

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

If you or your children are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP and you're eligible for health coverage from your employer, your state may have a premium assistance program that can help pay for coverage, using funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs.

If you or your children aren't eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, you won't be eligible for these premium assistance programs but you may be able to buy individual insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace.

For more information, visit www.healthcare.gov.

If you or your dependents are already enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP and you live in a State listed below, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office to find out if premium assistance is available. If you or your dependents are NOT currently enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, and you think you or any of your dependents might be eligible for either of these programs, contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office or dial **1-877-KIDS NOW** or www.insurekidsnow.gov to find out how to apply.

If you qualify, ask your state if it has a program that might help you pay the premiums for an employer-sponsored plan.

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

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

Alabama – Medicaid	Florida – Medicaid
Website: http://myalhipp.com/ Phone: 1-855-692-5447	Website: https://www.flmedicaidprecovery.com/flmedicaidprecovery.com/hipp/index.html Phone: 1-877-357-3268
Alaska – Medicaid	Georgia – Medicaid
The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment Program Website: http://myakhipp.com Phone: 1-866-251-4861 Email: CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com Medicaid Eligibility: http://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/medicaid/default.aspx	A HIPP Website: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 1 GA CHIPRA Website: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/programs/third-party-liability/childrens-health-insurance-program-reauthorization-act-2009-chipra Phone: (678) 564-1162, Press 2
Arkansas – Medicaid	Indiana – Medicaid
Website: http://myarhipp.com/ Phone: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)	Healthy Indiana Plan for low-income adults 19-64 Website: http://www.in.gov/fssa/hip/ Phone: 1-877-438-4479 All other Medicaid – Website: https://www.in.gov/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-457-4584
California – Medicaid	Iowa – Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki)
Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp Phone: 916-445-8322 Fax: 916-440-5676 Email: hipp@dhcs.ca.gov	Medicaid Website: https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members Medicaid Phone: 1-800-338-8366 Hawki Website: http://dhs.iowa.gov/Hawki Hawki Phone: 1-800-257-8563 HIPP Website: https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid-a-to-z/hipp HIPP Phone: 1-888-346-9562
Colorado – Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medical Program) & Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)	Kansas – Medicaid
Health First Colorado Website: https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/ Health First Colorado Member Contact Center: 1-800-221-3943 / State Relay 711 CHP+: https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/child-health-plan-plus CHP+ Customer Service: 1-800-359-1991 / State Relay 711 Health Insurance Buy-In Program (HIBI): https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/health-insurance-buy-program HIBI Customer Service: 1-855-692-6442	Website: https://www.kancare.ks.gov/ Phone: 1-800-792-4884

Kentucky – Medicaid	New York – Medicaid
Kentucky Integrated Health Insurance Premium Payment Program (KI-HIPP) Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov KCHIP Website: https://kidshealth.ky.gov/Pages/index.aspx Phone: 1-877-524-4718 Kentucky Medicaid Website: https://chfs.ky.gov	Website: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-541-2831
Louisiana – Medicaid	North Carolina – Medicaid
Website: www.medicaid.la.gov or www.ldh.la.gov/la hipp Phone: 1-888-342-6207 (Medicaid hotline) or 1-855-618-5488 (LaHIPP)	Website: https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/ Phone: 919-855-4100
Maine – Medicaid	North Dakota – Medicaid
Enrollment Website: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms Phone: 1-800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711 Private Health Insurance Premium Webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms Phone: -800-977-6740 TTY: Maine relay 711	Website: http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/ Phone: 1-844-854-4825
Massachusetts – Medicaid	Oklahoma – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pa Phone: 1-800-862-4840	Website: http://www.insureoklahoma.org Phone: 1-888-365-3742
Minnesota – Medicaid	Oregon – Medicaid
Website: https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/children-and-families/health-care/health-care-programs-and-services/other-insurance.jsp Phone: 1-800-657-3739	Website: http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx http://www.oregonhealthcare.gov/index-es.html Phone: 1-800-699-9075
Missouri – Medicaid	Pennsylvania – Medicaid
Website: http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm Phone: 573-751-2005	Website: https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/HIPP-Program.aspx Phone: 1-800-692-7462
Montana – Medicaid	Rhode Island – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP Phone: 1-800-694-3084	Website: http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/ Phone: 1-855-697-4347, or 401-462-0311 (Direct Rite Share Line)
Nebraska – Medicaid	South Carolina – Medicaid
Website: http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov Phone: 1-855-632-7633 Lincoln: 402-473-7000 Omaha: 402-595-1178	Website: https://www.scdhhs.gov Phone: 1-888-549-0820
Nevada – Medicaid	South Dakota – Medicaid
Medicaid Website: http://dhcfs.nv.gov Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900	Website: http://dss.sd.gov Phone: 1-888-828-0059
New Hampshire – Medicaid	Texas – Medicaid
Website: https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oii/hipp.htm Phone: 603-271-5218 Toll free number for the HIPP program: 1-800-852-3345, ext 5218	Website: http://gethipptexas.com/ Phone: 1-800-440-0493
New Jersey – Medicaid and CHIP	Utah – Medicaid and CHIP
Medicaid Website: http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/ Medicaid Phone: 609-631-2392 CHIP Website: http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710	Medicaid Website: https://medicaid.utah.gov/ CHIP Website: http://health.utah.gov/chip Phone: 1-877-543-7669

Vermont – Medicaid	West Virginia – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: http://www.greenmountaincare.org/ Phone: 1-800-250-8427	Website: https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/http://mywvhpp.com/ Medicaid Phone: 304-558-1700 CHIP Toll-free phone: 1-855-MyWVHIPP (1-855-699-8447)
Virginia – Medicaid and CHIP	Wisconsin – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: https://www.coverva.org/en/famis-select https://www.coverva.org/en/hipp Medicaid Phone: 1-800-432-5924 CHIP Phone: 1-800-432-5924	Website: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm Phone: 1-800-362-3002
Washington – Medicaid	Wyoming – Medicaid
Website: https://www.hca.wa.gov/ Phone: 1-800-562-3022	Website: https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility/ Phone: 1-800-251-1269

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since January 1, 2022, or for more information on

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

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
www.cms.hhs.gov
1-877-267-2323, menu option 4, ext. 61565

Important Regulations

Patient Protection – Designation of Primary Care Provider

Independence Blue Cross's HMO and DPOS plans generally require the designation of a primary care provider. You have the right to designate any primary care provider who participates in our network and who is available to accept you or your family members. Until you make this designation, Independence Blue Cross will designate one for you. For information on how to select a primary care provider, and for a list of the participating primary care providers, visit the Independence Blue Cross website at www.ibx.com. For children, you may designate a pediatrician as the primary care provider.

Patient Protection – Patient Access to Obstetrical and Gynecological Care

You do not need prior authorization from Independence Blue Cross or from any other person (including a primary care provider) in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a health care professional in our network who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology. The health care professional, however, may be required to comply with certain procedures, including obtaining prior authorization for certain services, following a pre-approved treatment plan, or procedures for making referrals. For a list of participating health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics or gynecology, contact Independence Blue Cross at 800-275-2583.

Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act

On October 21, 1998, the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act became effective. This law requires group health plans that provide coverage for mastectomies to also cover reconstructive surgery and prostheses following mastectomies. As the Act requires, we have included this notification to inform you about the law's provisions. The law mandates that a plan participant receiving benefits for a medically necessary mastectomy who elects breast reconstruction after the mastectomy will also receive coverage for:

1. Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy has been performed;
2. Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance;
3. Prostheses;
4. Treatment of physical complications of all stages of mastectomy, including lymphedema.

This coverage will be provided in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, and will be subject to the same annual deductibles and coinsurance provisions that apply for the mastectomy.

Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) – State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)

Loss of other coverage: If you decline enrollment for yourself or for an eligible dependent (including your spouse) while other health insurance or group health plan coverage is in effect, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage (or if the employer stops contributing toward your or your dependents' other coverage). However, you must request enrollment within 31 days after your or your dependents' other coverage ends (or after the employer stops contributing toward the other coverage).

Loss of Medicaid or SCHIP coverage: If you decline enrollment for yourself or for an eligible dependent (including your spouse) while Medicaid coverage or coverage under a state children's health insurance program is in effect, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days after you or your dependents' coverage ends under Medicaid or a state children's health insurance program.

New dependent: If you have a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, you may be able to enroll yourself and your new dependents. However, you must request enrollment within 31 days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.

Eligibility for Medicaid or SCHIP premium assistance: If you or your dependents (including your spouse) become eligible for a state premium assistance subsidy from Medicaid or through a state children's health insurance program with respect to coverage under this plan, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days after your or your dependents' determination of eligibility for such assistance.

Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Offer Free Or Low-Cost Coverage

CHIP is short for the Children's Health Insurance Program — a program to provide health insurance to all uninsured children and who are not eligible for or enrolled in Medical Assistance. CHIPRA is the reauthorization act of CHIP which was signed into law in February 2009. Under CHIPRA, a state CHIP program may elect to offer premium assistance to subsidize employer-provided coverage for eligible low-income children and families. All employers are required to provide employees notification regarding CHIPRA. Please see attached notice.

Medicare Part D Creditable Coverage/ Non-Creditable Coverage Notice

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) requires employers to notify their Medicare Part D-eligible individuals about their creditable coverage status prior to the start of the annual Medicare Part D election period that begins on October 15 of each year. Please see attached notice.

Do you have a question about your coverage?

Contact the appropriate vendor directly for questions regarding benefits, claims process, choosing a doctor, ID cards and copayments and deductibles.



Contact Information			
Benefit	Provider	Web Site	Phone Number
Medical & VISION	Independence Blue Cross DAVIS VISION	www.ibx.com	Call the number on the back of your ID Card or 1-800-275-2583
Prescription Drug Coverage	Capital Rx	www.cap-rx.com	1-888-832-2779
Dental	METLIFE	www.metlife.com/mybenefits	1-800-438-6388
Flexible Spending Accounts	C-BIZ - FLEX	WWW.MYPLANS.CBIZ.COM	1-800-815-3023 OPTION 4
Employee Assistance Program	ComPsych Guidance Resources through One America	Guidanceresources.com Web ID: ONEAMERICA3	1-855-387-9727
Employee Insurance Assistance	Health Advocate	www.HealthAdvocate.com	1-866-695-8622
Retirement Plan	PSERS	https://www.psers.pa.gov/	Toll-Free Number: 1.888.773.7748

Important Notice from Pottstown School District about Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it.

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

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

Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage.

All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.

Pottstown School District has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by CapitalRX is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is therefore considered Creditable Coverage. Because your existing coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare drug plan.

When Can You Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

You can join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from October 15 to December 7. However, if you lose your current creditable prescription drug coverage, through no fault of your own, you will also be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan.

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

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your current Pottstown School District coverage will not be affected.

See pages 7- 9 of the CMS Disclosure of Creditable Coverage To Medicare Part D Eligible Individuals Guidance (available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/CreditableCoverage/>), which outlines the prescription drug plan provisions/options that Medicare eligible individuals may have available to them when they become eligible for Medicare Part D.

If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current Pottstown School District coverage, be aware that you and your dependents will be able to get this coverage back.

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

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

If you go 63 continuous days or longer without creditable prescription drug coverage, your monthly premium may go up by at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have that coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without creditable coverage, your premium may consistently be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this higher premium (a penalty) as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following November to join.

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

Contact the person listed below for further information. NOTE: You'll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, and if this coverage through The Company changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time.

For More Information about Your Options under Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage...

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

For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage:

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

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

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

Date: January 1, 2024
Name of Entity/Sender: Pottstown School District
Contact: Susan Davis