

EMPLOYEE ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE ALLIANCE DIRECT CONTRACTING PROGRAM

I have received information that tells me how to get health care under my employer's workers' compensation coverage. If I am hurt on the job and live in a service area described in this information, I understand that:

1. I must choose a treating doctor from the Alliance list of doctors designated as treating doctors.
2. I must go to my treating doctor for all health care for my injury. If I need a specialist, my treating doctor will refer me. If I need emergency care, I may go to any licensed medical professional within the United States.
3. Even though my treating doctor should refer me to a specialist of providers contracted with the Alliance, I understand that I need to verify that the referral doctor is a member of the Alliance provider panel.
4. The Texas Association of School Boards Risk Management Fund will pay the treating doctor and other Alliance providers for all health care related to my compensable injury.
5. I understand that my medical and/or income benefits may be disputed if I receive health care from a provider other than an Alliance provider without prior approval from the Fund.
6. Making a false or fraudulent workers' compensation claim is a crime that may result in fines and or imprisonment.
7. If I want to change doctors after my first choice, I can only choose from the Alliance list of providers. A third choice requires approval from my adjuster.

Signature _____

Date / /

Printed Name _____

I live at: _____

Street Address

City State Zip Code

Name of Employer: SOMERVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Name of Direct Contracting Program: Political Subdivision Workers' Compensation Alliance (the Alliance)

Direct contracting service areas are subject to change. To locate a treating doctor within your area, visit the PSWCA web site at www.pswca.org or call your adjuster at 800-482-7276.

To be completed by the employer only

Please indicate whether this is the:

☐ Initial Employee Notification

☐ Injury Notification (Date of Injury: / /)

DO NOT RETURN THIS FORM TO THE TASB RISK MANAGEMENT FUND UNLESS REQUESTED.

EMPLOYEE NOTICE OF ALLIANCE REQUIREMENTS

Important Contact Information

To locate a provider, go to www.pswca.org.

To contact your adjuster at the TASB Risk Management Fund, visit www.tasbrmf.org or call (800) 482-7276.

Information, Instructions, Rights, and Obligations

If you are injured at work, tell your supervisor or employer immediately. The information in this notice will help you to seek medical treatment for your injury. Your employer will also help with any questions about how to get treatment. You may also contact your adjuster at the TASB Risk Management Fund (the Fund) for any questions about treatment for a work related injury. The Fund is your employer's workers' compensation coverage provider and they are working with your employer to ensure you receive timely and appropriate health care. The goal is to return you to work as soon as it is safe to do so.

- **How do I choose a treating doctor?**

If you are hurt at work and you live in the Alliance service area, you are required to choose a treating doctor from the provider list. This is required for you to receive coverage of healthcare costs for your work related injury. A provider listing is available through the Alliance website at www.pswca.org and a link to that site is also contained on the Fund's website at www.tasbrmf.org. It identifies providers who are taking new patients.

If your treating doctor leaves the Alliance, we will tell you in writing. You will have the right to choose another treating doctor from the list of Alliance doctors. If your doctor leaves the Alliance and you have a life threatening or acute condition for which a disruption of care would be harmful to you, your doctor may request that you treat with him or her for an extra **90 days**.

- **What if I live outside the service area?**

If you believe you live outside of the service area, you may request a service area review by calling your adjuster.

- **How do I change treating doctors?**

Within the first 60 days of beginning treatment, if you become dissatisfied with your first choice of a treating doctor, you can select an alternate treating doctor from the list of Alliance treating doctors in your service area. The Fund will not deny a choice of an alternate treating doctor. **However, before you can change treating doctors a second time, you must obtain permission from your adjuster.**

- **How are treating doctor referrals handled?**

Referrals for health care services that you or your doctor request will be made available on a timely basis as required by your medical condition. Referrals will be made **no later than 21 days** after the request. Your doctor should refer you to another Alliance provider unless it becomes medically necessary to make a referral outside of the Alliance. You do not have to get a referral if you are in need of emergency care.

- **Who pays for the healthcare?**

Alliance providers have agreed to seek payment from the Fund for your health care. They should not request payment from you. If you obtain health care from a doctor who is not in the Alliance without prior approval from your adjuster, you may have to pay for the cost of that care and your income benefits may be disputed. You may treat with medical providers that are **not contracted** with the Alliance only if one of the following situations occurs:

- Emergencies: You should go to the nearest hospital or emergency care facility.
- You do not live within an Alliance service area.
- Your treating doctor refers you to a provider or facility outside of the Alliance. This referral must be approved by your adjuster.

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Non-emergency care...

Report your injury to your employer as soon as you can. Select a treating doctor from the Alliance provider list. This list is available online at www.pswca.org. If you do not have internet access, call 800-482-7276 or contact your employer for a list.

Treatments Requiring Advance Approval

Certain treatments or services prescribed by your doctor need to be approved in advance. Your doctor is required to request approval from the TASB Risk Management Fund before the specific treatment or service is provided. For example, you may need to stay more days in the hospital than what was first approved. If so, the added treatment must be approved in advance.

The following non-emergency healthcare treatment requests must be approved in advance:

Inpatient hospital admissions
Outpatient Surgical or ambulatory surgical services
Spinal Surgery
All non-exempted work hardening
All non-exempted work conditioning
Physical or occupational therapy except for the first twelve (12) visits if those visits were done within the first 6 months immediately following date of injury or date of surgery
Any investigational or experimental service
Psychological testing exceeding 3 hours with no more than four tests, such as MMPI2, BDI, BAI, P-3
Repeat psychological testing
Psychotherapy and cognitive/behavioral therapy greater than 6 visits, repeat psychological interviews and biofeedback
Repeat diagnostic studies greater than \$350.
All durable medical equipment (DME) in excess of \$500
Chronic pain management and interdisciplinary pain rehabilitation
Drugs not included in the TDI Division of Workers' Compensation Formulary
All narcotic medications dispensed greater than 60 days
Any treatment or service that exceeds the Official Disability Guidelines.

The number your doctor must call to request one of these treatments is 800-482-7276, ext. 6654. If a treatment or service request is denied, we will tell you in writing. This written notice will have information about your right to request a reconsideration or appeal of the denied treatment. It will also tell you about your right to request review by an Independent Review Organization through the Texas Department of Insurance.