

HEALTH PLAN COMPLIANCE NOTICES

North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group

4/2/2026

Provided by: Heffernan Insurance Brokers



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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, 2026. Contact your State for more information on eligibility –

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

GEORGIA – Medicaid	INDIANA – Medicaid
GA 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	Health Insurance Premium Payment Program All other Medicaid Website: https://www.in.gov/medicaid/ http://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/ Family and Social Services Administration Phone: 1-800-403-0864 Member Services Phone: 1-800-457-4584
IOWA – Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki)	KANSAS – Medicaid
Medicaid Website: https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/welcome-iowa-medicaid Medicaid Phone: 1-800-338-8366 Hawki Website: Hawki - Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa Health & Human Services Hawki Phone: 1-800-257-8563 HIPP Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Health & Human Services (iowa.gov) HIPP Phone: 1-888-346-9562	Website: https://www.kancare.ks.gov/ Phone: 1-800-792-4884 HIPP Phone: 1-800-967-4660
KENTUCKY – Medicaid	LOUISIANA – 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: KIHIPPPROGRAM@ky.gov KCHIP Website: https://kynect.ky.gov Phone: 1-877-524-4718 Kentucky Medicaid Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms	Louisiana Medicaid Website: https://www.ldh.la.gov/healthy-louisiana Medicaid Customer Service Line: 1-888-342-6207 Louisiana Medicaid email: healthy@la.gov Louisiana Health Insurance Premium Program (LaHIPP) Website: https://www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp LaHIPP phone: 1-877-697-6703 LaHIPP email: La.HIPP@la.gov LaHIPP fax: 1-888-716-9787 LaHIPP mailing address: 100 Crescent Centre Parkway, Suite 1000 Tucker, GA 30084
MAINE – Medicaid	MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP
Enrollment Website: https://www.mymaineconnection.gov/benefits/s/?language=en_US Phone: 1-800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711 Private Health Insurance Premium Webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms Phone: 1-800-977-6740 TTY: Maine relay 711	Website: https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pa Phone: 1-800-862-4840 TTY: 711 Email: masspremassistance@accenture.com
MINNESOTA – Medicaid	MISSOURI – Medicaid
Website: https://mn.gov/dhs/health-care-coverage/ Phone: 1-800-657-3672	Website: http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm Phone: 573-751-2005
MONTANA – Medicaid	NEBRASKA – Medicaid
Website: http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP Phone: 1-800-694-3084 Email: HHSHIPPPProgram@mt.gov	Website: http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov Phone: 1-855-632-7633 Lincoln: 402-473-7000 Omaha: 402-595-1178

NEVADA – Medicaid	NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid
Medicaid Website: http://dhcfp.nv.gov Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900	Website: https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/medicaid/health-insurance-premium-program Phone: 603-271-5218 Toll free number for the HIPPP program: 1-800-852-3345, ext. 15218 Email: DHHS.ThirdPartyLiabi@dhhs.nh.gov
NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP	NEW YORK – Medicaid
Medicaid Website: http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-356-1561 CHIP Premium Assistance Phone: 609-631-2392 CHIP Website: http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710 (TTY: 711)	Website: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-541-2831
NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid	NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid
Website: https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/ Phone: 919-855-4100	Website: https://www.hhs.nd.gov/healthcare Phone: 1-844-854-4825
OKLAHOMA – Medicaid and CHIP	OREGON – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: http://www.insureoklahoma.org Phone: 1-888-365-3742	Website: http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx Phone: 1-800-699-9075
PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid and CHIP	RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: https://www.pa.gov/en/services/dhs/apply-for-medicaid-health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp.html Phone: 1-800-692-7462 CHIP Website: Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) (pa.gov) CHIP Phone: 1-800-986-KIDS (5437)	Website: http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/ Phone: 1-855-697-4347, or 401-462-0311 (Direct Rlte Share Line)
SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid	SOUTH DAKOTA - Medicaid
Website: https://www.scdhhs.gov Phone: 1-888-549-0820	Website: http://dss.sd.gov Phone: 1-888-828-0059
TEXAS – Medicaid	UTAH – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPPP) Program Texas Health and Human Services Phone: 1-800-440-0493	Utah's Premium Partnership for Health Insurance (UPP) Website: https://medicaid.utah.gov/upp/ Email: upp@utah.gov Phone: 1-888-222-2542 Adult Expansion Website: https://medicaid.utah.gov/expansion/ Utah Medicaid Buyout Program Website: https://medicaid.utah.gov/buyout-program/ CHIP Website: https://chip.utah.gov/
VERMONT– Medicaid	VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPPP) Program Department of Vermont Health Access Phone: 1-800-250-8427	Website: https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/famis-select https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs Medicaid/CHIP Phone: 1-800-432-5924

WASHINGTON – Medicaid	WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: https://www.hca.wa.gov/ Phone: 1-800-562-3022	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)
WISCONSIN – Medicaid and CHIP	WYOMING – Medicaid
Website: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm Phone: 1-800-362-3002	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, 2026, 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. 6156

Asistencia con las primas bajo Medicaid y el Programa de Seguro de Salud para Menores (CHIP)

Si usted o sus hijos son elegibles para Medicaid o CHIP y usted es elegible para cobertura médica de su empleador, su estado puede tener un programa de asistencia con las primas que puede ayudar a pagar por la cobertura, utilizando fondos de sus programas Medicaid o CHIP. Si usted o sus hijos no son elegibles para Medicaid o CHIP, usted no será elegible para estos programas de asistencia con las primas, pero es probable que pueda comprar cobertura de seguro individual a través del mercado de seguros médicos. Para obtener más información, visite www.cuidadodesalud.gov.

Si usted o sus dependientes ya están inscritos en Medicaid o CHIP y usted vive en uno de los estados enumerados a continuación, comuníquese con la oficina de Medicaid o CHIP de su estado para saber si hay asistencia con primas disponible.

Si usted o sus dependientes NO están inscritos actualmente en Medicaid o CHIP, y usted cree que usted o cualquiera de sus dependientes puede ser elegible para cualquiera de estos programas, comuníquese con la oficina de Medicaid o CHIP de su estado, llame al **1-877-KIDS NOW** o visite espanol.insurekidsnow.gov/ para información sobre como presentar su solicitud. Si usted es elegible, pregunte a su estado si tiene un programa que pueda ayudarle a pagar las primas de un plan patrocinado por el empleador.

Si usted o sus dependientes son elegibles para asistencia con primas bajo Medicaid o CHIP, y también son elegibles bajo el plan de su empleador, su empleador debe permitirle inscribirse en el plan de su empleador, si usted aún no está inscrito. Esto se llama oportunidad de “inscripción especial”, y **usted debe solicitar la cobertura dentro de los 60 días de haberse determinado que usted es elegible para la asistencia con las primas**. Si tiene preguntas sobre la inscripción en el plan de su empleador, comuníquese con el Departamento del Trabajo electrónicamente a través de www.askebsa.dol.gov o llame al servicio telefónico gratuito **1-866-444-EBSA (3272)**.

Si usted vive en uno de los siguientes estados, tal vez sea elegible para asistencia para pagar las primas del plan de salud de su empleador. La siguiente es una lista de estados actualizada al 31 de enero de 2026. Comuníquese con su estado para obtener más información sobre la elegibilidad –

ALABAMA – Medicaid	ALASKA – Medicaid
Sitio web: http://myalhipp.com Teléfono: 1-855-692-5447	El Programa de Pago de AK primas del seguro médico Sitio web: http://myakhipp.com Teléfono: 1-866-251-4861 Por correo electrónico: CustomerService@MyAKHIP.com Elegibilidad de Medicaid: https://health.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/default.aspx
ARKANSAS – Medicaid	CALIFORNIA – Medicaid
Sitio web: http://myarhipp.com/ Teléfono: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)	Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program Sitio web: http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp Teléfono: 916-445-8322 Fax: 916-440-5676 Por correo electrónico: hipp@dhcs.ca.gov

COLORADO – Health First Colorado (Programa Medicaid de Colorado) y Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)	FLORIDA – Medicaid
Sitio web de Health First Colorado: https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/es Centro de atención al cliente de Health First Colorado: 1-800-221-3943/ retransmisor del estado: 711 CHP+: https://hcpf.colorado.gov/child-health-plan-plus Atención al cliente de CHP+: 1-800-359- 1991/retransmisor del estado: 711 Programa de compra de seguro de salud (HIBI, por sus siglas en inglés): https://www.mycohibi.com/ Atención al cliente de HIBI: 1-855-692-6442	Sitio web: https://www.flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/hipp/index.html Teléfono: 1-877-357-3268
GEORGIA – Medicaid	INDIANA – Medicaid
Sitio web de GA HIPP: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp Teléfono: 678-564-1162, Presiona 1 Sitio web de GA CHIPRA: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/programs/third-party-liability/childrens-health-insurance-program-reauthorization-act-2009-chipra Teléfono: 678-564-1162, Presiona 2	Programa de pago de primas de seguro de salud Todos los demás son Medicaid Sitio web: https://www.in.gov/medicaid/ https://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr Administración de familias y servicios sociales Teléfono: 1-800-403-0864 Teléfono de servicios para miembros: 1-800-457-4584
IOWA – Medicaid y CHIP (Hawki)	KANSAS – Medicaid
Sitio web de Medicaid: https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/welcome-iowa-medicaid Teléfono de Medicaid: 1-800-338-8366 Sitio web de Hawki: https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/welcome-iowa-medicaid/iowa-health-link/hawki Teléfono de Hawki: 1-800-257-8563 Sitio web de HIPP: https://hhs.iowa.gov/programs/welcome-iowa-medicaid/fee-service/hipp Teléfono de HIPAA: 1-888-346-9562	Sitio web: https://www.kancare.ks.gov/ Teléfono: 1-800-792-4884 Teléfono de HIPP: 1-800-967-4660

KENTUCKY - Medicaid	LOUISIANA – Medicaid
Sitio web del Kentucky Integrated Health Insurance Premium Payment Program (KI-HIPP): https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx Teléfono: 1-855-459-6328 Por correo electrónico: KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov Sitio web de KCHIP: https://kidshealth.ky.gov/es/Pages/default.aspx Teléfono: 1-877-524-4718 Sitio web de Medicaid de Kentucky: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms Sitio web de Medicaid de Kentucky: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms	Sitio web: https://www.ldh.la.gov/healthy-louisiana Teléfono: 1-888-342-6207 (línea directa de Medicaid) o 1-855-618-5488 (LaHIPP) Louisiana Medicaid email: healthy@la.gov Louisiana Health Insurance Premium Program (LaHIPP) Website: https://www.ldh.la.gov/la hipp LaHIPP phone: 1-877-697-6703 LaHIPP email: La.HIPP@la.gov LaHIPP fax: 1-888-716-9787 LaHIPP mailing address: 100 Crescent Centre Parkway, Suite 1000 Tucker, GA 30084
MAINE – Medicaid	MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid y CHIP
Sitio web por inscripción: https://www.mymaineconnection.gov/benefits/s/?language=en_US Teléfono: 1-800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711 Página web por primos de seguro de salud privado: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms Teléfono: 1-800-977-6740 TTY: Maine relay 711	Sitio web: https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pa Teléfono: 1-800-862-4840 TTY: 711 Por correo electrónico: masspremassistance@accenture.com
MINNESOTA – Medicaid	MISSOURI – Medicaid
Sitio web: https://mn.gov/dhs/health-care-coverage/ Teléfono: 1-800-657-3672	Sitio web: https://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm Teléfono: 573-751-2005
MONTANA – Medicaid	NEBRASKA – Medicaid
Sitio web: https://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP Teléfono: 1-800-694-3084 Por correo electrónico: HHSHIPPPProgram@mt.gov	Sitio web: http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov Teléfono: 1-855-632-7633 Lincoln: 402-473-7000 Omaha: 402-595-1178
NEVADA – Medicaid	NUEVO HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid
Sitio web de Medicaid: http://dhcfp.nv.gov Teléfono de Medicaid: 1-800-992-0900	Sitio web: https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/medicaid/health-insurance-premium-program Teléfono: 603-271-5218 Teléfono gratuito para el programa de HIPP: 1-800-852-3345, ext. 15218 Por correo electrónico: DHHS.ThirdPartyLiabi@dhhs.nh.gov

NUEVA JERSEY – Medicaid y CHIP	NUEVA YORK – Medicaid
Sitio web de Medicaid: http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/ Teléfono: 1-800-356-1561 Teléfono de asistencia de prima de CHIP: 609-631-2392 Sitio web de CHIP: http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html Teléfono de CHIP: 1-800-701-0710 (TTY:711)	Sitio web: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/ Teléfono: 1-800-541-2831
CAROLINA DEL NORTE – Medicaid	DAKOTA DEL NORTE – Medicaid
Sitio web: https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov Teléfono: 919-855-4100	Sitio web: http://www.hhs.nd.gov/healthcare Teléfono: 1-844-854-4825
OKLAHOMA – Medicaid y CHIP	OREGON – Medicaid y CHIP
Sitio web: http://www.insureoklahoma.org Teléfono – 1-888-365-3742	Sitio web: https://cuidadodesalud.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx Teléfono: 1-800-699-9075
PENSILVANIA – Medicaid y CHIP	RHODE ISLAND– Medicaid y CHIP
Sitio web: https://www.pa.gov/en/services/dhs/apply-for-medicaid-health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp.html Teléfono: 1-800-692-7462 Sitio web de CHIP: https://www.pa.gov/en/agencies/dhs/resources/chip.html Teléfono de CHIP: 1-800-986-JIDS (5437)	Sitio web: http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/ Teléfono: 1-855-697-4347 o 401-462-0311 (Direct Rita Share Line)
CAROLINA DEL SUR – Medicaid	DAKOTA DEL SUR – Medicaid y CHIP
Sitio web: https://www.scdhhs.gov Teléfono: 1-888-549-0820	Sitio web: http://dss.sd.gov Teléfono: 1-888-828-0059
TEXAS – Medicaid	UTAH– Medicaid y CHIP
Sitio web: https://www.hhs.texas.gov/es/servicios/finanzas/progr-ama-de-pago-de-las-primas-del-seguro-medico Teléfono: 1-800-440-0493	Utah’s Premium Partnership for Health Insurance (UPP) Sitio web: https://medicaid.utah.gov/upp/ Por correo electrónico: upp@utah.gov Teléfono: 1-888-222-2542 Sitio web de expansión para adultos: https://medicaid.utah.gov/expansion/ Sitio web de Programa de compra de Medicaid de Utah: https://medicaid.utah.gov/buyout-program/ Sitio web de CHIP: https://chip.utah.gov/espanol/

VERMONT – Medicaid	VIRGINIA – Medicaid y CHIP
Sitio web: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program Department of Vermont Health Access Teléfono: 1-800-250-8427	Sitio web: https://cubrevirginia.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/famis-select https://cubrevirginia.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs Teléfono de Medicaid/CHIP: 1-800-432-5924
WASHINGTON – Medicaid	WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid y CHIP
Sitio web: http://www.hca.wa.gov Teléfono: 1-800-562-3022	Sitio web: https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/ http://mywvhipp.com/ Teléfono de Medicaid: 304-558-1700 Teléfono gratuito de CHIP: 1-855-MyWVHIPP (1-855-699-8447)
WISCONSIN – Medicaid y CHIP	WYOMING – Medicaid
Sitio web: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm Teléfono: 1-800-362-3002	Sitio web: https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility/ Teléfono: 1-800-251-1269

Para saber si otros estados han agregado el programa de asistencia con primas desde el 31 de enero de 2026, o para obtener más información sobre derechos de inscripción especial, comuníquese con alguno de los siguientes:

Departamento del Trabajo de EE.UU.
 Administración de Seguridad de Beneficios de los Empleados
www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa/es/about-ebsa/our-activities/informacion-en-espanol
 1-866-444-EBSA (3272)

Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de EE.UU.
 Centros para Servicios de Medicare y Medicaid
www.cms.hhs.gov
 1-877-267-2323, opción de menú 4, Ext. 6156

General Notice of COBRA Rights

(For use by single-employer group health plans)

Continuation Coverage Rights Under COBRA

Introduction

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

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

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

What is COBRA continuation coverage?

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

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

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

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

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

- You become divorced or legally separated from your spouse.

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

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

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

When is COBRA continuation coverage available?

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

- The end of employment or reduction of hours of employment;
- Death of the employee;
- The employee's becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both).

For all other qualifying events (divorce or legal separation of the employee and spouse or a dependent child's losing eligibility for coverage as a dependent child), you must notify the Plan Administrator within 30 days after the qualifying event occurs. You must provide this notice to:

**Taylin Titus
901 Myrtle Avenue
Eureka, CA 95501**

How is COBRA continuation coverage provided?

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

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

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

Disability extension of 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage

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

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

If your family experiences another qualifying event during the 18 months of COBRA continuation coverage, the spouse and dependent children in your family can get up to 18 additional months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 36 months, if the Plan is properly notified about the second qualifying event.

This extension may be available to the spouse and any dependent children getting COBRA continuation coverage if the employee or former employee dies; becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); gets divorced or legally separated; or if the dependent child stops being eligible under the Plan as a dependent child. This extension is only available if the second qualifying event would have caused the spouse or dependent child to lose coverage under the Plan had the first qualifying event not occurred.

Are there other coverage options besides COBRA Continuation Coverage?

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

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

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

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

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

¹ <https://www.medicare.gov/sign-up-change-plans/how-do-i-get-parts-a-b/part-a-part-b-sign-up-periods>.

of Medicare entitlement, even if you enroll in the other part of Medicare after the date of the election of COBRA coverage.

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

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

If you have questions

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

Keep your Plan informed of address changes

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

Plan contact information

North Coast Schools Medical Insurance Group Annual Notices 2026 - 2027 Plan Year
Taylin Titus
901 Myrtle Avenue
Eureka, CA 95501

Modelo de aviso general de los derechos de la cobertura de continuación de COBRA

(para que usen los planes de salud grupales de un solo empleador)

****Derechos de la cobertura de continuación conforme a la ley COBRA****

Introducción

Le enviamos este aviso porque recientemente obtuvo la cobertura de un plan de salud grupal (el Plan). Este aviso contiene información importante acerca de su derecho a recibir la cobertura de continuación de COBRA, que es una extensión temporal de la cobertura del Plan. **Este aviso explica la cobertura de continuación de COBRA, el momento en el que usted y su familia pueden recibirla, y lo que usted puede hacer para proteger su derecho a obtenerla.** Al ser elegible para la cobertura de COBRA, también puede ser elegible para otras opciones que pueden costarle menos que la cobertura de continuación de COBRA.

El derecho a recibir la cobertura de continuación de COBRA se originó gracias a una ley federal, la Ley Ómnibus Consolidada de Reconciliación Presupuestaria (COBRA, por sus siglas en inglés) de 1985. Usted y otros familiares suyos pueden disponer de la cobertura de continuación de COBRA cuando se termine la cobertura de salud grupal. Para obtener más información acerca de sus derechos y obligaciones conforme al Plan y a la ley federal, debe revisar el resumen de la descripción del Plan o comunicarse con el administrador del Plan.

Al perder la cobertura de salud grupal, puede haber otras opciones disponibles. Por ejemplo, puede ser elegible para comprar un plan individual a través del mercado de seguros médicos. Al inscribirse en la cobertura a través del mercado de seguros médicos, puede cumplir con los requisitos para tener menores costos en las primas mensuales y gastos propios más bajos. Asimismo, puede tener derecho a un período de inscripción especial de 30 días en otro plan de salud grupal para el cual sea elegible (como un plan del cónyuge), aunque ese plan generalmente no acepte afiliados de último momento.

¿Qué es la cobertura de continuación de COBRA?

La cobertura de continuación de COBRA es la continuación de la cobertura del Plan cuando esta debería terminar debido a un evento determinado de la vida. Este acontecimiento también se conoce como “evento específico”. Los eventos específicos se incluyen más abajo en este aviso. Después de un evento específico, la cobertura de continuación de COBRA debe ofrecerse a cada persona considerada un “beneficiario que cumple con los requisitos”. Usted, su cónyuge y sus hijos dependientes podrían convertirse en beneficiarios que cumplan con los requisitos si la cobertura del Plan se pierde debido al evento específico. Según el Plan, los beneficiarios que cumplan con los requisitos y que elijan la cobertura de continuación de COBRA debe pagar la cobertura de continuación de COBRA.

Si usted es un empleado, se convertirá en un beneficiario que cumple con los requisitos si pierde la cobertura del Plan debido a estos eventos específicos:

- sus horas de empleo se reducen; o
- su empleo termina por un motivo que no sea una falta grave de su parte.

Si usted es el cónyuge del empleado, se convertirá en un beneficiario que cumple con los requisitos si pierde la cobertura del Plan debido a estos eventos específicos:

- su cónyuge muere;
- las horas de empleo de su cónyuge se reducen;
- el empleo de su cónyuge termina por un motivo que no sea una falta grave por parte de su cónyuge;
- su cónyuge adquiere el derecho a recibir los beneficios de Medicare (Parte A, Parte B o ambas); o
- se divorcia o se separa legalmente de su cónyuge.

Sus hijos dependientes se convertirán en beneficiarios que cumplen con los requisitos si pierden la cobertura del Plan debido a estos eventos específicos:

- el empleado cubierto muere;
- las horas de empleo del empleado cubierto se reducen;
- el empleo del empleado cubierto termina por un motivo que no sea una falta grave por parte del empleado cubierto;
- el empleado cubierto adquiere el derecho a recibir los beneficios de Medicare (Parte A, Parte B o ambas);
- los padres se divorcian o se separan legalmente; o el hijo deja de ser elegible para la cobertura del Plan como “hijo dependiente”.

A veces, presentar una solicitud de declaración de quiebra conforme al Título 11 del Código de Estados Unidos puede ser un evento habilitante. Si se presenta una solicitud de declaración de quiebra con respecto a North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group y esa quiebra causa la pérdida de la cobertura de cualquier empleado jubilado cubierto por el Plan, el empleado jubilado se convertirá en un beneficiario que cumple con los requisitos. El cónyuge del empleado jubilado, el cónyuge sobreviviente y los hijos dependientes también se convertirán en beneficiarios que cumplen con los requisitos si la quiebra causa la pérdida de la cobertura del Plan.

¿Cuándo está disponible la cobertura de continuación de COBRA?

El Plan ofrecerá la cobertura de continuación de COBRA a los beneficiarios que cumplan con los requisitos solamente después de que se le informe al administrador del Plan que ha ocurrido un evento específico. El empleador debe notificar los siguientes eventos habilitantes al administrador del Plan:

- la terminación del empleo o la reducción de las horas de empleo;
- la muerte del empleado;
- el hecho de que el empleado adquiera el derecho a recibir los beneficios de Medicare (Parte A, Parte B o ambas).

Para todos los otros eventos específicos (divorcio o separación legal del empleado y el cónyuge, o hijo dependiente que pierde la elegibilidad para la cobertura como hijo dependiente), debe avisarle al administrador del Plan en los 30 días posteriores a que se produzca el evento habilitante. Debe proporcionarle este aviso a:

**Taylin Titus
901 Myrtle Avenue
Eureka, CA 95501**

¿Cómo se proporciona la cobertura de continuación de COBRA?

Después de que el administrador del Plan recibe el aviso de que se ha producido un evento específico, la cobertura de continuación de COBRA se ofrecerá a cada uno de los beneficiarios que cumplan con los requisitos. Cada beneficiario que cumpla con los requisitos tendrá su propio derecho a elegir la cobertura de continuación de COBRA. Los empleados cubiertos pueden elegir la cobertura de continuación de COBRA en nombre de su cónyuge y los padres pueden elegir la cobertura de continuación de COBRA en nombre de sus hijos.

La cobertura de continuación de COBRA es la continuación temporal de la cobertura debido a la terminación del empleo o a la reducción de las horas de trabajo, y en general dura 18 meses. Determinados eventos específicos, o un segundo evento específico durante el período inicial de cobertura, pueden permitir que el beneficiario reciba un máximo de 36 meses de cobertura.

También hay otros motivos por los cuales este período de 18 meses de la cobertura de continuación de COBRA puede prolongarse:

Extensión por discapacidad del período de 18 meses de la cobertura de continuación de COBRA

Si el Seguro Social determina que usted o alguien de su familia que esté cubierto por el Plan tiene una discapacidad y usted le avisa al respecto al administrador del Plan en el plazo correspondiente, usted y toda su familia pueden recibir una extensión adicional de hasta 11 meses de cobertura de continuación de COBRA, por un máximo de 29 meses. La discapacidad debe haber comenzado en algún momento antes de los 60 días de la cobertura de continuación de COBRA y debe durar al menos hasta el final del período de 18 meses de la cobertura de continuación de COBRA.

Extensión por un segundo evento específico del período de 18 meses de la cobertura de continuación de COBRA

Si su familia sufre otro evento específico durante los 18 meses de la cobertura de continuación de COBRA, su cónyuge y sus hijos dependientes pueden recibir hasta 18 meses adicionales de cobertura de continuación de COBRA, por un máximo de 36 meses, si se le avisa al Plan como corresponde acerca del segundo evento específico. Esta extensión puede estar disponible para el cónyuge y cualquier hijo dependiente que reciba la cobertura de continuación de COBRA en el caso de que el empleado o ex empleado muera, adquiera el derecho a recibir los beneficios de Medicare (Parte A, Parte B o ambas), se divorcie o se separe legalmente, o si el hijo dependiente deja de ser elegible en el Plan como hijo dependiente. Esta extensión solo está disponible en el caso de que el segundo evento específico hubiese hecho que el cónyuge o el hijo dependiente pierda la cobertura del Plan si no se hubiese producido el primer evento específico.

¿Hay otras opciones de cobertura además de la cobertura de continuación de COBRA?

Sí. En lugar de inscribirse en la cobertura de continuación de COBRA, puede haber otras opciones de cobertura para usted y su familia a través del mercado de seguros médicos, Medicaid u otras opciones de un plan de salud grupal (por ejemplo, el plan de su cónyuge) mediante lo que se denomina un “período de inscripción especial”. Es posible que algunas de estas opciones cuesten menos que la cobertura de continuación de COBRA. Puede encontrar más información sobre muchas de estas opciones en www.cuidadodesalud.gov.

¿Puedo inscribirme en Medicare, en caso de ser elegible, después de que finalice la cobertura de mi plan de salud colectivo?

En general, después del período de inscripción inicial, hay un período de inscripción especial de 8 meses^[1] para inscribirse en Medicare Parte A o B, que comienza cuando ocurre lo primero de lo siguiente:

- El mes posterior a la finalización del empleo.
- El mes posterior a la finalización de la cobertura del plan de salud colectivo basada en el empleo actual.

Si elige la Ley Ómnibus Consolidada de Reconciliación Presupuestaria (COBRA) y desea inscribirse en Medicare Parte B después de que finalice su cobertura de continuación, es posible que tenga que pagar una penalidad por inscripción tardía. Si se inscribe inicialmente en Medicare Parte A o B después de elegir la cobertura de continuación COBRA, el plan puede terminar su cobertura de continuación (sin embargo, si Medicare Parte A o B entra en vigencia en la fecha de la elección de COBRA o antes de esta fecha, la cobertura de COBRA no se puede descontinuar debido al derecho a Medicare, incluso si la persona se inscribe en la otra parte de Medicare después de la fecha de la elección de la cobertura de COBRA).

Si está inscrito tanto en COBRA como en Medicare, Medicare será generalmente el pagador principal. Es posible que algunos planes “disminuyan” el monto que Medicare pagaría en caso de ser el pagador principal, incluso si usted no está inscrito.

Para obtener más información, visite www.medicare.gov/medicare-and-you

Si tiene preguntas

Las preguntas acerca de su Plan o de sus derechos a recibir la cobertura de continuación de COBRA deben enviarse al contacto o los contactos identificados abajo. Para obtener más información sobre sus derechos según la Ley de Seguridad de los Ingresos de Jubilación de los Empleados (ERISA, por sus siglas en inglés), incluida la ley COBRA, la Ley de Atención Médica (de bajo costo) y la Protección al Paciente, y otras leyes que afectan a los planes de salud grupales, comuníquese con la oficina regional o de distrito más cercana de la Administración de Seguridad de Beneficios para Empleados (EBSA, por sus siglas en inglés) del Departamento de Trabajo de Estados Unidos en su área, o visite www.dol.gov/ebsa. (Las direcciones y los números de teléfono de las oficinas regionales y de distrito de EBSA están disponibles en el sitio web de EBSA). Para obtener más información acerca del mercado de seguros médicos, visite www.cuidadodesalud.gov.

Informe a su plan si cambia de dirección

Para proteger los derechos de su familia, informe al administrador del Plan sobre cualquier cambio en las direcciones de sus familiares. También debe conservar una copia, para su registro, de todos los avisos que le envíe al administrador del Plan.

Información de contacto del Plan

North Coast Schools Medical Insurance Group Annual Notices 2026 - 2027 Plan Year

Taylin Titus

901 Myrtle Avenue

Eureka, CA 95501

^[1]www.medicare.gov/sign-up-change-plans/how-do-i-get-parts-a-b/part-a-part-b-sign-up-period.

EMPLOYEE RIGHTS UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

The United States Department of Labor Wage and Hour Division

Leave Entitlements

Eligible employees who work for a covered employer can take up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave in a 12-month period for the following reasons:

- The birth of a child or placement of a child for adoption or foster care;
- To bond with a child (leave must be taken within 1 year of the child's birth or placement);
- To care for the employee's spouse, child, or parent who has a qualifying serious health condition;
- For the employee's own qualifying serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job;
- For qualifying exigencies related to the foreign deployment of a military member who is the employee's spouse, child, or parent.

An eligible employee who is a covered servicemember's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin may also take up to 26 weeks of FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember with a serious injury or illness.

An employee does not need to use leave in one block. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, employees may take leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule.

Employees may choose, or an employer may require, use of accrued paid leave while taking FMLA leave. If an employee substitutes accrued paid leave for FMLA leave, the employee must comply with the employer's normal paid leave policies.

Benefits & Protections

While employees are on FMLA leave, employers must continue health insurance coverage as if the employees were not on leave.

Upon return from FMLA leave, most employees must be restored to the same job or one nearly identical to it with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions.

An employer may not interfere with an individual's FMLA rights or retaliate against someone for using or trying to use FMLA leave, opposing any practice made unlawful by the FMLA, or being involved in any proceeding under or related to the FMLA.

Eligibility Requirements

An employee who works for a covered employer must meet three criteria in order to be eligible for FMLA leave. The employee must:

- Have worked for the employer for at least 12 months;
- Have at least 1,250 hours of service in the 12 months before taking leave;* and
- Work at a location where the employer has at least 50 employees within 75 miles of the employee's worksite.

*Special "hours of service" requirements apply to airline flight crew employees.

Requesting Leave

Generally, employees must give 30-days' advance notice of the need for FMLA leave. If it is not possible to give 30-days' notice, an employee must notify the employer as soon as possible and, generally, follow the employer's usual procedures.

Employees do not have to share a medical diagnosis, but must provide enough information to the employer so it can determine if the leave qualifies for FMLA protection. Sufficient information could include informing an employer that the employee is or will be unable to perform his or her job functions, that a family member cannot perform daily activities, or that hospitalization or continuing medical treatment is necessary. Employees must inform the employer if the need for leave is for a reason for which FMLA leave was previously taken or certified.

Employers can require a certification or periodic recertification supporting the need for leave. If the employer determines that the certification is incomplete, it must provide a written notice indicating what additional information is required.

Employer Responsibilities

Once an employer becomes aware that an employee's need for leave is for a reason that may qualify under the FMLA, the employer must notify the employee if he or she is eligible for FMLA leave and, if eligible, must also provide a notice of rights and responsibilities under the FMLA. If the employee is not eligible, the employer must provide a reason for ineligibility.

Employers must notify its employees if leave will be designated as FMLA leave, and if so, how much leave will be designated as FMLA leave.

Enforcement

Employees may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer.

The FMLA does not affect any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family or medical leave rights.

For additional information or to file a complaint:

1-866-4-USWAGE

(1-866-487-9243) TTY: 1-877-889-5627

www.dol.gov/whd

U.S. Department of Labor | Wage and Hour Division

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA) Disclosures

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008

The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (“GINA”) protects employees against discrimination based on their genetic information. Unless otherwise permitted, your Employer may not request or require any genetic information from you or your family members.

The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA) prohibits employers and other entities covered by GINA Title II from requesting or requiring genetic information of an individual or family member of the individual, except as specifically allowed by this law. To comply with this law, we are asking that you not provide any genetic information when responding to this request for medical information. “Genetic information,” as defined by GINA, includes an individual’s family medical history, the results of an individual’s or family member’s genetic tests, the fact that an individual or an individual’s family member sought or received genetic services, and genetic information of a fetus carried by an individual or an individual’s family member or an embryo lawfully held by an individual or family member receiving assistive reproductive services.

Health Insurance Exchange Notice

For Employers Who Offer a Health Plan to Some or All Employees

New Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage Options and Your Health Coverage

PART A: General Information

Even if you are offered health coverage through your employment, you may have other coverage options through the Health Insurance Marketplace ("Marketplace"). To assist you as you evaluate options for you and your family, this notice provides some basic information about the Health Insurance Marketplace and health coverage offered through your employment.

What is the Health Insurance Marketplace?

The Marketplace is designed to help you find health insurance that meets your needs and fits your budget. The Marketplace offers "one-stop shopping" to find and compare private health insurance options in your geographic area.

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

You may qualify to save money and lower your monthly premium and other out-of-pocket costs, but only if your employer does not offer coverage, or offers coverage that is not considered affordable for you and doesn't meet certain minimum value standards (discussed below). The savings that you're eligible for depends on your household income. You may also be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your costs.

Does Employment-Based Health Coverage Affect Eligibility for Premium Savings through the Marketplace?

Yes. If you have an offer of health coverage from your employer that is considered affordable for you and meets certain minimum value standards, you will not be eligible for a tax credit, or advance payment of the tax credit, for your Marketplace coverage and may wish to enroll in your employment-based health plan. However, you may be eligible for a tax credit, and advance payments of the credit that lowers your monthly premium, or a reduction in certain cost-sharing, if your employer does not offer coverage to you at all or does not offer coverage that is considered affordable for you or meet minimum value standards. If your share of the premium cost of all plans offered to you through your employment is more than 9.12%¹ of your annual household income, or if the coverage through your employment does not meet the "minimum value" standard set by the Affordable Care Act, you may be eligible for a tax credit, and advance payment of the credit, if you do not enroll in the employment-based health coverage. For family members of the employee, coverage is considered affordable if the employee's cost of premiums for the lowest-cost plan that would cover all family members does not exceed 9.12% of the employee's household income.¹²

Note: If you purchase a health plan through the Marketplace instead of accepting health coverage offered through your employment, then you may lose access to whatever the employer contributes to the employment-based coverage. Also, this employer contribution -as well as your employee contribution to employment-based coverage- is generally excluded from income for federal and state income tax purposes. Your payments for coverage through the Marketplace are made on an after-tax basis. In addition, note that if

¹ Indexed annually; see <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/rp-22-34.pdf> for 2023.

² An employer-sponsored or other employment-based health plan meets the "minimum value standard" if the plan's share of the total allowed benefit costs covered by the plan is no less than 60 percent of such costs. For purposes of eligibility for the premium tax credit, to meet the "minimum value standard," the health plan must also provide substantial coverage of both inpatient hospital services and physician services.

the health coverage offered through your employment does not meet the affordability or minimum value standards, but you accept that coverage anyway, you will not be eligible for a tax credit. You should consider all of these factors in determining whether to purchase a health plan through the Marketplace.

When Can I Enroll in Health Insurance Coverage through the Marketplace?

You can enroll in a Marketplace health insurance plan during the annual Marketplace Open Enrollment Period. Open Enrollment varies by state but generally starts November 1 and continues through at least December 15.

Outside the annual Open Enrollment Period, you can sign up for health insurance if you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period. In general, you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period if you've had certain qualifying life events, such as getting married, having a baby, adopting a child, or losing eligibility for other health coverage. Depending on your Special Enrollment Period type, you may have 60 days before or 60 days following the qualifying life event to enroll in a Marketplace plan.

There is also a Marketplace Special Enrollment Period for individuals and their families who lose eligibility for Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage on or after March 31, 2023, through July 31, 2024. Since the onset of the nationwide COVID-19 public health emergency, state Medicaid and CHIP agencies generally have not terminated the enrollment of any Medicaid or CHIP beneficiary who was enrolled on or after March 18, 2020, through March 31, 2023. As state Medicaid and CHIP agencies resume regular eligibility and enrollment practices, many individuals may no longer be eligible for Medicaid or CHIP coverage starting as early as March 31, 2023. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services **is offering a temporary Marketplace Special Enrollment period to allow these individuals to enroll in Marketplace coverage.**

Marketplace-eligible individuals who live in states served by HealthCare.gov and either- submit a new application or update an existing application on HealthCare.gov between March 31, 2023 and July 31, 2024, and attest to a termination date of Medicaid or CHIP coverage within the same time period, are eligible for a 60-day Special Enrollment Period. **That means that if you lose Medicaid or CHIP coverage between March 31, 2023, and July 31, 2024, you may be able to enroll in Marketplace coverage within 60 days of when you lost Medicaid or CHIP coverage.** In addition, if you or your family members are enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP coverage, it is important to make sure that your contact information is up to date to make sure you get any information about changes to your eligibility. To learn more, visit HealthCare.gov or call the Marketplace Call Center at 1-800-318-2596. TTY users can call 1-855-889-4325.

What about Alternatives to Marketplace Health Insurance Coverage?

If you or your family are eligible for coverage in an employment-based health plan (such as an employer-sponsored health plan), you or your family may also be eligible for a Special Enrollment Period to enroll in that health plan in certain circumstances, including if you or your dependents were enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP coverage and lost that coverage. Generally, you have 60 days after the loss of Medicaid or CHIP coverage to enroll in an employment-based health plan, but if you and your family lost eligibility for Medicaid or CHIP coverage between March 31, 2023 and July 10, 2023, you can request this special enrollment in the employment-based health plan through September 8, 2023. Confirm the deadline with your employer or your employment-based health plan.

Alternatively, you can enroll in Medicaid or CHIP coverage at any time by filling out an application through the Marketplace or applying directly through your state Medicaid agency. Visit <https://www.healthcare.gov/medicaid-chip/getting-medicaid-chip/> for more details.

How Can I Get More Information?

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

Taylin Titus
901 Myrtle Avenue
Eureka, CA 95501

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

PART B: Information About Health Coverage Offered by Your Employer

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

3. Employer name North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group	4. Employer Identification Number (EIN) 707-445-7084	
5. Employer address 901 Myrtle Avenue	6. Employer phone number 707-445-7055	
7. City Eureka	8. State CA	9. ZIP code 95501
10. Who can we contact about employee health coverage at this job? Taylin Titus		
11. Phone number 707-445-7067	12. Email address TTitus@HCOE.org	

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

- As your employer, we offer a health plan to:
 - ☒ All employees
 - With respect to dependents:
 - ☒ We do offer coverage. Eligible dependents are: Spouse, Domestic Partner and Dependent Children
 - ☒ If checked, this coverage meets the minimum value standard, and the cost of this coverage to you is intended to be affordable, based on employee wages.

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

Aviso de Intercambio de Seguros de Salud

Para los empleadores que ofrecen un plan de salud a algunos o a todos los empleados

Cobertura del Mercado de Seguros Médicos Opciones y su cobertura de salud

PARTE A: Información general

Incluso si le ofrecen cobertura de salud a través de su empleo, es posible que tenga otras opciones de cobertura a través del Mercado de Seguros Médicos (“Mercado”). Para ayudarlo a evaluar las opciones para usted y su familia, este aviso proporciona cierta información básica sobre el Mercado de Seguros Médicos y la cobertura de salud ofrecida a través de su empleo.

¿Qué es el Mercado de Seguros Médicos?

El Mercado está diseñado para ayudarlo a encontrar un seguro médico que satisfaga sus necesidades y se ajuste a su presupuesto. El Mercado ofrece un “punto único de compra” para encontrar y comparar opciones de seguros médicos privados en su área geográfica.

¿Puedo ahorrar dinero en las primas de mi seguro médico en el Mercado?

Es posible que califique para ahorrar dinero y reducir su prima mensual y otros costos de bolsillo, pero solo si su empleador no ofrece cobertura o si ofrece cobertura que no se considera asequible para usted y no cumple con ciertas normas de valor mínimo (que se analizan a continuación). Los ahorros para los que es elegible dependen de los ingresos de su hogar. También puede ser elegible para un crédito fiscal que reduzca sus costos.

¿La cobertura de salud basada en el empleo afecta la elegibilidad para recibir ahorros en primas a través del Mercado?

Sí. Si tiene una oferta de cobertura de salud de su empleador que se considera asequible para usted y cumple con ciertas normas de valor mínimo, no será elegible para un crédito fiscal o pago por adelantado del crédito fiscal para su cobertura del Mercado y es posible que desee inscribirse en su plan de salud basado en el empleo. Sin embargo, usted puede ser elegible para un crédito fiscal y pagos por adelantado del crédito, que reducen su prima mensual, o una reducción en ciertos costos compartidos, si su empleador no le ofrece cobertura alguna o no le ofrece cobertura que se considera asequible para usted o cumple con las normas de valor mínimo. Si su participación del costo de la prima de todos los planes que se le ofrecen a través de su empleo es más del 9.12 %¹ de su ingreso familiar anual, o si la cobertura a través de su empleo no cumple con la norma de “valor mínimo” establecida por la Ley de Cuidado de la Salud a Bajo Precio, puede ser elegible para un crédito fiscal y el pago por adelantado del crédito, si no se inscribe en la cobertura de salud basada en el empleo. Para los miembros de la familia del empleado, la cobertura se considera asequible si el costo de las primas del plan de menor costo que cubriría a todos los miembros de la familia no excede el 9.12 % de los ingresos del hogar del empleado.¹²

¹ Indexado anualmente; consulte <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/rp-22-34.pdf> para 2023.

² Un plan de salud patrocinado por el empleador o basado en el empleo cumple con la “norma de valor mínimo” si la participación del plan en los costos totales de beneficios permitidos cubiertos por el plan no es inferior al 60 por ciento de dichos costos. A los efectos de la elegibilidad para el crédito fiscal para la prima, para cumplir con la “norma de valor mínimo”, el plan de salud también debe proporcionar una cobertura sustancial tanto de los servicios hospitalarios como de los servicios médicos para pacientes hospitalizados.

Nota: si compra un plan de salud a través del Mercado, en lugar de aceptar la cobertura de salud ofrecida a través de su empleo, entonces puede perder el acceso a todo lo que el empleador contribuya a la cobertura basada en el empleo. Además, esta contribución del empleador, así como la contribución de su empleado a la cobertura basada en el empleo, generalmente se excluye de los ingresos para efectos del impuesto sobre la renta federal y estatal. Sus pagos de cobertura a través del Mercado se realizan después de impuestos. Además, tenga en cuenta que, si la cobertura de salud ofrecida a través de su empleo no cumple con las normas de asequibilidad o valor mínimo, pero acepta esa cobertura de todos modos, no será elegible para un crédito fiscal. Debe considerar todos estos factores al determinar si debe comprar un plan de salud a través del Mercado.

¿Cuándo puedo inscribirme en una cobertura de seguro médico a través del Mercado?

Puede inscribirse en un plan de seguro médico del Mercado durante el Período de Inscripción Abierta anual del Mercado. La Inscripción Abierta varía según el estado, pero generalmente comienza el 1 de noviembre y continúa al menos hasta el 15 de diciembre.

Fuera del Período de Inscripción Abierta anual, puede inscribirse en un seguro médico si califica para un Período de Inscripción Especial. En general, usted califica para un Período de Inscripción Especial si ha tenido ciertos eventos de vida calificativos, como casarse, tener un bebé, adoptar un niño o perder la elegibilidad para otra cobertura de salud. Dependiendo de su tipo de Período de Inscripción Especial, es posible que tenga 60 días antes o 60 días después del evento de vida calificativo para inscribirse en un plan del Mercado.

También existe un Período de Inscripción Especial del Mercado para personas y sus familias que pierden la elegibilidad para la cobertura de Medicaid o del Programa de Seguro Médico para Niños (CHIP, por sus siglas en inglés) a partir del 31 de marzo de 2023 hasta el 31 de julio de 2024. Desde el inicio de la emergencia de salud pública del COVID-19 a nivel nacional, las agencias estatales de Medicaid y CHIP generalmente no han cancelado la inscripción de ningún beneficiario de Medicaid o CHIP que estuviera inscrito a partir del 18 de marzo de 2020 hasta el 31 de marzo de 2023. A medida que las agencias estatales de Medicaid y CHIP reanuden las prácticas habituales de elegibilidad e inscripción, es posible que muchas personas ya no sean elegibles para la cobertura de Medicaid o CHIP a partir del 31 de marzo de 2023. El Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de EE. UU. **ofrece un período temporal de Inscripción Especial en el Mercado para permitir que estas personas se inscriban en la cobertura del Mercado.**

Las personas elegibles para el Mercado que viven en estados atendidos por HealthCare.gov y que envían una nueva solicitud o actualizan una solicitud existente en HealthCare.gov entre el 31 de marzo de 2023 y el 31 de julio de 2024, y dan fe de una fecha de terminación de la cobertura de Medicaid o CHIP dentro del mismo período, son elegibles para un Período de Inscripción Especial de 60 días. **Eso significa que, si pierde la cobertura de Medicaid o CHIP entre el 31 de marzo de 2023 y el 31 de julio de 2024, es posible que pueda inscribirse en la cobertura del Mercado dentro de los 60 días posteriores a la pérdida de la cobertura de Medicaid o CHIP.** Además, si usted o los miembros de su familia están inscritos en la cobertura de Medicaid o CHIP, es importante asegurarse de que su información de contacto esté actualizada para asegurarse de recibir cualquier información sobre los cambios en su elegibilidad. Para obtener más información, visite HealthCare.gov o llame al Centro de Llamadas del Mercado al 1-800-318-2596. Los usuarios de TTY pueden llamar al 1-855-889-4325.

¿Qué pasa con las alternativas a la cobertura de seguro médico del Mercado?

Si usted o su familia son elegibles para la cobertura de un plan de salud basado en el empleo (como un plan de salud patrocinado por el empleador), usted o su familia también pueden ser elegibles para un Período de Inscripción Especial para inscribirse en ese plan de salud en ciertas circunstancias, incluso si usted o las

personas a su cargo estaban inscritos en la cobertura de Medicaid o CHIP y perdieron esa cobertura. Generalmente, tiene 60 días después de la pérdida de la cobertura de Medicaid o CHIP para inscribirse en un plan de salud basado en el empleo, pero si usted y su familia perdieron la elegibilidad para la cobertura de Medicaid o CHIP entre el 31 de marzo de 2023 y el 10 de julio de 2023, puede solicitar esta inscripción especial en el plan de salud basado en el empleo hasta el 8 de septiembre de 2023. Confirme la fecha límite con su empleador o con su plan de salud basado en el empleo.

Alternativamente, puede inscribirse en la cobertura de Medicaid o CHIP en cualquier momento completando una solicitud a través del Mercado o solicitando directamente a través de su agencia estatal de Medicaid. Visite <https://www.healthcare.gov/medicaid-chip/getting-medicaid-chip/> para obtener más detalles.

¿Cómo puedo obtener más información?

Para obtener más información sobre la cobertura que ofrece a través de su empleo, consulte el Resumen de la descripción del plan de salud o comuníquese con

Taylin Titus
901 Myrtle Avenue
Eureka, CA 95501

El Mercado puede ayudarlo a evaluar sus opciones de cobertura, incluida su elegibilidad para cobertura a través del Mercado y su costo. Visite [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) para obtener más información, incluida una solicitud en línea para cobertura de seguro médico e información de contacto de un Mercado de Seguros Médicos en su área.

PARTE B: Información sobre la cobertura de salud ofrecida por su empleador

Esta sección contiene información sobre cualquier cobertura de salud ofrecida por su empleador. Si decide completar una solicitud de cobertura en el Mercado, se le pedirá que proporcione esta información. Esta información está numerada según la solicitud del Mercado.

3. Nombre del empleador North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group	4. Número de identificación patronal (EIN) 707-445-7084	
5. Dirección del empleador 901 Myrtle Avenue	6. Número de teléfono del empleador 707-445-7055	
7. Ciudad Eureka	8. Estado CA	9. Código postal 95501
10. ¿A quién podemos contactar sobre la cobertura de salud de los empleados en este trabajo? Taylin Titus		
11. Número de teléfono (si es diferente al anterior) 707-445-7067	12. Dirección de correo electrónico TTitus@HCOE.org	

A continuación, se ofrece información básica sobre la cobertura de salud que ofrece este empleador:

- Como su empleador, ofrecemos un plan de salud para:
 - ☒ All employees
 - Respecto a los dependientes:
 - ☒ We do offer coverage. Eligible dependents are: Spouse, Domestic Partner and Dependent Children

☒ Si se marca, esta cobertura cumple con la norma de valor mínimo y el costo de esta cobertura para usted debe ser asequible, según los salarios de los empleados.

Nota: Incluso si su empleador tiene la intención de que su cobertura sea asequible, aún puede ser elegible para un descuento en la prima a través del Mercado. El Mercado utilizará los ingresos de su hogar, junto con otros factores, para determinar si puede ser elegible para un descuento en la prima. Si, por ejemplo, sus salarios varían de una semana a otra (quizás es un empleado por horas o trabaja por comisión), si es nuevo empleado a mitad de año o si tiene otras pérdidas de ingresos, aún puede calificar para un descuento en la prima.

Medicare Part D Creditable Coverage Notice

Important Notice from North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group 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 North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group 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:

1. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.
2. North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group Plan 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 15th to December 7th.

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 North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group coverage will be affected.

If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group 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 North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group 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 October to join.

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

Contact the person listed below for further information call Taylin Titus at 707-445-7067. 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 North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group 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: 4/2/2026

Name of Entity/Sender: North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group

Contact--Position/Office: Taylin Titus, Executive Director

Address: 901 Myrtle Avenue Eureka, CA 95501

Phone Number: 707-445-7067

Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA) Disclosure

The Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 generally requires group health plans and health insurance issuers to ensure that financial requirements (such as co-pays and deductibles) and treatment limitations (such as annual visit limits) applicable to mental health or substance use disorder benefits are no more restrictive than the predominant requirements or limitations applied to substantially all medical/surgical benefits. For information regarding the criteria for medical necessity determinations made under the plan with respect to mental health or substance use disorder benefits, please contact your plan administrator at 707-445-7067.

Michelle's Law Notice

Note: Pursuant to Michelle's Law, you are being provided with the following notice because the North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group group health plan provides dependent coverage beyond age 26 and bases eligibility for such dependent coverage on student status. Please review the following information with respect to your dependent child's rights under the plan in the event student status is lost.

When a dependent child loses student status for purposes of North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group group health plan coverage as a result of a medically necessary leave of absence from a post-secondary educational institution, the North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group group health plan will continue to provide coverage during the leave of absence for up to one year, or until coverage would otherwise terminate under the North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group group health plan, whichever is earlier.

In order to be eligible to continue coverage as a dependent during such leave of absence:

- The North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group group health plan must receive written certification by a treating physician of the dependent child which states that the child is suffering from a serious illness or injury and that the leave of absence (or other change of enrollment) is medically necessary

To obtain additional information, please contact:

Taylin Titus
901 Myrtle Avenue
Eureka, CA 95501

Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act Notice

Group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under Federal law, 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 cesarean section. However, Federal law generally does not prohibit the mother's or newborn's attending provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable). In any case, plans and issuers may not, under Federal law, require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan or the insurance issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours).

Your Rights and Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills

When you get emergency care or are treated by an out-of-network provider at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, you are protected from balance billing. In these cases, you shouldn't be charged more than your plan's copayments, coinsurance and/or deductible.

What is "balance billing" (sometimes called "surprise billing")?

When you see a doctor or other health care provider, you may owe certain [out-of-pocket costs](#), like a [copayment](#), [coinsurance](#), or [deductible](#). You may have additional costs or have to pay the entire bill if you see a provider or visit a health care facility that isn't in your health plan's network.

"Out-of-network" means providers and facilities that haven't signed a contract with your health plan to provide services. Out-of-network providers may be allowed to bill you for the difference between what your plan pays and the full amount charged for a service. This is called "**balance billing**." This amount is likely more than in-network costs for the same service and might not count toward your plan's deductible or annual out-of-pocket limit.

"Surprise billing" is an unexpected balance bill. This can happen when you can't control who is involved in your care—like when you have an emergency or when you schedule a visit at an in-network facility but are unexpectedly treated by an out-of-network provider. Surprise medical bills could cost thousands of dollars depending on the procedure or service.

You're protected from balance billing for:

Emergency services

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

See Plan Certificate

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

When you get services from an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, certain providers there may be out-of-network. In these cases, the most those providers can bill you is your plan's in-network cost-sharing amount. This applies to emergency medicine, anesthesia, pathology, radiology, laboratory, neonatology, assistant surgeon, hospitalist, or intensivist services. These providers **can't** balance bill you and may **not** ask you to give up your protections not to be balance billed.

If you get other types of services at these in-network facilities, out-of-network providers **can't**

balance bill you, unless you give written consent and give up your protections.

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

See Plan Certificate

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

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

If you think you've been wrongly billed, contact the No Surprises Help Desk, operated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, at 1-800-985-3059.

Visit www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers for more information about your rights under federal law.

Notice of Patient Protections

The North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group Plan generally allows the designation of a primary care provider. You have the right to designate any primary care provider who participates in our network and who is available to accept you or your family members. For information on how to select a primary care provider, and for a list of the participating primary care providers, contact:

Taylin Titus

901 Myrtle Avenue

Eureka, CA 95501

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

You do not need prior authorization from North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group 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 Taylin Titus at 901 Myrtle Avenue, Eureka, CA 95501, 707-445-7067, TTitus@HCOE.org.

Notice of Privacy Practices

North Coast Schools' Medical Insurance Group
901 Myrtle Avenue
Eureka, CA 95501

Privacy Official:

Taylin Titus
901 Myrtle Avenue
Eureka, CA 95501

Effective Date: 07/01/2025

Your Information. Your Rights. Our Responsibilities.

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

Your Rights

You have the right to:

- Get a copy of your health and claims records
- Correct your health and claims records
- Request confidential communication
- Ask us to limit the information we share
- Get a list of those with whom we've shared your information
- Get a copy of this privacy notice
- Choose someone to act for you
- File a complaint if you believe your privacy rights have been violated

Your Choices

You have some choices in the way that we use and share information as we:

- Answer coverage questions from your family and friends
- Provide disaster relief
- Market our services and sell your information

Our Uses and Disclosures

We may use and share your information as we:

- Help manage the health care treatment you receive
- Run our organization
- Pay for your health services
- Administer your health plan
- Help with public health and safety issues
- Do research
- Comply with the law

- Respond to organ and tissue donation requests and work with a medical examiner or funeral director
- Address workers' compensation, law enforcement, and other government requests
- Respond to lawsuits and legal actions

To the extent we have your substance use disorder patient records, subject to 42 CFR part 2, we will not share that information for investigations or legal proceedings against you without (1) your written consent or (2) a court order and a subpoena.

Your Rights

When it comes to your health information, you have certain rights. This section explains your rights and some of our responsibilities to help you.

Get a copy of health and claims records

- You can ask to see or get a copy of your health and claims records and other health information we have about you. Ask us how to do this.
- We will provide a copy or a summary of your health and claims records, usually within 30 days of your request. We may charge a reasonable, cost-based fee.

Ask us to correct health and claims records

- You can ask us to correct your health and claims records if you think they are incorrect or incomplete. Ask us how to do this.
- We may say "no" to your request, but we'll tell you why in writing within 60 days.

Request confidential communications

- You can ask us to contact you in a specific way (for example, home or office phone) or to send mail to a different address.
- We will consider all reasonable requests, and must say "yes" if you tell us you would be in danger if we do not.

Ask us to limit what we use or share

- You can ask us not to use or share certain health information for treatment, payment, or our operations.
- We are not required to agree to your request, and we may say "no," for example, if it could affect your care. If we agree to your request, we may still share this information in the event that you need emergency treatment.

Get a list of those with whom we've shared information

- You can ask for a list (accounting) of the times we've shared your health information for six years prior to the date you ask, who we shared it with, and why.
- We will include all the disclosures except for those about treatment, payment, and health care operations, and certain other disclosures (such as any you asked us to make). We'll provide one accounting a year for free but will charge a reasonable, cost-based fee if you ask for another one within 12 months.

Get a copy of this privacy notice

You can ask for a paper copy of this notice at any time, even if you have agreed to receive the notice electronically. We will provide you with a paper copy promptly.

Choose someone to act for you

- If someone has authority to act as your personal representative, such as if someone has your medical power of attorney or if someone is your legal guardian, that person can exercise your rights and make choices about your health information.
- We will make sure the person has this authority and can act for you before we take any action.

File a complaint if you feel your rights are violated

- You can complain if you feel we have violated your rights by contacting us at:
Taylin Titus
901 Myrtle Avenue
Eureka, CA 95501
- You can file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights by sending a letter to 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, calling 1-877-696-6775, or visiting <https://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/filing-a-complaint/index.html>.
- We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

Your Choices

For certain health information, you can tell us your choices about what we share. If you have a clear preference for how we share your information in the situations described below, talk to us. Tell us what you want us to do, and we will follow your instructions.

In these cases, you have both the right and choice to tell us to:

- Share information with your family, close friends, or others involved in payment for your care
- Share information in a disaster relief situation

If you are not able to tell us your preference, for example if you are unconscious, we may go ahead and share your information if we believe it is in your best interest. We may also share your information when needed to lessen a serious and imminent threat to health or safety.

In these cases we *never* share your information unless you give us written permission:

- Marketing purposes
- Sale of your information

Our Uses and Disclosures

How do we typically use or share your health information?

We typically use or share your health information in the following ways.

Help manage the health care treatment you receive

We can use your health information and share it with professionals who are treating you.

Example: A doctor sends us information about your diagnosis and treatment plan so we can arrange additional services.

Run our organization

- We can use and share your information to run our organization and contact you when necessary.
- We are not allowed to use genetic information to decide whether we will give you coverage and the price of that coverage. This does not apply to long term care plans.

Example: We use health information about you to develop better services for you.

Pay for your health services

We can use and disclose your health information as we pay for your health services.

Example: We share information about you with your dental plan to coordinate payment for your dental work.

Administer your plan

We may disclose your health information to your health plan sponsor for plan administration.

Example: Your company contracts with us to provide a health plan, and we provide your company with certain statistics to explain the premiums we charge.

How else can we use or share your health information?

We are allowed or required to share your information in other ways – usually in ways that contribute to the public good, such as public health and research. We have to meet many conditions in the law before we can share your information for these purposes. And in all cases, if we have substance use disorder patient records about you, subject to 42 CFR part 2, we cannot use or share information in those records in civil, criminal, administrative, or legislative investigations or proceedings against you without (1) your consent or (2) a court order and a subpoena.

Help with public health and safety issues

We can share health information about you for certain situations such as:

- Preventing disease
- Helping with product recalls
- Reporting adverse reactions to medications
- Reporting suspected abuse, neglect, or domestic violence
- Preventing or reducing a serious threat to anyone's health or safety

Do research

We can use or share your information for health research.

Comply with the law

We will share information about you if state or federal laws require it, including with the Department of Health and Human Services if it wants to see that we're complying with federal privacy law.

Respond to organ and tissue donation requests and work with a medical examiner or funeral director

- We can share health information about you with organ procurement organizations.
- We can share health information with a coroner, medical examiner, or funeral director when an individual dies.

Address workers' compensation, law enforcement, and other government requests

We can use or share health information about you:

- For workers' compensation claims
- For law enforcement purposes or with a law enforcement official
- With health oversight agencies for activities authorized by law
- For special government functions such as military, national security, and presidential protective services

Respond to lawsuits and legal actions

We can share health information about you in response to a court or administrative order, or in response to a subpoena.

Our Responsibilities

- We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your protected health information.
- We will let you know promptly if a breach occurs that may have compromised the privacy or security of your information.
- We must follow the duties and privacy practices described in this notice and give you a copy of it.
- We will not use or share your information other than as described in this notice unless you tell us we can in writing. If you tell us we can, you may change your mind at any time. Let us know in writing if you change your mind.

For more information, see: www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/noticepp.html.

Changes to the Terms of this Notice

We can change the terms of this notice, and the changes will apply to all information we have about you. The new notice will be available upon request, on our web site, and we will mail a copy to you.

Other Information

Notice of Special Enrollment Rights

If you are declining enrollment for yourself or your dependents (including your spouse) because of other health insurance or group health plan coverage, you may be able to 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 30 days after your or your dependents' other coverage ends (or after the employer stops contributing toward the other coverage).

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

If you or your dependent(s) lose coverage under a state Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) or Medicaid, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days after the loss of CHIP or Medicaid coverage.

If you or your dependent(s) become eligible to receive premium assistance under a state CHIP or Medicaid, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days of the determination of eligibility for premium assistance from state CHIP or Medicaid.

To request special enrollment or obtain more information, contact:

Taylin Titus

901 Myrtle Avenue

Eureka, CA 95501

USERRA Notice

Your Rights Under USERRA

A. The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act

USERRA protects the job rights of individuals who voluntarily or involuntarily leave employment positions to undertake military service or certain types of service in the National Disaster Medical System. USERRA also prohibits employers from discriminating against past and present members of the uniformed services, and applicants to the uniformed services.

B. Reemployment Rights

You have the right to be reemployed in your civilian job if you leave that job to perform service in the uniformed service and:

- You ensure that your employer receives advance written or verbal notice of your service;
- You have five years or less of cumulative service in the uniformed services while with that particular employer;
- You return to work or apply for reemployment in a timely manner after conclusion of service; and
- You have not been separated from service with a disqualifying discharge or under other than honorable conditions.

If you are eligible to be reemployed, you must be restored to the job and benefits you would have attained if you had not been absent due to military service or, in some cases, a comparable job.

C. Right to Be Free from Discrimination and Retaliation

If you:

- Are a past or present member of the uniformed service;
- Have applied for membership in the uniformed service; or
- Are obligated to serve in the uniformed service; then an employer may not deny you
 - Initial employment;
 - Reemployment;
 - Retention in employment;
 - Promotion; or
 - Any benefit of employment because of this status.

In addition, an employer may not retaliate against anyone assisting in the enforcement of USERRA rights, including testifying or making a statement in connection with a proceeding under USERRA, even if that person has no service connection.

D. Health Insurance Protection

- If you leave your job to perform military service, you have the right to elect to continue your existing employer-based health plan coverage for you and your dependents for up to 24 months while in the military.
- Even if you do not elect to continue coverage during your military service, you have the right to be reinstated in your employer's health plan when you are reemployed, generally without any waiting periods or exclusions (e.g., pre-existing condition exclusions) except for service-connected illnesses or injuries.

E. Enforcement

- The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) is authorized to investigate and resolve complaints of USERRA violations.

For assistance in filing a complaint, or for any other information on USERRA, contact VETS at 1-866-4-USA-DOL or visit its Web site at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets>. An interactive online USERRA Advisor can be viewed at <https://webapps.dol.gov/elaws/vets/userra/>.

- If you file a complaint with VETS and VETS is unable to resolve it, you may request that your case be referred to the Department of Justice or the Office of Special Counsel, as applicable, for representation.
- You may also bypass the VETS process and bring a civil action against an employer for violations of USERRA.

The rights listed here may vary depending on the circumstances. The text of this notice was prepared by VETS, and may be viewed on the Internet at this address: <https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/VETS/files/USERRA-Poster.pdf>. Federal law requires employers to notify employees of their rights under USERRA, and employers may meet this requirement by displaying the text of this notice where they customarily place notices for employees. U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans' Employment and Training Service, 1-866-487-2365.

Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act (WHCRA) Notices

Enrollment Notice

If you have had or are going to have a mastectomy, you may be entitled to certain benefits under the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 (WHCRA). For individuals receiving mastectomy-related benefits, coverage will be provided in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, for:

- All stages of reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed;
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance;
- Prostheses; and
- Treatment of physical complications of the mastectomy, including lymphedema.

These benefits will be provided subject to the same deductibles and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under this plan. Therefore, the following deductibles and coinsurance apply: \$0 deductible (in-network) and 0% coinsurance (in-network). If you would like more information on WHCRA benefits, call your plan administrator at 707-445-7067.

Annual Notice

Do you know that your plan, as required by the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998, provides benefits for mastectomy-related services including all stages of reconstruction and surgery to achieve symmetry between the breasts, prostheses, and complications resulting from a mastectomy, including lymphedema? Call your plan administrator at 707-445-7067 for more information.