



# Evidence of Coverage

Health Benefit Plan

Clarksville Montgomery County Employees Insurance Trust – 2024  
Preferred Plan  
Standard Plan





## NONDISCRIMINATION NOTICE

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- Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as: (1) qualified interpreters and (2) written information in other formats, such as large print, audio and accessible electronic formats.
- Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as: (1) qualified interpreters and (2) written information in other languages.

If You need these services, contact a consumer advisor at the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card or call 1-800-565-9140 (TTY: 1-800-848-0298 or 711).

If You believe that BlueCross has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex, You can file a grievance (“Nondiscrimination Grievance”). For help with preparing and submitting Your Nondiscrimination Grievance, contact a consumer advisor at the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card or call 1-800-565-9140 (TTY: 1-800-848-0298 or 711). They can provide You with the appropriate form to use in submitting a Nondiscrimination Grievance. You can file a Nondiscrimination Grievance in person or by mail, fax or email. Address Your Nondiscrimination Grievance to: Nondiscrimination Compliance Coordinator; c/o Manager, Operations, Member Benefits Administration; 1 Cameron Hill Circle, Suite 0019, Chattanooga, TN 37402-0019; (423) 591-9208 (fax); Nondiscrimination\_OfficeGM@bcbst.com (email).

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue SW., Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington, DC 20201, 1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD). Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

**ATENCIÓN:** si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-800-565-9140 (TTY: 1-800-848-0298).

ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم 1-800-565-9140 (رقم هاتف الصم والبكم: 800-848-0298-1)

**注意:** 如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-800-565-9140 (TTY:1-800-848-0298)。

**CHÚ Ý:** Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 1-800-565-9140 (TTY:1-800-848-0298).

**주의:** 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 1-800-565-9140 (TTY: 1-800-848-0298) 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

**ATTENTION :** Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le 1-800-565-9140 (ATS : 1-800-848-0298).

ໂປດຊາບ: ຖ້າ ງ່ວ ງ່າ ທ່ານ ກຳລັງ ນຳ ພາ ສາ ລາ ກາ, ການ ບໍ ລິ ການ ຊ່ ື ອຍ ຕາ ື ອດ ື ກນ ພາ ສາ, ໂດຍ ບໍ ື ສັ ດ ື ຄ ື ກ, ຄຳ ນຳ ພາ ອມ ທາ ທ ກນ. ໂທ ສ 1-800-565-9140 (TTY: 1-800-848-0298).

ማስታወሻ: የማናንዱት ቋንቋ አማርኛ ከሆነ የትርጉም እርዳታ ድርጅቶች፣ በነጻ ሊያግዝዎት ተዘጋጅተዋል። ወደ ሚክተሎ ቁጥር ይደውሉ 1-800-565-9140 (መስማት ለተሳናቸው: 1-800-848-0298)።

**ACHTUNG:** Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: 1-800-565-9140 (TTY: 1-800-848-0298).

સુચના: જો તમે ગુજરાતી બોલતા હો, તો નિ:શુલ્ક ભાષા સહાય સેવાઓ તમારા માટે ઉપલબ્ધ છે. ફોન કરો 1-800-565-9140 (TTY:1-800-848-0298)

**注意事項:** 日本語を話される場合、無料の言語支援をご利用いただけます。1-800-565-9140 (TTY:1-800-848-0298) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

**PAUNAWA:** Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa 1-800-565-9140 (TTY:1-800-848-0298).

ध्यान दें: यदि आप हिंदी बोलते हैं तो आपके लिए मुफ्त में भाषा सहायता सेवाएं उपलब्ध हैं। 1-800-565-9140 (TTY:1-800-848-0298) पर कॉल करें।

**ВНИМАНИЕ:** Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 1-800-565-9140 (телетайп: 1-800-848-0298).

-توجه: اگر به زبان فارسی گفتگو می کنید، تسهیلات زبانی بصورت رایگان برای شما فراهم می باشد. با 1-800-565-9140 تماس بگیرید. (TTY:1-800-848-0298)

**ATANSYON:** Si w pale Kreyòl Ayisyen, gen sèvis èd pou lang ki disponib gratis pou ou. Rele 1-800-565-9140 (TTY: 1-800-848-0298).

**UWAGA:** Jeżeli mówisz po polsku, możesz skorzystać z bezpłatnej pomocy językowej. Zadzwoń pod numer 1-800-565-9140 (TTY: 1-800-848-0298).

**ATENÇÃO:** Se fala português, encontram-se disponíveis serviços linguísticos, grátis. Ligue para 1-800-565-9140 (TTY: 1-800-848-0298).

**ATTENZIONE:** In caso la lingua parlata sia l'italiano, sono disponibili servizi di assistenza linguistica gratuiti. Chiamare il numero 1-800-565-9140 (TTY: 1-800-848-0298).

Díí baa akó nínízin: Díí saad bee yáníłti'go Diné Bizaad, saad bee áká'ánída'áwo'déé', t'áá jiik'eh, éí ná hóló, kojí' hódííłnih 1-800-565-9140 (TTY: 1-800-848-0298).

**NOTICE**

**PLEASE READ THIS EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE CAREFULLY AND KEEP IT IN A SAFE PLACE FOR FUTURE REFERENCE. IT EXPLAINS YOUR BENEFITS AS ADMINISTERED BY BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF TENNESSEE, INC. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE OR ANY OTHER MATTER RELATED TO YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE PLAN, PLEASE WRITE OR CALL US AT:**

**CUSTOMER SERVICE DEPARTMENT  
BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF TENNESSEE, INC.  
ADMINISTRATOR  
1 CAMERON HILL CIRCLE  
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE 37402  
(800) 565-9140**



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## **INTRODUCTION**

This Evidence of Health Coverage (this “EOC”) was created for the Employer (listed on the cover of this EOC) as part of its Employee welfare benefit plan (the “Plan”). References in this EOC to “Administrator,” “We,” “Us,” “Our,” or “BlueCross” mean BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee, Inc. The Employer has entered into an Administrative Services Agreement (ASA) with BlueCross for it to administer the claims payments under the terms of the EOC, and to provide other services. BlueCross does not assume any financial risk or obligation with respect to Plan claims. BlueCross is not the Plan Sponsor, the Plan Administrator or the Plan Fiduciary, as those terms are defined in ERISA. The Employer is the Plan Fiduciary, the Plan Sponsor and the Plan Administrator. These Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”) terms are used in this EOC to clarify their meaning, even though the Plan is not subject to ERISA. Other federal laws may also affect Your Coverage. To the extent applicable, the Plan complies with federal requirements.

This EOC describes the terms and conditions of Your Coverage through the Plan. It replaces and supersedes any EOC or other description of benefits You have previously received from the Plan.

**PLEASE READ THIS EOC CAREFULLY. IT DESCRIBES THE RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS. IT IS IMPORTANT TO READ THE ENTIRE EOC. CERTAIN SERVICES ARE NOT COVERED BY THE PLAN. OTHER COVERED SERVICES ARE LIMITED. THE PLAN WILL NOT PAY FOR ANY SERVICE NOT SPECIFICALLY LISTED AS A COVERED SERVICE, EVEN IF A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER RECOMMENDS OR ORDERS THAT NON-COVERED SERVICE. (SEE ATTACHMENTS A-D.)**

Employer has delegated discretionary authority to make any benefit determinations to the Administrator, the Employer also has the authority to make any final Plan determination. The Employer, as the Plan Administrator, and BlueCross also have the authority to construe the terms of Your Coverage. The Plan and BlueCross shall be deemed to have properly exercised that authority unless it abuses its discretion when making such determinations, whether or not the Employer’s benefit plan is subject to ERISA. The Employer has the authority to determine whether You or Your dependents are eligible for Coverage.

**ANY GRIEVANCE RELATED TO YOUR COVERAGE UNDER THIS EOC SHALL BE RESOLVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE “GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE” SECTION OF THIS EOC.**

In order to make it easier to read and understand this EOC, defined words are capitalized. Those words are defined in the “DEFINITIONS” section of this EOC.

Please contact one of the Administrator’s consumer advisors, at the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card, if You have any questions when reading this EOC. Our consumer advisors are also available to discuss any other matters related to Your Coverage from the Plan.

### **BENEFIT ADMINISTRATION ERROR**

If the Administrator makes an error in administering the benefits under this EOC, the Plan may provide additional benefits or recover any overpayments from any person, insurance company, or plan. No such error may be used to demand more benefits than those otherwise due under this EOC.

## **NOTIFICATION OF CHANGE IN STATUS**

Changes in Your status can affect the service under the Plan. To make sure the Plan works correctly, please notify the Employer when You change:

- name;
- address;
- telephone number;
- employment; or
- status of any other health Coverage You have.

Subscribers must notify the Employer of any eligibility or status changes for themselves or Covered Dependents, including:

- the marriage or death of a family member;
- divorce;
- adoption;
- birth of additional dependents; or
- termination of employment.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

### **COVERAGE FOR YOU**

This EOC describes the benefits You may receive under Your Plan. You are called the Subscriber or Member.

### **COVERAGE FOR YOUR DEPENDENTS**

If a Subscriber is covered by this Plan, he or she may enroll Eligible Dependents. The Subscriber and his or her Covered Dependents are also called Members. The names of Dependents for whom application for coverage is made must be listed on the application on file in Our records. Subsequent applications for Dependents must be submitted to BlueCross in writing.

### **GUARDIANSHIP ELIGIBILITY**

Children for whom the Subscriber or the Subscriber's spouse has been appointed legal guardian by a court of competent jurisdiction, will be covered from the effective date of the legal guardianship per the valid court order.

Those covering a dependent as a court-appointed legal guardian must also sign the Affidavit of Eligible Dependent Child Status (BEN-F074).

The following requirements must be met for an Employee to be eligible to add a Dependent to the Plan under the guardianship option.

- a. Guardian(s) to be financially responsible for Dependent.
- b. Guardian(s) claim(s) Dependent on taxes using IRS Tax Form 8821 which authorizes the IRS to disclose confidential tax information to the person you designate.
- c. Relationship to Dependent, if applicable, relationship be stated in guardianship documents and BEN-F074.
- d. Dependent to be U.S. Citizen, U.S. National
- e. To exclude Benefit Coverage for foreign exchange students coming to the U.S.
- f. Exclusion of Benefits for Dependent(s) covered elsewhere.
- g. Dependent enrollment in approved primary, secondary education institution.
- h. Dependent have the same principal address as guardian(s) unless enrolled in approved educational institutional in another state/location.
- i. Termination of insurance coverage if guardian(s) are no longer legal guardian of Dependent and a requirement that the Employee has an obligation to notify CMCSS immediately when the legal guardianship ends.

### **TYPES OF COVERAGE AVAILABLE**

Individual - Employee only

Two-Person - Employee and one Eligible Dependent

Family - Employee and all eligible Dependents

### **ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEES**

To be eligible for coverage an Employee must:

- a. be a permanent Clarksville – Montgomery County School System Employee regularly scheduled to work a minimum of 15 hours per week; or
- b. be a permanent Montgomery County Government Employee regularly scheduled to work a minimum of 30 hours and hired prior to July 1st, 2015; or
- c. be a permanent Employee scheduled to work a minimum of 30 hours; or
- d. be a present Clarksville Montgomery County School System Board Member; or
- e. be a present Clarksville Montgomery County Commissioner; or

f. be a part-time County Employee who was Covered under this Plan on or prior to July 1, 2015.

### **ELIGIBLE RETIRED AND DISABILITY RETIRED EMPLOYEES**

To be eligible for coverage a Retired or Disability Retired Employee must:

- be a service or early Retiree under the Tennessee Consolidated Retirement System (TCRS) who terminated employment and who is eligible to receive TCRS retirement benefits and who has:
- twenty or more total years of employment with three years of medical coverage in this Plan immediately prior to retirement, provided the period of time between the Employee's final termination date and the date retirement benefits commence (retirement date) may be up to five years; or
- ten, but less than 20, total years of employment, with three continuous years of medical coverage in this Plan immediately prior to retirement, provided the date retirement benefits commence (retirement date) must immediately follow the Employee's date of final termination from employment.

Employees approved under these provisions may continue coverage until the earlier of the Employee's 65<sup>th</sup> birthday or he/she qualifies for Medicare. They must elect to continue medical coverage within 31 days of application for retirement benefits and will pay the appropriate contribution for Retirees as set by the Insurance Trust. Service years with CMCSS will determine the level of contribution to be made by Employer. Said contribution will not exceed 10 years. For Employees who elected Two-Person or Family coverage, coverage may be continued on (1) their eligible Dependent Spouse until the earlier of the Dependent Spouse's attainment of age 65 or he/she qualifies for Medicare, and (2) their eligible Dependent Children until the child reaches the Dependent Child Limiting Age or qualifies for Medicare.

- a) If TCRS Retirees do not elect to continue medical coverage within the 31-day application period for retirement benefits, they may continue coverage only if approved as a Late Enrollee by BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee.
- b) Retired Employees must remain continuously enrolled in the Clarksville group plan after retirement. If they retire, then decide to teach at another school system, they cannot drop coverage and later re-enroll in the Clarksville Plan.
- c) For Employees who have attained age 65 or qualified for Medicare when applying for retirement benefits, they can continue Two-Person or Family coverage on their eligible Dependents only if they had elected such coverage prior to the time retirement benefits were applied for.
- d) Spouses of TCRS Retirees can be covered under the Plan only if the TCRS Retiree was covered under the plan.
- e) If a TCRS Retiree was covered under the Plan and elected single coverage at the time retirement benefits were applied for, and subsequently acquired new Dependents as defined by the Dependent eligibility guidelines of this Plan, he/she can elect to cover these Dependents until the earlier of the TCRS Retiree's attainment of age 65 or he/she qualifies for Medicare.
- f) If a TCRS Retiree should predecease or divorce his/her Spouse, and subsequently remarry while covered under the Plan, he/she can cover himself/herself and his/her new Dependents until the earlier of his/her attainment of age 65 or he/she qualifies for Medicare.
- g) If a TCRS Retiree's Spouse should predecease or divorce the Retiree, and subsequently remarries while covered under the Plan, he/she can continue coverage on himself/herself and his/her eligible Dependents under the earlier of the Spouse's attainment of age 65 or he/she qualifies for Medicare.
- h) If a TCRS Retiree should initially qualify for Medicare, then lose Medicare coverage as a result of improvement in his/her medical condition, he/she will be allowed to re-enroll in the Plan until the earlier of attainment of age 65 or he/she re-qualifies for Medicare.
- i) The Insurance Trust reserves the right to amend or terminate the Plan or change contributions at any time, for any reason, and without notice. There is neither vesting in benefits nor a vested right to benefits.
- j) be a Disability Retiree meeting the required specified conditions.

To be eligible to continue coverage, the Retiree must be receiving a monthly retirement benefit from TCRS and cannot be eligible for Medicare.

## **DEPENDENTS OF A DECEASED EMPLOYEE**

Coverage for the Dependents of a deceased Employee will remain in force until the end of the month in which the Employee's death occurred. Coverage will then be available under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA).

## **EFFECTIVE DATE**

The different types of coverage available to Employees are shown above.

If the Employee has met the eligibility requirements and the Employee and his or her Eligible Dependents apply when first eligible (or within 31 days), coverage will be effective on the next Effective Date BlueCross bills the Employer. If the Employee and his or her Eligible Dependents do not apply when first eligible, the Employee will be subject to the requirements explained in "Late Enrollment" shown on a following page.

Employees and their Dependents will not be covered until their completed application for coverage, listing all eligible Dependents, has been received by BlueCross and the Employee has been issued a membership ID card or has received other written notice that coverage is in effect.

## **APPLYING FOR COVERAGE**

After meeting the eligibility requirements, You may apply for one of the types of coverage shown above.

To be eligible to enroll as a Dependent, a person must be listed on the enrollment form completed by the Subscriber, meet all Dependent eligibility criteria established by the Employer, and be:

- a) The Subscriber's current spouse as defined by the Employer; or
- b) The natural, legally adopted, or step-child(ren) of the Subscriber or the Subscriber's spouse who is under the age limit stated on the Schedule of Benefits. In addition, Eligible Dependents shall include children placed with the Subscriber or the Subscriber's spouse pending adoption and children for whom the Subscriber or Subscriber's spouse is court-appointed legal guardian; or
- c) A child of Subscriber or Subscriber's spouse for whom a Qualified Medical Child Support Order has been issued; or
- d) An Incapacitated Child of the Subscriber or Subscriber's spouse .

Dependents who permanently reside outside the United States are not eligible for Coverage under the EOC.

Subscribers who are not U.S. citizens, do not reside in the United States, and work at an Employer's location not located in the United States, are not eligible for Coverage under the EOC.

The Plan's determination of eligibility under the terms of this provision shall be conclusive. BlueCross reserves the right to require proof of eligibility including, but not limited to, a certified copy of any Qualified Medical Child Support Order.

Employer agrees to defend or settle, and hold BlueCross harmless from claims, losses, or suits relating to eligibility or insurability of any applicant, Subscriber, Employee or Dependent in administering this provision.

**NOTE: Any Dependent covered under the Plan whose Coverage is terminated may return to the Plan, if eligible, upon a change in status or during an open enrollment period.**

## **CHANGING COVERAGE**

If the Subscriber's marital status changes (marriage or divorce) or if there is a change in the number of children (birth, adoption), the Subscriber may want to change coverage to one of the other options available.

To make a change, the Subscriber should (1) tell the employer, and (2) apply for any needed change within 31 days of the change in family status, date the new Dependent is acquired, etc.

**A newborn child of the Subscriber or Subscriber's spouse is a Covered Dependent from the moment of birth. A legally adopted child including children placed with You for the purpose of adoption, will be Covered as of the date of adoption or placement for adoption. Children for whom the Subscriber or the Subscriber's spouse has been appointed legal guardian by a court of competent jurisdiction, will be Covered from the moment the child is placed in the Subscriber's physical custody. The Subscriber must enroll that child within 31 days of the**

**date of birth. If the Subscriber fails to do so, and an additional Payment is required to cover that child, the Plan will not provide Coverage for that child after 31 days from the child's date of birth.**

Changes in coverage will begin on the next Effective Date BlueCross bills the employer for this coverage (normally the first day of the month). Coverage for new Dependents added begins on the date the Dependent is acquired if the application is received within 31 days after that date.

### **Late Enrollment**

If Subscribers wait more than 31 days from the date they are first eligible to apply or add a Dependent, they will be considered a Late Enrollee. Coverage for the Member will otherwise be effective on the next billing date following Our receipt of the application for Coverage.

**However, a person will not be considered a Late Enrollee if:**

- he or she already had other health care coverage at the time coverage under this plan was previously offered; and
- he or she stated in writing at that time that such other coverage was the reason for declining coverage under this plan; and
- such other coverage is exhausted (if the previous coverage was continuation coverage under COBRA) or the other coverage was terminated because he or she ceased to be eligible or employer contributions for such coverage ended; and
- he or she applies for coverage under this plan within 31 days after the loss of the other coverage.

Dependents who become eligible for coverage under this plan by reason of marriage, birth, adoption or placement for adoption after the Subscriber's Effective Date will not be considered Late Enrollees, provided application is made by the Subscriber on behalf of such person(s) within 31 days of the marriage, birth, adoption or placement for adoption.

### **REINSTATEMENT FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL RETURNING FROM ACTIVE SERVICE**

An employee who returns to the Employer's active payroll following active military duty may reinstate insurance coverage on the earliest of the following:

- The first day of the month that includes the date on which the military person was discharged from active duty;
- The first of the month following the date of discharge from active duty;
- The date on which the military person returns to the employers active payroll;
- The first of the month following the military persons return to the employer's active payroll.

If coverage is reinstated before the employee returns to the Employer's active payroll, the employee must pay 100 percent of the total premium. In all instances, employees must pay whole month premiums.

Reinstatement of coverage is not automatic. Returning military personnel must reapply within 90 days from the end of their leave before coverage can be reinstated. No waiting period requirements will apply.

### **Enrollment upon Change in Status**

An Employee may be eligible to change his or her Coverage other than during the Open Enrollment Period when he or she has a change in status event. The Employee must request the change within 31 days of the change in status. Any change in the Subscriber's elections must be consistent with the change in status.

To notify the Plan of a change in status event, the Subscriber must submit a change form to the Group representative within 31 days from the date of the event causing that change of status. Such events may include, but are not limited to: (1) marriage or divorce; (2) death of the Subscriber's spouse or dependent; (3) dependency status; (4) Medicare eligibility; (5) coverage by another Payor; (6) birth or adoption of a child; (7) termination of employment, or commencement of employment, of the Subscriber's spouse; (8) switching from part-time to full-time, or from full-time to part-time status by the Subscriber or the Subscriber's spouse; (9) the Subscriber or the Subscriber's spouse taking an unpaid leave of absence, or returning from unpaid leave of absence; (10) significant change in the health coverage of the Subscriber's or the Subscriber's spouse attributable to the spouse's employment.

## WHEN COVERAGE BEGINS

If You are eligible, have enrolled and have paid or had the Payment for Coverage paid on Your behalf, Coverage under this EOC shall become effective on the earliest of the following dates, subject to the Actively At Work Rule set out below:

### **A. Effective Date**

Coverage shall be effective once all eligibility requirements are met, if all eligibility requirements are met as of that date; or

### **B. Enrollment During an Open Enrollment Period**

Coverage shall be effective on the first day of the month following the Open Enrollment Period, unless otherwise agreed to by Employer; or

### **C. Enrollment During an Initial Enrollment Period**

Coverage shall be effective on the day of the month indicated on the Employee's Enrollment Form, following the Administrator's receipt of the Employee's Enrollment Form; or

### **D. Newly Eligible Employees**

Coverage shall be effective on the date of eligibility as specified once all eligibility requirement are met; or

### **E. Newly Eligible Dependents**

1. Dependents acquired as the result of Subscriber's marriage – Coverage will be effective on the day of the marriage, unless otherwise agreed to by Employer and the Administrator;
2. Newborn children of the Subscriber or Subscriber's spouse- Coverage will be effective as of the date of birth;
3. Dependents adopted or placed for adoption with Subscriber or Subscriber's spouse – Coverage will be effective as of the date of adoption or placement for adoption, whichever is first.

For Coverage to be effective, the dependent must be enrolled, and the Plan must receive any required Payment for the Coverage, as set out in the "Enrolling in the Plan" section; or

### **F. Actively At Work Rule**

If an eligible active Employee, other than a retiree who is otherwise eligible, is not Actively At Work on the date Coverage would otherwise become effective, Coverage for the Employee and all his or her Covered Dependents will be deferred until the date the Employee is Actively At Work. An Employee who is not at work on the date Coverage would otherwise become effective due to a health-related factor shall be treated as Actively At Work for purposes of determining eligibility.

## WHEN COVERAGE ENDS

### A. Termination or Modification of Coverage by BlueCross or the Employer

The Employer is responsible for notifying You of termination or modification of Your Coverage.

All Members' Coverage will change or terminate at 12:00 midnight on the date of such modification or termination. The Employer's failure to notify You of the modification or termination of Your Coverage does not continue or extend Your Coverage beyond said modification or termination. You have no vested right to Coverage under this EOC following the date of the termination.

### B. Termination of Coverage Due to Loss of Eligibility

Your Coverage will terminate if You do not continue to meet the eligibility requirements of the Employer. In most instances, Coverage for a Member who has lost his or her eligibility shall automatically terminate at 12:00 midnight on the day that loss of eligibility occurred.

### C. Termination or Rescission of Coverage

Your Coverage may be terminated if:

1. BlueCross does not receive the required Payment when it is due. (The fact that You have made a Payment contribution to the Employer will not prevent the Administrator from terminating Your Coverage if the Employer fails to submit the full Payment for Your Coverage to the Administrator when due); or
2. You fail to cooperate with the Plan or Employer as required; or
3. You have made a misrepresentation of fact or committed fraud against the Plan. This provision includes, but is not limited to, furnishing incorrect or misleading information or permitting the improper use of the ID card.

At its discretion, the Plan may terminate or Rescind Coverage if You have made an intentional misrepresentation of material fact or committed fraud in connection with Coverage. If the misrepresentation or fraud occurred before Coverage became effective, the Plan may Rescind Coverage as of the Effective Date. If the misrepresentation or fraud occurred after Coverage became effective, the Plan may Rescind Coverage as of the date misrepresentation or fraud first occurred. If the Plan decides to Rescind Coverage, and if applicable, the Plan will return all premiums paid after the termination date less claims paid after that date. If claims paid after the termination date are more than premiums paid after that date, the Plan has the right to collect that amount from You to the extent allowed by law. You will be notified thirty (30) days in advance of any Rescission.

### D. Right to Request a Hearing

You may appeal the termination of Your Coverage or Rescission of Your Coverage, as explained in the "Grievance Procedure" section of this EOC. The fact that You have appealed shall not postpone or prevent the Plan from terminating Your Coverage. If Your Coverage is reinstated as part of the Grievance Procedure, You may submit any claims for services rendered after Your Coverage was terminated to the Plan for consideration in accordance with the "Claims and Payment" section of this EOC.

### E. Payment For Services Rendered After Termination of Coverage

If You receive and We pay for Covered Services after the termination of Your Coverage, the Plan may recover the amount paid for such Covered Services from You, plus any costs of recovering such Charges, including its attorneys' fees.



## CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE

### Federal Law

If Your Coverage under this EOC terminates, You may be offered the right to continue Coverage. This right is referred to as “COBRA Continuation Coverage” and may occur for a limited time subject to the terms of this section and the federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA).

#### 1. Eligibility

If You have been Covered by the Plan on the day before a qualifying event, You may be eligible for COBRA Continuation Coverage. The following are qualifying events for such Coverage if, under the terms of this EOC, the event causes You to lose Coverage:

- a. Subscribers. Loss of Coverage because of:
  - 1) The termination of employment except for gross misconduct; or
  - 2) A reduction in the number of hours worked by the Subscriber.
- b. Covered Dependents. Loss of Coverage because of:
  - 1) The termination of the Subscriber’s Coverage as explained in subsection (a), above;
  - 2) The death of the Subscriber;
  - 3) Divorce or legal separation from the Subscriber;
  - 4) The Subscriber becomes entitled to Medicare; or
  - 5) A Covered Dependent reaches the Limiting Age.

#### 2. Enrolling for COBRA Continuation Coverage

The Administrator, acting on behalf of the Employer, shall notify You of Your rights to enroll for COBRA Continuation Coverage after:

- a. The Subscriber’s termination of employment, reduction in hours worked, death or entitlement to Medicare Coverage; or
- b. The Subscriber or Covered Dependent notifies the Employer, in writing, within 60 days after any other qualifying event set out above.

You have 60 days from the qualifying event or the date Your notice of Your right to COBRA Continuation Coverage is mailed, whichever is later, to enroll for such Coverage. The Employer or the Administrator will send the forms that should be used to enroll for COBRA Continuation Coverage. If You do not send the Enrollment Form to the Employer within that 60-day period, You will lose Your right to COBRA Continuation Coverage under this section. If You are qualified for COBRA Continuation Coverage and receive services that would be Covered Services before enrolling and submitting the Payment for such Coverage, You will be required to pay for those services. The Plan will reimburse You for Covered Services, less required Member Payments, after You enroll and submit the Payment for Coverage, and submit a claim for those Covered Services as set forth in this EOC.

#### 3. Payment

You must submit any Payment required for COBRA Continuation Coverage to the address indicated on Your Payment notice. If You do not enroll when first becoming eligible, the Payment due for the period between the date You first become eligible and the date You enroll for COBRA Continuation Coverage must be paid to the Employer (or to the Administrator, if so directed by the Employer) within 45 days after the date You enroll for COBRA Continuation Coverage. After enrolling for COBRA Continuation Coverage, all Payments are due and payable on a monthly basis as required by the Employer. If the Payment is not received by the Administrator on or before the due date, Coverage will be terminated, for cause, effective as of the last day for which Payment was received as explained in “Termination or Rescission of Coverage” in the “When Coverage Ends” section of this EOC. The Administrator may use a third party vendor to collect the COBRA Payment.

4. Coverage Provided

If You enroll for COBRA Continuation Coverage You will continue to be Covered under the Plan and this EOC. The COBRA Continuation Coverage is subject to the conditions, limitations and exclusions of this EOC and the Plan. The Plan and the Employer may agree to change the ASA and/or this EOC. The Employer may also decide to change administrators. If this happens after You enroll for COBRA Continuation Coverage, Your Coverage will be subject to such changes.

5. Duration of Eligibility for COBRA Continuation Coverage

COBRA Continuation Coverage is available for a maximum of:

- a. 18 months if the loss of Coverage is caused by termination of employment or reduction in hours of employment; or
- b. 29 months of Coverage. If, as a qualified beneficiary who has elected 18 months of COBRA Continuation Coverage, You are determined to be disabled within the first 60 days of COBRA Continuation Coverage, You can extend Your COBRA Continuation Coverage for an additional 11 months, up to 29 months. Also, the 29 months of COBRA Continuation Coverage is available to all non-disabled qualified beneficiaries in connection with the same qualifying event. "Disabled" means Disabled as determined under Title II or XVI of the Social Security Act. In addition, Employer or Administrator must be notified:
  - 1) Of the disability determination within 60 days after the determination of disability, and before the close of the initial 18-month Coverage period; and
  - 2) Within 30 days of the date of a final determination that the qualified beneficiary is no longer disabled; or
- c. 36 months of Coverage if the loss of Coverage is caused by:
  - 1) the death of the Subscriber;
  - 2) loss of dependent child status under the Plan;
  - 3) the Subscriber becomes entitled to Medicare; or
  - 4) divorce or legal separation from the Subscriber; or
- d. 36 months for other qualifying events. If a Covered Dependent is eligible for 18 months of COBRA Continuation Coverage as described above, and there is a second qualifying event (e.g., divorce), You may be eligible for 36 months of COBRA Continuation Coverage from the date of the first qualifying event.

6. Termination of COBRA Continuation Coverage

After You have elected COBRA Continuation Coverage, that Coverage will terminate either at the end of the applicable 18, 29 or 36 month eligibility period or, before the end of that period, upon the date that:

- a. The Payment for such Coverage is not submitted when due; or
- b. You become Covered as either a Subscriber or dependent by another group health care plan; or
- c. The Plan is terminated; or
- d. You become entitled to Medicare Coverage; or
- e. The date that You, otherwise eligible for 29 months of COBRA Continuation Coverage, are determined to no longer be disabled for purposes of the COBRA law.

7. Continued Coverage During a Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Leave of Absence

Under the Family and Medical Leave Act, Subscribers may be able to take:

- a. up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave from employment due to certain family or medical circumstances, or
- b. in some instances, up to 26 weeks of unpaid leave if related to certain family members' military service related hardships.

Contact the Employer to find out if this provision applies. If it does, Members may continue health Coverage during the leave, but must continue to pay the Employee portion of the premium that the Subscriber would pay if he or she were actively working. Coverage will be subject to suspension or cancellation if the Subscriber fails to pay the premium on time. If the Subscriber takes a leave and Coverage is cancelled for any reason during that leave, Members may resume Coverage when the Subscriber returns to work without waiting for an Open Enrollment Period.

8. Continued Coverage During a Military Leave of Absence

A Subscriber may continue his or her Coverage and Coverage for his or her Covered Dependents during military leave of absence in accordance with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994. When the Subscriber returns to work from a military leave of absence, the Subscriber will be given credit for the time the Subscriber was Covered under the Plan prior to the leave. Check with the Employer to see if this provision applies. If it does, Members may continue health Coverage during the leave, but must continue to pay the Employee portion of the premium that the Subscriber would pay if he or she were actively working. Coverage will be subject to suspension or cancellation if the Subscriber fails to pay the premium on time.

9. The Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002

The Trade Adjustment Assistance Reform Act of 2002 (TAARA) may have added to Your COBRA rights. If You lost Your job because of import competition or shifts of production to other countries, You may have a second COBRA Continuation election period. If You think this may apply to You, check with the Employer or the Department of Labor.

## PRIOR AUTHORIZATION, CARE MANAGEMENT, MEDICAL POLICY AND PATIENT SAFETY

BlueCross provides services to help manage Your care including performing Prior Authorization of certain services to ensure they are Medically Necessary, Concurrent Review of hospitalization, discharge planning, Care Management and specialty programs, such as transplant case management. BlueCross also provides Utilization Policies.

BlueCross does not make medical treatment decisions under any circumstances. You may always elect to receive services that do not comply with BlueCross' Care Management requirements or Utilization Policy, but doing so may affect the Coverage of such services.

### A. Prior Authorization

BlueCross must Authorize some Covered Services in advance in order for those Covered Services to be paid at the Maximum Allowable Charge without Penalty. Obtaining Prior Authorization is not a guarantee of Coverage. All provisions of this EOC must be satisfied before Coverage for services will be provided.

**Services that require Prior Authorization include, but are not limited to:**

- Inpatient hospital and inpatient hospice stays (except initial maternity admission and Emergency admissions)
- Skilled nursing facility and rehabilitation facility admissions
- Certain outpatient Surgeries and/or procedures
- Certain air ambulance services
- Certain Specialty Drugs
- Certain prosthetics
- Certain orthotics
- If Covered by this EOC, certain Prescription drugs
- Certain Behavioral Health Services
- Certain Advanced Radiological Imaging
- Certain durable medical equipment (DME)
- Organ transplants
- Other services not listed at the time of publication may be added to the list of services that require Prior Authorization. Visit [bcbst.com](http://bcbst.com) or call Our consumer advisors at the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card to find out which services require Prior Authorization.

If You receive services that require Prior Authorization, and Prior Authorization is not obtained, Your benefits could be reduced, depending on the type of service, Provider location and Provider network status.

Provider Network Status/ Type of Service	Within Tennessee	Outside of Tennessee
Network Provider/Inpatient Facility Charges	The Network Provider is responsible for getting Prior Authorization. You are not responsible for any Penalty or reduction in benefits, unless You have signed a document agreeing to the service regardless of Coverage.	The BlueCard PPO Participating Provider is responsible for getting Prior Authorization. You are not responsible for any Penalty or reduction in benefits, unless You have signed a document agreeing to the service regardless of Coverage.
Network Provider/All Other Services	The Network Provider is responsible for getting Prior Authorization. You are not responsible for any Penalty or reduction in benefits, unless You have signed a document agreeing to the service regardless of Coverage.	You are responsible for getting Prior Authorization. Please call the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card to speak to a consumer advisor. Your benefits may be reduced if Prior Authorization is not obtained. See "Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits" for details.

Out-of-Network Provider/All Services	You are responsible for getting Prior Authorization. Please call the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card to speak to a consumer advisor. Your benefits may be reduced if Prior Authorization is not obtained. See “Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits” for details.	You are responsible for getting Prior Authorization. Please call the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card to speak to a consumer advisor. Your benefits may be reduced if Prior Authorization is not obtained. See “Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits” for details.
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BlueCross may Authorize some services for a limited time. BlueCross must review any request for additional days or services.

**B. Care Management**

A number of Care Management programs are available to You across the care spectrum, including those for low-risk health conditions, behavioral health conditions, substance use disorders and/or certain complicated medical or behavioral health needs.

Care Management personnel will work with You, Your family, Your doctors and other health care Providers to coordinate care, provide education and support and to identify the most appropriate care setting. Depending on the level of Care Management needed, Our personnel will maintain regular contact with You throughout treatment, coordinate clinical and health plan Coverage matters, and help You and Your family utilize available community resources.

After evaluation of Your condition, BlueCross may, at its discretion, determine that alternative treatment is Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate.

In that event, We may elect to offer alternative benefits for services not otherwise specified as Covered Services in “Attachment A: Covered Services and Exclusions”. Such benefits shall not exceed the total amount of benefits under this EOC and will only be offered in accordance with a written case management or alternative treatment plan agreed to by Your attending physician and BlueCross.

**Emerging Health Care Programs** – We are continually evaluating emerging health care programs. These are processes that demonstrate potential improvement in access, quality, efficiency, and Member satisfaction. When We approve an emerging health care program, approved services provided through that program are Covered, even though they may normally be excluded under this EOC.

Care Management services, emerging health care programs and alternative treatment plans may be offered to eligible Members on a case-by-case basis to address their unique needs. Under no circumstances does a Member acquire a vested interest in continued receipt of a particular level of benefits. Offer or confirmation of Care Management services, emerging health care programs or alternative treatment plans to address a Member’s unique needs in one instance shall not obligate the Plan to provide the same or similar benefits for any other Member.

**C. Medical Policy**

BlueCross medical policies address existing, new, and emerging medical technologies and services. Medical policies are based on an evidence-based research process that seeks to determine the scientific merit and research support for particular medical technologies and services. Determinations with respect to technologies are made using technology evaluation criteria. “Technology” or “Technologies” include devices, procedures, medications, and other existing and emerging medical services.

Medical policies state whether a Technology is Medically Necessary, Investigational or Cosmetic. As Technologies change and improve, and as Members’ needs change, We may reevaluate and change medical policies without formal notice. Visit [bcbst.com/mpm](http://bcbst.com/mpm) to review Our medical policies.

Medical policies sometimes define certain terms. If the definition of a term defined in Our medical policy differs from a definition in this EOC, the medical policy definition controls.

**D. Patient Safety**

If You have a concern with the safety or quality of care You received from a Network Provider, please call Us at the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card. Your concern will be noted and investigated by Our Clinical Risk Management department.

## HEALTH AND WELLNESS SERVICES

The Plan provides You with resources to help improve and manage Your health. To learn more about these resources, login to [bcbst.com](http://bcbst.com) or call the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card.

**Personal Health Assessment** – This assessment tool helps You understand certain health risks and what You can do to reduce them with a personalized wellness report.

**Decision Support Tools** – With these resources, You can get help with handling health issues, formulating questions to ask Your doctor, understanding symptoms and exploring health topics and wellness tips that matter to You most. We also offer a shopping and decision support program, and You can obtain estimates of Your out-of-pocket costs for certain items and services by using our healthcare cost estimator. You can access the healthcare cost estimator by logging in at [bcbst.com](http://bcbst.com) or into the mobile app.

**Digital Self-Guided Programs** – Our interactive and educational digital self-guided programs help to inform You about common health and wellness concerns and how to control them.

**Health Trackers** – This tool encourages you to stay on top of Your health by tracking Your nutrition, physical activity, blood pressure and more. Use these tools to help improve and maintain Your healthy habits.

**Blue365<sup>®</sup>** – The Blue365 Member discount program provides savings on a range of health-related products and services. For more information, log in at [bcbst.com](http://bcbst.com).

**Fitness Your Way<sup>™</sup>** – Fitness Your Way is a discount fitness program that is intended to help You get and stay fit with access to a nationwide network of fitness facilities as well as live and recorded virtual fitness classes. You also have access to discounts for complementary and alternative medicine services.

## INTER-PLAN ARRANGEMENTS

### 1. Out-of-Area Services

#### Overview

We have a variety of relationships with other Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield Licensees. Generally, these relationships are called “Inter-Plan Arrangements.” These Inter-Plan Arrangements work based on rules and procedures issued by the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association (“Association”). Whenever You access healthcare services outside the geographic area We serve, the claim for those services may be processed through one of these Inter-Plan Arrangements. The Inter-Plan Arrangements are described below.

When You receive care outside of Our service area, You will receive it from one of two kinds of providers. Most providers (“participating providers”) contract with the local Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield Plan in that geographic area (“Host Blue”). Some providers (“nonparticipating providers”) don’t contract with the Host Blue. We explain below how We pay both kinds of providers.

#### Inter-Plan Arrangements Eligibility – Claim Types

All claim types are eligible to be processed through Inter-Plan Arrangements, as described above, except for all Dental Care Benefits except when paid as medical claims/benefits, and those Prescription Drug Benefits or Vision Care Benefits that may be administered by a third party contracted by Us to provide the specific service or services.

#### A. BlueCard® Program

Under the BlueCard® Program, when You receive Covered Services within the geographic area served by a Host Blue, We will remain responsible for doing what We agreed to in the contract. However, the Host Blue is responsible for contracting with and generally handling all interactions with its participating providers.

When You receive Covered Services outside Our service area and the claim is processed through the BlueCard Program, the amount You pay for Covered Services is calculated based on the lower of:

- The billed charges for Covered Services; or
- The negotiated price that the Host Blue makes available to Us.

Often, this “negotiated price” will be a simple discount that reflects an actual price that the Host Blue pays to Your healthcare provider. Sometimes, it is an estimated price that takes into account special arrangements with Your healthcare provider or provider group that may include types of settlements, incentive payments and/or other credits or charges. Occasionally, it may be an average price, based on a discount that results in expected average savings for similar types of healthcare providers after taking into account the same types of transactions as with an estimated price.

Estimated pricing and average pricing also take into account adjustments to correct for over- or underestimation of past pricing of claims, as noted above. However, such adjustments will not affect the price We have used for Your claim because they will not be applied after a claim has already been paid.

#### B. Special Cases: Value-Based Programs

- *BlueCard® Program*
- If You receive Covered Services under a Value-Based Program inside a Host Blue’s service area, You will not be responsible for paying any of the Provider Incentives, risk-sharing, and/or Care Coordinator Fees that are a part of such an arrangement, except when a Host Blue passes these fees to Us through average pricing or fee schedule adjustments. Additional information is available upon request.
- *Value-Based Program Definitions*

Accountable Care Organization (ACO): A group of healthcare providers who agree to deliver coordinated care and meet performance benchmarks for quality and affordability in order to manage the total cost of care for their member populations.



Care Coordination: Organized, information-driven patient care activities intended to facilitate the appropriate responses to a Member's healthcare needs across the continuum of care.

Care Coordinator: An individual within a provider organization who facilitates Care Coordination for patients.

Care Coordination Fee: A fixed amount paid by a Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield Licensee to providers periodically for Care Coordination under a Value-Based Program.

Global Payment/Total Cost of Care: A payment methodology that is defined at the patient level and accounts for either all patient care or for a specific group of services delivered to the patient such as outpatient, physician, ancillary, hospital services and prescription drugs.

Negotiated Arrangement, a.k.a., Negotiated National Account Arrangement: An agreement negotiated between a Control/Home Licensee and one or more Par/Host Licensees for any National Account that is not delivered through the BlueCard Program.

Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH): A model of care in which each patient has an ongoing relationship with a primary care physician who coordinates a team to take collective responsibility for patient care and, when appropriate, arranges for care with other qualified physicians.

Provider Incentive: An additional amount of compensation paid to a healthcare provider by a Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield Plan, based on the provider's compliance with agreed-upon procedural and/or outcome measures for a particular group of covered persons.

Shared Savings: A payment mechanism in which the provider and payer share cost savings achieved against a target cost budget based upon agreed upon terms and may include downside risk.

Value-Based Program (VBP): An outcomes-based payment arrangement and/or a coordinated care model facilitated with one or more local providers that is evaluated against cost and quality metrics/factors and is reflected in provider payment.

### **C. Inter-Plan Programs: Federal/State Taxes/Surcharges/Fees**

Federal or state laws or regulations may require a surcharge, tax or other fee that applies to self-funded accounts. If applicable, BlueCross may include any such surcharge, tax or other fee as part of the claim charge passed on to You.

### **D. Nonparticipating Providers Outside Our Service Area**

#### **1. Member Liability Calculation**

When Covered Services are provided outside of Our service area by nonparticipating providers, the amount You pay for such services will normally be based on either the Host Blue's nonparticipating provider local payment or the pricing arrangements required by applicable law. In these situations, You may be responsible for the difference between the amount that the nonparticipating provider bills and the payment We will make for the Covered Services as set forth in this paragraph. Federal or state law, as applicable, will govern payments for out-of-network emergency services.

#### **2. Exceptions**

In certain situations, We may use other payment methods, such as billed charges for Covered Services, the payment We would make if the healthcare services had been obtained within Our service area, or a special negotiated payment to determine the amount We will pay for services provided by nonparticipating providers. In these situations, You may be liable for the difference between the amount that the nonparticipating provider bills and the payment We will make for the Covered Services as set forth in this paragraph. Payments for out-of-network emergency services, certain services provided by out-of-network providers at in-network facilities, and out-of-network air ambulance services will be governed by applicable federal and state law.

### **E. Blue Cross Blue Shield Global® Core**

If You are outside the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands (hereinafter "BlueCard service area"), You may be able to take advantage of Blue Cross Blue Shield Global

Core when accessing Covered Services. Blue Cross Blue Shield Global Core is unlike the BlueCard Program available in the BlueCard service area in certain ways. For instance, although Blue Cross Blue Shield Global Core assists You with accessing a network of inpatient, outpatient and professional providers, the network is not served by a Host Blue. As such, when You receive care from providers outside the BlueCard service area, You will typically have to pay the providers and submit the claims Yourself to obtain reimbursement for these services.

If You need medical assistance services (including locating a doctor or hospital) outside the BlueCard service area, You should call the service center at 1.800.810.BLUE (2583) or call collect at 1.804.673.1177, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. An assistance coordinator, working with a medical professional, can arrange a physician appointment or hospitalization, if necessary.

- **Inpatient Services**

In most cases, if You contact the service center for assistance, hospitals will not require You to pay for covered inpatient services, except for Your cost-share amounts. In such cases, the hospital will submit Your claims to the service center to begin claims processing. However, if You paid in full at the time of service, You must submit a claim to receive reimbursement for Covered Services. **You must contact Us to obtain precertification for non-emergency inpatient services.**

- **Outpatient Services**

Physicians, Urgent Care Centers and other outpatient providers located outside the BlueCard service area will typically require You to pay in full at the time of service. You must submit a claim to obtain reimbursement for Covered Services.

- **Submitting a Blue Cross Blue Shield Global Core Claim**

When You pay for Covered Services outside the BlueCard service area, You must submit a claim to obtain reimbursement. For institutional and professional claims, You should complete a Blue Cross Blue Shield Global Core claim form and send the claim form with the provider's itemized bill(s) to the service center (the address is on the form) to initiate claims processing. Following the instructions on the claim form will help ensure timely processing of Your claim. The claim form is available from Us, the service center or online at [www.bcbsglobalcore.com](http://www.bcbsglobalcore.com). If You need assistance with Your claim submission, You should call the service center at 1.800.810.BLUE (2583) or call collect at 1.804.673.1177, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

## CLAIMS AND PAYMENT

When You receive Covered Services, either You or the Provider must submit a claim to Us. We will review the claim and let You or the Provider know if We need more information before We pay or deny the claim. We follow Our internal administration procedures when We process claims. If these procedures differ from those required by the ERISA claims regulations, the ERISA claims regulations shall control regardless of whether the Employer is covered by ERISA.

### A. Claims.

Federal regulations use several terms to describe a claim: pre-service claim; post-service claim; and a claim for Urgent Care.

1. A pre-service claim is any claim that requires approval of a Covered Service in advance of obtaining medical care as a condition of receipt of a Covered Service, in whole or in part.
2. A post-service claim is a claim for a Covered Service that is not a pre-service claim – the medical care has already been provided to You. Only post-service claims can be billed to the Plan or You.
3. Urgent Care is medical care or treatment that, if delayed or denied, could seriously jeopardize (a) the life or health of the claimant; or (b) the claimant's ability to regain maximum function. Urgent Care is also medical care or treatment that, if delayed or denied, in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of the claimant's medical condition, would subject the claimant to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the medical care or treatment. A claim for denied Urgent Care is always a pre-service claim.

### B. Claims Billing.

1. You should not be billed or charged for Covered Services rendered by Network Providers, except for required Member Payments. The Network Provider will submit the claim directly to Us.
2. You may be charged or billed by an Out-of-Network Provider or Non-Contracted Provider for Covered Services rendered by that Provider. If You use an Out-of-Network Provider or Non-Contracted Provider, You may be responsible for any unpaid Billed Charges. You are also responsible for complying with any of Our medical management policies or procedures (including obtaining Prior Authorization of such services, when necessary).
  - a. If You are charged or receive a bill, You must submit a claim to Us.
  - b. To be reimbursed, You must submit the claim within 1 year and 90 days from the date a Covered Service was received. If You do not submit a claim within the 1 year and 90 day time period, it will not be paid. If it is not reasonably possible to submit the claim within the 1 year and 90 day time period, the claim will not be invalidated or reduced.
3. You may request a claim form from Our consumer advisors. We will send You a claim form within 15 days. You must submit proof of payment acceptable to Us with the claim form. We may also request additional information or documentation if it is reasonably necessary to make a Coverage decision concerning a claim.

Mail all claim forms to:

BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee  
Claims Service Center  
1 Cameron Hill Circle, Suite 0002  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-0002

4. A Provider may refuse to render a service, or reduce or terminate a service that has been rendered, or require You to pay for what You believe should be a Covered Service.
5. Providers may bill or charge for Covered Services differently. Network Providers are reimbursed based on Our agreement with them. Different Network Providers have different reimbursement rates for different services. Your expenses can be different from Provider to Provider.

### **C. Payment.**

1. If You received Covered Services from a Network Provider, the Plan will pay the Network Provider directly. You authorize assignment of benefits to that Network Provider. If You have paid that Provider for the same claim, You must request a refund from that Provider.
2. Out-of-Network Providers and Non-Contracted Providers may or may not file Your claims for You. A completed claim form for Covered Services must be submitted in a timely manner. After a completed claim form has been submitted, the Plan will pay the Provider directly for Covered Services, unless You submit proof of payment to Us before payment is made to the Provider. You authorize assignment of benefits to the Provider. If the Plan pays the Provider and You have paid that Provider for the same claim, You must request a refund from that Provider. You may be responsible for any unpaid Billed Charges. The Plan's payment fully discharges its obligation related to that claim.
3. We will pay benefits according to the Plan within 30 days after We receive a claim form that is complete. Claims are processed in accordance with Our internal administration procedures, and based on Our information at the time We receive the claim form. Neither the Plan nor We are responsible for over or under payment of claims if Our information is not complete or is inaccurate. We will make reasonable efforts to obtain and verify relevant facts when claim forms are submitted.
4. You will receive a Claim Summary that describes how a claim was treated. The Claim Summary, sometimes referred to as the Explanation of Benefits (EOB), shows how a claim paid, denied, how much was paid to the Provider, and any amounts You owe to that Provider. The Administrator will make the Claim Summary available to You at [bcbst.com](http://bcbst.com), or You can obtain it at no cost by calling Our consumer advisors at the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card.
5. You are responsible for paying any applicable Copayments, Coinsurance, or Deductible amounts to the Provider. If We pay such amounts to a Provider on Your behalf, We may collect those amounts directly from You.

Payment for Covered Services is more fully described in "Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits".

## COORDINATION OF BENEFITS

This EOC includes the following Coordination of Benefits (COB) provision, which applies when a Member has Coverage under more than one group contract or health care "Plan." Rules of this section determine whether the benefits available under this EOC are determined before or after those of another Plan. In no event, however, will benefits under this EOC be increased because of this provision.

If the other plan does not contain provisions establishing the order of benefit determination rules, the benefits under the other plan will be determined first. If this COB provision applies, the order of benefits determination rules control. Those rules determine whether the Plan's benefits are determined before or after those of another Plan.

### 1. Definitions

The following terms apply to this provision:

- a. "Plan" means any form of medical or dental Coverage with which coordination is allowed. "Plan" includes:
  - 1) group, blanket, or franchise insurance;
  - 2) a group BlueCross Plan, BlueShield Plan;
  - 3) group or group-type coverage through Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) or other prepayment, group practice and individual practice plans;
  - 4) Coverage under labor management trust Plans or Employee benefit organization Plans;
  - 5) Coverage under government programs to which an Employer contributes or makes payroll deductions;
  - 6) Coverage under a governmental Plan or Coverage required or provided by law;
  - 7) medical benefits Coverage in group, group-type, and individual automobile "no-fault" and traditional automobile "fault" type Coverages;
  - 8) Coverage under Medicare and other governmental benefits; and
  - 9) any other arrangement of health Coverage for individuals in a group.
- b. "Plan" does not include individual or family:
  - 1) Insurance contracts;
  - 2) Subscriber contracts;
  - 3) Coverage through HMOs;
  - 4) Coverage under other prepayment, group practice and individual practice plans;
  - 5) Public medical assistance programs (such as TennCare<sup>sm</sup>);
  - 6) Group or group-type hospital indemnity benefits of \$100 per day or less;
  - 7) School accident-type Coverages.

Each Contract or other arrangement for Coverage is a separate Plan. Also, if an arrangement has two parts and COB rules apply to only one of the two, each of the parts is a separate Plan.

- c. "This Plan" refers to the part of the Employee welfare benefit plan under which benefits for health care expenses are provided.

The term "Other Plan" applies to each arrangement for benefits or services, as well as any part of such an arrangement that considers the benefits and services of other contracts when benefits are determined.

- d. Primary Plan/Secondary Plan.
  - 1) The order of benefit determination rules state whether This Plan is a "Primary Plan" or "Secondary Plan" as to another plan covering You.
  - 2) When This Plan is a Primary Plan, its benefits are determined before those of the Other Plan. We do not consider the Other Plan's benefits.

- 3) When This Plan is a Secondary Plan, its benefits are determined after those of the Other Plan and may be reduced because of the Other Plan's benefits.
  - 4) When there are more than two Plans covering the person, This Plan may be a Primary Plan as to one or more Other Plans, and may be a Secondary Plan as to a different Plan or Plans.
- e. "Allowable Expense" means a necessary, reasonable and customary item of expense when the item of expense is Covered at least in part by one or more plans covering the Member for whom the claim is made.
- 1) When a plan provides benefits in the form of services, the reasonable cash value of a service is deemed to be both an Allowable Expense and a benefit paid.
  - 2) We will determine only the benefits available under this Plan. You are responsible for supplying Us with information about other plans so We can act on this provision.
- f. "Claim Determination Period" means an Annual Benefit Period. However, it does not include any part of a year during which You have no Coverage under This Plan or any part of a year prior to the date this COB provision or a similar provision takes effect.

## 2. Order of Benefit Determination Rules

This Plan determines its order of benefits using the first of the following rules that applies:

### a. Non-Dependent/Dependent

The benefits of the Plan that covers the person as an Employee, Member, or Subscriber (that is, other than as a dependent) are determined before those of the Plan which covers the person as a dependent, except that:

- 1) if the person is also a Medicare beneficiary and,
- 2) if the rule established by the Social Security Act of 1965 (as amended) makes Medicare secondary to the Plan covering the person as a dependent of an active Employee, then the order of benefit determination shall be:
  - benefits of the Plan of an active Employee covering the person as a dependent;
  - Medicare;
  - benefits of the Plan covering the person as an Employee, Member, or Subscriber.

### b. Dependent Child/Parents Not Separated or Divorced

Except as stated in paragraph (c) below, when This Plan and another Plan cover the same child as a dependent of different persons, called "parents":

- 1) The benefits of the Plan of the parent whose birthday falls earlier in a year are determined before those of the Plan of the parent whose birthday falls later in that year; but
- 2) If both parents have the same birthday, the benefits of the Plan that has covered one parent longer are determined before those of the Plan that has covered the other parent for a shorter period of time.
- 3) However, if the Other Plan does not have the rule described immediately above, but instead has a rule based upon the gender of the parent, and if, as a result, the Plans do not agree on the order of benefits, the rule in the Other Plan will determine the order of benefits.

### c. Dependent Child/Separated or Divorced Parents

If two or more Plans cover a person as a dependent child of divorced or separated parents, benefits for the child are determined in this order:

- 1) First, the Plan of the parent with custody of the child;
- 2) Then, the Plan of the spouse of the parent with the custody of the child; and
- 3) Finally, the Plan of the parent not having custody of the child.
- 4) However, if the specific terms of a court decree state that one of the parents is responsible for the health care expenses of the child, and the entity obligated to pay or provide the benefits of the Plan of that parent has actual knowledge of those terms, the benefits of that Plan are determined first. The Plan of the other parent shall be the Secondary Plan. This paragraph does not apply with respect to any Claim

Determination Period or Plan Year during which any benefits are actually paid or provided before the entity has that actual knowledge.

- 5) If the specific terms of a court decree state that the parents shall share joint custody, without stating that one of the parents is responsible for the health care expenses of the child, the Plans covering the child shall follow the order of benefit determination rules outlined in Paragraph 2(b), Dependent Child/Parents Not Separated or Divorced.

d. Active/Inactive Employee

The benefits of a Plan that covers a person as an Employee who is neither laid off nor retired are determined before those of a Plan which covers that person as a laid off or retired Employee. If the Other Plan does not have this rule, and if, as a result, the Plans do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule is ignored and other applicable rules control the order of benefit determination.

e. Longer/Shorter Length of Coverage

If none of the above Rules determines the order of benefits, the benefits of the Plan that has covered an Employee, Member, or Subscriber longer are determined before those of the Plan that has covered that person for the shorter term.

- 1) To determine the length of time a person has been covered under a Plan, two Plans shall be treated as one if the claimant was eligible under the second within 24 hours after the first ended.
- 2) The start of the new Plan does not include:
  - A change in the amount or scope of a Plan's benefits;
  - A change in the entity that pays, provides, or administers the Plan's benefits; or
  - A change from one type of Plan to another (such as, from a single Employer Plan to that of a multiple Employer plan).
- 3) The claimant's length of time covered under a Plan is measured from the claimant's first date of Coverage under that Plan. If that date is not readily available, the date the claimant first became a Member shall be used as the date from which to determine the length of time the claimant's Coverage under the present Plan has been in force.

f. Plans with Excess and Other Non-conforming COB Provisions

Some Plans declare their Coverage "in excess" to all Other Plans, "always Secondary," or otherwise not governed by COB rules. These Plans are called "Non-complying Plans."

This Plan coordinates its benefits with a Non-complying Plan as follows:

- 1) If This Plan is the Primary Plan, it will provide its benefits on a primary basis.
- 2) If This Plan is the Secondary Plan, it will provide benefits first, but the amount of benefits and liability of This Plan will be limited to the benefits of a Secondary Plan.
- 3) If the Non-complying Plan does not provide information needed to determine This Plan's benefits within a reasonable time after it is requested, This Plan will assume that the benefits of the Non-complying Plan are the same as the benefits of This Plan and provide benefits accordingly. However, this Plan must adjust any payments it makes based on such assumption whenever information becomes available as to the actual benefits of the Non-complying Plan.
- 4) If:
  - a) The Non-complying Plan reduces its benefits so that the Member receives less in benefits than he or she would have received had the Complying Plan paid, or provided its benefits as the Secondary Plan, and the Non-complying Plan paid or provided its benefits as the Primary Plan; and
  - b) Governing state law allows the right of subrogation set forth below;

then the Complying Plan shall advance to You or on Your behalf an amount equal to such difference. However, in no event shall the Complying Plan advance more than the Complying Plan would have paid, had it been the Primary Plan, less any amount it previously paid. In consideration of such advance, the Complying Plan shall be subrogated to all Your rights against the Non-complying Plan. Such advance

by the Complying Plan shall also be without prejudice it may have against the Non-complying Plan in the absence of such subrogation.

### 3. Effect on the Benefits of this Plan

This provision applies where there is a basis for a claim under This Plan and the Other Plan and when benefits of This Plan are determined as a Secondary Plan.

- a. Benefits of This Plan will be reduced when the sum of:
  - 1) the benefits that would be payable for the Allowable Expenses under This Plan, in the absence of this COB provision; and
  - 2) the benefits that would be payable for the Allowable Expenses under the Other Plan(s), in the absence of provisions with a purpose similar to that of this COB provision, whether or not a claim for benefits is made;
  - 3) exceeds Allowable Expenses in a Claim Determination Period. In that case, the benefits of This Plan will be reduced so that they and the benefits payable under the Other Plan(s) do not total more than Allowable Expenses.
- b. When the benefits of This Plan are reduced as described above, each benefit is reduced proportionately and is then charged against any applicable benefit limit of This Plan.
- c. The Administrator may not, however, consider the benefits of the Other Plan(s) in determining benefits under This Plan when
  - 1) the Other Plan has a rule coordinating its benefits with those of This Plan and the rule of the Other Plan states that benefits of the Other Plan will be determined after those of This Plan

### 4. Right to Receive and Release Needed Information

Certain facts are needed to apply these COB rules. We have the right to decide which facts We need. We may get needed facts from, or give them to any other organization or person. We need not tell, or get the consent of, any person to do this. Each person claiming benefits under This Plan must give Us any facts We need to pay the claim.

### 5. Facility of Payment

A payment under Another Plan may include an amount that should have been paid under This Plan. If it does, We may pay that amount to the organization that made that payment. That amount would then be treated as if it were a benefit paid under This Plan. We will not have to pay that amount again. The term “Payment Made” includes providing benefits in the form of services; in which case, Payment Made means reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.

### 6. Right of Recovery

If the amount of the Payments made by the Plan is more than it should have paid under this COB provision, it may recover the excess from one or more of:

- a. The persons it has paid or for whom it has paid;
- b. Insurance companies; or
- c. Other organizations.

The “amount of the Payments made” includes the reasonable cash value of any benefits provided in the form of services.

### 7. Are You Also Covered by Medicare?

If You are also Covered by Medicare, We follow the Medicare Secondary Payor (MSP) rules to determine Your benefits. If Your Employer has 20 or fewer Employees, the MSP rules might not apply. Please contact Our consumer advisors at the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card if You have any questions.



## **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE**

### **I. INTRODUCTION**

Our grievance procedure is intended to provide a method through which a Member can request a review of an Adverse Benefit Determination.

Under this grievance procedure, a claim will not be an Adverse Benefit Determination if a Provider is required to hold You harmless for the cost of services rendered.

Please contact Our consumer advisors at the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card: (1) to file a claim; (2) if You have any questions about this EOC or other documents related to Your Coverage (e.g., a Claim Summary, sometimes referred to as the Explanation of Benefits or Monthly Claims Statement); or (3) to initiate a grievance.

1. This grievance procedure is the exclusive method of resolving any Adverse Benefit Determination. Exemplary or punitive damages are not available in any grievance or litigation, pursuant to the terms of this EOC. Any decision to award damages must be based upon the terms of this EOC.
2. This grievance procedure can only resolve grievances that are subject to Our control.
3. You cannot use this grievance procedure to resolve a claim that a Provider was negligent. Network Providers are independent contractors. They are solely responsible for making treatment decisions in consultation with their patients. You may contact Us, however, to complain about any matter related to the quality or availability of services, or any other aspect of Your relationship with Providers.
4. You may request a form to authorize another person to act on Your behalf concerning a grievance.
5. The Plan and You may agree to skip one or more of the steps of this Grievance Procedure if it will not help to resolve the Dispute.
6. Any grievance filed pursuant to this section will be resolved in accordance with applicable Tennessee or federal laws and regulations and this EOC.

### **II. DESCRIPTION OF THE REVIEW PROCEDURES**

#### **A. Inquiry**

An inquiry is an informal process that may answer questions or resolve a potential grievance. You should contact Our consumer advisors if You have any questions about how to file a claim or to attempt to resolve any grievance. Making an inquiry does not stop the time period for filing a claim or beginning a grievance. You do not have to make an inquiry before filing a grievance.

#### **B. First Level Grievance**

You must submit a written request asking the Plan to reconsider an Adverse Benefit Determination. You must begin the grievance process within 180 days from the date We issue notice of an Adverse Benefit Determination. If You do not initiate a grievance within 180 days of when We issue an Adverse Benefit Determination, We may raise Your failure to initiate a grievance in a timely manner as a defense if You file a lawsuit later.

Contact Our consumer advisors at the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card for assistance in preparing and submitting Your grievance. They can provide You with the appropriate form to use in submitting a grievance. This is the first level grievance procedure and is mandatory. BlueCross is a limited fiduciary for the first level grievance.

##### **1. Grievance Hearing**

After We have received and reviewed Your grievance, Our first level grievance committee will meet to consider Your grievance and any additional information that You or others submit concerning that grievance. For grievances concerning Urgent Care or pre-service claims, We will appoint one or more qualified reviewer(s) to consider such grievances. Individuals involved in making prior determinations concerning Your grievance are not eligible to be voting members of the first level grievance committee or reviewers. Such determinations shall be subject to the review standards applicable to ERISA plans, even if the Plan is not otherwise governed by ERISA.

## 2. **Written Decision**

The committee or reviewers will consider the information presented, and You will receive a written decision concerning Your grievance as follows:

- a) For a pre-service claim, within 30 days of receipt of Your request for review;
- b) For a post-service claim, within 60 days of receipt of Your request for review; and
- c) For a pre-service, Urgent Care claim, within 72 hours of receipt of Your request for review.

The decision of the committee will be sent to You in writing and will contain:

- a) A statement of the committee's understanding of Your grievance;
- b) The basis of the committee's decision; and
- c) Reference to the documentation or information upon which the committee based its decision. You may receive a copy of such documentation or information, without charge, upon written request.

## C. **Second Level Grievance**

You may file a written request for reconsideration with Us within 90 days after We issue the first level grievance committee's decision. This is called a second level grievance. Information on how to submit a second level grievance will be provided to You in the decision letter following the first level grievance review.

If the Plan is governed by ERISA, You also have the right to bring a civil action against the Plan to obtain the remedies available pursuant to Sec. 502(a) of ERISA ("ERISA Actions") after completing the mandatory first level grievance process.

The Plan may require You to exhaust each step of this grievance procedure in any grievance that is not an ERISA Action:

Your decision concerning whether to file a second level grievance has no effect on Your rights to any other benefits under the Plan. If You file a second level grievance concerning an ERISA Action, the Plan agrees to toll any time defenses or restrictions affecting Your right to bring a civil action against the Plan until the second level committee makes its decision. Any person involved in making a decision concerning Your grievance (e.g. first level committee members) will not be a voting member of the second level grievance committee.

### 1. **Grievance Hearing**

You may request an in-person or telephonic hearing before the second level grievance committee. You may also request that the second level grievance committee reconsider the decision of the first level committee, even if You do not want to participate in a hearing concerning Your grievance. If You wish to participate, Our representatives will contact You to explain the hearing process and schedule the time, date and place for that hearing.

In either case, the second level committee will meet and consider all relevant information presented about Your grievance, including:

- a) Any new, relevant information that You submit for consideration; and
- b) Information presented during the hearing. Second level grievance committee members and You will be permitted to question each other and any witnesses during the hearing. You may make a closing statement to the committee.
- c) If You wish to appoint a personal representative, You must notify Us at least 5 days in advance, provide the name, address and telephone number of Your personal representative, and provide a personal authorization form.

### 2. **Written Decision**

After the hearing, the second level committee will meet in closed session to make a decision concerning Your grievance. That decision will be sent to You in writing. The written decision will contain:

- a) A statement of the second level committee's understanding of Your grievance;
- b) The basis of the second level committee's decision; and
- c) Reference to the documentation or information upon which the second level committee based its decision. Upon written request, We will send You a copy of any such documentation or information, without charge.

**D. Independent Review of Medical Necessity Determinations or Rescissions**

If Your grievance involves a Medical Necessity, Investigational or Rescission determination, or grievances with respect to Emergency Care Services rendered at an out-of-network hospital, items and services rendered by an Out-of-Network Provider at an in-network hospital (unless You agreed with the Provider prior to the services to accept out-of-network terms under regulatory requirements) and Authorized air ambulance services, then either: (1) after completion of the mandatory first level grievance; or (2) after completion of the mandatory first level grievance followed by completion of the second level grievance, You may request that the grievance be submitted to a neutral third party, selected by Us, to independently review and resolve such grievance(s). If You request an independent review following the mandatory first level grievance, You waive Your right to a second level grievance and Your right to present oral testimony during the grievance procedure. Your request for independent review must be submitted in writing within 180 days after the date You receive notice of the committee's decision. Receipt shall be deemed to have occurred no more than two days after the date of issuance of the committee's decision. Any person involved in making a decision concerning Your grievance will not be a voting member of the independent review panel or committee.

Your decision concerning whether to request independent review has no effect on Your rights to any other benefits under the Plan. If You request independent review of an ERISA Action, We agree to toll any time defenses or restrictions affecting Your right to bring a civil action against the Employer or Employer's Plan, until the independent reviewer makes its decision.

The Employer or Employer's Plan will pay the fee charged by the independent review organization and its reviewers if You request that the Plan submit a grievance to independent review. You will be responsible for any other costs that You incur to participate in the independent review process, including attorneys' fees.

We will submit the necessary information to the independent review entity within 5 business days after receiving Your request for review. We will provide copies of Your file, excluding any proprietary information to You, upon written request. The reviewer may also request additional medical information from You. You must submit any requested information, or explain why that information is not being submitted, within 5 business days after receiving that request from the reviewer.

The reviewer must submit a written determination to Us and We will submit the determination to You within 45 days after receipt of the independent review request. In the case of a life threatening condition, the decision must be issued within 72 hours after receiving the review request. Except in cases involving a life-threatening condition, the reviewer may request an extension of up to 5 business days to issue a determination to consider additional information submitted by Us or You.

The reviewer's decision must state the reasons for the determination based upon: (1) the terms of this EOC and the ASA; (2) Your medical condition; and (3) information submitted to the reviewer. The reviewer's decision may not expand the terms of Coverage of the ASA.

No legal action shall be brought to recover under this EOC until 60 days after the claim has been filed. No such legal action shall be brought more than 3 years after the time the claim is required to be filed.
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## DEFINITIONS

Defined terms are capitalized. When defined words are used in this EOC, they have the meaning set forth in this section.

1. **Actively At Work** – An Employee who is performing all of the Employee’s regular duties for the Employer on a regularly scheduled workday at the location where such duties are normally performed. Employees will be considered to be Actively At Work on a non-scheduled work day (which would include a scheduled vacation day) only if the Employee was Actively At Work on the last regularly scheduled work day.
2. **Acute** – An illness or injury that is both severe and of short duration.
3. **Administrative Services Agreement (ASA) or Agreement** – The arrangements between the Administrator and the Employer, including any amendments, and any attachments to the ASA or this EOC.
4. **Advanced Radiological Imaging** – Services such as MRIs, CT scans, PET scans, nuclear medicine and similar technologies.
5. **Adverse Benefit Determination** – Any denial, reduction, termination or failure to provide or make payment for what You believe should be a Covered Service. Adverse Benefit Determinations include:
  - a) A determination by a health carrier or its designee utilization review organization that, based upon the information provided, a request for a benefit under the health carrier’s health benefit plan does not meet the health carrier’s requirements for Medical Necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care or effectiveness and the requested benefit is therefore denied, reduced or terminated or payment is not provided or made, in whole or in part, for the benefit;
  - b) The denial, Rescission, reduction, termination or failure to provide or make payment, in whole or in part, for a benefit based on a determination by a health carrier of a Member’s eligibility to participate in the health carrier’s health benefit plan; or
  - c) Any prospective review or retrospective review determination that denies, reduces, or terminates or fails to provide or make payment for, in whole or in part, a benefit.
6. **Annual Benefit Period(s)** – The 12-month period under which Your benefits are administered, as noted in “Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits”.
7. **Authorize(d)** – A determination made by the Administrator at the end of the Prior Authorization process.
8. **Behavioral Health Services** – Any services or supplies to treat a mental or emotional condition or substance use disorder.
9. **Billed Charge(s)** – The amount that a Provider charges for services rendered. Billed Charges may be different from the amount that We determine to be the Maximum Allowable Charge for services.
10. **Blue Distinction® Centers for Transplants (BDCT) Network** – A network of facilities and hospitals contracted with BlueCross (or with an entity on behalf of BlueCross) to provide Transplant Services for some or all organ and bone marrow/stem cell transplant procedures Covered under this EOC. Facilities obtain designation as a BDCT by transplant type; therefore, a hospital or facility may be classified as a BDCT for one type of organ or bone marrow/stem cell transplant procedure but not for another type of transplant. This designation is important as it impacts the level of benefit You will receive.
11. **BlueCard PPO Participating Provider(s)** – A physician, hospital, licensed skilled nursing facility, home health care Provider or other Provider who contracts with other Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield licensees, and/or whom We have Authorized to provide Covered Services to Members.
12. **Care Management** – Programs that promote cost effective coordination of care for Members with low-risk health conditions, behavioral health conditions, substance use disorders and/or certain complicated medical or behavioral health needs.
13. **CHIP** – The State Children’s Health Insurance Program established under Title XXI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et. seq.).

14. **Clinical Trial(s)** - Studies performed with human subjects to test new drugs or combinations of drugs, new approaches to Surgery or radiotherapy or procedures to improve the diagnosis of disease and the quality of life of the patient. Such studies are not Authorized by the Administrator.
15. **Coinsurance** – The amount, stated as a percentage of the Maximum Allowable Charge for a Covered Service that is the Member’s responsibility during the Annual Benefit Period after any Deductible is satisfied. The Coinsurance percentage is calculated as 100%, minus the percentage payment of the Maximum Allowable Charge as specified in “Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits”.
16. **Complications of Pregnancy** – Conditions requiring Hospital Confinement (when the pregnancy is not terminated) whose diagnoses are distinct from pregnancy but are adversely affected by pregnancy or caused by pregnancy, such as Acute nephritis, nephrosis, cardiac decompensation, missed abortion, and similar medical and surgical conditions of comparable severity, non-elective caesarian section, ectopic pregnancy that is terminated, and spontaneous termination of pregnancy that occurs during a period of gestation in which a viable birth is not possible.  
  
Complications of Pregnancy does not include false labor; occasional spotting; physician-prescribed rest during the period of pregnancy; morning sickness; hyperemesis gravidarum and similar conditions associated with the management of a difficult pregnancy not constituting a nosologically-distinct Complication of Pregnancy.
17. **Compound Drug(s)** – An outpatient Prescription Drug that is not commercially prepared by a licensed pharmaceutical manufacturer in a dosage form approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and contains at least one ingredient that cannot be dispensed without a Prescription.
18. **Concurrent Review** – The process of evaluating care during the period when Covered Services are being rendered.
19. **Convenience or Convenience Item(s)** – Any service, item, device, software or equipment that is related primarily to the ease or preference of the Member, family, caregiver or Provider rather than to Medical Necessity of care.
20. **Copay(s) or Copayment(s)** – The dollar amount specified in “Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits” that You are required to pay directly to a Provider for certain Covered Services. You must pay such Copayments at the time You receive services.
21. **Cosmetic or Cosmetic Service** – Any surgical or non-surgical treatment, drugs or devices intended to alter or reshape the body for the purpose of improving appearance or self-esteem.
22. **Covered Dependent(s)** – A Subscriber’s family member who: (1) meets the eligibility requirements of this EOC; (2) has been enrolled for Coverage; and (3) for whom the Plan has received the applicable Payment for Coverage.
23. **Covered Family Member** – A Subscriber and his or her Covered Dependents.
24. **Covered Service(s), Coverage or Covered** – Those Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate services and supplies that are set forth in “Attachment A: Covered Services and Exclusions” of this EOC, (that is incorporated by reference). Covered Services are subject to all the terms, conditions, exclusions and limitations of the Plan and this EOC. Covered Services shall not include items or services that are illegal or unlawful when furnished by the Provider.
25. **Custodial Care** – Non-medical care that can reasonably and safely be provided by non-licensed caregivers. This includes, but is not limited to, eating, bathing, dressing or other activities of daily living.
26. **Deductible(s)** – The dollar amount, specified in “Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits”, that You must incur and pay for Covered Services during an Annual Benefit Period before the Plan provides benefits for services.  
  
Copayments, Coinsurance, Penalties and any balance of charges (the difference between Billed Charges and the Maximum Allowable Charge) are not considered when determining if You have satisfied the applicable Deductible.
27. **Effective Date** – The date Your Coverage under this EOC begins.
28. **Emergency** – A sudden and unexpected medical condition, including a mental health condition or substance use disorder, that manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, such that a prudent layperson who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in:

- a) serious impairment of bodily functions; or
- b) serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part; or
- c) placing a prudent layperson's health in serious jeopardy.

Examples of Emergency conditions include: (1) severe chest pain; (2) uncontrollable bleeding; or (3) unconsciousness.

- 29. **Emergency Care Services** – Those services and supplies that are Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate in the treatment of an Emergency and delivered in a hospital Emergency department or a licensed independent freestanding emergency department. Emergency Care Services may include items and services after the Member is stabilized and as part of outpatient observation or an inpatient or outpatient stay related to the Emergency.
- 30. **Employee(s)** – A person who meets Employer's requirements to apply for Coverage under the Plan.
- 31. **Employer** – A corporation, partnership, union or other entity that is eligible for group Coverage under State and Federal laws; and that enters into an Agreement with the Administrator to provide Coverage to its Employees and their eligible dependents.
- 32. **Enrollment Form** – A form or application that must be completed in full by the Employee before he or she will be considered for Coverage under the Plan. The form or application may be in paper form, or electronic, as determined by the Plan Sponsor.
- 33. **ERISA** – The Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended.
- 34. **Hearing Aid(s)** – An instrument to amplify sounds for those with hearing loss. There are 2 types of Hearing Aids: the air conduction type, which is worn in the external acoustic meatus, and the bone conduction type, which is worn in the back of the ear over the mastoid process. Examples of Hearing Aids that would fall within this definition are the Baha<sup>®</sup> system and the Otomag<sup>™</sup> Hearing System. Cochlear implants are a prosthetic and are not considered Hearing Aids.
- 35. **Hospital Confinement** – When You are treated as a registered bed patient at a Hospital or other Provider facility and incur a room and board charge.
- 36. **Hospital Service(s)** – Covered Services that are Medically Appropriate to be provided by an Acute care Hospital.
- 37. **Incapacitated Child** – An unmarried child who is, and continues to be, both (1) incapable of self-sustaining employment by reason of intellectual or physical disability; and (2) chiefly dependent upon the Subscriber or Subscriber's spouse for economic support and maintenance.
  - a) If the child reaches this Plan's Limiting Age while Covered under this Plan, proof of such incapacity and dependency must be furnished within 31 days of when the child reaches the Limiting Age.
  - b) Incapacitated dependents of Subscribers of new groups, or of Subscribers who are newly eligible under this Plan, are eligible for Coverage if they were covered under the Subscriber's or the Subscriber's spouse's previous health benefit plan. We may ask You to furnish proof of the incapacity and dependency upon enrollment and for proof that the child continues to meet the conditions of incapacity and dependency, but not more frequently than annually.
- 38. **Investigational** – The definition of "Investigational" is based on the terms of this Evidence of Coverage, BlueCross' technology evaluation criteria and medical policies. "Investigational" includes Technologies that are experimental. In addition, any Technology that fails to meet **ALL** of the following four criteria may be considered Investigational.
  - a) The Technology must have final approval from the appropriate governmental regulatory bodies, as demonstrated by:
    - 1) This criterion applies to drugs, biological products, devices and any other product or procedure that must have final approval to market from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") or any other federal governmental body with authority to regulate the use of the Technology.
    - 2) Any approval that is granted as an interim step in the FDA or any other federal governmental body's regulatory process is not sufficient.

- b) The scientific evidence must permit conclusions concerning the effect of the Technology on a specific diagnosis, as demonstrated by:
  - 1) The evidence should consist of well-designed and well-conducted investigations published in peer-reviewed journals concerning the use of a Technology for a specific diagnosis. The quality of the body of studies and the consistency of the results are considered in evaluating the evidence.
  - 2) The evidence should demonstrate that the Technology could measure or alter the physiological changes related to a disease, injury, illness, or condition. In addition, there should be evidence or a convincing argument based on established medical facts that such measurement or alteration affects health outcomes for a specific diagnosis.
- c) The Technology must improve the net health outcome, as demonstrated by:
  - 1) The Technology's beneficial effects on health outcomes should outweigh any harmful effects on health outcomes.
- d) The improvement must be attainable outside the Investigational settings, as demonstrated by:
  - 1) In reviewing the criteria above, the medical policy panel will consider physician specialty society recommendations, the view of prudent medical Practitioners practicing in relevant clinical areas and any other relevant factors.

When Coverage is not addressed by this EOC, applicable medical policy, or third-party clinical guidelines adopted by BlueCross, or You have unusual, rare, or unique circumstances relating to Your condition as determined by the Medical Director, then the Medical Director, in accordance with applicable ERISA standards, shall have discretionary authority to make a determination concerning whether a service or supply is Investigational. If the Medical Director does not Authorize the provision of a service or supply, it will not be a Covered Service. In making such determinations, the Medical Director shall rely upon any or all of the following, at his or her discretion:

- a) Your medical records, or
  - b) the protocol(s) under which proposed service or supply is to be delivered, or
  - c) any consent document that You have executed or will be asked to execute, in order to receive the proposed service or supply, or
  - d) the published authoritative medical or scientific literature regarding the proposed service or supply in connection with the treatment of injuries or illnesses such as those experienced by You, or
  - e) regulations or other official publications issued by the FDA and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), or
  - f) the opinions of any entities that contract with the Plan to assess and coordinate the treatment of Members requiring non-experimental or Investigational services, or
  - g) the findings of the BlueCross BlueShield Association Technology Evaluation Center or other similar qualified evaluation entities.
39. **Limiting Age (or Dependent Child Limiting Age)** – The age at which a child will no longer be considered an eligible dependent.
40. **Maximum Allowable Charge** – The amount that the Administrator, at its discretion, has determined to be the maximum amount payable for a Covered Service. For Covered Services provided by Network Providers, that determination will be based upon the Administrator's contract with the Network Provider for Covered Services rendered by that Provider. For Covered Services provided by Out-of-Network Providers, the amount payable will be based upon the Administrator's Out-of-Network fee schedule for the Covered Services rendered by Out-of-Network Providers, or as otherwise determined in accordance with the requirements of applicable state or federal law.
41. **Medicaid** – The program for medical assistance established under Title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et. seq.).

42. **Medical Director** – The physician designated by the Administrator, or that physician’s designee, who is responsible for the administration of the Administrator’s medical management programs, including its Prior Authorization program.
43. **Medically Appropriate** – Services that have been determined by BlueCross, in its sole discretion, to be of value in the care of a specific Member. To be Medically Appropriate, a service must:
- a) be Medically Necessary;
  - b) be consistent with generally accepted standards of medical practice for the Member’s medical condition;
  - c) be provided in the most appropriate site and at the most appropriate level of service for the Member’s medical condition;
  - d) not be provided solely to improve a Member’s condition beyond normal variation in individual development, appearance and aging; and
  - e) not be for the sole Convenience of the Provider, Member or Member’s family.
44. **Medically Necessary or Medical Necessity** –Procedures, treatments, supplies, devices, equipment, facilities or drugs (all services) that a medical Practitioner, exercising prudent clinical judgment, would provide to a Member for the purpose of preventing, evaluating, diagnosing or treating an illness, injury or disease or its symptoms, and that are: (1) in accordance with generally accepted standards of medical practice; and (2) clinically appropriate in terms of type, frequency, extent, site and duration and considered effective for the Member’s illness, injury or disease; and (3) not primarily for the Convenience of the Member, physician or other health care Provider; and (4) not more costly than an alternative service or sequence of services at least as likely to produce equivalent therapeutic or diagnostic results as to the diagnosis or treatment of that Member’s illness, injury or disease.
- For these purposes, "generally accepted standards of medical practice" means standards that are based on credible scientific evidence published in peer-reviewed medical literature generally recognized by the relevant medical community, physician specialty society recommendations, and the views of medical Practitioners practicing in relevant clinical areas and any other relevant factors. The definition of “Medically Necessary or Medical Necessity” applies to both medical services and Behavioral Health Services.
45. **Medicare** – Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, as amended, and coverage under this program.
46. **Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)** – The use of medications, in combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to provide a “whole-patient” approach to the treatment of substance use disorders..
47. **Member(s), You or Your** – Any person enrolled as a Subscriber or Covered Dependent under the Plan.
48. **Member Payment(s)** – The dollar amounts for Covered Services that You are responsible for as set forth in “Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits”, including Copayments, Deductibles, Coinsurance and Penalties.
49. **Network Benefit** – The Plan’s payment level that applies to Covered Services received from a Network Provider. See “Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits”.
50. **Network Provider(s)** – A Provider who has contracted with the Administrator to provide Covered Services to Members at specified rates. Such Providers may also be referred to as BlueCard Participating Providers, participating hospitals, etc. Some Providers may have contracted with the Administrator to provide a limited set of Covered Services, such as only Emergency Care Services, and are treated as Network Providers for this limited set of Covered Services.
51. **Non-Contracted Provider(s)** – A Provider in a category or type that collectively does not hold a contract with BlueCross. A Provider’s status as a Non-Contracted Provider, Network Provider, or Out-of-Network Provider can and does change.
52. **Open Enrollment Period** – Those periods of time established by the Plan during which Employees and their dependents may enroll as Members.
53. **Oral Appliance(s)** – A device placed in the mouth and used to treat mild to moderate obstructive sleep apnea by repositioning or stabilizing the lower jaw, tongue, soft palate or uvula. An Oral Appliance may also be used to treat temporomandibular joint syndrome or dysfunction (TMJ or TMD) by stabilizing the jaw joint. An Oral Appliance is not the same as an occlusal splint, which is used to treat malocclusion or misalignment of teeth.



54. **Out-of-Network Provider(s)** – Any Provider who does not have a contract with the Administrator to provide Covered Services and who is not a Non-Contracted Provider.
55. **Out-of-Pocket Maximum(s)** – The total dollar amount, as stated in “Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits”, that a Member must incur and pay for Covered Services during the Annual Benefit Period.
56. **Payment(s)** – The total Payment for Coverage under the Plan, including amounts paid by You and the Employer for such Coverage.
57. **Payor(s)** – An insurer, health maintenance organization, no-fault liability insurer, self-insurer or other entity that provides or pays for a Member’s health care benefits.
58. **Penalty(ies)** – An increase in the amount You pay as a result of failure to comply with established requirements. Penalties do not apply to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum.
59. **Pharmacy(ies)** – A state or federally licensed establishment that is physically separate and apart from the office of a Practitioner, and where Prescription Drugs are dispensed by a pharmacist licensed to dispense such drugs under the laws of the state in which he or she practices.
60. **Practitioner(s)** – A person licensed by the State to provide medical or Behavioral Health Services
61. . The services provided by a Practitioner must be within his or her specialty or scope of practice.
62. **Prescription(s)** – A written or verbal order issued by a Practitioner for a drug or medical equipment.
63. **Prescription Drug(s)** – A medication that may not be dispensed under applicable state or federal law without a Prescription.
64. **Preventive Health Exam** – An assessment of health status for the purpose of maintaining health and detecting disease in its early state.
65. **Primary Care Practitioner(s)** – A Primary Care Practitioner is a doctor, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner practicing general internal medicine, general practice, family medicine, pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology or behavioral health. Whether a Practitioner is classified as a Primary Care Practitioner depends on the nature of the services provided, and how the claim is filed.
66. **Prior Authorization** – A review conducted by the Administrator, pursuant to the terms of this EOC.
67. **Provider(s)** – A Practitioner or entity engaged in the delivery of health services that is licensed, certified and practicing in accordance with applicable state and federal laws.
68. **Qualified Medical Child Support Order** – A medical child support order, issued by a court of competent jurisdiction or state administrative agency that creates or recognizes the existence of a child’s right to receive benefits for which a Subscriber is eligible under the Plan. Such order shall identify the Subscriber and each such child by name and last known mailing address; give a description of the type and duration of coverage to be provided to each child; and identify each health plan to which such order applies.
69. **Rescind or Rescission(s)** – A retroactive termination of Coverage because You committed fraud or made an intentional misrepresentation of a material fact in connection with Coverage. Actions that are fraudulent or an intentional misrepresentation of a material fact include, but are not limited to, knowingly enrolling or attempting to enroll an ineligible individual in Coverage, permitting the improper use of Your ID card, or claim fraud. A Rescission does not include a situation in which the Plan retroactively terminates Coverage in the ordinary course of business for a period for which You did not submit the Payment. An example would be if You left Your job on January 31, but Coverage was not terminated until March 15. In that situation, the Plan may retroactively terminate Your Coverage effective February 1 if You did not submit any Payment after You left Your job (subject to any right You may have to elect continuation coverage). This is not a Rescission.
70. **Specialty Drug(s)** – Injectable, infusion and select oral medications that require complex care, including special handling, patient education and continuous monitoring. Specialty Drugs are categorized as Provider-administered in this EOC.
71. **Subscriber(s)** – An Employee who meets all applicable eligibility requirements, has enrolled for Coverage and has submitted the applicable Payment for Coverage.
72. **Surgery(ies) or Surgical Procedure(s)** – Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate Surgeries or procedures. Surgeries involve an excision or incision of the body’s skin or mucosal tissues, treatment of broken

or dislocated bones, and/or insertion of instruments for exploratory or diagnostic purposes into a natural body opening.

73. **Telehealth** – Remote consultation that meets Medical Necessity criteria.
74. **Transplant Network** – A network of hospitals and facilities, each of which has agreed to perform specific organ transplants. A hospital or facility may be in Our Transplant Network for one type of organ or bone marrow/stem cell transplant procedure but not for another type of transplant. The Transplant Network is not the same as the Blue Distinction Centers for Transplants (BDCT) Network.
75. **Transplant Service(s)** – Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate services listed as Covered under the “Organ Transplants – All Other Transplants, Excluding Kidney” and “Organ Transplants – Kidney” sections in “Attachment A: Covered Services and Exclusions” of this EOC.
76. **Urgent Care** – Medical care or treatment that, if delayed or denied, could seriously jeopardize: (1) the life or health of the claimant; or (2) the claimant’s ability to regain maximum function. Urgent Care is also medical care or treatment that, if delayed or denied, in the opinion of a physician with knowledge of the claimant’s medical condition, would subject the claimant to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the medical care or treatment. A claim for denied Urgent Care is always a pre-service claim.
77. **Urgent Care Center** – A medical clinic with expanded hours that operates in a location distinct from a freestanding or hospital-based Emergency department.
78. **Utilization Policy(ies)** – Refers to any policy, guideline or limitation used by BlueCross in the determination of Coverage.
79. **Waiting Period** – The time that must pass before an Employee or dependent is eligible to be Covered for benefits under the Plan.
80. **Well Child Care** – A routine visit to a pediatrician or other qualified Practitioner to include Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate Preventive Health Exams, immunizations and injections for children through age 5.
81. **Well Woman Exam** – A routine visit every Annual Benefit Period to a Provider. The visit may include Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate mammogram and cervical cancer screenings.

**ATTACHMENT A:  
COVERED SERVICES AND EXCLUSIONS**

**EVIDENCE OF COVERAGE**

Plan benefits are based on the Maximum Allowable Charge for Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate services and supplies described in this attachment and provided in accordance with the benefit schedules set forth in “Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits”.

To be eligible for benefits, all services or supplies must be provided in accordance with this EOC, applicable medical policies, third-party clinical guidelines adopted by BlueCross, and Utilization Policies. See the “Prior Authorization, Care Management, Medical Policy and Patient Safety” section for more information.

This Attachment sets forth Covered Services and exclusions (services not Covered) arranged according to type of services. An item or service, to be a Covered Service, must not be illegal or unlawful when rendered by the Provider.

**Please also read “Attachment B: Other Exclusions”.**

**Your benefits are typically greater when You use Network Providers. BlueCross contracts with Network Providers. Network Providers have agreed to accept the Maximum Allowable Charge as basis for payment to the Provider for Covered Services. (See the “Definitions” section for an explanation of Maximum Allowable Charge and Covered Services.) Network Providers have also agreed not to bill You for amounts above the Maximum Allowable Charge.**

**Out-of-Network Providers do not have a contract with BlueCross. This means they may be able to charge You more than the Maximum Allowable Charge (the amount set by the Administrator in its contracts with Network Providers). When You use an Out-of-Network Provider for Covered Services, You may be responsible for any unpaid Billed Charges. This means that You may owe the Out-of-Network Provider a large amount of money, depending on the nature of the Covered Services rendered.**

**All services and supplies not listed as a Covered Service in this EOC or not in accordance with applicable medical policies, third-party clinical guidelines adopted by BlueCross, and Utilization Policies may result in a reduction in reimbursement for otherwise eligible Covered Services.**

**Obtaining Prior Authorization is not a guarantee of Coverage. All provisions of the EOC must be satisfied before benefits for Covered Services will be provided. Utilization Policies can help Your Provider determine if a proposed service will be Covered.**

When more than one treatment alternative exists, each is Medically Appropriate and Medically Necessary, and each would meet Your needs, We reserve the right to provide payment for the least expensive Covered Service alternative.
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A Clinical Trial is a prospective biomedical or behavioral research study of human subjects that is designed to answer specific questions about biomedical or behavioral interventions (vaccines, drugs, treatments, devices, or new ways of using known drugs, treatments, or devices). Clinical Trials are used to determine whether new biomedical or behavioral interventions are safe, efficacious, and effective. **Only routine patient care associated with a Clinical Trial (but not the Clinical Trial itself) will be Covered under the Plan’s benefits in accordance with this EOC, applicable medical policies, third-party clinical guidelines adopted by BlueCross, and Utilization Policies.**

## **A. Practitioner Office Services**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate services in a Practitioner's office.

### 1. Covered Services

- a) Diagnosis and treatment of illness or injury. Note that allergy skin testing is Covered only in the Practitioner office setting. RAST (radioallergosorbent test), FAST (fluorescent allergosorbent test), or MAST (multiple radioallergosorbent test) allergy testing is Covered in the Practitioner office setting and in a licensed laboratory.
- b) Injections and medications administered in a Practitioner's office, except Specialty Drugs. See the Specialty Drugs section for information on Coverage.
- c) Second surgical opinions given by a Practitioner who is not in the same medical group as the Practitioner who initially recommended the Surgery.
- d) Rehabilitative therapies, subject to the limitations of the "Therapeutic/Rehabilitative Services" section.
- e) Telehealth.
- f) Preventive/Well care services.

Preventive Health Exam and related services for adults and children in accordance with federal regulations, as outlined below and performed by the physician during the Preventive Health Exam or referred by the physician as appropriate, including, but not limited to:

- 1) Screenings and counseling services with an A or B recommendation by the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF);
  - 2) Bright Futures recommendations for infants, children and adolescents supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA);
  - 3) Preventive care and screening for women as provided in the guidelines supported by HRSA; and
  - 4) Immunizations recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) that have been adopted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- g) Coverage may be limited as indicated in "Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits."

### 2. Exclusions

- a) Routine foot care for the treatment of: (1) flat feet; (2) corns; (3) bunions; (4) calluses; (5) toenails; (6) fallen arches; and (7) weak feet or chronic foot strain.
- b) Dental procedures, except as otherwise indicated in this EOC.

## **B. Inpatient Acute Hospital Services**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate services and supplies in a hospital that: (1) is a licensed Acute care institution; (2) provides inpatient services; (3) has surgical and medical facilities primarily for the diagnosis and treatment of disease or injury; and (4) has a staff of physicians licensed to practice medicine and provides 24 hour nursing care. Psychiatric hospitals are not required to have a surgical facility.

Prior Authorization for Covered Services (except initial maternity admission and Emergency admissions) must be obtained from the Administrator or benefits will be reduced.

### 1. Covered Services

- a) Room and board; general nursing care; medications, injections, diagnostic services and special care units.
- b) Attending Practitioner's services for professional care.
- c) Maternity and delivery services, including routine nursery care and Complications of Pregnancy. If the hospital or physician provides services to the baby and submits a claim in the baby's name, benefits may be Covered for the baby and mother as separate Members, requiring payment of applicable Member Copayments, Coinsurance and/or Deductibles.

2. Exclusions

- a) Inpatient stays for services and conditions that don't require intensity of care and services and/or specialty care that can be performed outside of an Acute care setting.
- b) Private duty nursing.
- c) Services that could be provided in a less-intensive setting.
- d) Blood or plasma provided at no charge to the patient.

**C. Emergency Care Services**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate health care services and supplies furnished in an Emergency department of a hospital or a licensed independent freestanding Emergency department that are required to determine, evaluate and/or treat an Emergency until such condition is stabilized, as directed or ordered by the Practitioner or facility protocol.

If You go to a Network Provider, You will receive the highest level of benefits for Covered Services and may not be billed for amounts over Your Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum, which limits Your liability. Not all Providers are in Your network. Please use the Provider directory on [bcbst.com](http://bcbst.com) or contact one of Our consumer advisors to see which Providers are in Your network.

For Emergency Care Services, You cannot be billed for amounts over Your Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum, even if the Covered Services are rendered by an Out-of-Network Provider.

1. Covered Services

- a) Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate Emergency Care Services, supplies and medications necessary for the diagnosis and stabilization of Your Emergency condition. In certain cases, Emergency Care Services may include items and services after the Member is stabilized and as part of outpatient observation or an inpatient or outpatient stay related to the Emergency.
- b) Practitioner services.

An observation stay and/or Surgery that occurs in conjunction with an Emergency Room (ER) visit may be subject to Member cost share under the "Outpatient Facility Services" section of "Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits" in addition to Member cost share for the ER visit.

2. Exclusions

- a) Services rendered for inpatient care or transfer to another facility once Your medical condition has stabilized, unless Prior Authorization is obtained from the Administrator within two business days from the inpatient admission.

**D. Ambulance Services**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate ground or air transportation, services, supplies and medications by a licensed ambulance service when time or technical expertise is essential to reduce the probability of harm to You. Prior Authorization may be required for certain air ambulance services.

1. Covered Services

- a) Ambulance Services – Air

- 1) Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate air transportation from the scene of an accident or Emergency resulting in complex trauma, high risk injuries, or life-threatening medical emergencies to the nearest hospital with adequate facilities for evaluation and initial management. Air transportation is Covered only when Your condition requires immediate and rapid transport that cannot be provided by ground transport.
- 2) Air transportation for inter-facility transfers when Medically Necessary treatment, services, or care are not available at the sending facility. The transfer must be to the nearest appropriate facility that is able to provide Medically Necessary care. Air transportation is Covered only when Your condition requires transport that cannot be provided by ground transport.

b) Ambulance Services – Ground

- 1) Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate ground transportation from the scene of an accident or Emergency to the nearest hospital with adequate facilities for evaluation and management.
- 2) Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate treatment at the scene (paramedic services) without ambulance transportation.
- 3) Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate ground transport when Your condition requires basic or advanced life support, or safe transportation to site of service for the necessary level of care in the absence of appropriate alternatives.

2. Exclusions

- a) Transportation for the Convenience of You, or reasons other than Medically Necessary treatment and care for You, such as the needs or Convenience of Your family and/or Your physician or other Provider.
- b) Transportation that is not essential to reduce the probability of harm to You.
- c) Transportation for specific Provider or facility continuity of care when there are closer facilities able to provide the same services and level of care.

**E. Outpatient Facility Services**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate diagnostics, therapies and Surgery occurring in an outpatient facility that includes outpatient Surgery centers, the outpatient center of a hospital, outpatient diagnostic centers, and certain surgical suites in a Practitioner’s office. Prior Authorization is required for certain outpatient services; if Prior Authorization is not obtained, benefits will be reduced.

1. Covered Services

- a) Practitioner services.
- b) Outpatient diagnostics (such as x-rays and laboratory services).
- c) Outpatient treatments (such as medications and injections).
- d) Outpatient Surgery and supplies.
- e) Observation stays less than 24 hours.
- f) Rehabilitative therapies, subject to the limitations of the “Therapeutic/Rehabilitative Services” section.
- g) Telehealth.

2. Exclusions

- a) Services that could be provided in a less-intensive setting.

**F. Family Planning and Reproductive Services**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate family planning services and those services to diagnose and treat diseases that may adversely affect fertility.

1. Covered Services

- a) Benefits for family planning, history, physical examination, diagnostic testing until infertility treatment begins and genetic testing for family planning.
- b) Sterilization procedures.
- c) Services or supplies for the evaluation of infertility.
- d) Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate termination of a pregnancy.
- e) Injectable and implantable contraceptives and vaginal barrier methods including initial fitting, insertion, and removal.

## 2. Exclusions

- a) Services or supplies that are designed to create a pregnancy, enhance fertility or improve conception quality, including but not limited to: (1) artificial insemination; (2) in vitro fertilization; (3) fallopian tube reconstruction; (4) uterine reconstruction; (5) assisted reproductive technology (ART) including but not limited to, gamete and zygote intrafallopian transfer (GIFT and ZIFT); (6) fertility injections;(7) fertility drugs, and (8) services for follow-up care related to infertility treatments.
- b) Services or supplies for the reversals of sterilizations.
- c) Induced abortion, unless (1) the abortion is permissive under applicable law and the health care Practitioner submits an attestation regarding the same; AND (2) one or more of the following circumstances exists and the health care Practitioner so attests: (i) the abortion is necessary to prevent the death of the Member or to prevent serious risk of substantial harm to the Member; (ii) the fetus is not viable; (iii) the pregnancy is the result of rape or incest; or (iv) the fetus has been diagnosed with a lethal or otherwise significant abnormality.

### **G. Reconstructive Surgery**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate Surgical Procedures intended to restore normal form or function.

Prior Authorization for Covered Services must be obtained from the Administrator or benefits will be reduced.

#### 1. Covered Services

- a) Surgery to correct significant defects, from congenital causes, accidents or disfigurement from a disease state that result in functional impairment.
- b) Reconstructive breast Surgery as a result of a mastectomy or partial mastectomy (other than lumpectomy) including Surgery on the non-diseased breast needed to establish symmetry between the two breasts.

#### 2. Exclusions

- a) Services, supplies or prosthetics primarily to improve appearance.
- b) Surgeries to correct or repair the results of a prior Surgical Procedure, the primary purpose of which was to improve appearance, and surgeries to improve appearance following a prior Surgical Procedure, even if that prior procedure was a Covered Service.
- c) Voice modification Surgery or voice therapy.
- d) Transportation, meals, lodging, or similar expenses.
- e) Surgeries and related services to change gender (transsexual Surgery), furnished to a Member under age 18, unless such services are (1) permissive under applicable law and the health care Practitioner submits an attestation regarding the same; and (2) Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate.

### **H. Skilled Nursing/Rehabilitative Facility Services**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate inpatient care provided to Members requiring medical, rehabilitative or nursing care in a restorative setting. Services shall be considered separate and distinct from the levels of Acute care rendered in a hospital setting, or custodial or functional care rendered in a nursing home. Prior Authorization for Covered Services must be obtained from the Administrator, or benefits will be reduced.

#### 1. Covered Services

- a) Room and board; general nursing care; medications, diagnostics and special care units.
- b) The attending Practitioner's services for professional care.
- c) Coverage is limited as indicated in "Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits".
- d) Therapy services such as physical and occupational therapy.

2. Exclusions

- a) Custodial or domiciliary or private duty nursing services.
- b) Skilled nursing services not received in a Medicare-certified skilled nursing facility.
- c) Inpatient neurocognitive therapy, unless it is provided in combination with other Medically Necessary treatment or therapy.

**I. Therapeutic/Rehabilitative Services**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate therapeutic and rehabilitative services performed in a Practitioner's office, outpatient facility or home health setting and intended to restore or improve bodily function lost as the result of Acute illness, Acute injury, autism spectrum disorder, or congenital anomaly.

Therapeutic/Rehabilitative services may require Prior Authorization.

1. Covered Services

- a) Outpatient, home health or office therapeutic and rehabilitative services that are expected to result in significant and measurable improvement in Your condition resulting from an Acute illness, Acute injury, autism spectrum disorder, or congenital anomaly. The services must be performed by, or under the direct supervision of a licensed therapist.
- b) Therapeutic/rehabilitative services include: (1) physical therapy; (2) speech therapy for restoration of speech; (3) occupational therapy; (4) spinal manipulation therapy; and (5) cardiac and pulmonary rehabilitative services.
  - 1) Speech therapy is Covered only for disorders of articulation and swallowing, resulting from Acute illness, Acute injury, stroke, autism spectrum disorder, or congenital anomaly.
- c) Telehealth.
- d) Coverage is limited as indicated in "Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits".
  - 1) The limit on the number of visits for therapy applies to all visits for that therapy, whether received in a Practitioner's office, outpatient facility or home health setting.
  - 2) Services received during an inpatient hospital, skilled nursing or rehabilitative facility stay are Covered as shown in the Inpatient Acute Care Hospital Services and Skilled Nursing/Rehabilitative Facility Services sections, and are not subject to the therapy visit limits.

2. Exclusions

- a) Enhancement therapy that is designed to improve Your physical status beyond Your pre-injury or pre-illness state.
- b) Complementary and alternative therapeutic services, including, but not limited to: (1) massage therapy; (2) acupuncture; (3) craniosacral therapy; and (4) vision exercise therapy.
- c) Modalities that do not require the attendance or supervision of a licensed therapist. These include, but are not limited to: (1) activities that are primarily social or recreational in nature; (2) simple exercise programs; (3) hot and cold packs applied in the absence of associated therapy modalities; (4) repetitive exercises or tasks that You can perform without a therapist, in a home setting; (5) routine dressing changes; and (6) custodial services that can ordinarily be taught to You or a caregiver.
- d) Duplicate therapy. For example, when You receive both occupational and speech therapy, the therapies should provide different treatments and not duplicate the same treatment.

**J. Organ Transplants - All Organ Transplants, Excluding Kidney**

Organ transplant benefits are complex. In order to maximize Your benefits, You are **strongly encouraged** to contact the Administrator's Transplant Case Management department by calling the number on the back of Your ID card as soon as Your Practitioner tells You that You might need a transplant.



### 1. Prior Authorization

Transplant Services require Prior Authorization. Transplant Services that have not received Prior Authorization will not be Covered.

### 2. Benefits

Transplant benefits are different than benefits for other services.

If a facility in the Blue Distinction Centers for Transplants (BDCT) Network is not used, benefits may be subject to reduced levels as outlined in the Schedule of Benefits. All Transplant Services must meet medical criteria for the medical condition for which the transplant is recommended.

You have access to three levels of benefits:

- a. **Blue Distinction Centers for Transplants (BDCT) Network:** If You have a transplant performed at a facility in the BDCT Network, You will receive the highest level of benefits for Covered Services. The administrator will pay at the benefit level listed in “Schedule of Benefits” for the BDCT Network. A facility in the BDCT Network cannot bill You for any amount over Your Out-of-Pocket Maximum, which limits Your liability. **Not all Network Providers are in the BDCT Network. Please check with the Transplant Case Management department to determine which facilities are in the BDCT Network for Your specific transplant type.**
- b. **Transplant Network:** If You want to receive the maximum benefit, You should use a facility in the BDCT Network. If You instead have a transplant performed at a facility in the Transplant Network (non-BDCT), the Administrator will pay at the benefit level listed in “Schedule of Benefits” for the Transplant Network. **Not all Network Providers are in the Transplant Network. Please check with the Transplant Case Management department to determine if the Transplant Network is the best network available for Your specific transplant type.**
- c. **Out-of-Network transplants:** If You have a transplant performed at a facility that is not in the BDCT Network or Transplant Network, You will receive the lowest level of benefits for Covered Services. The Administrator will pay at the benefit level listed in “Schedule of Benefits” for Out-of-Network Providers. **The Out-of-Network Provider has the right to bill You for any unpaid Billed Charges; this amount may be substantial. Please check with the Transplant Case Management department to determine if there are facilities available in the BDCT or Transplant Network for Your specific transplant type.**

Note: When the BDCT Network does not include a facility that performs Your specific transplant type, the Plan will pay at the benefit level listed in “Schedule of Benefits” for either the Transplant Network or for Out-of-Network Provider, based on the facility that is used.

### 3. Covered Services

Benefits are payable for the following transplants if Medical Necessity and Medically Appropriate is determined and Prior Authorization is obtained:

- Pancreas
- Pancreas/Kidney
- Liver
- Heart
- Heart/Lung
- Lung
- Bone Marrow or Stem Cell transplant (allogeneic and autologous) for certain conditions
- Small Bowel
- Multi-organ transplants as deemed Medically Necessary

Benefits may be available for other organ transplant procedures that are not Investigational and that are Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate.

#### 4. Organ and Tissue Procurement

Organ and tissue acquisition/procurement are Covered Services, subject to the benefit level listed in “Schedule of Benefits” and limited to the services directly related to the Transplant itself:

- Donor Search
- Testing for donor’s compatibility
- Removal of the organ/tissue from the donor’s body
- Preservation of the organ/tissue
- Transportation of the tissue/organ to the site of transplant
- Donor follow up care directly related to the organ donation, except as otherwise indicated under Exclusions

Note: Covered Services for the donor are Covered only to the extent not covered by other health coverage.

#### 5. Travel Expenses

**Travel Expenses for Transplant Services are Covered only if You go to a facility in the BDCT Network.**

Covered travel expenses must be approved by the Transplant Case Management department and include travel to and from the facility in the BDCT Network for a Covered transplant procedure and required pre-testing and post-transplant follow-up. Any travel expenses for follow-up visits occurring more than 12 months from the date of the transplant are not Covered.

Covered travel expenses will not apply to the Deductible or Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

- Meals and lodging expenses are Covered up to \$150 per day, subject to the following:
  - Lodging expenses are limited to \$50 per person per day
  - Meals are only Covered when provided at the facility where You are receiving inpatient medical care.
  - The aggregate limit for travel expenses, including meals and lodging, is \$10,000 per Covered transplant.

For full details on available travel expenses, visit [bcbst.com](http://bcbst.com) to review Our administrative services policy. Enter “travel, meals and lodging” in the *Search* field.

#### 6. Exclusions

The following services, supplies and charges are not Covered under this section:

- a. Transplant and related services, including donor services, that did not receive Prior Authorization;
- b. Any attempted Covered procedure that was not performed, except where such failure is beyond Your control;
- c. Non-Covered Services;
- d. Services that would be covered by any private or public research fund, regardless of whether You applied for or received amounts from such fund;
- e. Any non-human, artificial or mechanical organ not determined to be Medically Necessary;
- f. Payment to an organ donor or the donor’s family as compensation for an organ, or payment required to obtain written consent to donate an organ;

- g. Removal of an organ from a Member for purposes of transplantation into another person, except as Covered by the Donor Organ Procurement provision as described above;
- h. Harvest, procurement, and storage of stem cells, whether obtained from peripheral blood, cord blood, or bone marrow when reinfusion is not scheduled or anticipated to be scheduled within an appropriate time frame for the patient's covered stem cell transplant diagnosis;
- i. Other non-organ transplants (e.g., cornea) are not Covered under this Section, but may be Covered as an Inpatient Acute Care Hospital Service or Outpatient Facility Service, if Medically Necessary;
- j. Complications, side effects or injuries for the organ donor as a result of organ donation.

### **Organ Transplants – Kidney**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate kidney transplant and related services.

You are encouraged to contact Our Transplant Case Management department by calling the number on the back of Your Member ID card as soon as Your Practitioner tells You that You might need a kidney transplant.

Prior Authorization for Covered Services must be obtained from the Plan, or benefits will be reduced.

#### 1. Covered Services

- a. Room and board; general nursing care; medications; injections; diagnostic services; and special care units.
- b. Attending Practitioner's services for professional care.

#### 2. Kidney Procurement

Kidney acquisition/procurement are Covered Services, subject to the benefit level listed in "Schedule of Benefits" and limited to the services directly related to the Transplant Service itself:

- a. Donor search.
- b. Testing for donor's compatibility.
- c. Removal of the kidney from the donor's body.
- d. Preservation of the kidney.
- e. Transportation of the kidney to the site of transplant.
- f. Donor follow-up care directly related to the kidney donation, except as otherwise indicated under Exclusions.

Note: Covered Services for the donor are Covered only to the extent not covered by other health coverage.

#### 3. Travel Expenses for Kidney Recipients

- a) Covered travel expenses must be approved by the Transplant Case Management department and include travel to and from the facility for a Covered kidney transplant procedure and required pre-testing and post-transplant follow-up. Any travel expenses for follow-up visits occurring more than 12 months from the date of the kidney transplant are not Covered. In many cases, travel will not be approved for kidney transplants.
- b) Covered travel expenses will not apply to the Deductible or Out-of-Pocket Maximum.
- c) Meals and lodging expenses are Covered up to \$150 per day, subject to the following:
  - 1) Lodging expenses are limited to \$50 per person per day.
  - 2) Meals are only Covered when provided at the facility where You are receiving inpatient medical care.
- d) The aggregate limit for travel expenses, including meals and lodging, is \$10,000 per Covered kidney transplant.

For full details on available travel expenses, visit [bcbst.com](http://bcbst.com) to review Our administrative services policy. Enter “travel, meals and lodging” in the *Search* field.

### 3. Exclusions

The following services, supplies and charges are not Covered under this section:

- a. Kidney transplant and related services, including donor services, which did not receive Prior Authorization.
- b. Services that would be covered by any private or public research fund, regardless of whether You applied for or received amounts from such fund.
- c. Any non-human, artificial or mechanical kidney not determined to be Medically Necessary.
- d. Payment to an organ donor or the donor’s family as compensation for a kidney, or payment required to obtain written consent to donate a kidney.
- e. Removal of a kidney from a Member for purposes of transplantation into another person, except as Covered by the kidney procurement provision as described above.
- f. Complications, side effects or injuries for the organ donor as a result of kidney donation.

### **K. Dental Services**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate services performed by a doctor of dental Surgery (DDS), a doctor of medical dentistry (DMD) or any Practitioner licensed to perform dental-related oral Surgery except as indicated below.

#### 1. Covered Services

- a) Dental services and oral surgical care to treat head and neck cancer, or to treat accidental injury to the jaw, sound natural teeth, mouth, or face, due to external trauma. The Surgery and services to treat accidental injury must be started within 3 months and completed within 12 months of the accident.
- b) For dental services not listed in subsection a. above, general anesthesia, nursing and related hospital expenses in connection with an inpatient or outpatient dental procedure are Covered, only when one of the conditions listed below is met.

#### **Prior Authorization for inpatient services is required.**

- 1) Complex oral Surgical Procedures that have a high probability of complications due to the nature of the Surgery;
  - 2) Concomitant systemic disease for which the patient is under current medical management and that significantly increases the probability of complications;
  - 3) Mental health disorder or intellectual and developmental disability that precludes dental Surgery in the office;
  - 4) Use of general anesthesia and the Member’s medical condition requires that such procedure be performed in a hospital; or
  - 5) Dental treatment or Surgery performed on a Member 8 years of age or younger, where such procedure cannot be provided safely in a dental office setting.
- c) Extraction of impacted teeth, including wisdom teeth.
  - d) Oral Appliances to treat obstructive sleep apnea, if Medically Necessary.

#### 2. Exclusions

- a) Routine dental care and related services including, but not limited to: (1) crowns; (2) caps; (3) plates; (4) bridges; (5) dental x-rays; (6) fillings; (7) tooth extraction, except as listed above; (8) periodontal Surgery; (9) root canals (10) preventive care (cleanings, x-rays); (11) replacement of teeth (including

implants, false teeth, bridges); (12) bone grafts (alveolar Surgery); (13) treatment of injuries caused by biting and chewing; (14) treatment of teeth roots; and (15) treatment of gums surrounding the teeth.

- b) Treatment for correction of underbite, overbite, and misalignment of the teeth, including, but not limited to, braces for dental indications, and occlusal splints and occlusal appliances to treat malocclusion/misalignment of teeth. This exclusion does not apply to Medically Necessary orthognathic Surgery.

#### **L. Temporomandibular Joint Dysfunction (TMJ)**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate services, performed by a doctor of dental surgery (DDS), a doctor of medical dentistry (DMD) or any Practitioner licensed to perform dental-related oral Surgery, to diagnose and treat temporomandibular joint syndrome or dysfunction (TMJ or TMD).

##### 1. Covered Services

- a) Diagnosis and treatment of TMJ or TMD, including, but not limited to, diagnostic study casts and Oral Appliances to stabilize the jaw joint.

##### 2. Exclusions

- a) Treatment for routine dental care and related services including, but not limited to: (1) crowns; (2) caps; (3) plates; (4) bridges; (5) dental x-rays; (6) fillings; (7) periodontal Surgery; (8) tooth extraction; (9) root canals; (10) preventive care (cleanings, x-rays); (11) replacement of teeth (including implants, false teeth, bridges); (12) bone grafts (alveolar Surgery); (13) treatment of injuries caused by biting and chewing; (14) treatment of teeth roots; and (15) treatment of gums surrounding the teeth.
- b) Treatment for correction of underbite, overbite, and misalignment of the teeth including braces for dental indications.

#### **M. Diagnostic Services**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate diagnostic radiology services and laboratory tests. Prior Authorization for Advanced Radiological Imaging services must be obtained from the Administrator, or benefits will be reduced.

##### 1. Covered Services.

- a) Imaging services ordered by a Practitioner, including x-ray, ultrasound, 3D mammogram, bone density test, and Advanced Radiological Imaging services.
- b) Diagnostic laboratory services ordered by a Practitioner.

##### 2. Exclusions

- a) Diagnostic services not ordered by a Practitioner.

#### **N. Durable Medical Equipment (DME)**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate medical equipment or items that: (1) in the absence of illness or injury, are of no medical or other value to You; (2) can withstand repeated use in an ambulatory or home setting; (3) require a Prescription; (4) are approved by the FDA for the illness or injury for which it is prescribed; and (5) are not solely for Your Convenience.

Prior Authorization is required for certain DME; if Prior Authorization is not obtained, benefits will be reduced.

##### 1. Covered Services

- a) Rental of DME - Maximum allowable rental charge not to exceed the total Maximum Allowable Charge for purchase. If You rent the same type of equipment from multiple DME Providers, and the total rental charges from the multiple Providers exceed the purchase price of a single piece of equipment, You will be responsible for amounts in excess of the Maximum Allowable Charge for purchase.
- b) DME that meets the medical need for which it was requested, whether that be safety, assistance with activities of daily living, or support of bodily functions.

- c) The repair, adjustment or replacement of components and accessories necessary for the effective functioning of Covered DME.
- d) Supplies and accessories necessary for the effective functioning of Covered DME.
- e) The replacement of items needed as the result of normal wear and tear, defects, obsolescence or aging. Insulin pump replacement is Covered only for pumps older than 48 months and only if the pump cannot be repaired.

2. Exclusions

- a) Charges exceeding the total cost of the Maximum Allowable Charge to purchase the equipment.
- b) Duplicate equipment.
- c) Supplies and accessories that are not necessary for the effective functioning of the Covered equipment.
- d) Items to replace those that were lost, damaged, stolen or prescribed as a result of new technology, except when the new technology is replacing items as a result of normal wear and tear, defects, or obsolescence and aging.
- e) Items that require or are dependent on alteration of home, workplace or transportation vehicle.
- f) Motorized scooters, exercise equipment, hot tubs, pools, and saunas.
- g) Additional components or upgrades for appearance or functions not directly related to the medical need.
- h) Computerized or gyroscopic mobility systems, roll about chairs, geriatric chairs, hip chairs, and seat lifts of any kind,
- i) Patient lifts, auto tilt chairs, air fluidized beds, or air flotation beds, unless approved by the Utilization Management department.
- j) Portable ramp for a wheelchair.

**O. Prosthetics/Orthotics**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate devices used to correct or replace all or part of a body organ, body structure or limb that may be malfunctioning or missing due to: (1) birth defect; (2) accident; (3) illness; or (4) Surgery.

Prior Authorization is required for certain prosthetics/orthotics; if Prior Authorization is not obtained, benefits will be reduced. Hearing Aids are not considered to be prosthetics or orthotics; see the "Hearing Aid" section for benefits.

1. Covered Services

- a) The initial purchase of surgically implanted prosthetic or orthotic devices, including cochlear implants.
- b) The repair, adjustment or replacement of components and accessories necessary for the effective functioning of Covered equipment, except as otherwise indicated under Exclusions.
- c) Splints and braces that are custom made or molded, and are incidental to a Practitioner's services or on a Practitioner's order.
- d) The replacement of Covered items required as a result of normal wear and tear, defects or obsolescence and aging.
- e) The initial purchase of artificial limbs or eyes.

2. Exclusions

- a) Prosthetics primarily for Cosmetic purposes or other hair prosthesis or transplants. This exclusion does not apply to wigs as indicated in Attachment C Schedule of Benefits.
- b) Items to replace those that were lost, damaged, stolen or prescribed as a result of new technology.

- c) Foot orthotics, shoe inserts and custom made shoes except as required by Tennessee or federal law for diabetic patients or as a part of a leg brace.
- d) Duplicate equipment.

**P. Hearing Aids**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate Hearing Aids used to enhance hearing when sustained loss is due to (1) birth defect; (2) accident; (3) illness; or (4) Surgery. Cochlear implants are not considered Hearing Aids; see the “Prosthetics/Orthotics” section for benefits.

1. Covered Services
  - a) The initial purchase of Covered Hearing Aids for Members under age 18, limited as indicated in “Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits.”
  - b) The repair, adjustment or replacement of components and accessories necessary for the effective functioning of Covered equipment, except as otherwise indicated under Exclusions.
2. Exclusions
  - a) Hearing Aids for Members age 18 or older.
  - b) Hearing Aid batteries, cords and other assistive listening devices such as FM systems.
  - c) Items to replace those that were lost, damaged, stolen or prescribed as a result of new technology.

**Q. Diabetes Treatment**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate diagnosis and treatment of diabetes. In order to be Covered, such services must be prescribed and certified by a Practitioner as Medically Necessary. The treatment of diabetes consists of medical equipment, supplies, and outpatient self-management training and education, including nutritional counseling. If Prescription Drugs are Covered under this EOC, items a. through j. will be handled pursuant to the terms of that section.

1. Covered Services
  - a) Blood glucose monitors, including monitors designed for the legally blind.
  - b) Test strips for blood glucose monitors.
  - c) Visual reading and urine test strips.
  - d) Insulin.
  - e) Injection aids.
  - f) Syringes.
  - g) Lancets.
  - h) Oral hypoglycemic agents.
  - i) Glucagon emergency kits.
  - j) Injectable incretin mimetics when used in conjunction with selected Prescription Drugs for the treatment of diabetes.
  - k) Insulin pumps, infusion devices, and appurtenances. Insulin pump replacement is Covered only for pumps older than 48 months and if the pump cannot be repaired.
  - l) Podiatric appliances for prevention of complications associated with diabetes.
2. Exclusions
  - a) Treatments or supplies that are not prescribed and certified by a Practitioner as being Medically Necessary.
  - b) Supplies not required by state statute.

- c) Duplicate podiatric appliances.

**R. Supplies**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate expendable and disposable supplies for the treatment of disease or injury.

1. Covered Services

- a) Supplies for the treatment of disease or injury used in a Practitioner's office, outpatient facility, or inpatient facility.
- b) Supplies for treatment of disease or injury that are prescribed by a Practitioner and cannot be obtained without a Prescription.

2. Exclusions

- a) Supplies that can be obtained without a Prescription, except for diabetic supplies. Examples include but are not limited to: (1) adhesive bandages; (2) dressing material for home use; (3) antiseptics; (4) medicated creams and ointments; (5) cotton swabs; and (6) eyewash.

**S. Home Health Care Services**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate services and supplies provided in Your home by a Practitioner who is primarily engaged in providing home health care services. Home health visits may require Prior Authorization.

1. Covered Services

- a) Part-time, intermittent health services, supplies and medications, by or under the supervision of a registered nurse.
- b) Home infusion therapy.
- c) Rehabilitative therapies, subject to the limitations of the "Therapeutic/Rehabilitative Services" section.
- d) Medical social services.
- e) Dietary guidance.
- f) Outpatient private duty nursing.
- g) Coverage may be limited as indicated in "Attachment C: Schedule of Benefits".

2. Exclusions

- a) Non-treatment items and services for: (1) routine transportation; (2) homemaker or housekeeping services; (3) supportive environmental equipment; (4) Custodial Care; (5) social casework; (6) meal delivery; (7) personal hygiene; (8) Convenience Items; (9) home health aides.

**T. Hospice**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate services and supplies for supportive care where life expectancy is 6 months or less.

Prior Authorization for inpatient hospice must be obtained or benefits will be reduced.

1. Covered Services

- a) Benefits will be provided for: (1) part-time intermittent nursing care; (2) medical social services; (3) bereavement counseling; (4) medications for the control or palliation of the illness; (5) home health aide services; (6) outpatient private duty nursing, and (7) physical or respiratory therapy for symptom control.

2. Exclusions

- a) Services such as: (1) homemaker or housekeeping services; (2) meals; (3) Convenience or comfort items not related to the illness; (4) supportive environmental equipment; (5) routine transportation; and (6) funeral or financial counseling.



## **U. Behavioral Health Services**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate Behavioral Health Services performed by a licensed Provider.

Prior Authorization is required for:

- a) All inpatient levels of care, which include Acute care and residential care.
- b) Partial hospitalization programs.
- c) Intensive outpatient treatment programs.
- d) Certain outpatient Behavioral Health Services including, but not limited to, electro-convulsive therapy (ECT), transcranial magnetic stimulation (TMS), applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapy and psychological testing.

Visit [bcbst.com](http://bcbst.com) or call the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card if You have questions about Prior Authorization requirements for Behavioral Health Services.

### 1. Covered Services

- a) Inpatient services for care and treatment of mental health and substance use disorders.
- b) Outpatient facility services, including partial hospitalization and intensive outpatient treatment programs for treatment of mental health and substance use disorders.
- c) Practitioner visits for care and treatment of mental health and substance use disorders.
- d) Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT), including drugs used for substance use disorder administered or dispensed directly by a Practitioner.
- e) Telehealth.

### 2. Exclusions

- a) Marriage and family counseling without a behavioral health diagnosis.
- b) Vocational and educational training and/or services.
- c) Custodial or domiciliary care.
- d) Conditions without recognizable ICD codes, such as adult child of alcoholics, co-dependency and self-help programs.
- e) Sleep disorders.
- f) Pain management.
- g) Vagus nerve stimulation for treatment of depression.

## **V. Vision**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate diagnosis and treatment of diseases and injuries that impair vision.

### 1. Covered Services

- a) Services and supplies for the diagnosis and treatment of diseases and injuries to the eye.
- b) Frames, lenses and contacts following treatment and Surgery to repair certain injuries and diseases that impair vision.
- c) The first set of eyeglasses or contact lenses required to adjust for vision changes due to cataract Surgery and obtained within 6 months following the Surgery.
- d) One (1) retinopathy screening for diabetics per Annual Benefit Period.

2. Exclusions
  - a) Routine vision services, including services, Surgeries and supplies to detect or correct refractive errors of the eyes.
  - b) Eyeglasses, contact lenses and examinations for the fitting of eyeglasses and contact lenses.
  - c) Eye exercises and/or therapy.
  - d) Visual training.
  - e) The replacement of contacts after the initial pair has been provided following cataract Surgery.

**W. Drugs – Medical Coverage**

Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate pharmaceuticals for the treatment of disease or injury.

1. Covered Services
  - a) Treatment of phenylketonuria (PKU), including special dietary formulas while under the supervision of a Practitioner.
2. Exclusions
  - a) Prescription drugs, except as indicated in this EOC.
  - b) Those pharmaceuticals that may be purchased without a Prescription.
  - c) Puberty blockers or hormones administered or dispensed to Members under age 18 for purposes of gender dysphoria, gender identity disorder, gender incongruence, or similar conditions, unless such services or medications are (1) permissive under applicable law and the health care Practitioner submits an attestation regarding the same; and (2) Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate.

## **ATTACHMENT B: OTHER EXCLUSIONS**

This EOC does not provide benefits for the following services, supplies or charges:

1. Services or supplies not listed as Covered Services under “Attachment A: Covered Services and Exclusions”.
2. Services or supplies that are not Medically Necessary or Medically Appropriate.
3. Services or supplies that are Investigational in nature including, but not limited to: (1) drugs; (2) biologicals; (3) medications; (4) devices; and (5) treatments.
4. Illness or injury resulting from war that occurred before Your Coverage began under this EOC and that is covered by: (1) veteran’s benefit; or (2) other Coverage for which You are legally entitled.
5. Self-treatment or training.
6. Staff consultations required by hospital or other facility rules.
7. Services that are free, except when rendered by a non-governmental, charitable research hospital that bills patients for services rendered but does not enforce collection from an individual patient.
8. Services or supplies for the treatment of work related illness or injury, regardless of the presence or absence of workers’ compensation Coverage.
9. Personal, physical fitness, recreational and Convenience items, equipment and services, even if ordered by a licensed Practitioner, including, but not limited to: (1) barber and beauty services; (2) televisions; (3) air conditioners; (4) humidifiers; (5) air filters; (6) heaters, (7) saunas; (8) whirlpools; (9) water purifiers; (10) swimming pools; (11) tanning beds; (12) weight loss programs and exercise programs; or (13) self-help devices, programs or applications (including but not limited to mobile medical applications) of any type, whether for medical, behavioral health or non-medical use, unless such mobile application is required by state or federal law or approved in advance by BlueCross to be used in connection with a wellness program offered by BlueCross.
10. Services or supplies received before Your Effective Date for Coverage with this Plan.
11. Services or supplies related to a Hospital Confinement received before Your Effective Date for Coverage with this Plan.
12. Services or supplies received after Your Coverage under this Plan ceases for any reason. This is true even though the expenses relate to a condition that began while You were Covered. The only exception to this is described under the Extended Benefits section.
13. Services or supplies received in a dental or medical department maintained by or on behalf of the Employer, mutual benefit association, labor union or similar group.
14. Services or charges to complete a claim form or to provide medical records or other administrative functions. We will not charge You or Your legal representative for statutorily required copying charges.
15. Charges for failure to keep a scheduled appointment.
16. Charges for telephone consultations, e-mail or web based consultations, except as otherwise stated in this EOC.
17. Room, board and general nursing care rendered on the date of discharge, unless admission and discharge occur on the same day.
18. Charges in excess of the Maximum Allowable Charge for Covered Services.
19. Any service stated in “Attachment A: Covered Services and Exclusions” as a non-Covered Service or limitation.
20. Charges for services performed by You or Your spouse, or Your or Your spouse’s parent, sister, brother or child.
21. Any charges for handling fees.
22. Unless Covered in the “Drugs – Prescription Coverage” section, nicotine replacement therapy and aids to smoking cessation including, but not limited to, patches.

23. Human growth hormones.
24. Safety items, or items to affect performance primarily in sports-related activities.
25. Services or supplies for weight loss or to treat obesity, except bariatric Surgery, services or supplies directly related to complications of bariatric Surgery or re-operation of bariatric Surgery. This exclusion applies whether You are of normal weight, overweight, obese or morbidly obese, and even if You have other health conditions that might be helped by weight loss or reduction of obesity.
26. Services considered Cosmetic. Services that are always excluded as Cosmetic and not subject to Medical Necessity review include, but are not limited to, (1) removal of elective body art; (2) facelifts; (3) body contouring (body contouring is removing or rearranging tissues that affect the external body surface, with the intention of achieving an improved cosmetic appearance); (4) injections to smooth wrinkles; (5) piercing ears or other body parts; (6) rhytidectomy or rhytidoplasty; (7) brachioplasty; (8) keloid removal; (9) dermabrasion; (10) chemical peels; and (11) laser resurfacing.
27. Lipectomy for cosmetic purpose or for the treatment of variations in fat distribution.
28. Charges relating to surrogate pregnancy when the surrogate mother (carrying a fetus to term for another individual) is a Covered Member under this Plan.
29. Charges relating to surrogate pregnancy when the surrogate mother is not a Covered Member under this Plan.
30. Sperm preservation.
31. Inpatient private duty nursing.
32. Unless Covered in the “Drugs – Prescription Coverage” section, services or supplies to treat sexual dysfunction, regardless of cause, including but not limited to erectile dysfunction, delayed ejaculation, anorgasmia and decreased libido. This exclusion does not apply to office visits.
33. Services or supplies related to complications of Cosmetic procedures.
34. Intradiscal annuloplasty to treat discogenic back pain.
35. Compound Drugs, unless Medically Necessary and Medically Appropriate.
36. Bone turnover markers for diagnosis and management of osteoporosis and other diseases associated with high bone turnover.
37. Intraoral devices for the treatment of headaches.
38. Home births.
39. Aquatic therapy.
40. Travel immunizations.
41. Medical tourism or care received outside the United States when You choose to have an elective procedure in another country.
42. Non-emergency and non-urgent medical services or supplies received while traveling outside of the United States when treatment could have been reasonably delayed.
43. Home delivery of childbirth and any related services, unless the delivery is performed by a provider licensed by the state board of nursing as a registered nurse and duly certified as a nurse midwife by the American College of Nurse-Midwives.
44. Boarding school programs, wilderness treatment programs or similar programs, whether or not the program is part of a residential treatment facility or otherwise licensed institution. This exclusion applies to programs that treat medical conditions, surgical conditions, behavioral health conditions and substance use disorder.
45. Services that do not require a licensed professional and may be provided by non-clinical personnel. This includes art therapy, music therapy, dance therapy, horseback therapy, and other forms of alternative treatment as defined by the National Center for Complementary and Integrative Health (NCCIH).
46. Virtual reality therapy services, devices, and software.

**ATTACHMENT C:  
SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS –PREFERRED PLAN**

**Group Name: Clarksville-Montgomery County Employees Trust**  
**Group Number: 90045**  
**Benefit Effective Date: September 1, 2024**  
**Annual Benefit Period: January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024**  
**Network: As shown on Your ID card.**

**PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT STATEMENT:** Network Benefits apply to Covered Services received from Network Providers and Non-Contracted Providers

**Out-of-Network benefit percentages apply to the Maximum Allowable Charge, not to the Provider’s Billed Charge, unless otherwise stated. When using Out-of-Network Providers or Non-Contracted Providers, You may be responsible for any unpaid Billed Charges. This amount can be substantial. For more information, please refer to the definitions of Coinsurance and Maximum Allowable Charge in the “Definitions” section of this EOC.**

For the following services rendered by an Out-of-Network Provider, Network Benefits including Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum will apply, and the Provider may not balance bill You as required by state or federal law:

1. Emergency Care Services rendered at an out-of-network hospital Emergency department or a licensed freestanding Emergency department.
2. Covered items and services rendered by an Out-of-Network Provider at an in-network facility. Note that in certain circumstances, You may agree to receive treatment from an Out-of-Network Provider and waive balance billing protections, provided that You provide consent prior to treatment, and that Your consent satisfies applicable regulatory requirements.
3. Emergent and other Authorized air ambulance services (the same criteria to determine if services from an in-network air ambulance Provider are Covered is used to determine whether services from an out-of-network air ambulance Provider are Covered).

Also, if You are seeing a Network Provider that becomes an Out-of-Network Provider and You have complex care or other needs as defined by state or federal law, You are eligible for Network Benefits for 120 days, giving You the opportunity to find a Network Provider to receive a Network Benefit in the future. Please contact Our consumer advisors at the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card if You would like to request Network Benefits from an Out-of-Network Provider.

	<b>Network Services received from Network Providers</b>	<b>Out-of-Network Services received from Out-of-Network Providers</b>
<b>Maximum</b>	Unlimited	
<b>Deductible <sup>1</sup></b>		
Individual	\$350	\$350
Two-Person	\$700	\$700
Family	\$875	\$875
<b>Out-of-Pocket Maximum <sup>2 3</sup></b>		
Individual	\$1,350	\$4,050
Two-Person	\$2,700	\$8,100
Family	\$2,700	\$8,100

**DEDUCTIBLE:**

1. There is one Deductible amount for Network Providers and Out-of-Network Providers combined.  
The Deductible will apply to the Individual Out-of-Pocket and Family Out-of-Pocket Maximum(s).

#### OUT OF POCKET:

2. There are 2 Out-of-Pocket Maximums – one for services rendered by Network Providers and one for services rendered by Out-of-Network Providers.

When the network Out-of-Pocket Maximum is satisfied, benefits are payable at 100% for Covered Services from Network Providers incurred by the Member during the remainder of that Annual Benefit Period, excluding Penalties and any balance of charges (the difference between Billed Charges and the Maximum Allowable Charge).

When the out-of-network Out-of-Pocket Maximum is satisfied, benefits are payable at 100% for Covered Services from Out-of-Network Providers incurred by the Member during the remainder of that Annual Benefit Period, excluding Penalties and any balance of charges (the difference between Billed Charges and the Maximum Allowable Charge).

Penalties and any balance of charges (the difference between Billed Charges and the Maximum Allowable Charge) are not considered when determining if the Out-of-Pocket Maximum has been satisfied.

3. Chiropractic services do not apply to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

Covered Services	Benefits for Covered Services received from Network Providers	Benefits for Covered Services received from Out-of-Network Providers
<b>Preventive Health Care Services</b>		
Well Child Care (to age 6)	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Well Woman Exam	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Mammogram (including 3D mammogram), Cervical cancer Screening and Prostate cancer Screening	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Immunizations	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Preventive/Well Care Services Includes Preventive Health Exam, screenings and counseling services. Tobacco use counseling performed in a primary care setting, limited to 8 visits per Annual Benefit Period; Alcohol misuse counseling performed in a primary care setting, limited to 8 visits per Annual Benefit Period; Dietary counseling for adults with hyperlipidemia, hypertension, obesity, Type 2 diabetes, coronary artery disease and/or congestive heart failure limited to 12 visits per Annual Benefit Period.	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Other Well Care Screenings, age 6 and above including flexible sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Lactation support services by a trained Provider during pregnancy or in the post-partum period.	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Breast pump, limited to one per pregnancy, and related supplies <sup>1</sup>	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
FDA-approved contraceptive methods, sterilization procedures and counseling for women with reproductive capacity.	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
One retinopathy screening for diabetics per Annual Benefit Period	100%	Not Covered
Hemoglobin A1C test	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible

<sup>1</sup> Members may purchase either a manual or an electric breast pump per birth (verification of pregnancy either by a claim filed with BlueCross or verification from provider will be required). Manual and Electric Breast Pumps will be covered at 100% of the Maximum Allowable Charge for Network Providers and retail stores. BlueCross will determine the allowed amount for the electric breast pump based on the manufacturer and model number. The Member will be liable for any charges over the allowed amount. Hospital Grade Electric Breast Pumps are eligible for rental only and will not exceed 3 months, unless Medically Necessary. After Members return the rented hospital grade electric pump, they will be eligible to purchase either a manual or non-hospital grade electric breast pump. Breast Pump replacement supplies (tubing, adapter, bottles, breast pump shields, caps, and locking rings) are Covered, however any convenience item (i.e. car charger, pads, etc.) are not Covered.

Covered Services	Benefits for Covered Services received from Network Providers	Benefits for Covered Services received from Out-of-Network Providers
<b>Services Received at the Practitioner's office</b>		
<b>Office Exams and Consultations</b>		
Diagnosis and treatment of illness or injury, including medical and behavioral health conditions	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Maternity care	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Injections and Immunizations</b>		
Allergy injections and allergy extract	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<p>All other medicine injections, excluding Specialty Drugs</p> <p>For Surgery injections, please see Office Surgery under the Other office procedures, services or supplies section.</p>	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Diagnostic Services (e.g. x-ray and labwork)</b>		
Allergy Testing	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<p><b>Advanced Radiological Imaging</b> Includes CT scans, MRIs, PET scans, nuclear medicine and other similar technologies</p> <p><b>Advanced Radiological Imaging require Prior Authorization.</b> If Prior Authorization is not obtained, benefits will be denied for Out-of-Network Providers. (See the Prior Authorization section for more information.) Network Providers in Tennessee are responsible for obtaining Prior Authorization; Member is not responsible for Penalty when Tennessee Network Providers do not obtain Prior Authorization.</p>	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Supplemental breast screenings and related diagnostic imaging consisting of mammography, ultrasound imaging, or magnetic resonance imaging	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
All other diagnostic services for illness, injury or maternity care	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible



Covered Services	Benefits for Covered Services received from Network Providers	Benefits for Covered Services received from Out-of-Network Providers
<b>Other office procedures, services or supplies</b>		
<p>Office Surgery, including anesthesia, performed in and billed by the Practitioner's office</p> <p>Some procedures require Prior Authorization. Call Our consumer advisors to determine if Prior Authorization is required. If Prior Authorization is required and not obtained, benefits will be denied for Out-of-Network Providers and Network Providers outside Tennessee (BlueCard PPO Participating Providers). (See the Prior Authorization section for more information.) Network Providers in Tennessee are responsible for obtaining Prior Authorization; Member is not responsible for Penalty when Tennessee Network Providers do not obtain Prior Authorization.</p> <p>Surgeries include incisions, excisions, biopsies, injection treatments, fracture treatments, applications of casts and splints, sutures, and invasive diagnostic services (e.g., colonoscopy, sigmoidoscopy and endoscopy for non-preventive purposes).</p>	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<p>Non-routine treatments:</p> <p>Includes renal dialysis, radiation therapy, chemotherapy and infusions. Does not apply to Specialty Drugs.</p>	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
All Other Office services	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible

Covered Services	Benefits for Covered Services received from Network Providers	Benefits for Covered Services received from Out-of-Network Providers
<b>Services Received at a Facility</b>		
<p>Prior Authorization is required for inpatient hospital stays (except initial maternity admissions and Emergency admissions), inpatient Behavioral Health Services, skilled nursing facility or rehabilitation facility stays and for certain outpatient facility procedures. Call Our consumer advisors to determine if Prior Authorization is required before receiving either inpatient or outpatient facility services.</p> <p>Benefits may be denied for Out-of-Network Providers and Network Providers outside Tennessee (BlueCard PPO Participating Providers) when Prior Authorization is not obtained. (See the Prior Authorization section for more information.) Network Providers in Tennessee are responsible for obtaining Prior Authorization; Member is not responsible for Penalty when Tennessee Network Providers do not obtain Prior Authorization.</p> <p>See the “Prior Authorization, Care Management, Medical Policy and Patient Safety” section of this EOC for more information.</p>		
<b>Inpatient Hospital Stays, including Inpatient and Residential Care Behavioral Health Services and Maternity Stays</b>		
Facility charges	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Practitioner charges (including global maternity delivery charges billed as inpatient services)	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Skilled Nursing or Rehabilitation Facility stays (Limited to 100 days combined per Annual Benefit Period)</b>		
Facility charges	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Practitioner charges	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Emergency Care Services</b> (Whether the Practitioner is considered an Emergency physician and therefore reimbursable under this benefit is determined by the place of service on the claim.)		
Emergency Room charges	90% after Deductible	90% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Advanced Radiological Imaging Includes CT scans, MRIs, PET scans, nuclear medicine and similar technologies.	90% after Deductible	90% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
All other hospital charges	90% after Deductible	90% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Practitioner charges	90% after Deductible	90% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Outpatient Facility Services, excluding Behavioral Health Intensive Outpatient and Partial Hospitalization Programs</b>		
Facility charges	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Practitioner charges	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Behavioral Health Intensive Outpatient and Partial Hospitalization Programs</b>		
Facility charges	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible

Covered Services	Benefits for Covered Services received from Network Providers	Benefits for Covered Services received from Out-of-Network Providers
Practitioner charges	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Outpatient Diagnostic Services and Outpatient Screenings</b>		
<p><b>Advanced Radiological Imaging</b> Includes CT scans, MRIs, PET scans, nuclear medicine and similar technologies.</p> <p><b>Advanced Radiological Imaging requires Prior Authorization.</b> If Prior Authorization is not obtained, benefits will be denied for Out-of-Network Providers. (See the Prior Authorization section for more information.) Network Providers in Tennessee are responsible for obtaining Prior Authorization; Member is not responsible for Penalty when Tennessee Network Providers do not obtain Prior Authorization.</p>	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Supplemental breast screenings and related diagnostic imaging consisting of mammography, ultrasound imaging, or magnetic resonance imaging	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
All other diagnostic services for illness, injury or maternity care	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Other Outpatient Services</b>		
All other services received at an outpatient facility, including observation stays, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, infusions, and renal dialysis	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Other Services</b>		
Ground Ambulance	90% of the Billed Charges after Deductible	90% of the Billed Charges after Deductible
Air Ambulance	90% after Deductible	90% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<p>Home health care services, including home infusion therapy</p> <p>Home health care may require Prior Authorization and is limited to 100 visits per Annual Benefit Period.</p> <p>Physical, speech or occupational therapy provided in the home do not require Prior Authorization</p>	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Hospice Care	100%	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible

Covered Services	Benefits for Covered Services received from Network Providers	Benefits for Covered Services received from Out-of-Network Providers
Therapy Services: Physical, speech, occupational therapy, cardiac and pulmonary rehab therapy	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Spinal manipulation  Limited to 30 visits per Annual Benefit Period.	50% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
DME, orthotics and prosthetics	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Supplies	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Hearing Aids for Members under age18  Limited to one per ear every 3 years (as determined by Your Annual Benefit Period)	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Sleep studies	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Wigs for hair loss resulting from chemotherapy, radiation therapy, autoimmune and other clinical disease.  Limited to \$500 per lifetime	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Behavioral Health Care	90% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible

<b>Organ Transplant Services</b>			
<p>All Transplant Services except kidney transplants</p> <p><b>All Transplant Services require Prior Authorization.</b></p> <p>Call Our consumer advisors before any pre-transplant evaluation or other Transplant Service is performed to request Prior Authorization, and to determine if there are facilities available in the BDCT Network for Your specific transplant type.</p> <p>See the “Prior Authorization, Care Management, Medical Policy and Patient Safety” and “Organ Transplants – All Organ Transplants, Excluding Kidney” sections of this EOC for more information.</p>	<p><b>Blue Distinction Centers for Transplants (BDCT) Network:</b></p> <p>90% after Network Deductible, Network Out-of-Pocket Maximum applies.</p>	<p><b>Transplant Network:</b></p> <p>90% after Network Deductible, Network Out-of-Pocket Maximum applies.</p>	<p><b>Out-of-Network Providers:</b></p> <p>70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge, after Out-of-Network Deductible, Out-of-Network Out-of-Pocket Maximum applies.</p>
<p>Kidney Transplant Services</p> <p><b>All Transplant Services require Prior Authorization.</b></p> <p>Call Our consumer advisors before any pre-transplant evaluation or other Transplant Service is performed to request Prior Authorization.</p>	<p><b>Network Providers:</b></p> <p>90% after Network Deductible; Network Out-of-Pocket Maximum applies.</p>		<p><b>Out-of-Network Providers:</b></p> <p>70% of Maximum Allowable Charge (MAC), after Out-of-Network Deductible, Out-of-Network Out-of-Pocket Maximum applies, amounts over MAC do not apply to the Out-of-Pocket and are not Covered.</p>
<p><i>Network Providers not in Our Transplant Network include Network Providers in Tennessee and BlueCard PPO Providers outside Tennessee.</i></p>			

**ATTACHMENT C:  
SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS –STANDARD PLAN**

**Group Name: Clarksville-Montgomery County Employees Trust  
Group Number: 90045  
Benefit Effective Date: September 1, 2024  
Annual Benefit Period: January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024  
Network: As shown on Your ID card.**

**PLEASE READ THIS IMPORTANT STATEMENT:** Network Benefits apply to Covered Services received from Network Providers and Non-Contracted Providers

**Out-of-Network benefit percentages apply to the Maximum Allowable Charge, not to the Provider’s Billed Charge, unless otherwise stated. When using Out-of-Network Providers or Non-Contracted Providers, You may be responsible for any unpaid Billed Charges. This amount can be substantial. For more information, please refer to the definitions of Coinsurance and Maximum Allowable Charge in the “Definitions” section of this EOC.**

For the following services rendered by an Out-of-Network Provider, Network Benefits including Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Maximum will apply, and the Provider may not balance bill You as required by state or federal law:

1. Emergency Care Services rendered at an out-of-network hospital Emergency department or a licensed freestanding Emergency department.
2. Covered items and services rendered by an Out-of-Network Provider at an in-network facility. Note that in certain circumstances, You may agree to receive treatment from an Out-of-Network Provider and waive balance billing protections, provided that You provide consent prior to treatment, and that Your consent satisfies applicable regulatory requirements.
3. Emergent and other Authorized air ambulance services (the same criteria to determine if services from an in-network air ambulance Provider are Covered is used to determine whether services from an out-of-network air ambulance Provider are Covered).

Also, if You are seeing a Network Provider that becomes an Out-of-Network Provider and You have complex care or other needs as defined by state or federal law, You are eligible for Network Benefits for 120 days, giving You the opportunity to find a Network Provider to receive a Network Benefit in the future. Please contact Our consumer advisors at the Member Service number on the back of Your ID card if You would like to request Network Benefits from an Out-of-Network Provider.

	<b>Network Services received from Network Providers</b>	<b>Out-of-Network Services received from Out-of-Network Providers</b>
<b>Maximum</b>	Unlimited	
<b>Deductible <sup>1</sup></b>		
Individual	\$2,000	\$2,000
Two-Person	\$4,000	\$4,000
Family	\$5,000	\$5,000
<b>Out-of-Pocket Maximum <sup>2 3</sup></b>		
Individual	\$5,250	\$15,750
Two-Person	\$10,500	\$31,500
Family	\$10,500	\$31,500

**DEDUCTIBLE:**

1. There is one Deductible amount for Network Providers and Out-of-Network Providers combined.

**OUT OF POCKET:**

2. There are 2 Out-of-Pocket Maximums – one for services rendered by Network Providers and one for services rendered by Out-of-Network Providers.

When the network Out-of-Pocket Maximum is satisfied, benefits are payable at 100% for Covered Services from Network Providers incurred by the Member during the remainder of that Annual Benefit Period, excluding Penalties and any balance of charges (the difference between Billed Charges and the Maximum Allowable Charge).

When the out-of-network Out-of-Pocket Maximum is satisfied, benefits are payable at 100% for Covered Services from Out-of-Network Providers incurred by the Member during the remainder of that Annual Benefit Period, excluding Penalties and any balance of charges (the difference between Billed Charges and the Maximum Allowable Charge).

Penalties and any balance of charges (the difference between Billed Charges and the Maximum Allowable Charge) are not considered when determining if the Out-of-Pocket Maximum has been satisfied.

3. Chiropractic services do not apply to the Out-of-Pocket Maximum.

Covered Services	Benefits for Covered Services received from Network Providers	Benefits for Covered Services received from Out-of-Network Providers
<b>Preventive Health Care Services</b>		
Well Child Care (to age 6)	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Well Woman Exam	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Mammogram (including 3D mammogram), Cervical cancer Screening and Prostate cancer Screening	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Immunizations	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Preventive/Well Care Services Includes Preventive Health Exam, screenings and counseling services. Tobacco use counseling performed in a primary care setting, limited to 8 visits per Annual Benefit Period; Alcohol misuse counseling performed in a primary care setting, limited to 8 visits per Annual Benefit Period; Dietary counseling for adults with hyperlipidemia, hypertension, obesity, Type 2 diabetes, coronary artery disease and/or congestive heart failure limited to 12 visits per Annual Benefit Period.	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Other Well Care Screenings, age 6 and above including flexible sigmoidoscopy or colonoscopy	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Lactation support services by a trained Provider during pregnancy or in the post-partum period.	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Breast pump, limited to one per pregnancy, and related supplies <sup>1</sup>	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
FDA-approved contraceptive methods, sterilization procedures and counseling for women with reproductive capacity.	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
One retinopathy screening for diabetics per Annual Benefit Period	100%	Not Covered
Hemoglobin A1C test	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible

<sup>1</sup> Members may purchase either a manual or an electric breast pump per birth (verification of pregnancy either by a claim filed with BlueCross or verification from provider will be required). Manual and Electric Breast Pumps will be covered at 100% of the Maximum Allowable Charge for Network Providers and retail stores. BlueCross will determine the allowed amount for the electric breast pump based on the manufacturer and model number. The Member will be liable for any charges over the allowed amount. Hospital Grade Electric Breast Pumps are eligible for rental only and will not exceed 3 months, unless Medically Necessary. After Members return the rented hospital grade electric pump, they will be eligible to purchase either a manual or non-hospital grade electric breast pump. Breast Pump replacement supplies (tubing, adapter, bottles, breast pump shields, caps, and locking rings) are Covered, however any convenience item (i.e. car charger, pads, etc.) are not Covered.



Covered Services	Benefits for Covered Services received from Network Providers	Benefits for Covered Services received from Out-of-Network Providers
<b>Services Received at the Practitioner's office</b>		
<b>Office Exams and Consultations</b>		
Diagnosis and treatment of illness or injury, including medical and behavioral health conditions	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Maternity care	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Injections and Immunizations</b>		
Allergy injections and allergy extract	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
All other medicine injections, excluding Specialty Drugs  For Surgery injections, please see Office Surgery under the Other office procedures, services or supplies section.	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Diagnostic Services (e.g. x-ray and labwork)</b>		
Allergy Testing	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Advanced Radiological Imaging</b> Includes CT scans, MRIs, PET scans, nuclear medicine and other similar technologies  <b>Advanced Radiological Imaging require Prior Authorization.</b> If Prior Authorization is not obtained, benefits will be denied for Out-of-Network Providers. (See the Prior Authorization section for more information.) Network Providers in Tennessee are responsible for obtaining Prior Authorization; Member is not responsible for Penalty when Tennessee Network Providers do not obtain Prior Authorization.	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Supplemental breast screenings and related diagnostic imaging consisting of mammography, ultrasound imaging, or magnetic resonance imaging	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
All other diagnostic services for illness, injury or maternity care	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible

Covered Services	Benefits for Covered Services received from Network Providers	Benefits for Covered Services received from Out-of-Network Providers
<b>Other office procedures, services or supplies</b>		
<p>Office Surgery, including anesthesia, performed in and billed by the Practitioner's office</p> <p>Some procedures require Prior Authorization. Call Our consumer advisors to determine if Prior Authorization is required. If Prior Authorization is required and not obtained, benefits will be denied for Out-of-Network Providers and Network Providers outside Tennessee (BlueCard PPO Participating Providers). (See the Prior Authorization section for more information.) Network Providers in Tennessee are responsible for obtaining Prior Authorization; Member is not responsible for Penalty when Tennessee Network Providers do not obtain Prior Authorization.</p> <p>Surgeries include incisions, excisions, biopsies, injection treatments, fracture treatments, applications of casts and splints, sutures, and invasive diagnostic services (e.g., colonoscopy, sigmoidoscopy and endoscopy for non-preventive purposes).</p>	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<p>Non-routine treatments:</p> <p>Includes renal dialysis, radiation therapy, chemotherapy and infusions. Does not apply to Specialty Drugs.</p>	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
All Other Office services	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible

Covered Services	Benefits for Covered Services received from Network Providers	Benefits for Covered Services received from Out-of-Network Providers
<b>Services Received at a Facility</b>		
<p>Prior Authorization is required for inpatient hospital stays (except initial maternity admissions and Emergency admissions), inpatient Behavioral Health Services, skilled nursing facility or rehabilitation facility stays and for certain outpatient facility procedures. Call Our consumer advisors to determine if Prior Authorization is required before receiving either inpatient or outpatient facility services.</p> <p>Benefits may be denied for Out-of-Network Providers and Network Providers outside Tennessee (BlueCard PPO Participating Providers) when Prior Authorization is not obtained. (See the Prior Authorization section for more information.) Network Providers in Tennessee are responsible for obtaining Prior Authorization; Member is not responsible for Penalty when Tennessee Network Providers do not obtain Prior Authorization.</p> <p>See the “Prior Authorization, Care Management, Medical Policy and Patient Safety” section of this EOC for more information.</p>		
<b>Inpatient Hospital Stays, including Inpatient and Residential Care Behavioral Health Services and Maternity Stays</b>		
Facility charges	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Practitioner charges (including global maternity delivery charges billed as inpatient services)	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Skilled Nursing or Rehabilitation Facility stays (Limited to 100 days combined per Annual Benefit Period)</b>		
Facility charges	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Practitioner charges	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Emergency Care Services</b> (Whether the Practitioner is considered an Emergency physician and therefore reimbursable under this benefit is determined by the place of service on the claim.)		
Emergency Room charges	70% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Advanced Radiological Imaging Includes CT scans, MRIs, PET scans, nuclear medicine and similar technologies.	70% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
All other hospital charges	70% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Practitioner charges	70% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Outpatient Facility Services, excluding Behavioral Health Intensive Outpatient and Partial Hospitalization Programs</b>		
Facility charges	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Practitioner charges	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Behavioral Health Intensive Outpatient and Partial Hospitalization Programs</b>		
Facility charges	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible

Covered Services	Benefits for Covered Services received from Network Providers	Benefits for Covered Services received from Out-of-Network Providers
Practitioner charges	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Outpatient Diagnostic Services and Outpatient Screenings</b>		
<p><b>Advanced Radiological Imaging</b> Includes CT scans, MRIs, PET scans, nuclear medicine and similar technologies.</p> <p><b>Advanced Radiological Imaging requires Prior Authorization.</b> If Prior Authorization is not obtained, benefits will be denied for Out-of-Network Providers. (See the Prior Authorization section for more information.) Network Providers in Tennessee are responsible for obtaining Prior Authorization; Member is not responsible for Penalty when Tennessee Network Providers do not obtain Prior Authorization.</p>	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Supplemental breast screenings and related diagnostic imaging consisting of mammography, ultrasound imaging, or magnetic resonance imaging	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
All other diagnostic services for illness, injury or maternity care	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Other Outpatient Services</b>		
All other services received at an outpatient facility, including observation stays, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, infusions, and renal dialysis	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<b>Other Services</b>		
Ground Ambulance	70% of the Billed Charges after Deductible	70% of the Billed Charges after Deductible
Air Ambulance	70% after Deductible	70% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
<p>Home health care services, including home infusion therapy</p> <p>Home health care may require Prior Authorization and is limited to 100 visits per Annual Benefit Period.</p> <p>Physical, speech or occupational therapy provided in the home do not require Prior Authorization</p>	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Hospice Care	100%	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible

Covered Services	Benefits for Covered Services received from Network Providers	Benefits for Covered Services received from Out-of-Network Providers
Therapy Services: Physical, speech, occupational therapy, cardiac and pulmonary rehab therapy	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Spinal manipulation  Limited to 30 visits per Annual Benefit Period.	50% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
DME, orthotics and prosthetics	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Supplies	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Hearing Aids for Members under age18  Limited to one per ear every 3 years (as determined by Your Annual Benefit Period)	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Sleep studies	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Wigs for hair loss resulting from chemotherapy, radiation therapy, autoimmune and other clinical disease.  Limited to \$500 per lifetime	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible
Behavioral Health Care	70% after Deductible	50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge after Deductible

<b>Organ Transplant Services</b>			
<p>All Transplant Services except kidney transplants</p> <p><b>All Transplant Services require Prior Authorization.</b></p> <p>Call Our consumer advisors before any pre-transplant evaluation or other Transplant Service is performed to request Prior Authorization, and to determine if there are facilities available in the BDCT Network for Your specific transplant type.</p> <p>See the “Prior Authorization, Care Management, Medical Policy and Patient Safety” and “Organ Transplants – All Organ Transplants, Excluding Kidney” sections of this EOC for more information.</p>	<p><b>Blue Distinction Centers for Transplants (BDCT) Network:</b></p> <p>70% after Network Deductible, Network Out-of-Pocket Maximum applies.</p>	<p><b>Transplant Network:</b></p> <p>70% after Network Deductible, Network Out-of-Pocket Maximum applies.</p>	<p><b>Out-of-Network Providers:</b></p> <p>50% of the Maximum Allowable Charge, after Out-of-Network Deductible, Out-of-Network Out-of-Pocket Maximum applies.</p>
<p>Kidney Transplant Services</p> <p><b>All Transplant Services require Prior Authorization.</b></p> <p>Call Our consumer advisors before any pre-transplant evaluation or other Transplant Service is performed to request Prior Authorization.</p>	<p><b>Network Providers:</b></p> <p>70% after Network Deductible; Network Out-of-Pocket Maximum applies.</p>		<p><b>Out-of-Network Providers:</b></p> <p>50% of Maximum Allowable Charge (MAC), after Out-of-Network Deductible, Out-of-Network Out-of-Pocket Maximum applies, amounts over MAC do not apply to the Out-of-Pocket and are not Covered.</p>
<p><i>Network Providers not in Our Transplant Network include Network Providers in Tennessee and BlueCard PPO Providers outside Tennessee.</i></p>			

## GENERAL PROVISIONS

### INDEPENDENT LICENSEE OF THE BLUE CROSS BLUE SHIELD ASSOCIATION

BlueCross is an independent corporation operating under a license from the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, an association of independent BlueCross and BlueShield Plans (the “Association”). The Association permits BlueCross to use the Association’s service marks within its service area. BlueCross is not contracting as an agent of the Association.

### RELATIONSHIP WITH NETWORK PROVIDERS

#### A. Independent Contractors

Network Providers are independent contractors and are not Employees, agents or representatives of the Administrator. Network Providers contract with the Administrator, which has agreed to pay them for rendering Covered Services to You. Network Providers are solely responsible for making all medical treatment decisions in consultation with their Member-patients. The Employer and the Administrator do not make medical treatment decisions under any circumstances.

While the Administrator has the authority to make benefit determinations and interpret the terms of Your Coverage, the Employer, as the Plan Administrator as that term is defined in ERISA, has the discretionary authority to make the final determination regarding the terms of Your Coverage (“Coverage Decisions.”) Both the Administrator and the Employer make Coverage Decisions based on the terms of this EOC, the ASA, the Administrator’s internal guidelines, policies, procedures, and applicable state or federal laws. The Employer retains the authority to determine whether You or Your dependents are eligible for Coverage.

You may request reconsideration of a Coverage Decision as explained in the “Grievance Procedure” section of this EOC. The participation agreement requires Network Providers to fully and fairly explain the Administrator’s Coverage Decisions to You, upon request, if You decide to request that the Administrator reconsider a Coverage Decision.

#### B. Termination of Providers’ Participation

The Administrator or a Network Provider may end their relationship with each other at any time. A Network Provider may also limit the number of Members that he, she or it will accept as patients during the term of this agreement. The Administrator does not promise that any specific Network Provider will be available to render services while You are Covered by this EOC.

#### C. Provider Directory

A Directory of Network Providers is available at no additional charge to You. You may also check to see if a Provider is in Your Plan’s Network by going online to [bcbst.com](http://bcbst.com).

### REWARDS OR INCENTIVES

Any reward or incentive You receive under a health or wellness program may be taxable. Talk to Your tax advisor for guidance. Rewards or incentives may include cash or cash equivalents, merchandise, gift cards, debit cards, premium discounts or rebates, contributions toward Your health savings account (if applicable), or modifications to a Copayment, Coinsurance, or Deductible amount.

### OUR PAYMENT METHODS FOR NETWORK PROVIDERS

Our agreements with Network Providers include different payment arrangements. We use various alternative Provider payment methodologies including, but not limited to, Diagnosis Related Group (DRG) payments, discounted fee-for-service payments, patient-centered medical home programs, bundled payments for episodes of care, pay-for-performance initiatives, and other quality improvement and/or cost containment programs.

## **STATEMENT OF RIGHTS UNDER THE NEWBORNS' AND MOTHERS' HEALTH PROTECTION ACT**

Under federal law, group health plans and health insurance issuers offering group health insurance coverage generally may not restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less than 96 hours following a delivery by cesarean section. However, as permitted by federal law, the plan or issuer may pay for a shorter stay if the attending Provider (e.g., Your physician, nurse midwife, or physician assistant), after consultation with the mother, discharges the mother or newborn earlier. Also, under federal law, plans and issuers may not set the level of benefits or out-of-pocket costs so that any later portion of the 48-hour (or 96-hour) stay is treated in a manner less favorable to the mother or newborn than any earlier portion of the stay. In addition, a plan or issuer may not, under federal law, require that a physician or other health care Provider obtain Authorization for prescribing a length of stay of up to 48 hours (or 96 hours). However, to use certain Providers or facilities, or to reduce Your out-of-pocket costs, You may be required to obtain precertification. For information on precertification, contact the Administrator.

### **WOMEN'S HEALTH AND CANCER RIGHTS ACT OF 1998**

Patients who undergo a mastectomy and who elect breast reconstruction in connection with the mastectomy in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and patient, are entitled to Coverage 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; and
- Prostheses and treatment of physical complications at all stages of the mastectomy, including lymphedemas.

The Coverage will be provided subject to the same Coinsurance, Copays and Deductibles established for other benefits under this Plan. Please refer to the Covered Services section of this EOC for details.

### **UNIFORMED SERVICES EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS ACT OF 1994**

You may continue Your Coverage and Coverage for eligible dependents during military leave of absence in accordance with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994. When the Subscriber returns to work from a military leave of absence, the Subscriber will be given credit for the time the Subscriber was Covered under the Plan prior to the leave. Check with the Employer to see if this provision applies.



## **SUBROGATION AND RIGHT OF REIMBURSEMENT**

### **A. Subrogation Rights**

The Plan shall be subrogated to and/or have the right to recover amounts paid to provide Covered Services to You for illnesses or injuries caused, insured or reimbursed by any parties, including the right to recover the reasonable value of services rendered by Network Providers. This subrogation right attaches automatically as a lien against any proceeds received by You from a third-party for the cost of care or treatment for any injury or illness caused by the third party for which medical payment is provided.

The Plan has the right to recover any and all amounts equal to the Plan's payments from:

- the insurance of the injured party;
- the person, company (or combination thereof) that caused the illness or injury, or their insurance company; or
- any other source, including uninsured or underinsured motorist coverage, medical payment coverage, or similar medical reimbursement policies.

This right of recovery under this provision will apply whether recovery was obtained by suit, settlement, mediation, arbitration, or otherwise. The Plan's recovery will not be affected by any reductions due to Your negligence, nor by attorney fees and costs You incur.

### **B. Priority Right of Reimbursement**

Separate and apart from the Plan's right of subrogation, the Plan shall have first lien and right to reimbursement. This reimbursement right attaches automatically as a lien against any proceeds received by You from a third-party for the cost of care or treatment for any injury or illness caused by the third party for which medical payment is provided. The Plan's first lien supersedes any right that You or Your estate may have to be "made whole". In other words, the Plan is entitled to the right of first reimbursement out of any recovery You or Your estate might procure regardless of whether You or Your estate have received compensation for any of Your damages or expenses, including Your or Your estate's attorneys' fees or costs. This priority right of reimbursement supersedes Your or Your estate's right to be made whole from any recovery, whether full or partial. In addition, You agree on behalf of Yourself and Your estate to do nothing to prejudice or oppose the Plan's right to subrogation and reimbursement and You acknowledge that the Plan precludes operation of the "made-whole", "attorney-fund", and "common-fund" doctrines. You agree on behalf of Yourself and Your estate to reimburse the Plan 100% first for any and all benefits provided through the Plan, and for any costs of recovering such amounts from any party from any and all amounts recovered through:

- Any settlement, mediation, arbitration, judgment, suit, or otherwise, or settlement from Your own insurance and/or from the third party (or their insurance or their estate);
- Any auto or recreational vehicle insurance coverage or benefits including, but not limited to, uninsured or underinsured motorist coverage;
- Business and homeowner medical liability insurance coverage or payments.

The Plan may notify those parties of its lien and right to reimbursement without notice to or consent from those Members.

This priority right of reimbursement applies regardless of whether such payments are designated as payment for (but not limited to) pain and suffering, medical benefits, and/or other specified damages. It also applies regardless of whether the Member is a minor.

This priority right of reimbursement will not be reduced by attorney fees and costs You or Your estate incur.

#### Notice and Cooperation

Members are required to notify the Administrator if they are involved in an incident that gives rise to such subrogation rights and/or priority right of reimbursement, to enable the Administrator to protect the Plan's rights under this section. Members are also required to cooperate with the Administrator and to execute any documents

that the Administrator, acting on behalf of the Employer, deems necessary to protect the Plan's rights under this section.

The Member shall not do anything to hinder, delay, impede or jeopardize the Plan's subrogation rights and/or priority right of reimbursement. Failure to cooperate or to comply with this provision shall entitle the Plan to withhold any and all benefits due the Member under the Plan. This is in addition to any and all other rights that the Plan has pursuant to the provisions of the Plan's subrogation rights and/or priority right of reimbursement.

If the Plan has to file suit, or otherwise litigate to enforce its subrogation rights and/or priority right of reimbursement, You are responsible for paying any and all costs, including attorneys' fees, the Plan incurs in addition to the amounts recovered through the subrogation rights and/or priority right of reimbursement.

#### Legal Action and Costs

The Plan may enforce its rights of subrogation and reimbursement against, without limitation, any tortfeasors, any responsible parties or against available insurance coverages, including underinsured or uninsured motorist coverages. Such actions may be based in tort, contract or other cause of action to the fullest extent permitted by law.

If You settle any claim or action against any party, You shall be deemed to have been made whole by the settlement and the Plan shall be entitled to immediately collect the present value of its subrogation and recovery rights from the settlement fund. You shall hold any such proceeds of settlement or judgment in trust for the exclusive benefit of the Plan. The Plan shall also be entitled to recover reasonable attorneys' fees incurred in collecting proceeds held by You in such circumstances.

Additionally, the Plan has the right to sue on Your behalf, against any person or entity considered responsible for any condition resulting in medical expenses, to recover benefits paid or to be paid by the Plan.

#### Settlement or Other Compromise

You must notify the Administrator prior to settlement, resolution, court approval, or anything that may hinder, delay, impede or jeopardize the Plan's rights so that the Plan may be present and protect its subrogation rights and/or priority right of reimbursement.

The Plan's subrogation rights and priority right of reimbursement attach to any funds held, and do not create personal liability against You.

**The right of subrogation and the right of reimbursement are based on the Plan language in effect at the time of judgment, payment or settlement.**

The Plan, or its representative, may enforce the subrogation and priority right of reimbursement.

You agree that the proceeds subject to the Plan's lien are Plan assets and You and/or the executor or administrator of Your estate will hold such assets as a trustee for the Plan's benefit and shall remit to the Plan, or its representative, such assets upon request. If represented by counsel, You agree that You and/or the executor or administrator of Your estate will direct such counsel to hold the proceeds subject to the Plan's lien in trust and to remit such funds to the Plan, or its representative, upon request. Should You and/or the executor or administrator of Your estate violate any portion of this section, the Plan shall have a right to offset future benefits otherwise payable under this plan to the extent of the value of the benefits advanced under this section to the extent not recovered by the Plan. You agree that by accepting payment of benefits pursuant to the Plan, You have assigned to the Plan the right of third-party insurance benefits or other recovery rights to which You may be entitled. You also acknowledge the Plan's right to reimbursement. You may be deemed ineligible for continued or future coverage under the Plan if You receive payment from a third-party tort-feasor, third-party insurer, third party for medical payments or other individual or entity originally paid by the Plan for, or on Your behalf and you fail or refuse to promptly reimburse the Plan for amounts paid by the Plan. You should seek the advice of an attorney regarding the Plan's rights of subrogation and reimbursement.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Plan may waive any right of reimbursement if You are adjudged to be permanently disabled and thereby receive a corresponding benefit from the Social Security Administration or suffer a catastrophic loss, including but not limited to, death; long-term or permanent disability; loss of limb, extremity, or eye; permanent loss of fifty percent (50%) or more of sight or hearing; a prolonged vegetative state;

permanent mental impairment; protracted complex recovery requiring multiple or successive surgeries; or any other similar life-altering loss.

Exhibit A  
Request for Subrogation or Reimbursement Interest (RSRI) Form

BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee, Inc.  
Department of Subrogation

To whom it may concern:

I am a participant in the Clarksville-Montgomery County and am requesting that BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee, Inc. determine the amount, if any, of the Plan's subrogation or reimbursement interest and provide notice to me of such interest.

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
Social Security Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Accident or Illness: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last date of treatment: \_\_\_\_\_

Where did the accident or illness occur? \_\_\_\_\_  
Please provide a brief description of the Member's injuries or illness:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Did the Member receive medications or dental treatment as a result of the injury or illness? (Please circle)  
If the Member was involved in an accident please identify the type of injury: Auto; Medical Malpractice; Worker's Compensation; General Liability; (Circle one) Other \_\_\_\_\_

PERSON COMPLETING THIS FORM:  
Relationship to Member (member, attorney, guardian, spouse, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_  
Company or Firm: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

## Privacy Practices

### Important Privacy Practices Notice

Effective Date 7/1/2021

#### Important Privacy Information

*This notice describes how information we have about you may be used and disclosed, and how you can get access to this information. Please review it carefully.*

#### Legal obligations

The law requires Clarksville-Montgomery County Employees Trust (“we,” “us,” “our”) to give this notice of privacy practices to all our members. This notice lets you know about our legal duties and your rights when it comes to your information and privacy.

The law requires us to keep private all of the information we have about you, including your name, address, claims information, and other information that can identify you. The law requires us to follow all the privacy practices in this notice from the date on the cover until we change or replace it.

We have the right to make changes to our privacy practices and this notice at any time, but we will send you a new notice any time we do. Any changes we make to this notice will apply to all information we keep, including information created or received before we made changes.

Please review this notice carefully and keep it on file for reference. You may ask us for a copy of this notice at any time. To get one, please contact us at:

**Clarksville-Montgomery County**  
**621 Gracey Avenue**  
**Clarksville, TN 37040-4012**  
**Phone: (931) 920-7913**  
**Fax: (931) 920-9913**  
**E-mail: [jeanine.johnson@cmcss.net](mailto:jeanine.johnson@cmcss.net)**

You may reach out to us at this address or phone number to ask questions or make a complaint about this notice or how we’ve handled your privacy rights. You may also submit a written complaint to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Just ask us for their address, and we will give it to you.

We support your right to protect the privacy of the information we have about you. We won’t retaliate against you if you file a complaint with HHS or us.

#### Organizations This Notice Covers

This notice applies to Clarksville-Montgomery County Employees Trust. We may share our members’ information with BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee, Inc. and certain subsidiaries and affiliates of BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee, Inc. as outlined in this notice. If BlueCross BlueShield of Tennessee, Inc. buys or creates new subsidiaries, they may also be required to follow the privacy practices outlined in this notice.

For additional information, including TTY/TDD users, please call \_\_\_\_\_. Para obtener ayuda en español, llame al \_\_\_\_\_.

## How We May Use and Share Your Information

We typically use your information for treatment, payment or health care operations. Sometimes we are allowed, and sometimes we are required, to use or disclose your information in other ways. This is usually to contribute to the public good, such as public health and research.

Some states may have more stringent laws. When those laws apply to your information, we follow the more stringent law. Specifically, Tennessee law and other state and federal laws require us to obtain your consent for most uses and disclosures of behavioral health information, alcohol and other substance use disorder information, and genetic information.

## Ways We May Use and Share Your Information

The following are examples of how we may use or disclose your information in accordance with federal and state laws.

**For your treatment:** We may use or share your information with health care professionals who are treating you. For example, a doctor may send us information about your diagnosis and treatment plan so we can arrange additional care for you from other health care providers.

**To make payments:** We may use or share your information to pay claims for your care or to coordinate benefits covered under your health care coverage. For example, we may share your information with your dental provider to coordinate payment for dental services.

**For health care operations:** We may use or share your information to run our organization. For example, we may use or share it to measure quality, provide you with care management or wellness programs, and to conduct audit and other oversight activities.

**To work with plan sponsors:** We may share your information with your employer-sponsored group health plan (if applicable) for plan administration. Please see your plan documents for all ways a plan sponsor may use this information.

**For underwriting:** We may use or share your health plan information for underwriting, premium rating or other activities relating to the creation, renewal or replacement of a health plan contract. We're not allowed to use or disclose genetic information for underwriting purposes.

**Research:** We may use or share your information in connection with lawful research purposes.

**In the event of your death:** If you die, we may share your health plan information with a coroner, medical examiner, funeral director or organ procurement organization.

**To help with public health and safety issues:** We can share information about you in certain situations, such as:

- Preventing disease
- Assisting public health authorities in controlling the spread of disease such as during pandemics
- Helping with product recalls
- Reporting negative reactions to medications
- Reporting suspected abuse, neglect or domestic violence
- Preventing or reducing a serious threat to anyone's health or safety

**As required by law:** We may use or share your information as required by state or federal law.

**To comply with a court or administrative order:** Under certain circumstances, we may share your information in response to a court or administrative order, subpoena, discovery request or other lawful process.

**To address workers' compensation, law enforcement and other government requests:** We can use or share information about you:

- For workers' compensation claims
- For law enforcement purposes, or with a law enforcement official
- With health oversight agencies for legal activities
- To comply with requests from the military or other authorized federal officials

**With your permission:** Some uses and disclosures of information require your written authorization, including certain instances if you want us to share your information with anyone. You may cancel your authorization in writing at any time, but doing so won't affect use or disclosure that happened while your authorization was valid.

For example, we would need your written authorization for:

- Most uses and disclosures of psychotherapy notes
- Uses and disclosures of your health plan information for marketing
- Sale of your health plan information
- Other uses and disclosures not described in this notice

We will let you know if any of these circumstances arise.

## **Your Individual Rights**

**To access your records:** You have the right to view and get copies of your information that we maintain, with some exceptions. You must make a written request, using a form available from the Privacy Office, to get access to your information.

If you ask for copies of your information, we may charge you a reasonable, cost-based fee for staff time, and postage if you want us to mail the copies to you. If you ask for this information in another format, this charge will reflect the cost of giving you the information in that format. If you prefer, you may request a summary or explanation of your information, which may also result in a fee. For details about fees we may charge, please contact the Privacy Office.

**To see who we've disclosed your information to:** You have the right to receive a list of most disclosures we (or a business associate on our behalf) made of your information, other than for the purpose of treatment, payment or health care operations, within the past six years. This list will include the date of the disclosure, what information was disclosed, the name of the person or entity it was disclosed to, the reason for the disclosure and some other information.

If you ask for this list of disclosures more than once in a 12-month period, we may charge you based on the cost of responding to those additional requests. Please contact the Privacy Office for a more detailed explanation of these charges.

**To ask for restrictions:** You have the right to ask for restrictions on how we use or disclose your health plan information. We're not required to agree to these requests except in limited circumstances. If we agree to a restriction, you and we will agree to the restriction in writing. Please contact the Privacy Office for more information.

**To get notified of a breach:** The law requires us to notify you after the unauthorized acquisition, access, use, or disclosure of your unsecured information that compromises the security or privacy of the information. This notice must include various data points, such as:

- The date of the breach
- The type of data disclosed
- Who accessed, used or disclosed the information without permission
- Who received your information, if known
- What we did or will do to prevent future breaches

**To ask for confidential communications:** You have the right to ask us in writing to send your information to you at a different address or by a different method if you believe that sending information to you in the normal manner will put you in danger. We have to grant your request if it's reasonable. We will also need information from you, including how and where to communicate with you. Your request must not interfere with payment of your premiums.

If there's an immediate threat, you may make your request by calling the Member Service number on the back of your Member ID card or the Privacy Office. Please follow up your call with a written request as soon as possible.

**To ask for changes to your personal information:** You have the right to request in writing that we revise your information. Your request must be in writing and explain why the information should be revised. We may deny your request, for example, if we received (but didn't create) the information you want to amend. If we deny your request, we will write to let you know why. If you disagree with our denial, you may send us a written statement that we will include with your information.

If we grant your request, we will make reasonable efforts to notify people you name about this change. Any future disclosures of that information will be revised.

**To request another copy of this notice:** You can ask for a paper copy of this notice at any time, even if you got this notice by email or from our website. Please contact the Privacy Office at the address above.

**To choose a personal representative:** You may choose someone to exercise your rights on your behalf, such as a power of attorney. You may also have a legal guardian exercise your rights. We will work with you if you'd like to make this effective.





1 Cameron Hill Circle  
Chattanooga, Tennessee  
37402

**bcbst.com**

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**BENEFIT QUESTIONS?**  
Call the Customer Service  
Number on the membership I.D. Card

**Printed**

**Core 4**

**SELF-FUNDED EOC (1/19)**