



Live Well, Work Well

Employee Health Benefits Bulletin

April 2022

Perth Amboy Public Schools

Managing Health Care Costs

Timely Tip:

Walking helps you mentally regroup and gets your blood pumping.

Aside from the cost of proper gear, it is free! Now that warmer weather is on the horizon, get started with a new [walking plan](#).

Take meaningful steps to manage your out-of-pocket health care costs without risking your health. Reducing quality of care may cost more in the long run. Consider these tips and visit Benefits Online (go to the District Benefits and Payroll Services webpage) for benefit info.

Choose an affordable health plan that addresses your unique needs.

If you are eligible to choose a health plan, pick one that meets your budget and health needs. To reduce overall spending, it helps to know what your plan does and doesn't cover.

Stay in-network.

Aetna partners with select, in-network providers to lower the cost of care. If you go elsewhere (out-of-network) for care, you will most likely be responsible for higher out-of-pocket costs. Learn more at [aetna.com](#).

Plan and budget your care.

Think about your potential upcoming health care costs, review your benefits, and budget accordingly. Get started [here](#).

Ask questions.

If you require care, ask your doctor if there are comparable procedures or

services that are more affordable and equally effective.

Use virtual health options.

Telemedicine visits can be helpful when managing chronic conditions, speaking with a mental health professional, or receiving diagnoses for minor ailments. Doctors are board certified and licensed plus you can save on time and travel. Find details at [Aetna Teladoc](#).

Take generic drugs.

Copays for generic drugs are typically lower. Although they may look or taste different, generic drug ingredients are

exact copies of brand-name drugs and must meet the same stringent FDA standards. When you need a prescription, ask if a generic equivalent is available. Visit [fda.gov](#) for details.



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Medicaid & CHIP Annual Notice

If you live in New Jersey, you/your dependents may be eligible for health coverage assistance from Medicaid or CHIP for health coverage. See the attached notice for details.

Health Insurance Terms Refresher

This month we present more common health care terms you should know:

In-Network: Typically refers to physicians, hospitals, or other health care providers who contract with an insurance plan to provide services to its members. Coverage for services received from in-network providers will typically be greater than for services received from out-of-network providers, depending on the plan.



Out-of-network: Typically refers to physicians, hospitals, or other health care providers who do not contract with an insurance plan to provide services to its members. Depending on the insurance plan, expenses incurred for services provided by out-of-network providers might not be covered, or coverage may be less than for in-network providers.

Reasonable and Customary Charges: The commonly charged or prevailing fees for health services within a geographic area. If charges are higher than what a carrier considers reasonable and customary, the carrier will not pay the full amount and instead will pay what is deemed appropriate for the particular service. The remaining charges are the responsibility of the patient.



Healthy Recipe

Beet and White Bean Salad

Dressing Ingredients

- 2 Tbsp. cider vinegar
- 1 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
- 1/2 tsp. sugar
- 1/4 c. extra-virgin olive oil
- Salt and pepper to taste

Salad Ingredients

- 2-3/4 c. (or 16-oz can) whole beets well-drained and halved
- 15-oz. can white kidney beans
- 1/2 c. crumbled blue cheese
- 1/2 c. coarsely chopped toasted walnuts
- Baby arugula leaves (optional)

Preparation

1. Prepare dressing in small bowl. Combine vinegar, mustard, and sugar; gradually add oil until well-blended; season to taste.
2. Prepare salad in large bowl. Combine beets and white beans.
3. Toss salad with the dressing.
4. To serve, place arugula on platter and top with beet mixture; top with blue cheese and walnuts.

National Health Observances

April

National Minority Health Month

Department of Health and Human Services
minorityhealth.hhs.gov

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

National Sexual Violence Resource Center
nsvrc.org

May

Arthritis Awareness Month

Arthritis Foundation
arthritis.org

Mental Health Awareness Month

National Alliance on Mental Illness
nami.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

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

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

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