start: October 01, 2025 Plan Year End: September 30, 2026

**Employer Representative** 

Change of Personal Information
Change of Family Status
Qualifying Event Enrollment Change Allowance
QE Change - Waive Participation (Initial)

Personal Information {Complete 1	This Section in	f Enrolling or	Waiving}
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					_							
Personal Information {Complete This   Last Name		s Section if Enrolling or Waiving} First Name			<u>ng}</u>	Middle Initial			Social Security Number			
Mailing Address		Street				City			State			Zip
Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY)  Gender: □ Male		ale □ Fe	e □ Female		Marital Status: □ Single □ Married		Date of Hire		(MM/DD/YYYY)			
nefit Elections - Emp	lovee Cost P	er Pay (2	times a mon	th) Payro	all Deduction*	Effect	ive Date of Co	verage.				
Enrollment Tier *Pre-Tax Deduction(s)	Waive	<u>En</u>	nployee Only	En	mployee Spouse	En	nployee	<u>En</u>	nployee Children		<u>!</u>	amily
Deduction(s)	<u>(√)</u>	<u>(√)</u>	*	(√)	*	(√)	*	<u>(√)</u>	*		<u>(√)</u>	*
Medical & Prescription			\$50.50		\$191.00		\$191.00		\$258.0	00		\$258.00
Dental			\$1.26		\$12.89		\$12.89		\$24.5	55		\$24.55
Vision			\$0.38		\$2.85		\$2.85		\$6.4	40		\$6.40
	Supp	olemental	Dependent C	hild(ren) L	_ife		\$			Γ		
Initial Payroll Deduct	tion Date:					otal Cost	Per Pay (2 pays	per mon	th):	\$		
ave read and understand I have the rigue benefit plan coverage ange in rates charged arriage; divorce; death of commencement of emphapers and the coverage ecifically the Participan surance policy. I understand that the benefit of the participant of the optiderstand that the benefit of the properties of the control of th	ht to have the e I have design by the carrier of a spouse or coloyment; a stiffects eligibilitie due to charat's responsibilitierstand that gions listed about 1 have 1 ha	e compan nated abo s. I ackno depende rike or loc y; a chan age in age ity regard governme ove. If ne	y redirect my ove. I undersi owledge that rate int; birth of a deckout; commer ge in residence, student statuing insurance int subsidized icessary, I auti	salary on tand that my electio ependent; ncement of the for me, as or any so premium insurance thorize Jef	a pretax basimy share of the sh	s during the cost of e unless to on of a children; tances; or nt not to emerger	he plan year and this coverage there is a change in null leave of absert or my dependent a change in morequest anything deducted on a necy Services to	nd apply may be a ge in my umber of nce; a chent either y or my s ng that c post-tax adjust m	this amoradjusted status. A depende ange in varisfies pouse's could violate basis.	unt tow from tin A chang nts; ter worksite s or cea employ ate the	ward the me to ti ge in sta mination e; or any asses to ment sta terms	e purchase me to refle- atus include n of employ y change in satisfy atus. It is of their
nployee Signature												

Date

#### **JEFFERSON COUNTY EMERGENCY SERVICES**

#### **Schedule C**

#### PARTICIPATING AFFILIATED EMPLOYERS

(Companies under common ownership)

The following organizations and entities shall be Participating Employers under the Plan:

Name of Participating Employer

Jefferson County Commission EIN: 55-6000333

### **SECTION 3**

### HEALTH INSURANCE CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE

PLACE CERTIFICATE OF COVERAGE AFTER TAB 3



#### **JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSION**

124 East Washington Street, P.O. Box 250, Charles Town, WV 25414 **Phone**: (304) 728-3284 **Fax**: (304) 725-7916

Web: www.jeffersoncountywv.org

PRESIDENT Pasha Majdi

Memorandum

VICE PRESIDENT Mike Mood

To: All ESA Employees

COMMISSIONER

Jack Hefestay

From: Jessica James, Chief Human Resource Officer

COMMISSIONER Cara Keys Date: September 12, 2025

Cara Keys

Subject: 2025 Open Enrollment – September 15 - September 26, 2025

COMMISSIONER Steve Stolipher

#### **Overview**

The annual Open Enrollment period for benefits elections will begin Monday, September 15, 2025, and will close on Friday, September 26, 2025. This is your opportunity to review, confirm, and make changes to your benefit elections for the upcoming plan year.

#### **Key Changes for FY26**

#### **Premiums**

- Premium rates are increasing across all plans (medical, dental, and vision) and are now commensurate with all county employees.
- New premiums effective October 1, 2025 September 30, 2026.

Coverage Type	Employee Only (Per Pay / Per Month)	Employee + 1 (Spouse <i>or</i> Child) (Per Pay / Per Month)	Employee + Family (3+ individuals on one plan) (Per Pay / Per Month)		
Medical & Prescription (FY25-26; effective 10/01/25)	\$50.50 / \$101.00	\$191.00/382.00	\$258.00 / \$516.00		
<b>♣</b> Dental	\$1.26 / \$2.52	\$12.89 / \$25.78	\$24.55 / \$49.10		
<b>↓</b> Vision	\$0.38 / \$0.76	\$2.85 / \$5.70	\$6.40 / \$12.80		
Combined Premium Total	\$52.14/\$104.28	\$206.74/\$413.48	\$288.95/\$577.90		

<sup>\*</sup>All rates shown per pay period and monthly, based on 24 pay periods per year. Twice a year, employees will receive a paycheck that includes a "premium holiday" in which no insurance deductions are withheld from their gross pay.

#### **Medical Deductibles/HRA**

Jefferson County Emergency Services Agency will continue with a Highmark Medical/Rx plan, with a Policy Year In-Network Deductible of \$2,500 per individual / \$5,000 per family.

The Jefferson County Emergency Services Agency will provide deductible reimbursements based on the following enrollment structure:

**Deductible Reimbursement for the Employee Only Enrollment:** 

The Employee pays the first \$750 and the HRA Plan will reimburse the employee for the 2nd portion of the In-Network Deductible met on an individual basis up to a maximum of \$1,750.

**Deductible Reimbursement for the Employee + 1 or more Dependents Enrollment:** 

The Employee & Dependent(s) pay the first \$1,500 and the HRA Plan will reimburse the employee for the 2nd portion of the In-Network Deductible met on a Family Basis up to a maximum of \$3,500.

#### **Deductible Comparison Chart**

Enrollment Type	Previous Deductible (Employee Responsibility)	New Deductible with HRA (Employee Responsibility)
Employee Only	\$1,000	\$750 (HRA reimburses up to \$1,750 of remaining deductible)
Employee + 1 or More Dependents	\$2,000	\$1,500 (HRA reimburses up to \$3,500 of remaining deductible)

#### **Life Insurance**

• County-provided coverage: \$50,000 (employer-paid) via Sun Life

#### **New Voluntary Life Insurance Options (Sun Life)**

• Employee: Up to \$100,000 additional coverage

Spouse: Up to \$50,000Children: \$10,000 each

#### Guaranteed issuance during this enrollment period only – no medical exams or underwriting required.

• Important: If you decline now but wish to enroll later, underwriting will be required and coverage could be denied.

#### **Short-Term Disability**

- Short-term disability insurance has been discontinued.
- The County is looking into the possibility of adding county-wide long-term disability coverage in the future.

#### **New Provider Requirement**

Because ESA is transitioning to a new provider for Dental and Life Insurance (Sun Life), and Vision Insurance (NVA - National Vision Administrators), all employees must complete Sun Life and NVA enrollment paperwork, even if you do not wish to make changes to your benefits.

#### **Information Session: Learn More About Your Benefits**

We understand these changes may raise questions, so we're hosting a special information session with Millennium Insurance Group. Details below:

- Date & Time: Tuesday, September 23, 2025 at 9:30 am
- Location: Jefferson County Emergency Services Agency

#### **What to Expect:**

- A presentation on the upcoming benefits changes
- Insights on how these changes impact you and your family
- Additional information regarding one-time opportunity to purchase additional life insurance coverage through Sun Life without prerequisite medical exam or proof of insurability.
- Q&A with Laurie and Tom Bracelin of Millennium Insurance Group to answer additional questions you may have regarding changes to your benefits.

#### **Action Required**

- 1. Login to <u>Bernie Portal</u> to review your current benefits elections and make any changes, if necessary, for the upcoming plan year by September 26, 2025. (If you need assistance registering or logging into Bernie Portal, please see attached flyer or contact Seth Bracelin with Millennium Insurance Group at <u>sbracelin@millig.com</u>)
- 2. Consider whether voluntary life insurance coverage is right for you and your family.
- Complete and submit your Sun Life enrollment paperwork for dental and life insurance coverage options and your NVA enrollment paperwork for vision coverage options by September 26, 2025.
- 4. Review your current beneficiary designations and update them if necessary.
- 5. Attend the September 23 staff meeting with Millennium Insurance Group to learn more and get your questions answered.

#### **Questions?**

If you have any questions about your benefits or Open Enrollment, please contact Jessica James at <a href="mailto:jijames@jeffersoncountywv.org">jijames@jeffersoncountywv.org</a> or Lynn Dillow at <a href="mailto:ldillow@jeffersoncountywv.org">ldillow@jeffersoncountywv.org</a> or <a href="mailto:ldillow@jeffersoncountywv.org">ld

## SuperBlue Plus 2000 \$2,500 Deductible

#### **SUMMARY OF BENEFITS**

Contract Date			
<b>Benefit Period</b> (used for Deductible and Coinsurances limits; and certain benefit frequencies.)	Contract	Year <sup>1</sup>	
Note: All services are subject to the Deductible unless other	erwise specified. Co-Pays (Fees) do n nless otherwise specified.	ot apply to Deductibles or	
Deductible (Applies to Network and Non-Network Benefits combined)			
Individual	\$2,50	00	
Family (may be met collectively)	\$5,0	00	
Carry-Over Deductible Period	Non	e	
Network Coinsurance Limit: (Network and Non-Network			
Coinsurance dollars cross apply) Individual	\$2,50	20	
Family (may be met collectively)	\$5,00		
Deductible and Network Coinsurance Limit:			
Individual	\$5,00	00	
Family (may be met collectively)	\$10,0	00	
Non-Network Coinsurance Limit: (In addition to the Deductible and Network Coinsurance limits)			
Individual	\$2,50	00	
Family (may be met collectively)	\$5,0	00	
Maximum Out of Pocket (Deductible, Network and Non-Network Coinsurance Limits combined)			
Individual	\$7,50	00	
Family (may be met collectively)	\$15,0	00	
Non-Network Liability	Unlimited		
Lifetime Maximum Benefit for all Covered Services	Unlim	ited	
BENEFIT HI	GHLIGH 15 <sup>2, 9, 9</sup>		
	NETWORK <sup>3</sup>	NON-NETWORK <sup>3</sup>	
Medical Office Visit / Office Consultation – (Includes Primary Care and Specialist). Applies to Charges for Visit only. Does not apply to other Services received during Visit.	\$25 per Visit, 100% thereafter, No Deductible	\$25 per Office Visit, 60% thereafter, No Deductible	
Virtual Visit Originating Site Telemedicine Service *	80%	60%	
Telemedicine Service *	\$10 per Visit, 100% then	eafter, No Deductible	
Prescription Drugs are provided through a Retail Pharmacy Network – National Plus Pharmacy Network. If you choose Brand over Generic, you will pay the difference between the Brand and Generic Allowance, in addition to your Coinsurance, unless the physician writes "brand necessary" (DAW) on the prescription, or if no generic equivalent exists. 34/60/90 day supply. 34 day limit for specialty drugs	Member pays 30% or \$25 Minimum Coinsurance, whichever is greater, No Deductible Cost-sharing for Prescription Insulin Drugs will not exceed \$35 for a 30-day supply Cost-sharing for eligible Diabetic Devices will not exceed \$100 for a 30-day supply	NO BENEFITS	
Mail Order Drugs - National Plus Pharmacy Network. If you choose Brand over Generic, you will pay the difference between the Brand and Generic Allowance, in addition to your Coinsurance, unless the physician writes "brand necessary" (DAW) on the prescription, or if no generic equivalent exists. Maximum 90 day supply. 34 day limit for specialty drugs	Member pays 30% or \$75 Minimum Coinsurance, whichever is greater, No Deductible Cost-sharing for Prescription Insulin Drugs will not exceed \$35 for a 30-day supply Cost-sharing for eligible Diabetic Devices will not exceed \$100 for a 30-day supply	NO BENEFITS	
Additional Preventive Prescription Benefits <sup>5</sup> (Retail or Mail Order). Guidelines as determined by certain Governmental Agencies . You may access this information at <a href="www.healthcare.gov">www.healthcare.gov</a> . You may also contact Member Services.	100%, No Deductible	NO BENEFITS	
PREVENTIVE	CARE SERVICES		
	NETWORK <sup>3</sup>	NON-NETWORK <sup>3</sup>	
Routine Gynecological Exam – up to two per benefit period.	100%, No Deductible	\$25 per Office Visit, 60% thereafter, No Deductible	
Routine Pap Smear – up to two per benefit period.	100%, No Deductible	60%	
Routine HPV Testing - one every 3 years age 30 and older	100%, No Deductible	60%	
Routine Mammogram - per schedule age 35 and older Well Woman's Preventive Health Exam and Services	100%, No Deductible 100%, No Deductible	60% No Benefits	

## SuperBlue Plus 2000 \$2,500 Deductible

#### **SUMMARY OF BENEFITS**

Contract Date			
<b>Benefit Period</b> (used for Deductible and Coinsurances limits; and certain benefit frequencies.)	Contract	Year <sup>1</sup>	
Note: All services are subject to the Deductible unless other	erwise specified. Co-Pays (Fees) do n nless otherwise specified.	ot apply to Deductibles or	
Deductible (Applies to Network and Non-Network Benefits combined)			
Individual	\$2,50	00	
Family (may be met collectively)	\$5,0	00	
Carry-Over Deductible Period	Non	e	
Network Coinsurance Limit: (Network and Non-Network			
Coinsurance dollars cross apply) Individual	\$2,50	20	
Family (may be met collectively)	\$5,00		
Deductible and Network Coinsurance Limit:			
Individual	\$5,00	00	
Family (may be met collectively)	\$10,0	00	
Non-Network Coinsurance Limit: (In addition to the Deductible and Network Coinsurance limits)			
Individual	\$2,50	00	
Family (may be met collectively)	\$5,0	00	
Maximum Out of Pocket (Deductible, Network and Non-Network Coinsurance Limits combined)			
Individual	\$7,50	00	
Family (may be met collectively)	\$15,0	00	
Non-Network Liability	Unlimited		
Lifetime Maximum Benefit for all Covered Services	Unlim	ited	
BENEFIT HI	GHLIGH 15 <sup>2, 9, 9</sup>		
	NETWORK <sup>3</sup>	NON-NETWORK <sup>3</sup>	
Medical Office Visit / Office Consultation – (Includes Primary Care and Specialist). Applies to Charges for Visit only. Does not apply to other Services received during Visit.	\$25 per Visit, 100% thereafter, No Deductible	\$25 per Office Visit, 60% thereafter, No Deductible	
Virtual Visit Originating Site Telemedicine Service *	80%	60%	
Telemedicine Service *	\$10 per Visit, 100% then	eafter, No Deductible	
Prescription Drugs are provided through a Retail Pharmacy Network – National Plus Pharmacy Network. If you choose Brand over Generic, you will pay the difference between the Brand and Generic Allowance, in addition to your Coinsurance, unless the physician writes "brand necessary" (DAW) on the prescription, or if no generic equivalent exists. 34/60/90 day supply. 34 day limit for specialty drugs	Member pays 30% or \$25 Minimum Coinsurance, whichever is greater, No Deductible Cost-sharing for Prescription Insulin Drugs will not exceed \$35 for a 30-day supply Cost-sharing for eligible Diabetic Devices will not exceed \$100 for a 30-day supply	NO BENEFITS	
Mail Order Drugs - National Plus Pharmacy Network. If you choose Brand over Generic, you will pay the difference between the Brand and Generic Allowance, in addition to your Coinsurance, unless the physician writes "brand necessary" (DAW) on the prescription, or if no generic equivalent exists. Maximum 90 day supply. 34 day limit for specialty drugs	Member pays 30% or \$75 Minimum Coinsurance, whichever is greater, No Deductible Cost-sharing for Prescription Insulin Drugs will not exceed \$35 for a 30-day supply Cost-sharing for eligible Diabetic Devices will not exceed \$100 for a 30-day supply	NO BENEFITS	
Additional Preventive Prescription Benefits <sup>5</sup> (Retail or Mail Order). Guidelines as determined by certain Governmental Agencies . You may access this information at <a href="www.healthcare.gov">www.healthcare.gov</a> . You may also contact Member Services.	100%, No Deductible	NO BENEFITS	
PREVENTIVE	CARE SERVICES		
	NETWORK <sup>3</sup>	NON-NETWORK <sup>3</sup>	
Routine Gynecological Exam – up to two per benefit period.	100%, No Deductible	\$25 per Office Visit, 60% thereafter, No Deductible	
Routine Pap Smear – up to two per benefit period.	100%, No Deductible	60%	
Routine HPV Testing - one every 3 years age 30 and older	100%, No Deductible	60%	
Routine Mammogram - per schedule age 35 and older Well Woman's Preventive Health Exam and Services	100%, No Deductible 100%, No Deductible	60% No Benefits	

<b>Prostate Exam -</b> one per benefit period for males over age 50.	100%, No Deductible	\$25 per Office Visit, 60% thereafter, No Deductible
Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) Test - one per benefit period	100%, No Deductible	60%
<b>Colorectal Cancer Exam</b> - for individual's age 50 and older (one per benefit period) or a person under age 50 with high risk factors (e.g. family history). See Section V for additional information.	100%, No Deductible	\$25 per Office Visit, 60% thereafter, No Deductible
Fecal occult blood test - one per benefit period	100%, No Deductible	60%
Flexible Sigmoidoscopy - one every 5 years	100%, No Deductible	60%
Colonoscopy - one every 10 years	100%, No Deductible	60%
Double Contrast Barium Enema - one every 5 years	100%, No Deductible	60%
Routine Physical Exam - one per benefit period	100%, No Deductible	No Benefits
Routine Screening, Immunization and Diagnostic Services <sup>5</sup> ( guidelines as determined by certain governmental agencies) – You may access this information at <a href="https://www.healthcare.gov">www.healthcare.gov</a> . You may also contact Member Services.	100%, No Deductible	No Benefits
<b>Diabetes Education &amp; Control</b> - Copay applies to Office Visit only. All other services will fall under medical benefits.	\$25 per Office Visit, 100% thereafter, No Deductible	\$25 per Office Visit, 60% thereafter, No Deductible
WELL BABY / CHI	LD CARE SERVICES	
<b>Well Baby Care -</b> Routine Visits, lab tests and immunizations to age 6.	100%, No Deductible	100%, No Deductible
<b>Well Child Care –</b> Routine Visits and immunizations age 6 through 17.	100%, No Deductible	100%, No Deductible
AUTISM SPEC	TRUM DISORDER	
Services for diagnosis and treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder. (See Section V for additional information.) Note: Covered Services will be paid according to the benefit category (e.g., Speech Therapy, Specialist Visit, etc.)	80%	60%
PHYSICIA	N SERVICES	
In-Hospital Medical Visit	80%	60%
Surgery, Assistant to Surgery, Anesthesia	80%	60%
Second Surgical Opinion Services (Outpatient)	100%, No Deductible	100%, No Deductible
Maternity Care - Dependent daughters are covered.  Newborn Care including circumcision.	80% 80%	60% 60%
	\$25 per Visit, 100% thereafter,	\$25 per Visit, 60% thereafter, No
Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Chiropractic Manipulations Note: Limitations are for Physician and Outpatient	No Deductible	Deductible
Facility Services combined (per benefit period). Network and Non- Network Coinsurance amounts for these Services do not apply to	<b>Limit:</b> 20 visits / benefit period for of	her than chronic pain pain
your Coinsurance limits.	Limit does not apply to therapy servi health or substance use disorder dia	ces for the treatment of a mental
Respiratory, Hyperbaric and Pulmonary Therapy	80%	60%
<b>Speech Therapy</b> when necessary due to a medical condition.	\$25 per Visit, 100% thereafter, No Deductible	\$25 per Visit, 60% thereafter, No Deductible
Temporomandibular Joint Dysfunction / Craniomandibular Disorders	80%	60%
Diagnostic, X-ray, Lab and Testing	80%	60%
Allergy Testing and Treatment	80%	60%

INPATIENT HOSPITA	AL / FACILITY SERVICES	
	NETWORK*	NON-NETWORK <sup>o</sup>
Unlimited Days Semi-Private Room and Board	80%	60%
Ancillaries, Drugs, Therapy Services, X-ray and Lab	80%	60%
General Nursing Care	80%	60%
Surgical Services	80%	60%
Birthing Center Care/Maternity Services - Dependent daughters	80%	60%
are covered.	TAL / FACILITY SERVICES	337
OUTFAILENT HOSFII	NETWORK <sup>3</sup>	NON-NETWORK <sup>3</sup>
Pre-Admission Testing	80%	60%
Diagnostic, X-ray, Lab and Testing	80%	60%
Surgery, Operating Room	80%	60%
Radiation and Chemotherapy	80%	60%
Occupational and Physical Therapy	\$25 per Visit, 100% thereafter.	\$25 per Visit, 60% thereafter, No
Note: Limitations are for Physician and Outpatient Facility Services	No Deductible	Deductible
combined (per benefit period). Network and Non-Network Coinsurance amounts for these Services do not apply to your Coinsurance Limits.	Limit: 20 visits / benefit period for or Limit: 20 visits per event for chronic	ther than chronic pain c pain <sup>7</sup>
	Limit does not apply to therapy servi health or substance use disorder dia	ices for the treatment of a mental agnosis
Respiratory, Hyperbaric and Pulmonary Therapy	80%	60%
<b>Speech Therapy</b> when necessary due to a medical condition.	\$25 per Visit, 100% thereafter, No Deductible	\$25 per Visit, 60% thereafter, No Deductible
REHAVIORAL	HEALTH SERVICES	Deductible
Outpatient Mental Health Services	80%	60%
Outpatient Mental Realth Services Outpatient Substance Abuse Services	80%	60%
Inpatient Substance Abuse Services Inpatient Mental Health Care Services	80%	60%
Inpatient Substance Abuse Care Services	80%	60%
	CARE SERVICES	00 /8
LIMEROLITOI		First \$500 poid at 100% No
Emergency Accident Care and / or Emergency Medical Care provided in the ER	First \$500 paid at 100%, No Deductible, 80% thereafter Subject to Deductible	First \$500 paid at 100%, No Deductible, 80% thereafter Subject to Deductible
Emergency Ambulance <sup>9</sup>	100%, No Deductible	100%, No Deductible
NON-EMERGEN	CY CARE SERVICES	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Non-Emergency Medical Care provided in the ER	80%	60%
Non-Emergency Ambulance Services <sup>9</sup>	80%	60%
OTHER COV	ERED SERVICES	5575
OTHER GOV	NETWORK'S	NON-NETWORK <sup>o</sup>
Private Duty Nursing - \$5,000 Maximum per benefit period		
Note: Maximums are Network and Non-Network combined.	80%	60%
Skilled Nursing Facility	80%	60%
Durable Medical Equipment and Oxygen at home	80%	60%
	Cost-sharing for eligible Diabetic De	evices will not exceed \$100 for a 30-
Outhorth Davidson and Breathadle Application	days	supply
Orthotic Devices and Prosthetic Appliances	80%	60%
Dishetes Core Hanagement Desgreen (Digitally Hantered)	4000/ No Doductible	No Donofito
Diabetes Care Management Program (Digitally Monitored)	100%, No Deductible	No Benefits
	diagnosed with type 2 Diabetes an	prints are available to members and are limited to three (3) per benefit
Home Health Care - Maximum 100 visits per benefit period	7.	
Note: Maximums are Network and Non-Network combined.	80%	60%
Hospice Care	80%	60%
HIIWAN ADAAN TOANASI AN		
HUMAN ORGAN TRANSPLAN		
	NETWORK <sup>3</sup>	NON-NETWORK
<ul> <li>Human Organ Transplant</li> <li>\$150 per day to a maximum of \$10,000 for transportation, meals and lodging.</li> </ul>	80%	60%
Bone Marrow Procedures  • \$150 per day to a maximum of \$10,000 for transportation, meals and lodging.	80%	60%

- 1 YOUR GROUP'S BENEFIT PERIOD IS BASED ON A CONTRACT YEAR. THE CONTRACT YEAR IS A CONSECUTIVE 12-MONTH PERIOD BEGINNING ON THE FIRST DAY OF YOUR EMPLOYER'S CONTRACT EFFECTIVE DATE. CONTACT YOUR EMPLOYER TO DETERMINE THE CONTRACT EFFECTIVE DATE APPLICABLE TO YOUR PROGRAM.
- <sup>2</sup> BE SURE YOUR PROVIDER IS AWARE THAT HIGHMARK UTILIZATION MANAGEMENT MUST BE CONTACTED FOR AUTHORIZATION PRIOR TO A PLANNED INPATIENT ADMISSION OR WITHIN 48 HOURS OF AN EMERGENCY OR UNPLANNED INPATIENT ADMISSION. ALSO NOTE THAT CERTAIN OUTPATIENT PROCEDURES REQUIRE PRIOR AUTHORIZATION. IF AUTHORIZATION IS NOT OBTAINED AND IT IS LATER DETERMINED THAT ALL OR PART OF THE SERVICES RECEIVED WERE NOT MEDICALLY NECESSARY OR APPROPRIATE YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PAYMENT OF ANY COSTS NOT COVERED BY YOUR HEALTH PLAN.
- <sup>3</sup>PAYMENT IS BASED ON THE PLAN ALLOWANCE. THE PLAN ALLOWANCE WILL GENERALLY BE LESS FOR SERVICES RECEIVED FROM A NON-NETWORK PROVIDER. IN ADDITION, YOU WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE NON-NETWORK LIABILITY.
- <sup>4</sup> SERVICES ARE PROVIDED FOR ACUTE CARE FOR MINOR ILLNESSES. SERVICES MUST BE PERFORMED BY A HIGHMARK APPROVED TELEMEDICINE PROVIDER. VIRTUAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH VISITS PROVIDED BY A HIGHMARK APPROVED TELEMEDICINE PROVIDER ARE ELIGIBLE UNDER THE OUTPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH/SUBSTANCE ABUSE BENEFIT.
  - <sup>5</sup>THE SCHEDULE OF COVERED SERVICES IS BASED UPON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS; THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS; THE U.S. PREVENTIVE SERVICES TASK FORCE; THE INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE, AND THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY AND THE BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD ASSOCIATION. THEREFORE, THE FREQUENCY AND ELIGIBILITY OF SERVICES IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
  - <sup>6</sup> ANTI-CANCER MEDICATIONS ORALLY ADMINISTERED OR SELF-INJECTED. DEDUCTIBLE, COPAYMENT AND COINSURANCE AMOUNTS FOR PATIENT ADMINISTERED ANTI-CANCER MEDICATIONS THAT ARE COVERED BENEFITS ARE APPLIED ON NO LESS FAVORABLE BASIS THAN FOR PROVIDER INJECTED OR INTRAVENOUSLY ADMINISTERED ANTI-CANCER MEDICATIONS
  - <sup>7</sup> 20 VISIT MAXIMUM PER EVENT FOR COMBINED PHYSICAL THERAPY, OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AND SPINAL MANIPULATIONS
  - 8 COVERED SERVICES PROVIDED BY REAL TIME TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY OR AUDIO ONLY TELEPHONE CALLS WILL BE PAID ACCORDING TO THE BENEFIT CATEGORY (E.G. PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER VISIT, MATERNITY VISIT, ETC.) FOR EXAMPLE, VISITS RELATING TO THE TREATMENT OF MENTAL ILLNESS OR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER ARE COVERED UNDER YOUR OUTPATIENT MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER BENEFIT AND SUBJECT TO THE COST SHARING AMOUNT IN THIS SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS WHEN PREFORMED VIRTUALLY.
    - <sup>9</sup> MEDICALLY NECESSARY AIR AMBULANCE SERVICES RENDERED BY NON-NETWORK PROVIDERS WILL BE COVERED AT THE NETWORK LEVEL OF BENEFITS.

Coverage Period: 10/01/2025 - 09/30/2026

Coverage for: Individual/Family Plan Type: PPO

The Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC) document will help you choose a health <u>plan</u>. The SBC shows you how you and the <u>plan</u> would share the cost for covered health care services. NOTE: Information about the cost of this <u>plan</u> (called the <u>premium</u>) will be provided separately. This is only a summary. For more information about your coverage, or to get a copy of the complete terms of coverage, www.myhighmark.com or call 1-888-809-9121. For general definitions of common terms, such as <u>allowed amount</u>, <u>balance billing</u>, <u>coinsurance</u>, <u>copayment</u>, <u>deductible</u>, <u>provider</u>, or other <u>underlined</u> terms see the Glossary. You can view the Glossary at <u>www.HealthCare.gov/sbc-glossary/</u> or call 1-888-809-9121 to request a copy.

Important Questions	Answers	Why This Matters:
What is the overall deductible?	\$2,500 individual/\$5,000 family, combined <u>network</u> and out-of- <u>network</u> .	Generally, you must pay all of the costs from <u>providers</u> up to the <u>deductible</u> amount before this <u>plan</u> begins to pay. If you have other family members on the <u>plan</u> , each family member must meet their own individual <u>deductible</u> until the total amount of <u>deductible</u> expenses paid by all family members meets the overall family <u>deductible</u> .
Are there services covered before you meet your <u>deductible</u> ?	Yes. Office visits, preventive care services, emergency medical transportation, urgent care, and prescription drug benefits are covered before your network deductible.  Copayments and coinsurance amounts don't count toward the network	This <u>plan</u> covers some items and services even if you haven't yet met the <u>deductible</u> amount. But a <u>copayment</u> or <u>coinsurance</u> may apply. For example, this <u>plan</u> covers certain <u>preventive services</u> without <u>cost-sharing</u> and before you meet your <u>deductible</u> . See a list of covered <u>preventive services</u> at <a href="https://www.healthcare.gov/coverage/preventive">https://www.healthcare.gov/coverage/preventive</a> -care-benefits/.
Are there other deductibles	deductible.	Vou don't have to most deductibles for an elife continue
Are there other <u>deductibles</u> for specific services?	No.	You don't have to meet <u>deductibles</u> for specific services.
What is the <u>out-of-pocket limit</u> for this <u>plan</u> ?	\$2,500 individual/\$5,000 family <u>network</u> , \$2,500 individual/\$5,000 family out-of-network.	The <u>out-of-pocket limit</u> is the most you could pay in a year for covered services. If you have other family members in this <u>plan</u> , they have to meet their own <u>out-of-pocket</u> <u>limits</u> until the overall family <u>out-of-pocket limit</u> has been met.
What is not included in the out-of-pocket limit?	Copayments, deductibles, premiums, precertification penalties, balance-billed charges, rehabilitation services, prescription drug expenses, and health care this plan doesn't cover.	Even though you pay these expenses, they don't count toward the <u>out-of-pocket limit</u> .

Will you pay less if you use a <u>network provider</u> ?	Yes. For a list of <u>network providers</u> , see www.myhighmark.com or 1-888-809-9121.	This <u>plan</u> uses a <u>provider network</u> . You will pay less if you use a <u>provider</u> in the <u>plan's network</u> . You will pay the most if you use an <u>out-of-network provider</u> , and you might receive a bill from a <u>provider</u> for the difference between the <u>provider's</u> charge and what your plan pays (balance billing).
		Be aware your <u>network provider</u> might use an <u>out-of-network provider</u> for some services (such as lab work). Check with your <u>provider</u> before you get services.
Do I need a <u>referral</u> to see a <u>specialist</u> ?	No.	You can see the <u>specialist</u> you choose without a <u>referral</u> .



All **copayment** and **coinsurance** costs shown in this chart are after your overall **deductible** has been met, if a **deductible** applies.

		What You	ı Will Pay	
Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	Network Provider (You will pay the least)	Out-of-Network Provider (You will pay the most)	Limitations, Exceptions, & Other Important Information
If you visit a health care provider's office or clinic	Primary care visit to treat an injury or illness	\$25 <u>copay</u> /visit <u>Deductible</u> does not apply.	40% <u>coinsurance</u> after \$25 <u>copay</u> /visit <u>Deductible</u> does not apply.	You may have to pay for services that aren't <u>preventive</u> . Ask your <u>provider</u> if the services needed are <u>preventive</u> . Then check what your <u>plan</u> will pay for.
	Specialist visit	\$25 <u>copay</u> /visit <u>Deductible</u> does not apply.	40% <u>coinsurance</u> after \$25 <u>copay</u> /visit <u>Deductible</u> does not apply.	Please refer to your <u>preventive</u> schedule for additional information.
	Preventive care/screening/immunization	No charge <u>Deductible</u> does not apply.	No coverage for preventive care visits 40% coinsurance for screening services No coverage for immunizations	
If you have a test	Diagnostic test (x-ray, blood work)	20% coinsurance	40% coinsurance	Precertification may be required.
	Imaging (CT/PET scans, MRIs)	20% coinsurance	40% coinsurance	Precertification may be required.

Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	What You  Network Provider (You will pay the least)	UWill Pay  Out-of-Network  Provider (You will  pay the most)	Limitations, Exceptions, & Other Important Information
If you need drugs to treat your illness or condition  More information about prescription drug coverage is available at www.myhighmark.com	Brand drugs	30% coinsurance \$25 minimum per prescription (retail) 30% coinsurance \$75 minimum per prescription (mail order) Deductible does not apply. 30% coinsurance \$25 minimum per prescription (retail) 30% coinsurance \$75 minimum per prescription (retail) 30% coinsurance \$75 minimum per prescription (mail order) Deductible does not	Not covered	Up to 34/60/90-day supply retail pharmacy  Specialty drugs are limited to a 34-day supply retail or mail order.  Cost-sharing for prescription insulin drugs will not exceed \$35 for a 30-day supply.  Cost-sharing for eligible Diabetic Devices will not exceed \$100 for a 30-day supply.
If you have outpatient surgery	Facility fee (e.g., ambulatory surgery center) Physician/surgeon fees	apply.  20% coinsurance  20% coinsurance	40% <u>coinsurance</u> 40% <u>coinsurance</u>	Precertification may be required.  Precertification may be required.

		What You Will Pay			
Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	Network Provider (You will pay the least)	Out-of-Network Provider (You will pay the most)	Limitations, Exceptions, & Other Important Information	
If you need immediate medical attention	Emergency room Care	First \$500 no charge, deductible does not apply,  20% thereafter subject to deductible	First \$500 no charge, <u>deductible</u> does not apply,  20% thereafter subject to <u>deductible</u>	none	
	Emergency medical transportation	No charge  Deductible does not apply.	No charge  Deductible does not apply.	none	
	<u>Urgent care</u>	\$25 <u>copay</u> /visit <u>Deductible</u> does not apply.	40% coinsurance after \$25 copay/visit Deductible does not apply.	none	
If you have a	Facility fee (e.g., hospital room)	20% coinsurance	40% coinsurance	Precertification may be required.	
hospital stay	Physician/surgeon fees	20% coinsurance	40% coinsurance	Precertification may be required.	

	Services You May Need	What Yo	u Will Pay	Limitations, Exceptions, & Other Important Information
Common Medical Event		Network Provider (You will pay the least)	Out-of-Network Provider (You will pay the most)	
If you have mental	Outpatient services	20% coinsurance	40% coinsurance	Precertification may be required.
health, behavioral health, or substance abuse services	Inpatient services	20% coinsurance	40% coinsurance	Precertification may be required.
If you are pregnant	Office visits	20% coinsurance	40% coinsurance	Cost sharing does not apply for
	Childbirth/delivery professional services	20% coinsurance	40% coinsurance	preventive services.
	Childbirth/delivery facility services	20% <u>coinsurance</u>	40% coinsurance	Depending on the type of services, a copayment, coinsurance, or deductible may apply.  Maternity care may include tests and services described elsewhere in the SBC (i.e. ultrasound.)  Network: The first visit to determine pregnancy is covered at no charge.
				Please refer to the Women's Health Preventive Schedule for additional information. Precertification may be required.

		What You Will Pay		
Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	Network Provider (You will pay the least)	Out-of-Network Provider (You will pay the most)	Limitations, Exceptions, & Other Important Information
If you need help recovering or have other special health needs	Home health care	20% coinsurance	40% <u>coinsurance</u>	Combined <u>network</u> and out-of- <u>network</u> : 100 visits per benefit period, combined with visiting nurse. Precertification may be required.
	Rehabilitation services	\$25 <u>copay</u> /visit <u>Deductible</u> does not apply.	40% coinsurance after \$25 copay/visit Deductible does not apply.	Combined network and out-of-network: 20 physical medicine visits and 20 occupational therapy visits per benefit period for other than chronic pain.
		20% coinsurance for speech therapy	40% <u>coinsurance</u> for speech therapy	Combined network and out-of-network: 20 combined physical medicine, occupational therapy, and spinal manipulation visits per event for chronic pain.
				The limit, if any, does not apply to therapy services prescribed for the treatment of mental health or substance abuse.  Precertification may be required.
	Habilitation services	Not covered	Not covered	none
	Skilled nursing care	20% coinsurance	40% coinsurance	Precertification may be required.
	<u>Durable medical equipment</u>	20% <u>coinsurance</u>	40% <u>coinsurance</u>	Cost-sharing for eligible Diabetic Devices will not exceed \$100 for a 30- day supply. Precertification may be required.
	Hospice services	20% coinsurance	40% coinsurance	Precertification may be required.
If your child needs	Children's eye exam	Not covered	Not covered	none
dental or eye care	Children's glasses	Not covered	Not covered	none
	Children's dental check-up	Not covered	Not covered	none

#### **Excluded Services & Other Covered Services:**

#### Services Your Plan Generally Does NOT Cover (Check your policy or plan document for more information and a list of any other excluded services.)

Acupuncture

Hearing aids

Routine foot care

Cosmetic surgery

Long-term care

Weight loss programs

- Dental care (Adult)
- Habilitation services

Routine eye care (Adult)

#### Other Covered Services (Limitations may apply to these services. This isn't a complete list. Please see your <u>plan</u> document.)

Bariatric surgery

Infertility treatment

Private-duty nursing

Chiropractic care

 Non-emergency care when traveling outside the U.S. See www.bcbsglobalcore.com

Your Rights to Continue Coverage: There are agencies that can help if you want to continue your coverage after it ends. The contact information for those agencies is: Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration at 1-866-444-EBSA (3272) or <a href="www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform">www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform</a>, or the Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight, at 1-877-267-2323 x61565 or <a href="www.cciio.cms.gov">www.cciio.cms.gov</a>. West Virginia Offices of the Insurance Commissioner at 1-888-879-9842. Other options to continue coverage are available to you too, including buying individual insurance coverage through the <a href="Health Insurance Marketplace">Health Insurance Marketplace</a>. For more information about the <a href="Marketplace">Marketplace</a>, visit <a href="http://www.HealthCare.gov">http://www.HealthCare.gov</a> or call 1-800-318-2596.

Your <u>Grievance</u> and <u>Appeals</u> <u>Rights</u>: There are agencies that can help if you have a complaint against your <u>plan</u> for a denial of a <u>claim</u>. This complaint is called a <u>grievance</u> or <u>appeal</u>. For more information about your rights, look at the explanation of benefits you will receive for that medical <u>claim</u>. Your <u>plan</u> documents also provide complete information to submit a <u>claim appeal</u> or a <u>grievance</u> for any reason to your <u>plan</u>. For more information about your rights, this notice, or assistance, contact:

- Highmark West Virginia Inc. at 1-888-809-9121.
- The Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration at 1-866-444-EBSA (3272) or www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform.
- Additionally, a consumer assistance program can help you file your <u>appeal</u>. Contact the West Virginia Offices of the Insurance Commissioner, Customer Service Division, 900 Pennsylvania Avenue, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Charleston, WV 25301 (888) 879-9842 http://www.wvinsurance.gov

#### Does this plan provide Minimum Essential Coverage? Yes

Minimum Essential Coverage generally includes plans, health insurance available through the Marketplace or other individual market policies, Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, TRICARE, and certain other coverage. If you are eligible for certain types of Minimum Essential Coverage, you may not be eligible for the premium tax credit

#### Does this plan meet the Minimum Value Standards? Yes

If your <u>plan</u> doesn't meet the <u>Minimum Value Standards</u>, you may be eligible for a <u>premium tax credit</u> to help you pay for a <u>plan</u> through the <u>Marketplace</u>.

-To see examples of how this <u>plan</u> might cover costs for a sample medical situation, see the next section.-

#### About these Coverage Examples:



This is not a cost estimator. Treatments shown are just examples of how this <u>plan</u> might cover medical care. Your actual costs will be different depending on the actual care you receive, the prices your <u>providers</u> charge, and many other factors. Focus on the <u>cost sharing</u> amounts (<u>deductibles</u>, <u>copayments</u> and <u>coinsurance</u>) and <u>excluded services</u> under the <u>plan</u>. Use this information to compare the portion of costs you might pay under different health <u>plans</u>. Please note these coverage examples are based on self-only coverage.

#### Peg is Having a Baby

(9 months of in-<u>network</u> pre-natal care and a hospital delivery)

■The <u>plan's</u> overall <u>deductible</u>	\$2,500
Specialist copayment	\$25
■Hospital (facility) coinsurance	20%
Other coinsurance	20%

#### This EXAMPLE event includes services like:

Specialist office visits (prenatal care)
Childbirth/Delivery Professional Services
Childbirth/Delivery Facility Services
Diagnostic tests (ultrasounds and blood work)
Specialist visit (anesthesia)

Total Example Cost	\$12,700	
In this example, Peg would pay:		
<u>Cost Sharing</u>		
<u>Deductibles</u>	\$2,500	
<u>Copayments</u>	\$0	
<u>Coinsurance</u>	\$2,000	
What isn't covered		
Limits or exclusions	\$60	
The total Peg would pay is	\$4,560	

#### Managing Joe's type 2 Diabetes

(a year of routine in-<u>network</u> care of a wellcontrolled condition)

■The plan's overall deductible	\$2,500
Specialist copayment	\$25
Hospital (facility) coinsurance	20%
Other coinsurance	20%

#### This EXAMPLE event includes services like:

Primary care physician office visits (including disease education)

Diagnostic tests (blood work)

Prescription drugs

**Total Example Cost** 

Durable medical equipment (glucose meter)

•		
In this example, Joe would pay:		
Cost Sharing		
<u>Deductibles</u>	\$900	
<u>Copayments</u>	\$300	
Coinsurance	\$1,000	
What isn't covered		
Limits or exclusions	\$20	
The total Joe would pay is	\$2,220	

#### Mia's Simple Fracture

(in-<u>network</u> emergency room visit and follow up care)

■The plan's overall deductible	\$2,500
Specialist copayment	\$25
■Hospital (facility) coinsurance	20%
Other coinsurance	20%

#### This EXAMPLE event includes services like:

Emergency room care (including medical supplies)

Diagnostic test (x-ray)

Total Example Cost

\$5.600

Durable medical equipment (crutches)

Rehabilitation services (physical therapy)

Total Example Cost	ΨΖ,000	
In this example, Mia would pay:		
<u>Cost Sharing</u>		
<u>Deductibles</u>	\$2,100	
<u>Copayments</u>	\$80	
Coinsurance	\$0	
What isn't covered		
Limits or exclusions	\$0	
The total Mia would pay is	\$2,180	

\$2 800

Note: These numbers assume the patient does not participate in the <u>plan's</u> wellness program. If you participate in the <u>plan's</u> wellness program, you may be able to reduce your costs. For more information about the wellness program, please contact: 1-888-809-9121.

The plan would be responsible for the other costs of these EXAMPLE covered services.

To find more information about Highmark's benefits and operating procedures, such as accessing the drug <u>formulary</u> or using <u>network providers</u>, please go to DiscoverHighmark.com/QualityAssurance; or for a paper copy, call 1-855-873-4110.

#### Discrimination is Against the Law

The Claims Administrator/Insurer complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. The Claims Administrator/Insurer does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. The Claims Administrator/Insurer:

- Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:
- Qualified sign language interpreters
- Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats)
- Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:
- Qualified interpreters
- Information written in other languages

If you need these services, contact the Civil Rights Coordinator.

If you believe that the Claims Administrator/Insurer has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with: Civil Rights Coordinator, P.O. Box 22492, Pittsburgh, PA 15222, Phone: 1-866-286-8295, TTY: 711, Fax: 412-544-2475, email: CivilRightsCoordinator@highmarkhealth.org. You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a grievance, the Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you. You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf, or by mail or phone at:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services 200 Independence Avenue, SW

200 macpenachec menac,

Room 509F, HHH Building

Washington, D.C. 20201

1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)

Complaint forms are available at http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html.

If you speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call 1-877-959-2562.

Si usted habla español, servicios de asistencia lingüística, de forma gratuita, están disponibles para usted. Llame al 1-877-959-2562.

如果您说中文,可向您提供免费语言协助服务。 請致電 1-877-959-2562.

Nếu quý vị nói tiếng Việt, chúng tôi cung cấp dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí cho quý vị. Xin gọi số 1-877-959-2562.

한국어를 사용하시는 분들을 위해 무료 통역이 제공됩니다. 1-877-959-2562 로 전화.

Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, may makukuha kang mga libreng serbisyong tulong sa wika. Tumawag sa 1-877-959-2562.

Если вы говорите по-русски, вы можете воспользоваться бесплатными услугами языковой поддержки. Звоните 1-877-959-2562.

U65\_WV\_G\_P\_1Col\_12pt\_blk\_NL

إذا كنت تتحدث اللغة العربية، فهناك خدمات المعاونة في اللغة المجانية متاحة لك. اتصل على الرقم 2562-959-1-877.

Si se Kreyòl Ayisyen ou pale, gen sèvis entèprèt, gratis-ticheri, ki la pou ede w. Rele nan 1-877-959-2562.

Si vous parlez français, les services d'assistance linguistique, gratuitement, sont à votre disposition. Appelez au 1-877-959-2562.

Dla osób mówiących po polsku dostępna jest bezpłatna pomoc językowa. Zadzwoń 1-877-959-2562.

Se a sua língua é o português, temos atendimento gratuito para você no seu idioma. Ligue para 1-877-959-2562.

Se parla italiano, per lei sono disponibili servizi di assistenza linguistica a titolo gratuito. Chiamare l'1-877-959-2562.

Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, steht Ihnen unsere fremdsprachliche Unterstützung kostenlos zur Verfügung. Rufen Sie 1-877-959-2562.

日本語が母国語の方は言語アシスタンス・ サービスを無料でご利用いただけます。 1-877-959-2562 を呼び出します。

اگر شما به زبان فارسی صحبت می کنید، خدمات کمک زبان رایگان با تماس با شماره 2562-959-1-877.

## **Jefferson County Emergency Services Agency**

## In-Network Medical Plan Deductible Reimbursement Policy Effective October 1, 2025

**Highmark West Virginia** will continue as the **PPO** carrier for the 2025 benefit plan year, effective 10/1/2025 through 9/30/2026.

Jefferson County Emergency Services Agency will continue with a Highmark Medical/Rx plan with a Policy Year In-Network Deductible of \$2,500 per individual / \$5,000 per family.

The **Jefferson County Emergency Services Agency** will provide deductible reimbursements based on the following enrollment structure:

- ➤ <u>Deductible Reimbursement for the Employee Only Enrollment:</u>

  The Employee pays the first \$750 and the HRA Plan will reimburse the employee for the 2<sup>nd</sup> portion of the In-Network Deductible met on an individual basis up to a maximum of \$1,750.
- ➤ Deductible Reimbursement for the Employee + 1 or more Dependents Enrollment: The Employee & Dependent(s) pay the first \$1,500 and the HRA Plan will reimburse the employee for the 2<sup>nd</sup> portion of the In-Network Deductible met on a Family Basis up to a maximum of \$3,5.

ALL Member Copayments (In-Network & Out-of-Network) for Office Visits & Prescriptions AND Member Coinsurance Expenses are Ineligible for any Reimbursement Allowance. Out-of-Network Deductible Expenses are Excluded from the Reimbursement Allowance.

#### The Plan Year Deductible Will Reset Again Effective October 1, 2026

To receive reimbursement for the In-Network Deductible, <u>a printed copy of the Highmark EOB\*\*</u> (Explanation of Benefits) AND a completed and signed Deductible Reimbursement Claim Form will need to be submitted to Millenium Insurance Group, the HRA Administrator.

Due to federal confidentiality restrictions, the submission must be done by the employee.

(Note – Highmark Claim List & Provider Billing Statements are NOT accepted for reimbursement processing.)

All reimbursement requests will be adjudicated based on the employers In-Network plan specifications. Upon verification of the In-Network deductible, the HRA Plan will reimburse the employee.

It is the employee's responsibility to pay all providers associated with this reimbursement.

## **Jefferson County Emergency Services**

Highmark WV

Effective: October 1, 2025

### **Monthly Rates:**

Employee Only - \$ 838.53 Employee + Spouse - \$1,677.06 Employee + Child - \$1,225.46 Employee Children - \$1,628.16 Employee + Family - \$ 2,466.69

# SECTION 4 ANCILLARY BENEFIT PLANS

PLACE ANCILLARY BENEFIT BROCHURES AFTER TAB 4

#### **Your NVA Vision Benefit Summary**

#### Schedule of Vision Benefits

Benefit Frequency	Participating Provider	Non-Participating Provider
Examination Once Every Plan Year	Covered 100% After \$10 copay	Reimbursed Amount Up to \$35
Lenses Once Every Plan Year  Single Vision Bifocal Trifocal Lenticular	Standard Glass or Plastic  Covered 100%	<ul> <li>Up to \$25</li> <li>Up to \$45</li> <li>Up to \$75</li> <li>Up to \$75</li> </ul>
Frame Once Every Plan Year	Retail Allowance Up to \$130 (20% discount off balance)*	■ Up to \$45
Contact Lenses Once Every Plan Year	In lieu of Lenses & Frame	In lieu of Lenses & Frame
Elective Contact Lenses	<ul> <li>Up to \$130 Retail         (15% discount         (Conventional) or 10% discount (Disposable) off balance)**     </li> </ul>	■ Up to \$98
Fit/Follow-Up*** Standard Daily Wear Standard Extended Wear Specialty Wear	Covered 100% Covered 100% Covered 100% After \$20 copay	<ul><li>Up to \$20</li><li>Up to \$30</li><li>Up to \$30</li></ul>
Medically Necessary****	Covered 100%	■ Up to \$200

#### Jefferson County Commission Effective 07/01/2023 Group Number #8703 How Your Vision Care Program Works

Eligible members and dependents are entitled to receive a vision examination and one (1) pair of lenses and a frame or contact lenses and contact lens evaluation/fitting once every plan year.

For your convenience, at the start of the program, you will receive two identification cards with participating providers in your zip code area listed on the back. At the time of your appointment, simply present your NVA identification card to the provider or indicate that your benefit is administered by NVA. The provider will contact NVA to verify eligibility. A vision claim form is not required at an NVA participating provider.

Be sure to inform the provider of your medical history and any prescription or over-the-counter (OTC) medications you may be taking.

To verify your benefit eligibility prior to calling or visiting your eye care professional, please visit our website at <a href="www.e-nva.com">www.e-nva.com</a> or download our mobile app by searching NVA Vision, or contact NVA's Customer Service Department toll-free at 1.800.672.7723, TTY: 711 or NVA's Interactive Voice Response (IVR). Customer Service is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Any question any time.

If you are not a registered subscriber, you can still search our providers online by selecting the "Find a Provider" link on our home page. Enter group number 8703000001 or the group number on the identification card and enter in your search parameters. It's that easy!

#### Fixed prices/courtesy discount do not apply at Walmart/Sam's Club and LensCrafters locations.

Lens options purchased from a participating NVA provider will be provided to the member at the amounts listed in the fixed option pricing list below:

\$10 Solid Tint \$50 Progressive Lenses Standard

\$12 Fashion / Gradient Tint
 \$10 Standard Scratch-Resistant Coating
 \$11 Standard Scratch-Resistant Coating
 \$12 Fashion / Gradient Tint
 \$13 Standard Scratch-Resistant Coating
 \$14 Ultraviolet Coating
 \$25 Polycarbonate (Single Vision)
 \$25 Polycarbonate (Multi-Focal)

\$40 Standard Anti-Reflective
\$20 Glass Photogrey (Single Vision)
\$30 Glass Photogrey (Multi-Focal)
\$31 Blended Bifocal (Segment)
\$32 High Index

\$75 Polarized \$100 Progressive Lenses Premium

For lens options & services purchased from a participating NVA provider, NVA members will only pay the fixed maximum amount or the provider's Usual and Customary (U&C) charge less 20%, whichever is less. Options not listed will be priced by NVA providers at 20% off the Provider's Retail (U &C) price. Fixed prices are available in-network only. Discounts are not insured benefits. In certain states, members may be required to pay the full retail amount and not the negotiated discount amount at certain participating providers. Some optometrist affiliated with Optical Retail locations (i.e., LensCrafters, Walmart, Visionworks, etc.) are independent providers and may not participate in the NVA program.

Participating providers are not contractually obligated to offer sale prices in addition to outlined coverage. Regardless of medical or optical necessity, vision benefits are not available more frequently than specified in your policy.

<sup>\*</sup>Does not apply to Wal-Mart / Sam's Club or Lenscrafters locations or for certain proprietary brands. \*\*Does not apply to Wal-Mart/Sam's Club, Lenscrafters, Contact Fill (NVA Mail Order) or certain locations at: Target, Sears, Pearle, & K-Mart and may be prohibited by some manufacturers. \*\*\*Only covered if you choose Contact Lenses. \*\*\*\*Pre-approval from NVA required.

#### Get a Better View

Plan Specific Details Online: The NVA website is easy to use and provides the most up to date information for program participants:

- -Locate a nearby participating provider by name, zip code, or City/State, Verify eligibility for you or a dependent
- -View benefit program and specific detail, Review claims, Print ID cards (when applicable), Nominate a non-participating provider to join the NVA network

**Examinations**: The comprehensive exam includes case history, examination for pathology or anomalies, visual acuity (clearness of vision), refraction, tonometry (glaucoma test) and dilation (if professionally indicated).

Lenses: NVA provides coverage in full for standard glass or plastic eyeglass lenses.

**Frames**: Select any frame from the participating provider's inventory. Any amount in excess of your plan allowance is the member's responsibility. Frame choices vary from office to office. (Visit NVA's website to view the Benefit maximizer Program)

**Contact Lenses:** The contact lens benefit includes all types of contact lenses such as hard, soft, gas permeable and disposable lenses. Medically necessary contact lenses includes fitting and follow up and may be covered with prior authorization when prescribed for: post cataract surgery, correction of extreme visual acuity problems that cannot be corrected to 20/70 with spectacle lenses, Anisometropia or Keratoconus.

**Non-Participating Providers:** You will be responsible for one hundred percent (100%) of the cost at the time of service at a non-participating provider. You can request a claim form from NVA via the website <a href="www.e-nva.com">www.e-nva.com</a> or you may submit receipts along with a letter containing the member's full name, patient's full name, address, ID# and sponsoring organization to NVA, P.O. Box 2187, Clifton, NJ 07015.

**Laser Eye Surgery:** NVA has chosen **The National LASIK Network** to serve their members. This network was developed by **LCA Vision** in 1999 and is one of the largest panels of LASIK surgeons in the U.S. Members are entitled to significant discounts and a free initial consultation with all in-network providers.

**Discounts:** In addition to your funded benefit you are eligible to access the **EyeEssential® Plan discount** (in Network Only) on additional purchases during the plan period. Please see table for more detail regarding NVA's discount plan:

\*Discount is not applicable to mail order; however, you may get even better pricing on contact lenses through Contact Fill.

Your NVA EyeEssential® Plan Discount – In Network Only		
Service	Participating Provider	Lens Options
Eye Examination:	Member Cost: Retail Less \$10	\$12 Solid Tint/ Gradient Tint
Contact Lens Fitting:	Retail Less 10%	\$50 Standard Progressive Lenses \$75 Polarized Lenses \$65 Transitions Single Vision Standard
<b>Lenses:</b> Single Vision Bifocal Trifocal or Lenticular	Glass or Plastic \$35.00 \$55.00 \$70.00	\$70 Transitions Multi-Focal Standard \$15 Standard Scratch Coating \$12 UV Coating \$35 Polycarbonate \$45 Standard Anti-Reflective
Frame:	Retail Less 35%	
Contact Lenses*: Conventional	Member Cost: Retail Less 15%	
Disposable	Retail Less 10%	

Lens options purchased from a participating NVA provider will be provided to the member at the amounts listed in the fixed option price list above. Options not listed will be priced by NVA providers at 20% off the Provider's Retail (U&C) price.

Wal-Mart / Sam's Club and LensCrafters stores do not provide additional discounts.

Some optometrists affiliated with Optical Retail locations (i.e., LensCrafters, Walmart, Visionworks, etc.) are independent providers and may not participate in the NVA program.

#### At NVA, We Work Only for Our Clients.

Insurance coverage provided by National Guardian Life Insurance Company (NGLIC), 2E Gilman, Madison, WI 53703. Policy NVIGRP 5/07. NGLIC is not affiliated with the Guardian Life Insurance Company of America, a/k/a The Guardian or Guardian Life. A full description of your coverage, its limitations, exclusions and conditions is contained in the Insurance Policy issued to your Plan Sponsor at its place of business. That full description in the form of a Certificate of Coverage can be made available to you by requesting it from your Plan Sponsor.

Exclusions / Limitations: No payment is made for medical or surgical treatments / Rx drugs or OTC medications / non-prescription lenses / two pair of glasses in lieu of bifocals / subnormal visual aids / vision examination or materials required for employment / replacement of lost, stolen, broken or damaged lenses/ contact lenses or frames except at normal intervals when service would otherwise be available / services or materials provided by federal, state, local government or Worker's Compensation / examination, procedures training or materials not listed as a covered service / industrial safety lenses and safety frames with or without side shields / parts or repair of frame / sunglasses.

National Vision Administrators, L.L.C. PO Box 2187 Clifton, NJ 07015 Web: www.e-nva.com Toll-Free: 1.800.672.7723

NVA® and EyeEssential® are registered marks of National Vision Administrators, L.L.C.

This document is intended as a program overview only and is not a certified document of the individual plan parameters.





## **Jefferson County Commission**

National Vision Administrators

Effective July 1, 2025

Monthly Rates:

Employee Only - \$ 6.94 Employee + Spouse - \$ 11.88 Employee + Child- \$ 11.88 Employee + Children - \$ 18.98 Family - \$ 18.98

## Dental Insurance



## COMMONLY

- Exams and cleanings
- X-rays
- Fillings
- Tooth extractions
- Root canals

#### PROTECTS YOUR SMILE.

You can feel more confident with dental insurance that encourages routine cleanings and checkups. Dental insurance helps protect your teeth for a lifetime.

#### PREVENTS OTHER HEALTH ISSUES.

Just annual preventive care alone can help prevent other health issues such as heart disease and diabetes. Many plans cover preventive services at or near 100% to make it easy for you to use your dental benefits.

#### LOWERS OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES.

Seeing an in-network dentist can reduce your fees approximately 30% from their standard fees. Add the benefits of your coinsurance to that and things are looking good for your wallet.

#### **DENTAL FAST FACTS**

Treating the inflammation from periodontal disease can help manage other health problems such as heart disease and diabetes.1

50% of adults over the age of 30 are suffering from periodontal disease.<sup>2</sup>

**JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSION** 

All Eligible Employees

**POLICY # 978200** 

Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada

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CALENDAR YEAR MAXIMUM	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
Type I, II, III (Preventive, Basic and Major Services)	\$1,500 per person (includes Preventive Rewards)	\$1,500 per person (includes Preventive Rewards)

#### **CALENDAR YEAR DEDUCTIBLE**

PROCEDURE	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
Type I Preventive Services	N/A	N/A
Type II, III (Basic and Major Services)	\$50 individual/\$150 family	\$50 individual/\$150 family

#### THE PLAN PAYS THE FOLLOWING PERCENTAGE FOR PROCEDURES

PROCEDURE	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
Type I Preventive Services	100%	100%
Type II Basic Services	80%	80%
Type III Major Services	50%	50%

#### **SERVICES**

#### Type I Preventive Dental Services, including:

- Oral evaluations 1 in any 6 month period
- Routine dental cleanings 1 in any 6 month period
- Fluoride treatment 1 in any 6 month period. Only for children under age 14
- Sealants no more than 1 per tooth in any 36 month period, only for permanent molar teeth. Only for children under age 14
- Space maintainers only for children under age 19
- Bitewing x-rays 1 in any 12 month period
- Intraoral complete series x-rays 1 in any 60 month period
- Genetic test for susceptibility to oral diseases

#### **Type II Basic Dental Services, including:**

- New fillings, including posterior composites
- Simple extractions, incision and drainage
- Surgical extractions of erupted teeth, impacted teeth, or exposed root
- Biopsy (including brush biopsy)
- Endodontics (includes root canal therapy) 1 per tooth in any 24 month period
- General anesthesia/IV sedation medically required
- Minor gum disease (non-surgical periodontics)
- Scaling and root planing 1 in any 24 month period per area
- Periodontal maintenance 1 in any 6 consecutive

#### months

- Localized delivery of antimicrobial agents
- Major gum disease (surgical periodontics)

#### **Type III Major Dental Services, including:**

- Dentures and bridges subject to 10 year replacement limit
- Stainless steel crowns— only for children under age 19
- Inlay, onlay, and crown restorations 1 per tooth in any 10 year period
- Dental implants subject to 10 year replacement limit
   Waiting Periods

For a complete description of services and waiting periods, please review your certificate of insurance. If you were covered under your employer's prior plan the wait will be waived for any type of service covered under the prior plan and this plan.

- No waiting period for preventive or basic services
- 12 months for major services

## Frequently asked questions

#### How does a PPO work?

PPO stands for Participating Provider Organization. With a dental PPO plan, dental providers agree to participate in a dental network by offering discounted fees on most dental procedures. When you visit a provider in the network, you could see lower out-of-pocket costs because providers in the network agree to these prenegotiated discounted fees on eligible claims.

#### How do I find a dentist?

Simply visit www.sunlife.com/findadentist. Follow the prompts to find a dentist in your area who participates in the PPO network. You do not need to select a dentist in advance. The PPO network for your plan is the Sun Life Dental Network® with 130,000+ unique dentists³.

## How can using a network dentist help lower my costs?

You are free to use the dentist or specialist of your choice. However, this plan allows you to have access to the Sunlife Dental Network® PPO dentists and to take advantage of their fee discounts. Treatment is available from out-of-network dentists, but their fees are subject to an allowable charge. The allowable amount for out-of-network dentists is based on 20% off the 80th percentile of the amount charged by other dentists in the same geographic area. Patients are responsible for fees in excess of the allowable charge. There can be significant out-of-pocket expenses if an out-of-network dentist is chosen.

#### Are my dependents eligible for coverage?

Yes. Your plan offers coverage for your spouse⁴ and dependent children. An eligible child is defined as a child to age 26.⁵

## What if I have already started dental work, like a root canal or braces, that requires several visits?

Your coverage with us may handle these procedures differently than your prior plan. To ensure a smooth transition for work in progress, call our dental claims experts before your next visit at 800-442-7742.

#### Do I have to file the claim?

Many dentists will file claims for you. If a dentist will not file your claim, simply ask your dentist to complete a standard American Dental Association (ADA) claim form and mail it to:

Sun Life PO Box 311 Milwaukee, WI 53201-0311

## How can I get more information about my coverage or find my dental ID card?

After the effective date of your coverage, you can view benefit information online at your convenience through your Sun Life account. To create an account go to www.sunlife.com/account and register. You can also access this information from our mobile app, which is available for Apple and Android devices. Or you can call Sun Life's Dental Customer Service at 800-442-7742. You can also call any time, day or night, to access our automated system and get answers to common questions when it's convenient for you.

#### What value added benefits does my plan include?

Your plan includes our Lifetime of Smiles® program, with benefits many people prefer, such as tooth-colored fillings for back teeth and brush biopsies for the early detection of oral cancer.

Your plan also includes Preventive Rewards so you can get up to \$1250 added to your annual maximum for the next year. The amount added is based on your paid claims for preventive services during the prior year.

## CONSIDER A PRE-DETERMINATION OF BENEFITS

They allow us to review your provider's treatment plan to let you know before treatment is started how much of the work should be covered by the plan, and how much you may need to cover. We recommend them for any dental treatment expected to exceed \$500.

- 1. American Academy of Periodontology https://www.perio.org/consumer/gum-disease-and-other-diseases (accessed 07/21).
- 2. American Academy of Periodontology https://www.perio.org/newsroom/periodontal-disease-fact-sheet (accessed 07/21).
- 3. Zelis Network Analytics data as of January 2022 and based on unique dentist count. Sun Life's dental networks include its affiliate, Dental Health Alliance, L.L.C.® (DHA), and dentists under access arrangements with other dental networks. Nationwide counts are state level totals. 4. If permitted by the Employer's employee benefit plan and not prohibited by state law, the term "spouse" in this benefit includes any individual who is either recognized as a spouse, a registered domestic partner, or a partner in a civil union, or otherwise accorded the same rights as a spouse.
- 5. Please see your employer for more specific information.

#### Important information

#### **Benefit adjustments**

Benefits will be coordinated with any other dental coverage. Under the Alternative Treatment provision, benefits will be payable for the most economical services or supplies meeting broadly accepted standards of dental care.

#### Late entrant

If you or a dependent apply for dental insurance more than 31 days after you become eligible, you or your dependent are a late entrant. The benefits for the first 12 months for late entrants will be limited as follows:

TIME INSURED CONTINUOUSLY UNDER THE POLICY	BENEFITS PROVIDED FOR ONLY THESE SERVICES
Less than 6 months	Preventive Services
At least 6 months but less than 12 months	Preventive Services and fillings under Basic Services
At least 12 months	Preventive, Basic and Major Services

We will not pay for treatments subject to the late entrant limitation, and started or completed during the late entrant limitation period.

To become insured, you must meet the eligibility requirements set forth by your employer. Your coverage effective date will be determined by the Policy and may be delayed if you are not actively at work on the date your coverage would otherwise go into effect. Similarly, dependent coverage, if offered, may be delayed if your dependents are in the hospital (except for newborns) on the date coverage would otherwise become effective. Refer to your Certificate for details.

#### Limitations and exclusions

Exclusions and limitations may vary by state law and regulations. This list may not be comprehensive. Please see your Certificate or ask your benefits administrator for details.

#### **Dental**

We will not pay a benefit for any Dental procedure, which is not listed as a covered dental expense. Any dental service incurred prior to the Effective date or after the termination date is not covered, unless specifically listed in the certificate. A member must be a covered dental member under the Plan to receive dental benefits. The Plan has frequency limitations on certain preventive and diagnostic services, restorations (fillings), periodontal services, endodontic services, and replacement of dentures, bridges and crowns. All services must be necessary and provided according to acceptable dental treatment standards. Treatment performed outside the United States is not covered, except for emergency dental treatment, subject to a maximum benefit.

This Overview is preliminary to the issuance of the Policy. Refer to your Certificate for details. Receipt of this Overview does not constitute approval of coverage under the Policy. In the event of a discrepancy between this Overview, the Certificate and the Policy, the terms of the Policy will govern. Product offerings may not be available in all states and may vary depending on state laws and regulations.

This plan does not provide coverage for pediatric oral health services that satisfies the requirements for "minimum essential coverage" as defined by The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA).

Sun Life companies include Sun Life and Health Insurance Company (U.S.) and Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada (collectively, "Sun Life"). Group insurance policies are underwritten by Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada (Wellesley Hills, MA) in all states, except New York, under Policy Form Series 15-GP-01 and 16-DEN-C-01.

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GVBH-EE-8384 SLPC 29579

## **Jefferson County Emergency Service's**

Sunlife Dental

Effective October 1, 2025

Monthly Rates:

EE Only- \$ 22.44 EE Spouse- \$ 48.66 EE Child(ren)- \$ 72.96 Family- \$ 72.96

# Basic Life Insurance



Even among people who have life insurance, many don't have enough.

#### PROTECTS YOUR LOVED ONES.

Life insurance provides your loved ones with money they can use for household expenses, tuition, mortgage payments and more.

#### HELPS PAY YOUR FINAL EXPENSES.

Your beneficiaries may use this money to pay for your burial or cremation, and pay any outstanding medical bills.

#### PART OF YOUR BENEFIT PACKAGE.

This benefit is completely paid for by your employer. Remember to name your beneficiaries if you haven't done so already.

BENEFITS	
For you*	\$50,000. No medical questions asked, up to the Guaranteed Issue amount of \$50,000.
	Benefits are reduced at age 70 and may reduce again in subsequent years as noted in your Certificate.

<sup>\*</sup>This coverage includes Accidental Death and Dismemberment insurance.

**JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSION** 

All Eligible Employees

**POLICY # 978200** 

Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada

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#### Frequently asked questions

#### What is my AD&D benefit?

We will pay your beneficiaries an Accidental Death insurance amount that matches your Basic Life insurance amount, if you die from a covered accident. Additional benefits are available for accidental injuries (i.e., dismemberment) such as loss of limbs, fingers or sight. Refer to your Certificate for a full list of covered accidental injuries.

#### Can I take my insurance with me if I leave my employer?

Depending upon state variations and your employer's plan, you may have an option to continue group coverage when your employment terminates. Your employer can advise you about your options.

#### Can I access my life insurance if I become terminally ill?

You may apply to receive a portion of your life insurance to help cover medical and living expenses. This is called an "Accelerated Benefit" and there are some important things to know about it, including that it is not long-term-care insurance, it may be taxable and it may affect your eligibility for public assistance programs. It will also reduce the total amount of the life insurance payment we pay to your beneficiary(ies).

#### What happens if I become Totally Disabled?

If we determine that you are Totally Disabled and cannot work, your life insurance coverage may continue at no cost. You must meet certain requirements, as detailed in the Certificate.

#### How does my beneficiary file a death claim?

Your beneficiary(ies) and your employer will complete the appropriate claims forms and submit them to us. We will notify your beneficiaries when the decision is made and if we have any questions. If approved, beneficiaries may elect to receive a lump sum payment or to have the benefit paid into an account where the funds accumulate interest and can be withdrawn at any time. (State restrictions apply and options may vary by state.) If your AD&D claim for an accidental injury is approved, the benefit amount will be paid directly to you.

Read the *Important information* section for more details including limitations and exclusions.

#### Important information

To become insured, you must meet the eligibility requirements set forth by your employer. Your coverage effective date will be determined by the Policy and may be delayed if you are not actively at work on the date your coverage would otherwise go into effect. Similarly, dependent coverage, if offered, may be delayed if your dependents are in the hospital (except for newborns) on the date coverage would otherwise become effective. Refer to the Certificate for details.

#### Limitations and exclusions

The below exclusions and limitations may vary by state law and regulations. This list may not be comprehensive. Please see the Certificate or ask your benefits administrator for details.

#### Life

In some states, your employer's group policy may exclude payment for suicide that occurs within a specific time period after the insurance or increase in insurance becomes effective. Please see your Certificate for details.

#### **Accidental Death and Dismemberment**

We will not pay a benefit that is due to or results from: suicide while sane or insane; injuring oneself intentionally; committing or attempting to commit an assault, felony or other criminal act; war or an act of war; active participation in a riot, rebellion or insurrection; voluntary use of any controlled substance/illegal drugs; operation of a motorized vehicle while intoxicated; bodily or mental infirmity or disease or infection unless due to an accidental injury; riding in or driving any motor-driven vehicle in a race, stunt show, or speed test.

This Overview is preliminary to the issuance of the Policy. Refer to your Certificate for details. Receipt of this Overview does not constitute approval of coverage under the Policy. In the event of a discrepancy between this Overview, the Certificate and the Policy, the terms of the Policy will govern. Product offerings may not be available in all states and may vary depending on state laws and regulations.

## 0.108 per 1000

Sun Life companies include Sun Life and Health Insurance Company (U.S.) and Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada (collectively, "Sun Life").

Group life insurance policies are underwritten by Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada (Wellesley Hills, MA) in all states, except New York, under Policy Form Series 93P-LH, 98P-ADD, 12-GP-01, 15-LF-01, 12-GPPort-P01, 12-LFPort-C-01, 15-ADD-C-01, 13-ADD-C-01 and 13-ADDPort-C-01.

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GVBH-EE-8384 SLPC 29579

# Voluntary Life Insurance



#### MORE PROTECTION FOR YOUR LOVED ONES.

The people you love and support could face financial challenges without you. Life insurance provides your loved ones with money they can use for household expenses, tuition, mortgage payments and more.

#### HELPS YOU CLOSE ANY COVERAGE GAPS.

You may have life insurance today, either on your own or through your employer. Now is a good time to ask yourself if you need more coverage.

#### **JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSION**

All Eligible Employees

POLICY #: 978200

#### **BENEFITS** (You can purchase this coverage at a group rate.)

## For you You can choose from \$10,000 to \$100,000—in increments of \$10,000. No medical questions asked up to the Guaranteed Issue amount of \$100,000.

Benefits are reduced at age 70 and may reduce again in subsequent years as noted in your Certificate.

## For your spouse

If you elect coverage for yourself, you can choose from \$5,000 to \$50,000—in increments of \$5,000. No medical questions asked up to the Guaranteed Issue amount of \$50,000.

The amount you select for your spouse cannot exceed 50% of your coverage amount. Coverage ends when you turn age 70.

## For your child(ren)

If you elect coverage for yourself, you can choose **\$10,000**. No medical questions asked.

The amount you select for your child(ren) cannot exceed 50% of your coverage amount. Benefits may reduce as noted in your Certificate. Child(ren) must primarily depend on the employee for 50% or more of their support.

A full benefit is payable for a dependent child who is 15 days to 19 or to 26 years old if a full-time student. (No benefit is payable for a child from birth to 15 days).

#### Frequently asked questions

**Do I need to answer any health questions to enroll?**Yes, if you request an initial amount higher than the Guaranteed Issue amount or if you want to increase coverage in excess of one increment annually. To answer health questions, please fill out our Evidence of Insurability application. Health questions must be approved by Sun Life before coverage takes effect. Please see your Certificate for details.

#### Can I increase my coverage at a later date?

Yes. You may increase your coverage by one increment amount annually, without having to answer health questions, even if the increase means that your coverage exceeds the Guaranteed Issue amount. Your benefits administrator can advise you on how to increase coverage annually. The maximum benefit amount still applies.

#### What if my spouse and I work for the same employer?

Under the policy, if you are married to another employee, you should check with your benefits administrator to confirm whether you are eligible to enroll your spouse as a dependent and to confirm any additional considerations for enrolling dependent children (if dependent child coverage is available).

#### Can I take my insurance with me if I leave my employer?

Depending upon state variations and your employer's plan, you may have an option to continue group coverage when your employment terminates. Your employer can advise you about your options.

#### Can I access my life insurance if I become terminally ill?

You may apply to receive a portion of your life insurance to help cover medical and living expenses. This is called an "Accelerated Benefit" and there are some important things to know about it, including that it is not long-term-care insurance, it may be taxable and it may affect your eligibility for public assistance programs. It will also reduce the total amount of the life insurance payment we pay to your beneficiary(ies).

#### What happens if I become Totally Disabled?

If we determine that you are Totally Disabled and cannot work, your life insurance coverage may continue at no cost. You must meet certain requirements, as detailed in the Certificate.

#### How does my beneficiary file a death claim?

Your beneficiary(ies) and your employer will complete the appropriate claims forms and submit them to us. We will notify your beneficiaries when the decision is made and if we have any questions. If approved, beneficiaries may elect to receive a lump sum payment or to have the benefit paid into an account where the funds accumulate interest and can be withdrawn at any time. (State restrictions apply and options may vary by state.)

Read the Important information section for more details including limitations and exclusions.

#### Important information

To become insured, you must meet the eligibility requirements set forth by your employer. Your coverage effective date will be determined by the Policy and may be delayed if you are not actively at work on the date your coverage would otherwise go into effect. Similarly, dependent coverage, if offered, may be delayed if your dependents are in the hospital (except for newborns) on the date coverage would otherwise become effective. Refer to the Certificate for details.

#### Limitations and exclusions

The below exclusions and limitations may vary by state law and regulations. This list may not be comprehensive. Please see the Certificate or ask your benefits administrator for details.

#### Life

In some states, your employer's group policy may exclude payment for suicide that occurs within a specific time period after the insurance or increase in insurance becomes effective. Please see your Certificate for details.

This Overview is preliminary to the issuance of the Policy. Refer to your Certificate for details. Receipt of this Overview does not constitute approval of coverage under the Policy. In the event of a discrepancy between this Overview, the Certificate and the Policy, the terms of the Policy will govern. Product offerings may not be available in all states and may vary depending on state laws and regulations.

Sun Life companies include Sun Life and Health Insurance Company (U.S.) and Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada (collectively, "Sun Life").

Group life insurance policies are underwritten by Sun Life Assurance Company of Canada (Wellesley Hills, MA) in all states, except New York, under Policy Form Series 93P-LH, 98P-ADD, 12-GP-01, 15-LF-01, 12-GPPort-P01, 12-LFPort-C-01, 15-ADD-C-01, 13-ADD-C-01 and 13-ADDPort-C-01.

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GVBH-EE-8384 SLPC 29579

#### EMPLOYEE VOLUNTARY LIFE - SEMI Monthly Cost

**Guaranteed Issue Amount: \$100,000** 

	Under 25	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+
PREMIUM RATE	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.10	0.17	0.33	0.51	0.85	1.19	2.07	3.21	5.87
\$10,000	\$0.35	\$0.35	\$0.40	\$0.50	\$0.85	\$1.65	\$2.55	\$4.25	\$5.95	\$10.35	\$16.05	\$29.35
\$20,000	\$0.70	\$0.70	\$0.80	\$1.00	\$1.70	\$3.30	\$5.10	\$8.50	\$11.90	\$20.70	\$32.10	\$58.70
\$30,000	\$1.05	\$1.05	\$1.20	\$1.50	\$2.55	\$4.95	\$7.65	\$12.75	\$17.85	\$31.05	\$48.15	\$88.05
\$40,000	\$1.40	\$1.40	\$1.60	\$2.00	\$3.40	\$6.60	\$10.20	\$17.00	\$23.80	\$41.40	\$64.20	\$117.40
\$50,000	\$1.75	\$1.75	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$4.25	\$8.25	\$12.75	\$21.25	\$29.75	\$51.75	\$80.25	\$146.75
\$60,000	\$2.10	\$2.10	\$2.40	\$3.00	\$5.10	\$9.90	\$15.30	\$25.50	\$35.70	\$62.10	\$96.30	\$176.10
\$70,000	\$2.45	\$2.45	\$2.80	\$3.50	\$5.95	\$11.55	\$17.85	\$29.75	\$41.65	\$72.45	\$112.35	\$205.45
\$80,000	\$2.80	\$2.80	\$3.20	\$4.00	\$6.80	\$13.20	\$20.40	\$34.00	\$47.60	\$82.80	\$128.40	\$234.80
\$90,000	\$3.15	\$3.15	\$3.60	\$4.50	\$7.65	\$14.85	\$22.95	\$38.25	\$53.55	\$93.15	\$144.45	\$264.15
\$100,000	\$3.50	\$3.50	\$4.00	\$5.00	\$8.50	\$16.50	\$25.50	\$42.50	\$59.50	\$103.50	\$160.50	\$293.50

#### SPOUSE VOLUNTARY LIFE - SEMI Monthly Cost

**Guaranteed Issue Amount: \$50,000** 

**{Employee's Age}	Under 25	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75+
PREMIUM RATE	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.10	0.17	0.33	0.51	0.85	1.19	2.07	3.21	5.87
\$5,000	\$0.18	\$0.18	\$0.20	\$0.25	\$0.43	\$0.83	\$1.28	\$2.13	\$2.98	\$5.18	\$8.03	\$14.68
\$10,000	\$0.35	\$0.35	\$0.40	\$0.50	\$0.85	\$1.65	\$2.55	\$4.25	\$5.95	\$10.35	\$16.05	\$29.35
\$15,000	\$0.53	\$0.53	\$0.60	\$0.75	\$1.28	\$2.48	\$3.83	\$6.38	\$8.93	\$15.53	\$24.08	\$44.03
\$20,000	\$0.70	\$0.70	\$0.80	\$1.00	\$1.70	\$3.30	\$5.10	\$8.50	\$11.90	\$20.70	\$32.10	\$58.70
\$25,000	\$0.88	\$0.88	\$1.00	\$1.25	\$2.13	\$4.13	\$6.38	\$10.63	\$14.88	\$25.88	\$40.13	\$73.38
\$30,000	\$1.05	\$1.05	\$1.20	\$1.50	\$2.55	\$4.95	\$7.65	\$12.75	\$17.85	\$31.05	\$48.15	\$88.05
\$35,000	\$1.23	\$1.23	\$1.40	\$1.75	\$2.98	\$5.78	\$8.93	\$14.88	\$20.83	\$36.23	\$56.18	\$102.73
\$40,000	\$1.40	\$1.40	\$1.60	\$2.00	\$3.40	\$6.60	\$10.20	\$17.00	\$23.80	\$41.40	\$64.20	\$117.40
\$45,000	\$1.58	\$1.58	\$1.80	\$2.25	\$3.83	\$7.43	\$11.48	\$19.13	\$26.78	\$46.58	\$72.23	\$132.08
\$50,000	\$1.75	\$1.75	\$2.00	\$2.50	\$4.25	\$8.25	\$12.75	\$21.25	\$29.75	\$51.75	\$80.25	\$146.75

#### CHILD VOL Life SEMI Monthly Cost

\$10,000 Benefit Age 15 days to Age 19

\$10,000	For Child / Children	\$0.51

## **SECTION 5**

## **ADMINISTRATION GUIDE**

PLACE ALL PAGES AFTER TAB 5

RETAIN TO REFERENCE REGULATIONS AS NEEDED

# What is an ERISA Wrap Summary Plan Description (SPD)?

The Summary Plan Description, or SPD, is the main vehicle for communicating plan rights and obligations to participants and beneficiaries. As the name suggests, it is a summary of the material provisions of the plan document, and it should be understandable to the average participant of the employer. However, in the context of health & welfare benefit plans, it is not uncommon for the SPD to be a combination of a complete description of the plan's terms and conditions, such as a Certificate of Coverage, and the required ERISA disclosure language.

Note: An insurance company's Master Contract, Certificate of Coverage, or Summary of Benefits is not a plan document or SPD.

Here's the "summary" of what the ERISA SPD law requires, the actual CFR law follows. An SPD must contain all of the following information:

- The plan name
- The plan sponsor/employer's name and address
- The plan sponsor's EIN
- The plan administrator's name, address, and phone number
- Designation of any named fiduciaries, if other than the plan administrator, e.g., claim fiduciary
- The plan number for ERISA Form 5500 purposes, e.g., 501, 502, 503, etc. (Note—each ERISA plan should be assigned a unique number.)
- Type of plan or brief description of benefits, e.g., life, medical, dental, disability
- The date of the end of the plan year for maintaining the plan's fiscal records (which may be different from the insurance policy year)
- Each trustee's name, title, and address of principal place of business, if the plan has a
- The name and address of the plan's agent for service of legal process, along with a statement that service may be made on a plan trustee or administrator
- The type of plan administration, e.g., administered by contract, insurer, or sponsor
- Eligibility terms, e.g., classes of eligible employees, employment waiting period, and hours per week, and the effective date of participation, e.g., next day or first of the month following satisfaction of an eligibility waiting period
- How the insurer refunds (e.g., dividends, demutualization, and medical loss ratio (MLR) refunds) are allocated to participants. Note: This is important for obtaining the small plan (<100 participants) exception for filing Form 5500.
- The plan sponsor's amendment and termination rights and procedures, and what happens to plan assets, if any, in the event of plan termination
- A summary of any plan provisions governing the benefits, rights, and obligations of participants under the plan on termination or amendment of the plan or elimination of benefits
- A summary of any plan provisions governing the allocation and disposition of assets upon plan termination
- Claims procedures—may be furnished separately in a Certificate of Coverage, provided that the SPD explains that claims procedures are furnished automatically, without charge, in the separate document (e.g., a Certificate of Coverage), and time limits for lawsuits, if the plan imposes them

- A statement clearly identifying circumstances that may result in loss or denial of benefits (e.g., subrogation, coordination of benefits, and offset provisions)
- The standard of review for benefit decisions (We recommend consideration of granting full discretion for the plan administrator or authorized fiduciary to interpret the plan and make factual determinations.)
- ERISA model statement of participants' rights
- The sources of plan contributions, whether from employer and/or employee contributions, and the method by which they are calculated
- Interim SMMs since the SPD was adopted or last restated
- The fact that the employer is a participating employer or a member of a controlled group
- Whether the plan is maintained pursuant to one or more collective bargaining agreements, and that a copy of the agreement may be obtained upon request
- A prominent offer of assistance in a non-English language (depending on the number of participants who are literate in the same non-English language)
- Identity of the insurer(s), if any
- Additional requirements for Group Health Plan SPDs:
  - Detailed description of plan provisions and exclusions (e.g., copays, deductibles, coinsurance, eligible expenses, network provider provisions, prior authorization and utilization review requirements, dollar limits, day limits, visit limits, and the extent to which new drugs, preventive care, and medical tests and devices are covered) A link to network providers should also be provided. Plan limits, exceptions, and restrictions must be conspicuous.
  - Information regarding COBRA, HIPAA, and other federal mandates such as the Women's Health Cancer Rights Act, preexisting condition exclusion, special enrollment rules, mental health parity, coverage for adopted children, Qualified Medical Support Orders, and minimum hospital stays following childbirth.
  - o Name and address of health insurer(s), if any
  - Description of the role of health insurers (i.e., whether the plan is insured by an insurance company or the insurance company is merely providing administrative services)

# Recommended, but not required provisions in an SPD:

- For insured arrangements, attach the Summary of Benefits provided by the insurance companies to help ensure you have provided an understandable summary of the Certificate of Coverage
- For self-insured arrangements, provide the name, address, and phone number of any Third Party Administrator (TPA) paying claims or benefits.
- Language that in the event there is a conflict between the plan document, the SPD, and a Certificate of Insurance, which document controls

### **Wrap SPD Document Requirements:**

Group insurance Certificates of Insurance are typically not SPDs because they do not contain all of the language required by ERISA. An employer must prepare an ERISA "Wrapper" to supplement the Certificate of Insurance. Together, the Wrapper and Certificate of Insurance comprise a proper SPD.

# The Law – (Code of Federal Regulations) for which this US Code section provides rulemaking authority.

# 29 CFR 2520.102-3 - Contents of summary plan description.

- CFR
- Updates
- Authorities (U.S. Code)
- Rulemaking

§ 2520.102-3Contents of summary plan description.

Section 102 of the Act specifies information that must be included in the summary plan description. The summary plan description must accurately reflect the contents of the plans as of the date not earlier than 120 days prior to the date such summary plan description is disclosed. The following information shall be included in the summary plan description of both employee welfare benefit plans and employee pension benefit plans, except as stated otherwise in paragraphs (j) through (n):

- (a) The name of the plan, and, if different, the name by which the plan is commonly known by its participants and beneficiaries;
- (b) The name and address of—
- (1) In the case of a single employer plan, the employer whose employees are covered by the plan,
- (2) In the case of a plan maintained by an employee organization for its members, the employee organization that maintains the plan,
- (3) In the case of a collectively-bargained plan established or maintained by one or more employers and one or more employee organizations, the association, committee, joint board of trustees, parent or most significantly employer of a group of employers all of which contribute to the same plan, or other similar representative of the parties who established or maintain the plan, as well as
- (i) A statement that a complete list of the employers and employee organizations sponsoring the plan may be obtained by participants and beneficiaries upon written request to the plan administrator, and is available for examination by participants and beneficiaries, as required by §§ 2520.104b-1 and 2520.104b-30; or
- (ii) A statement that participants and beneficiaries may receive from the plan administrator, upon written request, information as to whether a particular employer or employee organization is a sponsor of the plan and, if the employer or employee organization is a plan sponsor, the sponsor's address.

- (4) In the case of a plan established or maintained by two or more employers, the association, committee, joint board of trustees, parent or most significant employer of a group of employers all of which contribute to the same plan, or other similar representative of the parties who established or maintain the plan, as well as
- (i) A statement that a complete list of the employers sponsoring the plan may be obtained by participants and beneficiaries upon written request to the plan administrator, and is available for examination by participants and beneficiaries, as required by §§ 2520.104b-1 and 2520.104b-30, or,
- (ii) A statement that participants and beneficiaries may receive from the plan administrator, upon written request, information as to whether a particular employer is a sponsor of the plan and, if the employer is a plan sponsor, the sponsor's address.
- (c) The employer identification number (EIN) assigned by the Internal Revenue Service to the plan sponsor and the plan number assigned by the plan sponsor. (For further detailed explanation, see the instructions to the plan description Form EBS-1 and "Identification Numbers Under ERISA" (Publ. 1004), published jointly by DOL, IRS, and PBGC);
- (d) The type of pension or welfare plan, e.g. pension plans—defined benefit, defined contribution, 401(k), cash balance, money purchase, profit sharing, ERISA section 404(c) plan, etc., and for welfare plans—group health plans, disability, pre-paid legal services, etc.
- (e) The type of administration of the plan, e.g., contract administration, insurer administration, etc.;
- (f) The name, business address and business telephone number of the plan administrator as that term is defined by section 3(16) of the Act;
- (g) The name of the person designated as agent for service of legal process, and the address at which process may be served on such person, and in addition, a statement that service of legal process may be made upon a plan trustee or the plan administrator;
- (h) The name, title and address of the principal place of business of each trustee of the plan;
- (i) If a plan is maintained pursuant to one or more collective bargaining agreements, a statement that the plan is so maintained, and that a copy of any such agreement may be obtained by participants and beneficiaries upon written request to the plan administrator, and is available for examination by participants and beneficiaries, as required by §§ 2520.104b-1 and 2520.104b-30. For the purpose of this paragraph, a plan is maintained pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement if such agreement controls any duties, rights or benefits under the plan, even though such agreement has been superseded in part for other purposes;
- (j) The plan's requirements respecting eligibility for participation and for benefits. The summary plan description shall describe the plan's provisions relating to eligibility to participate in the plan and the information identified in paragraphs (j)(1), (2) and (3) of this section, as appropriate.

- (1) For employee pension benefit plans, it shall also include a statement describing the plan's normal retirement age, as that term is defined in section 3(24) of the Act, and a statement describing any other conditions which must be met before a participant will be eligible to receive benefits. Such plan benefits shall be described or summarized. In addition, the summary plan description shall include a description of the procedures governing qualified domestic relations order (QDRO) determinations or a statement indicating that participants and beneficiaries can obtain, without charge, a copy of such procedures from the plan administrator.
- (2) For employee welfare benefit plans, it shall also include a statement of the conditions pertaining to eligibility to receive benefits, and a description or summary of the benefits. In the case of a welfare plan providing extensive schedules of benefits (a group health plan, for example), only a general description of such benefits is required if reference is made to detailed schedules of benefits which are available without cost to any participant or beneficiary who so requests. In addition, the summary plan description shall include a description of the procedures governing qualified medical child support order (QMCSO) determinations or a statement indicating that participants and beneficiaries can obtain, without charge, a copy of such procedures from the plan administrator.
- (3) For employee welfare benefit plans that are group health plans, as defined in section 733(a)(1) of the Act, the summary plan description shall include a description of: any costsharing provisions, including premiums, deductibles, coinsurance, and copayment amounts for which the participant or beneficiary will be responsible; any annual or lifetime caps or other limits on benefits under the plan; the extent to which preventive services are covered under the plan; whether, and under what circumstances, existing and new drugs are covered under the plan; whether, and under what circumstances, coverage is provided for medical tests, devices and procedures; provisions governing the use of network providers, the composition of the provider network, and whether, and under what circumstances, coverage is provided for out-of-network services; any conditions or limits on the selection of primary care providers or providers of speciality medical care; any conditions or limits applicable to obtaining emergency medical care; and any provisions requiring preauthorizations or utilization review as a condition to obtaining a benefit or service under the plan. In the case of plans with provider networks, the listing of providers may be furnished as a separate document that accompanies the plan's SPD, provided that the summary plan description contains a general description of the provider network and provided further that the SPD contains a statement that provider lists are furnished automatically, without charge, as a separate document.
- (k) In the case of an employee pension benefit plan, a statement describing any joint and survivor benefits provided under the plan, including any requirement that an election be made as a condition to select or reject the joint and survivor annuity;
- (l) For both pension and welfare benefit plans, a statement clearly identifying circumstances which may result in disqualification, ineligibility, or denial, loss, forfeiture, suspension, offset, reduction, or recovery (e.g., by exercise of subrogation or reimbursement rights) of any benefits that a participant or beneficiary might otherwise reasonably expect the plan to provide on the basis of the description of benefits required by paragraphs (j) and (k) of this section. In addition to other required information, plans must include a summary of any plan provisions governing the authority of the plan sponsors or others to terminate the plan or amend or eliminate benefits

under the plan and the circumstances, if any, under which the plan may be terminated or benefits may be amended or eliminated; a summary of any plan provisions governing the benefits, rights and obligations of participants and beneficiaries under the plan on termination of the plan or amendment or elimination of benefits under the plan, including, in the case of an employee pension benefit plan, a summary of any provisions relating to the accrual and the vesting of pension benefits under the plan upon termination; and a summary of any plan provisions governing the allocation and disposition of assets of the plan upon termination. Plans also shall include a summary of any provisions that may result in the imposition of a fee or charge on a participant or beneficiary, or on an individual account thereof, the payment of which is a condition to the receipt of benefits under the plan. The foregoing summaries shall be disclosed in accordance with the requirements under 29 CFR 2520.102-2(b).

- (m) For an employee pension benefit plan the following information:
- (1) If the benefits of the plan are not insured under title IV of the Act, a statement of this fact, and reason for the lack of insurance; and
- (2) If the benefits of the plan are insured under title IV of the Act, a statement of this fact, a summary of the pension benefit guaranty provisions of title IV, and a statement indicating that further information on the provisions of title IV can be obtained from the plan administrator or the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation. The address of the PBGC shall be provided.
- (3) A summary plan description for a single-employer plan will be deemed to comply with paragraph (m)(2) of this section if it includes the following statement:

Your pension benefits under this plan are insured by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC), a federal insurance agency. If the plan terminates (ends) without enough money to pay all benefits, the PBGC will step in to pay pension benefits. Most people receive all of the pension benefits they would have received under their plan, but some people may lose certain benefits.

The PBGC guarantee generally covers: (1) Normal and early retirement benefits; (2) disability benefits if you become disabled before the plan terminates; and (3) certain benefits for your survivors.

The PBGC guarantee generally does not cover: (1) Benefits greater than the maximum guaranteed amount set by law for the year in which the plan terminates; (2) some or all of benefit increases and new benefits based on plan provisions that have been in place for fewer than 5 years at the time the plan terminates; (3) benefits that are not vested because you have not worked long enough for the company; (4) benefits for which you have not met all of the requirements at the time the plan terminates; (5) certain early retirement payments (such as supplemental benefits that stop when you become eligible for Social Security) that result in an early retirement monthly benefit greater than your monthly benefit at the plan's normal retirement age; and (6) non-pension benefits, such as health insurance, life insurance, certain death benefits, vacation pay, and severance pay.

Even if certain of your benefits are not guaranteed, you still may receive some of those benefits from the PBGC depending on how much money your plan has and on how much the PBGC collects from employers.

For more information about the PBGC and the benefits it guarantees, ask your plan administrator or contact the PBGC's Technical Assistance Division, 1200 K Street N.W., Suite 930, Washington, D.C. 20005-4026 or call 202-326-4000 (not a toll-free number). TTY/TDD users may call the federal relay service toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4000. Additional information about the PBGC's pension insurance program is available through the PBGC's website on the Internet at <a href="http://www.pbgc.gov.">http://www.pbgc.gov.</a>

(4) A summary plan description for a multiemployer plan will be deemed to comply with paragraph (m)(2) of this section if it includes the following statement:

Your pension benefits under this multiemployer plan are insured by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC), a federal insurance agency. A multiemployer plan is a collectively bargained pension arrangement involving two or more unrelated employers, usually in a common industry.

Under the multiemployer plan program, the PBGC provides financial assistance through loans to plans that are insolvent. A multiemployer plan is considered insolvent if the plan is unable to pay benefits (at least equal to the PBGC's guaranteed benefit limit) when due.

The maximum benefit that the PBGC guarantees is set by law. Under the multiemployer program, the PBGC guarantee equals a participant's years of service multiplied by (1) 100% of the first \$5 of the monthly benefit accrual rate and (2) 75% of the next \$15. The PBGC's maximum guarantee limit is \$16.25 per month times a participant's years of service. For example, the maximum annual guarantee for a retiree with 30 years of service would be \$5,850.

The PBGC guarantee generally covers: (1) Normal and early retirement benefits; (2) disability benefits if you become disabled before the plan becomes insolvent; and (3) certain benefits for your survivors.

The PBGC guarantee generally does not cover: (1) Benefits greater than the maximum guaranteed amount set by law; (2) benefit increases and new benefits based on plan provisions that have been in place for fewer than 5 years at the earlier of: (i) The date the plan terminates or (ii) the time the plan becomes insolvent; (3) benefits that are not vested because you have not worked long enough; (4) benefits for which you have not met all of the requirements at the time the plan becomes insolvent; and (5) non-pension benefits, such as health insurance, life insurance, certain death benefits, vacation pay, and severance pay.

For more information about the PBGC and the benefits it guarantees, ask your plan administrator or contact the PBGC's Technical Assistance Division, 1200 K Street, N.W., Suite 930, Washington, D.C. 20005-4026 or call 202-326-4000 (not a toll-free number). TTY/TDD users may call the federal relay service toll-free at 1-800-877-8339 and ask to be connected to 202-326-4000. Additional information about the PBGC's pension insurance program is available through the PBGC's website on the Internet at <a href="http://www.pbgc.gov">http://www.pbgc.gov</a>.

(n) In the case of an employee pension benefit plan, a description and explanation of the plan provisions for determining years of service for eligibility to participate, vesting, and breaks in service, and years of participation for benefit accrual. The description shall state the service

required to accrue full benefits and the manner in which accrual of benefits is prorated for employees failing to complete full service for a year.

- (o) In the case of a group health plan, within the meaning of section 607(1) of the Act, subject to the continuation coverage provisions of Part 6 of Title I of ERISA, a description of the rights and obligations of participants and beneficiaries with respect to continuation coverage, including, among other things, information concerning qualifying events and qualified beneficiaries, premiums, notice and election requirements and procedures, and duration of coverage.
- (p) The sources of contributions to the plan—for example, employer, employee organization, employees—and the method by which the amount of contribution is calculated. Defined benefit pension plans may state without further explanation that the contribution is actuarially determined.
- (q) The identity of any funding medium used for the accumulation of assets through which benefits are provided. The summary plan description shall identify any insurance company, trust fund, or any other institution, organization, or entity which maintains a fund on behalf of the plan or through which the plan is funded or benefits are provided. If a health insurance issuer, within the meaning of section 733(b)(2) of the Act, is responsible, in whole or in part, for the financing or administration of a group health plan, the summary plan description shall indicate the name and address of the issuer, whether and to what extent benefits under the plan are guaranteed under a contract or policy of insurance issued by the issuer, and the nature of any administrative services (e.g., payment of claims) provided by the issuer.
- (r) The date of the end of the year for purposes of maintaining the plan's fiscal records;
- (s) The procedures governing claims for benefits (including procedures for obtaining preauthorizations, approvals, or utilization review decisions in the case of group health plan services or benefits, and procedures for filing claim forms, providing notifications of benefit determinations, and reviewing denied claims in the case of any plan), applicable time limits, and remedies available under the plan for the redress of claims which are denied in whole or in part (including procedures required under section 503 of Title I of the Act). The plan's claims procedures may be furnished as a separate document that accompanies the plan's SPD, provided that the document satisfies the style and format requirements of 29 CFR 2520.102-2 and, provided further that the SPD contains a statement that the plan's claims procedures are furnished automatically, without charge, as a separate document.

(t)

(1) The statement of ERISA rights described in section 104(c) of the Act, containing the items of information applicable to the plan included in the model statement of paragraph (t)(2) of this section. Items which are not applicable to the plan are not required to be included. The statement may contain explanatory and descriptive provisions in addition to those prescribed in paragraph (t)(2) of this section. However, the style and format of the statement shall not have the effect of misleading, misinforming or failing to inform participants and beneficiaries of a plan. All such information shall be written in a manner calculated to be understood by the average plan participant, taking into account factors such as the level of comprehension and education of

typical participants in the plan and the complexity of the items required under this subparagraph to be included in the statement. Inaccurate, incomprehensible or misleading explanatory material will fail to meet the requirements of this section. The statement of ERISA rights (the model statement or a statement prepared by the plan), must appear as one consolidated statement. If a plan finds it desirable to make additional mention of certain rights elsewhere in the summary plan description, it may do so. The summary plan description may state that the statement of ERISA rights is required by Federal law and regulation.

(2) A summary plan description will be deemed to comply with the requirements of paragraph (t)(1) of this section if it includes the following statement; items of information which are not applicable to a particular plan should be deleted:

As a participant in (name of plan) you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). ERISA provides that all plan participants shall be entitled to:

### Receive Information About Your Plan and Benefits

Examine, without charge, at the plan administrator's office and at other specified locations, such as worksites and union halls, all documents governing the plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Pension and Welfare Benefit Administration.

Obtain, upon written request to the plan administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) and updated summary plan description. The administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.

Receive a summary of the plan's annual financial report. The plan administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this summary annual report.

Obtain a statement telling you whether you have a right to receive a pension at normal retirement age (age \* \* \*) and if so, what your benefits would be at normal retirement age if you stop working under the plan now. If you do not have a right to a pension, the statement will tell you how many more years you have to work to get a right to a pension. This statement must be requested in writing and is not required to be given more than once every twelve (12) months. The plan must provide the statement free of charge.

### Continue Group Health Plan Coverage

Continue health care coverage for yourself, spouse or dependents if there is a loss of coverage under the plan as a result of a qualifying event. You or your dependents may have to pay for such coverage. Review this summary plan description and the documents governing the plan on the rules governing your COBRA continuation coverage rights.

Reduction or elimination of exclusionary periods of coverage for preexisting conditions under your group health plan, if you have creditable coverage from another plan. You should be

provided a certificate of creditable coverage, free of charge, from your group health plan or health insurance issuer when you lose coverage under the plan, when you become entitled to elect COBRA continuation coverage, when your COBRA continuation coverage ceases, if you request it before losing coverage, or if you request it up to 24 months after losing coverage. Without evidence of creditable coverage, you may be subject to a preexisting condition exclusion for 12 months (18 months for late enrollees) after your enrollment date in your coverage.

# Prudent Actions by Plan Fiduciaries

In addition to creating rights for plan participants ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the employee benefit plan. The people who operate your plan, called "fiduciaries" of the plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other plan participants and beneficiaries. No one, including your employer, your union, or any other person, may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining a (pension, welfare) benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA.

### **Enforce Your Rights**

If your claim for a (pension, welfare) benefit is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you have a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge, and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules.

Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of plan documents or the latest annual report from the plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in a Federal court. In such a case, the court may require the plan administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to \$110 a day until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the administrator. If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a state or Federal court. In addition, if you disagree with the plan's decision or lack thereof concerning the qualified status of a domestic relations order or a medical child support order, you may file suit in Federal court. If it should happen that plan fiduciaries misuse the plan's money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a Federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds your claim is frivolous.

### Assistance with Your Questions

If you have any questions about your plan, you should contact the plan administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the plan administrator, you should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. You may also obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

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- (1) For a group health plan, as defined in section 733(a)(1) of the Act, that provides maternity or newborn infant coverage, a statement describing any requirements under federal or state law applicable to the plan, and any health insurance coverage offered under the plan, relating to hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child. If federal law applies in some areas in which the plan operates and state law applies in other areas, the statement should describe the different areas and the federal or state law requirements applicable in each.
- (2) In the case of a group health plan subject to section 711 of the Act, the summary plan description will be deemed to have complied with paragraph (u)(1) of this section relating to the required description of federal law requirements if it includes the following statement in the summary plan description:

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).

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1210-0039)

[42 FR 37180, July 19, 1977, as amended at <u>62 FR 16984</u>, Apr. 8, 1997; <u>62 FR 31695</u>, June 10, 1997; <u>62 FR 36205</u>, July 7, 1997; <u>63 FR 48375</u>, Sept. 9, 1998; <u>65 FR 70241</u>, Nov. 21, 2000; <u>66</u> FR 34994, July 2, 2001; <u>66 FR 36368</u>, July 11, 2001]

# **Documenting Method for Identifying Full-time Employees**

Beginning in 2015, the Affordable Care Act (ACA) imposes a penalty on applicable large employers (ALEs) that do not offer health insurance coverage to substantially all full-time employees and dependents. An ALE may also be subject to a penalty if it offers health insurance coverage to full-time employees and dependents, but the coverage is unaffordable or does not provide minimum value. An ALE is only liable for a penalty if one or more of its full-time employees receives a health insurance subsidy for coverage under an Exchange.

The ACA's employer penalty rules are often referred to as "employer shared responsibility" or "pay or play" rules. The pay or play rules will take effect for many ALEs on Jan. 1, 2015.

This Legislative Brief includes a brief overview of the two methods for identifying full-time employees, and it provides guidelines for documenting the method an employer decides to use. It also includes sample language for describing the look-back measurement method. This sample language, which requires customization, could be incorporated into an employer policy, health plan document or summary plan description (SPD).

### METHODS FOR IDENTIFYING FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES

On Feb. 12, 2014, the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) published final regulations on the employer shared responsibility rules. The final regulations provide two methods for identifying full-time employees for purposes of offering health plan coverage and avoiding a pay or play penalty—the monthly measurement method and the look-back measurement method.

A full-time employee is an employee who was employed, on average, at least 30 hours of service per week. The final regulations treat 130 hours of service in a calendar month as the monthly equivalent of 30 hours per service per week.

# Monthly Measurement Method

The monthly measurement method involves a month-to-month analysis where full-time employees are identified based on their hours of service for each calendar month. This method is not based on averaging hours of service over a prior measurement period. Month-to-month measuring may cause practical difficulties for employers, particularly if there are employees with varying hours or employment schedules, and it could result in employees moving in and out of health plan coverage on a monthly basis.

### Look-back Measurement Method

To give employers flexible and workable options and greater predictability for determining fulltime employee status, the IRS developed an optional look-back measurement method as an alternative to the monthly measurement method.

Under the look-back measurement method, an employer counts an employee's hours of service during one period (called a measurement period) to determine his or her full-time status for a future period (called the stability period). The details of this method are complex, and vary based

on whether the employees are ongoing or new and whether new employees are expected to work full time or are variable, seasonal or part-time employees.

Selecting a Measurement Method

In general, an employer must use the same measurement method for all employees. Thus, an employer generally cannot use the monthly measurement method for employees with predictable hours of service and the look-back measurement method for employees whose hours of service vary.

However, an employer may apply either the monthly measurement method or the look-back measurement method to the following groups of employees:

- Each group of collectively bargained employees covered by a separate bargaining agreement;
- Salaried and hourly employees;
- Employees whose primary places of employment are in different states; and
- Collectively bargained and non-collectively bargained employees.

### DOCUMENTING MEASUREMENT METHODS

# Pay or Play Penalty Disputes

The final regulations from the IRS do not require ALEs to document the measurement method they use for identifying full-time employee status and determining when employees are eligible for coverage. Also, the Internal Revenue Code (Code) Section 6056 reporting requirement for ALEs does not require employers to report on the method used for determining full-time employee status.

### **Key Point:**

Although the IRS does not require employers to document their measurement method, maintaining a description of the selected measurement method and a record of the method's outcomes for individual employees may help an ALE demonstrate its compliance with the shared responsibility rules and avoid a pay or play penalty.

For instance, if the IRS notifies an ALE of its potential liability for a penalty because an employee received a health insurance subsidy, the employer will want to have documentation showing that either the employee was offered health coverage that meets the ACA's standards, or the ALE was not required to offer coverage because the employee did not have full-time status.

# **ERISA Compliance**

Most employer-sponsored health plans are subject to ERISA, a broad federal law that sets minimum standards for employee benefit plans. Among other requirements, ERISA requires health plans to:

• Be "established and maintained pursuant to a written instrument" that enables employees to determine their rights and obligations under the plan. In other words, ERISA requires health plans to have a plan document. For insured health plans, the plan document typically consists of the insurance policy or contract that describes the plan's benefits and

- a "Wrap" document that includes other ERISA-required information, such as the plan's eligibility rules.
- Provide participants with a summary plan description (SPD) that describes important plan information, including the plan's eligibility rules. The SPD must be written in a manner calculated to be understood by the average plan participant.

Also, a summary of material modifications (SMM) is required any time there is a material change in the terms of the plan or any change in the information that is required to be included in the SPD.

# **Key Point:**

To comply with ERISA, the health plan's plan document and SPD must describe the plan's eligibility requirements. This description should include the measurement method the employer uses to determine employees' full-time status. The SPD's description of the measurement method should explain how an individual can determine if he or she is eligible under the plan in a way that is understandable to the average participant and not overly complex.

Also, if a plan changes its eligibility rules (for example, by adopting the look-back measurement method), the plan sponsor should distribute either an SMM or an updated SPD to explain the revised rules to participants.

The summary of benefits and coverage (SBC) is not required to include health plan eligibility information. Thus, the SBC does not need to include information about the plan's measurement method for determining full-time employee status.

### **ACTION STEPS**

Once an ALE decides which measurement method it will use for determining employees' full-time status, it should consider taking the following steps:

- Document the selected method and how it will be implemented. For example, if an employer selects the look-back measurement method, employers should document the length of the measurement, stability and administrative periods for groups of employees. This documentation could be included in a separate policy.
- Establish a method for keeping records on outcomes for individual employees (that is, whether an employee qualifies as a full-time employee who is eligible for coverage under the selected measurement method). For employers that use the look-back measurement method, this may be part of an employee tracking tool used by the employer.
- Update the plan document and SPD to include information about the measurement method. A
  plan sponsor should either distribute an SMM or an updated SPD to explain the revised
  eligibility rules to participants.