

2024

Annual Notices

Aebly and Associates is a licensed insurance agency specializing in the delivery and consultation of Employee Benefits, Personal and Commercial Insurance. The information presented in this document is not intended to be all-inclusive and does not constitute legal or tax advice. Business owners must consult with a business attorney and/or accountant/CPA of their choosing to help them understand legal and tax issues pertaining to their business.

Important Notifications from WNY DISTRICT OF

Notice of Special Enrollment Rights

If you are declining enrollment for yourself and your dependents (including your spouse) because of other health insurance or group health plan coverage, you may in the future be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage. However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after other coverage ends or your dependents' other coverage ends.

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

You have two additional special enrollment opportunities. If you or your dependent's Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage ends as a result of loss of eligibility, you may enroll in the benefits plan. If you or your dependent becomes eligible for a premium assistance subsidy under Medicaid or CHIP, you may elect to enroll in the subsidized plan and cancel coverage in the **WNY DISTRICT OF THE WESLEYAN CHURCHES** benefit plan. You must request enrollment within 60 days of the loss of eligibility of Medicaid or CHIP or becoming eligible for premium assistance subsidy. To request special enrollment or obtain more information, contact your local Human Resources Department or your local Medicaid or CHIP program.

COBRA Notification

The Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA) of 1985 was enacted to allow employees to extend coverage when status changes. A COBRA General Notice is provided to you when you are first covered under the medical, dental, or vision plan. The COBRA General Notice explains your right to participate in the Group Health Plan. When you terminate coverage, a COBRA Election Notice will be provided.

If your status as a full-time employee changes, your dependent loses coverage, or you terminate employment, COBRA allows you to extend your coverage for up to 18 months (and up to 36 months in New York State, under special circumstances) when you pay 102% of the full premium for medical, dental, and vision coverage.

Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Notice

If you are eligible for health coverage from your employer, but are unable to afford the premiums, some States have premium assistance programs that can help pay for coverage. These States use funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs to help people who are eligible for employer-sponsored health coverage but need assistance in paying their health premiums.

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

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

Once it is determined that you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, your employer's health plan is required to permit you and your dependents to enroll in the plan – as long as you and your dependents are eligible, but not already enrolled in the employer's plan. This is called a "special enrollment" opportunity, and **you must request coverage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium assistance.**

Please refer to the attached chart for state specific information and phone number.

The Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act

The Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act (WHCRA) provides protections for individuals who elect breast reconstruction after a mastectomy. As required by law, the following is the Women's health and Cancer Rights Notice.

NOTICE

Do you know that your plan, as required by the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998, provides benefits for mastectomy-related services including all stages of reconstruction and surgery to

achieve symmetry between the breasts, prostheses, and complications resulting from a mastectomy, including lymphedema? These benefits will be provided subject to the same deductible and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under this plan. Call your Human Resources Department/Plan Administrator for more information.

The Newborns' Mothers' Health Protection Act

The Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act (the Newborns' Act) provides protections for mothers and their newborn children relating to the length of their hospital stays following childbirth.

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

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA)

The Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 makes it illegal for the group health plans and health insurers to deny coverage to healthy individuals, impose a preexisting condition limitation, or charge higher premiums based solely on the basis of genetic information. Additionally, group health plans cannot request any individual or family member to undergo genetic testing. GINA restricts the collection of genetic information and requires plans to treat genetic information as "protected health information."



Important Notifications from *WNY DISTRICT OF*

Medicare Part D Notice of Creditable Coverage

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

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

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

2. **WNY DISTRICT OF THE WESLEYAN CHURCHES** has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the **Independent Health** plan(s) are, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is therefore considered Creditable Coverage. Because your existing coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare drug plan.

When Can I Join a Medicare Drug Plan?

You can join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from October 15 to December 7.

However, if you lose your current creditable prescription drug coverage, through no fault of your own, you will also be eligible for a two (2) month Special enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan

What Happens to my current coverage if I decide to join a Medicare drug plan?

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your current **WNY DISTRICT OF THE WESLEYAN CHURCHES** coverage will not be affected. If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current **WNY DISTRICT OF THE WESLEYAN CHURCHES** coverage, be aware that you and your dependents will not be able to get this coverage back. Re-enrollment in **WNY DISTRICT OF THE WESLEYAN CHURCHES** coverage will be limited to Open Enrollment unless a qualified change in status even occurs.

When will I pay higher premium (penalty) to join a Medicare drug plan?

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

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

For more information about this notice or your current prescription drug coverage

Contact the person listed in this section for further information. **NOTE:** You will receive this notice each year. You will also receive this notice before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, if this coverage through **WNY DISTRICT OF THE WESLEYAN CHURCHES** changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time

For more information about your options under Medicare prescription drug coverage

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

Prescription drug coverage:

Important Notifications from WNY DISTRICT OF

Visit: www.medicare.gov

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

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

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

Date: November 27, 2023

Entity: WNY District of the Wesleyan Churches

Contact:

Address: 4669 Pine Crest Terrace, Eden, NY 14057

Phone number:

CMS Form 10182-CC

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number for this information collection is 09380990. The time required to complete this information collection is estimate to average 8 hours per response initially, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving the form, please write to: CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: PRA Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

Important Notifications from WNY DISTRICT OF

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

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

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

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

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

If you live in one of the following states, you may be eligible for assistance paying your employer health plan premiums. The following list of states is current as of October 15, 2021. Contact your State for more information on eligibility –

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

Important Notifications from *WNY DISTRICT OF*

GEORGIA Medicaid	MASSACHUSETTS Medicaid and CHIP
Website: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp Phone: 678-564-1162 ext 2131	Website: https://www.mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-premium-assistance-pa Phone: 1-800-862-4840
INDIANA Medicaid	MINNESOTA Medicaid
Healthy Indiana Plan for low-income adults 19-64 Website: http://www.in.gov/fssa/hip/ Phone: 1-877-438-4479 All other Medicaid Website: https://www.in.gov/medicaid/ Phone 1-800-457-4584	Website: https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/children-and-families/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/other-insurance.jsp Phone: 1-800-657-3739
IOWA Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki)	MISSOURI Medicaid
Medicaid Website: https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members Medicaid Phone: 1-800-338-8366 Hawki Website: http://dhs.iowa.gov/Hawki Hawki Phone: 1-800-257-8563 HIPP Website: https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid-a-to-z/hipp HIPP Phone: 1-888-346-9562	Website: http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm Phone: 573-751-2005
KANSAS Medicaid	MONTANA Medicaid
Website: https://www.kancare.ks.gov/ Phone: 1-800-792-4884	Website: http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP Phone: 1-800-694-3084
KENTUCKY Medicaid	NEBRASKA Medicaid
Kentucky Integrated Health Insurance Premium Payment Program (KI-HIPP) Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: KIHIPPI.PROGRAM@ky.gov KCHIP Website: https://kidshealth.ky.gov/Pages/index.aspx Phone: 1-877-524-4718 Kentucky Medicaid Website: https://chfs.ky.gov	Website: http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov Phone: 1-855-632-7633 Lincoln: 402-473-7000 Omaha: 402-595-1178
LOUISIANA Medicaid	NEVADA Medicaid
Website: www.medicaid.la.gov or www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp Phone: 1-888-342-6207 (Medicaid hotline) or 1-855-618-5488 (LaHIPP)	Medicaid Website: http://dhcfp.nv.gov Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900
MAINE Medicaid	NEW HAMPSHIRE Medicaid
Enrollment Website: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms Phone: 1-800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711 Private Health Insurance Premium Webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms Phone: -800-977-6740. TTY: Maine relay 711	Website: https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oii/hipp.htm Phone: 603-271-5218 Toll free number for the HIPP program: 1-800-852-3345, ext 5218

Important Notifications from WNV DISTRICT OF

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

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since October 15, 2021, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

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

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

Important Notifications from *WNY DISTRICT OF*

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

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

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

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