



2023

BENEFITS GUIDE

Here's where to find ...

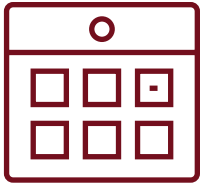
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Granby Public Schools appreciates your commitment to our success. We're equally committed to providing you with competitive, affordable health benefits to help you take care of yourself and your family.

Please read this guide carefully. It has a summary of your plan options and helpful tips for getting the most value from your benefit plans. We understand that you may have questions about annual enrollment, and we'll do our best to help you understand your options and guide you through the process.

This guide is not your only resource, of course. Anytime you have questions about benefits or the enrollment process, you can contact your human resources representative. Although this guide contains an overview of benefits, for complete information about the plans available to you, please refer to your summary plan description (SPD).





ENROLLING IN BENEFITS

If you need to make changes to your health benefits for the upcoming plan year, now is the time to do so. If you need to add or remove coverage for yourself or your dependents after the enrollment period, you must wait until the next open enrollment period, unless you have a qualifying life event as defined by the IRS.

The IRS requires that you make changes to your coverage within 30 days of your qualifying life event. You'll need to provide proof of the event, such as a marriage certificate, divorce decree, birth certificate or loss-of-coverage letter.

Please remember to add your Social Security number and the Social Security numbers of your dependents during enrollment.

Qualifying life events

It is your responsibility to notify human resources within 30 days of the qualifying life event. Failure to do so may result in an inability to change your benefit election(s).

Here are some examples of qualifying life events:

- Birth, legal adoption or placement for adoption
- Marriage, divorce or legal separation
- Dependent child reaches age 26
- Spouse or dependent loses or gains coverage elsewhere
- Death of your spouse or dependent child
- Spouse or dependent becomes eligible or ineligible for Medicare/Medicaid or the state children's health insurance program
- Change in residence that changes coverage eligibility
- Court-ordered change
- Spouse's open enrollment that occurs at a different time than yours





Eligibility

Open enrollment is your opportunity to elect coverage in the Granby Public Schools benefit plans. Our open enrollment period will be held from April 17th to May 12th. All elections made during this period will be effective July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Outside this open enrollment period, you will not have the chance to add, change or remove benefits unless you have a qualifying life event.

Eligible employees

You may enroll in the benefits program if you are a regular full-time employee who is actively working a minimum of 30 hours per week. As a benefits-eligible employee, you have the opportunity to enroll in benefit plans as a new hire or during the annual open enrollment period.

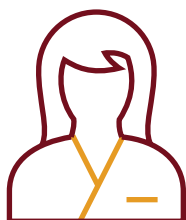
Please note that if you are a member of GEA, you are eligible to enroll in insurance as a part-time teacher. Please refer to your union contract for more information.

If you're enrolling as a new employee, you become eligible for benefits upon your date of hire.

Dependent eligibility

As you become eligible for benefits, so do your eligible dependents. In general, eligible dependents include:

- Your legal spouse.
- Your children up to the age of 26. This includes your natural children and those of your spouse, adopted children, stepchildren, foster children, or children obtained through court-appointed legal guardianship. If your child is mentally or physically disabled, coverage may continue beyond age 26 once proof of the ongoing disability is provided to and approved by HR. Additionally, children who have been named in a qualified medical child support order are covered by our plan.



MEDICAL

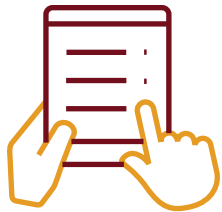
Anthem | [anthem.com](https://www.anthem.com) | 800.233.4947

Granby Public Schools is committed to helping you and your dependents maintain health and wellness by providing you with access to the highest levels of care. Employees of Granby Public Schools are offered a high deductible plan through Anthem. Please continue reading through this guide for plan details.

If you choose, you can open a health savings account (HSA) when you enroll in the HDHP option. To learn more about HSAs, please see page 7.

Medical and prescription drug plan summary

Medical	HDHP \$2,000 (HSA Compatible)	
	In-network	Out-of-network
Deductible		
Employee only	\$2,000	\$2,000
Family	\$4,000	\$4,000
Coinsurance	0%	20%
Out-of-pocket maximum (includes deductible)		
Employee only	\$2,000	\$4,000
Family	\$4,000	\$8,000
Preventive care	No charge	20% after Ded.
Office visit		
PCP	0% after Ded.	20% after Ded.
Specialist	0% after Ded.	20% after Ded.
Emergency room	0% after Ded.	20% after Ded.
Urgent care	0% after Ded.	20% after Ded.
Inpatient care	0% after Ded.	20% after Ded.
Outpatient care	0% after Ded.	20% after Ded.
Prescription drugs	Employee pays	
Retail (30-day supply)		
Tier 1 — generics	\$5 copay after Ded.	20% after Ded.
Tier 2 — preferred	\$30 copay after Ded.	20% after Ded.
Tier 3 — nonpreferred	\$45 copay after Ded.	20% after Ded.
Mail order (90-day supply)		
Tier 1 — generics	\$10 copay after Ded.	N/A
Tier 2 — preferred	\$60 copay after Ded.	N/A
Tier 3 — nonpreferred	\$90 copay after Ded.	N/A



ANTHEM TOOLS

Anthem website

- Coverage details (copays, deductibles, out-of-pocket maximums, etc.).
- Review your claims activity and history.
- Print a temporary ID card, or order a new ID card.
- See frequently asked questions (FAQs).
- Registered nurses are available to provide immediate assistance and advice on medical treatment.

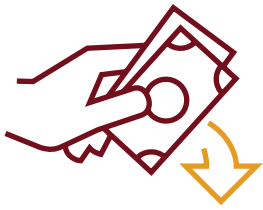
How to find a preferred Anthem provider

The preferred designation identifies doctors in the Anthem network who have achieved top results on Anthem's quality and cost-efficiency measures. To find one of these doctors, please visit [anthem.com](https://www.anthem.com).

How Anthem can help you

Find all of your healthcare information when you need it at [anthem.com](https://www.anthem.com), or call 800.233.4947 any time, day or night, 365 days a year for assistance.





HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT (HSA)

If you enroll in a high-deductible health plan, you can open an HSA.



An HSA is a personal healthcare bank account you can use to pay out-of-pocket medical expenses with pretax dollars. If you enroll in a high-deductible health plan, you can open an HSA. Employees of Granby Public Schools have the flexibility to utilize any bank of their choosing for their Health Savings Account.

You own and administer your HSA. You determine how much you contribute to your account, when to use your money to pay for qualified medical expenses, and when to reimburse yourself. Remember, this is a bank account; you must have money in the account before you can spend it.

HSAs offer you the following advantages:

TAX SAVINGS: You may contribute pretax dollars to the HSA. Granby Public Schools will also contribute to your HSA for 2023. Interest accumulates tax-free, and funds are withdrawn tax-free to pay for medical expenses.

REDUCED OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS: You can use the money in your HSA to pay for eligible medical, dental and vision expenses and prescriptions. The HSA funds you use can help you meet your plan’s annual deductible.

A LONG-TERM INVESTMENT THAT STAYS WITH YOU: Unused account dollars are yours to keep even if you retire or leave the company. Also, you may be able to invest your HSA funds, so your available healthcare dollars can grow over time.

THE OPPORTUNITY FOR LONG-TERM SAVINGS: Save unused HSA funds from year to year — you can use this money to reduce future out-of-pocket health expenses. You can even save HSA dollars to use after you retire.

IMPORTANT! How much you can deposit into an HSA in 2023

Granby Public Schools employer contributions count toward the annual HSA contribution limits, so you need to carefully plan how much you’ll contribute annually to avoid excess contributions. These limits apply even for participants entering the plan midyear.* Prior-year contributions may be made through April 15 of the following year.

IRS limits subject to change	Under age 55	Age 55 and older (and not enrolled in Medicare)
Individual	\$3,850	\$4,850 (includes \$1,000 “catch-up” contribution)
Family	\$7,750	\$8,750 (includes \$1,000 “catch-up” contribution)

You are eligible to open and fund an HSA if:

- You are not enrolled in any other non-HSA qualified health insurance plan.**
- You are not covered by your spouse’s health plan (unless it is a qualified HDHP), flexible spending account (FSA) or health reimbursement arrangement (HRA).
- You are not eligible to be claimed as a dependent on someone else’s tax return.
- You are not enrolled in Medicare, TRICARE or TRICARE For Life.
- Care received through the VA in the preceding three calendar months was dental, vision or preventive care or was provided to a veteran who has a disability rating from the VA.



How to access your HSA

How to access your HSA will depend on your financial institution. Please reach out to them for more information.

More details about health savings accounts

You'll notice two separate line items on your paycheck when you participate in the HDHP with HSA option — one for your employee contributions for the HDHP and one for your pretax contributions to the HSA.

Granby Public Schools HSA employer contribution

Once you open your HSA with the financial institution of your choosing, Granby Public Schools will contribute 50% of the applicable deductible on an annual basis into your account. HSA employer contributions are made twice a year. Half in September, and the other half in January.

*If you make the full-year contribution based upon your status as of Dec. 1, you may be subject to an IRS testing period and could owe tax and a penalty on part of that contribution if you do not remain an eligible individual through Dec. 31 of the following year. You may also need to prorate your contribution if you drop or reduce the level of your coverage midyear.

**You must not have any other first-dollar health insurance coverage before the deductible is met. Preventive care services are not required to be subject to the deductible. Individuals may also carry separate coverage for accidents, disability, dental or vision care, and long-term care, not subject to the deductible. Limited-purpose flexible spending accounts are allowed for vision and dental expenses.

2023 Granby Public Schools employer contributions

- Employee-only coverage: Granby Public Schools will contribute \$1,000 to your HSA.
- Family coverage: Granby Public Schools will contribute \$2,000 to your HSA.

Distributions

HSA distributions are tax-free if they are used to pay for qualified medical expenses.

- Qualified medical, dental and vision expenses not covered by insurance
- Qualified long-term care services and long-term care insurance
- Continuation of coverage required by federal law (i.e., COBRA)
- Health insurance for the unemployed
- Medicare expenses (but not Medigap)
- Retiree health expenses for individuals age 65 or older

Please refer to IRS Publication 502 for more a full list of eligible expenses.

Distributions made for any other purpose are subject to income tax and a 20% penalty. The 20% penalty is waived in the case of death or disability. The 20% penalty is also waived for distributions made by individuals age 65 or older.



DENTAL

Delta Dental | deltadentalct.com | 800.452.9310

Delta Dental

View covered services, claim status or your account balance; find a dentist; update your information; and much more at deltadentalct.com.

Although you can choose any dental provider, when you use an in-network dentist, you will generally pay less for treatments because your share of the cost will be based on negotiated discount fees. With out-of-network dentists, the plan will pay the same percentage but the reimbursement will be based on out-of-network rates. You may be billed for the difference.

Dental exams can tell your doctor a lot about your overall health. It's important to schedule regular exams to help detect significant medical conditions before they become serious.

To see a current provider directory, please visit the Delta Dental website.

	Delta Dental PPO Network	Delta Dental Premier or Non-Network
Deductible		
Employee only	\$50	\$50
Family	\$150	\$150
Is the deductible waived for preventive services?	Yes	Yes
Annual plan maximum (per individual)	\$1,500	\$1,500
Diagnostic and preventive		
Oral exams, X-rays, cleanings, fluoride, space maintainers, sealants	No charge	No charge
Basic		
Oral surgery, fillings, endodontic treatment, periodontic treatment, repairs of dentures and crowns	20% after Ded.	20% after Ded.
Major		
Crowns, jackets, dentures, bridge implants	50% after Ded.	50% after Ded.
Orthodontia		
Adults and dependent children	50%	50%
Lifetime orthodontia plan maximum (per individual)	\$2,000	\$2,000

- You can elect the Delta Dental dental plan regardless of whether you are enrolled in the medical or vision plan.
- You will not receive a dental ID card because you typically do not need to present one when visiting your dentist. To print an ID card, log in to deltadentalct.com.
- Dependent children are covered to age 19 or 25 if enrolled as a full-time student in an accredited school or university.



VISION

EyeMed | eyemed.com | 866.723.0596

EyeMed's vision care benefits include coverage for eye exams, standard lenses and frames, and contact lenses and discounts for laser surgery. The vision plan is built around a network of eye care providers, with better benefits at a lower cost to you when you use providers who belong to the EyeMed network. When you use an out-of-network provider, you will have to pay more for vision services.

Eye exams can tell your doctor a lot about your overall health. It's important to schedule regular exams to help detect significant medical conditions before they become serious. Below is a snapshot of the benefits offered to you through EyeMed. Please refer to your plan summary for more details and benefits.

	Custodians & Doctor		Buy-Up	
	In-network	Out-of-network Reimbursement	In-network	Out-of-network Reimbursement
Eye exam with dilation as necessary	\$30 Copay	Up to \$35	\$30 Copay	Up to \$35
Frames	35% off retail price	N/A	\$0 Copay, \$120 Allowance, 20% off balance over \$120	Up to \$60
Standard lenses				
Single vision	\$50	N/A	\$25 Copay	N/A
Bifocal	\$70	N/A	\$25 Copay	N/A
Trifocal	\$105	N/A	\$25 Copay	N/A
Contact lenses in lieu of glasses				
Conventional	15% off retail price	N/A	\$0 Copay, \$120 Allowance, 15% off balance over \$120	Up to \$96
Medically necessary	N/A	N/A	\$0 Copay, paid-in-full	Up to \$200
Disposable	N/A	N/A	\$0 Copay, \$120 Allowance, plus balance over \$120	Up to \$96
Laser Vision Correction & Hearing Care	\$	\$	\$	\$





BASIC INSURANCE TERMS

COINSURANCE: Coinsurance is your share of the costs of a covered healthcare service, calculated as a percent (for example, 20%) of the allowed amount for the service. Your coinsurance will begin after you have met your deductible. For example, if the health plan's allowed amount for an office visit is \$100 and you've met your deductible, your coinsurance payment of 20% would be \$20. The health plan pays the rest of the allowed amount.

COPAY: A copay is a fixed dollar amount you pay for a healthcare service. The amount can vary by the type of service. Your copays will not count toward your deductible but will count toward your out-of-pocket maximum.

DEDUCTIBLE: The deductible is the amount you owe for covered healthcare services before your plan begins to pay benefits. For example, if your deductible is \$2,800, your plan won't pay anything until you've met your \$2,800 deductible for covered healthcare services subject to the deductible. Preventive care is not subject to the deductible as it is covered 100% by any medical plan option.

EMBEDDED DEDUCTIBLE: If you are on a family medical plan with an embedded deductible, your plan contains two components: an individual deductible and a family deductible. Having two components to the deductible allows each member of your family to have your insurance policy cover their medical bills prior to the entire dollar amount of the family deductible being met. The individual deductible is embedded in the family deductible.

EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS (EOB): An EOB is a statement from the insurance company showing how claims were processed. The EOB tells you what portion of the claim was paid to the healthcare provider and what portion of the payment, if any, you are responsible for.

INDIVIDUAL MANDATE: Federal healthcare reform mandates most U.S. citizens have health insurance for themselves and their dependents. Granby Public Schools helps you stay insured by offering affordable healthcare for all employees who work at least 30 hours each week.

IN-NETWORK VS. OUT-OF-NETWORK: A network is composed of all contracted providers. Networks request providers to participate in their network, and in return, providers agree to offer discounted services to their patients. If you pick an out-of-network provider, your claims will be higher because you will not receive the discounts the in-network providers offer.

OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUM: The out-of-pocket maximum is designed to protect you in the event of a catastrophic illness or injury. Your out-of-pocket maximum includes your deductible, coinsurance and copays that come out of your pocket. After you have paid the specified out-of-pocket amount during a policy year, the plan pays the remaining covered services at 100%.

PREVENTIVE CARE: Routine healthcare services can minimize the risk of certain illnesses or chronic conditions. Examples of preventive care services include but are not limited to physical exams, mammograms, flu vaccines, prostate tests and smoking cessation.

REASONABLE AND CUSTOMARY: The amount of money a health plan determines is the normal or acceptable range of charges for a specific health-related service or medical procedure. If your healthcare provider submits higher charges than what the health plan considers normal or acceptable, you may have to pay the difference.



CONTACTS

Medical and Prescription Plan

Anthem

Member services: 800.233.4947

General website: [anthem.com](https://www.anthem.com)

Dental

Delta Dental

Customer service: 800.452.9310

Website: [deltadentalct.com](https://www.deltadentalct.com)

Vision

EyeMed

Customer service: 866.423.0596

Website: [eyemed.com](https://www.eyemed.com)

Final notes

This summary of benefits is not intended to be a complete description of the Granby Public Schools insurance benefit plans. Please refer to the plan document(s) for a complete description. Each plan is governed in all respects by the terms of its legal plan document rather than by this or any other summary of the insurance benefits provided by the plan.

In the event of any conflict between a summary of the plan and the official document, the official document will prevail. Although Granby Public Schools maintains its benefit plans on an ongoing basis, Granby Public Schools reserves the right to terminate or amend each plan in its entirety or in any part at any time.

Please contact your human resources representative with questions regarding the information provided in this overview.

ANNUAL NOTICES

Granby Public Schools HEALTH PLAN NOTICES

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3. Notice of Special Enrollment Rights
4. General COBRA Notice
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6. Women's Health and Cancer Rights Notice
7. Premium Assistance Under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

IMPORTANT NOTICE

This packet of notices related to our health care plan includes a notice regarding how the plan's prescription drug coverage compares to Medicare Part D. If you or a covered family member is also enrolled in Medicare Parts A or B, but not Part D, you should read the Medicare Part D notice carefully. It is titled, "Important Notice From Granby Public Schools About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare."

**IMPORTANT NOTICE FROM GRANBY PUBLIC SCHOOLS ABOUT
YOUR PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE AND MEDICARE**

MEDICARE PART D CREDITABLE COVERAGE NOTICE

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with Granby Public Schools and about your options under Medicare's prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether you want to join a Medicare drug plan. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice.

If neither you nor any of your covered dependents are eligible for or have Medicare, this notice does not apply to you or your dependents, as the case may be. However, you should still keep a copy of this notice in the event you or a dependent should qualify for coverage under Medicare in the future. Please note, however, that later notices might supersede this notice.

1. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.
2. Granby Public Schools has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the Granby Public Schools Employee Health Care Plan ("Plan") is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is considered "creditable" prescription drug coverage. This is important for the reasons described below.

Because your existing coverage is, on average, at least as good as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to enroll in a Medicare drug plan, as long as you later enroll within specific time periods.

Enrolling in Medicare—General Rules

As some background, you can join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare. If you qualify for Medicare due to age, you may enroll in a Medicare drug plan during a seven-month initial enrollment period. That period begins three months prior to your 65th birthday, includes the month you turn 65, and continues for the ensuing three months. If you qualify for Medicare due to disability or end-stage renal disease, your initial Medicare Part D enrollment period depends on the date your disability or treatment began. For more information you should contact Medicare at the telephone number or web address listed below.

Late Enrollment and the Late Enrollment Penalty

If you decide to *wait* to enroll in a Medicare drug plan you may enroll later, during Medicare Part D's annual enrollment period, which runs each year from October 15 through December 7. But as a general rule, if you delay your enrollment in Medicare Part D, after first becoming eligible to enroll, you may have to pay a higher premium (a penalty).

If after your initial Medicare Part D enrollment period you go **63 continuous days or longer without "creditable" prescription drug coverage** (that is, prescription drug coverage that's at least as good as Medicare's prescription drug coverage), your monthly Part D premium may go up by at least 1 percent of the premium you would have paid had you enrolled timely, for every month that you did not have creditable coverage.

For example, if after your Medicare Part D initial enrollment period you go 19 months without coverage, your premium may be at least 19% higher than the premium you otherwise would have paid. You may have to pay this higher premium for as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. *However, there are some important exceptions to the late enrollment penalty.*

Special Enrollment Period Exceptions to the Late Enrollment Penalty

There are “special enrollment periods” that allow you to add Medicare Part D coverage months or even years after you first became eligible to do so, without a penalty. For example, if after your Medicare Part D initial enrollment period you lose or decide to leave employer-sponsored or union-sponsored health coverage that includes “creditable” prescription drug coverage, you will be eligible to join a Medicare drug plan at that time.

In addition, if you otherwise lose other creditable prescription drug coverage (such as under an individual policy) through no fault of your own, you will be able to join a Medicare drug plan, again without penalty. These special enrollment periods end two months after the month in which your other coverage ends.

Compare Coverage

You should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered at what cost, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. See the Granby Public Schools Plan’s summary plan description for a summary of the Plan’s prescription drug coverage. If you don’t have a copy, you can get one by contacting us at the telephone number or address listed below.

Coordinating Other Coverage With Medicare Part D

Generally speaking, if you decide to join a Medicare drug plan while covered under the Granby Public Schools Plan due to your employment (or someone else’s employment, such as a spouse or parent), your coverage under the Granby Public Schools Plan will not be affected. For most persons covered under the Plan, the Plan will pay prescription drug benefits first, and Medicare will determine its payments second. For more information about this issue of what program pays first and what program pays second, see the Plan’s summary plan description or contact Medicare at the telephone number or web address listed below.

If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your Granby Public Schools prescription drug coverage, be aware that you and your dependents may not be able to get this coverage back. To regain coverage you would have to re-enroll in the Plan, pursuant to the Plan’s eligibility and enrollment rules. You should review the Plan’s summary plan description to determine if and when you are allowed to add coverage.

For More Information About This Notice or Your Current Prescription Drug Coverage...

Contact the person listed below for further information, or call (860) 844-5264. **NOTE:** You’ll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, and if this coverage through Granby Public Schools changes. You also may request a copy.


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

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

For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage:

- Visit www.medicare.gov.
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see the inside back cover of your copy of the “Medicare & You” handbook for their telephone number) for personalized help,
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

If you have limited income and resources, extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. For information about this extra help, visit Social Security on the web at www.socialsecurity.gov, or call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).



Remember: Keep this Creditable Coverage notice. If you decide to join one of the Medicare drug plans, you may be required to provide a copy of this notice when you join to show whether or not you have maintained creditable coverage and whether or not you are required to pay a higher premium (a penalty).

Date: July 1, 2023
Name of Entity/Sender: Melanie Gibson
Contact—Position/Office: Human Resources Coordinator
Address: 15B North Granby Road
Granby, CT 06035
Phone Number: (860) 844-5264

Nothing in this notice gives you or your dependents a right to coverage under the Plan. Your (or your dependents') right to coverage under the Plan is determined solely under the terms of the Plan.

**HIPAA COMPREHENSIVE NOTICE OF PRIVACY POLICY
AND PROCEDURES**

**GRANBY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
IMPORTANT NOTICE
COMPREHENSIVE NOTICE OF PRIVACY POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

This notice is provided to you on behalf of:

**Granby Public Schools Medical Plan
Granby Public Schools Dental Care Plan
Granby Public Schools Vision Plan**

These plans comprise what is called an “Affiliated Covered Entity,” and are treated as a single plan for purposes of this notice and the privacy rules that require it. For purposes of this notice, we will refer to these plans as a single “Plan.”

The Plan’s Duty to Safeguard Your Protected Health Information

Individually identifiable information about your past, present, or future health or condition, the provision of health care to you, or payment for the health care is considered “Protected Health Information” (“PHI”). The Plan is required to extend certain protections to your PHI, and to give you this notice about its privacy practices that explains how, when, and why the Plan may use or disclose your PHI. Except in specified circumstances, the Plan may use or disclose only the minimum necessary PHI to accomplish the purpose of the use or disclosure.

The Plan is required to follow the privacy practices described in this notice, though it reserves the right to change those practices and the terms of this notice at any time. If it does so, and the change is material, you will receive a revised version of this Notice either by hand delivery, mail delivery to your last known address, or some other fashion. This notice, and any material revisions of it, will also be provided to you in writing upon your request (ask your Human Resources representative, or contact the Plan’s Privacy Official, described below), and will be posted on any website maintained by Granby Public Schools that describes benefits available to employees and dependents.

You may also receive one or more other privacy notices from insurance companies that provide benefits under the Plan. Those notices will describe how the insurance companies use and disclose PHI and your rights with respect to the PHI they maintain.

How the Plan May Use and Disclose Your Protected Health Information

The Plan uses and discloses PHI for a variety of reasons. For its routine uses and disclosures it does not require your authorization, but for other uses and disclosures, your authorization (or the authorization of your personal representative (e.g., a person who is your custodian, guardian, or has your power-of-attorney) may be required. The following offers more description and examples of the Plan’s uses and disclosures of your PHI.

- **Uses and Disclosures Relating to Treatment, Payment, or Health Care Operations.**
 - **Treatment:** Generally, and as you would expect, the Plan is permitted to disclose your PHI for purposes of your medical treatment. Thus, it may disclose your PHI to doctors, nurses, hospitals, emergency medical technicians, pharmacists, and other health care professionals where the disclosure is for your medical treatment. For example, if you are injured in an accident, and it’s important for your treatment team to know your blood type, the Plan could disclose that PHI to the team in order to allow it to more effectively provide treatment to you.
 - **Payment:** Of course, the Plan’s most important function, as far as you are concerned, is that it *pays for* all or some of the medical care you receive (provided the care is covered by the Plan). In the course of its

payment operations, the Plan receives a substantial amount of PHI about you. For example, doctors, hospitals, and pharmacies that provide you care send the Plan detailed information about the care they provided, so that they can be paid for their services. The Plan may also share your PHI with other plans in certain cases. For example, if you are covered by more than one health care plan (e.g., covered by this Plan and your spouse's plan or covered by the plans covering your father and mother), we may share your PHI with the other plans to coordinate payment of your claims.

- **Health care Operations:** The Plan may use and disclose your PHI in the course of its "health care operations." For example, it may use your PHI in evaluating the quality of services you received or disclose your PHI to an accountant or attorney for audit purposes. In some cases, the Plan may disclose your PHI to insurance companies for purposes of obtaining various insurance coverages. However, the Plan will not disclose, for underwriting purposes, PHI that is genetic information.
- **Other Uses and Disclosures of Your PHI Not Requiring Authorization.** The law provides that the Plan may use and disclose your PHI without authorization in the following circumstances:
 - **To the Plan Sponsor:** The Plan may disclose PHI to the employers (such as Granby Public Schools) who sponsor or maintain the Plan for the benefit of employees and dependents. However, the PHI may only be used for limited purposes, and may not be used for purposes of employment-related actions or decisions or in connection with any other benefit or employee benefit plan of the employers. PHI may be disclosed to: the human resources or employee benefits department for purposes of enrollments and disenrollments, census, claim resolutions, and other matters related to Plan administration; payroll department for purposes of ensuring appropriate payroll deductions and other payments by covered persons for their coverage; information technology department, as needed for preparation of data compilations and reports related to Plan administration; finance department for purposes of reconciling appropriate payments of premium to and benefits from the Plan, and other matters related to Plan administration; internal legal counsel to assist with resolution of claim, coverage, and other disputes related to the Plan's provision of benefits.
 - **To the Plan's Service Providers:** The Plan may disclose PHI to its service providers ("business associates") who perform claim payment and plan management services. The Plan requires a written contract that obligates the business associate to safeguard and limit the use of PHI.
 - **Required by Law:** The Plan may disclose PHI when a law requires that it report information about suspected abuse, neglect, or domestic violence, or relating to suspected criminal activity, or in response to a court order. It must also disclose PHI to authorities that monitor compliance with these privacy requirements.
 - **For Public Health Activities:** The Plan may disclose PHI when required to collect information about disease or injury, or to report vital statistics to the public health authority.
 - **For Health Oversight Activities:** The Plan may disclose PHI to agencies or departments responsible for monitoring the health care system for such purposes as reporting or investigation of unusual incidents.
 - **Relating to Decedents:** The Plan may disclose PHI relating to an individual's death to coroners, medical examiners, or funeral directors, and to organ procurement organizations relating to organ, eye, or tissue donations or transplants.
 - **For Research Purposes:** In certain circumstances, and under strict supervision of a privacy board, the Plan may disclose PHI to assist medical and psychiatric research.
 - **To Avert Threat to Health or Safety:** In order to avoid a serious threat to health or safety, the Plan may disclose PHI as necessary to law enforcement or other persons who can reasonably prevent or lessen the threat of harm.
 - **For Specific Government Functions:** The Plan may disclose PHI of military personnel and veterans in certain situations, to correctional facilities in certain situations, to government programs relating to eligibility and enrollment, and for national security reasons.
- **Uses and Disclosures Requiring Authorization:** For uses and disclosures beyond treatment, payment, and operations purposes, and for reasons not included in one of the exceptions described above, the Plan is required to have your written authorization. For example, uses and disclosures of psychotherapy notes, uses and disclosures of PHI for marketing purposes, and disclosures that constitute a sale of PHI would require your authorization. Your authorization can be revoked at any time to stop future uses and disclosures, except to the extent that the Plan has already undertaken an action in reliance upon your authorization.
- **Uses and Disclosures Requiring You to Have an Opportunity to Object:** The Plan may share PHI with your family, friend, or other person involved in your care, or payment for your care. We may also share PHI with these people to notify them about your location, general condition, or death. However, the Plan may disclose your PHI only if it informs you about the disclosure in advance and you do not object (but if there is an emergency situation and you cannot be given your opportunity to object, disclosure may be made if it is

consistent with any prior expressed wishes and disclosure is determined to be in your best interests; you must be informed and given an opportunity to object to further disclosure as soon as you are able to do so).

Your Rights Regarding Your Protected Health Information

You have the following rights relating to your protected health information:

- **To Request Restrictions on Uses and Disclosures:** You have the right to ask that the Plan limit how it uses or discloses your PHI. The Plan will consider your request, but is not legally bound to agree to the restriction. To the extent that it agrees to any restrictions on its use or disclosure of your PHI, it will put the agreement in writing and abide by it except in emergency situations. The Plan cannot agree to limit uses or disclosures that are required by law.
- **To Choose How the Plan Contacts You:** You have the right to ask that the Plan send you information at an alternative address or by an alternative means. To request confidential communications, you must make your request in writing to the Privacy Official. We will not ask you the reason for your request. Your request must specify how or where you wish to be contacted. The Plan must agree to your request as long as it is reasonably easy for it to accommodate the request.
- **To Inspect and Copy Your PHI:** Unless your access is restricted for clear and documented treatment reasons, you have a right to see your PHI in the possession of the Plan or its vendors if you put your request in writing. The Plan, or someone on behalf of the Plan, will respond to your request, normally within 30 days. If your request is denied, you will receive written reasons for the denial and an explanation of any right to have the denial reviewed. If you want copies of your PHI, a charge for copying may be imposed but may be waived, depending on your circumstances. You have a right to choose what portions of your information you want copied and to receive, upon request, prior information on the cost of copying.
- **To Request Amendment of Your PHI:** If you believe that there is a mistake or missing information in a record of your PHI held by the Plan or one of its vendors you may request in writing that the record be corrected or supplemented. The Plan or someone on its behalf will respond, normally within 60 days of receiving your request. The Plan may deny the request if it is determined that the PHI is: (i) correct and complete; (ii) not created by the Plan or its vendor and/or not part of the Plan's or vendor's records; or (iii) not permitted to be disclosed. Any denial will state the reasons for denial and explain your rights to have the request and denial, along with any statement in response that you provide, appended to your PHI. If the request for amendment is approved, the Plan or vendor, as the case may be, will change the PHI and so inform you, and tell others that need to know about the change in the PHI.
- **To Find Out What Disclosures Have Been Made:** You have a right to get a list of when, to whom, for what purpose, and what portion of your PHI has been released by the Plan and its vendors, other than instances of disclosure for which you gave authorization, or instances where the disclosure was made to you or your family. In addition, the disclosure list will not include disclosures for treatment, payment, or health care operations. The list also will not include any disclosures made for national security purposes, to law enforcement officials or correctional facilities, or before the date the federal privacy rules applied to the Plan. You will normally receive a response to your written request for such a list within 60 days after you make the request in writing. Your request can relate to disclosures going as far back as six years. There will be no charge for up to one such list each year. There may be a charge for more frequent requests.

How to Complain About the Plan's Privacy Practices


If you think the Plan or one of its vendors may have violated your privacy rights, or if you disagree with a decision made by the Plan or a vendor about access to your PHI, you may file a complaint with the person listed in the section immediately below. You also may file a written complaint with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The law does not permit anyone to take retaliatory action against you if you make such complaints.

Notification of a Privacy Breach

Any individual whose unsecured PHI has been, or is reasonably believed to have been used, accessed, acquired or disclosed in an unauthorized manner will receive written notification from the Plan within 60 days of the discovery of the breach.

If the breach involves 500 or more residents of a state, the Plan will notify prominent media outlets in the state. The Plan will maintain a log of security breaches and will report this information to HHS on an annual basis. Immediate reporting from the Plan to HHS is required if a security breach involves 500 or more people.

Contact Person for Information, or to Submit a Complaint



If you have questions about this notice please contact the Plan’s Privacy Official or Deputy Privacy Official(s) (see below). If you have any complaints about the Plan’s privacy practices, handling of your PHI, *or breach notification process*, please contact the Privacy Official or an authorized Deputy Privacy Official.

Privacy Official

The Plan’s Privacy Official, the person responsible for ensuring compliance with this notice, is:

Melanie Gibson
Human Resources Coordinator
(860) 844-5264

Organized Health Care Arrangement Designation

The Plan participates in what the federal privacy rules call an “Organized Health Care Arrangement.” The purpose of that participation is that it allows PHI to be shared between the members of the Arrangement, without authorization by the persons whose PHI is shared, for health care operations. Primarily, the designation is useful to the Plan because it allows the insurers who participate in the Arrangement to share PHI with the Plan for purposes such as shopping for other insurance bids.

The members of the Organized Health Care Arrangement are:

Granby Public Schools Medical Plan
Granby Public Schools Dental Care Plan
Granby Public Schools Vision Plan EyeMed

Effective Date

The effective date of this notice is: July 1, 2023.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL ENROLLMENT RIGHTS

GRANBY PUBLIC SCHOOLS EMPLOYEE HEALTH CARE PLAN

If you are declining enrollment for yourself or your dependents (including your spouse) because of other health insurance or group health plan coverage, you may be able to later enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage (or if the employer stops contributing toward your or your dependents' other coverage).

Loss of eligibility includes but is not limited to:

- Loss of eligibility for coverage as a result of ceasing to meet the plan's eligibility requirements (e.g., divorce, cessation of dependent status, death of an employee, termination of employment, reduction in the number of hours of employment);
- Loss of HMO coverage because the person no longer resides or works in the HMO service area and no other coverage option is available through the HMO plan sponsor;
- Elimination of the coverage option a person was enrolled in, and another option is not offered in its place;
- Failing to return from an FMLA leave of absence; and
- Loss of eligibility under Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).

Unless the event giving rise to your special enrollment right is a loss of eligibility under Medicaid or CHIP, you must request enrollment within *30 days* after your or your dependent's(s') other coverage ends (or after the employer that sponsors that coverage stops contributing toward the coverage).

If the event giving rise to your special enrollment right is a loss of coverage under Medicaid or CHIP, you may request enrollment under this plan within *60 days* of the date you or your dependent(s) lose such coverage under Medicaid or CHIP. Similarly, if you or your dependent(s) become eligible for a state-granted premium subsidy toward this plan, you may request enrollment under this plan within *60 days* after the date Medicaid or CHIP determine that you or the dependent(s) qualify for the subsidy.

In addition, if you have a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents. However, you must request enrollment within *30 days* after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.

To request special enrollment or obtain more information, contact:

Melanie Gibson
Human Resources Coordinator
(860) 844-5264

**** This notice is relevant for healthcare coverages subject to the HIPAA portability rules.***

GENERAL COBRA NOTICE

Introduction

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

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

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

What is COBRA continuation coverage?

COBRA continuation coverage is a continuation of Plan coverage when it would otherwise end because of a life event. This is also called a "qualifying event." Specific qualifying events are listed later in this notice. After a qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage must be offered to each person who is a "qualified beneficiary." You, your spouse, and your dependent children could become qualified beneficiaries if coverage under the Plan is lost because of the qualifying event. Under the Plan, qualified beneficiaries who elect COBRA continuation coverage must pay for COBRA continuation coverage.

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

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

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

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

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

- The parent-employee dies;
- The parent-employee's hours of employment are reduced;
- The parent-employee's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;
- The parent-employee becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (Part A, Part B, or both);
- The parents become divorced or legally separated; or
- The child stops being eligible for coverage under the Plan as a "dependent child."

[If the Plan provides retiree health coverage, add the following paragraph:]

Sometimes, filing a proceeding in bankruptcy under title 11 of the United States Code can be a qualifying event. If a proceeding in bankruptcy is filed with respect to Granby Public Schools and that bankruptcy results in the loss of coverage of any retired employee covered under the Plan, the retired employee will become a qualified beneficiary. The retired employee's spouse, surviving spouse, and dependent children will also become qualified beneficiaries if bankruptcy results in the loss of their coverage under the Plan.

When is COBRA continuation coverage available?

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

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

For all other qualifying events (divorce or legal separation of the employee and spouse or a dependent child's losing eligibility for coverage as a dependent child), you must notify the Plan Administrator within 60 days after the qualifying event occurs. You must provide this notice in writing to the Plan Administrator. Any notice you provide must state the name of the plan or plans under which you lost or are losing coverage, the name and address of the employee covered under the plan, the name(s) and address(es) of the qualified beneficiary(ies), and the qualifying event and the date it happened. The Plan Administrator will direct you to provide the appropriate documentation to show proof of the event.

How is COBRA continuation coverage provided?

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

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

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

Disability extension of 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage

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


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

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

Are there other coverage options besides COBRA Continuation Coverage?

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

Can I enroll in Medicare instead of COBRA continuation coverage after my group health plan coverage ends?



In general, if you don't enroll in Medicare Part A or B when you are first eligible because you are still employed, after the Medicare initial enrollment period, you have an 8-month special enrollment period¹ to sign up for Medicare Part A or B, beginning on the earlier of

- The month after your employment ends; or
- The month after group health plan coverage based on current employment ends.

If you don't enroll in Medicare and elect COBRA continuation coverage instead, you may have to pay a Part B late enrollment penalty and you may have a gap in coverage if you decide you want Part B later. If you elect COBRA continuation coverage and later enroll in Medicare Part A or B before the COBRA continuation coverage ends, the Plan may terminate your continuation coverage. However, if Medicare Part A or B is effective on or before the date of the COBRA election, COBRA coverage may not be discontinued on account of Medicare entitlement, even if you enroll in the other part of Medicare after the date of the election of COBRA coverage.

If you are enrolled in both COBRA continuation coverage and Medicare, Medicare will generally pay first (primary payer) and COBRA continuation coverage will pay second. Certain plans may pay as if secondary to Medicare, even if you are not enrolled in Medicare.

For more information visit <https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-and-you>.

If you have questions

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

Keep your Plan informed of address changes

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

Plan contact information

For additional information regarding your COBRA continuation coverage rights, please contact the Plan Administrator below:

Melanie Gibson
Human Resources Coordinator
15B North Granby Road
Granby, CT 06035
(860) 844-5264

**NOTICE OF RIGHT TO DESIGNATE PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER AND OF NO OBLIGATION
FOR PRE-AUTHORIZATION FOR OB/GYN CARE**

Granby Public Schools Employee Health Care Plan generally allows the designation of a primary care provider. You have the right to designate any primary care provider who participates in our network and who is available to accept you or your family members. For information on how to select a primary care provider, and for a list of the participating primary care providers, contact the plan administrator at (860) 844-5264.

For children, you may designate a pediatrician as the primary care provider.

You do not need prior authorization from Granby Public Schools Employee Health Care Plan or from any other person (including a primary care provider) in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a health care professional in our network who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology. The health care professional, however, may be required to comply with certain procedures, including obtaining prior authorization for certain services, following a pre-approved treatment plan, or procedures for making referrals. For a list of participating health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics or gynecology, contact the Granby Public Schools Employee Health Care Plan at:

Melanie Gibson
Human Resources Coordinator
(860) 844-5264



WOMEN’S HEALTH AND CANCER RIGHTS NOTICE

Granby Public Schools Employee Health Care Plan is required by law to provide you with the following notice:

The Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 (“WHCRA”) provides certain protections 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 lymphedemas.

The Granby Public Schools Employee Health Care Plan provide(s) medical coverage for mastectomies and the related procedures listed above, subject to the same deductibles and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under this plan. Therefore, the following deductibles and coinsurance apply:

Granby Public Schools High Deductible Health Plan	In-Network	Out-of-Network
Individual Deductible	\$2,000	\$2,000
Family Deductible	\$4,000	\$4,000
Coinsurance	100%	80%

If you would like more information on WHCRA benefits, please refer to your Summary Plan Description or contact your Plan Administrator at:

Melanie Gibson
Human Resources Coordinator
(860) 844-5264

Premium Assistance Under Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

If you or your children are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP and you’re eligible for health coverage from your employer, your state may have a premium assistance program that can help pay for coverage, using funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs. If you or your children aren’t eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, you won’t be eligible for these premium assistance programs but you may be able to buy individual insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace. For more information, visit www.healthcare.gov.

If you or your dependents are already enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP and you live in a State listed below, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office to find out if premium assistance is available.

If you or your dependents are NOT currently enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, and you think you or any of your dependents might be eligible for either of these programs, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office or dial **1-877-KIDS NOW** or www.insurekidsnow.gov to find out how to apply. If you qualify, ask your state if it has a program that might help you pay the premiums for an employer-sponsored plan.


If you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, as well as eligible under your employer plan, your employer must allow you to enroll in your employer plan if you aren’t already enrolled. This is called a “special enrollment” opportunity, and **you must request coverage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium assistance**. If you have questions about enrolling in your employer plan, contact the Department of Labor at www.askebsa.dol.gov or call **1-866-444-EBSA (3272)**.

If you live in one of the following states, you may be eligible for assistance paying your employer health plan premiums. The following list of states is current as of January 31, 2022. Contact your State for more information on eligibility –

ALABAMA-Medicaid	CALIFORNIA-Medicaid
Website: http://myalhipp.com/ Phone: 1-855-692-5447	Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp Phone: 916-445-8322 Fax: 916-440-5676 Email: hipp@dhcs.ca.gov
ALASKA-Medicaid	COLORADO-Health First Colorado (Colorado’s Medicaid Program) & Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)
The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment Program Website: http://myakhipp.com/ Phone: 1-866-251-4861 Email: CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com Medicaid Eligibility: http://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/medicaid/default.aspx	Health First Colorado Website: https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/ Health First Colorado Member Contact Center: 1-800-221-3943/ State Relay 711 CHP+: https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/child-health-plan-plus CHP+ Customer Service: 1-800-359-1991/ State Relay 711 Health Insurance Buy-In Program (HIBI): https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/health-insurance-buy-program HIBI Customer Service: 1-855-692-6442
ARKANSAS-Medicaid	FLORIDA-Medicaid
Website: http://myarhipp.com/ Phone: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)	Website: https://www.flmedicaidtprecovery.com/flmedicaidtprecovery.com/hipp/index.html Phone: 1-877-357-3268

GEORGIA-Medicaid	MAINE-Medicaid
<p>A HIPP Website: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 1 GA CHIPRA Website: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/programs/third-party-liability/childrens-health-insurance-program-reauthorization-act-2009-chipra Phone: (678) 564-1162, Press 2</p>	<p>Enrollment Website: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms Phone: 1-800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711</p> <p>Private Health Insurance Premium Webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms Phone: -800-977-6740. TTY: Maine relay 711</p>
INDIANA-Medicaid	MASSACHUSETTS-Medicaid and CHIP
<p>Healthy Indiana Plan for low-income adults 19-64 Website: http://www.in.gov/fssa/hip/ Phone: 1-877-438-4479 All other Medicaid Website: https://www.in.gov/medicaid/ Phone 1-800-457-4584</p>	<p>Website: https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pa Phone: 1-800-862-4840</p>
IOWA-Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki)	MINNESOTA-Medicaid
<p>Medicaid Website: https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members Medicaid Phone: 1-800-338-8366 Hawki Website: http://dhs.iowa.gov/Hawki Hawki Phone: 1-800-257-8563 HIPP Website: https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid-a-to-z/hipp HIPP Phone: 1-888-346-9562</p>	<p>Website: https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/children-and-families/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/other-insurance.jsp Phone: 1-800-657-3739</p>
KANSAS-Medicaid	MISSOURI-Medicaid
<p>Website: https://www.kancare.ks.gov/ Phone: 1-800-792-4884</p>	<p>Website: http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm Phone: 573-751-2005</p>
KENTUCKY-Medicaid	MONTANA-Medicaid
<p>Kentucky Integrated Health Insurance Premium Payment Program (KI-HIPP) Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: KIHIPPPROGRAM@ky.gov</p> <p>KCHIP Website: https://kidshealth.ky.gov/Pages/index.aspx Phone: 1-877-524-4718</p> <p>Kentucky Medicaid Website: https://chfs.ky.gov</p>	<p>Website: http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP Phone: 1-800-694-3084</p>
LOUISIANA-Medicaid	NEBRASKA-Medicaid
<p>Website: www.medicaid.la.gov or www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp Phone: 1-888-342-6207 (Medicaid hotline) or 1-855-618-5488 (LaHIPP)</p>	<p>Website: http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov Phone: 1-855-632-7633 Lincoln: 402-473-7000 Omaha: 402-595-1178</p>

NEVADA-Medicaid	SOUTH CAROLINA-Medicaid
Medicaid Website: http://dhcfp.nv.gov Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900	Website: https://www.scdhhs.gov Phone: 1-888-549-0820
NEW HAMPSHIRE-Medicaid	SOUTH DAKOTA-Medicaid
Website: https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oii/hipp.htm Phone: 603-271-5218 Toll free number for the HIPP program: 1-800-852-3345, ext 5218	Website: http://dss.sd.gov Phone: 1-888-828-0059
NEW JERSEY-Medicaid and CHIP	TEXAS-Medicaid
Medicaid Website: http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/ Medicaid Phone: 609-631-2392 CHIP Website: http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710	Website: http://gethipptexas.com/ Phone: 1-800-440-0493
NEW YORK-Medicaid	UTAH-Medicaid and CHIP
Website: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-541-2831	Medicaid Website: https://medicaid.utah.gov/ CHIP Website: http://health.utah.gov/chip Phone: 1-877-543-7669
NORTH CAROLINA-Medicaid	VERMONT-Medicaid
Website: https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/ Phone: 919-855-4100	Website: http://www.greenmountaincare.org/ Phone: 1-800-250-8427
NORTH DAKOTA-Medicaid	VIRGINIA-Medicaid and CHIP
Website: http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/ Phone: 1-844-854-4825	Website: https://www.coverva.org/en/famis-select https://www.coverva.org/en/hipp Medicaid Phone: 1-800-432-5924 CHIP Phone: 1-800-432-5924
OKLAHOMA-Medicaid and CHIP	WASHINGTON-Medicaid
Website: http://www.insureoklahoma.org Phone: 1-888-365-3742	Website: https://www.hca.wa.gov/ Phone: 1-800-562-3022
OREGON-Medicaid	WEST VIRGINIA-Medicaid and CHIP
Website: http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx http://www.oregonhealthcare.gov/index-es.html Phone: 1-800-699-9075	Website: https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/ http://mywvhipp.com/ Medicaid Phone: 304-558-1700 CHIP Toll-free phone: 1-855-MyWVHIPP (1-855-699-8447)
PENNSYLVANIA-Medicaid	WISCONSIN-Medicaid and CHIP
Website: https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/HIPP-Program.aspx Phone: 1-800-692-7462	Website: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm Phone: 1-800-362-3002
RHODE ISLAND-Medicaid and CHIP	WYOMING-Medicaid
Website: http://www.cohhs.ri.gov/ Phone: 1-855-697-4347, or 401-462-0311 (Direct RItE Share Line)	Website: https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility/ Phone: 1-800-251-1269



To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since January 31, 2022, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration
www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa
1-866-444-EBSA (3272)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
www.cms.hhs.gov
1-877-267-2323, Menu Option 4, Ext. 61565

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) (PRA), no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The Department notes that a Federal agency cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it is approved by OMB under the PRA, and displays a currently valid OMB control number, and the public is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3507. Also, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if the collection of information does not display a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3512.

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average approximately seven minutes per respondent. Interested parties are encouraged to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Office of Policy and Research, Attention: PRA Clearance Officer, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room N-5718, Washington, DC 20210 or email ebsa.opr@dol.gov and reference the OMB Control Number 1210-0137.

OMB Control Number 1210-0137 (expires 1/31/2023)



New Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage Options and Your Health Coverage

Form Approved
OMB No. 1210-0149
(expires 6-30-2023)

PART A: General Information

When key parts of the health care law take effect in 2014, there will be a new way to buy health insurance: the Health Insurance Marketplace. To assist you as you evaluate options for you and your family, this notice provides some basic information about the new Marketplace and employment-based health coverage offered by your employer.

What is the Health Insurance Marketplace?

The Marketplace is designed to help you find health insurance that meets your needs and fits your budget. The Marketplace offers "one-stop shopping" to find and compare private health insurance options. You may also be eligible for a new kind of tax credit that lowers your monthly premium right away. Open enrollment for health insurance coverage through the Marketplace begins in October 2013 for coverage starting as early as January 1, 2014.

Can I Save Money on my Health Insurance Premiums in the Marketplace?

You may qualify to save money and lower your monthly premium, but only if your employer does not offer coverage, or offers coverage that doesn't meet certain standards. The savings on your premium that you're eligible for depends on your household income.

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

Yes. If you have an offer of health coverage from your employer that meets certain standards, you will not be eligible for a tax credit through the Marketplace and may wish to enroll in your employer's health plan. However, you may be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your monthly premium, or a reduction in certain cost-sharing if your employer does not offer coverage to you at all or does not offer coverage that meets certain standards. If the cost of a plan from your employer that would cover you (and not any other members of your family) is more than 9.5% of your household income for the year, or if the coverage your employer provides does not meet the "minimum value" standard set by the Affordable Care Act, you may be eligible for a tax credit.¹

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

How Can I Get More Information?

For more information about your coverage offered by your employer, please check your summary plan description or contact _____

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

¹ An employer-sponsored health plan meets the "minimum value standard" if the plan's share of the total allowed benefit costs covered by the plan is no less than 60 percent of such costs.

PART B: Information About Health Coverage Offered by Your Employer

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

3. Employer name		4. Employer Identification Number (EIN)	
5. Employer address		6. Employer phone number	
7. City	8. State	9. ZIP code	
10. Who can we contact about employee health coverage at this job?			
11. Phone number (if different from above)		12. Email address	

Here is some basic information about health coverage offered by this employer:

- As your employer, we offer a health plan to:

All employees. Eligible employees are:

Some employees. Eligible employees are:

- With respect to dependents:

We do offer coverage. Eligible dependents are:

We do not offer coverage.

- If checked, this coverage meets the minimum value standard, and the cost of this coverage to you is intended to be affordable, based on employee wages.

** Even if your employer intends your coverage to be affordable, you may still be eligible for a premium discount through the Marketplace. The Marketplace will use your household income, along with other factors, to determine whether you may be eligible for a premium discount. If, for example, your wages vary from week to week (perhaps you are an hourly employee or you work on a commission basis), if you are newly employed mid-year, or if you have other income losses, you may still qualify for a premium discount.

If you decide to shop for coverage in the Marketplace, [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) will guide you through the process. Here's the employer information you'll enter when you visit [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) to find out if you can get a tax credit to lower your monthly premiums.

The information below corresponds to the Marketplace Employer Coverage Tool. Completing this section is optional for employers, but will help ensure employees understand their coverage choices.

13. Is the employee currently eligible for coverage offered by this employer, or will the employee be eligible in the next 3 months?

- Yes** (Continue)
 13a. If the employee is not eligible today, including as a result of a waiting or probationary period, when is the employee eligible for coverage? _____ (mm/dd/yyyy) (Continue)
- No** (STOP and return this form to employee)

14. Does the employer offer a health plan that meets the minimum value standard*?

- Yes (Go to question 15) No (STOP and return form to employee)

15. For the lowest-cost plan that meets the minimum value standard* offered only to the employee (don't include family plans): If the employer has wellness programs, provide the premium that the employee would pay if he/ she received the maximum discount for any tobacco cessation programs, and didn't receive any other discounts based on wellness programs.

- a. How much would the employee have to pay in premiums for this plan? \$ _____
- b. How often? Weekly Every 2 weeks Twice a month Monthly Quarterly Yearly

If the plan year will end soon and you know that the health plans offered will change, go to question 16. If you don't know, STOP and return form to employee.

16. What change will the employer make for the new plan year? _____

- Employer won't offer health coverage
- Employer will start offering health coverage to employees or change the premium for the lowest-cost plan available only to the employee that meets the minimum value standard.* (Premium should reflect the discount for wellness programs. See question 15.)
- a. How much would the employee have to pay in premiums for this plan? \$ _____
- b. How often? Weekly Every 2 weeks Twice a month Monthly Quarterly Yearly

* An employer-sponsored health plan meets the "minimum value standard" if the plan's share of the total allowed benefit costs covered by the plan is no less than 60 percent of such costs (Section 36B(c)(2)(C)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986)



Your Rights and Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills

When you get emergency care or get treated by an out-of-network provider at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, or from an out-of-network air ambulance service, you are protected from surprise billing or balance billing.

What is “balance billing” (sometimes called “surprise billing”)?

When you see a doctor or other health care provider, you may owe certain out-of-pocket costs, such as a copayment, coinsurance, and/or a deductible. You may have other costs or have to pay the entire bill if you see a provider or visit a health care facility that isn’t in your health plan’s network.

“Out-of-network” describes providers and facilities that haven’t signed a contract with your health plan. Out-of-network providers may be permitted to bill you for the difference between what your plan agreed to pay and the full amount charged for a service. This is called “**balance billing**.” This amount is likely more than in-network costs for the same service and might not count toward your annual out-of-pocket limit.

“Surprise billing” is an unexpected balance bill. This can happen when you can’t control who is involved in your care—like when you have an emergency or when you schedule a visit at an in-network facility but are unexpectedly treated by an out-of-network provider.

You are protected from balance billing for:

Emergency services

If you have an emergency medical condition and get emergency services from an out-of-network provider or facility, the most the provider or facility may bill you is your plan’s in-network cost-sharing amount (such as copayments and coinsurance). You **can’t** be balance billed for these emergency services. This includes services you may get after you’re in stable condition, unless you give written consent and give up your protections not to be balanced billed for these post-stabilization services.

For information about *state*-enacted balance billing protections that might be applicable to you, see the last page of this notice.

Certain services at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center

When you get services from an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, certain providers there may be out-of-network. In these cases, the most those providers may bill you is your plan’s in-network cost-sharing amount. This applies to emergency medicine, anesthesia, pathology, radiology, laboratory,

neonatology, assistant surgeon, hospitalist, or intensivist services. These providers **can't** balance bill you and may **not** ask you to give up your protections not to be balance billed.

If you get other services at these in-network facilities, out-of-network providers **can't** balance bill you, unless you give written consent and give up your protections.

You're never required to give up your protections from balance billing. You also aren't required to get care out-of-network. You can choose a provider or facility in your plan's network.

For information about *state*-enacted balance billing protections that might be applicable to you, see the last page of this notice.

When balance billing isn't allowed, you also have the following protections:

- You are only responsible for paying your share of the cost (like the copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles that you would pay if the provider or facility was in-network). Your health plan will pay out-of-network providers and facilities directly.
- Your health plan generally must:
 - Cover emergency services without requiring you to get approval for services in advance (prior authorization).
 - Cover emergency services by out-of-network providers.
 - Base what you owe the provider or facility (cost-sharing) on what it would pay an in-network provider or facility and show that amount in your explanation of benefits.
 - Count any amount you pay for emergency services or out-of-network services toward your deductible and out-of-pocket limit.

If you believe you've been wrongly billed, you may contact the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefit Security Administration at 1-866-444-3272 or the Health and Human Services Administration at: 1800-985-3059.

Visit [here](#) for more information about your rights under federal law.

State-enacted balance billing protections that might be applicable to you:

For information about additional, state-enacted surprise billing protections that might be applicable to you, see one or more of the following links for the state in which you live or work. Please note that whether you have protections under state law will depend on whether the state has enacted such protections and the scope of those protections and may also depend on whether your group health insurance benefits are provided under an insured plan, a self-insured plan, or a self-insured plan that has opted into relevant state-enacted protections.

Some of the links below are to a state's general department of insurance website because the state did not have a webpage devoted to surprise billing information at the time this notice was prepared:



Connecticut:

See [here](#) for information about potential surprise billing and other protections under Connecticut law, and [here](#) for information from Connecticut regarding federal protections. In Connecticut, if you believe you've been wrongly billed you may also call the Connecticut Insurance Department at (800) 203-3447.

The descriptions of the benefits are not guarantees of current or future employment or benefits. If there is any conflict between this guide and the official plan documents, the official documents will govern.