Escambia County Public Schools 2024 Annual Required Notices

The following pages include:

• Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage Options
• Premium Assistance Under Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
• HIPAA Special Enrollment Notice
• Patient Protections Notice
• Notice of Availability – ECSD Health Plan Notice of Privacy Practices
• Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act Notice
• Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare
• Collection of Medicare Health Insurance Claim Numbers (HICNs), Social Security Numbers (SSNs) and Employer Identification Numbers (EINs) (Tax Identification Numbers) – ALERT
• Coverage Continuation Rights under COBRA
• Notice Regarding Wellness Programs
• Protections from Disclosure of Medical Information

NOTE: This statement is intended to summarize the benefits you receive from The Escambia County School District. The actual determination of your benefits is based solely on the plan documents provided by the carrier of each plan. This summary is not legally binding, is not a contract, and does not alter any original plan documents. For additional information, please contact the Human Resources department.
Important Notice 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 ECSD and about your options under Medicare’s prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether or not you want to join a Medicare drug plan. If you are considering joining, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered at what cost, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice.

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

- Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.

- ECSD has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the ECSD 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 ECSD coverage will not be affected. If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current ECSD coverage, be aware that you and your dependents will not be able to get this coverage back until the next enrollment period, unless you experience a qualified life event. Note that your current coverage pays for other health expenses in addition to prescription drugs, and you will still be eligible to receive all of your current health and prescription drug benefits if you choose to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan and keep your coverage under the ECSD plan.

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 ECSD 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. 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 ECSD 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: September 20, 2023
Name of Entity/Sender: Escambia County School District Florida
Contact/Position/Office: Risk Management and Benefits Department
Address: 75 North Pace Blvd, Pensacola, FL 32505
Phone Number: 850-469-6267

HIPAA Special Enrollment Opportunity

If you are declining enrollment for yourself or your dependents (including your spouse) because of other health insurance or group 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).

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

Also, if you or your dependents lose eligibility for coverage under Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) or become eligible for a premium assistance subsidy under Medicaid or CHIP, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan. You must request enrollment within 60 days of the loss of Medicaid or CHIP coverage or the determination of eligibility for a premium assistance subsidy.

To request special enrollment or obtain more information, contact Florida Blue at 800-545-6565. A federal law called HIPAA requires that we notify your right to enroll in the plan under its “special enrollment provision” if you acquire a new dependent, or if you decline coverage under this plan for yourself or an eligible dependent while other coverage is in effect and later lose that other coverage for certain qualifying reasons.
Special Enrollment Provision

Loss of Other Coverage (Except Medicaid or a State Children’s Health Insurance Program). If you decline enrollment for yourself or for an eligible dependent (including your spouse) while other health insurance or group health plan coverage is in effect, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage (or if the employer stops contributing toward your or your dependents’ other coverage). However, you must request enrollment within 31 days after your or your dependents’ other coverage ends (or after the employer stops contributing toward the other coverage).

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

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

Eligibility for Medicaid or a State Children’s Health Insurance Program. If you or your dependents (including your spouse) become eligible for a state premium assistance subsidy or Medicaid or a State Children’s Health Insurance Program if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage. However, you must request enrollment within 60 days after your or your dependents’ other coverage ends or after the employer stops contributing toward the other coverage.

These benefits will be provided subject to the same deductibles and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under the group medical plan. If you would like more information on ECSD benefits, call your plan administrator.

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 850-973-1536 for more information.

Newborns and Mothers’ Health Protection Act of 1996
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).

Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Notice

What does the Family and Medical leave act provide?
The Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) provides eligible employees up to 12 work weeks of unpaid leave a year and requires group health benefits to be maintained during the leave as if employees continued to work instead of taking leave. Employees are also entitled to return to their same or an equivalent job at the end of their FMLA leave.

Who can take FMLA leave?
To be eligible to take leave under FMLA an employee must:
- Have worked 1,250 hours during the 12 months prior to the start of the leave (Note: Full-time teachers and other exempt employees are assumed to have worked 1,250 hours unless proven otherwise), and
- Have worked for the employer for 12 months (in total, not consecutive) within the last 7 years.

When can an eligible employee use FMLA leave?
A covered employer must grant an eligible employee up to a total of 12 work weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave (26 weeks in the case of military caregiver leave described below) in a 12-month period for one or more of the following reasons:
- For the birth of a child:
- For the placement with the employee of a child for adoption or foster care;
- To take medical leave when the employee is unable to work due to a serious health condition;
- To care for an immediate family member (spouse, child or parent—but not parent “in-law”) with a serious health condition;
- To care for a spouse, son, daughter, parent or next-of-kin on covered active-duty service with a service-related serious health condition or injury;
- To care for a parent who is a covered active-duty service member on covered active-duty service with a service-related serious health condition or injury;
- To care for a covered active-duty service member in connection with the service member’s deployment for military reasons;
- To care for a covered active-duty service member during the covered active-duty service member’s covered active-duty service;
- To care for a child with a serious health condition;
- To care for a parent of the employee, son, daughter, parent or next-of-kin who is a covered active-duty service member on covered active-duty service with a serious health condition;
- To care for a child who is a covered active-duty service member on covered active-duty service with a serious health condition;
- To care for a covered active-duty service member in connection with the service member’s covered active-duty service;

Important Legal Notices

Woman's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998
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.
• To deal with a qualifying emergency arising from a son’s, daughter’s, spouse’s or parent’s (but not parent “in-laws”) active-duty service or call to active-duty service for deployment to a foreign country.

Responsibilities to the School District of Escambia County Employees Requesting Leave.
It is the responsibility of the employee to notify their supervisor and provide at least thirty (30) days’ notice before the date the FMLA leave is to begin if the need for the leave is foreseeable. If the need for the leave is not foreseeable, you must give notice that you need to take a leave of absence as soon as practicable, but in no circumstances later than the next business day after you become aware of the need for the leave. If you fail to adhere to these timeframes for notice, your request for leave may be delayed or denied. The required forms will be provided to you by the administrative office at your work location or the Human Resources Department.

Procedures on what you should do when taking a leave under FMLA:
• Inform your immediate supervisor at your work location.
• Request FMLA forms (4-part packet) from your work location or Human Resources.
• Submit a request for leave (normal form submitted when taking time off) it can be signed by your administrator to confirm notification, but final approval is received from the Human Resources department.
• Contact Payroll to discuss how this leave will impact your pay.
• Complete and submit all required forms to Human Resources for processing.
• Contact Benefits to discuss premium payment while on unpaid leave OR if leave will be unpaid, contact the Benefits Team to discuss premium payments.

Contact: Employee Benefit Specialist
Address: 75 North Pace Blvd., Pensacola, FL 32505
Phone: 850.469.6267

Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC) Availability Notice
As required under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, insurance companies and group health plans are providing consumers with a concise document detailing, in plain language, simple and consistent information about health plan benefits and coverage. The purpose of the summary of benefits and coverage document is to help you better understand the coverage you have while allowing you to easily compare different coverage options. It summarizes the key features of the plan, such as the covered benefits, cost-sharing provisions, and coverage limitations and exceptions.

As a result of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (i.e., health care reform), Escambia County School District is required to make available a Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC), which summarizes important health plan information such as plan limits, coinsurance, and copays. The SBC is intended to provide this information in a standard format to help you compare across health plan options.

Please note that an SBC is not intended to be a complete listing of all of the plan provisions. For more detailed information, please refer to the SPD and the plan document, collectively known as the plan documents. If there are any discrepancies between the SBC and the plan documents, the plan documents prevail. Plan Documents are also available by contacting the Employee Benefit Department.

Discrimination is Against the Law
Escambia County School District complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Escambia County School District does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

Escambia County School District provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:
- Qualified sign language interpreters
- Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats)
- Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:
  - Qualified interpreters
  - Information written in other languages.

If you need these services, contact Equity & Compliance Officer. If you believe that School District of Escambia County has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with:

Name & Title—Melia Adams, Director of Human Resources
Address—75 North Pace Blvd., Pensacola, FL 32505
Phone—850.469.6102
Email—madams@escdfl.us

Social Security Numbers Generally Required for Enrollment
Under Section 111 of the Medicare, Medicaid, and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007 (MMSEA), the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) generally requires Social Security numbers for employees and dependents to assist with reporting under the Medicare Secondary Payer requirements. Accordingly, School District of Indian River will require that you provide Social Security numbers at the time of enrollment, so that School District of Escambia County can assist its health plan administrator(s) to comply with this requirement.

For a newborn or newly adopted child, the newborn may be enrolled, provided that School District of Escambia is notified within 30 days of the birth, adoption, or placement for adoption. However, if a Social Security number is not provided by the later of (1) the end of the plan year, or (2) 90 days following the birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, the child will be disenrolled from the plan and will no longer be considered eligible for coverage. The child cannot be re-enrolled until the Social Security number is provided, and the child meets one of the mid-year enrollment or change in status coverage events.

COBRA
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.

Your Group Benefits Under Section 125 – Qualifying Events
Your employee benefit program is a Premium Conversion Plan (“Plan”) that is administered under the provisions of Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code (“Code”). These provisions permit your contributions for various employee benefit plans to be deducted from your gross pay before calculation of withholding taxes. The result is that you have fewer taxes deducted from your paycheck, which increases your take home pay.

Plan elections you make during your initial enrollment and annual enrollment periods are binding for the applicable Plan year. In addition to the HIPAA Special Enrollment Right certain permitted mid-year Plan election changes are permitted. These permitted election changes are discussed below.

All enrollment changes due to a permitted election change are subject to the approval of the Plan Administrator. The Plan Administrator will have the discretionary authority to make a determination as to whether an election change has occurred in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Internal Revenue Service.

Change in Status
Please see the Notice of HIPAA Special Enrollment Rights for election change during the Plan Year if you experience a Change in Status event. You must notify the Plan Administrator within 31 days of the event. Any election change due to a Change in Status event must be on account of and consistent with your Change in Status as determined by the Plan Administrator.

Generally, an election change will be considered consistent with your Change in Status only if it is on account of and corresponds with a Change in Status that affects an individual’s eligibility for coverage under the Plan or a plan maintained by the employer of your Dependent. A Change in Status that affects eligibility under an employer’s health plan includes a Change in Status that results in an increase or decrease in the number of your Dependents who may benefit from coverage under the Plan.

Permitted Change in Status events under the Plan include the following:
• Change in your legal marital status due to marriage, divorce, legal separation, annulment, or death of your spouse, or you enter into a domestic partnership, dissolve a domestic partnership or your Domestic Partner dies.
• Change in the number of your Dependents due to birth, death, adoption, or placement for adoption.
• Change in employment status of you, your covered Dependents including a termination or commencement of employment, commencement of or return from an unpaid leave of absence, a change in worksite, or any other change in employment status, if such change in employment status affects eligibility under a plan.
• Change in eligibility status of your Dependent Child(ren) on account of age, or any other circumstance affecting eligibility.
• Change in residence of you or your covered Dependent.

Qualified Medical Child Support Orders. If required by a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (“QMCSO”), you and/or an eligible dependent will be enrolled in the Plan in accordance with the terms of the order. Any required premiums will be deducted from your compensation. Upon request to the Plan Administrator, you may obtain, without charge, a copy of the Medical Plan’s procedures governing QMCSO determinations.

You may make an election change to cancel coverage for your child if a QMCSO requires your spouse, former spouse, or other individual to provide coverage for the child; and that coverage is actually provided.

Entitlement To or Loss of Entitlement To Medicare or Medicaid. If you or your Covered Dependent becomes entitled to coverage (i.e., becomes enrolled) under Part A or Part B of Medicare or Medicaid, other than coverage consisting solely of benefits under section 1928 of the Social Security Act (the program for distribution of pediatric vaccines), you may make a prospective election change to cancel or reduce coverage under the Plan for you or your applicable covered Dependent. In addition, if you or an eligible Dependent has been entitled to coverage under Medicare or Medicaid and loses eligibility for such coverage, you may make a prospective election to commence or increase your or your eligible Dependent’s coverage, as appropriate, under the Plan.

Significant Change in Cost or Coverage Changes. You may also change your election mid-year due to a significant change in Plan cost or coverage, as provided below.
Significant cost changes. If the cost you are charged for a coverage option significantly increases or decreases during the Plan Year, you may make a corresponding change to your Plan election. Changes that may be made include commencing participation in the Plan for an option with a decrease in cost, or, in the case of an increase in cost, revoking an election for that coverage and, in lieu thereof, either receiving on a prospective basis coverage under a Plan option providing similar coverage or dropping coverage if no option providing similar coverage is available.

Significant coverage changes curtailment with or without loss of coverage.

Significant curtailment without loss of coverage. If you or your covered Dependent has a curtailment of coverage under the Plan that is significant but does not represent a total loss of coverage (for example, there is a significant increase in the deductible, the co-pay, or the out-of-pocket cost sharing limit), you may revoke your Plan election and elect to receive on a prospective basis coverage under another Plan option providing similar coverage. Coverage under the Plan is significantly curtailed only if there is an overall reduction in coverage provided under the Plan so as to constitute reduced coverage generally. Thus, in most cases, the loss of one particular physician in a network does not constitute a significant curtailment.

Significant curtailment with loss of coverage. If you or your covered Dependent has a curtailment of coverage under the Plan that constitutes a total loss of coverage, you may revoke your Plan election and elect to receive on a prospective basis coverage under another Plan option providing similar coverage or to drop coverage if no similar option is available. A loss of coverage means a complete loss of coverage under the Plan option or other option available.

Addition or improvement of a benefit package option. If the Plan adds a new coverage option, or if coverage under an existing coverage option is significantly improved during the Plan Year, the Plan may permit eligible employees (whether or not they have previously made an election under the Plan or have previously elected a coverage option) to revoke their election under the Plan and to make an election on a prospective basis for coverage under the new or improved coverage option.

Change in coverage under another employer plan. You may make a prospective election change that is on account of and corresponds with a change made under another employer plan if (i) the other plan permits participants to change an election as described in this section, and (ii) the other plan permits participants to make an election for a period of coverage that is other than the Plan Year. For example, if you elect coverage through your spouse’s employer’s plan and that plan has a different annual enrollment period from this Plan, you may make a corresponding election change.

Family and Medical Leave Act. If you take leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) you may revoke an existing Plan election and make another election for the remaining portion of the Plan year as may be provided for under the FMLA and regulations of the Internal Revenue Service.

Exchange Enrollment. Two mid-year election changes will be available to participants who meet the requirements of these election changes.

Reduction of Hours. If your hours are reduced to an expected average of less than 30 hours per week, you may revoke your election for coverage under the Plan if you intend to enroll in coverage offered in a government-sponsored Exchange (Marketplace) or in another group health plan that offers minimal essential coverage. This election change may be made even if the reduction in your hours would not cause you to lose coverage under the Plan. You will be required to provide the Plan Administrator with evidence that you intend to enroll in another plan with coverage effective no later than the first day of the second month following the revocation (i.e., if your coverage is revoked in May, coverage under the new plan must begin on July 1).

Obtaining Cover Through the Health Insurance Marketplace. If you are enrolled in the Plan and are eligible to enroll for coverage in a government-sponsored Exchange (Marketplace) during a special or annual open enrollment period, you may prospectively revoke your election for Plan coverage, provided that you certify that you and any related individuals whose coverage is being revoked have enrolled or intend to enroll for new Exchange coverage that is effective beginning no later than the day immediately following the last day of Plan coverage.

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.askebssa.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 July 31, 2023. Contact your State for more information on eligibility.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>Medicaid Program</th>
<th>CHIP+</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ALABAMA – Medicaid</td>
<td>The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment Program</td>
<td>Medicaid (CHP+)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Website: <a href="http://myakipp.com/">http://myakipp.com/</a></td>
<td>Phone: 1-866-992-4447</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com">CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:hipp@dhcs.ca.gov">hipp@dhcs.ca.gov</a></td>
<td>Fax: 916-440-5676</td>
<td>Phone: 916-445-8322</td>
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<td>ALASKA – Medicaid</td>
<td><a href="http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp">Website:Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPPP) Program</a></td>
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<td>ARKANSAS – Medicaid</td>
<td>Medicaid Eligibility: <a href="https://health.alaska.gov/dosp/Pages/default.aspx">https://health.alaska.gov/dosp/Pages/default.aspx</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Website: <a href="http://myalipp.com/">http://myalipp.com/</a></td>
<td>Phone: 1-888-251-4861</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com">CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com</a></td>
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<td>Email: <a href="mailto:CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com">CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com</a></td>
<td>Phone: 1-866-251-4861</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com">CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com</a></td>
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<td>CALIFORNIA – Medicaid</td>
<td><a href="http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp">Website:Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPPP) Program</a></td>
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<td>Website: <a href="http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp">http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp</a></td>
<td>Phone: 1-866-444-EBSA (3272)</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com">CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com</a></td>
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<td>Email: <a href="mailto:CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com">CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com</a></td>
<td>Phone: 1-866-444-EBSA (3272)</td>
<td>Email: <a href="mailto:CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com">CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com</a></td>
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<td>COLORADO – Health First Colorado (Colorado’s Medicaid Program) &amp; Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)</td>
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<td>HIPP Phone: 1-800-457-4584</td>
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<td>HAWKI Phone: 1-800-792-4684</td>
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<td>Phone: 1-800-257-8563</td>
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<td>Phone: 1-888-342-6207</td>
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<td>Phone: 1-888-455-3747</td>
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<td>Phone: 973-406-1212, Press 2</td>
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<td>NORTH CAROLINA</td>
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<td>Website: <a href="https://www.dhs.wa.gov/">https://www.dhs.wa.gov/</a></td>
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<td>Medicaid/CHIP Phone: 1-800-432-5924</td>
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<td>WISCONSIN</td>
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<td>Phone: 1-888-605-8547</td>
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</table>

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since July 31, 2023, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor Employee Benefits Security Administration

[website]

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

[website]

Important Legal Notices

1-800-852-3345, ext. 5218
New Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage Options and Your Health Coverage

PART A: General Information

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

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

Can I Save Money on my Health Insurance Premiums in the Marketplace?
You may qualify to save money and lower your monthly premium, but only if your employer does not offer coverage, or offers coverage that doesn’t meet certain standards. The savings on your premium that you’re eligible for depends on your household income.

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

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

How Can I Get More Information?
For more information about your coverage offered by your employer, please check your summary plan description or contact Escambia County School District. The Marketplace can help you evaluate your coverage options, including your eligibility for coverage through the Marketplace and its cost. Please visit HealthCare.gov for more information, including an online application for health insurance coverage and contact information for a Health Insurance Marketplace in your area.

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

PART B: Information About Health Coverage Offered by Your Employer

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. Employer name: School District of Escambia County</th>
<th>4. Employer Identification Number (EIN)</th>
<th>59-6000438</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6. Employer address 75 North Pace Blvd.</td>
<td>8. Employer phone number 850.469.0267</td>
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<tr>
<td>10. Who can we contact about employee health coverage at this job? Benefit Specialist – Risk Management &amp; Benefits</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>11. Phone number (if different from above)</td>
<td>12. Email address <a href="mailto:benefits@ecsdfl.us">benefits@ecsdfl.us</a></td>
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Here are some basic information about health coverage offered by this employer:

- As your employer, we offer a health plan to:
  - All employees. Eligible employees are:
    - All regular employees working at least 20 hours per week.

With respect to dependents:

We do offer coverage. Eligible dependents are:

An employee’s legal spouse, the covered employee’s natural newborn, adopted or stepchild(ren) until the end of the plan in which he or she turns 26, the newborn child of a covered dependent child for 18 months after birth, and handicapped children beyond age 26. See Summary Plan Description for more information.

We do not offer coverage.
If checked, this coverage meets the minimum value standard, and the cost of this coverage to you is intended to be affordable, based on employee wages.

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

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**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:**

1. **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.

2. **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.

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

1. 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.
2. Generally, your health plan must:
   3. Cover emergency services without requiring you to get approval for services in advance (also known as “prior authorization”).
   4. Cover emergency services by out-of-network providers.
   5. 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.
   6. 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 1-800-985-3059 for information and complaints. Visit www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers for more information about your rights under federal law.