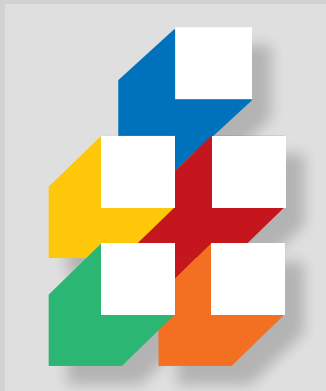




**Building Service 32BJ Health Fund**  
**Empire Tri-State Plan**



**Summary Plan Description**

January 1, 2015



## Translation Notice

This booklet contains a summary in English of your Plan rights and benefits under the Building Service 32BJ Health Fund. If you have difficulty understanding any part of this booklet, contact Member Services at 1-800-551-3225 for assistance or write to:

Member Services  
Building Service 32BJ Health Fund  
25 West 18th Street  
New York, NY 10011-4676

The office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. You may also visit [www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org).

Este folleto contiene un resumen en inglés de sus derechos y beneficios con el Plan del Building Service 32BJ Health Fund. Si tiene alguna dificultad para entender cualquier parte de este folleto, contacte al Centro de servicios para afiliados al 1-800-551-3225 para recibir asistencia, o escriba a la dirección siguiente:

Member Services  
Building Service 32BJ Health Fund  
25 West 18th Street  
New York, NY 10011-4676

El horario de oficina es de 8:30 a.m. a 5:00 p.m., de lunes a viernes. También puede visitar [www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org).

Kjo broshurë përmban një përmbledhje në anglisht, në lidhje me të drejtat dhe përfitimet tuaja të Planit nën Building Service 32BJ Health Fund. Nëse keni vështirësi për të kuptuar ndonjë pjesë të kësaj broshure, kontaktoni Shërbimin e Anëtarit në numrin 1-800-551-3225 për ndihmë ose mund të shkruani tek:

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25 West 18th Street  
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Orari zyrtar është nga ora 8:30 deri më 17:00, nga e hëna deri të premten. Gjithashtu, ju mund të vizitoni faqen e Internetit [www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org).

Niniejsza broszura zawiera opis, w języku angielskim, Twoich praw i świadczeń w ramach Planu Building Service 32BJ Health Fund. W przypadku jakichkolwiek trudności ze zrozumieniem dowolnej części broszury, prosimy skontaktować się z Centrum obsługi członków pod numerem telefonu 1-800-551-3225 lub pisemnie na adres:

Member Services  
Building Service 32BJ Health Fund  
25 West 18th Street  
New York, NY 10011-4676

Biuro czynne jest w godzinach od 8:30 do 17:00 od poniedziałku do piątku. Można również odwiedzić naszą stronę pod adresem [www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org).

**Building Service 32BJ  
Health Fund**

25 West 18th Street, New York, NY 10011-4676  
Telephone: 1-800-551-3225

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## Important Notice

This booklet is both the Plan document and the Summary Plan Description (“SPD”) of the plan of benefits (“the Plan”) of the Building Service 32BJ Health Fund’s (“the Fund”) Tri-State Plan of benefits for purposes of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”), as amended. The terms contained herein constitute the terms of the Plan.<sup>(1)</sup> Your rights to benefits can only be determined by this SPD, as interpreted by official action of the Board of Trustees (“the Board”). You should refer to this booklet when you need information about your Plan benefits. In addition, the Board reserves the right, in its sole and absolute discretion, to amend the Plan at any time.

In the event of conflict or ambiguity between this SPD, the insurance contracts, or your collective bargaining agreement, this SPD will control. Also in the event there is any conflict between the terms and conditions for the Plan benefits as set forth in the SPD and any oral advice you receive from a Building Service 32BJ Benefit Funds employee or union representative, the terms and conditions set forth in this booklet control.

- Save this booklet – put it in a safe place. If you lose a copy, you can ask Member Services for another or obtain it from [www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org).
- If you change your name or address – notify Member Services immediately by calling 1-800-551-3225 so your records are up-to-date.
- Words that appear in **boldface** print are defined in the Glossary.
- Throughout this booklet, the words “you” and “your” refer to participants whose employment makes them eligible for Plan benefits.

<sup>(1)</sup> This SPD is the plan document for the Tri-State Plan, which includes the hospital, medical, mental health and substance abuse, prescription drug, dental, vision, life insurance and accidental death and dismemberment benefits, pensioner death benefit, and short-term disability. Insurance contracts from MetLife and Guardian are the plan documents for the Life and Accidental Death & Dismemberment Insurance and Short-Term Disability Plans. The plans and the benefits they pay are limited by all the terms, exclusions, and limitations of those contracts in force at the time of the covered incident. The Board reserves the right to change insurance carriers and contracts. If the Board makes any such changes, the benefits coverage described in this SPD may not be accurate. You may request copies of the insurance contracts from MetLife and Guardian.

The word “dependent” refers to a family member of a participant who is eligible for Plan benefits. In the sections describing the benefits payable to participants and dependent(s), the words “you” and “your” may also be used to refer to the patient.

- This booklet describes the provisions of the Plan in effect as of January 1, 2015.
- Effective April 1, 2015, this booklet covers participants in the Tri-State Plan who are covered by the Empire BlueCross BlueShield Direct Point-of-Service (“POS”) **network** because they work in Connecticut, New Jersey or the New York City metropolitan area. There is a different booklet which covers Tri-State Plan participants who work outside this area.
- The level of contributions provided for in your collective bargaining agreement or participation agreement determines the Plan for which you are eligible. In general, the Tri-State Plan covers certain participants who work outside of New York City, for example in New Jersey, Connecticut, Westchester County or Long Island.

While the Fund provides other plans, they are not described in this booklet. If you are unsure about which plan applies to you, contact Member Services for information.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What benefits does the Plan provide?

The Plan provides a comprehensive program of benefits, including:

- hospital,
- medical,
- mental health and substance abuse,
- prescription drug,
- dental,
- vision,
- short-term disability in Connecticut, if provided by your Collective Bargaining Agreement (“CBA”),
- life insurance,
- accidental death and dismemberment, and
- death benefit for pensioners.

Each of these benefits is described in detail later in this booklet.

### 2. Are my dependent(s) eligible?

Yes, if your collective bargaining or participation agreement provides for family coverage. In general, your covered dependent(s) include your spouse and your children until they reach 26 years of age. (See the tables on pages 21–23 for a fuller description of dependent(s)).

### 3. What do I have to do to cover my dependent(s)?

- Fill out and return the appropriate form, and
- Provide documentation that proves the individual you want to enroll is your dependent. For example, you must provide a marriage certificate to cover your spouse or a birth certificate for a dependent child.

You can get forms from:

- The website [www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org)
- Member Services by calling 1-800-551-3225.

#### 4. What happens if I get married or have a baby?

You must:

- Notify the Fund within 30 days of the date of marriage or birth,
- Fill out and return the appropriate form, and
- Provide documentation proving the relationship.

If you notify the Fund within 30 days, your dependent will be covered from the date of the event (birth, adoption, marriage). If you do not notify the Fund within 30 days of the event, your spouse/child will only be covered prospectively from the date you notify the Fund.

#### 5. How do I know if my doctor is in-network?

To find out if your **doctor** is in the Empire BlueCross BlueShield Direct Point-of-Service (“POS”) **network**:<sup>(2)</sup>

- Visit the website [www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org), or
- Call Member Services at 1-800-551-3225.

#### 6. What is my out-of-pocket cost to see a network doctor?

There are two types of **doctors** in the **network**: 5 Star Center providers and **participating providers**. 5 Star Center providers are providers who have earned certification as a Patient-Centered Medical Home from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (“NCQA”) and who have agreed to work with the Fund. If you receive care at a 5 Star Center, you will pay the least amount. See below:

	5 Star Center Providers	Participating Providers
Doctor Office Visits	\$0 co-payment/visit	\$40 co-payment/visit

#### 7. What happens when I need care away from home?

You are covered. Make sure you use a **participating provider** in a local BlueCross BlueShield **network**.

<sup>(2)</sup> Participants living in Connecticut, New Jersey, New York City or its surrounding area counties in New York have the POS **network**. Those living outside this area have the Empire Preferred Provider Organization (“PPO”) **network**.

#### 8. How do I find a 5 Star Center provider with a \$0 co-payment?

- Visit the website [www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org), or
- Call Member Services at 1-800-551-3225.

#### 9. What happens if I see a non-participating doctor?

You will pay more. You will have to pay:

- \$1,000 (the annual **deductible**),
- 50% of the **allowed amount**, and
- All charges above the **allowed amount**.

#### 10. What is the allowed amount?

The **allowed amount** is not what the **doctor** charges you. It is the amount that the Plan will pay for a **covered service**, and it is generally a much lower amount than what the **doctor** charges you.

#### 11. Are there any limits on the number of times I can see a doctor?

Generally there are no limits on the number of times you can see a **doctor**. However, there are some limits on certain types of services. For example, treatment for allergy care is covered up to 13 visits per year, 2 of which can be testing visits. (See pages 38–51 for all services with visit limits.)

#### 12. What is my out-of-pocket cost for an emergency room visit?

\$100 each for the first 2 emergency room visits per calendar year, \$200 for each visit thereafter.

#### 13. Is prior authorization required to receive services? Do I need to get permission before I can use some services?

Yes, prior authorization is required for the following services:

- Hi-tech Imaging (CT/PET scans, MRIs/MRAs and Nuclear Medicine tests),
- Other Imaging Services (bone density testing and echo stress tests),
- Hospital and inpatient surgery,
- Inpatient and intensive outpatient Mental/Behavioral Health,
- Inpatient and intensive outpatient Substance Abuse Disorder,
- Rehabilitation Services,



- Radiation Therapy,
- Skilled Nursing Care,
- Hospice Service (inpatient only),
- Durable Medical Equipment,
- Physical and Occupational Therapy,
- Air ambulance (non-emergency), and
- Ambulatory surgery (reconstructive and optical procedures).

When you use **participating providers**, the provider will get the prior authorization for you.

#### 14. What is my out-of-pocket cost for an in-network hospital visit?

There is a \$100 **co-payment** if you use an **in-network** hospital. In most cases, there will be no additional cost above the **co-payment** to you. However, talk to your **doctor** to make sure that your surgeon and other providers are also **in-network**. Because if they are not, you may be responsible for **deductibles** and **co-insurance** and you may be balance billed if the **out-of-network** provider's charges exceed the maximum **allowed amount**.

#### 15. Do I have to file claims?

- **No.** If you use a 5 Star Center or **in-network participating provider**, you do not have to file claims. The provider will do it for you.
- **Yes.** If you do not use a **participating provider**, you have to file the claims yourself.

#### 16. Are all prescription drugs covered?

**No.** The Plan has a formulary or a list of covered drugs. This formulary includes generic and brand drugs.

#### 17. What do I pay for prescription drugs that are on the Plan's formulary?

	<b>Short-term Drugs at a Participating Pharmacy (up to a 30 day supply)</b>	<b>Maintenance Drugs by Mail or at a CVS Pharmacy (up to a 90-day supply)</b>	<b>Non-Participating Pharmacy</b>
<b>Generic Drugs</b>	\$10 <b>co-payment</b>	\$20 <b>co-payment</b>	Covered up to what the Fund would pay a participating retail pharmacy less your <b>co-payment</b> .
<b>Brand Drugs</b>	\$30 <b>co-payment</b>	\$60 <b>co-payment</b>	Covered up to what the Fund would pay a participating retail pharmacy less your <b>co-payment</b> .

Your **doctor** can call CVS Caremark at 1-877-765-6294 for information on alternatives to drugs that you use that are not on the Plan's formulary.

#### 18. What is the dental coverage?

- Preventive and diagnostic services, such as routine oral exams, cleanings, x-rays, topical fluoride applications and sealants,
- Basic therapeutic and restorative services, such as fillings and extractions,
- Major services, such as fixed bridgework, crowns, dentures and gum surgery, and
- Orthodontic services, such as diagnostic procedures and appliances to realign teeth.

Dental benefits are subject to frequency limits and there is an annual maximum for adult dental care. (For additional details, see pages 63–72.)

#### 19. How frequently can I get glasses and an eye exam?

Once every 24 months. Participants and dependent(s) under 19 are eligible for an eye exam once every 12 months.

## 20. Can I get disability benefits?

If you work in Connecticut under a collective bargaining agreement that provides for Short-Term Disability (“STD”) benefits, and you become totally disabled while working in **covered employment**, you may qualify for a weekly Short-Term Disability benefit. (For details, see pages 79–80.)

## 21. What is my life insurance coverage?

\$10,000.

There is no life insurance coverage for your dependent(s).

## 22. What if I have other health insurance?

If you, or your dependent(s), have other insurance, this Plan and your other plan will coordinate benefit payments. One plan will be primary and the other secondary. Generally, the plan that covers you, or your dependent, through work is the primary plan; for example, if your spouse has coverage at work, that plan will be primary for your spouse. The primary plan will pay first and the secondary plan may reimburse you for the remaining expenses up to the **allowed amount**. This process is known as Coordination of Benefits. (See pages 99–102 for more information.)

## 23. If I change 32BJ covered employers, what happens to my health coverage?

If you change covered **employers** and you have a break of 91 days or less in employment, your coverage will begin on your first day back at work. If there is more than a 91 day break in employment, your coverage will not begin until you complete 90 consecutive days of employment with your new covered **employer**.

## 24. If I leave the industry or retire, how long can I stay on the health coverage?

Your coverage will continue at no cost for 30 days after your last day worked in **covered employment**. Prior to the expiration of the 30 days, you will be offered under the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986 (“COBRA”) the opportunity to purchase hospital, medical, mental health and substance abuse, prescription drug, dental and vision coverage for up to 17 more months.

## 25. What happens to my health coverage if I become disabled?

If you are eligible, unless provided otherwise in your collective bargaining agreement, the Fund will pay for up to six months of continued health coverage (Fund-paid Health Extension). To be eligible, you must:

- Have become disabled while working in **covered employment**
- Be unable to work
- Be receiving (or be approved to receive) one of the following benefits:
  - Short-Term Disability (“STD”)
  - Workers’ Compensation

## 26. What happens to my family’s health coverage if I die?

If your family is enrolled/covered on the date of your death, their coverage will continue at no cost for 30 days. Prior to the expiration of the 30 days, your family will be offered the opportunity to continue coverage under COBRA for 35 more months by paying a monthly premium.

## 27. Who do I call if I have questions?

Call Member Services at 1-800-551-3225, Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

## Eligibility and Participation

### When You Are Eligible

Eligibility for benefits from the Plan depends upon the particular agreement that covers your work. Unless specified otherwise in your collective bargaining agreement or participation agreement, eligibility is as follows:

Your **employer** will be required to begin making contributions to the Plan on your behalf when you have completed 90 consecutive days of **covered employment** with the same **employer** working full time (as defined by your collective bargaining agreement or participation agreement), unless specified otherwise in your collective bargaining agreement or participation agreement. For this purpose, **covered employment** includes certain leaves of absence. Days of illness, pregnancy or injury count toward the 90-day waiting period. When you have completed that 90-day period working for your **employer**, you and your eligible dependent(s) become eligible for the benefits described in this booklet on your 91st day of **covered employment**.

Additional eligibility requirements apply to Short-Term Disability (see pages 79–80 for more information) and to death benefits for pensioners. (See page 78 for more information.)

### When You Are No Longer Eligible

Your eligibility for the Plan ends:

- at the end of the 30th day after you no longer regularly work in **covered employment**, subject to COBRA rights. (See pages 17–20 and pages 108–113.),
- on the date when your **employer** terminates its participation in the Plan, or
- on the date the Plan is terminated.

In addition, the Board reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to terminate eligibility if your **employer** becomes seriously delinquent in its contributions to the Fund.

### If You Come Back to Work

If your employment ends after your eligibility began and you return to **covered employment** (with the same **contributing employer** or a different **contributing employer**):

- within 91 days, your Plan participation starts again on your first day back at work, or
- more than 91 days later, you would have to complete 90 consecutive days of **covered employment** with the same **employer** before participation resumes.

As long as you are eligible, your dependent(s) are eligible, provided they meet the definition of “dependent” under the Plan (see Dependent Eligibility on pages 20–26) and you have properly enrolled them.

### Extension of Health Benefits

Health coverage may be continued while you are not working in the following circumstances:

#### COBRA

Under a Federal law called the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986 (“COBRA”), group health plans are required to offer temporary continuation of health coverage, on an employee-pay-all basis, in certain situations when coverage would otherwise end. “Health coverage” includes the Plan’s hospital, medical, behavioral health and substance abuse, prescription drug, dental and vision coverage. It does not include life insurance, Accidental Death & Dismemberment (“AD&D”) and Short-Term Disability (“STD”). (See pages 108–113 for more information about COBRA.)

## **Fund-paid Health Extension**

If all eligibility requirements are met, the Fund will pay for health coverage in the following situations: disability, which must have occurred while you were in **covered employment**, and arbitration. All periods of Fund-paid Health Extension will count toward the period in which you are entitled to continuing coverage under COBRA. Fund-paid Health Extension includes the Plan's hospital, medical, behavioral health and substance abuse, prescription drug, dental and vision. Life insurance and AD&D are continued only for the first six months. (See page 76 for the Life Insurance Disability Extension.)

To receive this extended coverage, return the documentation from the list in the Fund-paid Health Extension section of the COBRA election notice. If you fail to timely return the required documentation, you may lose eligibility for continuation of coverage under Fund-paid Health Extension. The required documents (e.g., proof of disability), must be returned to:

**COBRA Department  
Building Service 32BJ Benefit Funds  
25 West 18th Street  
New York, NY 10011-4676**

## **Disability**

You may continue to be eligible for up to 6 months of health coverage (see Fund-paid Health Extension on pages 17–20), provided you return the required documentation set forth in the Fund-paid Health Extension section of the COBRA election notice, are unable to work and are receiving (or are approved to receive) one of the following disability benefits:

- Short-Term Disability, or
- Workers' Compensation.

When any of the following events occur, your extended coverage will end:

- you elect to discontinue coverage,
- you work at any job,
- 6 months have passed after you stopped working due to disability,
- your Workers' Compensation or Short-Term Disability ends,
- you receive the maximum benefits under Short-Term Disability or Workers' Compensation, or
- you become eligible for Medicare as your primary insurer.

If you die while receiving extended health coverage, your dependent(s)' eligibility will end 30 days after the date of your death.

To receive this extended coverage (Fund-paid Health Extension), you must submit proof of disability as described in the Fund-paid Health Extension section of the COBRA election notice no later than 60 days after the date coverage would have been lost (90 days after you stopped working due to a disability). The Plan reserves the right to require proof of your continued disability from time to time. This extension of coverage will count toward the period in which you are entitled to continuing coverage under COBRA. (See pages 108–113 for COBRA information.)

## **Arbitration**

If you are discharged\* and the Union takes your grievance to arbitration seeking reinstatement to your job, your health coverage will be extended for up to six months or until your arbitration is decided, whichever occurs first. (See Fund-paid Health Extension on pages 17–20.) This extension of coverage will count toward the period in which you are entitled to continuing coverage under COBRA.

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\* Indefinite suspensions or suspensions pending discharge are treated the same as discharges.

## FMLA

You may be entitled to take up to a 26-week leave of absence from your job under the Family and Medical Leave Act (“FMLA”). You may be able to continue health coverage during an FMLA leave. (See pages 106–107 for more information.)

## Military Leave

If you are on active military duty, you have certain rights under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (“USERRA”) provided you enroll for continuation of health coverage. (See pages 107–108 for more information.) This extension of coverage will count toward the period in which you are entitled to continuing coverage under COBRA.

## Dependent Eligibility

If your collective bargaining agreement or participation agreement provides for dependent coverage, eligible dependent(s) under the Plan are described on the following pages:

Dependency	Age Limitation	Requirements
Spouse	None	The person to whom you are legally married (if you are legally separated or divorced, your spouse is not covered).
Domestic Partner	None	<p>You and your same-sex domestic partner (unless the laws of the jurisdiction where you live provide for same-sex marriage):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Have a civil union certificate from a state in the U.S. or province in Canada where same-sex civil unions are valid or, if civil union certificates are not available in the jurisdiction where you live,</li><li>• Are two individuals 18 years or older of the same-sex who:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Have been living together for at least 12 months, and</li><li>- Are not married to anyone else, and are not related by blood in a manner that would bar marriage under the law, and</li><li>- Are financially interdependent, and can show proof of such, and</li><li>- Have a close and committed personal relationship and have not been registered as members of another domestic partnership within the last 12 months.</li></ul></li></ul> <p>In order to establish eligibility for these benefits, you and your domestic partner will need to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A civil union certificate from a state in the U.S. or province in Canada where same-sex civil unions are valid, or if civil union certificates are not available in the jurisdiction where you live,</li><li>• Affidavits attesting to your relationship, plus a domestic partner registration under state or local law (if permitted in the jurisdiction where you live), and proof of financial interdependence.</li></ul> <p>You are required to provide the highest level of certificate available in the jurisdiction where you live.</p> <p>Contact Member Services for an application or general information.</p> <p>There may be significant tax consequences for covering your domestic partner or, or in some states, for covering your same-sex spouse. Contact a tax advisor for tax advice.</p>

Dependency	Age Limitation	Requirements
Domestic Partner (continued)	None	If you lose coverage due to a qualifying event, you and your domestic partner may elect to continue coverage on a self-pay basis. Domestic partners will have an independent right to continue coverage on a self-pay basis only in the event of the participant's death.
Children (except disabled children)	Until the earlier of 30 days after the child's 26th birthday or the end of the calendar year in which the child turns 26.	The child is one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your biological child,</li> <li>• Your adopted* child or one placed with you in anticipation of adoption,</li> <li>• Your stepchild: this includes your spouse's biological or adopted child, or</li> <li>• Your domestic partner's biological or adopted child.</li> </ul>
Children (disabled) over age 26	No age limit for coverage.	<p>The child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is totally and permanently disabled,</li> <li>• Became disabled while, or before becoming, an eligible dependent,</li> <li>• Is not married,</li> <li>• Has the same principal address as the participant**, or as required under the terms of a "QMCSO"—see pages 113–114, and</li> <li>• Is dependent on the participant for over one-half of his or her annual support and is claimed as a dependent on your tax return**.</li> </ul> <p>You must apply for a disabled child's dependent coverage extension and provide proof of the child's total and permanent disability no later than 60 days after the date the child would have otherwise lost eligibility, and you must remain covered under the Plan. You will be notified of your adult disabled child's eligibility for continuing coverage. You must enroll your adult disabled child within 60 days of receiving confirmation of your adult child's eligibility. Failure to enroll at this time means your disabled adult child loses his or her special eligibility. If your child becomes eligible for extended coverage as a result of disability, you will be required to pay a monthly premium to cover part of the coverage cost. Contact Member Services.</p>

Dependency	Age Limitation	Requirements
Children (dependent) – Your grandchild, niece or nephew ONLY if you are the legal guardian*** (if application for legal guardianship is pending, you must provide documentation that papers are filed and provide proof when legal process is complete)	Until the earlier of 30 days after the child's 26th birthday or the end of the calendar year in which the child turns 26.	<p>The child:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is not married,</li> <li>• Has the same principal address as the participant**, or as required under the terms of a "QMCSO"—see pages 113–114, and</li> <li>• is dependent on the participant for all of his or her annual support and maintenance and is claimed as a dependent on your tax return**.</li> </ul>

Note that:

- A dependent must live in the United States, Canada or Mexico unless he or she is a United States citizen.
- A child is not considered a dependent under the Plan if he or she is in the military or similar forces of any country.

\* Your adopted dependent child will be covered from the date that child is adopted or “placed for adoption” with you, whichever is earlier (but not before you become eligible), if you enroll the child within 30 days after the earlier of placement or adoption. (See Your Notification Responsibility on page 26.) A child is placed for adoption with you on the date you first become legally obligated to provide full or partial support of the child whom you plan to adopt. However, if a child is placed for adoption with you, but the adoption does not become final, that child's coverage will end as of the date you no longer have a legal obligation to support that child. If you adopt a newborn child, the child is covered from birth as long as you take custody immediately after the child is released from the hospital and you file an adoption petition with the appropriate state authorities within 30 days after the infant's birth. However, adopted newborns will not be covered from birth if one of the child's biological parents covers the newborn's initial hospital stay, a notice revoking the adoption has been filed or a biological parent revokes consent to the adoption.

\*\* If you are legally separated or divorced, then your child may live with and/or be the tax dependent of the legally separated or divorced spouse. If you were never married to your child's other parent, then the child may live with the other parent but must be your tax dependent.

\*\*\* Legal guardian(ship) includes legal custodian(ship).

## When Your Dependent(s) Are No Longer Eligible

Your dependent(s) remain eligible for as long as you remain eligible except for the following:

- Your *spouse's* eligibility ends 30 days after legal separation<sup>(3)</sup> or divorce. Your domestic partner's eligibility ends 30 days after the requirements for domestic partnership on pages 21–23 are no longer satisfied.
- Your child's eligibility ends on the date your child no longer satisfies the requirements for a dependent child as described on pages 22–23, 30 days after the child's 26th birthday, or the end of the calendar year in which the child turns 26, whichever is earlier.
- Eligibility of a spouse, a domestic partner, and dependent children ends 30 days after your death.

## How to Enroll

Coverage for dependent(s) under the Plan is not automatic.

If at the time you become eligible under the Plan you would like to enroll your eligible dependent(s), you must complete the appropriate form and submit it to the Fund within 30 days from the date you first became eligible for health benefits.

Please see Dependent Eligibility on pages 20–26 to determine whether your dependent(s) are eligible for enrollment. You will also be required to submit documents proving relationship status including a marriage certificate (for your spouse), birth certificates and, if applicable, proof of dependency (for your grandchildren, nieces and nephews). In most cases, your dependent's coverage will begin on the date he or she was first eligible. However, if you do not enroll your dependent(s) within 30 days from the date you first became eligible for health coverage under this Plan, your dependent's coverage will not begin until the date you notify the Fund. After your coverage under the Plan begins, if you have a change in family status (e.g., get married, adopt a child) or wish to change existing dependent coverage for any reason, you must complete the appropriate form. Special rules apply regarding the effective date of your new dependent's coverage. (Please see Your Notification Responsibility on page 26 for further details.)

<sup>(3)</sup> Generally, a legal separation is any court order or agreement filed with the court under which the parties acknowledge they are living separately. Legal separation includes, but is not limited to, a divorce from bed and board, limited divorce, judicial separation, separate maintenance, inter-spousal agreement, marital property settlement agreement, and property settlement agreement.

Dependent claims for eligible expenses will be paid only after the Fund has received the appropriate form and supporting documentation. If your forms are not completely or accurately filled out, or if the Fund is missing requested documentation, any benefits payable will be delayed. The Fund may periodically require proof of continued eligibility for you, or your dependent. Failure to provide such information could result in a loss of coverage and a loss of the right to elect continuation of health coverage under COBRA.

## Special Enrollment Rules

For participants working under a collective bargaining agreement that provides an annual open enrollment, depending upon the terms of that agreement, you may be permitted to enroll one or more of your dependent(s) (as defined on pages 22–24) in the same manner described above and under the section “How to Enroll” on pages 24–25. However, once you make an election to enroll specific dependent(s) or to not enroll specific dependent(s), this election is generally fixed or locked in for the entire Calendar Year (January 1st to December 31st). An exception applies if:

- you lose coverage under another group health plan,
- you acquire a new dependent through marriage, birth, or adoption or placement for adoption, or
- you have a non-enrolled dependent who loses coverage under another group health plan (unless coverage was terminated for cause or because your dependent failed to pay premiums on a timely basis), or the **employer** stops contributing towards your dependent's coverage under the other plan.

If your dependent elected COBRA coverage, the entire COBRA coverage period must have been completed for this rule to apply. In any of the circumstances above, you may enroll or you may enroll your dependent during a special enrollment period that ends 30 days after the date of marriage, birth, adoption/placement, loss of other group health coverage or termination of **employer** contributions to other group health plan.

There will be an open enrollment period before the end of each Calendar Year in which you can make a change in your enrolled dependent(s), or enroll a dependent(s) if none was previously enrolled (or if your previously enrolled dependent ceased to become eligible during the Calendar Year) for the next Calendar Year. If you do not take any action during the open enrollment period, your existing election will remain in effect for the next Calendar Year.

## Your Notification Responsibility

If, after your coverage under the Plan becomes effective, there is any change in your family status (e.g., marriage, legal separation, divorce, birth or adoption of a child), it is your responsibility to notify the Fund immediately of such change and complete the appropriate form. If you notify the Fund within 30 days of marriage or birth or adoption of a child, coverage for your new spouse or child will begin as of the date of marriage or date of birth or adoption. If you do not notify the Fund within 30 days, coverage for your new spouse or child will begin as of the date you notify the Fund. No benefits will be paid until you provide the Fund with the necessary supporting documentation. Also, be sure to notify the Fund if your grandchild, niece or nephew no longer lives with you, marries or otherwise no longer satisfies the requirements for coverage as described on page 22–23.

If, after your coverage under the Plan becomes effective, your dependent(s) lose eligibility for Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program ("CHIP") or become eligible for a state subsidy for enrollment in the Plan under Medicaid or CHIP, and you would like to enroll them in the Plan, it is your responsibility to notify the Fund immediately of such change and complete the appropriate form. If you notify the Fund within 60 days of the loss of Medicaid/CHIP or of your dependent(s) becoming eligible for the state subsidy, coverage for your dependent(s) will begin as of the date your dependent(s) lost eligibility for Medicaid/CHIP or the date they became eligible for the subsidy. If you do not notify the Fund within 60 days, coverage for your dependent(s) will begin as of the date you notify the Fund. Failure to notify the Fund of your dependent(s)' loss of eligibility for Medicaid/CHIP or becoming eligible for the state subsidy could lead to a delay or denial in the payment of health benefits or the loss of a right to elect health continuation under COBRA.

Failure to notify the Fund of a change in family status could lead to a delay or denial in the payment of health benefits or the loss of a right to elect health continuation under COBRA. In addition, knowingly claiming benefits for someone who is not eligible is considered fraud and could subject you to criminal prosecution.

## What Benefits Are Provided

The Fund provides a comprehensive program of benefits, including hospital, medical, mental health and substance abuse, prescription drug, dental, vision, life insurance, accidental death and dismemberment and pensioner death benefits (only for Building Service 32BJ Pension Fund pensioners), and short-term disability benefits. Each of these benefits is described in the sections that follow.

### Annual Out-Of-Pocket Maximum on In-Network Hospital, Medical, Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Pharmacy Benefits

*Annual out-of-pocket maximum on in-network benefits.* There is an annual out-of-pocket maximum on **in-network** hospital, medical, mental health, substance abuse and pharmacy benefits. Your annual out-of-pocket maximum is \$6,600 and your family's annual out-of-pocket maximum is \$13,200.\*

The annual out-of-pocket maximum is divided between medical and prescription drug benefits as shown in the table below:

Annual In-Network Out-of-Pocket Maximum	You	Your Family
Medical	\$5,000	\$10,000
Prescription Drug	\$1,600	\$3,200
Total	\$6,600	\$13,200

*Expenses that apply toward the annual out-of-pocket maximum:*

- **Co-payments,**
- **Deductibles,** and
- **Co-insurance.**

*Expenses that do not count toward the annual out-of-pocket maximum.* The following expenses are not applied toward the **in-network** annual out-of-pocket maximum:

- Premiums,
- Balance billing, and
- Spending for non-covered services.

\* Department of Health and Human Services ("HHS") examines the limits annually and may increase them based on the premium adjustment percentage (an estimate of the average change in health insurance premiums. The Plan will change its out-of-pocket maximums each January 1st to match HHS' limits.



## Hospital, Medical, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Benefits

Effective April 1, 2015, the Plan provides hospital, medical, mental health and substance abuse benefits through Empire BlueCross BlueShield (“Empire”). The Plan offers the Empire BlueCross BlueShield Direct Point-of-Service (“POS”) **network**.<sup>(4)</sup> This **network** includes over 85,000 doctors and other providers and almost 200 hospitals in the following three states:

- New York: 29 eastern counties – Albany, Bronx, Clinton, Columbia, Delaware, Dutchess, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Kings, Montgomery, Nassau, New York, Orange, Putnam, Queens, Rensselaer, Richmond, Rockland, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Suffolk, Sullivan, Ulster, Warren, Washington and Westchester,
- New Jersey: all counties, and
- Connecticut: all counties.

*Participants who reside outside of Connecticut, New Jersey or the New York counties identified above will receive their hospital, medical, mental health and substance abuse benefits through the Empire Preferred Provider Organization (“PPO”) **network**. The PPO allows participants and their dependent(s) to access **in-network** benefits through providers who participate in the local BlueCross BlueShield plan where the participant resides on the same terms as **in-network providers** under the POS. (All hospital and medical benefits described on the pages that follow are identical for the POS and PPO **networks**.)*

### Conditions for Hospital and Medical Expense Reimbursement

- Charges must be for **medically necessary** care. The Plan will pay benefits only for services, supplies and equipment that the Plan considers to be **medically necessary**.

<sup>(4)</sup> If you are unable to locate an **in-network provider** in your area who can provide you with a service or supply that is covered under this Plan, you must call the number on the back of your I.D. Card to obtain authorization for **out-of-network** provider coverage. If you obtain authorization for services provided by an **out-of-network** provider, benefits for those services will be covered at the **in-network** benefit level.

- The Plan will pay benefits only up to the **allowed amount**.
- Charges must be incurred while the patient is covered. The Plan will not reimburse any expenses incurred by a person while the person is not covered under the Plan.

*Empire ID Card.* This card gives you access to thousands of **doctors**, surgeons, hospitals and other health care facilities in the **network**. It also gives you 24-hour phone access to a registered nurse who can help you with your health care decisions.

*Nurses Healthline.* This is round-the-clock information free to Empire members. When you call, you can either speak to a registered nurse or select from over 1,100 audio-taped messages in English or Spanish on a wide variety of topics. If you do not speak English or Spanish, interpreters are available through the AT&T language line. You may find it helpful to speak to a registered nurse when you need help assessing symptoms, deciding whether a trip to the emergency room is necessary or understanding a medical condition, procedure, prescription or diagnosis. You can reach the Nurses Healthline at 1-877-825-5276.

### About Participating Providers and 5 Star Centers

Within Empire’s POS **network**, there are participating **doctors** and specialists.

In addition to Empire’s **network**, the 32BJ Health Fund has identified a **network** of 5 Star Centers. These centers have earned certification from the National Committee for Quality Assurance (“NCQA”) and have agreed to work with the Fund to ensure that patients have access to comprehensive primary care.

## When You Go In-Network

When you use an **in-network provider**, you will have low costs or no costs for **covered services**. In addition, there are no **deductibles** or **co-insurance** to pay, and no claims to file or track.

**In an emergency, if you use out-of-network providers you may be responsible for deductibles and co-insurance and you may be balance billed if the out-of-network provider's charges exceed the allowed amount.**

When you use a 5 Star Center, your expenses are covered at the highest level. You have no **co-payment** for **physician** and specialist office visits provided by the 5 Star Center.

When you use a **participating provider**, your expenses are still covered but it will cost you more. Your **co-payment** for participating **physicians** and specialists is \$40 per office visit.

The **co-payment** for mental health or substance abuse professionals is \$40 per office visit if you use a **participating provider** that is not a 5 Star Center. If you use a 5 Star Center, your **co-payment** is \$0.

**In-network benefits** apply only to services and supplies that are both covered by the Plan and provided or authorized by a **network** provider. The **network** provider will assess your medical needs and advise you on appropriate care, as well as take care of any necessary tests, pre-certifications or hospital admissions. When you use a **doctor**, hospital or other provider **in-network**, the Plan generally pays 100% after the **co-payment** for most charges, including hospitalization. You will not have to satisfy a **deductible**.

You should always check with your **network** provider (or you can call Member Services at 1-800-551-3225) to be sure that any referrals to other **doctors** or for diagnostic tests are also with an **in-network provider**.

## When You Go Out-of-Network

Care that is provided by an **out-of-network** provider is reimbursed at the lowest level. If you use **out-of-network** providers, you must first satisfy

the annual **deductible**. After satisfying the annual **deductible**, you will be reimbursed at 50% of the **allowed amount**. The **allowed amount** is not what the **doctor** charges you. It is generally a much lower amount.

Amounts above the **allowed amount** are not eligible for reimbursement and are your responsibility to pay. This is in addition to any **deductibles** and required **co-insurance**. **Some services are not covered when you use an out-of-network provider.** (See pages 38–51 and page 55 for additional information.)

If you use an **out-of-network** provider, ask your provider if he or she will accept Empire's payment as payment in full (excluding your **deductible** or **co-insurance** requirements). While many providers will tell you that they take "32BJ" or "Empire" coverage, they may not accept Plan coverage as payment in full. Then they will bill you directly for charges that are over the Plan's **allowed amount**. This is called "balance billing." If your provider agrees to accept Empire's payment as payment in full, it is best to get their agreement in writing.

If your provider does not accept Empire's payment as payment in full, in addition to the 50% of the **allowed amount** you pay, you will then be responsible for the excess charges.

**Annual deductible.** Your individual annual **deductible** is \$1,000 and your family annual **deductible** is \$2,000.

*Expenses that do not count toward the deductible:*

- **in-network co-payments**,
- charges that exceed the **allowed amount** for eligible **out-of-network** expenses,
- penalty amounts that you pay because you failed to pre-certify a hospital stay or meet any other similar pre-certification requirements, and
- charges excluded or limited by the Plan. (See pages 52–58.)

**Co-insurance.** Once the annual **deductible** is met, the Plan pays 50% of the **allowed amount** for eligible **out-of-network** expenses. You pay the remaining 50%, which is your **co-insurance**. You also pay any amounts over the **allowed amount**.

**Annual co-insurance maximum.** The Plan limits the **co-insurance** each patient has to pay in a given calendar year. It also limits the amount each family has to pay. Your annual **co-insurance** maximum is \$2,500 and your family **co-insurance** maximum is \$5,000. Any eligible expenses submitted for reimbursement after the annual **co-insurance** maximum is reached are paid at 100% of the **allowed amount**. You still have to pay any charge above the **allowed amount**.

**Expenses that do not count toward the co-insurance maximum.** The following expenses are not applied toward the **out-of-network** annual **co-insurance** maximum:

- **in-network co-payments,**
- **deductibles,**
- charges that exceed the **allowed amount** for eligible **out-of-network** expenses,
- amounts that you pay because you failed to pre-certify a hospital stay or meet any other similar pre-certification requirements, and
- charges excluded or limited by the Plan. (See pages 52–58.)

If you decide to stay with your choice of an **out-of-network** provider, then you should fully understand that your **out-of-network** claim will be paid as follows:

You must first satisfy the annual **deductible** before being reimbursed at 50% of the **allowed amount**.

Your Explanation of Benefits will show the maximum amount the provider can charge you. This will be reflected in the box labeled “Your Total Responsibility To Your Provider”.

In addition to the 50% you pay, you are also responsible for the excess charges that the provider bills for. Below is an example of what **out-of-network** care when using a non-participating provider can cost you:

- The non-participating surgeon’s charge for total knee replacement surgery is **\$5,000**. The **allowed amount** is **\$1,310**. The amount above the **allowed amount** is **\$3,690**. The Plan only takes into account the **allowed amount** when determining what it will pay.

The table below summarizes what you will pay and what the Fund will pay:

	You Pay	Fund Pays
<b>Deductible</b>	\$1,000	\$0
<b>Co-insurance</b> (50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> , less the <b>deductible</b> )	\$155	\$155
Amount above the <b>allowed amount</b>	\$3,690	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,845</b>	<b>\$155</b>

An **out-of-network** provider will cost you much more than an **in-network** provider.

## Coverage When You Are Away from Home

When you are outside of the area covered by the POS **network** (see footnote 8 on page 130), you are covered for all **medically necessary** care on an **in-network** basis with a **co-payment** when using a local BlueCross BlueShield **participating provider**.

## Benefit Maximums

There are no lifetime limits on hospital, medical, mental health and substance abuse benefits. However, there are limits on how much (and how often) the Plan will pay for certain services, even when they are covered. If there are limits on a particular service, those limits will be indicated under **covered services**. (See pages 38–51.)

## Newborns’ and Mothers’ Health Protection Act

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 issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours).

## Pre-Certification

When you use a **network** provider, the provider will do the pre-certification for you. However it is your responsibility to verify that your provider has obtained the required pre-certification.

When you use an **out-of-network** provider, it is your responsibility to have the required services pre-certified. This means that you have to contact Empire's Medical Management Program as shown on pages 34–35, or make sure that your provider has done so. Failure to pre-certify will result in a financial penalty, which you will be responsible for paying.

## Pre-Certification for Hospital, Medical, Mental Health and Substance Abuse

**For hospital/medical services that require prior authorization,** providers and members call 1-800-982-8089 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

**For inpatient mental health/substance abuse that require prior authorization,** providers and members call 1-855-531-6011 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Type of Care	When You Must Call
<b>Outpatient:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Air ambulance<sup>9</sup> (non-emergency)</li><li>• MRI or MRA scans</li><li>• PET, CAT and nuclear imaging studies</li><li>• Physical and occupational therapy</li><li>• Bone density and echo stress tests</li><li>• Prosthetics/orthotics or durable medical equipment (rental or purchase)</li><li>• Intensive outpatient services for behavioral or substance abuse</li><li>• Radiation therapy</li></ul>	As soon as possible before you receive care.
• Surgical procedures (inpatient and ambulatory)	Two weeks before you receive surgery or as soon as care is scheduled.

See footnote 9 on page 130.

Type of Care	When You Must Call
<b>Inpatient:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Scheduled hospital/mental health or substance abuse admissions</li><li>• Hospice</li><li>• Admissions to skilled nursing or rehabilitation facilities</li></ul>	Two weeks before you receive care or as soon as care is scheduled.
• Maternity admissions • <b>Emergency</b> admissions	Within 48 hours after delivery or admission.
• Maternity admissions lasting longer than two days (or four days for cesarean delivery) • Ongoing hospitalization	As soon as you know care is lasting longer than originally planned.

*How pre-certification works.* Empire's Medical Management Program will review the proposed care to certify the admission or number of visits (as applicable) and will approve or deny coverage for the procedure based on medical necessity. They will then send you a written statement of approval or denial within three business days after they have received all necessary information. In urgent care situations, Empire's Medical Management Program will make its decision within 72 hours after they have received all necessary information. (For more information, see pages 85–90.)

*If you do not pre-certify the care (except for pre-natal care) listed above within the required time frames, benefit payments will be reduced by \$250 for each admission, treatment or procedure. If the Plan determines that the admission or procedure was not **medically necessary**, no benefits are payable.*

## Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses

The amount you are required to pay depends on where you receive your care and what kind of care you receive. In every case, you can minimize your out-of-pocket expense by using 5 Star Centers and by staying **in-network** and using **participating providers**.

You can avoid the \$75 outpatient hospital **co-payment** by using free-standing medical facilities or **doctors'** offices for procedures such as lab tests, physical therapy, diagnostic tests or minor surgical procedures.

There are no lifetime or annual dollar maximums for benefits. Some benefits have annual visit maximums. (See Schedule of Covered Services on pages 38–51.)

Type of care	Out-of-Pocket Expense by Place of Service		
Doctor Visits	In-Network Co-Payment		Out-of-Network Expense
	5 Star Center	Participating Doctor/ Provider	Non-Participating Providers
Doctor's office	\$0	\$40	You pay the <b>deductible</b> , 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> and any balance billing
Urgent care center	\$0	\$40	
Mental health or substance abuse visit	\$0	\$40	
Preventive care services	\$0	\$0	

Hospital & Facility Visits	Participating Hospital or Facility Co-Payment	Non-Participating Hospital or Facility Expense
Hospital emergency room	\$100 per visit. After 2nd visit in a calendar year, \$200.	
Hi- tech radiology (CAT, MRI, PET, MRA and nuclear studies)	\$100 per scan	You pay the <b>deductible</b> , 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> and any balance billing
Hospital inpatient	\$100 per admission	
Hospital outpatient department	\$75 per visit (except for maternity, chemotherapy, radiation therapy & intensive outpatient mental health and substance abuse services)*	

\* No **co-payment** for outpatient maternity services. Outpatient radiation therapy and chemotherapy limited to one **co-payment** per calendar year. Intensive outpatient mental health or substance abuse services limited to one **co-payment** per episode of treatment.

## Schedule of Covered Services

The following tables show different types of health care services, how they are covered **in-network** versus **out-of-network** and whether there are any limitations on their use:

### In the Hospital<sup>1</sup> and Other Inpatient Treatment Centers\*

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Semi-private room and board (for obstetrical care, hospital stays are covered for at least 48 hours following normal delivery, or at least 96 hours following cesarean section)*	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> per admission	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	
In-hospital services of <b>doctors</b> and surgeons and other professionals	Plan pays 100%		
In-hospital anesthesia and oxygen			
In-hospital blood and blood transfusions			
Cardiac care unit (“CCU”) and intensive care unit (“ICU”)			
Inpatient chemotherapy and radiation therapy			
Inpatient kidney dialysis <sup>3</sup>			
Inpatient pre-surgical testing			
Special diet and nutritional services while in the hospital			
Inpatient lab and radiology services (including hi-tech radiology)			

\* Pre-certification required for all hospital admissions.

For definitions of various facilities and further details, see footnote 1 on page 127 and footnote 3 on page 128.

### In the Hospital<sup>1</sup> and Other Inpatient Treatment Centers\* (continued)

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Bariatric surgery*	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> per admission	Not Covered	Only covered at Blue Distinction Hospitals in the Empire <b>network</b> .
Transplant surgery*	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> per admission		Kidney and lung transplants are covered <b>in-network</b> only at any BlueCross BlueShield participating hospital.
Lifetime travel maximum for a transplant	\$10,000 per transplant		Other transplants are covered only at Blue Distinction Centers of Medical Excellence. <sup>1</sup>  Call Member Services for a list of Blue Distinction Centers of Medical Excellence.
Skilled nursing care facility <sup>4</sup> *	Plan pays 100%	Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only. Benefits are payable up to 60 days per year.
Hospice care facility <sup>5</sup> *	Plan pays 100%	Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only.

\* Pre-certification required.

For definitions of various facilities and further details, see footnote 1 on page 127 and footnotes 4 and 5 on pages 128–129.

## Emergency Care

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Emergency room <sup>8</sup> ("ER") in a hospital	Plan pays 100% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> for 1st 2 visits; then \$200 <b>co-payment</b> per visit		ER <b>co-payment</b> increases after the 2nd ER visit in a calendar year. Follow-up visits to the ER are not covered.
Urgent care center	Plan pays 100% after \$40 <b>co-payment</b>	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	
Ambulance service <sup>9</sup>	Plan pays 100%		

See footnotes 8 and 9 on page 130.

## Outpatient Treatment Facilities

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Surgery <sup>2</sup> and care related to surgery (including operating and recovery rooms)*	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> based on where service is provided:  If in outpatient hospital setting – \$75 <b>co-payment</b>  If in freestanding surgical facility - \$0 <b>co-payment</b>	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	When services are received in a hospital outpatient setting, there is a \$75 <b>co-payment</b> per visit with the exception of chemotherapy and radiation therapy which have one \$75 <b>co-payment</b> per calendar year.
Diagnostic procedures (like endoscopies) and lab and x-rays (not including hi-tech – see below)			
Radiation therapy*			
Chemotherapy			
Kidney dialysis <sup>3</sup>		Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only.
Physical therapy*		Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only. Limited to 30 visits per calendar year.
Hi-tech imaging (CAT, MRI, MRA, PET, and nuclear imaging)*	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b>	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	

\*Pre-certification required.

See footnotes 2 and 3 on page 128.

## Care in the Doctor's Office

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Office visits (including surgery <sup>2</sup> in the office)	Plan pays 100% at 5 Star Centers. \$0 <b>co-payment</b> at 5 Star Centers.  Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> for office visits with <b>in-network providers</b> . (See Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)		
Specialist visits			
Diabetes education and management <sup>10</sup>			
Allergy care			Limited to 13 visits per calendar year, two of which can be testing visits per calendar year for allergy care.
Hearing exams			When <b>medically necessary</b> .
Diagnostic procedures, lab and x-rays (not including hi-tech –see below)	Plan pays 100%	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	Lab work must be sent to an Empire participating lab, such as Quest or LabCorp.
Hi-tech imaging (CAT, MRI, MRA, PET, and nuclear imaging)*	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b>		
Chiropractic visits	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)		Limited to 10 visits per calendar year.
Podiatric care, including routine foot care	Plan pays 100% at 5 Star Center, otherwise there is a <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)		Excluding routine orthotics. <b>Medically necessary</b> orthotics limited to one pair per adult and two pairs per child per calendar year.
Acupuncture visits	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)	Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only. Limited to 20 visits per calendar year.

\* Pre-certification required.

See footnote 2 on page 128 and footnote 10 on page 131.

## Home Health Care<sup>6</sup>

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Home health care visits <sup>6</sup>	Plan pays 100%	Not Covered	Limited to 200 visits per calendar year. <b>In-network</b> only.
Home infusion therapy <sup>7</sup>			<b>In-network</b> only.
Home kidney dialysis <sup>3</sup>			<b>In-network</b> only.
Home physical therapy			<b>In-network</b> only. Limited within the 200 home care visits per year, including home physical therapy.
Home hospice <sup>5</sup>			<b>In-network</b> only.

See footnote 3 on page 128 and footnotes 5, 6 and 7 on pages 129–130.



## Mental Health and Substance Abuse

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
<b>Mental health care:</b>			
Inpatient mental health*	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> per admission	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	
<b>Physician</b> office visits	Plan pays 100% after \$40 <b>co-payment**</b>		
Outpatient hospital facility*	Plan pays 100% after \$75 <b>co-payment</b>		\$75 <b>co-payment</b> per episode of intensive outpatient treatment in the hospital.
<b>Substance abuse care:</b>			
Inpatient substance abuse*	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> per admission		
<b>Physician</b> office visits	Plan pays 100% after \$40 <b>co-payment**</b>		
Outpatient hospital facility*	Plan pays 100% after \$75 <b>co-payment</b>		\$75 <b>co-payment</b> per episode of intensive outpatient treatment in the hospital.

\* Pre-certification required.

\*\* No **co-payment** if provided at a 5 Star Center.

## Preventive Medical Care\*

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Preventive health services <sup>11</sup> , including annual physical exam and screening for colorectal, lung, skin cancer, hepatitis B and C, osteoporosis and obesity	Plan pays 100% \$0 <b>co-payment</b>	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	Covered preventive health services based on age, sex and health risk factors.
Well-woman care, which may include an annual well woman exam and screening for cervical cancer, pregnancy related screenings, and reproductive health screenings			Annual exam and covered preventive health services based on age and health risk factors.
Well-child care <sup>12</sup> provides for regular checkups and preventive health services, and immunizations identified in footnote 12 on page 131.			Well-child visits are subject to the frequency limits listed below and preventive health services based on age:

**Well-child care visits are subject to the following frequency:**

Age Range	Number of Visits
Newborn .....	1 exam at birth
0-1 years old .....	6 visits
1-4 years old .....	7 visits
5-11 years old .....	7 visits
12-17 years old .....	6 visits
18-19 years old .....	2 visits

\*See page 46.

See footnotes 11 and 12 on page 131.

## Preventive Medical Care\* (continued)

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of Network	Limitations
Routine immunizations –all ages (includes travel immunizations)	Plan pays 100% <b>\$0 co-payment</b>	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	Immunizations based on age and health risk factors.
Mammograms **			Testing based on the patient's age and health risk factors.
Nutritional counseling			

\* The Plan covers certain preventive care services without imposing any **co-payments** when using an **in-network provider**. The four areas of preventive care services are:

- evidence-based items or services with an A or B rating recommended by the United States Preventive Services Task Force (“USPSTF”),
- immunizations for routine use in children, adolescents, or adults recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,
- evidence-informed preventive care and screenings provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (“HRSA”) for infants, children, and adolescents, and
- other evidence-informed preventive care and screenings provided for in comprehensive guidelines supported by HRSA for women.

Some of the preventive care services that are covered are listed in the table above and the preceding page. The list of preventive care services may change. You may find a list of preventive care services at [www.hhs.gov](http://www.hhs.gov) or by contacting Member Services at 1-800-551-3225.

\*\* Coverage of mammograms regardless of age for covered persons with a past history of cancer or who have a first degree relative (mother, sister, child) with a prior history of breast cancer, upon the recommendation of a **physician**.

## Family Planning Services

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of Network	Limitations
Family planning office visits and counseling for contraceptive measures and devices (such as IUDs and diaphragms)	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	
Vasectomy or tubal ligation (excludes reversals)			
Abortion includes elective and non-elective procedures			The type of facility where service is provided will determine <b>co-payment</b> .
Infertility treatment	Not Covered	Not Covered	No coverage for services upon the diagnosis of infertility.

## Pregnancy and Maternity Care

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of Network	Limitations
Office visits for prenatal and postnatal care from a licensed <b>doctor</b> or certified nurse-midwife <sup>13</sup> , including diagnostic procedures	Plan pays 100% after initial <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)  No <b>co-payment</b> for first postnatal visit.	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	Prenatal <b>co-payment</b> limited to the <b>co-payment</b> for the first visit only for maternity care.
Newborn in-hospital nursery, and home care nursing services			
Obstetrical care* admission (in hospital or birthing center)	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> for admission	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>  No coverage for <b>out-of-network</b> birthing centers	<b>Out-of-network</b> birthing centers are not covered.
Home birth with a certified nurse-midwife <sup>14</sup>	Plan pays 100%	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	When the Plan authorizes the use of a non-participating nurse-midwife for home birth, then services are paid at the same rate as a participating obstetrician.
A home health care visit	Plan pays 100%		One (1) home health care visit within 24 hours of discharge if the mother leaves the hospital before the 48 or 96 hour period indicated under hospital benefits.
Circumcision of newborn males			

\* Pre-certification required.

See footnotes 13 and 14 on page 131.

## Physical, Occupational, Speech or Vision Therapy (including rehabilitation)<sup>15</sup>

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of Network	Limitations
Inpatient services*	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> per admission	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	Covered for up to 30 days of inpatient physical therapy per calendar year ( <b>in-network</b> and <b>out-of-network</b> combined).
Outpatient services*  Outpatient facility or <b>doctor's</b> office	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)	Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only. Benefits are payable for up to 30 visits per calendar year for physical therapy. An additional 30 visits per calendar year combined for occupational, speech and vision therapy.
Services in the home	Plan pays 100%		<b>In-network</b> only. Limited to 200 home care visits per calendar year for all home visits, including home physical therapy visits.

\*Pre-certification required.

See footnote 15 on pages 131–132.

## Durable Medical Equipment and Supplies<sup>16</sup>

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Durable medical equipment* (such as wheelchairs and hospital beds)	Plan pays 100%	Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> benefit only.
Prosthetics/orthotics*	Plan pays 100%	Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only. Orthotics are covered only for non-routine foot orthotics – limited to one pair per adult and two pairs per child in a calendar year.
Medical and diabetic supplies (such as catheters and syringes)	Plan pays 100%	Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only benefit.
Wigs	Plan pays 100%	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	Only covered following chemo or radiation therapy.
Nutritional supplements <sup>17</sup> that require a prescription (formulas and modified solid food products)	Plan pays 100%	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	
Hearing aids	Plan pays 100% for 2 hearing aids per lifetime	Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only. Lifetime benefit limitation. Covered only with a participating hearing aid provider.

\* Pre-certification required.

See footnotes 16 and 17 on page 132.

## Dental Care\*

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Surgical removal of impacted wisdom teeth only	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	
Repair to natural teeth only within 12 months of injury to sound natural teeth			

\* Dental care is also covered under the Plan's dental benefits described on pages 63–72 of this SPD.

## Excluded Hospital, Medical, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Expenses

The following expenses are not covered under the hospital, medical, mental health and substance abuse coverage. However, some of these expenses are covered under your prescription drug, vision or dental coverages.

Check the other sections of this booklet to see if an expense not paid under hospital/medical is covered elsewhere under the Plan.

- expenses incurred before the patient's coverage began or after the patient's coverage ended
- treatment that is not **medically necessary**
- cosmetic treatment<sup>18</sup>
- technology, treatments, procedures, drugs, biological products or medical devices that in Empire's judgment are experimental, investigative, obsolete or ineffective<sup>19</sup>. Also excluded is any hospitalization in connection with experimental or investigational treatments
- expenses for the treatment of infertility
- assisted reproductive technologies including, but not limited to, in-vitro fertilization, artificial insemination, gamete and zygote intrafallopian tube transfer and intracytoplasmic sperm injection
- surgery and/or non-surgical treatment for gender change
- reversal of sterilization
- travel expenses, except as specified
- psychological testing for educational purposes for children or adults
- common first-aid supplies such as adhesive tape, gauze, antiseptics, ace bandages, and surgical appliances that are stock items, such as braces, elastic supports, semi-rigid cervical collars or surgical shoes
- expenses for acupuncture, prayer, religious healing including services, and naturopathic, naprapathic, or homeopathic services or supplies
- expenses for memberships in or visits to health clubs, exercise programs, gymnasiums or other physical fitness facilities
- commercial weight loss programs, e.g., Weight Watchers and Jenny Craig
- operating room fees for surgery, surgical trays and sterile packs done in a non-state-licensed facility including the **doctor's** office

<sup>18</sup> See footnotes 18 and 19 on pages 132–133.

- routine orthotics for foot care (including dispensing of surgical shoe(s) and pre- and post-operative X-rays pertaining to routine foot care)
- routine hearing exams for adults
- treatment for services for mental retardation
- formal psychological evaluations and fitness for duty opinions
- long-term hospitalization for residential care
- training or educational therapy for reading or learning disabilities
- testing, screening or treatment for learning disorders, expressive language disorders, mathematics disorders, phonological disorders and communication disorders
- treatment for conditions not listed as mental disorders in the most recent edition of the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*
- behavioral health treatment rendered by Licensed Mental Health Counselors, Licensed Masters Social Workers (who are non-independent social workers who work under the supervision of another licensed professional), Licensed Marriage and Family Therapists and Licensed Psychoanalysts
- psychological testing (except as conducted by a Licensed Psychologist for assistance in treatment planning, including medication management and diagnostic clarification) and specifically excluding all educational, academic and achievement tests
- **ambulette**, except as provided in footnote 6 on pages 129–130
- the following specific preventive care services:
  - screening tests done at your place of work at no cost to you
  - free screening services offered by a government health department
  - tests done by a mobile screening unit, unless a **doctor** not affiliated with the mobile unit prescribes the tests
- the following specific **emergency** services:
  - use of the emergency room to treat routine ailments because you have no regular **doctor** or because it is late at night (and the need for treatment does not meet the Plan's definition of **emergency**.) (See page 125.)
  - use of the emergency room for follow-up visits

- the following specific maternity care services:
  - days in hospital that are not **medically necessary** (beyond the 48-hour/96-hour stays the Fund is required by law to cover)
  - private room (If you use a private room, you pay the difference between the cost for the private room and a semi-private room. The additional cost does not count toward your **deductible** or **co-insurance**.)
  - **out-of-network** birthing center facilities
  - private-duty nursing
  - services of a doula
- the following specific inpatient hospital care expenses:
  - private duty nursing
  - private room (If you use a private room, you pay the difference between the cost for the private room and a semi-private room. The additional cost does not count toward your **deductible** or **co-insurance**.)
  - diagnostic inpatient stays, unless connected with specific symptoms that if not treated on an inpatient basis could result in serious bodily harm or risk to life
  - any part of a hospital stay that is primarily custodial
  - elective cosmetic surgery<sup>18</sup> or any related hospital expenses or treatment of any related complications
  - hospital services received in clinic settings that do not meet Empire's definition of a hospital or other covered facility
  - bariatric surgery at a facility that is not a Blue Distinction Hospital within the Empire **network**
- the following specific outpatient hospital care expenses:
  - routine medical care including, but not limited to, inoculation, vaccination, drug administration or injection, excluding chemotherapy
  - collection or storage of your own blood, blood products or semen

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See footnote 18 on page 132.

- all excluded **out-of-network** services  
The following **out-of-network** services and/or expenses are excluded from coverage under the Plan. **No benefits will be paid by the Plan for the following out-of-network services:**
  - kidney dialysis
  - bariatric surgery performed at a hospital that is not a Blue Distinction Center of Medical Excellence facility.
  - transplant surgery for bone marrow, liver, heart and pancreas performed at a hospital that is not a Blue Distinction Center of Medical Excellence facility
  - transplant surgery for a kidney or lung transplant performed at a non-participating BlueCross BlueShield hospital
  - skilled nursing facility
  - home health care
  - hospice care facility
  - home infusion therapy
  - birthing centers
  - outpatient physical, occupational speech, and vision therapy
  - durable medical equipment
  - prosthetics/orthotics
  - medical supplies
  - hearing aids
- the following specific equipment:
  - air conditioners or purifiers
  - humidifiers or dehumidifiers
  - exercise equipment
  - swimming pools
- skilled nursing facility care that primarily:
  - gives assistance with daily living activities
  - is for rest or for the aged
  - is convalescent care
  - is sanitarium-type care
  - is a rest cure

- the following specific home health care services:
  - custodial services, including bathing, feeding, changing or other services that do not require skilled care
- the following specific physical, occupational, speech or vision therapy services:
  - therapy to maintain or prevent deterioration of the patient’s current physical abilities
  - treatment for developmental delay, including speech therapy
- the following specific vision care services:
  - expenses for surgical correction of refractive error or refractive keratoplasty procedures including, but not limited to, radial keratotomy (“RK”), photo-refractive keratotomy (“PRK”) and laser in situ keratomileusis 21 (“LASIK”) and its variants
  - eyeglasses, contact lenses and the examination for their fitting except following cataract surgery. However, see Vision Care Benefits on pages 73–74 to find out how eyeglasses and contact lenses may be covered under the vision program
  - routine vision care (See Vision Care Benefits on pages 73–74 for coverage information.)
- the following services that may be covered elsewhere under the Plan:
  - dental treatment, except surgical removal of impacted teeth or treatment of sound natural teeth injured by accident if treated *within 12 months* of the injury; however, see Dental Benefits on pages 63–72
  - all prescription drugs and over-the-counter drugs, self-administered injectibles, vitamins, vitamin therapy, appetite suppressants, or any other type of medication, unless specifically indicated. However, see Prescription Drug Benefits on pages 58–62 to find out how prescription drug expenses may be covered.
  - false teeth (not covered under hospital/medical, but may be covered under dental.) (See Dental Benefits on pages 63–72.)
- the following miscellaneous health care services and expenses:
  - services performed in nursing or convalescent homes, institutions primarily for rest or for the aged, rehabilitation facilities (except for physical therapy), spas, sanitariums, or infirmaries at schools, colleges or camps
  - injury or sickness that arises out of any occupation or employment for wage or profit for which there is Workers’ Compensation or occupational disease law coverage (for information about subrogation of benefits, see pages 103-106)
  - injury or sickness that arises out of any act of war (declared or undeclared) or military service of any country
  - injury or sickness that arises out of a criminal act (other than domestic violence) by the covered person, or an intentionally self-inflicted injury that is not the result of mental illness
  - expenses for services or supplies for which a covered person receives payment or reimbursement from casualty insurance or as a result of legal action, or expenses for which the covered person has already been reimbursed by another party who was responsible because of negligence or other tort or wrongful act of that party (for information about subrogation of benefits, see pages 103-106)
  - expenses reimbursable under the “no-fault” provisions of a state law
  - services covered under government programs, except under Medicare, Medicaid or where otherwise noted
  - any hospital or **physician** care received outside of the U.S. that is not **emergency** care
  - government hospital services, except specific services covered under a special agreement between Empire and a governmental hospital or services in United States Veterans’ Administration or Department of Defense hospitals for conditions not related to military service
  - treatment or care for temporomandibular disorder or temporomandibular joint disorder (“TMJ”) syndrome
  - services such as laboratory, X-ray and imaging, and pharmacy services from a facility in which the referring **doctor** or his or her immediate family member has a financial interest or relationship
  - services given by an unlicensed provider or performed outside the scope of the provider’s license
  - charges for services a relative provides
  - charges that exceed the maximum **allowed amount** or visits that exceed the annual maximum for that service or supply
  - services performed at home, except for those services specifically noted in this booklet as covered either at home or in an **emergency**

- services usually given without charge, even if charges are billed
- services performed by hospital or institutional staff that are billed separately from other hospital or institutional services, except as otherwise specified in this booklet

## Prescription Drug Benefits

Your prescription drug benefits are administered by CVS Caremark. The list of prescription drugs that are covered by your Plan is known as a “formulary”. Your Plan has a Value Option Formulary that is mandatory generic and includes a wide selection of generic and brand-name medications. Certain drugs require prior approval and/or step therapy. Your **physician** can call CVS Caremark at 1-800-294-5979 for additional information.

The table below shows your **co-payments** for short-term and maintenance generic and brand drugs:

	<b>Short-term Drugs at a Participating Pharmacy (up to a 30 day supply)</b>	<b>Maintenance Drugs by Mail or at a CVS Pharmacy (up to a 90-day supply)</b>	<b>Non-Participating Pharmacy</b>
<b>Generic Drugs</b>	<b>\$10 co-payment</b>	<b>\$20 co-payment</b>	Covered up to what the Fund would pay a participating retail pharmacy less your <b>co-payment</b> .
<b>Brand Drugs</b>	<b>\$30 co-payment</b>	<b>\$60 co-payment</b>	Covered up to what the Fund would pay a participating retail pharmacy less your <b>co-payment</b> .

If the cost of the drug is less than the **co-payment**, you pay the cost of the drug.

If your **doctor** prescribes a formulary brand-name drug and initials the “Dispense As Written” (“DAW”) box when an “A”-rated generic equivalent drug is available, you will have a \$30 **co-payment** and you will have to pay the difference in cost between the brand-name drug and the generic drug. Brand-name drugs can be very costly so always ask your **doctor** to prescribe generic drugs when possible.

Note: You can have your prescription filled at a non-participating pharmacy, but you will have to pay the full cost and then file a claim with CVS Caremark to be reimbursed up to the amount CVS Caremark would have

paid a participating pharmacy (minus your **co-payment**). Contact CVS Caremark over the phone or on-line to obtain the necessary claim form if you have your prescription filled at a non-participating pharmacy. (See inside back cover for the phone number and the website for CVS Caremark.)

Note: No **co-payment** required for contraceptive prescriptions. (See eligible drugs on page 62.)

## Specialty Drugs

Your pharmacy benefits also cover specialty drugs that are on the CVS Caremark formulary. The **co-payment** for specialty drugs is the same as described in the table on page 58. In order to be covered for a formulary specialty drug, you must fill your specialty drug prescription at a CVS retail pharmacy or through the CVS Caremark Specialty Pharmacy. There is no coverage for formulary specialty drugs unless they are filled using one of these two methods.

## Chronic Care Prescription Drug Discount Program

Members and their dependent(s) with diabetes, asthma, heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (“COPD”), stroke, peripheral artery disease (“PAD”), and hypertension who receive all their health care services\* at one of the 5 Star Centers can receive prescription drugs, whether generic or brand, for a **co-payment** of \$5 at any participating retail pharmacy for a 30-day supply or \$10 at either CVS Caremark mail service or at a CVS pharmacy for a 90-day supply. For more information, or to see if you are eligible, call Member Services at 1-877-299-1636 or email us at [5StarCenterTeam@32bjfunds.com](mailto:5StarCenterTeam@32bjfunds.com).

## There are several ways to get your prescriptions filled:

### For Short-term Medications—At the Pharmacy

When you need to take a prescription for a period of no more than 60 days, you can have your prescription filled at a retail pharmacy. Just go to a participating pharmacy with your prescription and your CVS Caremark ID Card. All prescriptions filled at a participating pharmacy provide you with up to a 30-day supply and one refill of up to a 30-day supply.

\*This requirement does not apply to **emergency** or urgent care services or services that are not available at the 5 Star Center.



## For Maintenance Medications

If you need to take a prescription for a long time, then there are two ways you can fill your prescription:

1. Through the Maintenance Choice Program at any CVS pharmacy, or
2. Through the CVS Caremark's Mail Service Program.

You save money by using either the Maintenance Choice Program or the CVS Caremark's Mail Service Program since you receive a 3-month supply for the equivalent of 2 months of **co-payment**.

Using either the Maintenance Choice Program or the CVS Caremark Mail Service Program is mandatory for those who take maintenance drugs (medication taken on a regular basis for chronic conditions such as high blood pressure, diabetes or high cholesterol). You can use whichever program works best for you.

## Through the Maintenance Choice Program

You can get your maintenance medications at any CVS Pharmacy. Simply present your prescription for a 90-day supply of the medication, pay your **co-payment** for your medication (\$20 for generic medications and \$60 for brand name medications) and get your prescription right from the CVS Pharmacy. All refills can also be filled at the CVS Pharmacy.

## Through CVS Caremark Mail Service Program

You can use the CVS Caremark mail order service by following these steps:

- For your first mail service order, fill in the patient profile sections of the Mail Order Pharmacy Order Form, which you can get from Member Services or by calling CVS Caremark at 1-877-765-6294. Be sure to complete as much of the information requested as possible. You must provide your unique CVS Caremark identification number, name of the person or persons for whom you are sending prescriptions and the address to whom the medication should be sent. Provide any allergy or history information so that the pharmacist will be aware of any potential drug conflict.
- Complete the Mail Order Pharmacy Order Form for each new prescription.
- Enclose your maintenance drug prescription, the Mail Order Pharmacy Order Form and your payment in the pre-addressed mail service envelope. You must make the necessary **co-payment** for your mail order or your prescription may not be filled. Your medications are delivered to you at

home postage-paid by United Parcel Service or by U.S. mail. Allow 10 to 14 days after the prescription is filled for delivery of your medicine.

- A new order form and envelope will be sent to you with each delivery. These forms are also available from Member Services or CVS Caremark.

If you are concerned about not receiving the drugs in time, ask your **doctor** to write two prescriptions – one for a 30-day supply to fill right away at your local retail pharmacy and a second for a 90-day supply to send to the mail order pharmacy for a long-term supply.

You can order refills by phone (call CVS Caremark customer service toll-free at 1-877-765-6294) or from their website ([www.Caremark.com](http://www.Caremark.com)). Have your prescription number and credit card ready when you call or log on.

Refills are not shipped automatically. If you have remaining refills on your original prescription, request your CVS Caremark refill three weeks before you need it to avoid running out of medication. You should receive your refill within a week.

Prescriptions for medicines not available through the mail (such as narcotics) will be returned to you. These prescriptions can be filled at your local CVS Caremark participating pharmacy for up to a 30-day supply.

Please note that certain prescription drugs, whether filled in the participating pharmacy or through the mail service, require prior authorization. Your pharmacist can tell you if the prescription drug order you need to have filled requires prior authorization. Contact CVS Caremark at 1-877-765-6294 before having the prescription filled to ensure that you will receive regular reimbursement for the prescription that you have been given. If you have a prescription filled for a drug that is on the list of those requiring prior authorization, and you fail to contact CVS Caremark before having the prescription filled, you may be fully responsible for the cost of the prescription drug.

## Through CVS Caremark Specialty Pharmacy Program

If you choose not to fill your specialty drug at a CVS retail pharmacy, you must use the CVS Caremark Specialty Pharmacy Program. To use the CVS Caremark Specialty Pharmacy Program, you must call 1-800-237-2767. A CVS Caremark service representative will assist you in completing the specialty drug registration process.

Note: If your specialty medication is perishable, then the Specialty Pharmacy will send your 90-day prescription order in three separate deliveries of 30 day fills over the course of the 90 days. With each 30 day fill that the Specialty Pharmacy sends, it will charge you 1/3 of the **co-payment** required.

## Frequency Limitation

All prescriptions for proton pump inhibitors (“PPIs”), such as Nexium or Omeprazole, will be filled for up to a 90-day supply in a 180 day period.

## Eligible Drugs

The following are covered under the Plan:

- Federal legend prescription drugs,
- drugs requiring a prescription under the applicable state law,
- insulin, insulin syringes and needles,
- diabetic test strips,
- all FDA approved types of contraceptives, including oral and sub-dermal contraceptive prescriptions, contraceptive injections and miscellaneous contraceptive devices, with no **co-payment** required,
- prescription vitamins for infants to 12 months, and
- prenatal vitamins, with no **co-payment** required, for up to 15 months.

## Excluded Drugs

The following are not covered under the Plan:

- over-the-counter drugs and vitamins (however, certain vitamins are covered for prenatal care – see above for information),
- prescription drugs that require prior authorization and for which you have not received prior authorization,
- drugs used in clinical trials or experimental studies,
- drugs used for infertility treatment or egg donation,
- drugs prescribed for cosmetic purposes (See footnote 18 on page 132 for more information.),
- drugs used for weight loss unless you meet the Plan’s medical criteria
- non-formulary drugs, unless your **doctor** can prove (i.e., clinical documentation; patient’s drug therapy history) to CVS Caremark’s satisfaction that the non-formulary drug is necessary (non-formulary drugs are drugs that are not on the Plan’s list of approved drugs and medicines),
- therapeutic devices or appliances, support garments and other non-medical substances, and
- prescriptions that an eligible person is entitled to receive without charge under any Workers’ Compensation law, or any municipal, state or Federal program.

## Dental Benefits

### How the Plan Works

The Delta Dental Plan provides coverage for necessary dental care received through:

- a Delta Dental PPO participating dentist,
- a non-Delta Dental PPO participating dentist, or
- the 32BJ Dental Center at 25 West 18th Street, New York, NY 10011.

Necessary dental care is a service or supply that is required to identify or treat a dental condition, disease or injury. The fact that a dentist prescribes or approves a service or supply or a court orders a service or supply to be rendered does not make it dentally necessary. The service or supply must be all of the following:

- provided by a dentist, or solely in the case of cleaning or scaling of teeth, performed by a licensed, registered dental hygienist under the supervision and direction of a dentist,
- consistent with the symptoms, diagnosis or treatment of the condition, disease or injury,
- consistent with standards of good dental practice,
- not solely for the patient’s or the dentist’s convenience, and
- the most appropriate supply or level of service that can safely be provided to the patient.

**Covered services** are listed in the Schedule of Covered Dental Services for the Delta Dental Plan (see pages 66–69 in this booklet), subject to frequency limitations that are stated in that Schedule. The Plan pays no benefits for procedures that are not in that Schedule, but may provide an alternate benefit if approved by Delta Dental of New York, Inc. (“Delta Dental”) on behalf of the Fund. Whether you have to pay for those services and, if so, how much, depends on whether you choose to receive your dental care from a Delta Dental participating PPO dental provider or from a non-participating PPO dentist.

## Participating Delta Dental Providers

The Delta Dental Plan's dental benefits include a "participating dental provider" feature through Delta Dental. The Delta Dental PPO is the Plan's participating dental provider **network**. Dentists who participate in the Delta Dental PPO have agreed to accept the amount that Delta Dental pays as either payment in full for diagnostic and preventive services or partial payment for other dental services.

- If you choose to receive your care from a participating dental provider, you will not have to pay anything for covered dental care that is diagnostic or preventive, and
- For all other services, you will pay the difference between the fee schedule Delta Dental pays and the applicable maximum plan allowance under the Delta Dental PPO.

## Non-Participating Dentists

The Plan will pay for dental work performed by any properly accredited dentist, but the Plan will pay no more than what Delta Dental would have paid a participating Delta Dental PPO dentist. Contact Delta Dental's Customer Service at 1-800-932-0783 to find out what their reimbursement is for each dental procedure/service you require.

You will be required to pay the dentist's full charges. You will file a claim with Delta Dental (see page 82) and will be reimbursed according to the Delta Dental fee schedule for each procedure.

The Fund will pay the smaller of the dentist's actual charge for a covered dental service or the **allowed amount** for that procedure according to Delta Dental's PPO fee schedule.

## The 32BJ Dental Center

The 32BJ Dental Center is equipped to provide a broad range of dental services, except those that require general anesthesia. If you receive your dental care from the 32BJ Dental Center, you will not have to pay for any of that care. The 32BJ Dental Center has a limited capacity and when it reaches the maximum number of patients it can serve, it will temporarily suspend accepting new patient appointments.

## Predeterminations/Pretreatment Estimates

Determine costs ahead of time by asking your Delta Dental participating dentist to submit the treatment plan to Delta Dental for a predetermination of benefits before any treatment is provided. Delta Dental will verify your specific plan coverage and the cost of the treatment and provide an estimate of your **co-insurance** and what Delta Dental will pay. Predeterminations are free and help you and your dentist make informed decisions about the cost of your treatment.

## What Dental Services Are Covered

The Delta Dental Plan covers a wide range of dental services, including:

- Preventive and diagnostic services, such as routine oral exams, cleanings, X-rays, topical fluoride applications, space maintainers and sealants. These services are covered 100%.
- Basic therapeutic services, such as extractions and oral surgery, intravenous conscious sedation when **medically necessary** for oral surgery, gum treatment, gum surgery, fillings and root canal therapy. These services are covered with a 20% **co-insurance**.
- Major services, such as fixed bridgework, crowns and dentures. These services are covered with a 50% **co-insurance**.
- Orthodontic services for children 19 and under, such as diagnostic procedures and appliances to realign teeth. There is a separate lifetime maximum on orthodontic services of \$1,000 per patient.

See the Schedule of Covered Dental Services for the Delta Dental PPO on pages 66–69 for details.

## Frequency Limitations

Benefits are subject to the frequency limits shown on the Schedule of Covered Dental Services for the Delta Dental Plan as shown on pages 66–69.

## Annual Maximum

The Delta Dental Plan provides coverage of up to \$1,000 per participant/dependent age 19 and older per calendar year. There is no annual maximum for participants and dependent(s) under 19 years of age. There is a separate lifetime maximum of up to \$1,000 for orthodontic services for children 19 years of age and under.

## Schedule of Covered Dental Services for the Delta Dental Plan

Procedure	Limits
<b>Diagnostic*</b>  Oral exam, periodic, limited (problem-focused), comprehensive or detailed and extensive (problem-focused)  X-rays: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• full mouth, complete series, including bitewings or panoramic film</li> <li>• bitewings, back teeth</li> <li>• periapicals, single tooth</li> <li>• occlusal film</li> <li>• cephalometric film (orthodontic coverage only)</li> </ul>	Once every six months     Once in any 36 consecutive months  Four films every six months  As necessary  As necessary  Once in a lifetime
<b>Preventive*</b>  Dental prophylaxis (cleaning, scaling and polishing)  Topical fluoride treatment  Sealants (on the occlusal surface of a permanent non-restored molar and pre-molar tooth)  Space maintenance (passive-removable or fixed devices made for children to maintain the gap created by a missing tooth until a permanent tooth emerges)	Once every six months   Once in any calendar year for patients under age 16  Once per tooth in any 24 consecutive months for patients under age 16  Once per tooth for patients under age 16
<b>Simple Restorative**</b>  Amalgam (metal) fillings  Resin (composite, tooth-colored) fillings	Once per tooth surface in any 24 consecutive months  Once per tooth surface in any 24 consecutive months

## Schedule of Covered Dental Services for the Delta Dental Plan (continued)

Procedure	Limits
<b>Major Restorative***</b>  Recementation of crown  Prefabricated stainless steel/resin crown (deciduous teeth only)  Crowns, when tooth cannot be restored with regular filling(s) due to excessive decay or fracture	Once per tooth in any calendar year  Once per tooth in any 60 consecutive months  Once per tooth in any 60 consecutive months
<b>Endodontics**</b>  Root canal therapy  Retreatment of root canal  Apicoectomy (a post-operative film showing completed apicoectomy and retrograde, if placed, is required for payment)  Pulpotomy	Once per tooth in a lifetime  Once per tooth in a lifetime  Once per tooth in a lifetime  Once per tooth in a lifetime
<b>Periodontics**</b>  Gingivectomy or gingivoplasty  Osseous surgery (prior approval is required with a full-mouth series of X-rays and periodontal charting).  Periodontal scaling and root planing  Periodontal maintenance (covered only if the Plan also covered periodontal surgery and the maintenance procedure is performed by a periodontist)	Once per quadrant in a lifetime  Once per quadrant in a lifetime  Once per calendar year  Twice in any calendar year

\* Reimbursed at 100% of the Delta Dental PPO **allowed amount** (or dentist's charges if less).

\*\* Reimbursed at 80% of the Delta Dental PPO **allowed amount** (or dentist's charges if less).

\*\*\* Reimbursed at 50% of the Delta Dental PPO **allowed amount** (or dentist's charges if less).

**Schedule of Covered Dental Services for the Delta Dental Plan (continued)**

<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Limits</b>
<b>Removable Prosthodontics***</b>  Complete or immediate (full) upper and lower dentures or partial dentures, including six months of routine post-delivery care  Denture rebase or reline procedures, including six months of routine post-delivery care  Interim maxillary and mandibular partial denture (anterior teeth only); no other temporary or transitional denture is covered by the Delta Dental Plan	One denture per arch in any 60 consecutive months  Once per appliance in any 36 consecutive months  Once per appliance in any 60 consecutive months
<b>Fixed Prosthodontics***</b>  Fixed partial dentures and individual crowns  Prefabricated post and core procedures related to fixed partial denture (X-ray showing completed endodontic procedure is required)	Once per tooth in any 60 consecutive months  Once per tooth in any 60 consecutive months
<b>Simple Extractions**</b>  Non-surgical removal of tooth or exposed roots (includes local anesthesia, necessary suturing and routine post-operative care)	Once per tooth
<b>Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery**</b>  Removal of impacted tooth  Alveoplasty (surgical preparation of ridge for dentures, with or without extractions)  Frenulectomy  Removal of exostosis (removal of overgrowth of bone)	Once per tooth in a lifetime  Once per quadrant in a lifetime  Once per arch in a lifetime  Once per site in a lifetime
Oral surgery is limited to removal of teeth, preparation of the mouth for dentures, removal of tooth-generated cysts up to 1.25cm and incision and drainage of an intraoral or extraoral abscess.	

**Schedule of Covered Dental Services for the Delta Dental Plan (continued)**

<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Limits</b>
<b>Emergency Treatment*</b>  Palliative treatment to alleviate immediate discomfort (minor procedure only)	Twice in any calendar year
<b>Repairs**</b>  Temporary crown (fractured tooth)  Crown repair  Overcrown  Repairs to complete or partial dentures  Recement fixed or partial dentures  Additions to partial dentures	Once per tooth in a lifetime  Once per tooth in any 36 consecutive months  Once per tooth in any 60 consecutive months  Once per appliance in any calendar year  Once per appliance in any calendar year  As needed
<b>Orthodontics***</b>  Patients 19 years of age and under	One course of treatment in a lifetime, up to \$1,000  Initial diagnosis is a separate coverage
Benefits are payable only for treatment by orthodontists who are graduates of an advanced education program in orthodontics accredited by the American Dental Association. A "course of treatment" is defined as 30 consecutive months (24 months if 16 or older) of active orthodontic treatment, including braces, monthly visits and retainers.	
<b>Miscellaneous*</b>  Occlusal guard*	One appliance in any 60 consecutive months

\* Reimbursed at 100% of the Delta Dental PPO **allowed amount** (or dentist's charges if less).

\*\* Reimbursed at 80% of the Delta Dental PPO **allowed amount** (or dentist's charges if less).

\*\*\* Reimbursed at 50% of the Delta Dental PPO **allowed amount** (or dentist's charges if less).

## Alternate Benefit for Dental Coverage

There is often more than one way to treat a given dental problem. For example, a tooth could be repaired with an amalgam filling, a resin composite or a crown. If this is the case, the Plan will generally limit benefits to the least expensive method of treatment that is appropriate and that meets acceptable dental standards. For example, if your tooth can be filled with amalgam and you, or your dentist, decide to use a crown instead, the Plan pays benefits based on the amalgam. You will have to pay the difference.

## What Is Not Covered

The Plan's dental coverage will not reimburse or make payments for the following:

- any services performed before a patient becomes eligible for benefits or after a patient's eligibility terminates, even if a treatment plan has been approved
- reimbursement for any services in excess of the frequency limitations specified in the Schedule of Covered Dental Services
- charges in excess of the **allowed amounts**, contact Delta Dental for the Schedule of **Allowed Amounts** for each covered service or the annual or lifetime amount
- treatment for accidental injury to natural teeth that is provided more than 12 months after the date of the accident
- services or supplies that the Plan determines are experimental or investigative in nature
- services or treatments that the Plan determines do not have a reasonably favorable prognosis
- any treatment performed principally for cosmetic reasons including, but not limited to, laminate, veneers and tooth bleaching
- special techniques, including precision dentures, overdenture, characterization or personalization of crowns, dentures, fillings or any other service. This includes, but is not limited to, precision attachments and stress-breakers. Full or partial dentures that require

special techniques and time due to special problems, such as loss of supporting bone structure, are also excluded

- any procedures, appliances or restorations that alter the "bite", or the way the teeth meet (also referred to as occlusion and vertical dimension), and/or restore or maintain the bite, except as provided under orthodontic benefits. Such procedures include, but are not limited to, equilibration, periodontal splinting, full-mouth rehabilitation, restoration of tooth structure lost from attrition and restoration for misalignment of teeth
- any procedures involving full-mouth reconstruction, or any services related to dental implants, including any surgical implant with a prosthetic device attached to it
- diagnosis and/or treatment of jaw joint problems, including temporomandibular joint disorder ("TMJ") syndrome, craniomandibular disorders or other conditions of the joint linking the jaw bone and skull or the complex of muscles, nerves and other tissue related to that joint
- double or multiple abutments
- treatment to correct harmful habits including, but not limited to, smoking and myofunctional therapy
- habit-breaking appliances, except under the orthodontics benefit
- services for plaque-control programs, oral hygiene instruction and dietary counseling
- services related to the replacement or repair of appliances or devices, including:
  - duplicate dentures, appliances or devices
  - the replacement of lost, missing or stolen dentures and appliances less than five years from the date of insertion or the payment date
  - replacement of existing dentures, bridges or appliances that can be made useable according to dental standards
  - adjustments to a prosthetic device within the first six months of its placement that were not included in the device's original price
  - replacement or repair of orthodontic appliances

- drugs or medications used or dispensed in the dentist's office (any prescriptions that are required may be covered by the Plan's prescription drug benefits. (See pages 58–62.)
- charges for novocaine, xylocaine, or any similar local anesthetic when the charge is made separately from a covered dental expense
- additional fees charged by a dentist for hospital treatment
- services for which a participant has contractual rights to recover cost, whether a claim is asserted or not, under Workers' Compensation, or automobile, medical, personal injury protection, homeowners or other no-fault insurance
- treatment of conditions caused by war or any act of war, whether declared or undeclared, or a condition contracted or an accident occurring while on full-time active duty in the armed forces of any country or combination of countries
- any portion of the charges for which benefits are payable under any other part of the Plan
- if a participant transfers from the care of one dentist to another dentist during the course of treatment, or if more than one dentist renders services for the same procedure, the Plan will not pay benefits greater than what it would have paid if the service had been rendered by one dentist
- transportation to or from treatment
- expenses incurred for broken appointments
- fees for completing reports or for providing records
- any procedures not listed under the Schedule of Covered Dental Services

### Coordination of Dental Benefits

If you have dental coverage through another carrier, which serves as your primary dental insurer, prior approval is not required if you got this approval through your primary dental insurer.

## Vision Care Benefits

Your vision benefit is administered by Davis Vision, which maintains a national **network** of vision providers. If you need an eye exam, corrective lenses (including contact lenses) or frames, you can go to a **participating provider** or a non-participating provider. By using a **participating provider**, you can get an exam and glasses with no out-of-pocket cost, but your choice of frames will be limited to the Plan's selection. If you want frames and/or lenses that cost more than the Plan's limit, you will pay the difference.

If you use a non-participating provider, you can get up to \$30 for eye exams, \$60 for lenses and \$60 for frames. You will be responsible for paying the charges in full and will be reimbursed up to the **allowed amounts**.

There is no **out-of-network** benefit for participants and dependent(s) under age 19.

If you get contact lenses instead of frames and lenses, from either a participating or non-participating provider, the maximum reimbursement for the contact lenses is \$120. If you use a **participating provider**, your eye exam is free. If you use a non-participating provider, you can get up to \$30 for your eye exam. You will be responsible for paying any charges in excess of the maximum reimbursement.

These maximum benefits are payable within any 24-month period,<sup>(5)</sup> starting with the date you first incur a vision care expense (typically an eye exam). For example, if you get an eye exam on September 1, 2015, you have up to September 1, 2017 (assuming you remain eligible for Fund benefits) to receive the benefits cited above for the lenses and frames or contacts. Any unused vision care benefits cannot be carried over and used in a subsequent 24-month period.

<sup>(5)</sup> Participants and dependent(s) under 19 are eligible for an eye exam once every 12 months.

You can access your Vision Plan benefits by:

- Showing your Davis Vision card to a Davis Vision provider, or
- Visiting a non-participating provider and later submitting a Vision Plan claim form to Davis Vision for reimbursement.

To find a **participating provider**, call Member Services at 1-800-999-5431.

## Eligible Expenses

The Plan covers the following vision care expenses:

- eye examinations performed by a legally qualified and licensed ophthalmologist or optometrist, and
- prescribed corrective lenses you receive from a legally qualified and licensed optician, ophthalmologist or optometrist.

## Excluded Expenses

The Plan's vision care coverage will not reimburse or make payments for expenses incurred for, caused by or resulting from:

- ophthalmic treatment or services payable under the provisions of any other benefits of the plan (ophthalmic treatment may be covered under the hospital/medical benefits described on pages 38–51),
- non-prescription eyeglasses,
- adornment expenses, and
- **out-of-network** benefits for participants and dependent(s) under age 19.

## Life Insurance Benefits

### Benefit Amount

Your life insurance coverage, which is administered by MetLife, is \$10,000. Life insurance benefits are payable to your beneficiary if you die while coverage is in effect.

### Naming a Beneficiary

Your beneficiary will be the person or persons you name in writing on a form that is kept on file at MetLife. Your beneficiary can be anyone you choose, and you can change your beneficiary designation at any time by completing and submitting a new form to MetLife. You can get a MetLife beneficiary form by going to [www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org), selecting the 32BJ Health Fund tab and clicking forms.

If you do not name a beneficiary, or if your beneficiary dies before you and you have not named a new beneficiary, your life insurance benefit will be payable in the following order:

- 1) your spouse, if living,
- 2) your living children, equally,
- 3) your living parents, equally, and
- 4) if none of the above, to your estate.

The Plan does not pay life insurance benefits to a designated beneficiary who is involved in any way in the purposeful death of the participant. In a case where this rule applies, if there is no named beneficiary who can receive the benefits, they will be paid in the order listed immediately above.



## Life Insurance Disability Extension

If you are disabled and receiving Short-Term Disability or Workers' Compensation benefits, your life insurance will continue for six months from the date of disability, or until your disability ends, whichever happens first. If you are eligible for a Disability Pension under the Building Service 32BJ Pension Fund, your life insurance will continue until your disability ends or you reach age 65, whichever happens first. For as long as this extended coverage lasts, your benefit level will be frozen at the level in effect at the time you became disabled.

The Fund reserves the right to re-certify disability as described on pages 18–19. If you die before you submit proof of your disability, your beneficiary must submit proof of death and total disability *within 90 days* after your death.

Notice of approval or denial of benefits will be sent to your designated beneficiary in writing. (See page 89 for information on appealing a denied claim.)

## When Coverage Ends

Life insurance coverage ends 30 days after your **covered employment** ends, except as provided above or if you have Fund-paid Health Extension due to disability or arbitration. (See pages 17–20.) See pages 115–116 for information about converting your group life insurance to an individual life insurance policy.

## Accidental Death & Dismemberment (AD&D) Benefits

Accidental Death & Dismemberment (“AD&D”) Insurance, which is administered by MetLife, applies to accidents on or off the job, at home or away from home. This is unlike Workers' Compensation insurance, which covers you only on the job. You are eligible while in **covered employment** and for 30 days after your **covered employment** ends. Your AD&D benefit is in addition to your life insurance and is payable if you die or become dismembered as a result of an accident *within 90 days* after that accident.

## How AD&D Benefits Work

If you lose your life in an accident, or both hands at or above the wrist, or both feet at or above the ankle, or sight in both eyes, or any combination of hand, foot, and sight in one eye, the AD&D benefit payable to your beneficiary is \$10,000. If you lose one hand at or above the wrist, or one foot at or above the ankle, or sight in one eye, the AD&D benefit payable is \$5,000.

“Loss” of a hand or foot means the actual and complete severance through or above the wrist or ankle joint. Loss of sight means the irrevocable and complete loss of sight.

For all covered losses caused by all injuries that you sustain in one accident, not more than the full amount will be paid.

Contact MetLife to claim AD&D benefits.

## What Is Not Covered

AD&D insurance benefits will not be paid for injuries that result from any of the following causes:

- physical or mental illness or infirmity, or the diagnosis or treatment of such illness or infirmity,
- infection, other than occurring in an external accidental wound,
- suicide or attempted suicide,
- intentionally self inflicted injury,
- service in the armed forces of any country or international authority, except the United States National Guard,
- any incident related to travel in an aircraft as a pilot, crew member, flight student or while acting in any capacity other than as a passenger, parachuting or other descent from an aircraft, except for self-preservation, travel in an aircraft or device used: for testing or experimental purposes, by or for any military authority, or for travel or designed for travel beyond the earth's atmosphere,
- committing or attempting to commit a felony,
- the voluntary intake or use by any means of any drug, medication or sedative, unless it is taken or used as prescribed by a **physician**, or an “over the counter” drug, medication or sedative taken as directed, alcohol in combination with any drug, medication, or sedative, or poison, gas or fumes,
- war, whether declared or undeclared, or act of war, insurrection, rebellion or riot, or
- the injured party is intoxicated at the time of the incident and is the operator of a vehicle or other device involved in the incident. Intoxicated means that

the injured person's blood alcohol level met or exceeded the level that creates a legal presumption of intoxication under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the incident occurred.

### When Coverage Ends

AD&D insurance coverage ends 30 days after you terminate employment. Like your life insurance, your AD&D coverage may continue while you have Fund-paid Health Extension due to disability or arbitration. (See pages 17–20.)

## Death Benefit for Pensioners

If you are a pensioner collecting a pension\* from the Building Service 32BJ Pension Fund, you are entitled to a death benefit of \$1,000. However, if you are eligible to receive life insurance coverage from this Plan, this \$1,000 death benefit is not payable.

Your beneficiary for the death benefit will be the person or persons you name in writing on a claim form that is kept on file in the Retirement Services Department. Your beneficiary can be anyone you choose, and you can change your beneficiary at any time by completing and submitting a new form to the Retirement Services Department.

If you do not name a beneficiary, or if your beneficiary dies before you and you have not named a new beneficiary, your pensioner death benefit will be payable in the following order:

- 1) your spouse, if living,
- 2) your living children, equally,
- 3) your living parents, equally, and
- 4) if none of the above, to your estate.

The Plan does not pay this benefit to anyone who is involved in any way in the purposeful death of the participant. In a case where this rule applies, if there is no named beneficiary who can receive the benefits, they will be paid in the order listed above.

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\*A pensioner who has received a lump-sum cash out of their pension under the Building Service 32BJ Pension Plan Program C is not eligible for the pensioner death benefit.

## Short-Term Disability (STD) Benefits

Participants working in Connecticut under collective bargaining agreements that require a contribution rate that covers Short-Term Disability (“STD”) benefits are covered by the Fund for STD benefits as described in this section. Please call Member Services at 1-800-551-3225 to determine your eligibility.

This plan provides a weekly income to you if you become disabled while working in **covered employment**. This means that you are unable to perform the duties of your regular job because of a covered accident or sickness and are under the care of a legally recognized treatment provider.

To be eligible for STD benefits, you must meet the following criteria:

- you must be considered disabled as defined by the STD plan,
- you are under the direct regular care of a non-related legally recognized treatment provider, and
- your disability is not the result of a job related or on the job injury or illness.

*STD Benefit Amount.* The STD benefit payable from the Plan is as follows:

- 66 2/3% of your current weekly earnings up to a maximum of \$150/week.

*When Benefits Begin.* Benefits commence on the fifteenth day of disability following an illness or accident. You may be eligible for up to 26 weeks of disability income benefits for your disability.

*When Benefits End.* Benefits end when any of the following events occur:

- You are no longer disabled,
- You are able to perform the major duties of your own job with reasonable accommodation, regardless of whether you return to your job,
- You return to gainful employment,
- You fail to provide proof of loss as required by the benefit administrator,
- You no longer receive regular and appropriate care for the condition you are claiming disability, or
- You have received the maximum number of weeks of STD.

*Benefit Limitations and Exclusions.* The following limitations and exclusions apply to this benefit:

- Your disability will not begin until you have visited a legally recognized treatment provider for the illness or injury that caused the disability.
- Each length of the disability is subject to certain disability duration standards based upon the diagnosis and may require additional medical documentation or examination as required by the benefit administrator.
- Two periods of disability due to the same or a related illness will be treated as a recurring disability if said disability recurs within 30 days after you were last entitled to benefits, provided all plan provisions are met.
- Benefits will only be paid during periods when loss of wages occurs.
- Gross weekly benefits may be reduced if you are receiving retirement benefits under the United States Social Security Act, as well as other sources of income listed in the STD plan.

*Receiving STD Benefits.* Your STD benefits are administered by the Guardian Life Insurance Company of America. Contact Guardian TeleGuard at 1-888-262-5670, Monday through Friday 8:00 am–8:00 pm to apply for STD benefits.

Please note that this section serves only as an overview of the Short-Term Disability benefit program and not a guarantee of payment or coverage. All claim determinations will require a full review by the plan administrator and will be subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the actual plan of insurance.

## Claims and Appeals Procedures

This section describes the procedures for filing claims for Plan benefits. It also describes the procedure for you to follow if your claim is denied, in whole or in part, and you wish to appeal that decision.

### Claims for Benefits

A claim for benefits is a request for Plan benefits that is made in accordance with the Plan's claims procedures. Please note that the following are **not** considered claims for benefits:

- inquiries about the Plan's provisions or eligibility that are unrelated to any specific benefit claim,
- a request for prior approval of a benefit that does not require prior approval by the Plan, and

- presentation of a prescription to be filled at a pharmacy that is part of the CVS Caremark **network** of participating pharmacies. However, if you believe that your prescription has not been filled by a participating pharmacy in accordance with the terms of the Plan, in whole or in part, you may file a claim using the procedures described on the following pages.

### Filing Hospital, Medical, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Claims

If you use **network** providers, you do not have to file claims. The providers will do it for you. If you use **out-of-network** providers, here are some steps to take to make sure your hospital, medical, mental health and substance abuse claim gets processed accurately and on time:

- **File claims as soon as possible and never later than 180 days after the date of service.** Refer to the table on page 84 for information on where to file your claim for benefits received **out-of-network**. Claims filed more than 180 days after the date of service will be denied.
- Complete all information requested on the form.
- Submit all claims in English or with an English translation. Claims not in English will not be processed and will be returned to you.
- Attach original bills or receipts. Photocopies will not be accepted.
- If you have other coverage and Empire is the secondary payer, submit the original or a copy of the primary payer's Explanation of Benefits ("EOB") with your itemized bill. (See Coordination of Benefits on pages 99–101.)
- Keep a copy of your claim form and all attachments for your records.

### Filing Pharmacy Claims

If you use participating pharmacies or the mail order pharmacy, you do not have to file claims. The participating pharmacies or mail order pharmacy will do it for you. If you use an **out-of-network** pharmacy, then you must file a claim for benefits. Refer to the table on page 84 for information on where to file your claim for benefits received **out-of-network**. **Pharmacy claims should be filed as soon as possible, but never later than 180 days after the date the prescription was filled. Claims filed more than 180 days after the date of service will be denied.**

If you have other coverage and CVS Caremark is the secondary payer, submit the original or a copy of the primary payer's EOB with your itemized bill. (See Coordination of Benefits on pages 99–101.)

## Filing Dental Claims

When you see a participating Delta Dental provider, this provider will file all claims for you directly with Delta Dental, the administrator for the Plan's dental coverage. Delta Dental will pay the participating Delta Dental providers directly.

You have to file a claim when you receive care from dentists or other providers or facilities not in the Plan's participating dental provider **network**. You can obtain a claim form by visiting Delta Dental's web site at [www.deltadentalins.com](http://www.deltadentalins.com). Here is what you need to know when you file a dental claim when you do not use a participating dental provider:

- Only an original, fully completed American Dental Association ("ADA") claim form or approved treatment plan will be accepted for review.
- All necessary diagnostic information must accompany the claim.
- When you are the patient, your original signature or signature on file is acceptable on all claims for payment. If the patient is a child, an original signature or signature on file of the child's parent or guardian is acceptable.
- **All claims must be received by Delta Dental within 180 days after services were rendered.**
- Payment for all services received from a non-participating dental provider will be made to you. It is your responsibility to pay the dentist directly for services you receive from a non-participating dentist. The Plan will not assign benefits to a non-participating dental provider.

The Plan reserves the right to withhold payment or request reimbursement from providers or participants for services that do not meet acceptable standards, as determined by its consultants or professional staff.

## Filing Vision Claims

If you use participating vision providers, you do not have to file claims. The providers will do it for you. If you do not use a participating vision provider, then you must file a vision claim with Davis Vision for reimbursement of eligible expenses. Refer to the table on page 84 for information on where to file your claim for benefits received **out-of-network**. You can obtain a vision claim form from Member Services.

**Vision claims should be filed as soon as possible, but never later than 180 days after the date of service. Claims filed more than 180 days after the date of service will be denied.**

## Filing Life Insurance and AD&D Claims

To file a claim for a life insurance benefit, your beneficiary must complete a claim form and submit a certified copy of your death certificate. **A claim for life insurance should be filed as soon as possible after the participant's death.**

To file for an AD&D benefit, you must complete a claim form. In the event of your death, your beneficiary must submit a certified copy of your death certificate along with a completed claim form. **A claim for an AD&D benefit must be filed within 90 days after the loss is incurred.**

For both life insurance and AD&D claims, you can get claim forms by contacting MetLife.

## Filing for a Pensioner's Death Benefit

To file a claim for a pensioner's death benefit, your beneficiary must complete a claim form and submit a certified copy of your death certificate.

To get a claim form, contact Member Services. **A claim for a pensioner's death benefit should be filed as soon as possible after the pensioner's death.**

## Filing for a Short-Term Disability Benefit

To file a claim for Short-Term Disability ("STD") benefits contact Guardian TeleGuard at 1-888-262-5670, Monday through Friday 8:00 am–8:00 pm to apply. All claims for STD must be filed by phone. **A claim for STD should be filed within 30 days of the onset of the disability. If filed late, you may not be paid for any disability period greater than two weeks before the claim was filed. Claims filed after 26 weeks will be denied.**

## Where to Send Claim Forms

Benefit	Filing Address
Hospital, Medical, Mental Health and Substance Abuse ( <b>out-of-network</b> only; no claim forms are necessary for <b>in-network</b> care)	Empire BlueCross BlueShield P.O. Box 1407 Church Street Station New York, NY 10008-1407  Attn: Institutional Claims Department (for hospital claims); or, Attn: Medical Claims Department (for medical/professional/ambulance claims)
Pharmacy (non-participating providers only; no claim forms are necessary for <b>participating providers</b> )	CVS Caremark Claims Department P.O. Box 52136 Phoenix, AZ 85072-2136
Dental (non-participating providers only; no claim forms are necessary for <b>participating providers</b> )	Delta Dental One Delta Drive Mechanicsburg, PA 17055 Attn: Claims Department
Vision (non-participating providers only; no claim forms are necessary for <b>participating providers</b> )	Davis Vision Vision Care Processing Unit P.O. Box 1525 Latham, NY 12110
Life Insurance Accidental Death & Dismemberment	MetLife Insurance Company Group Life Claims P.O. Box 6100 Scranton, PA 18505-6100
Death Benefit for Pensioners	Building Service 32BJ Benefit Funds Attn: Retirement Services 25 West 18th Street New York, NY 10011-4676
Short-Term Disability Benefit*	Guardian TeleGuard at 1-888-262-5670

\*All claims for Short-Term Disability benefits must be filed by phone.

## Approval and Denial of Claims

There are separate claims denial and approval processes for Health Services Claims (hospital, medical, mental health and substance abuse), Ancillary Health Services Claims (pharmacy, dental and vision), Pensioner's Death Benefit Claims, Life/AD&D Claims and Short-Term Disability Claims. These processes are described separately below. Please review this information to ensure that you are fully aware of these processes and what you need to do in order to comply.

### Health Services Claims (Hospital, Medical, Mental Health and Substance Abuse) and Ancillary Health Services Claims (Pharmacy, Dental and Vision)

The time frames for deciding whether Health Services and Ancillary Health Services claims are approved or denied depends on whether your claim is a pre-service, an urgent care, a concurrent care or a post-service claim.

- *Pre-service claims.* This is a claim for a benefit for which the Plan requires approval of the benefit (in whole or in part) before medical care is obtained. Prior approval of services is required for inpatient hospital benefits (see page 35), certain outpatient hospital benefits (see page 34), behavioral health and substance abuse benefits (see page 34) and for certain dental benefits (see pages 66–72). For properly filed pre-service claims, you and/or your **doctor** or dentist will be notified of a decision *within 15 days* from receipt of the claim unless additional time is needed. The time for response may be extended up to *15 days* if necessary due to matters beyond the control of the claims reviewer. You will be notified of the circumstances requiring the extension of time and the date by which a decision is expected to be rendered.

If you improperly file a pre-service claim, you will be notified as soon as possible, but not later than *five days* after receipt of the claim, of the proper procedures to be followed in refiling the claim. You will only receive notice of an improperly filed pre-service claim if the claim includes:

- your name,
- your current address,
- your specific medical condition or symptom, and
- a specific treatment, service or product for which approval is requested.

Unless the claim is refiled properly, it will not constitute a claim. If an extension is needed because additional information is needed from you, the extension notice will specify the information needed. In that case, you and/or your **doctor** will have *45 days* from receipt of the notification to supply the additional information. If the information is not provided within that time, your claim will be denied.

During the period in which you are allowed to supply additional information, the normal period for making a decision on the claim will be suspended. The deadline is suspended from the date of the extension notice either for *45 days* or until the date the claims reviewer receives your response to the request (whichever is earlier). The claims reviewer will then have *15 days* to make a decision on a pre-service claim and notify you of the determination.

- *Urgent care claims.* This is a claim for medical care or treatment that, if the time periods for making pre-service claim determinations were applied, could jeopardize your life, health or ability to regain maximum function or, in the opinion of a **doctor**, result in your having unmanageable, severe pain.

Whether your treatment is considered urgent care is determined by an individual acting on behalf of the Fund applying the judgment of a prudent person who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine. Any claim that a **doctor** with knowledge of your medical condition determines is an urgent care claim shall automatically be treated as such.

If you (or your authorized representative\*) file an urgent care claim, you will be notified of the benefit determination as soon as possible, taking into account medical emergencies, but no later than *72 hours* after receipt of your claim.

However, if you do not give enough information for the claims reviewer to determine whether, or to what extent, benefits are payable, you will receive a request for more information *within 24 hours*. You will then have up to *48 hours*, taking into account the circumstances, to provide the specified information to the claims reviewer. You will then be notified of the benefit determination *within 48 hours* after:

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\* A health care professional with knowledge of your medical condition, or someone to whom you have given authorization may act as an authorized representative in connection with urgent care.

- the claims reviewer’s receipt of the specified information or, if earlier,
- the end of the period you were given to provide the requested information.

If you do not follow the Plan’s procedures for filing an urgent care claim, you will be notified *within 24 hours* of the failure and the proper procedures to follow. This notification may be oral, unless you request written notification. You will only receive notification of a procedural failure if your claim includes:

- your name,
- your specific medical condition or symptom, and
- a specific service, treatment or product for which approval is requested.

- *Concurrent care claims.* This is a claim that is reconsidered after an initial approval was made and results in a reduction, termination or extension of a benefit. An example of this type of claim would be an inpatient hospital stay originally certified for five days that is reviewed at three days to determine if additional days are appropriate. Here, the decision to reduce, end or extend treatment is made while the treatment is taking place.

Any request by a claimant to extend approved treatment will be acted upon by the claims reviewer *within 24 hours* of receipt of the claim, provided the claim is received at least *24 hours* before the approved treatment expires.

- *Post-service claims.* This is a claim submitted for payment after health services and treatment have been obtained.

Ordinarily, you will receive a decision on your post-service claim *within 30 days* from receipt of the claim. This period may be extended one time for up to *15 days* if the extension is necessary due to extraordinary matters. If an extension is necessary, you will be notified, before the end of the initial 30-day period, of the circumstances requiring the extension of time and the date by which a determination will be made.

If an extension is needed because additional information is needed from you, the extension notice will specify the information needed. In that case you will have *45 days* from receipt of the notification to supply the additional information. If the information is not provided within that time, your claim will be denied.

During the period in which you are allowed to supply additional information, the normal period for making a decision on the claim will be suspended. The deadline is suspended from the date of the extension notice either for *45 days* or until the date the claims reviewer receives your response to the request (whichever is earlier). *Within 15 days* after the expiration of this time period, you will be notified of the decision.

### **Life and AD&D Claims**

If you, or your beneficiary, file a claim for either Life or AD&D benefits, MetLife will make a decision on the claim and notify you of the decision *within 90 days*. If MetLife requires an extension of time due to matters beyond its control, they are permitted an additional *90 days*. MetLife will notify you, your authorized representative, your beneficiary or the executor of your estate, as applicable, before the expiration of the original 90-day period of the reason for the delay and when the decision will be made. A decision will be made within the 90-day extension period and you will be notified in writing by MetLife.

### **Pensioners' Death Benefit Claims**

If your beneficiary files a claim for death benefits, the Fund will make a decision on the claim and notify your beneficiary *within 90 days* of receipt of the claim. If the Fund requires an extension of time due to matters beyond its control, the Fund is permitted an additional *90 days*. The Fund will notify your beneficiary prior to the expiration of the original 90-day period of the reason for the delay and when the decision will be made. A decision will be made within the 90-day extension period and you will be notified in writing by the Fund.

### **Short-Term Disability Benefits**

If you file a claim for Short-Term Disability benefits, Guardian will make a decision on the claim and notify you *within 90 days* of receipt of the claim. If Guardian requires an extension of time due to matters beyond its control, Guardian is permitted an additional *90 days*. Guardian will notify you prior to the expiration of the original 90-day period of the reason for the delay and when the decision will be made. A decision will be made within the 90-day extension period and you will be notified in writing by Guardian.

### **Notice of Decision**

You will be provided with written notice of a denial of a claim that sets forth the reason(s) for denial, whether denied in whole or in part, or if any adverse benefit determination is made (for example, the Plan pays less than 100% of the claim). For urgent care and pre-service claims, you will receive notice of the determination even when the claim is approved. The timing for delivery of this notice depends on the type of claim as described on pages 85–89.

### **Appealing Denied Claims**

An appeal is a request by you, or your authorized representative, to have an adverse benefit determination reviewed and reconsidered. There are different appeals processes for Health Services Claims (hospital, medical, mental health and substance abuse), Ancillary Health Services Claims (pharmacy, dental and vision), Life/AD&D Claims, Pensioners' Death Benefit Claims and Short-Term Disability Claims.

The table below gives a brief overview of with whom an appeal should be filed and the levels of appeal available for each type of denied claim:

Type of Denied Claim	Level-one Appeal	Level-two Appeal
<b>Health Services Claims</b> (Medical Judgment)	Empire BlueCross BlueShield	Independent Review Organization ("IRO")
<b>Health Services Claims</b> (Administrative)	Empire BlueCross BlueShield	Board of Trustees*
<b>Ancillary Health Services Claims:</b>		
• Pharmacy (Medical Judgment)	CVS Caremark	Independent Review Organization ("IRO")
• Pharmacy (Administrative)	CVS Caremark	Board of Trustees*
• Dental	Delta Dental	Board of Trustees*
• Vision	Davis Vision	Board of Trustees*
<b>Life/AD&amp;D</b>	MetLife Insurance Company	Board of Trustees*
<b>Pensioners' Death Benefit</b>	Board of Trustees	Not applicable
<b>Short-Term Disability</b>	Guardian	Board of Trustees*

\*This level of appeal is voluntary.

## Filing an Appeal

For all types of claims, you have *180 days* from the date of the original claim denial notification letter to file a level-one appeal following the notification of a denied claim.

**Your appeal must include your identification number, dates of service in question and any relevant information in support of your appeal.**

If you submit an appeal, you will be provided, free of charge, access to, or copies of, all documents, records or other information relevant to your appeal (including, in the case of an appeal involving a disability determination, the identity of any medical or vocational experts whose advice the claims reviewer used in connection with the decision to deny your application).

A document, record or other information is relevant for review if it falls into any of the following categories:

- The claims reviewer relied on it in making a decision.
- It was submitted, considered or generated in the course of making a decision (regardless of whether it was relied on).
- It demonstrates compliance with the claims reviewer's administrative processes for ensuring consistent decision-making.
- It constitutes a statement of Plan policy regarding the denied treatment or service.

You (or your authorized representative) may submit issues, comments, documents and other information relating to the appeal (regardless of whether they were submitted with your original claim).

**If you do not request a review of a denied claim within 180 days of the date of the denial, you will waive your right to a review of the denial.**

You must file an appeal with the appropriate party and follow the process completely before you can bring an action in court. Failure to do so may prevent you from having any legal remedy.



## Where to File a Level-One Appeal

Benefit	Write to:	Or Call
Hospital Medical Mental Health Substance Abuse	Empire BlueCross BlueShield P.O. Box 1407 Church Street Station New York, NY 10008-1407	1-866-316-3394
Pharmacy	Prescription Claims Appeals CVS Caremark P.O. Box 52084 Phoenix, AZ 85072-2084 Fax: 1-866-443-1172	Appeals are only accepted in writing*
Vision	Davis Vision, P.O. Box 791 Latham, NY 12110	Appeals are only accepted in writing
Dental	Delta Dental Dental Affairs Committee One Delta Drive Mechanicsburg, PA 17055	Appeals are only accepted in writing**
Death Benefit for Pensioners	Board of Trustees – Appeals Committee*** c/o Building Service 32BJ Pension Fund 25 West 18th Street New York, NY 10011-4676	Appeals are only accepted in writing
Life Insurance Accidental Death & Dismemberment	MetLife Insurance Company Group Life Claims P.O. Box 6100 Scranton, PA 18505-6100 Fax: 1-570-558-8645	Appeals are only accepted in writing
Short-Term Disability	The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America Attn: Appeals Committee P.O. Box 14331 Lexington, KY 40512 Fax: 1-610-807-8270	Appeals are only accepted in writing

\* An appeal of an urgent care clinical claim may be filed orally by calling Customer Care at 1-877-765-6294 or your **physician** may call 1-800-294-5979.

\*\* An appeal of an urgent care dental claim may be filed orally by calling 1-800-932-0783.

\*\*\* You may appear in person at the Appeals Committee meeting, but you are not required to be there. If you do not attend, the Appeals Committee will decide your appeal based on all of the materials you have submitted.

## Time Frames for Decisions on Appeals

The time frame within which a decision on an appeal will be made depends on the type of claim for which you are filing an appeal.

### Expedited Appeals for Urgent Care Claims

If your claim involves urgent care for Health Services (hospital, medical, mental health and substance abuse) or certain Ancillary Health Services (pharmacy or dental) benefits, you can file an expedited appeal if your provider believes an immediate appeal is warranted because delay in treatment would pose an imminent or serious threat to your health or ability to regain maximum function, or would subject you to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the care or treatment that is the subject of the claim. This appeal can be filed in writing or orally. You can discuss the reviewer's determination and exchange any necessary information over the phone, via fax or any other quick way of sharing. You will receive a response *within 72 hours* of your request.

### Pre-Service or Concurrent Care Health Services (Hospital, Medical, Mental Health and Substance Abuse) or Ancillary Health Services (Pharmacy, Dental or Vision) Claim Appeal

If you file an appeal of a pre-service (service not yet received) or concurrent care (service currently being received) claim that does not involve urgent care, a decision will be made and you will be notified *within 30 days* of the receipt of your appeal. An appeal of a cessation or reduction of a previously approved benefit will be decided as soon as possible, but in any event prior to the cessation or reduction of the benefit.

## Post-Service Health Services (Hospital, Medical, Mental Health and Substance Abuse) or Ancillary Health Services (Pharmacy, Dental or Vision) Claim Appeal

If you file an appeal of a post-service claim, a decision will be made and you will be notified *within 60 days* of the receipt of your appeal.

### Request for Expedited Appeal

You may request that the appeal process be expedited if (1) the time frames under this process would seriously jeopardize your life, health or ability to regain maximum functionality or, in the opinion of your **doctor**, would cause you severe pain which cannot be managed without the requested services or drugs; or (2) your appeal involves non-authorization of an admission or a continuing inpatient hospital stay. Empire's **physician** reviewer or CVS Caremark's independent medical specialist, as applicable, in consultation with the treating **physician**, will decide if an expedited appeal is necessary. When an appeal is expedited, Empire or CVS Caremark will respond orally with a decision *within 72 hours*, and Empire or CVS Caremark will also send a written notice of the decision.

## Second Level of Appeal for Claims Involving Medical Judgment

### Health Services Claims (Hospital, Medical, Mental Health and Substance Abuse) and Pharmacy Claims

*Health Services Claims.* If you are not fully satisfied with the decision of Empire's level-one appeal decision of a claim that involved Medical Judgment, you may request that your appeal be sent to an Independent Review Organization ("IRO") for review. The IRO is composed of persons who are not employed by Empire, or any of its affiliates. A decision to request an appeal to an IRO will not affect your rights to any other benefits under the Plan.

There is no charge for this independent review process. The Plan will abide by the decision of the IRO. In order to request a referral to an IRO, the reason for the denial must be based on a Medical Judgment or clinical appropriateness determination by Empire. As noted above, Medical Judgment means a determination based on, but not limited to, the Plan's

requirements for medical necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care, or effectiveness of a covered benefit; or a determination that a treatment is experimental or investigational. Administrative, eligibility, or benefit coverage limits or exclusions are not eligible for review by the IRO.

To request a review, you must notify Empire *within four months* of the date of Empire's level-one appeal denial letter. Empire will then forward the file to the IRO. The IRO will provide written notice of its decision *within 45 days*.

When requested, and if a delay would be detrimental to your medical condition, as determined by Empire's **physician** reviewer, or if your appeal concerns an admission, availability of care, continued stay, or health care item or service for which you received **emergency** services, but you have not yet been discharged from a facility, the IRO review shall be completed *within 72 hours*.

*Pharmacy Claims.* If you are not fully satisfied with the decision of CVS Caremark's level-one appeal review of a claim that involved Medical Judgment, you may request that your appeal be sent to an IRO for review. The IRO is composed of persons who are not employed by CVS Caremark, or any of its affiliates. A decision to request an appeal to an IRO will not affect your rights to any other benefits under the Plan.

There is no charge for this independent review process. CVS Caremark will abide by the decision of the IRO. In order to request a referral to an IRO, the reason for the denial must be based on a Medical Judgment or clinical appropriateness determination by CVS Caremark. As noted above, Medical Judgment means a determination based on, but not limited to, the Plan's requirements for medical necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care, or effectiveness of a covered benefit; or a determination that a treatment is experimental or investigational. Administrative, eligibility, or benefit coverage limits or exclusions are not eligible for review by the IRO.

To request a review, you must notify CVS Caremark *within four months* of the date of CVS Caremark's level-one appeal review denial letter. CVS Caremark will then forward the file to the IRO. The IRO will provide written notice of its decision *within 45 days*.

When requested, and if a delay would be detrimental to your medical condition, as determined by CVS Caremark's independent medical specialist, the IRO review shall be completed *within 72 hours*.

## Voluntary Level of Appeal

### Administrative Health Services and Pharmacy Claims, Ancillary Health Services Claims (Dental and Vision), Life/AD&D Claims and STD Claims

Once you have received notice of the denial of your timely<sup>(6)</sup> level-one appeal of an administrative<sup>(7)</sup> Health Services or Pharmacy Claim, or level-one appeal of an Ancillary Services Claim (dental or vision), a Life/AD&D or STD claim, you have exhausted all required internal appeal options.

If you disagree with the decision, you are free to file a civil action under Section 502(a) of Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”). You may not start a lawsuit to obtain benefits until you have completed the mandatory appeals process and a final decision has been reached, or until the appropriate time frame described in the SPD has elapsed since you filed an appeal and you have not received a final decision or notice that an extension will be necessary to reach a final decision. **In addition, no lawsuit may be started more than three years after the date on which the applicable appeal was denied.** Alternately, you may file a voluntary appeal with the Appeals Committee of the Board of Trustees. This voluntary appeal must be filed *within 180 days* of the date of the appeal denial letter provided to you by the applicable reviewer as listed in the table under the section Appealing Denied Claims.

The voluntary level of appeal is available only after you (or your representative) have pursued the appropriate mandatory appeals process required by the Plan, as described previously. This level of appeal is *completely voluntary*; it is not required by the Plan and is only available if you (or your representative) request it. The Plan will not assert a failure to exhaust administrative remedies where you, (or your authorized representative), elect to pursue a claim in court rather than through the voluntary level of appeal. The Plan will not impose fees or costs on you (or your representative) because you (or your authorized representative) choose to invoke the voluntary appeals process. Your decision as to whether or not to submit a benefit dispute to the voluntary level of appeal will have no effect on your rights to any other benefits under the Plan. Upon your request, the Plan will provide you (or your representative) with sufficient information to make an informed judgment about whether to submit information

<sup>(6)</sup> The Appeals Committee does not hear voluntary appeals for claims for which the mandatory appeals were not timely filed with the appropriate appeals reviewer. If your appeal was denied as untimely by the appeals reviewer, there is no voluntary appeal to the Board of Trustees’ Appeals Committee.

<sup>(7)</sup> An administrative Health Services or Pharmacy Claim is one which did not involve Medical Judgment. An administrative claim could include, for example, a claim that a benefit exceeded the plan limit or was not a covered service or drug.

to make an informed judgment about whether to submit a claim through the voluntary appeal process, including your right to representation.

Your voluntary appeal must include your identification number, dates of service in question and any additional information that supports your appeal. You (or your authorized representative) can write to the Appeals Committee at the following address:

**Building Service 32BJ Health Fund  
Board of Trustees – Appeals Committee  
25 West 18th Street  
New York, NY 10011-4676**

If you (or your authorized representative) chooses to pursue a claim in court after completing the voluntary appeal, the statute of limitations applicable to your claim, which is three years under the terms of the Plan, will be tolled (suspended) during the period of the voluntary appeals process.

### Pensioner Death Benefit Claim Appeal

If you file an appeal of a pensioner death benefit claim, a decision will be made at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Appeals Committee following receipt of your appeal. However, if your request is received less than 30 days before the next regularly scheduled meeting, your appeal will be considered at the second regularly scheduled meeting following receipt of your request. In special circumstances, a delay until the third regularly scheduled meeting following receipt of your request for review may be necessary. You will be advised in writing in advance if this extension will be necessary. Once a decision on review of your claim has been reached, you will be notified of the decision as soon as possible, but no later than *five days* after the decision has been reached. Please note there are no expedited appeals for post-service claims under the voluntary appeal procedure.

### Life Insurance and AD&D Claim Appeal

Under ERISA, if your claim is denied, in whole or in part, you (or your authorized representative) may request the adverse determination be reviewed and reconsidered by filing a written appeal with MetLife. Your appeal must be made within one hundred eighty (180) days of the date the claim is denied and be mailed to:

**MetLife  
P.O. Box 6100  
Scranton, PA 18505**

If you fail to appeal within one hundred eighty (180) days, you will waive your right to a review of the denial. Please include in your appeal letter the reason(s) you believe the claim was improperly denied, and submit any additional comments, documents, records or other information relating to your claim that you deem appropriate to enable MetLife to give your appeal proper consideration. Upon your written request, MetLife will provide you with a copy of the records and/or reports that are relevant to your claim.

MetLife will carefully evaluate all the information and advise the claimant of its decision within sixty (60) days after the receipt of the appeal. If there are special circumstances requiring additional time to complete the review, we may take up to an additional sixty (60) days, but only after notifying the claimant of the special circumstances in writing.

### **STD Claim Appeal**

If your claim is denied, Guardian will supply you with a written explanation of their decision, along with instructions on how to appeal their determination. You have up to 180 days to file an appeal of that decision. If you file an appeal of a denied claim for STD benefits, Guardian will make a decision on the appeal and notify you within 45 days of receipt of the appeal. If Guardian requires an extension of time due to matters beyond its control, Guardian is permitted an additional 45 days. Guardian will notify you prior to the expiration of the original 45-day period to advise if an extension is needed. A decision will be made by the end of the 90-day period and you will be notified in writing by Guardian.

### **Appeal Decision Notice**

You will be notified in writing in 5 days from the date your appeal is reviewed by the Appeals Committee of the decision of your appeal.

### **Further Action**

All decisions on appeal will be final and binding on all parties, subject only to your right to bring a civil action under Section 502(a) of ERISA after you have exhausted the Plan's appeal procedures.

You may not start a lawsuit to obtain benefits until you have completed the mandatory appeals process and a final decision has been reached, or until the appropriate time frame described in this booklet has elapsed since you filed an appeal and you have not received a final decision or notice that an extension will be necessary to reach a final decision. **In addition, no lawsuit may be started more than three years after the date on which**

**the applicable appeal was denied.** If there is no decision on the appeal, no lawsuit may be started more than three years after the time when the Appeals Committee should have decided the appeal.

If you have any questions about the appeals process, please contact the Compliance Office. For questions about your appeal rights or for assistance, you can contact the Employee Benefits Security Administration at 1-866-444-EBSA (3272) or [www.askebsa.dol.gov](http://www.askebsa.dol.gov).

## **Incompetence**

If someone who is entitled to benefits from the Plan is determined to be unable to care for his or her affairs because of illness, accident or incapacity, either mental or physical, any payment due may be made instead to someone else, such as a spouse or a legal custodian. The Fund will decide who is entitled to benefits in cases like this.

## **Mailing Address**

It is important that you notify Member Services whenever your address changes. If you become unreachable, the Fund will hold any benefit payments due you, without interest, until payment can be made. You are considered unreachable if a letter sent to you by first-class mail to your last known address is returned.

## **Coordination of Benefits**

You, or your dependent(s), may have health care coverage under two plans. For example, your spouse may have **employer**-provided health insurance or be enrolled in Medicare. When this happens, the two plans will coordinate their benefit payments so that the combined payments do not exceed the allowable charges (or actual cost, if less). This process, known as Coordination of Benefits ("COB"), establishes which plan pays first and which one pays second. The plan that pays first is the primary plan; the plan that pays second is the secondary plan. The primary plan may reimburse you first and the secondary plan may reimburse you for the remaining expenses to the maximum of the allowable charges for the **covered services**.

The Plan uses the Non-Duplication of Benefits application of COB. This means that when this Plan is the secondary plan, it determines how much it would have paid as the primary plan and then subtracts whatever the primary plan paid as its benefit. Then this Plan, the secondary plan,

pays the difference. If there is no difference, then this plan, as the secondary plan, pays nothing.

COB will ensure that you receive the maximum benefit allowed by the Plan, while possibly reducing the cost of services to the Plan. You will not lose benefits you are entitled to under this Plan and may gain benefits if your spouse's plan has better coverage in any area.

Except for the situations such as Medicare and **TRICARE**, as described on the following page, the rules for determining which plan is primary are as follows:

- If the other plan does not have a COB provision with regard to the particular expense, that plan is always primary.
- The plan that covers the patient as an active employee is primary and the plan that covers the patient as a dependent is secondary.
- If the patient is covered both as an active employee (or as a dependent of an active employee) and as either a laid-off employee or a retired employee, then the active employee's plan will be primary. However, if the other plan does not have this rule and the two plans do not agree as to which coverage is primary, then this rule will not apply.
- If the patient is a dependent child of parents who are not separated or divorced, then the plan covering the parent whose birthday falls earlier in the calendar year is primary and pays first. If the other plan does not use this "birthday rule", then that plan is primary, unless the primary plan is already determined under the above rules.
- If the patient is a dependent child of parents who are legally separated or divorced, the plan of the parent with custody will be primary; the other parent's plan will be secondary. In the event the parent with custody has remarried, the plan of the parent (or stepparent) with custody will be primary and the plan of the parent without custody will be secondary. If there is a court decree giving one parent financial responsibility for the medical expenses, then that parent's plan becomes primary without regard to the other rules in this paragraph.
- If none of the above rules establishes which plan is the primary plan, the plan that has covered the patient the longest, continuously, in the period of coverage in which the expense is incurred is the primary plan.

If both you and your spouse are participants under this Plan, your benefits are coordinated in the same manner as anyone else (that is, as if you and

your spouse were covered under different plans). You will not receive reimbursement for more than the allowable charges for the **covered services**, and you will not be reimbursed for required **co-payments**.

## Medicare

- If you, or your dependent(s), become eligible for Medicare due to age or disability (according to the standards applied by Social Security) and you are in **covered employment**, you, or your dependent(s), can keep or cancel (spouse can cancel when he or she reaches age 65) your coverage under this Plan. If you (or your dependent(s)) decide to be covered by both this Plan and Medicare, this Plan will be primary and Medicare will be secondary as long as you remain in **covered employment**.
- If you are not in **covered employment** and you (or your dependent(s)) are eligible for Medicare due to age or disability (according to the standards applied by Social Security), Medicare is primary and this Plan is secondary for each covered family member who is eligible for Medicare. Those covered family members who are not eligible for Medicare continue to receive primary coverage from this Plan.

*End-stage Renal Disease.* For covered patients with end-stage renal disease, Medicare is the secondary payer of benefits during the first 30 months of treatment. After this 30-month period is over, Medicare permanently becomes the primary payer. Note that this Plan will pay as the secondary plan after the 30-month period even if you (or your dependent(s)) fail to enroll in Medicare Part B.

**TRICARE.** If you, or an eligible dependent, are covered by this Plan and **TRICARE**, this Plan pays first and **TRICARE** pays second.

*No-fault Benefits.* If a person covered by this Plan has a claim, which involves a motor vehicle accident covered by the "no-fault" insurance law of any state, health care expenses must be reimbursed first by the no-fault insurance carrier. Only when the claimant has exhausted his or her health care benefits under the no-fault coverage will he or she be entitled to receive health care benefits under this Plan. If there are expenses for services that are covered under this Plan and which are not completely reimbursed by the no-fault carrier, such expenses may be reimbursed under this Plan, subject to the Plan's applicable maximums and other provisions. If you are covered for loss of earnings by any motor vehicle no-fault liability carrier, the disability benefits payable by this Plan will be reduced by any no-fault benefits available to you for loss of earnings.

*Other Coverage Provided By State or Federal Law.* If you are covered by both this Plan and any other insurance provided by any other state or Federal law, the insurance provided by any other state or Federal law pays first and this Plan pays second.

*Workers' Compensation.* This Plan does not provide benefits for expenses covered by Workers' Compensation or occupational disease laws. If an **employer** disputes the application of Workers' Compensation law for the illness or injury for which expenses are incurred, the Plan will pay benefits, subject to its right to recover those payments if and when it is determined that they are covered under a Workers' Compensation or occupational disease law (for information about subrogation and reimbursement of benefits, see pages 103–106).

## Your Disclosures to the Fund: Fraud

Everyone who is entitled to claim benefits from the Plan must furnish to the Fund all necessary information in writing as may be reasonably requested for the purpose of establishing, maintaining and administering the Plan. Failure to comply with such requests promptly and in good faith will be sufficient grounds for delaying or denying payment of benefits. The Board will be the sole judge of the standard of proof required in any case, and may periodically adopt such formulas, methods and procedures as the Board considers advisable.

The information you give to the Fund, including statements concerning your age and marital status, affects the determination of your benefits. If any of the information you provide is false, or if you perform an act or practice constituting fraud, or make an intentional misrepresentation of material fact, you may be required to indemnify and repay the Fund for any losses or damages caused by your false statements, fraud or misrepresentation. In addition, if a claim has been submitted for payment or paid by the Fund as a result of false statements, fraud or misrepresentation, the Fund may seek reimbursement, may elect to pursue the matter by pressing criminal charges and may take any other action deemed reasonable. Knowingly claiming benefits for someone who is not eligible is considered fraud and could subject you to criminal prosecution.

The Board reserves the right to cancel or rescind Fund coverage for any participant or enrolled dependent who willfully and knowingly engages in an activity intended to defraud the Fund. If a claim has been submitted for payment or paid by the Fund as a result of fraudulent representations, such as enrolling a

dependent who is not eligible for coverage, the Fund will seek reimbursement and may elect to pursue the matter by pressing criminal charges.

The Fund regularly evaluates claims to detect fraud or false statements. The Fund must be advised of any discounts or price adjustments made to you by any provider. A provider who waives or refunds **co-payments** or **co-insurance** is entering into a discount arrangement with you unless that provider has a preapproved written agreement with the Fund for that kind of waiver or refund. If you are not sure that your provider has such a preapproved written agreement, you may call Member Services at 1-800-551-3225 for assistance.

The Fund calculates the benefit payment based on the amount actually charged, less any discounts, rebates, waivers, or refunds of **co-payments**, **co-insurance** or **deductibles**, where applicable, to member's plan.

## Subrogation and Reimbursement

If another party or other source makes payments relating to a sickness or injury for which benefits have already been paid under the Plan, then the Fund is entitled to recover the amount of those benefits. You, and your dependent(s), may be required to sign a reimbursement agreement if you seek payment of medical expenses relating to the sickness or injury under the Plan before you have received the full amount you would recover through a judgment, settlement, insurance payment or other source. In addition, you, and your dependent(s), may be required to sign necessary documents and to promptly notify the Fund of any legal action.

If you, or your dependent(s), are injured as a result of negligence or other wrongful acts, whether caused by you, your dependent(s) or by another party, and you, or your dependent(s), apply to this Fund for benefits and receive such benefits, this Fund shall then have a first priority lien for the full amount of those benefits should you recover any monies from any party that caused, contributed to or aggravated the injuries or from any other source otherwise responsible for payment thereof. This first priority lien applies whether these monies come directly from your own insurance company, another person or his or her insurance company, or any other source (including, but not limited to, any person, corporation, entity, uninsured motorist coverage, personal umbrella coverage, medical payments coverage, Workers' Compensation coverage or no-fault automobile coverage, or any other insurance policy or plan).

This lien arises through operation of the Plan. No additional subrogation or reimbursement agreement is necessary. The Fund's lien is a lien on the proceeds of any compromise, settlement, judgment and/or verdict received from any source.

Any and all amounts received from any party or any other source by judgment, settlement or otherwise, must be applied first to satisfy your reimbursement obligation to the Fund for the amount of medical expenses paid on your behalf or on your dependent's behalf. The Fund's lien is a lien of first priority for the entire recovery of funds paid on your behalf. Where the recovery from another party or any other source is partial or incomplete, the Fund's right to reimbursement takes priority over you, or your dependent's, right of recovery, regardless of whether or not you, or your dependent, have been made whole for his or her injuries or losses. The Fund does not recognize, and is not bound by, any application of the "make whole" doctrine.

The Board has the discretion to interpret any vague or ambiguous term or provision in favor of the Fund's subrogation or reimbursement rights.

By applying for and receiving benefits under the Fund, you agree:

- to restore to the Fund the full amount of the benefits that are paid to you and/or your dependent(s) from the proceeds of any compromise, settlement, judgment and/or verdict, to the extent permitted by law,
- that the proceeds of any compromise, settlement, judgment and/or verdict received from another party, an insurance carrier or any other source, if paid directly to you (or to any other person or entity), will be held by you (or such other person or entity) in a constructive trust for the Fund. (The same rules apply to any other person to whom you assign your rights.) The recipient of such proceeds is a fiduciary of the Fund with respect to such funds and is subject to the fiduciary provisions and obligations of ERISA. The Fund reserves the right to seek recovery from such person, entity or trust and to name such person, entity or trust as a defendant in any litigation arising out of the Fund's subrogation or reimbursement rights,
- that any lien the Fund may seek will not be reduced by any attorney fees, court costs or disbursements that you and/or your attorney might incur in an action to recover from another party or any other source, and these expenses may not be used to offset your obligation to restore the full amount of the lien to the Fund, and
- that any recovery will not be reduced by, and is not subject to, the application of the common fund doctrine for the recovery of attorney's fees.

We strongly recommend that if you are injured as a result of the negligence or wrongful act of another party, or if injuries resulted from your own acts, or the acts of your dependent(s), you should contact your attorney for advice and counsel. However, this Fund cannot, and does not, pay for your attorney fees. The Fund does not require you to seek any recovery whatsoever against another party or any other source, and if you do not receive any recovery, you are not obligated in any way to reimburse the Fund for any of the benefits that you applied for and accepted. However, in the event that you do not pursue any and all third parties or any other responsible sources, the Fund is authorized to pursue, sue, compromise or settle (at the Board's discretion) any such claims on your behalf and you agree to execute any and all documents necessary to pursue said claims, and you agree to fully cooperate with the Fund in the prosecution of any such claims.

Should you seek to recover any monies from another party or any other source that caused, contributed to, aggravated your injuries or is otherwise responsible, it is a rule of this Plan that you must give notice in writing of same to the Fund within ten days after either you, or your attorney, first attempt to recover such monies, or institute a lawsuit, or enter into settlement negotiations with another or take any other similar action. You must also cooperate with the Fund's reasonable requests concerning the Fund's subrogation and reimbursement rights and keep the Fund informed of any important developments in your action. You must also provide the Fund with any information or documents, upon request, that pertain to, or are relevant to, your actions. If litigation is commenced, you are required to give at least five days written notice to the Fund prior to any action to be taken as part of such litigation including, but not limited to, any pretrial conferences or other court dates. Representatives of the Fund reserve the right to attend such pretrial conferences or other court proceedings.

In the event you fail to notify the Fund as provided for above, and/or fail to restore to the Fund such funds as provided for above, the Fund reserves the right, in addition to all other remedies available to it at law or equity, to withhold or offset any other monies that might be due you, or your dependent(s), from the Fund for past or future claims, until such time as the Fund's lien is discharged and/or satisfied.

For information about subrogation and any impact this may have on your health care claims, contact the Fund's subrogation administrator at the following address:

**Meridian Resource Company**  
**P.O. Box 2025**  
**Milwaukee, WI 53201-2025**

## Overpayments

- If you (or your dependent or beneficiary) are overpaid for a claim, you (or your dependent or beneficiary) must return the overpayment. The Fund will have the right to recover any payments made that were based on false or fraudulent information, as well as any payments made in error. Amounts recovered may include interest and costs. If repayment is not made, the Fund may deduct the overpayment amount from any future benefits from this Fund that you (or your dependent or beneficiary) would otherwise receive, or a lawsuit may be initiated to recover the overpayment.
- If payment is made on your (or your dependent's) behalf to a hospital, **doctor** or other provider of health care and that payment is found to be an overpayment, the Fund will request a refund of the overpayment from the provider. If the refund is not received, the amount of the overpayment will be deducted from future benefits payable to the provider, or a lawsuit may be initiated to recover the overpayment.

## Continued Group Health Coverage

### During a Family and Medical Leave

The Family and Medical Leave Act ("FMLA") allows up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave during any 12-month period due to:

- the birth, adoption or placement with you for adoption of a child,
- to provide care for a spouse, child or parent who is seriously ill,
- your own serious illness, or
- certain qualifying exigencies arising out of a covered military member's active duty status, or notification of an impending call or order to active duty status in support of a contingency operation.

In addition, FMLA allows up to 26 weeks of leave in a single 12-month period to care for a covered service member recovering from a serious injury or illness. Eligible employees are entitled to a combined total of up to 26 weeks of all types of FMLA leave during the single 12-month period.

During FMLA leave, you can continue all of your medical coverage and other benefits offered through the Plan. You are generally eligible for a leave under the FMLA if you:

- have worked for the same **contributing employer** for at least 12 months,
- have worked at least 1,250 hours over the previous 12 months, and
- work at a location where at least 50 employees are employed by the **employer** within 75 miles.

Check with your **employer** to determine if you are eligible for FMLA.

The Fund will maintain the employee's eligibility status until the end of the leave, provided the **contributing employer** properly grants the leave under the FMLA and the **contributing employer** makes the required notification and payment to the Fund. Of course, any changes in the Plan's terms, rules or practices that go into effect while you are away on leave apply to you, and your dependent(s), the same as to active employees and their dependent(s). Call Member Services regarding coverage during FMLA leave.

### During Military Leave

If you are on active military duty for 31 days or less, you will continue to receive medical coverage in accordance with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 ("USERRA"). If you are on active duty for more than 31 days, USERRA permits you to continue medical and dental coverage for you, and your dependent(s), at your own expense for up to 24 months provided you enroll for coverage. This continuation coverage operates in the same way as COBRA. (See pages 108–113 for information on COBRA.) In addition, your dependent(s) may be eligible for health care under **TRICARE**. This Plan will coordinate coverage with **TRICARE**. (See page 101.)

When you return to work after receiving an honorable discharge, your full eligibility will be reinstated on the day you return to work with a participating **employer**, provided that you return to employment within one of the following time frames:

- 90 days from the date of discharge if the period of military service was more than 180 days,



- 14 days from the date of discharge if the period of military service was 31 days or more, but less than 180 days, or
- at the beginning of the first full regularly scheduled working period on the first calendar day following discharge (plus travel time and additional eight hours) if the period of service was less than 31 days.

If you are hospitalized or convalescing from an injury resulting from active duty, these time limits may be extended for up to two years. Contact Member Services for more details.

## Under COBRA

Under a Federal law called the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986 (“COBRA”), group health plans are required to offer temporary continuation of health coverage, on an employee-pay-all basis, in certain situations when coverage would otherwise end. “Health coverage” includes the Fund’s hospital, medical, behavioral health and substance abuse, dental, prescription drug and vision coverage.

You do not have to prove that you are in good health to choose COBRA continuation coverage, but you do have to meet the Plan’s COBRA eligibility requirements and you must apply for coverage. The Fund reserves the right to end your COBRA coverage retroactively if you are determined to be ineligible.

If you are disabled and receiving (or are approved to receive) benefits under Short-Term Disability or Workers’ Compensation, the Plan provides coverage for up to six months as long as you remain disabled, are unable to work and you apply for coverage. If you are terminated by your **employer** and your termination is going to arbitration seeking reinstatement, the Plan provides coverage for up to six months. In these two cases of extended health coverage, you do not have to pay the premium since it is paid by the Fund. Keep in mind that the maximum period that you have COBRA coverage is reduced by any period of time you received Fund-paid Health Extension. (See pages 17–20 for additional information on Fund-paid Health Extension.)

The following table shows when you, and your eligible dependent(s), may qualify for continued coverage under COBRA, and how long your coverage may continue. Please keep in mind that the following information is a summary of the law and is, therefore, general in nature. If you have any questions about COBRA, please contact Member Services:

## COBRA Continuation of Coverage

Coverage May Continue For:	If:	Maximum Duration of Coverage:
You and your eligible dependent(s)	Your <b>covered employment</b> terminates for reasons other than gross misconduct	18 months
You and your eligible dependent(s)	You become ineligible for coverage due to a reduction in your employment hours (e.g., leave of absence)	18 months
You and your eligible dependent(s)	You go on military leave	24 months
Your dependent(s)	You die	36 months
Your spouse and stepchild(ren)	You legally separate, divorce or your marriage is civilly annulled	36 months
Your dependent child(ren)	Your dependent children no longer qualify as dependent(s)	36 months
Your dependent(s)	You terminate your employment or you reduce your work hours less than 18 months after the date of your Medicare (Part A, Part B or both) entitlement	36 months from the date of Medicare entitlement

If you marry, have a newborn child or have a child placed with you for adoption while you are covered under COBRA, you may enroll that spouse or dependent child for coverage for the balance of the COBRA continuation period, on the same terms available to active participants. The same rules about dependent status and qualifying changes in family status that apply to active participants will apply to you and/or your dependent(s). Once COBRA is elected, you cannot transfer between family and single coverage, unless you experience a qualified change in family status.

*FMLA leave.* If you do not return to active employment after your FMLA leave of absence, you become eligible for COBRA continuation as a result of your termination of employment. For COBRA purposes, your employment is considered “terminated” at the end of the FMLA leave or the date that you give notice to your **employer** that you will not be returning to active employment, whichever happens first.

*Multiple Qualifying Events.* If your dependent(s) qualify for COBRA coverage in more than one way, they may be eligible for a longer continuation coverage period up to 36 months from the date they first qualified. For example, if you terminate employment, you, and your enrolled dependent(s), may be eligible for 18 months of continued coverage. During this 18-month period, if your dependent child stops being eligible for dependent coverage under the Plan (a second Qualifying Event), your child may be eligible for an additional period of continued coverage.

The two periods combined cannot exceed a total of 36 months from the date of your termination (the first Qualifying Event). A second Qualifying Event may also occur if you become legally separated, get legally divorced or die.

Continued coverage for up to 29 months from the date of the initial event may be available to those who, during the first 60 days of continuation coverage, become totally disabled within the meaning of *Title II or XVI of the Social Security Act*. This additional 11 months is available to you, and your eligible dependent(s), if notice of disability is provided to the Fund within 60 days after the Social Security determination of disability is issued and before the 18-month continuation period runs out. The cost of the additional 11 months coverage will increase to 150% of the full cost of coverage.

To make sure you get all of the COBRA coverage you are entitled to, contact Member Services whenever something happens that makes you, or your dependent(s), eligible for COBRA coverage.

*Notifying the Fund of a Qualifying Event.* Under the law, in order to have a right to elect COBRA coverage, you, or your dependent(s), are responsible for notifying Member Services of your legal separation or divorce, a child losing dependent status under the Plan or if you become disabled (or you are no longer disabled), as determined by the Social Security Administration. You (or your family member) must notify Member Services in writing of any of these events no later than 60 days after the event occurs or 60 days after the date coverage would have been lost under the Plan because of that event, whichever is later. Your notice must include the following information:

- name(s) of the individual(s) interested in COBRA continuation, and the relationship to the participant,
- date of the Qualifying Event, and
- type of Qualifying Event. (See the table of Qualifying Events on page 109.)

*When your employer must notify the Fund.* Your **employer** is responsible for notifying the Fund of your death, termination of employment or reduction in hours of employment. Your **employer** must notify the Fund of one of these Qualifying Events within 30 days of the date of the Qualifying Event. Once notified, the Fund will send you a COBRA notice within 14 days.

*Making a COBRA election.* Once the Fund is notified of your Qualifying Event, you will receive a COBRA notice and an election form. In order to elect COBRA, you, or your dependent(s), must submit the COBRA election form to Member Services within 60 days after the date you would lose health coverage under the Fund or 60 days after the date of the COBRA notice, whichever is later.

Each of your eligible dependent(s) has an independent election right for COBRA coverage. This means that each dependent can decide whether or not to continue coverage under COBRA. If you elect family coverage, you, or your dependent(s), will only be able to convert to single coverage if either you, or your dependent(s), die, you and your spouse divorce or you, or your dependent(s), enroll in Medicare and the Fund terminates your COBRA coverage. If you elect single coverage, you will only be able to convert to family coverage if you marry, have a child or adopt a child.

Anyone who elects COBRA continuation coverage must promptly notify Member Services of address changes.

*Paying for COBRA coverage.* If you, or your dependent(s), elect to continue coverage, you or they must pay the full cost of the coverage elected. The Fund is permitted to charge you the full cost of coverage for active employees and families, plus an additional 2% (and up to an additional 50% for the 11-month disability extension). The first payment is due no later than 45 days after the election to receive coverage (and it will cover the period from the date you would lose coverage until the date of payment). Thereafter, payments are due on the first of each month. If payment is not received on the first of the month, coverage will be terminated. However, if your payment is made within 30 days of the due date, coverage will be reinstated retroactive to the due date. Costs may change from year-to-year. Contact Member Services for more information about the cost of your COBRA coverage.

If you fail to notify Member Services of your decision to elect COBRA continuation coverage or if you fail to make the required payment, your Plan coverage will end (and cannot be reinstated).

*What COBRA coverage provides.* COBRA generally offers the same health coverage that is made available to similarly situated employees or family members; however, Life/AD&D and STD are not available, except as provided under Fund-paid Health Extension for up to six months. If, during the period of COBRA continuation coverage, the Plan's benefits change for active employees, the same changes will apply to COBRA recipients.

*When COBRA coverage ends.* COBRA coverage ordinarily ends after the maximum coverage period shown in the table on page 109. It will stop *before* the end of the maximum period under any of the following circumstances:

- A COBRA recipient fails to make the required COBRA contributions on time.
- A COBRA recipient becomes enrolled in Medicare (Part A, Part B or both) after the date of the COBRA election, or becomes covered under another group plan that does not have a pre-existing conditions clause that affects the COBRA recipient's coverage.<sup>(8)</sup>

<sup>(8)</sup> There are limitations on the Plan's imposing pre-existing condition exclusions, and such exclusions became prohibited in 2014.

- Coverage has been extended for up to 29 months due to disability and there has been a final determination that the COBRA recipient is no longer disabled. The COBRA recipient must notify Member Services within 30 days of any such final determination.

If COBRA is terminated prior to the end of the original period, you will be notified.

Once your COBRA continuation coverage terminates for any reason, it cannot be reinstated.

## Other Health Plan Information You Should Know

### Assignment of Plan Benefits

To the extent permitted by law, your rights under this plan may not be voluntarily or involuntarily assigned, transferred or alienated. You cannot pledge the benefits owed to you for the purpose of obtaining a loan. Rights under the Plan that cannot be assigned include your right to the services provided, the right to collect from the Plan for those services, the right to receive Plan documents and disclosures, the right to appeal benefits or claims determinations or the right to sue to enforce any such rights. However, the Plan reserves the right to pay all benefits due you to your health services provider and such payment shall extinguish any and all rights you may have under the Plan with respect to the services to which such payment relates.

Although as described above, you may not assign to a provider your right to file an appeal under the Plan's Appeals Procedures or to file a suit for benefits under Section 502 of ERISA, you may allow a provider to act as your authorized representative in an appeal under the Plan's Appeals Procedures.

If you have any questions about this notice or want further information about the changes, please contact Member Services at 1-800-551-3225 between the hours of 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday, or visit us on-line at [www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org).

Benefits or payments under the Plan are not otherwise assignable or transferable, except as the law requires. Benefits also are not subject to any creditor's claim or to legal process by any creditor of any covered individual, except under a Qualified Medical Child Support Order ("QMCSO"). A QMCSO is an

order issued by a state court or agency that requires an employee to provide coverage under group health plans to a child.

A QMCSO usually results from a divorce or legal separation. Whenever Member Services gets a QMCSO, its qualified status is carefully reviewed by the Fund in accordance with QMCSO procedures adopted by the Board and Federal law. For more information on QMCSOs, or to obtain a copy of the Plan's QMCSO procedures free of charge, contact the Fund's Compliance Office at the address on page 123.

### **No Liability for Practice of Medicine**

Neither the Fund, the Board nor any of their designees:

- are engaged in the practice of medicine, nor do any of them have any control over any diagnosis, treatment, care or lack thereof, or any health care services provided or delivered to you by any health care provider, and
- will have any liability whatsoever for any loss or injury caused to you by any health care provider by reason of negligence, by failure to provide care or treatment, or otherwise.

### **Privacy of Protected Health Information**

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 ("HIPAA") is a Federal law that imposes certain confidentiality and security obligations on the Fund with respect to medical records and other individually identifiable health information used or disclosed by the Fund. HIPAA also gives you rights with respect to your health information, including certain rights to receive copies of the health information that the Fund maintains about you, and knowing how your health information may be used. A complete description of how the Fund uses your health information, and your other rights under HIPAA's privacy rules is available in the Fund's "Notice of Privacy Practices", which is distributed to all named participants. Anyone may request an additional copy of this Notice by contacting the Compliance Office at the address on page 123.

The Fund's Board of Trustees adopted certain HIPAA privacy and security language that requires the Board of Trustees, in its role as Plan Sponsor of the Fund, to keep your health information private and secure. Any questions you may have about HIPAA may be directed to the Compliance Office at the address on page 123.

### **Certificate of Creditable Coverage**

If you lose medical coverage, the Fund will issue you a Certificate of Creditable Coverage free of charge showing how long you were covered under this Plan. This Certificate enables you to receive credit toward any pre-existing condition exclusion under a new group plan or insurance policy.

This Certificate is available to you upon request by contacting Member Services at any point while you are covered under the Plan and up to 24 months after coverage ceases.

Please be advised that in any event, you will also automatically be provided with a Certificate of Creditable Coverage from the Fund and Empire when you lose coverage under the Plan, when you become entitled to elect COBRA continuation coverage or when your COBRA continuation coverage ceases.

### **Converting to Individual Coverage**

*Life Insurance.* After your group life insurance under the Plan ends, you may convert it to an individual life insurance policy, as long as you apply for converted coverage within:

- 31 days from the date benefits were terminated, or
- 45 days from the date notice is given, if notice is given more than 15 days but less than 90 days after the date benefits were terminated. (This time period is separate and apart from the Plan's COBRA provisions.)

You may convert your group coverage only to a Whole Life, Universal Life or One-Year Non-Renewable Term policy. The amount converted to an individual policy cannot be more than the amount you had under the group policy. The amount of your life insurance coverage is \$10,000.

Your individual policy will become effective 61 days after the termination of your coverage. Group life insurance protection continues in force; however, during the applicable period cited above, whether or not you exercise the conversion option. Contact MetLife for more information about converting life insurance.

*All Other Plan Benefits.* You cannot convert hospital, medical, mental health and substance abuse, prescription drug, dental, vision, AD&D, or STD benefits to individual coverage.

## General Information

### Employer Contributions

The Plan receives contributions in accordance with collective bargaining agreements between the Realty Advisory Board on Labor Relations, Inc., or various independent **employers** and your union. These collective bargaining agreements provide that **employers** contribute to the Fund on behalf of each covered employee. **Employers** that are parties to such collective bargaining agreements may also participate in the Fund on behalf of non-collectively bargained employees, if approved by the Trustees, by signing a participation agreement. Certain other **employers** (such as Local 32BJ itself and the 32BJ Benefit Funds) participate in the Fund on behalf of their employees by signing a participation agreement.

The Compliance Office will provide you, upon written request, with information as to whether a particular **employer** is contributing to the Fund on behalf of participants working under a collective bargaining agreement or participation agreement and, if so, to which Plan the **employer** is contributing.

### How Benefits May Be Reduced, Delayed or Lost

There are certain situations under which benefits may be reduced, delayed or lost. Most of these circumstances are spelled out in this booklet, but benefit payments also may be affected if you, your dependent, your beneficiary or your provider of services, as applicable, do not:

- file a claim for benefits properly or on time,
- furnish the information required to complete or verify a claim,
- have a current address on file with Member Services, and

- cash checks within 18 months of the date issued. The amounts of such uncashed checks will be restored to the Fund's assets and added to net assets available for benefits on the Fund's financial statements.

You should also be aware that Plan benefits are not payable for enrolled dependent(s) who become ineligible due to age, marriage, divorce or legal separation (unless they elect and pay for COBRA benefits, as described on pages 108–113).

If the Plan mistakenly pays more than you are eligible for, or pays benefits that were not authorized by the Plan, the Fund may seek any permissible remedy allowed by law to recover benefits paid in error. (Also see Subrogation and Reimbursement on pages 103–106 and Overpayments on page 106.)

### Compliance with Federal Law

The Plan is governed by regulations and rulings of the Internal Revenue Service and the Department of Labor, and current tax law. The Plan will always be construed to comply with these regulations, rulings and laws. Generally, Federal law takes precedence over state law.

### Plan Amendment or Termination

The Board intends to continue the Plan indefinitely, but reserves the right to amend or terminate it, in its sole discretion. If the Plan is terminated or otherwise amended, it will not affect your right to receive reimbursement for eligible expenses you have incurred prior to termination or amendment.

Upon a full termination of the Plan, Plan assets will be applied to provide benefits in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Trust Agreement and Federal law.

Keep in mind that the benefits provided under the Plan are not vested. This is true for retirees, as well as active employees. Therefore, at any time the Board can end or amend benefits, including retiree benefits, in its sole and absolute discretion.

## Plan Administration

The Plan is what the law calls a “health and welfare” benefits program. Benefits are provided from the Fund’s assets. Those assets are accumulated under the provisions of the Trust Agreement and are held in a Trust Fund for the purpose of providing benefits to covered participants and dependent(s) and defraying reasonable administrative expenses.

The Plan is administered by the Board of Trustees. The Board governs this Plan in accordance with an Agreement and Declaration of Trust. The Board and/or its duly authorized designee(s) has the exclusive right, power and authority, in its sole and absolute discretion, to administer, apply and interpret the Plan established under the Trust Agreement, and to decide all matters arising in connection with the operation or administration of the Plan established under the Trust. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Board and/or its duly authorized designees, including the Appeals Committee with regard to benefit claim appeals, shall have the sole and absolute discretionary authority to:

- take all actions and make all decisions with respect to the eligibility for, and the amount of, benefits payable under the Plan,
- formulate, interpret and apply rules, regulations and policies necessary to administer the Plan in accordance with the terms of the Plan,
- decide questions, including legal or factual questions, relating to the calculation and payment of benefits under the Plan,
- resolve and/or clarify any ambiguities, inconsistencies and omissions arising under the Plan, as described in this SPD, the Trust Agreement or other Plan documents,
- process and approve or deny benefit claims and rule on any benefit exclusions, and
- determine the standard of proof required in any case.

All determinations and interpretations made by the Board and/or its duly authorized designee(s) shall be final and binding upon all participants, eligible dependent(s), beneficiaries and any other individuals claiming benefits under the Plan.

The Board has delegated certain administrative and operational functions to the Fund staff, other organizations and to the Appeals Committee. Most of

your day-to-day questions can be answered by Member Services staff. If you wish to contact the Board, please write to:

**Board of Trustees**  
**Building Service 32BJ Health Fund**  
**25 West 18th Street**  
**New York, NY 10011-4676**

## Statement of Rights under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 as Amended

As a participant in the Building Service 32BJ Health Fund, you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (“ERISA”). ERISA provides that all Plan participants shall be entitled to:

- Examine, without charge, at the Compliance Office, all documents governing the Plan, including insurance contracts, collective bargaining agreements, participation agreements and the latest annual report (Form 5500 series) filed by the Plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefits Security Administration (“EBSA”).
- Obtain, upon written request to the Compliance Office, copies of documents governing the operation of the Plan, including insurance contracts, collective bargaining agreements, participation agreements, the latest annual report (Form 5500 series) and an updated SPD. The Fund may make a reasonable charge for the copies.
- Receive a summary of the Plan’s annual financial report. The Board is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this summary annual report.
- Continue Group Health Coverage.

You may continue group health coverage for yourself, spouse or dependent(s) if there is a loss of coverage under the Plan as a result of a Qualifying Event. You, or your dependent(s), may have to pay for such coverage. Review this booklet (see pages 108–113 for information about COBRA) and the documents governing the Plan on the rules governing your COBRA continuation rights.

## **Reduction or Elimination of Exclusionary Periods of Coverage for Pre-Existing Conditions Under the Plan**

*If you have creditable coverage from another plan.* You should be provided a certificate of creditable coverage, free of charge, from your group health plan or health insurance issuer when you lose coverage under the plan, when you become entitled to elect COBRA continuation coverage, when your COBRA continuation coverage ceases, if you request it before losing coverage or if you request it up to 24 months after losing coverage. Without evidence of creditable coverage, you may be subject to a pre-existing condition exclusion for 12 months (18 months for late enrollees) after your enrollment date in your new coverage <sup>(9)</sup>.

## **Prudent Action by Plan Fiduciaries**

In addition to creating rights for Plan participants, ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the Plan. The people who operate your Plan, called “fiduciaries” of the Plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest of you and other Plan participants and beneficiaries. No one, including your **employer**, your union or any other person, may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining a welfare benefit or exercising your rights under ERISA.

## **Enforce Your Rights**

If your claim for a benefit is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you have a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules.

Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of Plan documents or the latest annual report from the Plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file

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<sup>(9)</sup> There are limitations on the Plan’s imposing pre-existing condition exclusions, and such exclusions became prohibited in 2014.

suit in a Federal court. In such a case, the court may require the Plan administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to \$110 a day until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the administrator.

If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a state or Federal court after you have exhausted the Plan’s appeal process. If it should happen that Fund fiduciaries misuse the Fund’s money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor or you may file suit in Federal court. You may not file a lawsuit until you have followed the appeal procedures described on pages 80–99. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful, the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds your claim is frivolous.

## **Assistance With Your Questions**

If you have any questions about your Plan, you should contact the Plan administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the Plan administrator, you should contact the nearest office of EBSA, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory, or the:

**Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries  
Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA)  
U.S. Department of Labor  
200 Constitution Avenue N.W.  
Washington, DC 20210**

You may also obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of EBSA or by visiting the Department of Labor’s website: <http://www.dol.gov> or call their toll-free number at 1-866-444-3272.

## Plan Facts

This SPD is the formal plan document for the Tri-State Plan of the Health Fund.

**Plan Name:** Building Service 32BJ Health Fund  
**Employer Identification Number:** 13-2928869  
**Plan Number:** 501  
**Plan Year:** July 1–June 30  
**Type of Plan:** Welfare Plan

## Funding of Benefits and Type of Administration

Self funded, except MetLife insures the Life and AD&D insurance benefits and Guardian insures Short-Term Disability benefits. All contributions to the Trust Fund are made by **contributing employers** under the Plan in accordance with their written agreements. Benefits are administered by the organizations listed in the table on page 84.

## Plan Sponsor and Administrator

The Plan is administered by a joint Board of Trustees consisting of Union Trustees and **Employer** Trustees. The office of the Board may be contacted at:

**Board of Trustees**  
**Building Service 32BJ Health Fund**  
**25 West 18th Street**  
**New York, NY 10011-4676**

## Participating Employers

The Compliance Office will provide you, upon written request, with information as to whether a particular **employer** is contributing to the Plan on behalf of employees working under a written agreement, as well as the address of such **employer**. Additionally, a complete list of **employers** and unions sponsoring the Plan may be obtained upon written request to the Compliance Office and is available for examination at the Compliance Office.

To contact the Compliance Office, write to:

**Compliance Office**  
**Building Service 32BJ Benefit Funds**  
**25 West 18th Street**  
**New York, NY 10011-4676**

To contact the Health Fund, call:

**1-800-551-3225**

or write to:

**Building Service 32BJ Health Fund**  
**25 West 18th Street**  
**New York, NY 10011-4676**

## Agent for Service of Legal Process

The Board has been designated as the agent for the service of legal process. Legal process may be served at the Compliance Office or on the individual Trustees. For disputes arising under the portion of the Plan insured by MetLife, service of legal process may be made upon MetLife at their local offices or upon the supervisory official of the Insurance Department of the state in which you reside. For disputes under the portion of the Plan insured by Guardian, service of legal process may be made upon Guardian at their local offices or upon the supervisory official of the Insurance Department of the state in which you reside.



## Glossary

**Allowed amount** means the maximum the Fund will pay for a covered service. When you go **in-network**, the **allowed amount** is based on an agreement with the provider. When you go **out-of-network**, the **allowed amount** is based on the Fund's payment rate of allowed charges to a **network** provider.

**Ambulette** means ground transportation to or from a licensed medical facility when arranged by the Plan's Medical Management Department. This is covered only as a home health care expense, meaning you need to be eligible for home health care in order to receive coverage for the **ambulette**.

**Co-insurance** means the 50% you pay toward eligible **out-of-network** medical expenses.

**Contributing employer** (or "**employer**") is a person, company or other employing entity that has signed a collective bargaining agreement or participation agreement with the union or trust, and the agreement requires contributions to the Health Fund for work in covered employment.

**Co-payment** means the flat-dollar fee you pay for office visits, hi-tech radiology, outpatient hospital visits, emergency room visits and hospital admissions and certain **covered services** (such as prescription drugs) when you use **participating providers**. The Plan then pays 100% of the remaining covered expenses.

**Covered employment** means work in a classification for which your **employer** is required to make contributions to the Fund.

**Covered services** are the services for which the Fund provides benefits under the terms of the Plan.

**Deductible** means the dollar amount you must pay each calendar year before benefits become payable for covered **out-of-network** services.

**Doctor** or **Physician** means a licensed and qualified provider (M.D., D.O., D.C. or D.P.M.) who is authorized to practice medicine, perform surgery and/or prescribe drugs under the laws of the state or jurisdiction where the services are rendered, acts within the scope of his or her license and is not the patient or the parent, spouse, sibling (by birth or marriage) or child of the patient.

**Emergency** means a condition whose symptoms are so serious that someone who is not a **doctor**, but who has average knowledge of health and medicine, could reasonably expect that, without immediate medical attention, the following would happen:

- the patient's health would be placed in serious jeopardy,
- there would be serious problems with the patient's body functions, organs or parts,
- there would be serious disfigurement, or
- the patient or those around him or her would be placed in serious jeopardy, in the event of a behavioral health **emergency**.

Severe chest pains, extensive bleeding and seizures are examples of **emergency** conditions.

**In-network benefits** are benefits for **covered services** delivered by providers and suppliers who have contracted with the Fund, Empire, CVS Caremark or with any other administrators under contract to the Fund, to provide services and supplies at a pre-negotiated rate. Services provided must fall within the scope of their individual professional licenses.

**Medically necessary**, as determined by the applicable third party administrator or the Fund, means services, supplies or equipment that satisfy all of the following criteria:

- are provided by a **doctor**, hospital or other provider of health services,
- are consistent with the symptoms or diagnosis and treatment of an illness or injury; or are preventive in nature, such as annual physical examinations, well-woman care, well-child care and immunizations, and are specified by the Plan as covered,
- are not experimental, except as specified otherwise in this booklet,

- meet the standards of good medical practice,
- meet the medical and surgical appropriateness requirements established under Empire BlueCross BlueShield medical policy guidelines,
- provide the most appropriate level and type of service that can be safely provided to the patient,
- are not solely for the convenience of the patient, the family or the provider, and
- are not primarily custodial.

The fact that a **network** provider may have prescribed, recommended or approved a service, supply or equipment does not, in itself, make it **medically necessary**.

**Network** means the same as **in-network**.

**Out-of-network** provider/supplier means a **doctor**, other professional provider or durable medical equipment, home health care or home infusion supplier who is not in the Plan's **network** for hospital, medical, mental health and substance abuse, prescription drug, vision or dental services.

**Participating provider** (or "**in-network provider**") means a provider that has agreed to provide services, treatment and supplies at a pre-negotiated rate under the medical, dental, prescription drug and vision plans.

**TRICARE (formerly CHAMPUS)** is the health services and support program for U.S. Military Personnel on active duty, U.S. Military retirees and their families.

## Footnotes

- 1 **Hospital/facility** is a fully licensed acute-care general facility that has all of the following on its own premises:
  - a broad scope of major surgical, medical, therapeutic and diagnostic services available at all times to treat almost all illnesses, accidents and emergencies,
  - 24-hour general nursing service with registered nurses who are on duty and present in the hospital at all times,
  - a fully staffed operating room suitable for major surgery, together with anesthesia service and equipment (the hospital must perform major surgery frequently enough to maintain a high level of expertise with respect to such surgery in order to ensure quality care),
  - assigned **emergency** personnel and a "crash cart" to treat cardiac arrest and other medical emergencies,
  - diagnostic radiology facilities,
  - a pathology laboratory, and
  - an organized medical staff of licensed **doctors**.

For pregnancy and childbirth services, the definition of "hospital" includes any birthing center that has a participation agreement with either Empire or, for PPO participants, another BlueCross and/or BlueShield plan.

For physical therapy purposes, the definition of a "hospital" may include a rehabilitation facility either approved by Empire or participating with Empire or, for PPO participants, another BlueCross and/or BlueShield plan other than specified above.

For kidney dialysis treatment, covered **in-network** only at facilities within the Empire **network**, a facility in New York State qualifies for **in-network benefits** if the facility has an operating certificate issued by the New York State Department of Health, and participates with Empire or another BlueCross and/or BlueShield plan. In other states, the facility must participate with another BlueCross and/or BlueShield plan and be certified by the state using criteria similar to New York's.

Blue Distinction Centers of Medical Excellence have demonstrated their commitment to quality care, resulting in overall better outcomes for transplant patients. Each facility meets stringent clinical criteria, established in collaboration with expert **physicians'** and medical organizations' recommendations, including the Center for International Blood and Marrow Transplant Research, the Scientific Registry of Transplant Recipients and the Foundation for the Accreditation of Cellular Therapy and is subject to periodic re-evaluation as criteria continue to evolve. To qualify as a Blue Distinction Center of Medical Excellence for transplants, a facility must satisfy the BlueCross BlueShield Association's quality based selection criteria. Each facility responds to an Association survey which

examines the facilities clinical structure, processes and outcomes for transplant services, as well as the facility's responses to the Standardized Transplant Administrative Survey for the United **Network** for Organ Sharing ("UNOS").

For certain specified benefits, the definition of a "hospital" or "facility" may include a hospital, hospital department or facility that has a special agreement with Empire.

Empire does not recognize as hospitals: nursing or convalescent homes and institutions, rehabilitation facilities (except as noted above), institutions primarily for rest or for the aged, spas, sanitariums, infirmaries at schools, colleges or camps; and any institution primarily for the treatment of drug addiction, alcoholism or behavioral care.

- 2 **Outpatient surgery** includes hospital surgical facilities, surgeons and surgical assistants, chemotherapy and radiation therapy, including medications, in a hospital outpatient department, **doctor's** office or facility (medications that are part of outpatient hospital treatment are covered if they are prescribed by the hospital and filled by the hospital pharmacy). Same-day, ambulatory or outpatient surgery (including invasive diagnostic procedures) means surgery that does not require an overnight stay in a hospital and:

- is performed in a same-day or hospital outpatient surgical facility,
- requires the use of both surgical operating and postoperative recovery rooms,
- does not require an inpatient hospital admission, and
- would justify an inpatient hospital admission in the absence of a same-day surgery program.

- 3 **Kidney dialysis treatment** (including hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis) covered **in-network** only, is covered in the following settings until Medicare becomes primary for end-stage renal disease dialysis (which occurs after 30 months):

- at home, when provided, supervised and arranged by a **doctor** and the patient has registered with an approved kidney disease treatment center (not covered: professional assistance to perform dialysis and any furniture, electrical, plumbing or other fixtures needed in the home to permit home dialysis treatment), or
- in a hospital-based or free-standing facility.

- 4 **Skilled nursing facility** means a licensed institution (or a distinct part of a hospital) that is primarily engaged in providing continuous skilled nursing care and related services for patients who require medical care, nursing care or rehabilitation services. Skilled nursing facilities are useful when you do not need the level of care a hospital provides, but you are not well enough to recover at home. The Plan covers inpatient

care in a skilled nursing facility, for up to 60 days of inpatient care per person per year. However, you must use an **in-network** facility and your **doctor** must provide a referral and a written treatment plan, a projected length of stay and an explanation of the needed services and the intended benefits of care. Care must be provided under the direct supervision of a **doctor**, registered nurse, physical therapist or other health care professional.

- 5 **Hospice care** is for patients who are diagnosed as terminally ill (that is, they have a life expectancy of six months or less). Hospice care is covered in full **in-network** only; there are no **out-of-network** hospice benefits. The Plan covers hospice services when the patient's **doctor** certifies that the patient is terminally ill and the hospice care is provided by a hospice organization certified by the state in which the hospice organization is located. Hospice care services include:

- up to 12 hours a day of intermittent nursing care by an RN or LPN,
- medical care by the hospice **doctor**,
- drugs and medications prescribed by the patient's **doctor** that are not experimental and are approved for use by the most recent "**Physicians' Desk Reference**",
- approved drugs and medications,
- physical, occupational, speech and respiratory therapy when required,
- lab tests, X-rays, chemotherapy and radiation therapy,
- social and counseling services for the patient's family, including bereavement counseling visits for up to one year following the patient's death (if eligible),
- **medically necessary** transportation between home and hospital or hospice,
- medical supplies and rental of durable medical equipment, and
- up to 14 hours of respite care a week.

- 6 **Home health care** means services and supplies, including nursing care by a registered nurse ("RN") or licensed practical nurse ("LPN") and home health aid services. The Plan covers up to 200 home health care visits per person per year (**in-network** only), as long as your **doctor** certifies that home health care is **medically necessary** and approves a written treatment plan. Up to four hours of care by an RN, a home health aide or a physical therapist count as one home health care visit. Benefits are payable for up to three visits a day. Home health care services include:

- part-time nursing care by an RN or LPN,
- part-time home health aid services,
- restorative physical, occupational or speech therapy,

- medications, medical equipment and medical supplies prescribed by a **doctor**,
  - laboratory tests, and
  - **ambulette** service when arranged by the Plan's Medical Management Department.
- 7 **Home infusion therapy**, a service sometimes provided during home health care visits is available only **in-network**. These services must be arranged for by your treating **physician**. An Empire POS **network** home health care agency or home infusion supplier may not bill you for **covered services**. If you receive a bill from one of these providers, contact Member Services.
- 8 **Emergency room treatment benefits** Remember to contact the Medical Management Department at the phone number on the back of your Empire ID Card within 48 hours after an **emergency** hospital admission, as described on pages 34–35, to pre-certify any continued stay in the hospital. If you have an **emergency** outside the Empire POS Operating Area (see page 33), show your Empire ID Card when visiting a local BlueCross BlueShield **participating provider**. If the hospital participates with another BlueCross and/or BlueShield program, your claim will be processed by the local BlueCross plan. If it is a non-participating hospital, you will need to file a claim in order to be reimbursed for your eligible expenses.
- 9 **Ambulance services** are covered in an **emergency** and in other situations when it is medically appropriate (such as taking a patient home when the patient has a major fracture or needs oxygen during the trip home). Air ambulance is covered when the patient's medical condition is such that the time needed to transport by land poses a threat to the patient's survival or seriously endangers the patient's health, or the patient's location is such that accessibility is only feasible by air transportation, and the patient is transported to the nearest hospital with appropriate facilities for treatment and there is a medical condition that is life threatening. Life threatening medical conditions include, but are not limited to, the following:
- Intracranial bleeding,
  - Cardiogenic shock,
  - Major burns requiring immediate treatment in a Burn Center,
  - Conditions requiring immediate treatment in a Hyperbaric Oxygen Unit,
  - Multiple severe injuries,
  - Transplants,
  - Limb-threatening trauma,
  - High risk pregnancy, and
  - Acute myocardial infarction, if this would enable the patient to receive a more timely **medically necessary** intervention (such as PTCA or fibrinolytic therapy). Pre-certification of air ambulance is required in non-emergency situations.
- 10 **Diabetes coverage** includes diet information, management and supplies (such as blood glucose monitors, testing strips and syringes) prescribed by an authorized provider.
- 11 **Preventive care** under the Plan includes routine physicals, subject to limits shown on page 45. Eligible expenses include X-rays, laboratory or other tests given in connection with the exam and materials for immunizations for infectious diseases. *Adults are covered for immunizations if **medically necessary**.*
- 12 **Well-child care** covers visits to a pediatrician, family practice **doctor**, nurse or a licensed nurse practitioner. Regular checkups may include a physical examination, medical history review, developmental assessment, guidance on normal childhood development and laboratory tests. The tests may be performed in the office or a laboratory and must be within five days of the **doctor's** office visit. The number of well-child visits covered per year depends on your child's age, as shown in the table on page 45. Covered immunizations include: Diphtheria, Tetanus and Pertussis ("DtaP"), Hepatitis B, Haemophilus influenza Type B ("Hib"), Pneumococcus ("Pcv"), Polio ("IPV"), Measles, Mumps and Rubella ("MMR"), Varicella ("chicken pox"), Tetanus-diphtheria ("Td"), Hepatitis A & influenza, HPV, Rotavirus, Meningococcal – polysaccharide and conjugate, other immunizations as determined by the American Academy of Pediatrics, Superintendent of Insurance and the Commissioner of Health in New York State or the state where your child lives.
- 13 **Services of a certified nurse-midwife** are covered if she or he is affiliated with, or practicing in conjunction with, a licensed facility and the services are provided under qualified medical direction.
- 14 **Pre-planned home delivery of a child by a certified nurse-midwife** is a covered service. The reimbursement rate for this service is at the contracted Empire POS Obstetrician/Gynecologist global rate.
- 15 **Physical therapy** is covered for up to 30 days of covered inpatient physical therapy per person per year (**in-network** and **out-of-network** combined). Physical therapy, physical medicine and rehabilitation services, or any combination of these, are covered as long as the treatment is prescribed by your **doctor** and designed to improve or restore physical functioning within a reasonable period of time. If you receive therapy on an inpatient basis, it must be short-term. Occupational, speech and vision therapy are covered if prescribed by your **doctor** and provided by a licensed therapist (occupational, speech or vision, as applicable) in your home, in a therapist's office or in an approved outpatient facility.
- Up to 30 outpatient visits are covered per year for physical therapy. Speech, vision and occupational therapy combined are covered for up to 30 visits per year. You must receive any such services only through a **network** provider in the home,

office or the outpatient department of a **network** facility. For outpatient physical therapy, your participating therapist will pre-certify services required after your first assessment visit.

- 16 **Durable medical equipment and supplies** means buying, renting and/or repairing prosthetics (such as artificial limbs), orthotics and other durable medical equipment and supplies, but you must go **in-network** for them. In addition to the items listed above, the Plan covers:
- prosthetics/orthotics and durable medical equipment from suppliers, when prescribed by a **doctor** and approved by Empire including:
    - artificial arms, legs, eyes, ears, nose, larynx and external breast prostheses,
    - supportive devices essential to the use of an artificial limb,
    - corrective braces,
    - wheelchairs, hospital-type beds, oxygen equipment and sleep apnea monitors,
    - replacement of covered medical equipment because of wear, damage, growth or change in the patient's need when ordered by a **doctor**, and
    - reasonable cost of repairs and maintenance for covered medical equipment. The **network** supplier must pre-certify the rental or purchase of durable medical equipment. In addition, the Plan will cover the cost of buying equipment when the purchase price is expected to be less costly than long-term rental, or when the item is not available on a rental basis.
- 17 **Nutritional supplements** include enteral formulas, which are covered if the patient has a written order from a **doctor** that states the formula is **medically necessary** and effective, and that without it the patient would become malnourished, suffer from serious physical disorders or die. Modified solid food products will be covered for the treatment of certain inherited diseases if the patient has a written order from a **doctor**.
- 18 **Cosmetic surgery** will be considered not **medically necessary** unless it is necessitated by injury, is for breast reconstruction after cancer surgery or is necessary to lessen a disfiguring disease or a deformity arising from, or directly related to, a congenital abnormality. *Cosmetic treatment* includes any procedure that is directed at improving the patient's appearance and does not meaningfully promote the proper function of the body or prevent or treat illness or disease.
- 19 **Experimental or "investigative"** means treatment that, for the particular diagnosis or treatment of the enrolled person's condition, is not of proven benefit and not generally recognized by the medical community (as reflected in published literature). Government approval of a specific technology or treatment does not necessarily

prove that it is appropriate or effective for a particular diagnosis or treatment of an enrolled person's condition. A claims administrator may require that any or all of the following criteria be met to determine whether a technology, treatment, procedure, biological product, medical device or drug is experimental, investigative, obsolete or ineffective:

- there is final market approval by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") for the patient's particular diagnosis or condition, except for certain drugs prescribed for the treatment of cancer; once the FDA approves use of a medical device, drug or biological product for a particular diagnosis or condition, use for another diagnosis or condition may require that additional criteria be met,
- published peer-reviewed medical literature must conclude that the technology has a definite positive effect on health outcomes,
- published evidence must show that over time, the treatment improves health outcomes (i.e., the beneficial effects outweigh any harmful effects), and
- published proof must show that the treatment at the least improves health outcomes or that it can be used in appropriate medical situations where the established treatment cannot be used. Published proof must show that the treatment improves health outcomes in standard medical practice, not just in an experimental laboratory setting.

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## Contact Information

What do you need?	Who to contact	How
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General information about your eligibility and benefits</li> <li>• Information on your hospital, medical, vision, dental and disability benefits and claims</li> </ul>	Member Services	Call 1-800-551-3225 8:30 am–5:00 pm Monday–Friday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To find a 5 Star Center</li> <li>• To find a primary care <b>physician</b></li> <li>• To find participating Empire BlueCross BlueShield providers</li> </ul>	Member Services	Call 1-800-551-3225 8:30 am–5:00 pm Monday–Friday or Visit <a href="http://www.32bjfunds.org">www.32bjfunds.org</a>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To find a participating dental plan provider</li> </ul>	Delta Dental	Call 1-800-932-0783 8:30 am–5:00 pm Monday–Friday or Dental: Visit <a href="http://www.keeptousmiling.com">www.keeptousmiling.com</a>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To find a participating vision plan provider</li> </ul>	Davis Vision	Call 1-800-999-5431 8:00 am–11:00 pm Monday–Friday Saturday, 9:00 am–4:00 pm Sunday, 12:00 pm–4:00 pm Visit <a href="http://www.32bjfunds.org">www.32bjfunds.org</a>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information about your life insurance plan</li> </ul>	MetLife	Call 1-866-492-6983 or Visit <a href="http://mybenefits.metlife.com">http://mybenefits.metlife.com</a>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To pre-certify a hospital or medical stay</li> </ul>	Empire BlueCross BlueShield	Providers call 1-800-982-8089
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To pre-certify mental health or substance abuse stay</li> </ul>	Empire BlueCross BlueShield	Providers call 1-855-531-6011
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To help prevent or report health insurance fraud (hospital or medical)</li> </ul>	Empire Fraud Hotline	Call 1-800-423-7283 9:00 am–5:00 pm Monday–Friday
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information about your prescription drug benefits, formulary listing or participating pharmacy</li> </ul>	CVS Caremark	Call 1-877-765-6294 or Visit <a href="http://www.Caremark.com">www.Caremark.com</a> 24 hours a day/7 days a week
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Immediate medical advice</li> </ul>	Nurses Healthline	Call 1-877-825-5276 24 hours a day/7 days a week
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help with family and personal problems, such as depression, alcohol and substance abuse, divorce, etc.</li> </ul>	Empire BlueCross BlueShield	Call 1-212-388-3660



**Building Service 32BJ Health Fund**  
**25 West 18th Street**  
**New York, New York 10011-4676**  
**Telephone 1-800-551-3225**  
**[www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org)**



**Building Service 32BJ Health Fund**

25 West 18th Street  
New York, NY 10011-4676

[www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org)  
800-551-3225 Benefits Information

Héctor J. Figueroa, *Chairman*  
Howard I. Rothschild, *Secretary*  
Peter Goldberger, *Executive Director*  
Sara Rothstein, *Fund Director*

This Summary of Material Modifications (“SMM”) supplements, modifies or replaces information presented in the Building Service 32BJ Health Fund Summary Plan Description (“SPD”) for the Tri-State Plan dated January 1, 2015, and any SMM issued after January 1, 2015, and before April 1, 2019 (the effective date of this SMM). Specifically, Frequently Asked Question 14 on page 12, the sections “About Participating Providers and 5 Star Centers” and “When You Go In-Network” on pages 29-30, and pages 36 to 51 are deleted in their entirety and replaced by the contents in this booklet. **Please keep this document with your copy of the SPD for future reference.**

**Page 12: Frequently Asked Question 14 is deleted in its entirety and replaced by the below:**

**14. What is my out-of-pocket cost for an in-network hospital\* inpatient stay?**

**Co-payment.** Hospital inpatient stays have a \$100 **co-payment** at **preferred in-network hospitals** and a \$1,000 **co-payment** at **non-preferred in-network hospitals**. If you are admitted as an in-patient to a **non-preferred in-network hospital** due to an emergency you will have a \$100 **co-payment**.

If you are unsure whether a hospital is a **preferred in-network hospital** with a \$100 **co-payment**, before you go or receive any services, check the list available on the Plan’s website at [www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org) or call Member Services at 1-800-551-3225. Your doctor or surgeon may not know that your plan has higher **co-payments** at **non-preferred in-network hospitals**. Even if the hospital your doctor or surgeon wants to send you to or schedule your services at is **in-network**, it may be a **non-preferred hospital**, which will require you to pay a \$1,000 **co-payment**.

Using a **preferred in-network hospital** will keep your costs down.

**Deductible, Co-insurance and Balance Billing.** In most cases, you will not have additional costs above the \$100 or \$1,000 **co-payment**. However, talk to your **doctor** to make sure that your surgeon and other providers are also **in-network**. Because if they are not, you may be responsible for **deductibles** and **co-insurance** and you may be balance billed if the **out-of-network** provider’s charges exceed the maximum **allowed amount**.

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\* You can get a list of **preferred hospitals** and a list of **non-preferred hospitals** on the Plan’s website at [www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org).

**Pages 29-30: The sections “About Participating Providers and 5 Star Centers” and “When You Go In-Network” are deleted in their entirety and replaced by the following new sections:**

**About Participating Providers, 5 Star Centers and Preferred and Non-Preferred Hospitals and Facilities**

Within Empire’s POS **network**, there are participating **doctors**, also called **in-network**, as well as **preferred** and **non-preferred in-network hospitals**. **Preferred in-network hospitals and facilities** and independent non-hospital owned facilities have lower **co-payments** than **non-preferred in-network hospitals and facilities**.

Using **preferred in-network hospitals and facilities** and independent non-hospital owned facilities will keep your costs down.

In addition to Empire’s **network**, the 32BJ Health Fund has identified a limited **network** of 5 Star Center Providers and partnered with **preferred in-network hospitals** to provide certain services.

**When You Go In-Network**

When you use an **in-network provider**, you will have lower costs or no costs for **covered services**. In addition, there are no **deductibles** or **co-insurance** to pay, and no claims to file or track. However, certain procedures, such as total joint replacement or bariatric surgery, have specific limitations on **in-network** care. See the tables on pages 38–51 for details. Please note that there are different costs for using **preferred and non-preferred in-network hospitals and facilities**. These cost differences are described below.

When you use a 5 Star Center Provider, your expenses are covered at the highest level. You have no **co-payment** for office visits provided by the 5 Star Center Provider.

When you use a **participating provider**, your expenses are still covered but it will cost you more. Your **co-payment** for participating **physicians** and specialists is \$40 per office visit.

The **co-payment** for all participating mental/behavioral health or substance abuse professionals is \$20 per office visit.

When you have procedures like physical therapy or diagnostic tests (excluding blood work) in the outpatient department of a **preferred in-network hospital or facility**, you will pay a \$75 **co-payment**. Those same procedures in the outpatient department of a **non-preferred in-network hospital or facility** will require you to pay a \$250 **co-payment**. You can avoid these out-patient **co-payments** by having these procedures done in an independent non-hospital owned facility or **doctor’s** office.

**In-network** benefits apply only to services and supplies that are both covered by the Plan and provided or authorized by a **network provider**. The **network provider** will assess your medical needs and advise you on appropriate care, as well as take care of any necessary tests, pre-certifications or hospital admissions. When you use a **doctor**, hospital or other provider **in-network**, the Plan generally pays 100% after the applicable **co-payment** for most charges, including hospitalization. (See Schedule of **Covered Services** on pages 37–51.) You will not have to pay a **deductible**.

You should always check with your **in-network provider** (or you can call Member Services at 1-800-551-3225) to be sure that any referrals to other **doctors** or for diagnostic tests are also with an **in-network provider**.

It is a good idea to check with your **in-network provider** to find out if the hospital or facility where they want to send you or schedule your services is **in-network** and whether it is **preferred or non-preferred**. Your doctor or surgeon may not know that certain **in-network** hospitals and facilities have higher **co-payments**.

Before you go to or have services scheduled at an **in-network** hospital or facility recommended by your doctor or surgeon, you should check to see if the hospital or facility is on the list of **preferred in-network hospitals and facilities**. A list of **preferred and non-preferred in-network hospitals and facilities** is available on the Plan's website at [www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org). You may also call Member Services at 1-800-551-3225 for assistance. Failure to go to a **preferred in-network hospital or facility** will result in higher **co-payments**. (See Schedule of **Covered Services** on pages 37–51.)

### **Pages 36-51 are deleted in their entirety and replaced with the following:**

#### **Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses**

The amount you are required to pay depends on where you receive your care and what kind of care you receive. In every case, you can minimize your out-of-pocket expense by using 5 Star Center Providers where they are available and by staying **in-network**.

There are no lifetime or annual dollar maximums for benefits. Some benefits have annual visit maximums. (See Schedule of **Covered Services** on pages 37–51.)

Remember, the maximum annual out-of-pocket amount you will pay for **in-network** hospital and medical **co-payments** is \$6,100 for an individual and \$12,200 for a family.\* If you have other family members in this plan, they have to meet their own out-of-pocket limits until the overall family out-of-pocket limit has been met. There are no other **co-payments** for **in-network** hospital or medical services for the remainder of the calendar year once you reach this annual maximum.

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\* HHS examines the limits annually and may increase them based on the premium adjustment percentage (an estimate of the average change in health insurance premiums). The Plan will change its out-of-pocket maximums each January 1 to match HHS' limits.

Type of care	Out-of-Pocket Expense by Place of Service		
Doctor Visits	In-Network Co-payment		Out-of-Network Expense
	5 Star Center Provider	Participating Doctor/Provider	Non-Participating Providers
Doctor's office	\$0	\$40	You pay the <b>deductible</b> , 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> and any balance billing.
Urgent care center	\$0	\$40	
Mental/behavioral health or substance abuse visit	\$0	\$20	
Preventive care services	\$0	\$0	

Hospital & Facility Visits	In-Network Preferred Hospital or Facility Co-Payment	In-Network Non-Preferred Hospital or Facility Co-payment	Out-of-Network Hospital or Facility Expense
Hospital <b>Emergency*</b> room	\$100 per visit. After 2nd visit in a calendar year, \$200.		
Hi-tech radiology (CAT, MRI, MRA, PET and nuclear studies)	\$100 per scan	\$250 per scan	You pay the <b>deductible</b> , 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> and any balance billing.  Non-participating New York inpatient and outpatient substance abuse providers that are not certified and/or licensed by the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services and non-participating providers in all other states that are not certified by a similar state agency and which are not accredited by The Joint Commission are not covered.
Hospital inpatient stay	\$100 per admission	\$1,000 per admission**	
Hospital outpatient department	\$75 per visit (except for maternity, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, hyperbaric oxygen treatment & intensive outpatient mental/behavioral health and substance abuse services)***	\$250 per visit (except for maternity, chemotherapy, radiation therapy, hyperbaric oxygen treatment & intensive outpatient mental/ behavioral health and substance abuse services)***	

\* In an **emergency**, if you use **out-of-network** providers you may be responsible for **deductibles** and **co-insurance** and you may be balance billed if the **out-of-network** providers charges exceed the **allowed amount**.

\*\* If you are admitted as an in-patient to a **non-preferred in-network hospital or facility** due to an emergency you will have a \$100 **co-payment**.

\*\*\* No **co-payment** for outpatient maternity services or blood tests. Outpatient radiation therapy, chemotherapy and hyperbaric oxygen treatment limited to one **co-payment** per calendar year. Intensive outpatient mental/behavioral health or substance abuse services limited to one **co-payment** for up to 6 months of treatment.

## Schedule of Covered Services

The following tables show different types of health care services, how they are covered in a **preferred hospital or facility** versus a **non-preferred hospital or facility**, **in-network** versus **out-of-network**, and whether there are any limitations on their use:

### In the Hospital<sup>1</sup> and Other Inpatient Treatment Centers\*

Benefit	In-Network Preferred Hospital or Facility	In-Network Non-Preferred Hospital or Facility	Out-of-Network Hospital or Facility	Limitations
Semi-private room and board* (for obstetrical care, hospital stays are covered for at least 48 hours following normal delivery, or at least 96 hours following cesarean section).	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> per admission	Plan pays 100% after \$1,000 <b>co-payment</b> per admission.	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	
In-hospital services of <b>doctors</b> and surgeons and other professionals	Plan pays 100%			
In-hospital anesthesia and oxygen				
In-hospital blood and blood transfusions				
Cardiac Care Unit (“CCU”) and Intensive Care Unit (“ICU”)				
Inpatient chemotherapy and radiation therapy				
Inpatient kidney dialysis <sup>3</sup>				
Inpatient pre-surgical testing				
<b>Medically necessary</b> special diet and nutritional services while in the hospital				
Inpatient lab and radiology services (including hi-tech radiology)				
Bariatric surgery*	Plan pays 100% if surgery is conducted by a designated surgeon at Mount Sinai Saint Luke’s Hospital (MSSLH) in New York City. For surgery with non-designated surgeons or at another Blue Distinction Hospital in the Empire network, Plan pays up to 100% of the <b>allowed amount</b> that it would have paid MSSLH. Member is responsible for the amount in excess of the <b>allowed amount</b> (this amount is the member’s <b>co-payment</b> ) up to the annual <b>in-network</b> out-of-pocket maximum.	Plan pays up to 100% of the <b>allowed amount</b> that it would have paid Mount Sinai Saint Luke’s Hospital (MSSLH) in New York City. Member is responsible for the amount in excess of the <b>allowed amount</b> (this amount is the member’s <b>co-payment</b> ) up to the annual <b>in-network</b> out-of-pocket maximum or \$1,000 whichever is larger.	Not Covered	Only covered at Blue Distinction Hospitals in the Empire <b>network</b> .  Call Member Services for information about the 32BJ Bariatric Program.
Transplant surgery*  Lifetime travel maximum for a transplant	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> per admission  \$10,000 per transplant	Plan pays 100% after \$1,000 <b>co-payment</b> per admission  Up to \$10,000 per transplant		Kidney and lung transplants are covered <b>in-network</b> only at any BlueCross BlueShield participating hospital.  Other transplants are covered only at Blue Distinction Centers of Medical Excellence. <sup>1</sup>  Call Member Services for a list of Blue Distinction Centers of Medical Excellence.

\* Pre-certification required for all inpatient admissions. For definitions of various facilities and further details, see footnote 1 on page 127 and footnote 3 on page 128.

## In the Hospital<sup>1</sup> and Other Inpatient Treatment Centers\* (continued)

Benefit	In-Network Preferred Hospital or Facility	In-Network Non-Preferred Hospital or Facility	Out-of- Network Hospital or Facility	Limitations
Total Joint Replacement (hip and knee)*	Plan pays 100% if surgery is conducted by a designated surgeon at a facility which is part of the Mount Sinai Health System ("MSHS") hospital <b>network</b> in New York City. For surgery with non-designated surgeons or at another <b>in-network</b> facility, Plan pays up to 100% of the <b>allowed amount</b> that it would have paid the MSHS facility. Member responsible for the amount in excess of the <b>allowed amount</b> (this amount is the member's <b>co-payment</b> ) up to the annual <b>in-network</b> out-of-pocket maximum.	Plan pays 100% of the <b>allowed amount</b> that it would have paid the Mount Sinai Health System hospital <b>network</b> in New York City. Member responsible for the amount in excess of the <b>allowed amount</b> (this amount is the member's <b>co-payment</b> ) up to the annual <b>in-network</b> out-of-pocket maximum or \$1,000 whichever is greater.	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b> .	Call Member Services for information about the 32BJ Joint Replacement Program.
Gender Reassignment Surgery	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> per admission	Plan pays 100% after \$1,000 <b>co-payment</b> per admission	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b> .	
Skilled nursing care facility <sup>4</sup> *	Plan pays 100%	Plan pays 100%	Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only. Benefits are payable up to 60 days per calendar year.
Hospice care facility <sup>5</sup> *	Plan pays 100%	Plan pays 100%	Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only.

\* Pre-certification required.

For definitions of various facilities and further details, see footnote 1 on page 127, footnotes 4 and 5 on pages 128-129.

## Emergency Care

Benefit	In-Network Preferred Hospital or Facility	In-Network Non-Preferred Hospital or Facility	Out-of-Network Hospital or Facility	Limitations
Emergency room <sup>8</sup> ("ER") in a hospital	Plan pays 100%* after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> for 1st two visits; then \$200 <b>co-payment</b> per visit			ER <b>co-payment</b> increases after the 2nd ER visit in a calendar year. Follow-up visits to the ER are not covered.
Urgent care center	Plan pays 100% after \$40 <b>co-payment</b>		Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	If the urgent care center bills your visit as an emergency room visit, you will pay the ER <b>co-payment</b> .
Ambulance service <sup>9</sup>	Plan pays 100%			Not covered if after transport you do not receive treating services.

See footnotes 8 and 9 on page 130.

\* In an **emergency**, if you use **out-of-network** providers you may be responsible for **deductibles** and **co-insurance** and you may be balance billed if the **out-of-network** providers charges exceed the **allowed amount**.

## Outpatient Treatment Facilities

Benefit	In-Network Preferred Hospital or Facility	In-Network Non-Preferred Hospital or Facility	Out-of-Network Hospital or Facility	Limitations
Surgery <sup>2</sup> and care related to surgery (including operating and recovery rooms)*	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> based on where service is provided:  If in outpatient hospital setting: – \$75 <b>co-payment</b> .  If in freestanding surgical facility: – \$0 <b>co-payment</b>	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> based on where service is provided:  If in outpatient hospital setting: – \$250 <b>co-payment</b> .	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	<p>When services are received in a <b>preferred in-network hospital</b> outpatient setting, there is a \$75 <b>co-payment</b> per visit with the exception of chemotherapy, radiation therapy and hyperbaric oxygen treatment which have one \$75 <b>co-payment</b> per calendar year, and intensive outpatient mental/behavioral health and substance abuse services which has one \$75 <b>co-payment</b> for up to 6 months of treatment.</p> <p>When services are received in a <b>non-preferred in-network hospital</b> outpatient setting, there is a \$250 <b>co-payment</b> per visit with the exception of chemotherapy, radiation therapy and hyperbaric oxygen treatment which have one \$250 <b>co-payment</b> per calendar year, and intensive outpatient mental/behavioral health and substance abuse services which has one \$250 <b>co-payment</b> for up to 6 months of treatment.</p> <p>Note: There is no <b>co-payment</b> for blood tests done in an <b>in-network preferred or non-preferred hospital</b> outpatient setting.</p>
Diagnostic procedures (like endoscopies) and x-rays (not including hi-tech – see below)				
Radiation therapy*				
Chemotherapy*				
Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment*				
Kidney dialysis <sup>3*</sup>			Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only.
Physical therapy*	If in outpatient hospital setting:  – \$75 <b>co-payment</b> .  If in a freestanding facility: – \$40 <b>co-payment</b> .	If in outpatient hospital setting: – \$250 <b>co-payment</b> .  If in a freestanding facility: – \$40 <b>co-payment</b> .	Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only. Limited to 30 visits per calendar year.
Hi-tech imaging (CAT, MRI, MRA, PET, and nuclear imaging)*	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b>	Plan pays 100% after \$250 <b>co-payment</b>	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	

\* Pre-certification required.

See footnotes 2 and 3 on page 128.



## Care in the Doctor's Office

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Office visits	Plan pays 100% for visit with a 5 Star Center Provider.  Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> for office visits with <b>in-network providers</b> . (See Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	
Specialist visits			
Diabetes education and management <sup>10</sup>			
Allergy care			Limited to 12 treatment visits per calendar year, plus up to two testing visits per calendar year for allergy care.
Hearing exams			When <b>medically necessary</b> .
Surgery in a <b>doctor's office</b> <sup>2</sup>	Plan pays 100%	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	
Diagnostic procedures, lab and x-rays (not including hi-tech – see below)	Plan pays 100%		Lab work must be sent to an Empire participating lab, such as Quest or LabCorp.
Hi-tech imaging (CAT, MRI, MRA, PET and nuclear imaging)*	Plan pays 100% after \$75 <b>co-payment</b>		
Chiropractic visits	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)		Limited to ten visits per calendar year.
Podiatric care, including routine foot care	Plan pays 100% for care received from a 5 Star Center Provider, otherwise there is a <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)		Excluding routine orthotics. <b>Medically necessary</b> orthotics limited to one pair per adult and two pairs per child per calendar year.
Acupuncture visits	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)	Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only. Limited to 20 visits per calendar year.

\*Pre-certification required.

See footnote 2 on page 128 and footnote 10 on page 131.

## Home Health Care<sup>6</sup>

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Home health care visits <sup>6</sup>	Plan pays 100%	Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only. Limited to 200 home care visits per calendar year, including home physical therapy.
Home infusion therapy <sup>7</sup>			<b>In-network</b> only.
Home kidney dialysis <sup>3</sup>			<b>In-network</b> only.
Home physical therapy			<b>In-network</b> only. Limited to 200 visits per calendar year.
Home hospice <sup>5</sup>			<b>In-network</b> only.

See footnote 3 on page 128, footnotes 5, 6 and 7 on pages 129-130.

## Mental/Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Care

Benefit	In-Network Preferred Hospital or Facility	In-Network Non-Preferred Hospital or Facility	Out-of-Network Hospital or Facility	Limitations
Inpatient*	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> per admission	Plan pays 100% after \$1,000 <b>co-payment</b> per admission.***	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	Non-participating New York inpatient and outpatient substance abuse providers that are not certified and/or licensed by the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Services and non- participating providers in all other states that are not certified by a similar state agency and which are not accredited by The Joint Commission are not covered.
<b>Physician/</b> mental health professional office visits	Plan pays 100% after \$20 <b>co-payment**</b>			
Outpatient hospital facility*	Plan pays 100% after \$75 <b>co-payment</b>	Plan pays 100% after \$250 <b>co-payment</b>		\$75 <b>co-payment</b> for up to 6 months of intensive outpatient treatment in a <b>preferred hospital</b> . \$250 <b>co-payment</b> for up to 6 months of intensive outpatient treatment in a <b>non-preferred hospital</b> .

\* Pre-certification required.

\*\* No **co-payment** if care received from a 5 Star Center Provider.

\*\*\* If you are admitted as an in-patient to a **non-preferred in-network hospital or facility** due to an emergency you will have a \$100 **co-payment**.

## Preventive Medical Care\*

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of- Network	Limitations
Preventive health services <sup>11</sup> , including annual physical exam and screening for colorectal, lung, skin cancer, hepatitis B and C, osteoporosis and obesity	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> based on where service is provided:  If in an office or independent non-hospital owned facility— \$0 <b>co-payment</b>  If in outpatient <b>preferred hospital</b> setting – \$75 <b>co-payment</b>  If in outpatient <b>non-preferred hospital</b> setting -- \$250 <b>co-payment</b>	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	Covered preventive health services based on age, sex and health risk factors.  \$75 <b>co-payment</b> /visit for preventive procedures (e.g., mammogram, colonoscopy) at a <b>preferred in-network hospital</b> or hospital based facility. \$250 <b>co-payment</b> /visit for preventive procedures (e.g., mammogram, colonoscopy) at a <b>non-preferred in-network hospital</b> or hospital based facility.
Well-woman care, which may include an annual well-woman exam and screening for cervical cancer, pregnancy related screenings, and reproductive health screenings			Annual exam and covered preventive health services based on age and health risk factors.  \$75 <b>co-payment</b> /visit for preventive procedures (e.g., mammogram, colonoscopy) at a <b>preferred in-network hospital</b> or hospital based facility. \$250 <b>co-payment</b> /visit for preventive procedures (e.g., mammogram, colonoscopy) at a <b>non-preferred in-network hospital</b> or hospital based facility.
Well-child care <sup>12</sup> provides for regular check-ups and preventive health services, and immunizations identified in footnote 12			Well-child visits are subject to the frequency limits listed below and preventive health services based on age:
<b>Well-child care visits are subject to the following frequency:</b> <b>Number of Visits/Age Range:</b> 1 exam at birth/Newborn • 6 visits/Under 1 • 7 visits/1-4 yrs. old • 7 visits/5-11 yrs. old • 6 visits/12-17 yrs. old • 2 visits/18-19 yrs. old			
Routine immunizations – all ages (includes travel immunizations)			Immunizations based on age and health risk factors.
Mammograms **	Plan pays 100% - \$0 <b>co-payment</b>	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	Testing based on the patient's age and health risk factors.  Mammograms performed in a hospital/hospital based facility: \$75 <b>co-payment</b> /visit at a <b>preferred in-network provider hospital</b> or hospital based facility. \$250 <b>co-payment</b> /visit at a <b>non-preferred in-network provider hospital</b> or hospital based facility.
Nutritional counseling			

\* See footnotes 11 and 12 on page 131.

The Plan covers certain preventive care services without imposing any **co-payments** when using an **in-network provider**. The four areas of preventive care services are:

- evidence-based items or services with an A or B rating recommended by the United States Preventive Services Task Force ("USPSTF"),
- immunizations for routine use in children, adolescents, or adults recommended by the *Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*,
- evidence-informed preventive care and screenings provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration ("HRSA") for infants, children, and adolescents, and
- other evidence-informed preventive care and screenings provided for in comprehensive guidelines supported by HRSA for women.

Some of the preventive care services that are covered are listed in the table above. The list of preventive care services may change. You may find a list of preventive care services at [www.hhs.gov](http://www.hhs.gov) or by contacting Member Services at 1-800-551-3225.

\*\* Coverage of mammograms regardless of age for covered persons with a past history of cancer or who have a first degree relative (parent, sibling, child) with a prior history of breast cancer, upon the recommendation of a **physician**.

## Reproductive Health Services

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Reproductive health office visits and counseling for contraceptive measures and devices (such as tubal ligation, IUD insertion and diaphragm fittings)	No <b>co-payment</b> Plan pays 100%		
Vasectomy (excludes reversals)	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	The type of facility where service is provided will determine <b>co-payment</b> .
Abortion, includes elective and non- elective procedures			
Infertility testing			Infertility testing limited to once per calendar year.  The type of facility where service is provided will determine <b>co-payment</b> .
Infertility treatment	Not Covered	Not Covered	No coverage for service upon the diagnosis of infertility.

## Pregnancy and Maternity Care

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Office visits for prenatal and postnatal care from a licensed <b>doctor</b> or certified nurse-midwife <sup>13</sup> , including diagnostic procedures	Plan pays 100% after initial <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out- of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.) No <b>co-payment</b> for first postnatal visit.	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	Prenatal <b>co-payment</b> limited to the <b>co-payment</b> for the first visit only for maternity care.
Newborn in-hospital nursery	Plan pays 100%		
Obstetrical care* admission (in hospital or birthing center)	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> for admission at a <b>preferred hospital</b> and \$1,000 for admission at a <b>non-preferred hospital</b>	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>  No coverage for <b>out-of-network</b> birthing centers	<b>Out-of-network</b> birthing centers are not covered.
Home birth with a certified nurse-midwife <sup>14</sup>	Plan pays 100%	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	When the Plan authorizes the use of a non-participating nurse-midwife for home birth, then services are paid at the same rate as a participating obstetrician.
A home health care visit			One (1) home health care visit within 24 hours of discharge, if the mother leaves the hospital before the 48 or 96 hour period indicated under hospital benefits.
Circumcision of newborn males	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of- Pocket Expenses on pages 36– 37.)		When the procedure is performed and the type of facility where service is provided will determine <b>co-payment</b> .

\* Pre-certification required.

See footnotes 13 and 14 on page 131.

## Physical, Occupational, Speech or Vision Therapy (including rehabilitation)<sup>15</sup>

Benefit	In-Network Preferred Hospital or Facility	In-Network Non-Preferred Hospital or Facility	Out-of-Network Hospital or Facility	Limitations
Acute Inpatient rehabilitation stays*	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> per admission	Plan pays 100% after \$1,000 <b>co-payment</b> per admission	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	Covered for up to 30 days per calendar year ( <b>in-network</b> and <b>out-of-network</b> combined).
Outpatient services* Outpatient facility or <b>doctor's</b> office	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of- Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of- Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)	Not Covered	<b>In-network</b> only. Benefits are payable for up to 30 visits per calendar year for physical therapy. An additional 30 visits per calendar year combined for occupational, speech and vision therapy.
Services in the home	Plan pays 100%	Plan pays 100%		<b>In-network</b> only. Limited to 200 visits per calendar year for all home visits, including home physical therapy visits.

\*Pre-certification required.

See footnote 15 on pages 131-132.

## Durable Medical Equipment and Supplies<sup>16</sup>

Benefit	In-Network**	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Durable medical equipment* (such as wheelchairs, nebulizers, oxygen and hospital beds)	Plan pays 100%	Not Covered	<b>In-network**</b> benefit only.
Prosthetics/orthotics*	Plan pays 100%	Not Covered	<b>In-network**</b> benefit only. Orthotics are covered only for non-routine foot orthotics – limited to one pair per adult and two pairs per child in a calendar year.
Medical and diabetic supplies (such as catheters and syringes)	Plan pays 100% when using a durable medical equipment provider***	Not Covered	<b>In-network**</b> benefit only. If diabetic supplies are ordered under the Prescription Drug Benefit, see page 58 for applicable <b>co-payment</b> .
Wigs	Plan pays 100%	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	Covered following chemo or radiation therapy and in other limited circumstances. Call Member Services to find out if coverage is available for your particular situation.
Nutritional supplements <sup>17</sup> that require a prescription (formulas, including infant formulas, and modified solid food products)	Plan pays 100% when using a durable medical equipment provider***	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	Not covered under the Prescription Drug Benefit.
Hearing aids	Plan pays 100% when using a durable medical equipment provider*** for two hearing aids per lifetime.	Not Covered	<b>In-network**</b> benefit only through a durable medical equipment provider.  Coverage level depends on medical necessity. Plan pays for hearing aid at the mid-point of coverage level. Participant has the option of paying the difference between what Plan pays and the cost of more technologically advanced hearing aids above the mid-point of Participant's coverage level.  Lifetime benefit limitation.

\* Pre-certification required.

\*\* Durable medical equipment providers may not be the same as hospital/medical providers. Contact Member Services to ensure you receive your durable medical equipment from an in-network durable medical equipment provider.

\*\*\*For a list of durable medical providers contact Member Services.

See footnotes 16 and 17 on page 132.

## Dental Care\*

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Surgical removal of impacted wisdom teeth only	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.)	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> after the <b>deductible</b>	
Repair to natural teeth only within 12 months of injury to sound natural teeth			

\* Dental care is also covered under the Plan's dental benefit described on pages 63-72 of this SPD. When a dental procedure is eligible for coverage under both your hospital/medical plan and the dental plan, your hospital/medical plan will always be the primary payor.

## **Page 126: The following terms are added to the Glossary:**

**Preferred in-network hospitals and facilities (preferred hospitals and facilities)** are those that have lower costs for care and have been identified as such by the Plan.

**Non-preferred in-network hospitals and facilities (non-preferred hospitals and facilities)** are those that have higher costs for care and have been identified as such by the Plan.



**Building Service 32BJ Health Fund**

25 West 18th Street  
New York, NY 10011-4676

www.32bjfunds.org  
800-551-3225 Benefits Information

Manny Pastreich, *Chairman*  
Howard I. Rothschild, *Secretary*  
Peter Goldberger, *Executive Director*  
Cora Opsahl, *Fund Director*

## **Summary of Material Modifications Building Service 32BJ Health Fund Tri-State Plan**

The following is a list of changes and clarifications which have occurred since the printing of the Building Service 32BJ Health Fund Summary Plan Description (SPD) for the Tri-State Plan dated January 1, 2015. This Summary of Material Modifications (SMM) supplements or modifies the information presented in your SPD with respect to the Plan. **Please keep this document with your copy of the SPD for future reference.**

**Appointment of Union Trustee Page 1:** Effective December 8, 2022, John Santos has been appointed Union Trustee. His information is as follows:

John Santos  
Secretary-Treasurer  
32BJ SEIU  
25 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, NY 10011-1991

**Change in Union Trustee Title Page 1:** Effective December 7, 2022, Manny Pastreich's title is changed from Secretary-Treasurer to President.

**Resignation of Union Trustee Page 1:** Effective November 30, 2022, Kyle E. Bragg has resigned as Union Trustee. His information is deleted in its entirety.

**Appointment of new Director Page 1:** Effective December 15, 2021, Cora Opsahl has been appointed Director of the Building Service 32BJ Health Fund. She replaces Sara Rothstein.

**Appointment of Employer Trustee Page 1:** Effective April 19, 2021, Jeffrey Brodsky has been appointed employer trustee. He replaces Charles C. Dorego whose information is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Jeffrey Brodsky  
Related Companies  
30 Hudson Yards  
New York, NY 10001

**Change in Union Trustee Titles and Contact Information Page 1:** Effective January 13, 2021, Larry Engelstein's title and contact information is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

c/o 32BJ SEIU  
25 W. 18th Street  
New York, NY 10011-1991

In addition, Manny Pastreich's title and contact information is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Secretary-Treasurer  
32BJ SEIU  
25 W. 18th Street  
New York, NY 10011-1991

**Appointment of Union Trustee Page 1:** Effective October 9, 2019, Manny Pastreich has been appointed as Union Trustee and his contact information is added as follows:

Manny Pastreich  
Director, Collective Bargaining & Employer Relations  
32BJ SEIU  
1025 Vermont Avenue NW  
7th Floor  
Washington, DC 20005-3577

**Change in Union Trustee's Title Page 1:** Effective August 1, 2019, Larry Englestein's title is deleted in its entirety and replaced with Secretary-Treasurer/Executive Vice President.

**Appointment of Union Trustee Page 1:** Effective July 15, 2019, Kyle E. Bragg has been appointed to replace Hector J. Figueroa as Union Trustee.

**Resignation of Union Trustee Page 1:** Effective April 12, 2019, Kevin J. Doyle resigned as Union Trustee. His contact information is deleted in its entirety.

**Change in Employer Trustee Address Page 1:** Effective January 1, 2019, Howard Rothschild's address is deleted in its entirety and replaced with Reality Advisory Board on Labor Relations, Inc., One Penn Plaza, Suite 2110, New York, NY 10119-2109.

**Change in Director Page 1:** Effective May 19, 2018, Sara Rothstein has replaced Angelo V. Dascoli as Director of the Building Service 32BJ Health Fund.

**Change in Executive Director Page 1:** Effective January 1, 2018, Peter Goldberger has replaced Susan Cowell as Executive Director of the Building Service 32BJ Benefit Funds.

**Change in Fund Auditor Name Page 1:** Effective August 31, 2017, Bond Beebe has joined Withum Smith + Brown, PC, and has changed its name to Withum Smith + Brown, PC.

**Change in Covered Groups Page 8:** Effective January 1, 2017, the second bullet is deleted in its entirety. And the second sentence in the third bullet is deleted and replaced with:

In general, the Tri-State Plan covers certain participants who work outside New York City, for example, Long Island and Westchester County, as well as those who work in other states including Connecticut, Florida, Massachusetts and New Jersey.

**Clarification in Coverage of Allergy Visits Page 11:** The last sentence in the answer to FAQ 11 is deleted and replaced with the following sentence:

For example, treatment for allergy care is covered up to 12 treatment visits per calendar year, plus up to two testing visits per calendar year. (See pages 38–51 for all services with visit limits.)

**Temporary Extension of Eligibility Page 16:** From March 6, 2020 through March 31, 2021, the following bullet replaces the first bullet under the section *When You Are No Longer Eligible*:

- at the end of the 150th day after you no longer regularly work in **covered employment** (this does not apply if you are eligible for Fund-paid Health Extension), subject to COBRA rights. (See pages 17–20 and pages 108–113.),

**Clarification on Cancellation of Coverage When Eligible for Medicare Page 16:** the following new bullet is added after the second bullet in the list under the section *When You Are No Longer Eligible*:

- on the date you cancel your coverage with the Fund because you are eligible for Medicare,



**Change in Dependent Eligibility:** **Chart pages 21-23:** Effective February 1, 2016, the chart under the section “Dependent Eligibility” is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following chart:

<b>Dependency</b>	<b>Age Limitation</b>	<b>Requirements</b>
Spouse	None	The person to whom you are legally married (if you are legally separated or divorced, your spouse is not covered).
Children	Until the earlier of 30 days after the child’s 26 <sup>th</sup> birthday or the end of the calendar year in which the child turns 26.	The child is one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your biological child,</li> <li>• Your adopted* child or one placed with you in anticipation of adoption, or</li> <li>• Your stepchild: this includes your spouse’s biological or adopted child.</li> </ul>
Children (dependent) –Your grandchild, niece or nephew ONLY if you are the legal guardian*** (if application for legal guardianship is pending, you must provide documentation that papers are filed and provide proof when legal process is complete)	Until the earlier of 30 days after the child’s 26 <sup>th</sup> birthday or the end of the calendar year in which the child turns 26.	The child: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is not married,</li> <li>• Has the same principal address as the participant**, or as required under the terms of a “QMCSO” (see page 81), and</li> <li>• Is dependent on the participant for all of his or her annual support and maintenance and is claimed as a dependent on your tax return**.</li> </ul>

Note that the section “Children (disabled) over age 26 was deleted in its entirety.

**Page 24:** The third bullet under the section “When Your Dependent(s) Are No Longer Eligible is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following bullet:

- Eligibility of a spouse and children (including dependent children) ends 30 days after your death.

**Coverage of Coronavirus Vaccines:** Effective January 1, 2021, the Fund will cover the cost to administer an immunization intended to prevent or mitigate the coronavirus (COVID-19) disease, provided the immunization has received either (i) a recommendation from the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force or (ii) a recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practice, which has been approved by the Center for Disease Control (“Coronavirus Vaccine”).

Participants may utilize their pharmacy or medical benefits to cover the cost of the vaccine. If the Coronavirus Vaccine is administered by a provider that participates in the Plan’s hospital and medical network with Empire BlueCross BlueShield or a pharmacy that participates in the Plan’s PBM network with OptumRx, the Plan will cover the vaccine administration fee at 100% of the negotiated rate. If the Coronavirus Vaccine is administered by an out-of-network provider or pharmacy, the Plan will cover the administration cost up to a maximum of the amount that would be reimbursed by Medicare for the administration of the vaccine. Please note, under federal law, you are not required to pay any amounts out-of-pocket for a Coronavirus Vaccine, including any difference between the charges billed by an out-of-network provider and the amount paid by the Fund.

**Change in Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum on Out-of-Network Medical, Mental/Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse and Pharmacy Benefits and in Division of Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum Between Medical and Prescription Drug Benefits** **Page 27:** Effective January 1, 2023, the section “Annual Out-of-Pocket Maximum on In-Network Hospital, Medical, Mental Health, Substance Abuse and Pharmacy Benefits” is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

## **Annual Out-Of-Pocket Maximum on In-Network and Out-of-Network Hospital, Medical, Mental/Behavioral Health and Substance Abuse Benefits and Pharmacy Benefits**

*Annual out-of-pocket maximum on in-network benefits.* There are annual out-of-pocket maximums on **in-network** and **out-of-network** hospital, medical, mental health and substance abuse and pharmacy benefits. In 2023, your total annual **in-network** and **out-of-network** out-of-pocket maximums are each \$9,100 and your family's annual **in-network** and **out-of-network** out-of-pocket maximums are each \$18,200.\* These maximums are separate for **in-network** benefits and **out-of-network** benefits. If you have other family members enrolled in this plan, they have to meet their own out-of-pocket limits until the overall family out-of-pocket limit has been met.

The annual out-of-pocket maximum is divided between medical and prescription drug benefits.

Your annual out-of-pocket maximums for **in-network** and **out-of-network** medical benefits in 2023 is \$6,825 and your family's annual out-of-pocket maximum for **in-network** and **out-of-network** medical benefits is \$13,650 each. After a family has spent \$13,650 in out-of-pocket costs for **in-network** or **out-of-network** medical benefits, regardless of how much each family member paid in out-of-pocket costs for **in-network** or **out-of-network** medical benefits, there are no additional out-of-pocket costs (deductibles, co-insurance or co-payments) for any additional **in-network** or **out-of-network** medical benefits during the calendar year, except that this does not prevent an **out-of-network** provider from balancing billing a participant for charges in excess of the amount paid by the Fund.

Your annual out-of-pocket maximum for **in-network** and **out-of-network** prescription drug benefits is \$2,275 and your family's annual out-of-pocket maximum for **in-network** and **out-of-network** prescription drug benefits is \$4,550 each. After a family has spent \$4,550 in out-of-pocket costs for **in-network** or **out-of-network** prescription drugs, regardless of how much each family member paid in out-of-pocket costs for **in-network** or **out-of-network** prescription drugs, there are no additional out-of-pocket costs for any additional **in-network** or **out-of-network** prescription drugs during the calendar year.

*Expenses that apply toward the annual **in-network** and **out-of-network** out-of-pocket maximums:*

- **Co-payments,**
- **Deductibles,** and
- **Co-insurance.**

*Expenses that do **not** count toward the annual **in-network** out-of-pocket maximum.* The following expenses are not applied toward the **in-network** annual out-of-pocket maximum:

- Premiums,
- Balance billing, and
- Spending for non-covered services.

*Expenses that do **not** count toward the annual **out-of-network** out-of-pocket maximum:*

- Premiums,
- Balance billing, and
- Expenses for noncovered services.

\*HHS examines the limits annually and may increase them based on the premium adjustment percentage (an estimate of the average change in health insurance premiums). The Plan will change its out-of-pocket maximums each January 1 to match HHS' limits. Prior to January 1, 2023, the Plan's prescription drug maximum out-of-pocket was fixed at \$1,800/individual and \$3,600/family and increases in HHS' limits were assigned entirely to the Plan's medical out-of-pocket maximum. Beginning January 1, 2023, the maximum out-of-pocket will be divided between medical (75%) and prescription drug (25%) benefits.

**Addition of TeleMedicine Page 29:** Effective January 1, 2018, the following is modified to reflect co-payments:

*LiveHealth Online.* LiveHealth Online is a convenient way to have a face to face interaction online with a doctor when you need care but can't reach your regular doctor after hours, on holidays or on weekends. LiveHealth Online should be used for non-urgent medical situations like colds, sore throats, or the flu. LiveHealth Online from Empire BlueCross BlueShield is available 24/7. The co-payments for in-network participating doctors/providers are as described on page 36. The online doctor can diagnose, treat and, if state regulations allow, prescribe medications.

Download the LiveHealth Online app on a computer, tablet or smart phone and follow the instructions.

**Reduction in Mental Health and Substance Abuse In-network Co-payments Pages 10 (FAQ 6):** Effective January 1, 2017, the in-network co-payment for a mental health or substance abuse visit is reduced from \$40 visit to \$20 visit.

**Change in Co-insurance Maximum Page 32:** Effective January 1, 2023, the first paragraph on page 32 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following paragraph:

*Annual co-insurance maximum.* The Plan limits the **co-insurance** each patient has to pay in a given calendar year. It also limits the amount each family has to pay. Your annual **co-insurance** maximum is \$5,825, and your family's **co-insurance** maximum is \$11,650. Any eligible expense submitted for reimbursement after the annual **co-insurance** maximum is reached are paid at 100% of the **allowed amount**. You still have to pay any charge above the **allowed amount**.

**Addition of Telephone Number for Member to Call to Get An Estimate of What it Would Cost to Use a Non-Participating Provider Page 33:** Immediately preceding the section "Coverage When You Are Away From Home" the following is added:

If you are thinking about using a non-participating provider and would like to get an idea of how much you will have to pay, call Empire at 1-866-316-3394. In order to assist you, Empire will need to know the non-participating provider's office location (city and state) where you will be seen and the CPT code for the procedure you will have. You must get the CPT code from the non-participating provider.

**Addition of Services Requiring Pre-certification Page 34:** The following services are added to the chart on page 34 in the column *Type of Care* under Outpatient:

- Sleep studies
- Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI), Cardiac Catheterization and Vascular Ultrasound

**Elimination of Existing Exclusion Page 52:** Effective January 1, 2016 the 7<sup>th</sup> bullet ("surgery and/or non-surgical treatment for gender change" under the section "Excluded Hospital, Medical, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Expenses") is deleted in its entirety.

**Addition of Exclusions for Centers of Excellence Page 54:** Effective January 1, 2022, the last dash under the second bullet is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following two dashes:

- bariatric surgery performed at a hospital that is not a 32BJ Health Fund Center of Excellence or a Blue Distinction Center of Medical Excellence
- joint replacement surgery when no medical or distance exception is granted

**Elimination of the Exclusion for Treatment for Developmental Delay, Including Speech Therapy Page 56:** Effective January 1, 2021, the second dash under the fourth bullet is deleted in its entirety.

**Change in Prescription Medication Benefit Administrator:** Effective January 1, 2021, OptumRx is the new pharmacy benefit manager, and the following changes are made:

The Prescription Drug Benefits Section on Pages 58 to 62 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

## Prescription Medication Benefit

Your prescription medication benefit is administered by OptumRx. The list of medications that are covered by your Plan is known as a “formulary.” The formulary includes specific generic, brand and specialty medications. Your Plan’s formulary is mandatory generic, which means, in most instances, when a generic is available, if the pharmacy dispenses a brand-name medication for any reason, you will pay the difference between the brand-name medication and the generic plus the brand name **copay**.

Copays for covered medications:

	Up to a 30-day supply	Up to a 90-day supply	Non-Participating Pharmacy
Generic Medications	\$10 <b>copay</b>	\$20 <b>copay</b>	Covered up to what the Fund would pay a participating retail pharmacy less your <b>copay</b> .
Brand and Specialty Medications	\$30 <b>copay</b>	\$60 <b>copay</b>	Covered up to what the Fund would pay a participating retail pharmacy less your <b>copay</b> .

Notes: No **copay** required for diabetic test strips (effective January 1, 2022), most contraceptive prescriptions and certain preventive over-the-counter medications prescribed for you. (See Eligible Drugs on page 62.) In addition, if the cost of the medication is less than the **copay**, you pay the cost of the medication.

If your **doctor** prescribes a formulary brand-name medication and selects “Dispense As Written” (“DAW”) when an “A”-rated generic equivalent medication is available, you will have to pay the **copay** (\$30 or \$60) and the difference in cost between the brand-name and the generic medication.

Brand-name medications can be very costly so always ask your **doctor** to prescribe generic medications when possible.

If you or your **doctor** want to know whether a drug is on the formulary, you can call OptumRx at 1-844-569-4148 or visit [www.optumrx.com](http://www.optumrx.com).

Remember, your maximum annual out-of-pocket limit for **in-network** prescription medication **copays** is \$1,800 for an individual and \$3,600 for a family.\* If you have other family members in this plan, they have to meet their own out-of-pocket limits until the overall family out-of-pocket limit has been met. There are no other **copays** for **in-network** prescription medications for the remainder of the calendar year once you reach this annual maximum.

## 5 Star Wellness Program

Members and their dependent(s) with diabetes, asthma, heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (“COPD”), stroke, peripheral artery disease (“PAD”) and hypertension who receive their primary care services\*\* from 5 Star Center Providers will pay a **copay** of \$5 per prescription for a 30-day supply or \$10 per prescription for a 90-day supply when filled as described below. For more information, or to see if you are eligible, call Member Services at 1-877-299-1636 or email us at [5StarCenterTeam@32bjfunds.com](mailto:5StarCenterTeam@32bjfunds.com).

\*The Department of Health and Human Services (“HHS”) examines the limits annually and may increase them based on the premium adjustment percentage (an estimate of the average change in health insurance premiums). The Plan will change its out-of-pocket maximums each January 1 to match HHS’ limits. Prior to January 1, 2023, the Plan’s prescription drug maximum out-of-pocket was fixed at \$1,800/individual and \$3,600/family and increases in HHS’ limits were assigned entirely to the Plan’s medical out-of-pocket maximum. Beginning January 1, 2023, the maximum out-of-pocket will be divided between medical (75%) and prescription drug (25%).

\*\* This requirement does not apply to **emergency** or urgent care services or services that are not available from a 5 Star Center Provider.

## There Are Several Ways to Get Your Prescriptions Filled

### For Short-term Medications

When you need to take a prescription for a period of no more than 60 days, you can have your prescription filled at a participating pharmacy. You may receive up to a 30-day supply plus one refill of up to a 30-day supply.

### For Maintenance Medications

If you need to take a maintenance medication on an ongoing basis for more than 60 days, there are two ways you can fill your prescription:

1. Through the CVS Saver Plus Program at any CVS pharmacy, or
2. Through OptumRx Home Delivery.

If you fill your maintenance medication prescription elsewhere after the first 60 days, it will be covered as if it were filled at a non-participating pharmacy.

To use OptumRx Home Delivery, call the OptumRx Member Service Center at 1-844-569-4148 or go to the website ([www.optumrx.com](http://www.optumrx.com)).

### For Specialty Medications\*

Your pharmacy benefits cover only specialty medications that are on the OptumRx formulary. Specialty medications should be filled through the Optum<sup>®</sup> Specialty Pharmacy. There is no coverage for specialty medications that are not on the OptumRx formulary. For information on how to fill a specialty medication call 1-877-838-2907.

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\*Specialty medications are high cost prescription medications used to treat rare, complex or chronic conditions such as cancer, rheumatoid arthritis and multiple sclerosis. Although sometimes these medications are taken orally, they often require special handling such as refrigeration during shipping and storage, and administration through injection or infusion. They also often require customized patient monitoring, coordination of care and adherence management.

### Variable Copay Program

Many specialty manufacturers offer **copay** coupons to help offset the costs of some specialty drugs. The Variable Copay Program ~~will~~ may reduce your copay to \$0 at the Optum<sup>®</sup> Specialty Pharmacy. You must enroll in the program to receive your copay discount. For information on how to enroll in the Variable Copay Program call 1-877-838-2907.

Effective January 1, 2023, the Variable Copay Program is expanded to include non-specialty drugs dispensed through OptumRx Home Delivery.

### Prescription Plan Coverage Management Programs

The prescription plan uses programs to help ensure you receive the prescription drugs you need in the appropriate quantity and at a reasonable cost. Coverage management programs include prior authorization, quantity limitations and step therapy. Each of these programs is described in detail below and on the following two pages.

### Prior Authorization

Certain medications on the Plan's formulary require Prior Authorization before your prescription will be covered under the Plan. Drugs subject to Prior Authorization include those products that are commonly subject to overuse, misuse or off-label use, subject to significant safety concerns, or are very expensive.

The Prior Authorization Program is administered by OptumRx to determine whether your use of certain medications meets the Plan's conditions for coverage and OptumRx clinical guidelines for use of the specific drug. The prescriber will need to contact the OptumRx Prior Authorization Department to provide the necessary clinical information to determine the appropriateness of the medication for the member before the prescription can be filled. Typically, when a medication is approved under the Prior Authorization Program, the approval is good for a specific period.

## Step Therapy

The Step Therapy Program ensures the medications you receive are safe and cost-effective. Under the Step Therapy Program, you may first be required to use a generic or alternate brand medication. This helps to keep prescription costs low. When you present a prescription for certain medications to your pharmacist, OptumRx will check to see if you've tried a generic or alternate medication to treat the same condition. If your prescription history shows you already used a generic or alternate brand medication, your prescription may be approved and filled as written. If there is no history of your use of a generic or alternate brand medication, the pharmacist will receive a message for the prescriber to call a toll free number for more information. The prescriber will be asked to prescribe a generic or alternate brand medication before other drugs are covered.

In the event that the prescriber advises OptumRx that a generic or alternate brand medication is not right for you, the prescriber can then call the OptumRx Prior Authorization Department to seek approval for the other medication.

## Quantity Limits

The Quantity Limit Program is designed to make the use of prescription drugs safer and more affordable. If a medication you take is subject to the Quantity Limit Program, your prescription will be filled only for the quantity considered safe and clinically appropriate.

These quantity restrictions are based on manufacturer or clinically approved guidelines and are subject to periodic review and change. If you require more than the initial quantity limit for a medication subject to the Quantity Limit Program, your **doctor**/prescriber can provide **medical necessity** information for review by OptumRx that explains why more of the medication is clinically necessary. The request will be reviewed by OptumRx and you and your prescriber will be notified of the decision.

## Specialty Split Fill for Certain Oral Oncology Medications

Often physicians change or discontinue certain oral oncology medications. If you are taking one of those medications, Optum® Specialty Pharmacy will only dispense half the prescription until it is determined that you will remain on that medication. If this rule applies to you, you will only be charged half your applicable **copay** for half the prescription. Once the medication is stable, you will be switched to monthly prescriptions and you will be charged the full applicable **copay**.

## Medical Necessity Review

Your doctor may prescribe you a medication that is not covered on the formulary. You or your doctor may request a medical necessity review through OptumRx to seek approval for the medication.

If the medication is approved, and there is a generic on the formulary, you will have to pay the brand **copay** (\$30 or \$60) and the difference in cost between the brand and the generic drug. If the medication is approved, and there is no generic alternative on the formulary, you will have to pay the applicable **copay**.

## Claims for Non-Participating Pharmacies

If you fill your prescription at a non-participating pharmacy, you will have to pay the full cost and then file a claim with OptumRx to be reimbursed up to the amount OptumRx would have paid a participating pharmacy (minus your **copay**). Contact OptumRx by phone or on-line to obtain the necessary claim form if you have your prescription filled at a non-participating pharmacy. (See inside back cover for the phone number and the website for OptumRx.)

Contact OptumRx at 1-844-569-4148 before having the prescription filled to ensure that you will receive reimbursement for the prescription. If you have a prescription filled for a drug that is on the list of those requiring prior authorization or is subject to quantity limits or step therapy and you fail to contact OptumRx before having the prescription filled, you may be responsible for the full cost of the prescription drug.

## Eligible Drugs

The following are covered under the Plan:

- Federal legend prescription drugs,
- drugs requiring a prescription under applicable state law,
- insulin, insulin syringes and needles,
- diabetic test strips,
- all FDA approved types of contraceptives, including oral and sub-dermal contraceptive prescriptions, contraceptive injections and miscellaneous contraceptive devices, with no **copay** required, if it is a generic or there is no generic available. Brand contraceptives with generics available will be subject to the brand **copay**,
- prescription vitamins for infants up to 12 months of age, and
- prenatal vitamins, with no **copay** required.

## Excluded Drugs

The following are not covered under the Plan:

- over-the-counter drugs and vitamins (however, certain vitamins are covered for prenatal care—see above for information),
- prescription drugs that require prior authorization and for which you have not received prior authorization,
- drugs used in clinical trials or experimental studies,
- drugs used for infertility treatment or egg donation,
- drugs prescribed for cosmetic purposes (see footnote 16 on page 133 for more information),
- drugs used for weight loss unless you meet the Plan's medical criteria,
- non-formulary drugs, unless you can prove **medical necessity** via clinical documentation or the patient's drug therapy history to OptumRx's satisfaction that the non-formulary drug is necessary (non-formulary drugs are drugs that are not on the Plan's list of approved drugs and medicines),
- therapeutic devices or appliances, support garments and other non-medical substances, and
- prescriptions that an eligible person is entitled to receive without charge under any Workers' Compensation law, or any municipal, state or Federal program.

**Page 81:** the third bullet under the section *Claims for Benefits* is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

- presentation of a prescription to be filled at a pharmacy that is part of the OptumRx **network** of participating pharmacies.

In addition, the second paragraph under the section *Filing Pharmacy Claims* is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

If you have other coverage and OptumRx is the secondary payer, submit the original or a copy of the primary payer's EOB with your itemized bill. (See Coordination of Benefits on pages 97–100.)

**Page 84:** the second row in the chart Where to Send Claim Forms is deleted in its entirety and replaced



with the following:

Benefit	Filing Address
Pharmacy ( <b>non-participating providers</b> only; no claim forms are necessary for <b>participating providers</b> )	OptumRx Claims Department P.O. Box 650334 Dallas, TX 75265-0334

**Page 90:** the fourth and fifth rows in the chart under the section *Appealing Denied Claims* are deleted in their entirety and replaced with the following:

Type of Denied Claim	Level-one Appeal	Level-two Appeal
• Pharmacy (Medical Judgment)	OptumRx	Independent Review Organization (“IRO”)
• Pharmacy (Administrative)**	OptumRx	Board of Trustees*

**Page 92:** the second row in the chart and the single asterisk and associated text below the chart *Where to File a Level-One Appeal* are deleted in their entirety and replaced with the following:

Benefit	Write to:	Or Call
Pharmacy	Prescription Claims Appeals OptumRx P.O. Box 25184 Santa Ana, CA 92799 Fax: 1-877-239-4565	Appeals, except for urgent clinical claims, are only accepted in writing*

\* An appeal of an urgent clinical claim also may be filed by calling OptumRx Customer Care at 1-844-569-4148.

**Pages 94 and 95:** all references to CVS Caremark under the sections *Request for Expedited Appeal* and *Second Level of Appeal for Claims Involving Medical Judgment* are deleted and replaced with OptumRx.

**Page 125:** the definition of **In-network benefits** is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

**In-network** (or **participating**) **providers** and suppliers are those who have contracted with the Fund, Empire, OptumRx, Delta Dental, Davis Vision or with any other administrators under contract to the Fund, to provide services and supplies at a pre-negotiated rate. Services provided must fall within the scope of their individual professional licenses.

**Back Cover:** the third row from the bottom in the chart *Contact Information* is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

What do you need?	Who to Contact	How
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information about your prescription drug benefits, formulary listing or participating pharmacy</li> </ul>	OptumRx	Call: 1-844-569-4148 Visit: <a href="http://www.optumrx.com">www.optumrx.com</a> 24 hours a day/7days a week



**Clarifications in Vision Benefits Page 73:** The fourth paragraph under the section “Vision Care Benefits” is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

If you get contact lenses instead of frames and lenses, from either a participating or non-participating provider, the contact lens exam fitting fee is not covered and the maximum reimbursement for the contact lenses is \$120.

If you use a participating provider, your eye exam is free. If you use a non-participating provider, you can get up to \$30 for your eye exam. You will be responsible for paying any charges in excess of the maximum reimbursement.

**Page 74:** Under the section “Eligible Expenses”, a new bullet is added after the second bullet:

- and frames.

Under the section “Excluded Expenses”, a new bullet is added after the second bullet:

- exam fitting fees for contact lenses,

**Clarification on Cancellation of Coverage When Eligible for Medicare Page 76:** The following sentence is added after the first sentence in the paragraph under the section *When Coverage Ends*:

Life insurance also ends if you cancel your coverage under this Plan due to Medicare eligibility. (See page 101.)

**Temporary Extension of Life Insurance Coverage for Participants Receiving COBRA Subsidy Page 76:** Effective April 1, 2021, the following paragraph is added after the last paragraph under the section *When Coverage Ends*:

*Temporary Extension of Life Insurance Coverage:* A participant who is receiving the COBRA subsidy\* shall also receive life insurance coverage. Life insurance coverage will end at the earlier of the date the participant is no longer receiving the COBRA subsidy or September 30, 2021.

**\* COBRA SUBSIDY**

The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) reduces the COBRA premium to zero for Assistance Eligible Individuals (AEIs) beginning April 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 (subsidy period) who elect COBRA coverage. If you qualify for the premium reduction and elect COBRA coverage, you need not pay the COBRA premium otherwise due under the Plan during the subsidy period. If your COBRA continuation coverage lasts beyond September 30, 2021, you will have to pay the full premium amount to continue your COBRA coverage.

A participant who experiences a qualifying event that is an involuntary termination of employment or a reduction in hours on or after April 1, 2021, and who is not eligible for other group health coverage or Medicare is an AEI. In order to establish eligibility for the premium reduction you must complete the “Application for Treatment as an Assistance Eligible Individual Form.” If you experience a qualifying event, this form will be mailed to you with the COBRA notice and election form. It is also available from Member Services. The Fund will review your application and make a determination as to whether or not you will be treated as an AEI. If you are determined by the Fund to be an AEI, you will be eligible for the subsidy if you elect COBRA continuation coverage. If you are denied treatment by the Fund as an AEI, you may have the right to have the denial reviewed. For more information regarding reviews or for general information about the ARP premium reduction go to: [www.dol.gov/COBRA-subsidy](http://www.dol.gov/COBRA-subsidy) or call 1-866-444-EBSA (3272).

If you are receiving the subsidy and you become eligible for other group health coverage or Medicare, you must notify the Fund by completing and returning the “Premium Reduction Ineligibility Notice.” This form is available in Member Services.

**Clarification on Cancellation of Coverage When Eligible for Medicare Page 78:** The following sentence is added after the sentence under the section *When Coverage Ends*:

AD&D also ends if you cancel your coverage under this Plan due to Medicare eligibility. (See page 101.)

**Change in Beneficiary Page 78:** Effective January 1, 2020, the section *Death Benefit for Pensioners* is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

**Death Benefit for Pensioners**

If you are a pensioner\* collecting a pension from the Building Service 32BJ Pension Fund, you are entitled to a death benefit of \$1,000. However, if you are eligible to receive life insurance coverage from this Plan, this \$1,000 death benefit is not payable.

Your beneficiary for the death benefit will be the person or persons you name in writing on a claim form that is recorded in the Fund's electronic recordkeeping system. Your beneficiary can be anyone you choose, and you can change your beneficiary at any time by completing and submitting a new form to the Retirement Services Department.

If you do not name a beneficiary, your beneficiary dies before you and you have not named a new beneficiary, or you do not have a beneficiary recorded in the Fund's electronic recordkeeping system, your pensioner death benefit will be payable in the following order:

- 1) your spouse, if living, or
- 2) your estate.

The Plan does not pay this benefit to anyone who is involved in any way in the purposeful death of the participant. In a case where this rule applies, if there is no named beneficiary who can receive the benefits, benefits will be paid as listed above.

\*A pensioner who has received a lump sum cash out of their pension under the Building Service 32BJ Pension Plan Program C is not eligible for the pensioner death benefit. Effective July 1, 2020, pensioners receiving benefits under the Building Service 32BJ Pension Plan Program D are not eligible for the pensioner death benefit.

**Change in Short Term Disability Coverage Page 79:** Effective January 1, 2022, the first paragraph under the section "Short-Term Disability Benefits" is deleted and replaced with the following:

Participants working in Connecticut under collective bargaining agreements that require a contribution rate that covers Short-Term Disability ("STD") benefits are covered by the Fund for STD benefits as described in this section. STD benefits are only available after you have exhausted all state STD benefits (e.g., Connecticut Paid Family and Medical Leave) to which you are entitled. Please call Member Services at 1-800-551-3225 to determine your eligibility.

**Addition of Section "No Duplication of Health Coverage": Page 99:** The following section is inserted after the section titled *Incompetence* and before the section titled *Mailing Address*:

**No Duplication of Health Coverage**

Even if more than one employer makes contributions on your behalf at the same time to this **Fund**, you will receive only one Plan of benefits. The Plan of benefits that you will receive is the Plan that is determined by the **Fund** to be the Plan that, in totality, offers you the greatest benefits.

**Clarification in Coordination of Benefits with Medicare and Cancellation of Coverage Due to Medicare Eligibility Page 101:** Under the first bullet in the section "Medicare", the following sentence is added at the end of the bullet:

If you cancel your coverage under this Plan, you cannot elect back into this Plan. Additionally, if you cancel your coverage under this Plan, the Plan will not be allowed to offer you any benefits that would supplement Medicare's

benefits. When you cancel coverage under this Plan all benefits end including medical, hospital, mental health and substance abuse, prescription drug, dental, vision and Life Insurance & Accidental Death and Dismemberment.

**Clarification of Payment Responsibility when Medicare is Primary and Health Fund is Secondary Page**

**111:** The following paragraph is added after the last paragraph:

If you are age 65 or older when you incur a Qualifying Event that requires an offer of COBRA coverage to you and your dependents, Medicare will be primary and this Plan will be secondary for you and any of your dependents who are age 65 or older. If you do not enroll in both Medicare Part A and Part B coverage, even though this Plan pays as secondary, you will be financially responsible for what Medicare would have paid, had you properly enrolled.

**Modification of Assignment of Plan Benefits Page 113:** The following is added to the end of the second paragraph under the section “Assignment of Plan Benefits”:

In order to appoint a provider as your authorized representative, you must submit a legibly signed authorization with your appeal that includes:

- Your name,
- Your identification number as shown on your Empire, OptumRx (effective January 1, 2021), Delta Dental or Davis Vision card, as applicable,
- Your date of birth,
- Your address,
- The full name of the party whom you are authorizing to act on your behalf,
- The date(s) for which the authorization applies, and
- A sentence which clearly states that the party is authorized to file an appeal on your behalf.

**Elimination of Certificates of Creditable Coverage Page 115:** The section “Certificate of Creditable Coverage” is deleted in its entirety.

**Clarification in the Definition of Allowed Amount Glossary:** The definition of **Allowed Amount** on page 124 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

**Allowed Amount** means the maximum the Fund will pay for a covered service. When you go **in-network**, the **allowed amount** is the amount Empire and the network provider have contractually agreed upon. When you go **out-of-network**, the **allowed amount** is roughly equivalent to 110% of the Medicare reimbursement rate but varies depending on the procedure. It is not the amount paid for a medical service in a geographic area based on what providers in the area usually charge for the same or similar medical service, commonly referred to as the usual, customary and reasonable (“UCR”) rate.

**Page 11:** The above paragraph is also added after the last sentence in the answer to FAQ 10.

**Expansion of Hospice Care Page 129:** Effective January 1, 2021, the parenthetical in the first sentence of footnote 5 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

(that is, they have a life expectancy of twelve months or less)

**Change in Davis Vision Website Address Back Cover:** In the chart, the website information for Davis Vision is deleted and replaced with: [www.davisvision.com/32bj](http://www.davisvision.com/32bj).

**Clarifications to Certain Dental Benefit Provisions**

Effective January 1, 2017, the following clarifications are made to the specified dental benefits provisions:

**Page 64:** Under the section “Non-participating Dentists” the second sentence of the first paragraph is deleted and replaced with the following:

Your non-participating dentist can obtain Delta Dental's reimbursement allowance by submitting a Pre-Determination request directly to Delta Dental before you begin any dental work.

Effective January 1, 2022, the reimbursement level for all services covered out-of-network benefits is reduced. Accordingly the last paragraph under the section "Non-participating Dentists" is deleted and replaced with the following:

The Fund will pay the lesser of the dentist's actual charges or 50% of the **allowed amount**. This means that you will be responsible for 50% of the **allowed amount** plus any charges above the **allowed amount**.

**Page 65:** Under the section "What Dental Services Are Covered" the fourth bullet is deleted and replaced with the following:

- In-network coverage only for orthodontic services for children under 19, such as diagnostic procedures and appliances to realign teeth. There is a separate lifetime maximum on in-network orthodontic services of up to \$1,000 per patient.

Effective January 1, 2022, the annual **in-network** maximum is increased. Accordingly, the paragraph under the section "Annual Maximum" is deleted and replaced with the following:

The Delta Dental Plan provides coverage of up to \$1,500 **in-network** and \$1,000 **out-of-network** per calendar year per participant or dependent age 19 and older. There is no annual maximum for participants and dependent(s) under age 19. There is a separate lifetime maximum of up to \$1,000 for **in-network** orthodontic services for children under 19 years of age.

At the bottom of the page the following is added:

There is no lifetime limit on the following **medically necessary** orthodontic services: procedures which help to restore oral structures to health and function and to treat serious medical conditions such as cleft palate and cleft lip; maxillary/mandibular micrognathia (underdeveloped upper or lower jaw); extreme mandibular prognathism; severe asymmetry (craniofacial anomalies); ankylosis of the temporomandibular joint; and other significant skeletal dysplasias.

**Pages 66-69:** The Schedule of Covered Dental Services is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

**Schedule of Covered Dental Services**

<b>Procedure</b>	<b>Limits</b>
<b>Diagnostic*</b> Oral exam, periodic, limited (problem-focused), comprehensive or detailed and extensive (problem-focused) X-rays: • full mouth, complete series, including bitewings or panoramic film • bitewings, back teeth • periapicals, single tooth • occlusal film • cephalometric film (orthodontic coverage only)	Two in a calendar year  Once in any 36 consecutive months period  Two of any bitewing x-ray procedure in a calendar year As necessary Two per date of service In-network only. Once in a lifetime
<b>Preventive*</b> Dental prophylaxis (cleaning, scaling and polishing) Topical fluoride treatment  Sealants (on the occlusal surface of a permanent non-restored molar and pre-molar tooth)  Space maintenance (passive-removable or fixed devices made for children to maintain the gap created by a missing tooth until a permanent tooth emerges)	Two in a calendar year  Two in any calendar year for patients under age 16  Once per tooth in any 24 consecutive months period for patients under age 16  Once in a lifetime per tooth for patients under age 16
<b>Simple Restorative**</b> Amalgam (metal) fillings  Resin (composite, tooth-colored) fillings on anterior teeth	Once per tooth surface in any 24 consecutive months  Once per tooth surface in any 24 consecutive months

Procedure	Limits
<b>Major Restorative***</b>  Recementation of crown  Prefabricated stainless steel/resin crown (for children only-deciduous teeth only)  Inlays, Onlays, and Crowns, when tooth cannot be restored with regular filling(s) due to excessive decay or fracture	Once per tooth per lifetime  Once per tooth in any 24 consecutive months  Once per tooth in any 60 consecutive months period
<b>Endodontics**</b> Root canal therapy  Retreatment of root canal  Apicoectomy (a post-operative film showing completed apicoectomy and retrograde, if placed, is required for payment)  Pulpotomy	Once per tooth in a lifetime  Once per tooth in a lifetime  Once per tooth in a lifetime  Once per tooth in a lifetime
<b>Periodontics**</b>  Gingivectomy or gingivoplasty  Osseous surgery  Periodontal scaling and root planing  Periodontal maintenance (covered only if the Plan also covered periodontal surgery and the maintenance procedure is performed by a periodontist)	Once per quadrant in a 60 consecutive months period  Once per quadrant in a 60 consecutive months period  Once per quadrant within a 24-month period  Two of any prophylaxis procedure in a calendar year

Procedure	Limits
<b>Removable Prosthodontics***</b>  Complete or immediate (full) upper and lower dentures or partial dentures, including six months of routine post-delivery care  Denture rebase or reline procedures, including six months of routine post-delivery care  Interim maxillary and mandibular partial denture (anterior teeth only); no other temporary or transitional denture is covered by the Delta Dental Plan	One denture per arch in any 60 consecutive months  Once per appliance in any 36 consecutive months period  Once per appliance in any 60 consecutive months period
<b>Fixed Prosthodontics***</b>  Fixed partial dentures and individual crowns  Prefabricated post and core procedures related to fixed partial denture (X-ray showing completed endodontic procedure is required)	Once per tooth in any 60 consecutive months period  Once per tooth in any 60 consecutive months period
<b>Simple Extractions**</b>  Non-surgical removal of tooth or exposed roots (includes local anesthesia, necessary suturing and routine post-operative care)	Once per tooth in a lifetime
<b>Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery**</b>  Removal of impacted tooth  Alveoplasty (surgical preparation of ridge for dentures, with or without extractions)  Frenulectomy  Removal of exostosis (removal of overgrowth of bone)	Once per tooth in a lifetime Once per quadrant in a lifetime  Once per arch in a lifetime Once per site in a lifetime
Oral surgery is limited to removal of teeth, preparation of the mouth for dentures, removal of tooth-generated cysts up to 1.25cm and incision and drainage of an intraoral or extraoral abscess.	
<b>Emergency Treatment*</b>  Palliative treatment to alleviate immediate discomfort (minor procedure only)	Once per date of service

Procedure	Limits
<b>Repairs**</b> Temporary crown (fractured tooth)	One crown procedure per tooth in a 60 consecutive months period
Crown repair	Once per tooth in any 24 consecutive months
Overcrown	Once per tooth in any 60 consecutive months
Repairs to complete or partial dentures	Once per appliance in any calendar year
Recement fixed or partial dentures	Once per appliance in any calendar year
Additions to partial dentures	As needed
<b>Orthodontics***</b> Patients under 19 years of age	In-network only. One course of treatment^ in a lifetime \$1,000 lifetime maximum^^
Benefits are payable only for treatment by in-network orthodontists who are graduates of an advanced education program in orthodontics accredited by the American Dental Association.  ^A “course of treatment” includes braces, monthly visits and retainers.  ^^There is no lifetime limit on the following <b>medically necessary</b> orthodontic services: procedures which help to restore oral structures to health and function and to treat serious medical conditions such as cleft palate and cleft lip; maxillary/mandibular micrognathia (underdeveloped upper or lower jaw); extreme mandibular prognathism; severe asymmetry (craniofacial anomalies); ankylosis of the temporomandibular joint; and other significant skeletal dysplasias.	
<b>Miscellaneous*</b>  Occlusal guard  Nitrous Oxide (Eff. 1/1/22)	One appliance in any 60 consecutive months period  In-network only. Only for children under age 19. Plan pays 100% after \$10 copay.

\* Reimbursed at 100% of the Delta Dental PPO **allowed amount** (or dentist’s charges if less).

\*\* Reimbursed at 80% of the Delta Dental PPO **allowed amount** (or dentist’s charges if less).

\*\*\* Reimbursed at 50% of the Delta Dental PPO **allowed amount** (or dentist’s charges if less).

**Page 70:** Under the section “What Is Not Covered” the third bullet is deleted and replaced with the following:

- charges in excess of the **allowed amounts**,

And two new bullets are added before the third bullet:

- orthodontia services for individuals age 19 or older,
- out-of-network orthodontia services for individuals under age 19,

The fifth bullet is deleted and replaced with the following:

- services or supplies that the Plan determines are experimental or investigative in nature, except to the extent provided by law



**Clarification of Coordination of Dental Benefits Page 72:** The section titled “Coordination of Dental Benefits” is deleted in its entirety and replaced by the following:

**Coordination of Dental Benefits**

- When Delta Dental coverage is primary, Delta pays benefits under this Plan as if there is no other coverage.
- When Delta Dental is secondary, and there are remaining expenses of the type allowable under this Plan, Delta Dental will pay only the amount by which the benefits under this Plan exceed the amount of benefits payable under the other program.

The following rules will be followed to establish the order of determining the liability of this Plan or any other programs:

1. The program covering the enrollee as an employee will determine its benefits before the program covering the enrollee as a dependent.
2. The program covering the enrollee as a dependent of an employee whose birthday falls earlier in the calendar year will determine its benefits before the program covering the enrollee as a dependent of an employee whose birthday falls later in the calendar year. If both employees have the same birthday, the program covering the employee for the longest period will be primary over the program covering the employee for the shorter period. If the other program does not have the rule described in the above paragraph, but instead has a rule based on gender of the employee, the rule of the other plan will determine the order of benefits.
3. The program covering the enrollee having custody of the dependent will determine its benefits first; then the program of the spouse of the parent with custody of the dependent; and finally, the program of the parent not having custody of the dependent. However, if the specific terms of a court order state that one of the parents is responsible for the health care expenses of the dependent, the benefits of that program are considered first. The prior sentence will not apply with respect to any period during which any benefits are actually paid or provided before a program has actual knowledge of the court order.
4. The program covering the enrollee as an employee or as a dependent of an employee will determine its benefits before one that covers the enrollee as a laid off or retired employee or as the dependent of such person. If the other plan does not have a rule concerning laid-off or retired employees, and as a result each plan determines its benefits after the other, then this paragraph will not apply.
5. If the other program does not have a rule establishing the same order of determining liability for benefits or is one which is “excess” or always “secondary”, Delta Dental will determine its benefits first. If such determination indicates that Delta Dental should not have been the first program to determine its benefits, Delta Dental will be considered as not the first to determine its benefits.
6. In situations not described in items 1 through 5, the program under which the enrollee has been enrolled for the longest period of time will determine its benefits first. When Delta Dental is the first to determine its benefits, benefits will be paid without regard to coverage under any other program. When Delta Dental is not the first to determine its benefits, and there are remaining expenses of the type allowable under this program, Delta Dental will pay only the amount by which its benefits under this plan exceed the amount of benefits payable under the other program.
7. When a dental procedure is eligible for coverage under both your hospital/medical plan and your dental plan, your hospital/medical plan will always be the primary payor.

**Page 82:** Under the section “Filing Dental Claims”, Delta Dental’s website address in the second paragraph is deleted and replaced with the following:

[www.deltadentalins.com/32BJ](http://www.deltadentalins.com/32BJ)

In addition, the first bullet is deleted and replaced with the following:

- Only an original, fully completed claim form or approved treatment plan will be accepted for review.

**Correction of Filing Address for Dental Claims Page 84:** In the chart under the section “Where to Send Claim Forms” the address for filing dental claims is deleted and replaced with the following address:

Delta Dental of New York  
PO Box 2105  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055-2105

**Correction of Filing Address for Dental Appeals Page 92:** In the chart under the section “Where to File a Level-One Appeal” the address for filing dental appeals is deleted and replaced with the following address:

Delta Dental of New York  
Attn: Professional Services  
One Delta Dental Drive  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

In addition, under the chart, the phone number in the double asterisk for an urgent care dental claim, 1-800-932-0783, is deleted and replaced with 1-800-589-4627.

**Correction of Delta Dental Contact Information Back Cover:** In the chart, the contact information for Delta Dental is deleted and replaced with:

Delta Dental Customer Service  
Call 1-800-589-4627 or  
Visit [www.deltadentalins.com/32BJ](http://www.deltadentalins.com/32BJ)

**Effective January 1, 2021, the following Summary of Material Modifications (SMM) replaces the January 1, 2017 SMM for Participants Working under the Maintenance Contractors of New England Agreement.**



Building Service 32BJ Health Fund

Kyle E. Bragg, *Chairman*  
Howard I. Rothschild, *Secretary*  
Peter Goldberger, *Executive Director*

**Summary of Material Modifications  
for  
Participants Working under the Maintenance Contractors of New England  
Agreement<sup>1</sup>  
Building Service 32BJ Health Fund  
Tri-State Plan**

The following is a list of changes and clarifications which have occurred since the printing of the Building Service 32BJ Health Fund Summary Plan Description (SPD) for the Tri-State Plan (Plan) dated January 1, 2015. This Summary of Material Modifications (SMM) supplements or modifies the information presented in your SPD with respect to the Plan. **Please keep this document with your copy of the SPD for future reference.**

The Plan offers Short-Term Disability (“STD”) and Long-Term Disability (“LTD”) benefits through Guardian Life Insurance Company of America (“Guardian”) to participants working under the Maintenance Contractors of New England Agreement and other collective bargaining agreements where the signatory employer is required to contribute at a rate that covers Short and Long Term Disability benefits\*. STD benefits are only available after you have exhausted all state STD benefits (e.g., Massachusetts Paid Family and Medical Leave) to which you are entitled.

The insurance contracts for STD and LTD benefits are the plan documents. The plans and the benefits they pay are limited by all the terms, exclusions, and limitations of those contracts in force at the time the disability begins. For information regarding benefits and exclusions or limitations administered by Guardian, contact Guardian by calling 1-888-262-5670. The Board reserves the right to change insurance carriers and contracts. You may request copies of your policy from Guardian by calling 1-888-262-5670.

\*Call Member Services at 1-800-551-3225 to determine your eligibility.

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<sup>1</sup> Participants working under other collective bargaining agreements where the signatory employer is required to contribute at a rate that covers Short and Long Term Disability benefits are also covered by this Summary of Material Modifications.

The following is a list of changes and clarifications to the April 1, 2019 Summary of Material Modifications (SMM).

**Deletion of Outdated Information Page 3:** Effective January 1, 2023, under the section *Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses* the third paragraph and associated asterisk are deleted in their entirety.

**Adoption of Centers of Excellence Program Pages 5 and 6:** Effective January 1, 2022, the following rows in the charts on pages 5 and 6 are deleted in their entirety and replaced with the following:

**In the Hospital<sup>1</sup> and Other Inpatient Treatment Centers\* (continued)**

Benefit	In-Network Hospital or Facility	Out-of-Network Hospital or Facility	Limitations
Bariatric surgery*	<p>Plan pays 100% if surgery is conducted at a 32BJ Health Fund Center of Excellence with a 32BJ Health Fund Center of Excellence doctor.</p> <p>If there is no 32BJ Health Fund Center of Excellence within 50 miles of your home address, or you are granted a medical or distance exception before your surgery, Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>copay</b> per admission at <b>Preferred</b> Blue Distinction Centers of Medical Excellence and \$1,000 <b>copay</b> per admission at <b>Non-preferred</b> Blue Distinction Centers of Medical Excellence.</p>	Not Covered	<p>Only covered at 32BJ Health Fund Centers of Excellence with 32BJ Health Fund Centers of Excellence doctors unless there is no 32BJ Health Fund Center of Excellence within 50 miles of your home address or you are granted a medical or distance exception before your surgery, then covered only at Blue Distinction Centers of Medical Excellence in the Empire <b>network</b>.</p> <p>Call Member Services for information about the 32BJ Health Fund Centers of Excellence Program.</p>
Joint Replacement (hip and knee)*	<p>Plan pays 100% if surgery is conducted at a 32BJ Health Fund Center of Excellence with a 32BJ Health Fund Center of Excellence doctor.</p> <p>If there is no 32BJ Health Fund Center of Excellence within 50 miles of your home address or you are granted a medical or distance exception before your surgery, Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>copay</b> per admission at <b>Preferred</b> hospital and \$1,000 <b>copay</b> per admission at <b>Non-preferred</b> hospital.</p>	<p>Not Covered, unless there is no 32BJ Health Fund Center of Excellence within 50 miles of your home address or you are granted a medical or distance exception before your surgery.</p> <p>If there is no 32BJ Health Fund Center of Excellence within 50 miles of your home address or you are granted a medical or distance exception before your surgery, Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b>, and member pays 50% after the <b>deductible</b> and all charges above the <b>allowed amount</b>.</p>	<p>Covered in-network only at a 32BJ Health Fund Center of Excellence with a 32BJ Health Fund Center of Excellence doctor unless there is no 32BJ Center of Excellence within 50 miles of your home address or you are granted a medical or distance exception before your surgery.</p> <p>No <b>out-of-network</b> coverage unless there is no 32BJ Health Fund Center of Excellence within 50 miles of your home address or you are granted a medical or distance exception.</p> <p>Call Member Services for information about the 32BJ Health Fund Centers of Excellence Program.</p>

**Clarification of Routine Foot Care Page 8:** In the chart *Care in the Doctor's Office* the following sentence is added to the Limitations column in the row "Podiatric care, including routine foot care": Excluding nail trimmings except for diabetic participants.

**Clarification of Kidney Dialysis Copay Page 8:** The row "Home kidney dialysis" in the *Home Health Care* chart is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following row:

**Home Health Care<sup>6</sup>**

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Home kidney dialysis <sup>3</sup>	Plan pays 100% after <b>copay</b> based on where service is billed: If billed through an outpatient hospital setting: \$75 <b>copay</b> for <b>Preferred hospitals</b> and \$250 copay for <b>Non- Preferred hospitals</b> . If billed through a <b>Freestanding Facility</b> : \$0 <b>copay</b> .	Not covered.	<b>In-network</b> only.

**Addition of Travel Expenses Benefit for Abortion Page 11:** Effective September 1, 2022, the *Reproductive Health Services* chart is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Reproductive health office visits and counseling for contraceptive measures and devices (such as tubal ligation, IUD insertion and diaphragm fittings)	No <b>copay</b> Plan pays 100%	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> and member pays 50% after <b>deductible</b> and any charges above the <b>allowed amount</b> .	
Vasectomy (excludes reversal)	Plan pays 100% after <b>copay</b> based on where service is provided:  If in an office or independent non-hospital owned facility -- \$0 <b>copay</b>  If in an outpatient <b>Preferred hospital</b> setting --\$75 <b>copay</b>		
Abortion, includes elective and non-elective procedures	If in an outpatient <b>Non-Preferred hospital</b> setting --\$250 <b>copay</b>		
Travel Expenses Benefit for Abortion	Up to \$2,000 per abortion	Not Covered	If you are unable to receive an abortion in the state in which you reside due to state law restrictions and you choose to travel to another state where you can receive abortion care services legally, the Fund will reimburse your travel expenses to the extent not prohibited by law.  Only travel expenses incurred to access in-network abortion care are covered. To find an in-network provider contact Empire at 1-866-316-3394.

			<p>Travel expenses to access out-of-network abortion care are not covered.</p> <p>Travel expenses for up to two people (the patient and a companion) may include, as applicable, expenses for airfare, mileage, and lodging, subject to limitations under the Internal Revenue Code. Travel expenses do not include meals.</p> <p>Contact Empire for additional information about limitations applicable to the travel benefit.</p>
Infertility Testing	<p>Plan pays 100% after <b>copay</b> based on where service is provided:</p> <p>If in an office or independent non-hospital owned facility -- \$0 <b>copay</b></p> <p>If in an outpatient <b>Preferred hospital</b> setting --\$75 <b>copay</b></p> <p>If in an outpatient <b>Non-Preferred hospital</b> setting --\$250 <b>copay</b></p>	<p>Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> and member pays 50% after <b>deductible</b> and any charges above the <b>allowed amount</b>.</p>	Infertility testing limited to once per year.
Infertility Treatment	Not Covered	Not Covered	No coverage for treatment of infertility.

**Addition of 32BJ Maternity Program Page 11:** Effective July 1, 2020. The *Pregnancy and Maternity Care* chart is deleted in its entirety and replaced with the following:

### Pregnancy, Maternity Care and Newborn

Benefit	In-Network	Out-of-Network	Limitations
Office visits for prenatal and postnatal care from a <b>doctor</b> or certified nurse-midwife <sup>13</sup> , including diagnostic procedures	Plan pays 100% after initial <b>co-payment</b> . (See Overview of Out-of-Pocket Expenses on pages 36–37.) No <b>co-payment</b> for first postnatal visit.	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> and the member pays 50% after the <b>deductible</b> and any charges above the <b>allowed amount</b> .	<b>Co-payments</b> for prenatal visits are limited to one <b>co-payment</b> per pregnancy, upon confirmation of pregnancy.
Newborn in-hospital nursery	Plan pays 100%		
Obstetrical care* admission in hospital	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> for admission at a <b>preferred hospital</b> and \$1,000 <b>copayment</b> for admission at a <b>non-preferred hospital</b> . If you are enrolled in the 32BJ Maternity Program and deliver at a hospital in this Program, you may be reimbursed your \$100 <b>co-payment</b> .	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> and the member pays 50% after the <b>deductible</b> and any charges above the <b>allowed amount</b> .	Call Member Services for information on the 32BJ Maternity Program.
Birthing Center	Plan pays 100% after \$100 <b>co-payment</b> for admission at a <b>Preferred hospital</b> and \$1,000 <b>co-payment</b> for admission at a <b>Non-Preferred hospital</b> .	Not Covered	No coverage for <b>out-of-network</b> birthing centers.

Home birth with a certified nurse-midwife <sup>14</sup>	Plan pays 100%	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> and the member pays 50% after the <b>deductible</b> and any amount above the <b>allowed amount</b> .	Prior authorization is required for use of a non- participating nurse-midwife for home birth.
A home health care visit		No <b>out-of-network</b> benefit.	One (1) home health care visit within 24 hours of discharge, only if the mother leaves the hospital before the 48 or 96 hour period indicated under hospital benefits and provider issues a script for visit.
Circumcision of newborn males	Plan pays 100% after <b>co-payment</b> based on when and where service is provided: If before discharge: \$0 <b>co-payment</b> . If, after discharge: – in an office setting: – \$0 <b>co-payment</b> 5 Star Center Provider – \$40 <b>co-payment In-network provider</b> . – in a hospital setting: – \$75 <b>co-payment Preferred hospital</b> – \$250 <b>co-payment Non-Preferred hospital</b> .	Plan pays 50% of the <b>allowed amount</b> and the member pays 30% after the <b>deductible</b> and any charges above the <b>allowed amount</b> .	

\* Pre-authorization required. See footnotes 13 and 14 on page 131.

If you have any questions about this notice or want further information about the changes please contact Member Services at 1-800-551-3225 between the hours of 8:30 AM and 5:00 PM ET Monday through Friday or visit us on-line at [www.32bjfunds.org](http://www.32bjfunds.org).