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**PLAN DOCUMENT AND  
SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION  
FOR**

**SAN JOSE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT SELF-FUNDED PPO HEALTH PLAN**

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Restated July 1, 2018

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## INTRODUCTION

This document is a description of San Jose Unified School District Self-Funded PPO Health Plan (the Plan). No oral interpretations can change this Plan. The Plan described is designed to protect Plan Participants against certain catastrophic health expenses.

The Employer fully intends to maintain this Plan indefinitely. However, it reserves the right to terminate, suspend, discontinue or amend the Plan at any time and for any reason.

Changes in the Plan may occur in any or all parts of the Plan including benefit coverage, deductibles, maximums, copayments, exclusions, limitations, definitions, eligibility and the like.

To the extent that an item or service is a covered benefit under the Plan, the terms of the Plan shall be applied in a manner that does not discriminate against a health care provider who is acting within the scope of the provider's license or other required credentials under applicable State law. This provision does not preclude the Plan from setting limits on benefits, including cost sharing provisions, frequency limits, or restrictions on the methods or settings in which treatments are provided and does not require the Plan to accept all types of providers as a Network Provider.

Failure to follow the eligibility or enrollment requirements of this Plan may result in delay of coverage or no coverage at all. Reimbursement from the Plan can be reduced or denied because of certain provisions in the Plan, such as coordination of benefits, subrogation, exclusions, timeliness of COBRA elections, utilization review or other cost management requirements, lack of Medical Necessity, lack of timely filing of claims or lack of coverage.

The Plan will pay benefits only for the expenses incurred while this coverage is in force. No benefits are payable for expenses incurred before coverage began or after coverage terminated. An expense for a service or supply is incurred on the date the service or supply is furnished.

If the Plan is terminated, amended, or benefits are eliminated, the rights of Covered Persons are limited to Covered Charges incurred before termination, amendment or elimination.

**Non-Assignment:** The Plan does not recognize assignments of rights or benefits to any third parties, including medical providers. Although the Plan may make payments directly to providers in the interests of convenience to an Enrolled Covered Person, such payments do not make a provider an assignee or otherwise confer on the provider any rights under the Plan, including any right to claim any breach of fiduciary duty. This provision does not prohibit an Enrolled Covered Person from designating any individual to act on their behalf, but will not confer or transfer to that person any rights or benefits.

It is the intent of this Plan and the Plan Administrator to comply with all applicable Federal and State laws and regulations. In the event of non-compliance with any such law or regulation, the Plan Document will be deemed amended to comply with said law or regulation as of its effective date, and the remainder of the Plan Document will remain in full force and effect. Similarly, in the event a law or regulation applicable to this Plan becomes effective after the initial effective date of this Plan Document, said law or regulation will be deemed included in this Plan Document as of its effective date and without the necessity of an amendment to this Plan Document.

This document summarizes the Plan rights and benefits for covered Employees and their Dependents and is divided into the following parts:

**Schedule of Benefits.** Provides an outline of the Plan reimbursement formulas as well as payment limits on certain services.

**Eligibility, Funding, Effective Date and Termination.** Explains eligibility for coverage under the Plan, funding of the Plan and when the coverage takes effect and terminates.

**Benefit Descriptions.** Explains when the benefit applies and the types of charges covered.

**Cost Management Services.** Explains the methods used to curb unnecessary and excessive charges.

**This part should be read carefully since each Participant is required to take action to assure that the maximum payment levels under the Plan are paid.**

**Defined Terms.** Defines those Plan terms that have a specific meaning.

**Plan Exclusions.** Shows what charges are **not** covered.

**Claim Provisions.** Explains the rules for filing claims and the claim appeal process.

**Coordination of Benefits.** Shows the Plan payment order when a person is covered under more than one plan.

**Third Party Recovery Provision.** Explains the Plan's rights to recover payment of charges when a Covered Person has a claim arising out of an accidental illness or injury, including but not limited to worker's compensation claims.

**Continuation Coverage Rights Under COBRA.** Explains when a person's coverage under the Plan ceases and the continuation options which are available.

**Notice re U.S. Code §1557 Compliance  
Discrimination is Against the Law**

San Jose Unified School District complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

San Jose Unified School District does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

San Jose Unified School District:

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

If you need these services, contact San Jose Unified School District

If you believe that San Jose Unified School District has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with:

San Jose Unified School District  
855 Lenzen Avenue  
San Jose, California 95126  
Telephone (408) 535-6139  
Fax Number: 408-535-2396  
Email address: [benefits@sjusd.org](mailto:benefits@sjusd.org)

You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a grievance, San Jose Unified School District is available to help you. You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the OCR Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
200 Independence Avenue, SW  
Room 509F HHH Building  
Washington, D.C. 20201  
1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)

Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>  
Spanish (Español): Para obtener asistencia en Español, llame al 1-800-442-7247

Tagalog (Tagalog): Kung kailangan ninyo ang tulong sa Tagalog tumawag 1-800-442-7247

Chinese (中文): 如果需要中文的帮助, 请拨打这个号码 1-800-442-7247

Navajo (Dine): Dinek'ehgo shika at'ohwol ninisingo, kwijigo holne' 1-800-442-7247

## SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS

### Verification of Eligibility

Call the number on your ID card to verify eligibility for Plan benefits **before** the charge is incurred.

### MEDICAL BENEFITS

All benefits described in this Schedule are percentages paid by the plan and are subject to the exclusions and limitations described more fully herein including, but not limited to, the Claims Administrator's determination that: care and treatment is Medically Necessary; that charges are based on the Recognized Charges; that services, supplies and care are not Experimental and/or Investigational. The meanings of these capitalized terms are in the Defined Terms section of this document.

This document is intended to describe the benefits provided under the Plan but, due to the number and wide variety of different medical procedures and rapid changes in treatment standards, it is impossible to describe all covered benefits and/or exclusions with specificity. Please contact the Claims Administrator if you have questions about specific supplies, treatments or procedures.

**Note: The following services must be precertified or reimbursement from the Plan may be reduced.**

- (1) All inpatient Hospital and Skilled Nursing Facility stays.
- (2) Facility based Treatment for Mental or Nervous Disorders or Substance Abuse.
- (3) Home Health Care.
- (4) All Organ and Tissue Transplants, peripheral stem cell replacement and similar procedures.
- (5) Infusion Therapy that includes Specialty Drugs in the specialty pharmacy program, and related services (for each Course of Therapy) in any setting, including, but not limited to: Physician's office, infusion center, outpatient Hospital or clinic, or your home or other residential setting.
- (6) Certain surgical, diagnostic procedures, Durable Medical Equipment and/or prosthetics wherever rendered as specified by Anthem Blue Cross. For a list of current procedures, please contact Anthem Blue Cross toll free at (800) 274-7767.

**Please see the Cost Management section in this booklet for details.**

**The attending Physician does not have to obtain precertification from the Plan for prescribing a maternity length of stay that is 48 hours or less for a vaginal delivery or 96 hours or less for a cesarean delivery.**

This Plan has entered into an agreement with certain Hospitals, Physicians and other health care providers, which are called Network Providers. Because these Network Providers have agreed to charge reduced fees to persons covered under the Plan, the Plan can afford to reimburse a higher percentage of their fees.

A Covered Person does not need prior authorization from the Plan, a primary care provider, or any other person in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a health care professional who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology and who is a Network Provider. However, the health care professional may be required to comply with certain Plan procedures, including obtaining prior authorization for certain services, following a pre-approved treatment plan, or procedures for making referrals.

Therefore, when a Covered Person uses a Network Provider, that Covered Person will receive better benefits from the Plan than when a Non-Network Provider is used. It is the Covered Person's choice as to which Provider to use. Terms of agreements that allow the Plan access to Network Providers and other discounts may differ from provisions of the Plan and will be honored by the Plan as required.

Under the following circumstances, the higher In-Network payment will be made for certain Non-Network services:

If a Covered Person has no choice of Network Providers in the specialty that the Covered Person is seeking within the PPO service area. The Provider's charge is the Recognized Charge.

If a Covered Person has a Medical Emergency requiring immediate care. The Provider's charge is the Recognized Charge.

If a covered person has no choice of a Network Provider and receives services by a Non-Network Provider at a network facility. The Provider's charge is the Recognized Charge.

If a Covered Person is not able to locate an In-Network Provider for Preventive Care Services, there will be no cost sharing for the Out-of-Network Provider's charges for those covered Preventive Care Services. The Provider's charge is the Recognized Charge.

Additional information about this option, as well as a list of Network Providers, will be given to Plan Participants, at no cost, and updated as needed. This list will include providers who specialize in obstetrics or gynecology.

### **Deductibles/Copayments payable by Plan Participants**

Deductibles/Copayments are dollar amounts that the Covered Person must pay before the Plan pays.

A deductible is an amount of money that is paid once a Calendar Year per Covered Person. Typically, there is one deductible amount per Plan and it must be paid before any money is paid by the Plan for any Covered Charges. On the first day of each Calendar Year, a new deductible amount is required. However, Covered Charges incurred in, and applied toward the deductible in the last three months of the Calendar Year will be applied to the deductible in the next Calendar Year as well as the current Calendar Year.

A copayment is the amount of money that is paid each time a particular service is used. Typically, there may be copayments on some services and other services will not have any copayments.

**Out of Country Care.** This Plan will provide benefits for covered expenses incurred outside the USA. Plan benefits will be based on the currency exchange rate in effect at the time services are rendered. You may be required to pay the Provider at the time of service. If expenses outside the USA are incurred, you must submit a translation of the bill to include diagnosis, description of service, charge for each service (currency of the country if not in US dollars), date(s) of service, and name of country where service are rendered. Otherwise, usual Plan procedures for claim submissions should be followed. The Claims Administrator reserves the right to reimburse the Enrollee directly. The Plan will cover allowed, Medically Necessary care as indicated later in this Plan Document.

## MEDICAL BENEFITS SCHEDULE

COVERED CHARGES	NETWORK PROVIDERS	NON-NETWORK PROVIDERS
<b>DEDUCTIBLE, PER CALENDAR YEAR - Network and Non-Network Deductibles are combined.</b>		
Per Covered Person	\$250	\$500
Per Family Unit	\$500	\$1,000
<b>MAXIMUM OUT-OF-POCKET AMOUNT, PER CALENDAR YEAR - Network and Non-Network Out-of-Pocket amounts are not combined. Medical Network and Outpatient Prescription Drug Out-of-Pocket amounts are combined.</b>		
Per Covered Person	\$1,500	Unlimited
Per Family Unit	\$3,000	Unlimited
The Plan will pay the designated percentage of Covered Charges until out-of-pocket amounts are reached, at which time the Plan will pay 100% of the remainder of Covered Charges for the rest of the Calendar Year unless stated otherwise.		
The following charges do not apply toward the out-of-pocket maximum and are never paid at 100%.  Amounts over the Allowed Amount Cost containment penalties		
<b>COVERED CHARGES – Based on Allowed Charge for Network Providers and Recognized Charge for Non-Network Providers.</b>		
<b>Note: The maximums listed below are the total for Network and Non-Network expenses. For example, if a maximum of 60 days is listed twice under a service, the Calendar Year maximum is 60 days total which may be split between Network and Non-Network providers.</b>		
<b>Percentage Payable</b> – unless otherwise stated.	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
<b>Acupuncture</b> – Physician referral is required.	100% after \$15 copayment deductible waived	60% after deductible
<b>Ambulance Service</b>	80% after deductible	80% after deductible
<b>Autism Spectrum Disorders</b>		
Office Visits and Medication Management	100% after \$20 copayment deductible waived	60% after deductible
Mental Health Psychotherapy	100% after \$20 copayment deductible waived	60% after deductible
Habilitative Therapy	Not covered	Not covered
Applied Behavioral Analysis Therapy	Not covered	Not covered
<b>Birthing Center</b>	80% after \$250 copayment per admit and deductible	60% after \$250 copayment per admit and deductible
<b>Cardiac Rehabilitation</b>	100% after \$20 copayment deductible waived	60% after deductible
<b>Contraceptive Methods</b>	100% deductible waived	60% after deductible
<b>CT Scans, MRI and PET Scans</b>	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
<b>Diabetes Education</b>	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
<b>Dialysis</b>	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
<b>Durable Medical Equipment</b>	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
<b>Emergency Room Visit</b>		
Emergency use of the emergency room	80% after \$75 copayment deductible waived copayment waived if admitted	80% after \$75 copayment deductible waived copayment waived if admitted
Non-emergency use of the emergency room	80% after \$50 copayment and deductible copayment waived if admitted	80% after \$50 copayment and deductible copayment waived if admitted
Emergency Room Physician	80% after deductible	80% after deductible
<b>Home Health Care</b> – including Private Duty Nursing	80% after deductible 60 visits per 12-month period	60% after deductible 60 visits per 12-month period
<b>Hospice Care</b>	80% after deductible	60% after deductible



<b>COVERED CHARGES</b>	<b>NETWORK PROVIDERS</b>	<b>NON-NETWORK PROVIDERS</b>
<b>Hospital Services</b>		
Inpatient – the semiprivate room rate	80% after \$250 copayment per admit and deductible	60% after \$250 copayment per admit and deductible
Ambulatory/Outpatient Surgery Facilities	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
Outpatient Services	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
<b>Lab &amp; X-ray</b>	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
<b>LiveHealth Online</b> – includes Behavioral Health	100% deductible waived	Not covered
<b>Mental Disorders</b>		
Inpatient – the facility’s semiprivate room rate	80% after \$250 copayment per admit and deductible	60% after \$250 copayment per admit and deductible
Outpatient	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
Office Setting	100% after \$20 copayment deductible waived	60% after deductible
<b>Nutritional Counseling</b>	100% deductible waived 26 visits Calendar Year maximum	60% after deductible 26 visits Calendar Year maximum
<b>Organ Transplants</b> – for recipient and donor.	Covered as any other illness based on place and type of service	Covered as any other illness based on place and type of service
<b>Orthotics – including foot orthotics</b> Covered when arthritis, rheumatologic, neuropathic, diabetic or entrapment related foot problems are present.	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
<b>Out of Country Care</b> - Medically Necessary	80% after deductible	80% after deductible
<b>Physician Services</b>		
Inpatient Visits	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
Office Visits	100% after \$20 copayment deductible waived	60% after deductible
Office Visit Services – including Minor Surgery, Lab, X-ray, and Supplies	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
Morbid Obesity Office Visits - Only covered if due to another life-threatening condition related to obesity and non-surgical services failed	100% after \$15 copayment deductible waived	60% after deductible
Podiatry Office Visits - Only covered for diagnosis and treatment of arthritis, diabetes, and other rheumatologic problems, sprains, and strains.	100% after \$15 copayment deductible waived	60% after deductible
Surgery (Inpatient and Outpatient)	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
Assistant Surgeon and Anesthesiologists	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
Allergy Injections and Serum	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
Allergy Testing	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
<b>Pre-Admission Testing</b>	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
<b>Pregnancy</b>	Covered as any other illness based on place and type of service	Covered as any other illness based on place and type of service
Newborn Care – Circumcision is not covered	100% deductible waived	60% after deductible
<b>Preventive Care</b> - in accordance with the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act (PPACA)		
Routine Well Care – All ages	100% deductible waived	60% after deductible

<b>COVERED CHARGES</b>	<b>NETWORK PROVIDERS</b>	<b>NON-NETWORK PROVIDERS</b>
Mammogram – Ages 40 and above	100% deductible waived	60% after deductible
<b>Prosthetics</b>	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
<b>Rehabilitation</b> – includes Physical, Speech, and Occupational Therapies in office and outpatient facility settings	100% after \$20 copayment deductible waived	60% after deductible
<b>Second Surgical Opinion</b>	100% after \$20 copayment deductible waived	60% after deductible
<b>Skilled Nursing Facility</b> – the facility’s semiprivate room rate A three-day hospital stay prior to admission is required	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
<b>Smoking Cessation</b>	100% deductible waived 2 attempts per Calendar Year, each attempt includes a maximum of four intermediate or intensive sessions	60% after deductible 2 attempts per Calendar Year, each attempt includes a maximum of four intermediate or intensive sessions
<b>Spinal Manipulation Chiropractic</b> – Maintenance Care is not covered.	100% after \$15 copayment deductible waived 40 visits Calendar Year maximum	60% after deductible 40 visits Calendar Year maximum
<b>Substance Abuse</b>		
Inpatient – the facility’s semiprivate room rate	80% after \$250 copayment per admit and deductible	60% after \$250 copayment per admit and deductible
Outpatient	80% after deductible	60% after deductible
Office Setting	100% after \$20 copayment deductible waived	60% after deductible
<b>Supplemental Accident Charge Benefit</b>	100% deductible waived up to \$500 paid for each accident for Hospital and other related expenses incurred within 90 days of the accident, thereafter covered as any other illness based on place and type of service.	100% deductible waived up to \$500 paid for each accident for Hospital and other related expenses incurred within 90 days of the accident, thereafter covered as any other illness based on place and type of service.
<b>Urgent Care</b> - includes physician services	100% after \$15 copayment deductible waived	60% after deductible
<b>Voluntary Sterilization</b>		
Female	100% deductible waived	60% after deductible
Male	80% after deductible	60% after deductible

## PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT SCHEDULE

Please refer to the Employee ID card for the Prescription Drug Administrator's phone number.

Please contact the Prescription Drug Administrator for additional information.

<b>PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFIT</b>		
<b>MAXIMUM OUT-OF-POCKET AMOUNT PER CALENDAR YEAR - Outpatient Prescription Drug and Medical Network Out-of-Pocket amounts are combined.</b>		
Per Covered Person	\$1,500	Not Applicable
Per Family Unit	\$3,000	Not Applicable
	<b>NETWORK</b>	<b>NON-NETWORK</b>
<b>Pharmacy Option (30 Day Supply)</b>		
Generic Drugs	100% after \$10 copayment	Prescriptions are only covered at participating pharmacies
Formulary Brand Name Drugs	100% after \$25 copayment	Prescriptions are only covered at participating pharmacies
Non-Formulary Brand Name Drugs	100% after \$35 copayment	Prescriptions are only covered at participating pharmacies
<b>Pharmacy Option (90 Day Supply) – For maintenance medications only</b>		
Generic Drugs	100% after \$10 copayment	Prescriptions are only covered at participating pharmacies
Formulary Brand Name Drugs	100% after \$20 copayment	Prescriptions are only covered at participating pharmacies
Non-Formulary Brand Name Drugs	100% after \$20 copayment	Prescriptions are only covered at participating pharmacies
<b>Mail Order Option (90 Day Supply)</b>		
Generic Drugs	100% after \$10 copayment	Not Applicable
Formulary Brand Name Drugs	100% after \$25 copayment	Not Applicable
Non-Formulary Brand Name Drugs	100% after \$35 copayment	Not Applicable
<b>Refer to the Prescription Drug Section for details on the Prescription Drug benefit.</b>		

In addition, it is the Plan Administrator's intent to comply with federal law regarding preventive care benefits under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. All prescriptions which qualify for the preventive care benefit, as defined by the appropriate federal regulatory agencies, and which are provided by a network-participating pharmacy, will be covered at 100% with no deductible or co-insurance required.

## **ELIGIBILITY, FUNDING, EFFECTIVE DATE AND TERMINATION PROVISIONS**

A Plan Participant should contact the Claims Administrator to obtain additional information, free of charge, about Plan coverage of a specific benefit, particular drug, treatment, test or any other aspect of Plan benefits or requirements. A Plan Participant should contact the Plan Administrator to obtain additional information about Eligibility question.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

**Eligible Classes of Employees.** All Active Employees, who qualify under one of the classes below, and Retired Employees.

- (1) Active Employees:
  - (a) a regular Employee working at least 30 hours per week (.75 FTE);
  - (b) a regular Employee working at least 20 hours per week, but less than 30 hours per week (.50 FTE to .749 FTE) who was covered by the Plan as of June 30, 2015 and remains continuously covered thereafter;
- (2) a Retired Employee, defined as:
  - (a) completed 10 full-time years during which time a District contribution has been made to a group plan;
  - (b) have continuous service (no breaks, except for conditions such as medical leave and layoff) for the last 10 years or have been employed by SJUSD 20 or more years;
  - (c) be retiring from active service (service retirement), and
  - (d) be under age 65, unless the Retiree was age 65 or older and covered under this Plan on and after July 1, 2014.
- (3) is in a class eligible for coverage.

**New Hires.** Qualifying Employee: A Qualifying Employee is an employee who is not a Regular Full-Time Employee but who averages at least 30 Hours of Service per week over the Employee's Initial Measurement Period, as determined by your Employer. Coverage will be effective on the first day of the Qualifying Employee's New Employee Stability Period, subject to completion of enrollment requirements. A Qualifying Employee will remain eligible throughout the New Employee Stability Period to the extent that the employee remains employed, subject to the Plan's Break in Service rules.

Note: if there is a gap between the end of the Qualifying Employee's New Employee Stability Period and the start of the Qualifying Employee's first Ongoing Employee Stability Period (see below), the Qualifying Employee will remain eligible under the Plan until the day preceding the start of the Ongoing Employee Stability Period (to the extent the employee remains employed, and subject to the Plan's Break in Service rules).

If the Qualifying Employee transfers to a Regular Full-Time Employee position prior to the start of the Qualifying Employee's New Employee Stability Period, the Employee will become eligible for coverage. Coverage for the new Regular Full-Time Employee will become effective on the date the Employee is employed as a Regular Part-Time Employee, subject to completion of enrollment requirements.

**Ongoing Employees.** Once an Employee has completed the Plan's Initial Measurement Period, eligibility will be based only on the Employee's Hours of Service during the Plan's Standard Measurement Period. Any employee who averages 30 Hours of Service per week during the Plan's Standard Measurement Period ("Ongoing Employees") will be eligible for coverage under the Plan during the Plan's next Ongoing Employee Stability Period, provided that the Ongoing Employee remains

employed and subject to the Plan's Break in Service rules. Coverage will be effective on the first day of the Ongoing Employee Stability Period, subject to completion of the enrollment requirements.

**Impact of Breaks in Service.** If you have a Break in Service and then return to work, you will be treated as New Hire, and eligibility for coverage under the Plan upon return will be determined in accordance with the New Hire rules above. However, if you are not actively at work for a period and return to work or are otherwise credited with Hours of Service before you incur a Break in Service, you will be treated as a continuous employee and will be eligible for coverage under the Plan upon return if you were enrolled in coverage prior to the start of the period during which you had no Hours of Service. Your coverage will be effective on the first day of the month that coincides with or follows the date you resume Hours of Service, subject to completion of enrollment requirements.

**Eligible Classes of Dependents.** A Dependent is any one of the following persons:

- (1) A covered Employee's Spouse.

The term "Spouse" shall mean the person with whom the covered Employee has established a valid marriage under applicable State law but does not include common law marriages. The term "Spouse" shall include an individual of the same sex as the covered employee, if they were legally married under the laws of a State or other foreign or domestic jurisdiction. The Plan Administrator may require documentation proving a legal marital relationship.

The term "Spouse" shall also mean the person who is currently registered with the Employer as the Domestic Partner of the Employee, this includes Domestic Partners of the same or opposite sex.

Same gender Domestic Partners will be considered for Plan enrollment on the same basis as a Spouse when both partners have proof of registration per California state law as amended or from other State registration laws. Under California State law persons of the opposite sex may also be considered Domestic Partners if at least one person is over the age of 62 (family code section 297-297.5) An individual is a Domestic Partner, either same or opposite sex, of an Employee if that individual and the Employee meet each of the following requirements when registered with the Employer:

- (a) The Employee and individual are 18 years of age or older and are mentally competent to enter into a legally binding contract.
- (b) The Employee and the individual are not married to anyone.
- (c) The Employee and the individual are not related by blood to a degree of closeness that would prohibit legal marriage between individuals of the opposite sex in the state in which they reside.
- (d) The Employee and the individual share the same principal residence(s), the common necessities of life, the responsibility for each other's welfare, are financially interdependent with each other and have a long-term committed personal relationship in which each partner is the other's sole domestic partner. Each of the foregoing characteristics of the domestic partner relationship must have been in existence for a period of at least twelve (12) consecutive months and be continuing during the period that the applicable benefit is provided. The Employee and the individual must have the intention that their relationship will be indefinite.
- (e) The Employee and the individual have common or joint ownership of a residence (home, condominium, or mobile home), motor vehicle, checking account, credit account, mutual fund, joint obligation under a lease for their residence or similar type ownership.

To obtain more detailed information or to apply for this benefit, the Employee must contact the Plan Administrator, San Jose Unified School District, 855 Lenzen Avenue, San Jose, California, 95126, (408) 535-6139.

In the event the domestic partnership is terminated, either partner is required to inform San Jose Unified School District of the termination of the partnership.

The Plan Administrator may require documentation proving a legal marital and/or Domestic Partner relationship.

(2) A covered Employee's Child(ren).

An Employee's "Child" includes his natural child, stepchild, child for whom the Employee is the legal guardian, adopted child, or a child placed with the Employee for adoption. An Employee's child will also include children, adopted children and children placed for adoption with the Employee's Domestic Partner. An Employee's Child will be an eligible Dependent until reaching the limiting age of 26, without regard to student status, marital status, financial dependency or residency status with the Employee or any other person. When the child reaches the applicable limiting age, coverage will end on the last day of the child's birthday month.

The phrase "placed for adoption" refers to a child whom a person intends to adopt, whether or not the adoption has become final, who has not attained the age of 18 as of the date of such placement for adoption. The term "placed" means the assumption and retention by such person of a legal obligation for total or partial support of the child in anticipation of adoption of the child. The child must be available for adoption and the legal process must have commenced.

The Plan Administrator may require documentation proving eligibility for Dependent coverage, including birth certificates, tax records or initiation of legal proceedings severing parental rights.

(3) A covered Dependent child who reaches the limiting age and is Totally Disabled, incapable of self-sustaining employment by reason of mental or physical handicap, primarily dependent upon the covered Employee for support and maintenance and unmarried. The Plan Administrator may require, at reasonable intervals during the two years following the Dependent's reaching the limiting age, subsequent proof of the child's Total Disability and dependency.

After such two-year period, the Plan Administrator may require subsequent proof not more than once each year. The Plan Administrator reserves the right to have such Dependent examined by a Physician of the Plan Administrator's choice, at the Plan's expense, to determine the existence of such incapacity.

These persons are excluded as Dependents: other individuals living in the covered Employee's or Retiree's home, but who are not eligible as defined; the legally separated or divorced former Spouse of the Employee or Retiree; any person who is on active duty in any military service of any country; any former Domestic Partner of the Employee; or any person who is covered under the Plan as an Employee or Retiree.

If a person covered under this Plan changes status from Employee to Dependent or Dependent to Employee, and the person is covered continuously under this Plan before, during and after the change in status, credit will be given for deductibles and all amounts applied to maximums.

If both parents are Employees, their eligible Dependent will be covered as the Dependent of one or the other, but not of both.

**Eligibility Requirements for Dependent Coverage.** A family member of an Employee will become eligible for Dependent coverage on the first day that the Employee is eligible for Employee coverage and the family member satisfies the requirements for Dependent coverage.

At any time, the Plan may require proof that a Spouse, Domestic Partner or a Child qualifies or continues to qualify as a Dependent as defined by this Plan.

## FUNDING

**Cost of the Plan.** San Jose Unified School District shares the cost of Employee and Dependent coverage under this Plan with the covered Employees. The enrollment application for coverage will include a payroll deduction authorization. This authorization must be completed in a manner set forth by the Plan Administrator.

The level of any Employee contributions is set by the Plan Administrator. The Plan Administrator reserves the right to change the level of Employee contributions.

## **ENROLLMENT**

**Enrollment Requirements.** An Employee must enroll for coverage by filling out and signing an enrollment application along with the appropriate payroll deduction authorization. The covered Employee is required to enroll each Dependent for coverage also.

### **Enrollment Requirements for Newborn Children.**

A newborn child of a covered Employee who has Dependent coverage is not automatically enrolled in this Plan. If the newborn child is not enrolled in this Plan on a timely basis, as defined in the section "Timely Enrollment" following this section, there will be no payment from the Plan and the parents will be responsible for all costs.

If the child is required to be enrolled and is not enrolled within 30 days of birth, the enrollment will be considered a Late Enrollment.

## **TIMELY OR LATE ENROLLMENT**

- (1) **Timely Enrollment** - The enrollment will be "timely" if the completed form is received by the Plan Administrator no later than the first day of paid service after the person becomes eligible for the coverage, either initially or under a Special Enrollment Period.

If two Employees are covered under the Plan they may each claim a Dependent Child, and if the Employee who is covering the Dependent children terminates coverage, the Dependent coverage may be continued by the other covered Employee with no Waiting Period as long as coverage has been continuous.

- (2) **Late Enrollment** - An enrollment is "late" if it is not made on a "timely basis" or during a Special Enrollment Period. Late Enrollees and their eligible Dependents who are not eligible to join the Plan during a Special Enrollment Period may join only during open enrollment.

Unless otherwise required by law, if an individual loses eligibility for coverage as a result of terminating employment or a general suspension of coverage under the Plan, then upon becoming eligible again due to resumption of employment or due to resumption of Plan coverage, only the most recent period of eligibility will be considered for purposes of determining whether the individual is a Late Enrollee.

The time between the date a Late Enrollee first becomes eligible for enrollment under the Plan and the first day of coverage is not treated as a Waiting Period.

## **SPECIAL ENROLLMENT RIGHTS AND PERMITTED CHANGES**

Federal law provides Special Enrollment provisions under some circumstances. If an Employee is declining enrollment for himself or herself or his or her dependents (including his or her spouse) because of other health insurance or group health plan coverage, there may be a right to enroll in this Plan if there is a loss of eligibility for that other coverage (or if the employer stops contributing towards the other coverage). However, a request for enrollment must be made within 30 days after the coverage ends (or after the employer stops contributing towards the other coverage). Additionally, the plan recognizes certain other enrollment rights as defined in Title 26 CFR 1.125-4 Permitted Election Changes, as amended.

In addition, in the case of a birth, marriage, adoption or placement for adoption, there may be a right to enroll in this Plan. However, a request for enrollment must be made within 30 days of the birth, marriage, adoption or placement for adoption.

The Special Enrollment rules are described in more detail below. To request Special Enrollment or obtain more detailed information of these portability provisions, contact the Plan Administrator, San Jose Unified School District, 855 Lenzen Avenue, San Jose, California, 95126, (408) 535-6139.

## SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIODS

The events described below may create a right to enroll in the Plan under a Special Enrollment Period.

- (1) **Losing other coverage may create a Special Enrollment right.** An Employee or Dependent who is eligible, but not enrolled in this Plan, may enroll if the individual loses eligibility for other coverage and loss of eligibility for coverage meets all of the following conditions:
  - (a) The Employee or Dependent was covered under a group health plan or had health insurance coverage at the time coverage under this Plan was previously offered to the individual.
  - (b) If required by the Plan Administrator, the Employee stated in writing at the time that coverage was offered that the other health coverage was the reason for declining enrollment.
  - (c) Either (i) the other coverage was COBRA coverage and the COBRA coverage was exhausted, or (ii) the other coverage was not COBRA coverage, and the coverage was terminated as a result of loss of eligibility for the coverage or because employer contributions towards the coverage were terminated. Coverage will begin no later than the first day of the first calendar month following the date the completed enrollment form is received.
  - (d) The Employee or Dependent requests enrollment in this Plan not later than 30 days after the date of exhaustion of COBRA coverage or the termination of non-COBRA coverage due to loss of eligibility or termination of employer contributions, described above. Coverage will begin no later than the first day of the first calendar month following the date the completed enrollment form is received.
- (2) For purposes of these rules, a loss of eligibility occurs if one of the following occurs:
  - (a) The Employee or Dependent has a loss of eligibility due to the plan no longer offering any benefits to a class of similarly situated individuals (for example: part-time employees).
  - (b) The Employee or Dependent has a loss of eligibility as a result of legal separation, divorce, cessation of dependent status (such as attaining the maximum age to be eligible as a dependent child under the plan), death, termination of employment, or reduction in the number of hours of employment or contributions towards the coverage were terminated.
  - (c) The Employee or Dependent has a loss of eligibility when coverage is offered through an HMO, or other arrangement, in the individual market that does not provide benefits to individuals who no longer reside, live or work in a service area, (whether or not within the choice of the individual).
  - (d) The Employee or Dependent has a loss of eligibility when coverage is offered through an HMO, or other arrangement, in the group market that does not provide benefits to individuals who no longer reside, live or work in a service area, (whether or not within the choice of the individual), and no other benefit package is available to the individual.

If the Employee or Dependent lost the other coverage as a result of the individual's failure to pay premiums or required contributions or for cause (such as making a fraudulent claim or an intentional misrepresentation of a material fact in connection with the plan), that individual does not have a Special Enrollment right.

- (3) **Acquiring a newly eligible Dependent may create a Special Enrollment right.** If:
  - (a) The Employee is a participant under this Plan (or is eligible to be enrolled under this Plan but for a failure to enroll during a previous enrollment period), and
  - (b) A person becomes a Dependent of the Employee through marriage, registration of domestic partnership, birth, adoption or placement for adoption,



then the Dependent may be enrolled under this Plan. If the Employee is not enrolled at the time of the event, the Employee must enroll under this Special Enrollment Period in order for his eligible Dependents to enroll. In the case of the birth or adoption of a child, the Spouse or Domestic Partner of the covered Employee may be enrolled as a Dependent of the covered Employee if the Spouse or Domestic Partner is otherwise eligible for coverage.

The Special Enrollment Period for newly eligible Dependents is a period of 30 days that begins after the date of the marriage, birth, adoption or placement for adoption. To be eligible for this Special Enrollment, the Dependent and/or Employee must request enrollment during this 30-day period.

The coverage of the Dependent and/or Employee enrolled in the Special Enrollment Period will be effective:

- (a) in the case of marriage, the first day of the first month beginning after the date of the completed request for enrollment is received, or in the case of domestic partner relationship, on the date of registration of the domestic partner relationship; or
  - (b) in the case of a Dependent's birth, as of the date of birth; or
  - (c) in the case of a Dependent's adoption or placement for adoption, the date of the adoption or placement for adoption.
- (4) **Eligibility changes in Medicaid or State Child Health Insurance Programs may create a Special Enrollment right.** An Employee or Dependent who is eligible, but not enrolled in this Plan, may enroll if:
- (a) The Employee or Dependent is covered under a Medicaid plan under Title XIX of the Social Security Act or a State child health plan (CHIP) under Title XXI of such Act, and coverage of the Employee or Dependent is terminated due to loss of eligibility for such coverage, and the Employee or Dependent requests enrollment in this Plan within 60 days after such Medicaid or CHIP coverage is terminated.
  - (b) The Employee or Dependent becomes eligible for assistance with payment of Employee contributions to this Plan through a Medicaid or CHIP plan (including any waiver or demonstration project conducted with respect to such plan), and the Employee or Dependent requests enrollment in this Plan within 60 days after the date the Employee or Dependent is determined to be eligible for such assistance.

If a Dependent becomes eligible to enroll under this provision and the Employee is not then enrolled, the Employee must enroll in order for the Dependent to enroll.

Coverage will become effective as of the first day of the first calendar month following the date the completed enrollment form is received unless an earlier date is established by the Employer or by regulation.

## **EFFECTIVE DATE**

**Active Employee Requirement.** An Employee must be an Active Employee (as defined by this Plan) for this coverage to take effect. If application is made after the Eligibility Date and before the end of the initial enrollment period, coverage will become effective the first of the following month, provided the Employee satisfies any mandatory contribution requirements.

If a new Eligible Employee fails to submit an election form for either Kaiser or this Plan during Timely Enrollment, and has not waived coverage due to other medical coverage, then the Eligible Employee will be enrolled for single coverage in this Plan as of their date of hire. If an ongoing Eligible Employee fails to submit an election form and either Kaiser or this Plan during Open Enrollment and has not waived coverage due to other medical coverage, then the Eligible Employee will be enrolled for single coverage in this Plan as of the Open Enrollment effective date.

**Effective Date of Dependent Coverage.** A Dependent's coverage will take effect on the day that the Eligibility Requirements are met, the Employee is covered under the Plan, and all Enrollment Requirements are met.

## TERMINATION OF COVERAGE

The Employer or Plan has the right to rescind any coverage of the Employee and/or Dependents for cause, making a fraudulent claim or an intentional material misrepresentation in applying for or obtaining coverage, or obtaining benefits under the Plan. The Employer or Plan may either void coverage for the Employee and/or covered Dependents for the period of time coverage was in effect, may terminate coverage as of a date to be determined at the Plan's discretion, or may immediately terminate coverage. If coverage is to be terminated or voided retroactively for fraud or misrepresentation, the Plan will provide written notice at least 30 days in advance of such action.

**When Employee Coverage Terminates.** Employee coverage will terminate on the earliest of these dates (except in certain circumstances, a covered Employee may be eligible for COBRA continuation coverage. For a complete explanation of when COBRA continuation coverage is available, what conditions apply and how to select it, see the section entitled Continuation Coverage Rights under COBRA):

- (1) The date the Plan is terminated.
- (2) The last day of the calendar month in which the covered Employee ceases to be in one of the Eligible Classes. This includes death or termination of Active Employment of the covered Employee. (See the section entitled Continuation Coverage Rights under COBRA.) It also includes an Employee on disability, leave of absence or other leave of absence, unless the Plan specifically provides for continuation during these periods.
- (3) The end of the period for which the required contribution has been paid if the charge for the next period is not paid when due.
- (4) The Employer or Plan has the right to rescind any coverage of the Employee and/or Dependents for cause, making a fraudulent claim or an intentional material misrepresentation in applying for or obtaining coverage, or obtaining benefits under the Plan. The Employer or Plan may either void coverage for the Employee and/or covered Dependents for the period of time coverage was in effect, may terminate coverage as of a date to be determined at the Plan's discretion, or may immediately terminate coverage. If coverage is to be terminated or voided retroactively for fraud or misrepresentation, the Plan will provide written notice at least 30 days in advance of such action.

**Continuation During Periods of Employer-Certified Disability, Leave of Absence or Layoff.** A person may remain eligible for a limited time if Active, full-time work ceases due to disability, leave of absence or layoff. This continuance will end as follows:

**For disability leave only:** the date the Employer ends the continuance.

**For leave of absence or layoff only:** the date the Employer ends the continuance.

While continued, coverage will be that which was in force on the last day worked as an Active Employee. However, if benefits reduce for others in the class, they will also reduce for the continued person.

**Continuation During Family and Medical Leave.** Regardless of the established leave policies mentioned above, this Plan shall at all times comply with the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 as promulgated in regulations issued by the Department of Labor, as well as any state employment regulations which require additional periods of leave and are applicable to the Plan Sponsor.

During any leave taken under the Family and Medical Leave Act, the Employer will maintain coverage under this Plan on the same conditions as coverage would have been provided if the covered Employee had been continuously employed during the entire leave period.

If Plan coverage terminates during the FMLA leave, coverage will be reinstated for the Employee and his or her covered Dependents if the Employee returns to work in accordance with the terms of the FMLA leave. Coverage will be reinstated only if the person(s) had coverage under this Plan when the FMLA leave started, and will be reinstated to the same extent that it was in force when that coverage terminated. For example, Waiting Periods will not be imposed unless they were in effect for the Employee and/or his or her Dependents when Plan coverage terminated.

**Rehiring a Terminated Employee.** A terminated Employee who is rehired will be treated as a new hire and be required to satisfy all Eligibility and Enrollment requirements to the extent permitted by the terms of the Plan and applicable law including the Affordable Care Act, as amended.

**Employees on Military Leave.** Employees going into or returning from military service may elect to continue Plan coverage as mandated by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) under the following circumstances. These rights apply only to Employees and their Dependents covered under the Plan immediately before leaving for military service.

- (1) The maximum period of coverage of a person and the person's covered Dependents under such an election shall be the lesser of:
  - (a) The 24 month period beginning on the date on which the person's absence begins; or
  - (b) The day after the date on which the person was required to apply for or return to a position of employment and fails to do so.
- (2) A person who elects to continue health plan coverage must pay up to 102% of the full contribution under the Plan, except a person on active duty for 30 days or less cannot be required to pay more than the Employee's share, if any, for the coverage.
- (3) An exclusion or Waiting Period may not be imposed in connection with the reinstatement of coverage upon reemployment if one would not have been imposed had coverage not been terminated because of service. However, an exclusion or Waiting Period may be imposed for coverage of any Illness or Injury determined by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to have been incurred in, or aggravated during, the performance of uniformed service.

If the Employee wishes to elect this coverage or obtain more detailed information, contact the Plan Administrator San Jose Unified School District, 855 Lenzen Avenue, San Jose, California, 95126, (408) 535-6139. The Employee may also have continuation rights under USERRA. In general, the Employee must meet the same requirements for electing USERRA coverage as are required under COBRA continuation coverage requirements. Coverage elected under these circumstances is concurrent, not cumulative. The Employee may elect USERRA continuation coverage for the Employee and their Dependents. Only the Employee has election rights. Dependents do not have any independent right to elect USERRA health plan continuation.

**When Dependent Coverage Terminates.** A Dependent's coverage will terminate on the earliest of these dates (except in certain circumstances, a covered Dependent may be eligible for COBRA continuation coverage. For a complete explanation of when COBRA continuation coverage is available, what conditions apply and how to select it, see the section entitled Continuation Coverage Rights under COBRA):

- (1) The date the Plan or Dependent coverage under the Plan is terminated.
- (2) The date that the Employee's coverage under the Plan terminates for any reason including death. (See the section entitled Continuation Coverage Rights under COBRA.)
- (3) The date a covered Spouse loses coverage due to loss of eligibility status. (See the section entitled Continuation Coverage Rights under COBRA.)
- (4) Coverage will end on the last day of the month in which the Child ceases to meet the applicable eligibility requirements. (See the section entitled Continuation Coverage Rights under COBRA.)
- (5) The end of the period for which the required contribution has been paid if the charge for the next period is not paid when due.
- (6) If a Dependent commits fraud or makes an intentional misrepresentation of material fact in applying for or obtaining coverage, or obtaining benefits under the Plan, then the Employer or Plan may either void coverage for the Dependent for the period of time coverage was in effect, may terminate coverage as of a date to be determined at the Plan's discretion, or may immediately terminate coverage. If coverage is to be terminated or voided retroactively for fraud or misrepresentation, the Plan will provide written notice at least 30 days in advance of such action.

## **OPEN ENROLLMENT**

Every May, during the annual open enrollment period, covered Employees and their covered Dependents will be able to change some of their benefit decisions based on which benefits and coverages are right for them.

Every May, during the annual open enrollment period, eligible Employees and their eligible Dependents who are Late Enrollees will be able to enroll in the Plan.

Benefit choices made during the open enrollment period will become effective July 1 and remain in effect until the next July 1 unless there is a Special Enrollment event or a change in family status during the year (birth, death, marriage, divorce, adoption) or loss of coverage due to loss of a Spouse's employment.

Benefit choices for Late Enrollees made during the open enrollment period will become effective July 1.

A Plan Participant who fails to make an election during open enrollment will automatically retain his or her present coverages.

Plan Participants will receive detailed information regarding open enrollment from their Employer.

## MEDICAL BENEFITS

Medical Benefits apply when Covered Charges are incurred by a Covered Person for care of an Injury or Sickness and while the person is covered for these benefits under the Plan.

### DEDUCTIBLE

**Deductible Amount.** This is an amount of Covered Charges for which no benefits will be paid. Before benefits can be paid in a Calendar Year a Covered Person must meet the deductible shown in the Schedule of Benefits.

**Deductible Three Month Carryover.** Covered Charges incurred in, and applied toward the deductible in the last three months of the Calendar Year will be applied toward the deductible in the next Calendar Year.

**Family Unit Limit.** When the maximum amount shown in the Schedule of Benefits has been incurred by members of a Family Unit toward their Calendar Year deductibles, the deductibles of all members of that Family Unit will be considered satisfied for that year.

**Deductible For A Common Accident.** This provision applies when two or more Covered Persons in a Family Unit are injured in the same accident.

These persons need not meet separate deductibles for treatment of injuries incurred in this accident; instead, only one deductible for the Calendar Year in which the accident occurred will be required for them as a unit for expenses arising from the accident.

### BENEFIT PAYMENT

Each Calendar Year, benefits will be paid for the Covered Charges of a Covered Person that are in excess of the deductible and any copayments. Payment will be made at the rate shown under reimbursement rate in the Schedule of Benefits. No benefits will be paid in excess of the Maximum Benefit Amount or any listed limit of the Plan.

### OUT-OF-POCKET LIMIT

Covered Charges are payable at the percentages shown each Calendar Year until the out-of-pocket limit shown in the Schedule of Benefits is reached. Then, Covered Charges incurred by a Covered Person will be payable at 100% (except for any charges excluded as shown in the Schedule of Benefits) for the rest of the Calendar Year.

When a Family Unit reaches the out-of-pocket limit, Covered Charges for that Family Unit will be payable at 100% (except for any charges excluded, as shown on the Schedule of Benefits) for the rest of the Calendar Year.

### HOSPITAL BILL AUDIT

The Plan requests the enrollee check the Hospital bill to verify that services and supplies billed were actually received. The Claims Administrator should be notified of a billing error on any Hospital billing statement (the enrollee can request a copy of the itemized bill from the Hospital and verify it for accuracy). If there is a discrepancy, the enrollee should advise the Hospital. Once the Hospital refunds the Plan, the enrollee will receive 50% of the savings provided the total amount saved is at least \$200.

### COVERED CHARGES

Covered Charges are the Allowable Charges that are incurred for the following items of service and supply. These charges are subject to the benefit limits, exclusions and other provisions of this Plan. A charge is incurred on the date that the service or supply is performed or furnished.

- (1) **Hospital Care.** The medical services and supplies furnished by a Hospital or Outpatient Surgical Center or a Birthing Center. Covered Charges for room and board will be payable as shown in the Schedule of Benefits. After 23 observation hours, a confinement will be considered an inpatient confinement.

Charges for a Private Room will be limited to the semi-private room rate. The private room rate will apply if the facility only has private rooms available.

Charges for an Intensive Care Unit stay are payable.

- (2) **Coverage of Pregnancy.** The charges for the care and treatment of Pregnancy are covered the same as any other Sickness.

Group health plans 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).

- (3) **Skilled Nursing Facility Care.** The room and board and nursing care furnished by a Skilled Nursing Facility will be payable if and when:

- (a) the patient is confined as a bed patient in the facility; and
- (b) the confinement starts after a three day hospital stay; and
- (c) the attending Physician certifies that the confinement is needed for further care of the condition that caused the Hospital confinement; and
- (d) the attending Physician completes a treatment plan which includes a diagnosis, the proposed course of treatment and the projected date of discharge from the Skilled Nursing Facility.

- (4) **Physician Care.** The professional services of a Physician for surgical or medical services.

Charges for **multiple surgical procedures** will be a Covered Charge subject to the following provisions:

- (a) If bilateral or multiple surgical procedures are performed by one (1) surgeon, benefits will be determined based on the Allowable Charge that is allowed for the primary procedures; 50% of the Allowable Charge will be allowed for each additional procedure performed through the same incision. Any procedure that would not be an integral part of the primary procedure or is unrelated to the diagnosis will be considered "incidental" and no benefits will be provided for such procedures;
- (b) If multiple unrelated surgical procedures are performed by two (2) or more surgeons on separate operative fields, benefits will be based on the Allowable Charge for each surgeon's primary procedure. If two (2) or more surgeons perform a procedure that is normally performed by one (1) surgeon, benefits for all surgeons will not exceed the Allowable Charge for that procedure; and
- (c) If an assistant surgeon is required, the assistant surgeon's Covered Charge will not exceed 20% of the surgeon's allowance.

- (5) **Private Duty Nursing Care.** The private duty nursing care by a licensed nurse (R.N., L.P.N. or L.V.N.). Covered Charges for this service will be included to this extent:

- (a) **Inpatient Nursing Care.** Charges are covered only when care is Medically Necessary or not Custodial in nature and the Hospital's Intensive Care Unit is filled or the Hospital has no Intensive Care Unit.
- (b) **Outpatient Nursing Care.** Charges are covered only when care is Medically Necessary and not Custodial in nature. The only charges covered for Outpatient nursing care are those

shown below, under Home Health Care Services and Supplies. Outpatient private duty nursing care on a 24-hour-shift basis is not covered.

- (6) **Home Health Care Services and Supplies.** Charges for home health care services and supplies are covered only for care and treatment of an Injury or Sickness when Hospital or Skilled Nursing Facility confinement would otherwise be required. The diagnosis, care and treatment must be certified by the attending Physician and be contained in a Home Health Care Plan.

A home health care visit will be considered a periodic visit by either a nurse or therapist, as the case may be, or four hours of home health aide services.

- (7) **Hospice Care Services and Supplies.** Charges for hospice care services and supplies are covered only when the attending Physician has diagnosed the Covered Person's condition as being terminal, determined that the person is not expected to live more than six months and placed the person under a Hospice Care Plan.

Covered Charges for Hospice Care Services and Supplies are payable as described in the Schedule of Benefits.

- (8) **Other Medical Services and Supplies.** These services and supplies not otherwise included in the items above are covered as follows:

- (a) **Acupuncture** is covered when performed by a certified acupuncturist.
- (b) Local Medically Necessary professional land or air **ambulance** service. A charge for this item will be a Covered Charge only if the service is to the nearest Hospital or Skilled Nursing Facility where necessary treatment can be provided unless the Plan Administrator finds a longer trip was Medically Necessary.
- (c) **Anesthetic**; oxygen; blood and blood derivatives that are not donated or replaced; intravenous injections and solutions. Administration of these items is included.
- (d) **Attention Deficit Disorders/Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorders (ADD/ADHD).**
- (e) **Cardiac rehabilitation** as deemed Medically Necessary provided services are rendered (a) under the supervision of a Physician; (b) in connection with a myocardial infarction, coronary occlusion or coronary bypass surgery; and (c) in a Medical Care Facility as defined by this Plan.
- (f) Radiation or **chemotherapy** and treatment with radioactive substances. The materials and services of technicians are included.
- (g) Routine patient care charges for **Clinical Trials.** Coverage is provided only for routine patient care costs for a Qualified Individual in an approved clinical trial for treatment of cancer or other life-threatening disease or condition. For these purposes, a Qualified Individual is a Covered Person who is eligible to participate in an approved clinical trial according to the trial protocol with respect to the treatment of cancer or another life-threatening disease or condition, and either: (1) the referring health care professional is a Network Provider and has concluded that the individual's participation in such trial would be appropriate; or (2) the Covered Person provides medical and scientific information establishing to the satisfaction of the Plan Administrator that the individual's participation in such trial would be appropriate. Coverage is not provided for charges not otherwise covered under the Plan, and does not include charges for the drug or procedure under trial, or charges which the Qualified Individual would not be required to pay in the absence of this coverage.
- (h) Initial **contact lenses** or glasses required following cataract surgery.

- (i) Services and products for **contraceptive management** including, but not limited to, implants, intrauterine devices (IUDs), and birth control shots.

This does not include oral contraceptives, condoms, sponges, foam or jelly.

- (j) Medical facility, anesthesia charges or any fees associated with **Dental Care** treatment that is determined to be medically necessary will be covered under the medical plan. Following are some examples of medical necessity:

- (i) The patient is a child (up to 6 years old) with a dental condition that requires repairs of significant complexity (e.g., multiple restorations, pulpal therapy, extractions);
- (ii) Patients with certain physical, intellectual or medically compromising conditions (e.g., mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, cardiac problems, hyperactivity verified by appropriate medical documentation);
- (iii) Extremely uncooperative, fearful, unmanageable, anxious or uncommunicative patients with substantial dental needs and no expectation that behavior will improve soon;
- (iv) Patients with dental restorative or surgical needs for whom local anesthesia is ineffective (such as due to acute infection, anatomic variations or allergy);
- (v) Patients who have sustained extensive orofacial or dental trauma, for which treatment under local anesthesia would be ineffective or compromised.

- (k) **Diabetic self-management education** and education relating to diet may be covered for a covered Person with a diabetic condition. Self-management education or diet instruction will only be covered when the patient is initially diagnosed with diabetes or when a Physician diagnoses a significant change in the patient's symptoms or condition that requires changes in the patient's self-management. These educational services will be covered when provided by:

- (i) A Physician or his/her staff during an office visit for diabetes diagnosis or treatment. When the self-management service education is provided during an office visit, the one benefit
- (ii) A certified diabetes nurse educator, certified nutritionist or certified and registered dietician when referred by a Physician. This education must be provided in a group setting. If it is decided that group education is not available in the patient's area, the Plan may cover individual education;
- (iii) A professional Provider as described above may be covered for services rendered in the patient's home. However, it must be found to be Medically Necessary for the patient to receive services at home.

- (l) **Dialysis treatment.** The Plan will pay dialysis-related claims according to the benefits schedule for the first 3 months after commencement of treatment. Thereafter, the Plan will pay for dialysis-related services at 80% of 125% of the then-current Medicare Allowable for those services in that region, after satisfaction of any deductibles and copayments.

Dialysis treatment shall include hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis and the supplies utilized to administer under the direction of a Physician in a Hospital, Health Care Facility, Physician's office or at home. Laboratory testing and physician visits will be payable pursuant to the normal plan provisions.

Dialysis charges are excluded from any network provider agreements and are treated as Out-of-Network claims; they are paid at a percentage of the Medicare Allowable rate and may be subject to Medicare rules. This provision applies to charges for dialysis treatment only. Any other applicable provisions, conditions, and exclusions remain in effect, including



restrictions on benefits under an Exclusive Provider Only (EPO) Plan, or any dollar maximums applied to non-network claims.

A Covered Person undergoing dialysis should promptly apply for Medicare coverage, regardless of age. Contact the Claims Administrator for information on how to be reimbursed for Medicare Part B premiums.

- (m) Rental of **durable medical or surgical equipment** if deemed Medically Necessary. These items may be bought rather than rented, with the cost not to exceed the fair market value of the equipment at the time of purchase, but only if agreed to in advance by the Plan Administrator. Repair or replacement will be covered only when required due to growth or development of a dependent child, or deterioration from normal wear and tear if recommended by the attending physician.
- (n) Benefits are available for treatment related to **foot care and podiatry services**. Patient must have arthritic, rheumatologic, neuropathic, diabetic or entrapment-related foot problems. Coverage includes services or supplies rendered and billed by licensed Physicians (medical doctors, osteopaths or podiatrists) for conditions of the feet. Orthotics are covered for patients with arthritic, rheumatologic, neuropathic, diabetic or entrapment-related foot problems. Services or supplies for orthopedic shoes or shoe inserts are not covered (please refer to Plan Exclusions). Diabetic shoes are not covered.
- (o) **Gender Dysphoria**. It is the intention of this Plan to comply with all applicable requirements of coverage regarding non-discrimination. Coverage and benefits are not affected by the sex, sexual orientation, or gender identification of the Covered Person.

Benefits for the following are covered at the same benefit levels as other services: mental health therapy; hormone therapy; and gender reassignment surgery which is medically necessary to treat the Covered Person's condition. Benefits for surgical services related to gender reassignment include: breast reduction, penectomy, orchiectomy, vaginoplasty, mediodioplasty, phalloplasty, and other related procedures.

The Plan's exclusions for services which are not medically necessary and/or cosmetic procedures are still applicable. For example, the Plan considers chondrolygoplasty procedures, electrolysis, rhinoplasty, cheek implantation, lip augmentation, breast enlargement, liposuction, and other facial surgeries to be cosmetic in nature and are therefore not covered benefits. (This is not an exhaustive list of excluded procedures.) If you have questions or concerns about coverage related to this benefit, please contact the Utilization Management Department for further information

- (p) **Genetic testing** for the purpose of determining the need for fetal therapy or to determine a medically necessary intervention for the mother and when Medically Necessary for other conditions.
- (q) Charges for surgical **implants** are a Covered Charge when billed with the invoice. The claim with the invoice will be paid up to 50% above invoice.
- (r) **Laboratory studies**. Covered Charges for diagnostic and preventive lab testing and services.
- (s) Treatment of **Mental Disorders and Substance Abuse** is payable as shown in the Schedule of Benefits.
- (t) Benefits are available for Medically Necessary treatment of **Morbid Obesity** if due to another life-threatening condition related to obesity.
- (u) Injury to or care of **mouth, teeth and gums**. Charges for Injury to or care of the mouth, teeth, gums and alveolar processes will be Covered Charges under Medical Benefits only if that care is for the following oral surgical procedures:

Excision of tumors and cysts of the jaws, cheeks, lips, tongue, roof and floor of the mouth.

Emergency repair due to Injury to sound natural teeth.

Surgery needed to correct accidental injuries to the jaws, cheeks, lips, tongue, floor and roof of the mouth, within six months of the Injury.

Excision of benign bony growths of the jaw and hard palate.

External incision and drainage of cellulitis.

Incision of sensory sinuses, salivary glands or ducts.

No charge will be covered under Medical Benefits for dental and oral surgical procedures involving orthodontic care of the teeth, periodontal disease and preparing the mouth for the fitting of or continued use of dentures.

(v) **Occupational therapy** by a licensed therapist. Therapy must be ordered by a Physician, result from an Injury or Sickness and improve a body function. Covered Charges do not include recreational programs, maintenance therapy or supplies used in occupational therapy.

(w) **Organ transplant** limits. Charges otherwise covered under the Plan that are incurred for the care and treatment due to an organ or tissue transplant are subject to these limits:

The transplant must be performed to replace an organ or tissue.

Charges for obtaining donor organs or tissues are Covered Charges under the Plan when the recipient is a Covered Person. When the donor has medical coverage, his or her plan will pay first. The benefits under this Plan will be reduced by those payable under the donor's plan. Donor charges include those for:

evaluating the organ or tissue;

removing the organ or tissue from the donor; and

transportation of the organ or tissue from within the United States and Canada to the place where the transplant is to take place.

Donor charges and donor search charges will be deemed to be incurred on the date of the transplant even if the services were rendered before such date. No benefits will be paid for pre-transplant testing in connection with a search for a donor who is not a family member.

Autologous Bone Marrow/Stem Cell. Courses of treatment involving high dose chemotherapy or radiotherapy and autologous bone marrow, stem cell rescue, or other hematopoietic support procedures are not covered as organ and tissue transplants, except for the following (and only then for candidates who meet established national health and age standards): acute leukemia in remission, resistant non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease, and neuroblastoma as allowed under CMS guidelines. If CMS guidelines change, adding or deleting coverage under Medicare, this Plan will include or exclude those procedures. Recipient and donor expenses for covered procedures will be considered on the same basis as organ transplants shown above.

(x) The initial purchase, fitting and repair of **orthotic appliances** such as braces, splints or other appliances which are required for support for an injured or deformed part of the body as a result of a disabling congenital condition or an Injury or Sickness.

(y) **Physical therapy** must be administered in strict accordance with the referring Physician's orders regarding type of therapy, frequency and duration. The condition treated must also be established as one which receives substantial benefit from short-term therapy.

(z) Inpatient **Prescription** Drugs.

(aa) Routine **Preventive Care**. Covered Charges under Medical Benefits are payable for routine Preventive Care as described in the Schedule of Benefits. Standard Preventive Care shall be provided as required by applicable law if provided by a Network Provider. Standard Preventive Care for adults includes services with an "A" or "B" rating from the United States Preventive Services Task Force. Examples of Standard Preventive Care include:

- Screenings for: breast cancer, cervical cancer, colorectal cancer, high blood pressure, Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus, cholesterol, and obesity.
- Immunizations for adults recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and
- Additional preventive care and screening for women provided for in the guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration, including the following:
  - Breastfeeding support, supplies, and counseling.
  - Gestational diabetes screening.

Standard Preventive Care includes women's contraceptives, sterilization procedures, and counseling.

The list of services included as Standard Preventive Care may change from time to time depending upon government guidelines. A current listing of required preventive care can be accessed at:

- [www.HealthCare.gov/center/regulations/prevention.html](http://www.HealthCare.gov/center/regulations/prevention.html). and
- [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/acip/](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/acip/)

**Charges for Routine Well Adult Care.** Routine well adult care is care by a Physician that is not for an Injury or Sickness.

**Charges for Routine Well Child Care.** Routine well child care is routine care by a Physician that is not for an Injury or Sickness. Standard Preventive Care shall be provided as required by applicable law if provided by a Network Provider. Standard Preventive Care for children includes services with an "A" or "B" rating from the United States Preventive Services Task Force. Examples of Standard Preventive Care include:

- Immunizations for children and adolescents recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. These may include:
  - Diphtheria,
  - Pertussis,
  - Tetanus,
  - Polio,
  - Measles,
  - Mumps,
  - Rubella,
  - Hemophilus influenza b (Hib),
  - Hepatitis B,
  - Varicella.
- Preventive care and screenings for infants, children and adolescents as provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration

The list of services included as Standard Preventive Care may change from time to time depending upon government guidelines. A current listing of required preventive care can be accessed at:

- [www.HealthCare.gov/center/regulations/prevention.html](http://www.HealthCare.gov/center/regulations/prevention.html). and
- [www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/acip/](http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/recs/acip/)

- (bb) The initial purchase, fitting and repair of fitted **prosthetic devices** which replace body parts.
- (cc) **Psoralen and Ultraviolet A (PUVA)** is a therapy that the patient is exposed first to psoralens (drugs containing chemicals that react with ultraviolet light) and then to UVA light, when proven to be Medically Necessary.
- (dd) **Reconstructive Surgery.** Correction of abnormal congenital conditions and reconstructive mammoplasties will be considered Covered Charges.

This mammoplasty coverage will include reimbursement for:

- (i) reconstruction of the breast on which a mastectomy has been performed,
- (ii) surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance, and
- (iii) coverage of prostheses and physical complications during all stages of mastectomy, including lymphedemas,

in a manner determined in consultation with the attending Physician and the patient.

- (ee) For short-term outpatient **respiratory/inhalation therapy** when ordered by the attending Physician for therapy services given by certified licensed respiratory therapists or other qualified Provider. Custodial Care or Maintenance Care is not covered.
- (ff) **Speech therapy** by a licensed therapist. Therapy must be ordered by a Physician and follow either: (i) surgery for correction of a congenital condition of the oral cavity, throat or nasal complex (other than a frenectomy) of a person; (ii) an Injury; or (iii) a Sickness.
- (gg) **Spinal Manipulation services** by a health care provider acting within the scope of his or her license.
- (hh) Charges for the care and treatment for **sleep disorders** when deemed Medically Necessary.
- (ii) Facility and other provider charges for care and treatment related to voluntary **surgical sterilizations** are covered as shown in the Schedule of Benefits.
- (jj) **Surgical dressings**, splints, casts and other devices used in the reduction of fractures and dislocations.
- (kk) The Plan covers covered services and supplies provided by a legally operated **urgent care facility**, emergency clinic or center for minor outpatient emergency medical care or emergency minor surgery. An outpatient Hospital emergency room does not qualify as an urgent care facility.
- (ll) Coverage of **Well Newborn Nursery/Physician Care.**

**Charges for Routine Nursery Care.** Routine well newborn nursery care is care while the newborn is Hospital-confined after birth and includes room, board and other normal well-baby care for which a Hospital makes a charge.

This coverage is only provided if the newborn child is an eligible Dependent and a parent (1) is a Covered Person who was covered under the Plan at the time of the birth, or (2) enrolls himself or herself (as well as the newborn child if required) in accordance with the Special Enrollment provisions with coverage effective as of the date of birth.

The benefit is limited to charges for routine well-baby nursery care for the newborn child while Hospital confined as a result of the child's birth.

Charges for covered routine nursery care will be applied toward the Plan of the newborn child, provided the newborn child is enrolled on a timely basis.

Group health plans 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).

**Charges for Routine Physician Care.** The benefit is limited to the charges for routine well-baby care made by a Physician for pediatric visits to the newborn child while Hospital confined as a result of the child's birth. Circumcision is not covered.

Charges for covered routine Physician care will be applied toward the Plan of the newborn child, provided the newborn child is enrolled on a timely basis.

If the baby is ill, suffers an injury, premature birth, congenital abnormality or requires care other than routine care, benefits will be provided on the same basis as for any other eligible expense provided the child is added to the Plan and coverage is in effect.

**(mm) Diagnostic x-rays.**

## COST MANAGEMENT SERVICES

### Cost Management Services Phone Number

Please refer to the Employee ID card for the Cost Management Services phone number.

The provider, patient or family member must call this number to receive certification of certain Cost Management Services. This call must be made at least three days in advance of services being rendered or within three days after a Medical Emergency.

**Any costs incurred because of reduced reimbursement due to failure to follow cost management procedures will not accrue toward the 100% maximum out-of-pocket payment.**

### UTILIZATION REVIEW

Utilization review is a program designed to help ensure that all Covered Persons receive necessary and appropriate health care while avoiding unnecessary expenses.

The program consists of:

- (a) Precertification of the Medical Necessity for the following non-emergency services before Medical and/or Surgical services are provided:
  - (i) All inpatient Hospital and Skilled Nursing Facility stays.
  - (ii) Facility based Treatment for Mental or Nervous Disorders or Substance Abuse.
  - (iii) Home Health Care.
  - (iv) All Organ and Tissue Transplants, peripheral stem cell replacement and similar procedures.
  - (v) Infusion Therapy that includes Specialty Drugs in the specialty pharmacy program, and related services (for each Course of Therapy) in any setting, including, but not limited to: Physician's office, infusion center, outpatient Hospital or clinic, or your home or other residential setting.
  - (vi) Certain surgical, diagnostic procedures, Durable Medical Equipment and/or prosthetics wherever rendered as specified by Anthem Blue Cross. For a list of current procedures, please contact Anthem Blue Cross toll free at (800) 274-7767.
- (b) Retrospective review of the Medical Necessity of the listed services provided on an emergency basis;
- (c) Concurrent review, based on the admitting diagnosis, of the listed services requested by the attending Physician; and
- (d) Certification of services and planning for discharge from a Medical Care Facility or cessation of medical treatment.

The purpose of the program is to determine what charges may be medically necessary. This program is not designed to be the practice of medicine or to be a substitute for the medical judgment of the attending Physician or other health care provider.

If a particular course of treatment or medical service is not certified, it means that either the Plan will not pay for the charges or the Plan will not consider that course of treatment as appropriate for the maximum reimbursement under the Plan. The patient is urged to find out why there is a discrepancy between what was requested and what was certified before incurring charges.

The attending Physician does not have to obtain precertification from the Plan for prescribing a maternity length of stay that is 48 hours or less for a vaginal delivery or 96 hours or less for a cesarean delivery.

In order to maximize Plan reimbursements, please read the following provisions carefully.

## Here's how the program works.

**Precertification.** Before a Covered Person enters a Medical Care Facility on a non-emergency basis or receives other listed medical services, the utilization review administrator will, in conjunction with the attending Physician, certify the care. Precertification does not confirm or verify eligibility for coverage, nor is it a guarantee of payment. A non-emergency stay in a Medical Care Facility is one that can be scheduled in advance.

The utilization review program is set in motion by a telephone call from, or on behalf of, the Covered Person. Contact the utilization review administrator at the telephone number on your ID card **at least three days before** services are scheduled to be rendered with the following information:

- The name of the patient and relationship to the covered Employee
- The name, employee identification number and address of the covered Employee
- The name of the Employer
- The name and telephone number of the attending Physician
- The name of the Medical Care Facility, proposed date of admission, and proposed length of stay
- The proposed medical services

If there is an **emergency** admission to the Medical Care Facility, the patient, patient's family member, Medical Care Facility or attending Physician must contact the utilization review administrator **within three days** of the first business day after the admission.

The utilization review administrator will precertify the number of days of Medical Care Facility confinement as determined by medical necessity. **Failure to follow this procedure may reduce reimbursement received from the Plan.**

If the Covered Person does not receive precertification as explained in this section, the benefit payment may be denied.

**Concurrent review, discharge planning.** Concurrent review of a course of treatment and discharge planning from a Medical Care Facility are parts of the utilization review program. The utilization review administrator will monitor the Covered Person's Medical Care Facility stay or use of other medical services and coordinate with the attending Physician, Medical Care Facilities and Covered Person either the scheduled release or an extension of the Medical Care Facility stay or extension or cessation of the use of other medical services.

If the attending Physician feels that it is Medically Necessary for a Covered Person to receive additional services or to stay in the Medical Care Facility for a greater length of time than has been precertified, the attending Physician must request the additional services or days.

## SECOND AND/OR THIRD OPINION PROGRAM

Certain surgical procedures are performed either inappropriately or unnecessarily. In some cases, surgery is only one of several treatment options. In other cases, surgery will not help the condition.

In order to prevent unnecessary or potentially harmful surgical treatments, the second and/or third opinion program fulfills the dual purpose of protecting the health of the Plan's Covered Persons and protecting the financial integrity of the Plan.

Benefits will be provided for a second (and third, if necessary) opinion consultation to determine the Medical Necessity of an elective surgical procedure. An elective surgical procedure is one that can be scheduled in advance; that is, it is not an emergency or of a life-threatening nature. Benefits for the second (and third, if necessary) opinion will be paid as any other Sickness.

The patient may choose any board-certified specialist who is not an associate of the attending Physician and who is affiliated in the appropriate specialty.

While any surgical treatment is allowed a second opinion, the following procedures are ones for which surgery is often performed when other treatments are available.

Appendectomy	Hernia surgery	Spinal surgery
Cataract surgery	Hysterectomy	Surgery to knee, shoulder, elbow or toe
Cholecystectomy (gall bladder removal)	Mastectomy surgery	Tonsillectomy and adenoidectomy
Deviated septum (nose surgery)	Prostate surgery	Tympanotomy (inner ear)
Hemorrhoidectomy	Salpingo-oophorectomy (removal of tubes/ovaries)	Varicose vein ligation

### **PREADMISSION TESTING SERVICE**

The Medical Benefits percentage payable will be for diagnostic lab tests and x-ray exams when:

- (1) performed on an outpatient basis within three days before a Hospital confinement;
- (2) related to the condition which causes the confinement; and
- (3) performed in place of tests while Hospital confined.

### **OUTPATIENT SURGERY**

Certain surgical procedures can be performed safely and efficiently outside of a Hospital. Outpatient surgical facilities are equipped for many uncomplicated surgical operations, such as some biopsies, cataract surgeries, tonsillectomies and adenoidectomies, dilation and curettages, and similar procedures.

Charges for covered surgical procedures, when such procedures are performed on an outpatient rather than an inpatient basis, will be paid as shown in the Medical Benefits Schedule.

### **CASE MANAGEMENT**

**Case Management.** The Plan may elect, in its sole discretion, when acting on a basis that precludes individual selection, to provide alternative benefits that are otherwise excluded under the Plan. The alternative benefits, called "Case Management," shall be determined on a case-by-case basis, and the Plan's determination to provide the benefits in one instance shall not obligate the Plan to provide the same or similar alternative benefits for the same or any other Covered Person, nor shall it be deemed to waive the right of the Plan to strictly enforce the provisions of the Plan.

A case manager consults with the patient, the family and the attending Physician in order to develop a plan of care for approval by the patient's attending Physician and the patient. This plan of care may include some or all of the following:

- personal support to the patient;
- contacting the family to offer assistance and support;
- monitoring Hospital or Skilled Nursing Facility;
- determining alternative care options; and
- assisting in obtaining any necessary equipment and services.



Case Management occurs when this alternate benefit will be beneficial to both the patient and the Plan.

The case manager will coordinate and implement the Case Management program by providing guidance and information on available resources and suggesting the most appropriate treatment plan. The Plan Administrator, attending Physician, patient and patient's family must all agree to the alternate treatment plan.

Once agreement has been reached, the Plan Administrator will direct the Plan to cover Medically Necessary expenses as stated in the treatment plan, even if these expenses normally would not be paid by the Plan. Unless specifically provided to the contrary in the Plan Administrator's instructions, reimbursement for expenses incurred in connection with the treatment plan shall be subject to all Plan limits and cost sharing provisions.

**Note: Case Management is a voluntary service. There are no reductions of benefits or penalties if the patient and family choose not to participate.**

**Each treatment plan is individually tailored to a specific patient and should not be seen as appropriate or recommended for any other patient, even one with the same diagnosis.**

## DEFINED TERMS

The following terms have special meanings and when used in this Plan will be capitalized.

**Active Employee** is an Employee who is on the regular payroll of the Employer and who has begun to perform the duties of his or her job with the Employer on a full-time basis.

**Allowable charge** is a charge which is either the network Provider's reduced fee or the Recognized charge for a service or supply.

**Ambulatory Surgical Center** is a freestanding outpatient surgical facility. It must be licensed as an outpatient clinic according to state and local laws and must meet all requirements of an outpatient clinic providing surgical services. It must also meet accreditation standards of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations or the Accreditation Association of Ambulatory Health Care.

**Approved Clinical Trials** means a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial that is conducted in relation to the prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening disease or condition and is described in any of the following:

- (1) Federally-Funded Trials—The study or investigation is approved or funded (which include funding through in-kind contributions) by one or more of the following:
  - (a) The National Institutes of Health;
  - (b) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
  - (c) The Agency for Health Care Research and Quality;
  - (d) The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services;
  - (e) Cooperative group or center of any of the entities described in (a) through (d) or the Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs; or
  - (f) A qualified non-governmental research entity identified in the guidelines issued by the National Institutes of Health for center support grants.
- (2) The study or investigation is conducted under an investigational new drug application reviewed by the Food and Drug Administration.
- (3) The study or investigation is a drug trial that is exempt from having such an investigational new drug application.

**Birthing Center** means any freestanding health facility, place, professional office or institution which is not a Hospital or in a Hospital, where births occur in a home-like atmosphere. This facility must be licensed and operated in accordance with the laws pertaining to Birthing Centers in the jurisdiction where the facility is located.

The Birthing Center must provide facilities for obstetrical delivery and short-term recovery after delivery; provide care under the full-time supervision of a Physician and either a registered nurse (R.N.); and have a written agreement with a Hospital in the same locality for immediate acceptance of patients who develop complications or require pre- or post-delivery confinement.

**Brand Name** means a trade name medication.

**Calendar Year** means January 1st through December 31st of the same year.

**COBRA** means the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, as amended.

**Covered Charge(s)** means those Medically Necessary services or supplies that are covered under this Plan.

**Covered Person** is an Employee, Retiree or Dependent who is covered under this Plan.

**Custodial Care** is care provided primarily to meet your personal needs. This includes help in walking, bathing or dressing. It also includes: Preparing food or special diets; feeding by utensil, tube or gastrostomy; suctioning and administration of medicine which is usually self-administered or any other care which does not require continuing services of medical personnel.

If Medically Necessary, benefits will be provided for feeding (by tube or gastrostomy) and suctioning.

**Durable Medical Equipment** means equipment which (a) can withstand repeated use, (b) is primarily and customarily used to serve a medical purpose, (c) generally is not useful to a person in the absence of an Illness or Injury and (d) is appropriate for use in the home.

**Emergency Services** means a medical screening examination (as required under Section 1867 of the Social Security Act (EMTALA)) within the capability of the Hospital emergency department, including routine ancillary services, to evaluate a Medical Emergency and such further medical examination and treatment as are within the capabilities of the staff and facilities of the Hospital and required under EMTALA to stabilize the patient.

**Employee** means a person who is classified by his Employer as an Active, common law employee.

**Employer** is San Jose Unified School District.

**Essential Health Benefits** include, to the extent they are covered under the Plan, ambulatory patient services; emergency services; hospitalization; maternity and newborn care; mental health and substance use disorder services, including behavioral health treatment; prescription drugs; rehabilitative and habilitative services and devices; laboratory services; preventive and wellness services and chronic disease management; and pediatric services, including oral and vision care.

**Experimental procedures** are those that are mainly limited to laboratory and/or animal research, but which are not generally accepted as proven and effective procedures within the organized medical community. The Utilization Manager has discretion to make this determination. However, if a Covered Person has a seriously debilitating condition and the Utilization Manager determines that requested treatment is not a Covered Service because it is Experimental, the Covered Person may request an Independent Medical Review.

**Family Unit** is the covered Employee or Retiree and the family members who are covered as Dependents under the Plan.

**Formulary** means a list of prescription medications of safe, effective therapeutic drugs specifically covered by this Plan.

**Hours of Service** means each hour for which the Employee is paid or entitled to payment for performance of services for the Employer AND any hour for which the Employee is paid or entitled to payment by the Employer for a period of time during which no duties are performed due to any of the following, consistent with 29 CFR 2530.200b-2(a)(i):

- Vacation
- Holiday
- Illness or incapacity
- Layoff
- Jury duty
- Military duty or leave of absence

**Generic** drug means a Prescription Drug which has the equivalency of the brand name drug with the same use and metabolic disintegration. This Plan will consider as a Generic drug any Food and Drug Administration approved generic pharmaceutical dispensed according to the professional standards of a licensed pharmacist and clearly designated by the pharmacist as being generic.

**Genetic Information** means information about the genetic tests of an individual or his family members, and information about the manifestations of disease or disorder in family members of the individual. A "genetic test" means an analysis of human DNA, RNA, chromosomes, proteins or metabolites, which detects genotypes, mutations or chromosomal changes as defined by the *Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA)*.

**Home Health Care Agency** is a home health care provider which is licensed according to state and local laws to provide skilled nursing and other services on a visiting basis in your home, and recognized as home health providers under Medicare and/or accredited by a recognized accrediting agency such as the Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations.

**Home Health Care Plan** must meet these tests: it must be a formal written plan made by the patient's attending Physician which is reviewed at least every 30 days; it must state the diagnosis; it must certify that the Home Health Care is in place of Hospital confinement; and it must specify the type and extent of Home Health Care required for the treatment of the patient.

**Home Health Care Services and Supplies** include: part-time or intermittent nursing care by or under the supervision of a registered nurse (R.N.); part-time or intermittent home health aide services provided through a Home Health Care Agency (this does not include general housekeeping services); physical, occupational and speech therapy; medical supplies; and laboratory services by or on behalf of the Hospital.

**Home Infusion Therapy** provider is a provider licensed according to state and local laws as a pharmacy, and must be either certified as a home health care provider by Medicare, or accredited as a home pharmacy by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations.

**Hospice Agency** is an agency or organization providing a specialized form of interdisciplinary health care that provides palliative care (pain control and symptom relief) and alleviates the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual discomforts of a terminally ill person, as well as providing supportive care to the primary caregiver and the patient's family. A hospice must be: currently licensed as a hospice pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 1747 or a licensed home health agency with federal Medicare certification pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 1726 and 1747.1.

**Hospice Care Plan** is a plan of terminal patient care that is established and conducted by a Hospice Agency and supervised by a Physician.

**Hospice Care Services and Supplies** are those provided through a Hospice Agency and under a Hospice Care Plan and include inpatient care in a Hospice Unit or other licensed facility, home care, and family counseling during the bereavement period.

**Hospice Unit** is a facility or separate Hospital Unit that provides treatment under a Hospice Care Plan and admits at least two unrelated persons who are expected to die within six months.

**Hospital** is a facility which provides diagnosis, treatment and care of persons who need acute inpatient hospital care under the supervision of physicians. It must be licensed as a general acute care hospital according to state and local laws. It must also be registered as a general hospital by the American Hospital Association and meet accreditation standards of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations.

For limited purpose of inpatient care, the definition of hospital also includes: (1) psychiatric health facilities (only for the acute phase of a mental or nervous disorder or substance abuse), and (2) residential treatment centers.

**Illness** means a bodily disorder, disease, physical sickness or Mental Disorder. Illness includes Pregnancy, childbirth, miscarriage or complications of Pregnancy.

**Injury** means an accidental physical Injury to the body caused by unexpected external means.

**Intensive Care Unit** is defined as a separate, clearly designated service area which is maintained within a Hospital solely for the care and treatment of patients who are critically ill. This also includes what is referred to as a "coronary care unit" or an "acute care unit." It has: facilities for special nursing care not available in regular rooms and wards of the Hospital; special life saving equipment which is immediately available at all times; at least two beds for the accommodation of the critically ill; and at least one registered nurse (R.N.) in continuous and constant attendance 24 hours a day.

**Investigational procedures** (Investigational) are those:

- (1) That have progressed to limited use on humans, but which are not generally accepted as proven and effective procedures within the organized medical community; or
- (2) That do not have final approval from the appropriate governmental regulatory body; or
- (3) That are not supported by scientific evidence which permits conclusions concerning the effect of the service, drug or device on health outcomes; or
- (4) That do not improve the health outcome of the patient treated; or
- (5) That are not beneficial as any established alternative; or
- (6) Whose results outside the Investigational setting cannot be demonstrated or duplicated; or
- (7) That are not generally approved or used by Physicians in the medical community.

**Late Enrollee** means a Plan Participant who enrolls under the Plan other than during the first 30-day period in which the individual is eligible to enroll under the Plan or during a Special Enrollment Period.

**Medical Care Facility** means a Hospital, a facility that treats one or more specific ailments or any type of Skilled Nursing Facility.

**Medical Emergency** means a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity including severe pain such that a prudent layperson with average knowledge of health and medicine could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in (1) serious jeopardy to the health of an individual (or, in the case of a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child), (2) serious impairment to body functions, or (3) serious dysfunction of any body organ or part. A Medical Emergency includes such conditions as heart attacks, cardiovascular accidents, poisonings, loss of consciousness or respiration, convulsions or other such acute medical conditions.

**Medical Non-Emergency Care** means care which can safely and adequately be provided other than in a Hospital.

**Medically Necessary** procedures, supplies, equipment or services are those determined to be:

- (1) Appropriate and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of the medical condition;
- (2) Provided for the diagnosis or direct care and treatment of the medical condition;
- (3) Within standards of good medical practice within the organized medical community;
- (4) Not primarily for your convenience, or for the convenience of your physician or another provider; and
- (5) The most appropriate procedure, supply, equipment or service which can safely be provided. The most appropriate procedure, supply, equipment or service must satisfy the following requirements:
  - (a) there must be valid scientific evidence demonstrating that the expected health benefit from the procedure, supply, equipment or services are clinically significant and produce a greater likelihood of benefit, without a disproportionately greater risk of harm or complications, for you with the particular medical condition being treated than other possible alternatives; and

- (b) generally accepted forms of treatment that are less invasive have been tried and found to be ineffective or are otherwise unsuitable; and
- (c) for hospital stays, acute care as an inpatient is necessary due to the kind of services you are receiving or the severity of your condition, and safe and adequate care cannot be received by you as an outpatient or in a less intensified medical setting.

The Plan Administrator has the discretionary authority to decide whether care or treatment is Medically Necessary and may assign this authority to a third party.

**Medicare** is the Health Insurance For The Aged and Disabled program under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, as amended.

**Mental Disorder** means any disease or condition, regardless of whether the cause is organic, that is classified as a Mental Disorder in the current edition of International Classification of Diseases, published by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services or is listed in the current edition of Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, published by the American Psychiatric Association.

**No-Fault Auto Insurance** is the basic reparations provision of a law providing for payments without determining fault in connection with automobile accidents.

**Outpatient Care and/or Services** is treatment including services, supplies and medicines provided and used at a Hospital under the direction of a Physician to a person not admitted as a registered bed patient; or services rendered in a Physician's office, laboratory or X-ray facility, an Outpatient Surgical Center, or the patient's home.

**Outpatient Surgical Center** is a licensed facility that is used mainly for performing outpatient surgery, has a staff of Physicians, has continuous Physician and nursing care by registered nurses (R.N.s) and does not provide for overnight stays.

**Partial Hospitalization (PHP) program or day/night program** is an outpatient program specifically designed for the diagnosis or active treatment of a Mental Health Disorder or Substance Use Disorder when there is reasonable expectation for improvement or when it is necessary to maintain a patient's functional level and prevent relapse; this program shall be administered in a facility which is accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health Care Organizations or a national accreditation organization recognized by the Claims Administrator, and shall be licensed to provide Partial Hospitalization services, if required, by the state in which the facility is providing these services. Treatment lasts at least 20 hours per week no charge is made for room and board.

**Pharmacy** means a licensed establishment where covered Prescription Drugs are filled and dispensed by a pharmacist licensed under the laws of the state where he or she practices.

**Physician** means a Doctor of Medicine (M.D.), Doctor of Osteopathy (D.O.), Doctor of Podiatry (D.P.M.), Doctor of Chiropractic (D.C.), Audiologist, Certified Nurse Anesthetist, Licensed Professional Counselor, Licensed Professional Physical Therapist, Master of Social Work (M.S.W.), Occupational Therapist, Physiotherapist, Psychiatrist, Psychologist (Ph.D.), Speech Language Pathologist and any other practitioner of the healing arts who is licensed and regulated by a state or federal agency and is acting within the scope of his or her license.

**Plan** means San Jose Unified School District Self-Funded PPO Health Plan, which is a benefits plan for certain Employees of San Jose Unified School District and is described in this document.

**Plan Participant** is any Employee, Retiree or Dependent who is covered under this Plan.

**Plan Year** is the 12-month period beginning on July 1 and ending on the following June 30.

**Pregnancy** is childbirth and conditions associated with Pregnancy, including complications.

**Prescription Drug** means any of the following: a Food and Drug Administration-approved drug or medicine which, under federal law, is required to bear the legend: "Caution: federal law prohibits dispensing without prescription"; injectable insulin; hypodermic needles or syringes, but only when dispensed upon a written prescription of a licensed Physician. Such drug must be Medically Necessary in the treatment of a Sickness or Injury.

**Recognized Charge** is the lower of:

- (1) The provider's usual charge to provide a service or supply, or
- (2) The charge the Claims Administrator determines to be the recognized charge percentage for the service or supply, or
- (3) The charge the Claims Administrator determines to be appropriate, based on factors such as:
  - (a) The cost of supplying the same or similar service or supply, and
  - (b) The manner in which the charges for the service or supply are made.
  - (c) The complexity of the service or supply,
  - (d) The degree of skill needed to provide it,
  - (e) The provider's specialty, and
  - (f) The Recognized Charge in other areas.

**Retired Employee** is a former Active Employee of the Employer who was retired while employed by the Employer under the formal written plan of the Employer and elects to contribute to the Plan the contribution required from the Retired Employee.

**Sickness** is a Covered Person's Illness, disease or Pregnancy (including complications).

**Skilled Nursing Facility** is an institution that provides continuous skilled nursing services. It must be licensed according to state and local laws and be recognized as a skilled nursing facility under Medicare.

**Spinal Manipulation/Chiropractic Care** means skeletal adjustments, manipulation or other treatment in connection with the detection and correction by manual or mechanical means of structural imbalance or subluxation in the human body. Such treatment is done by a Physician to remove nerve interference resulting from, or related to, distortion, misalignment or subluxation of, or in, the vertebral column.

**Substance Abuse** is regular excessive compulsive drinking of alcohol and/or physical habitual dependence on drugs. This does not include dependence on tobacco and ordinary caffeine-containing drinks.

**Total Disability (Totally Disabled)** means: In the case of a Dependent, the complete inability as a result of Injury or Sickness to perform the normal activities of a person of like age and sex in good health.

**Urgent Care Services** means care and treatment for an illness, injury or condition serious enough that a reasonable person would seek care right away, but not so severe as to require emergency room services.

## PLAN EXCLUSIONS

**Note: Exclusions related to Prescription Drugs are shown in the Prescription Drug Plan. Contact your Prescription Drug Administrator for additional information.**

**For all Medical Benefits shown in the Schedule of Benefits, a charge for the following is not covered:**

- (1) **Abortion.** Services, supplies, care or treatment in connection with an abortion unless the life of the mother is endangered by the continued Pregnancy or the Pregnancy is the result of rape or incest.
- (2) **Alcohol.** Services, supplies, care or treatment to a Covered Person for an Injury or Sickness which occurred as a result of that Covered Person's illegal use of alcohol. The responding officer's determination of inebriation will be sufficient for this exclusion, but is not required. The Plan may rely on any information contained in the medical records, traffic collision report, toxicology report, or other documentary evidence. Expenses will be covered for Injured Covered Persons other than the person illegally using alcohol and expenses will be covered for Substance Abuse treatment as specified in this Plan. This exclusion does not apply if the Injury resulted from an act of domestic violence or a medical (including both physical and mental health) condition.
- (3) **Bereavement counseling.**
- (4) **Biofeedback.**
- (5) **Complications of non-covered treatments.** Care, services or treatment required as a result of complications from a treatment not covered under the Plan are not covered. Complications from a non-covered abortion are covered.
- (6) **Cosmetic Procedures.** Any surgery or procedure, the primary purpose of which is to improve or change the appearance of any portion of the body, but which does not restore bodily function, correct a disease state, or improve a physiological function. Cosmetic Procedures include cosmetic surgery, reconstructive surgery, pharmacological services, nutritional regimens or other services for beautification, or treatment relating to the consequences of, or as a result of, Cosmetic Surgery (including reimplantation). This exclusion includes, but is not limited to, surgery to correct gynecomastia and breast augmentation procedures, and otoplasties. This exclusion does not apply to surgery to restore function if the body area has been altered by injury, disease, trauma, congenital/developmental Anomalies, or previous covered therapeutic processes.
- (7) **Counseling/Analysis/Support Groups.** Services or supplies primarily directed at raising the level of consciousness, social enhancement, counseling limited to everyday problems of living such as marriage counseling or premarital counseling, pastoral counseling; sex therapy or support groups.
- (8) **Custodial care.** Services or supplies provided mainly as a rest cure, maintenance, Custodial Care or domiciliary care consisting chiefly of room and board.
- (9) **Educational or vocational testing.** Services for educational or vocational testing or training.
- (10) **Excess charges.** The part of an expense for care and treatment of an Injury or Sickness that is in excess of the Recognized Charge.
- (11) **Exercise programs.** Exercise programs for treatment of any condition, except for Physician-supervised cardiac rehabilitation, occupational or physical therapy if covered by this Plan.
- (12) **Experimental / Investigational or not Medically Necessary.** Care and treatment that is either Experimental/Investigational or not Medically Necessary. This exclusion shall not apply to routine patient costs to the extent that the cost is for a Qualified Individual who is a participant in an approved clinical trial with respect to the treatment of cancer or another life-threatening disease or condition. The Plan shall not deny, limit or impose additional conditions on routine patient costs for items and services furnished in connection with participation in the clinical trial.

The following are not included as routine patient costs:



- (a) The investigational item, device, or service itself;
- (b) Items and services that are provided solely to satisfy data collection and analysis needs and that are not used in the direct clinical management of the patient; or
- (c) A service that is clearly inconsistent with widely accepted and established standards of care for a particular diagnosis.

This provision does not require the Plan to pay charges for services or supplies that are not otherwise Covered Charges (including, without limitation, charges which the Qualified Individual would not be required to pay in the absence of this coverage) or prohibit the Plan from imposing all applicable cost sharing and reasonable cost management provisions. For these purposes, a Qualified Individual is a Covered Person who is eligible to participate in an approved clinical trial according to the trial protocol with respect to the treatment of cancer or another life-threatening disease or condition, and either: (1) the referring health care professional is a Network Provider and has concluded that the individual's participation in such trial would be appropriate; or (2) the Covered Person provides medical and scientific information establishing that the individual's participation in such trial would be appropriate.

- (13) **Eye care.** Radial keratotomy or other eye surgery to correct refractive disorders. Also, routine eye examinations, including refractions, lenses for the eyes and exams for their fitting. This exclusion does not apply to aphakic patients and soft lenses or sclera shells intended for use as corneal bandages or as may be covered under the well adult or well child sections of this Plan.
- (14) **Food Supplements or nutritional counseling, except as mandated by federal law.** This exclusion includes aminoacidopathies formula, enteral formulas, modified solid food products.
- (15) **Foot care.** Coverage is limited to consultations/office visits for podiatric diagnosis physical therapy when appropriate for treatment only available if patient has arthritic, rheumatologic, neuropathic, diabetic or entrapment-related foot problems. Foot Orthotic coverage is only available if patient has arthritic, rheumatologic, neuropathic, diabetic or entrapment-related foot problems. Orthopedic shoes, shoe inserts or other supportive foot devices are not covered.
- (16) **Foreign travel.** Care, treatment or supplies out of the U.S. if travel is for the purpose of obtaining medical services.
- (17) **Government coverage.** Care, treatment or supplies furnished by a program or agency funded by any government. This exclusion does not apply to Medicaid or when otherwise prohibited by applicable law.
- (18) **Growth Hormone Therapy.** Charges for the treatment of Turner's syndrome and other conditions characterized by short stature.
- (19) **Hair loss.** Care and treatment for hair loss including wigs, hair transplants or any drug that promises hair growth, whether or not prescribed by a Physician.
- (20) **Hearing aids and exams.** Charges for services or supplies in connection with hearing aids or exams for their fitting, except the initial hearing aid for hearing loss caused by a covered surgical procedure rendered to a patient while covered under the Plan.
- (21) **Hospital employees.** Professional services billed by a Physician or nurse who is an employee of a Hospital or Skilled Nursing Facility and paid by the Hospital or facility for the service.
- (22) **Hypnosis and Continuous Epidural Anesthesia.** Hypnosis and Continuous Epidural Anesthesia when used for control of chronic pain (except that associated with terminal cancer) or for control of acute post-operative pain (except when used following certain select procedures, as determined by the Claims Administrator).

- (23) **Illegal Acts.** Charges for services received as a result of Injury or Sickness occurring directly or indirectly, as a result of the Covered Person's commission of or attempt to commit a Serious Illegal Act, or a riot or public disturbance. For purposes of this exclusion, the term "Serious Illegal Act" shall mean any act or series of acts that, if prosecuted as a criminal offense, a sentence to a term of imprisonment in excess of one year could be imposed. It is not necessary that criminal charges be filed, or, if filed, that a conviction result, or that a sentence of imprisonment for a term in excess of one year be imposed for this exclusion to apply. Proof beyond a reasonable doubt is not required. This exclusion does not apply if the Injury or Sickness resulted from an act of domestic violence or a medical (including both physical and mental health) condition.
- (24) **Illegal drugs or medications.** Services, supplies, care or treatment to a Covered Person for Injury or Sickness resulting from that Covered Person's voluntary taking of or being under the influence of any controlled substance, drug, hallucinogen or narcotic not administered on the advice of a Physician. Expenses will be covered for Injured Covered Persons other than the person using controlled substances and expenses will be covered for Substance Abuse treatment as specified in this Plan. This exclusion does not apply if the Injury resulted from an act of domestic violence or a medical (including both physical and mental health) condition.
- (25) **Infertility.** Care, supplies, services and treatment for infertility, artificial insemination, in vitro fertilization, including implantation of fertilized egg embryo or gamete transfer procedures. Personal and other drugs used for the induction of ovulation; ultrasound monitoring for the evaluation or treatment of infertility.
- (26) **Insertion of Laminaria.** Charges for the insertion of Laminaria except to initiate labor care of intrauterine death of fetus except as mandated by federal law.
- (27) **Massage therapy.**
- (28) **Midwife.**
- (29) **Missed Appointments/Phone Consultations/Forms/No Care Given.** Medical summaries, invoice preparation, completion of claim forms, or fees for missed appointments, telephone consultations, charges for standby services. Services or supplies not actually received by the patient or Incurred by someone other than the patient unless specifically included in this Plan such as coverage limits for organ donors.
- (30) **Newborn circumcision.**
- (31) **No Charge.** Care and treatment for which there would not have been a charge if no coverage had been in force. Exception: services received at a non-governmental charitable research Hospital. Such a Hospital must meet the following guidelines:
- (a) it must be internationally known as being devoted mainly to medical research;
  - (b) at least 10% of its yearly annual expenditure must be spent on research not directly related to patient care;
  - (c) at least 1/3 of its gross income must come from donations or grants other than gifts or payments for patient care;
  - (d) it must accept patients who are unable to pay; and
  - (e) 2/3 of its patients must have conditions directly related to the Hospital's research.
- (32) **No obligation to pay.** Charges incurred for which the Plan has no legal obligation to pay.
- (33) **No Physician recommendation.** Care, treatment, services or supplies not recommended and approved by a Physician; or treatment, services or supplies when the Covered Person is not under the regular care of a Physician. Regular care means ongoing medical supervision or treatment which is appropriate care for the Injury or Sickness.

- (34) **Non-compliance.** All charges in connection with treatments or medications where the patient either is in non-compliance with medical orders issued while an inpatient at, or is discharged against medical advice from a Hospital or Skilled Nursing Facility against medical advice.
- (35) **Non-emergency Hospital admissions.** Care and treatment billed by a Hospital for non-Medical Emergency admissions on a Friday or a Saturday. This does not apply if surgery is performed within 24 hours of admission.
- (36) **Not specified as covered.** Non-traditional medical services, treatments and supplies which are not specified as covered under this Plan.
- (37) **Obesity.** Screening and counseling for obesity will be covered to the extent required under Standard Preventive Care. Other care and treatment of obesity, weight loss or dietary control whether or not it is, in any case, a part of the treatment plan for another Sickness is excluded. Medically Necessary non-surgical and surgical treatment of morbid obesity is covered.
- (38) **Occupational.** Care and treatment of an Injury or Sickness that is occupational -- that is, arises from work for wage or profit including self-employment. This exclusion may apply even if the expenses for the illness or injury are not paid by Worker's Compensation or similar employer's liability insurance.
- (39) **Personal comfort items.** Personal comfort items or other equipment, such as, but not limited to, air conditioners, air-purification units, over-the-counter humidifiers, electric heating units, orthopedic mattresses, blood pressure instruments, scales, elastic bandages or stockings, nonprescription drugs and medicines, and first-aid supplies and nonhospital adjustable beds.
- (40) **Plan design excludes.** Charges excluded by the Plan design as mentioned in this document.
- (41) **Police Custody/Court Ordered Services.** Services or supplies Incurred while the Covered Person is in police custody, jail or in prison, or services or supplies related to court ordered evaluations for Mental Disorders or substance (drug and alcohol) abuse.
- (42) **Pulmonary Rehabilitation.**
- (43) **Relative giving services.** Professional services performed by a person who ordinarily resides in the Covered Person's home or is related to the Covered Person as a Spouse, parent, child, brother or sister, whether the relationship is by blood or exists in law.
- (44) **Self-Inflicted.** Any loss due to an intentionally self-inflicted Injury. This exclusion does not apply if the Injury resulted from an act of domestic violence or a medical (including both physical and mental health) condition.
- (45) **Services before or after coverage.** Care, treatment or supplies for which a charge was incurred before a person was covered under this Plan or after coverage ceased under this Plan.
- (46) **Sexual dysfunctions and inadequacies.** Care, treatment, services, supplies or medication in connection with treatment for sexual dysfunctions and inadequacies.
- (47) **Surgical Sterilization Reversal.**
- (48) **Surrogacy and surrogate mother.** All charges associated with surrogacy, a method of reproduction whereby a woman agrees to become pregnant and deliver a child for a contracted party.
- (49) **Temporomandibular Joint Syndrome.** All diagnostic and treatment services related to the treatment of jaw joint problems including temporomandibular joint (TMJ) syndrome.

- (50) **Travel or accommodations.** Charges for travel or accommodations, whether or not recommended by a Physician, except for ambulance charges as defined as a Covered Charge.
- (51) **War.** Any loss that is due to a declared or undeclared act of war.

## PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS

### Pharmacy Drug Charge

Participating pharmacies have contracted with the Plan to charge Covered Persons reduced fees for covered Prescription Drugs.

### Copayments

The copayment is applied to each covered pharmacy drug or mail order drug charge and is shown in the schedule of benefits. The copayment amount is not a Covered Charge under the medical Plan. Any one pharmacy prescription is limited to a 30-day supply. Any one mail order prescription is limited to a 90-day supply.

Contact the Prescription Drug Administrator for information regarding non-participating pharmacy benefits or benefits at a participating pharmacy when the Covered Person's ID card is not used.

### Percentages Payable

The copayment payable amount is applied to each covered pharmacy drug or mail order drug charge and is shown in the schedule of benefits.

### Mail Order Drug Benefit Option

The mail order drug benefit option is available for maintenance medications (those that are taken for long periods of time, such as drugs sometimes prescribed for heart disease, high blood pressure, asthma, etc.). Because of volume buying, the mail order pharmacy is able to offer Covered Persons significant savings on their prescriptions.

### Covered Prescription Drugs

- (1) Drugs prescribed by a Physician that require a prescription either by federal or state law. This includes oral contraceptives unless otherwise specifically excluded, but excludes any drugs stated as not covered under this Plan.
- (2) All compounded prescriptions containing at least one prescription ingredient in a therapeutic quantity.
- (3) Insulin and other diabetic supplies and diabetic equipment when prescribed by a Physician.
- (4) Injectable drugs or any prescription directing administration by injection.

### Limits To This Benefit

This benefit applies only when a Covered Person incurs a covered Prescription Drug charge. The covered drug charge for any one prescription will be limited to:

- (1) Refills only up to the number of times specified by a Physician.
- (2) Refills up to one year from the date of order by a Physician.

### Expenses Not Covered

This benefit will not cover a charge for any of the following:

- (1) **Administration.** Any charge for the administration of a covered Prescription Drug.
- (2) **Appetite suppressants.** A charge for appetite suppressants, dietary supplements or vitamin supplements, except for prenatal vitamins requiring a prescription or prescription vitamin supplements containing fluoride.

- (3) **Consumed on premises.** Any drug or medicine that is consumed or administered at the place where it is dispensed.
- (4) **Devices.** Devices of any type, even though such devices may require a prescription. These include (but are not limited to) therapeutic devices, artificial appliances, braces, support garments, or any similar device.
- (5) **Drugs Obtained Outside the United States.**
- (6) **Drugs used for cosmetic purposes.** Charges for drugs used for cosmetic purposes, such as anabolic steroids, Retin A or medications for hair growth or removal.
- (7) **Experimental.** Experimental drugs and medicines, even though a charge is made to the Covered Person.
- (8) **FDA.** Any drug not approved by the Food and Drug Administration.
- (9) **Immunization.** Immunization agents or biological sera, except as may be required under Standard Preventive Care.
- (10) **Impotence.** A charge for impotence medication.
- (11) **Infertility.** A charge for infertility medication.
- (12) **Injectable Supplies.** A charge for hypodermic syringes and/or needles (other than for insulin).
- (13) **Inpatient medication.** A drug or medicine that is to be taken by the Covered Person, in whole or in part, while Hospital confined. This includes being confined in any institution that has a facility for the dispensing of drugs and medicines on its premises.
- (14) **Investigational.** A drug or medicine labeled: "Caution - limited by federal law to investigational use".
- (15) **Medical exclusions.** A charge excluded under Medical Plan Exclusions.
- (16) **No charge.** A charge for Prescription Drugs which may be properly received without charge under local, state or federal programs.
- (17) **No prescription.** A drug or medicine that can legally be bought without a written prescription. This does not apply to injectable insulin or to over the counter drugs that are prescribed by a Physician as required for Standard Preventive Care.
- (18) **Off-label drugs.** A charge for FDA-approved drugs that are prescribed for non-FDA-approved uses.
- (19) **Refills.** Any refill that is requested more than one year after the prescription was written or any refill that is more than the number of refills ordered by the Physician.

## HOW TO SUBMIT A CLAIM

**Benefits under this Plan shall be paid only if the Plan Administrator decides in its discretion that a Covered Person is entitled to them.**

When a Covered Person has a Claim to submit for payment that person must:

- (1) Obtain a Claim form from the Claims Administrator.
- (2) Complete the Employee portion of the form. ALL QUESTIONS MUST BE ANSWERED.
- (3) Have the Physician complete the provider's portion of the form.
- (4) For Plan reimbursements, attach bills for services rendered. ALL BILLS MUST SHOW:
  - Name of Plan
  - Employee's name
  - Name of patient
  - Name, address, telephone number of the provider of care
  - Diagnosis
  - Type of services rendered, with diagnosis and/or procedure codes
  - Date of services
  - Charges
- (5) Send the above to the Claims Administrator at this address:

HealthComp Administrators  
P.O. Box 45018  
Fresno, California 93718  
(800) 442-7247

## WHEN CLAIMS SHOULD BE FILED

Claims should be filed with the Claims Administrator within one year of the date charges for the services were incurred. Benefits are based on the Plan's provisions at the time the charges were incurred. Claims filed later than that date may be declined or reduced unless the person is not legally capable of submitting the claim.

The Claims Administrator will determine if enough information has been submitted to enable proper consideration of the claim. If not, more information may be requested from the claimant. The Plan reserves the right to have a Plan Participant seek a second medical opinion.

## CLAIMS PROCEDURE

Following is a description of how the Plan processes claims for benefits and reviews the appeal of any claim that is denied. The terms used in this section are defined below.

A "Claim" is defined as any request for a Plan benefit, made by a claimant or by a representative of a claimant, which complies with the Plan's reasonable procedure for submitting claims and making benefit claims determinations.

A "Claim" does not include a request for a determination of an individual's eligibility to participate in the Plan.

If a Claim is denied, in whole or in part, or if Plan coverage is rescinded retroactively for fraud or misrepresentation, the denial is known as an "Adverse Benefit Determination."

A claimant has the right to request a review of an Adverse Benefit Determination. This request is an "Appeal." If the Claim is denied at the end of the Plan's internal Appeal process, as described below, the Plan's final decision is known as a "Final Adverse Benefit Determination." For certain types of Claims, the claimant has the right to request an independent external review of the Final Adverse Benefit Determination. The External Review procedures are described below.

The Claims and the Appeal procedures are designed to ensure that claimants are not unduly inhibited from making Claims; that claimants may appoint an authorized representative in accordance with Plan rules; that determinations will be made in accordance with the Plan documents and that Plan provisions are applied consistently. This means, among other things, that Claims and Appeals will be decided in a manner designed to ensure the independence and impartiality of the persons involved in making these decisions.

A claimant must follow all Claims and Appeal procedures both internal and external, before he or she can file a lawsuit. However, this rule may not apply if the Plan Administrator has not complied with the procedures described in this Section. If a lawsuit is brought, it must be filed within two years after the final determination of an Appeal.

The Plan may offer additional voluntary appeal and/or mandatory arbitration procedures other than those described here. If applicable, the Plan will not assert that a claimant has failed to exhaust administrative remedies for failure to use the voluntary procedures; any statute of limitations or other defense based on timeliness is tolled during the time a voluntary appeal is pending; and the voluntary process is available only after exhaustion of the appeals process described in this section. If mandatory arbitration is offered by the Plan, the arbitration must be conducted instead of the appeal process described in this section.

Any of the authority and responsibilities of the Plan Administrator under the Claims and Appeal Procedures or the External Review Process, including the discretionary authority to interpret the terms of the Plan, may be delegated to a third party. If you have any questions regarding these procedures, please contact the Plan Administrator.

There are different kinds of Claims and each one has a specific timetable for each step in the review process. Upon receipt of the Claim, the Plan Administrator must decide whether to approve or deny the Claim. The Plan Administrator's notification to the claimant of its decision must be made as soon as practical and not later than the time shown in the timetable. However, if the Claim has not been filed properly, or if it is incomplete, or if there are other matters beyond the control of the Plan Administrator, the claimant may be notified that the period for providing the notification will need to be extended. If the period is extended because the Plan Administrator needs more information from the claimant, the claimant must provide the requested information within the time shown on the timetable. Once the Claim is complete, the Plan Administrator must make its decision as shown in the timetable. If the Claim is denied, in whole or in part, the claimant has the right to file an Appeal. Then the Plan Administrator must decide the Appeal and, if the Appeal is denied, provide notice to the claimant within the time periods shown on the timetable. The time periods shown in the timetable begin at the time the Claim or Appeal is filed in accordance with the Plan's procedures. Decisions will be made within a reasonable period of time appropriate to the circumstances, but within the maximum time periods listed in the timetables below. Unless otherwise noted, "days" means calendar days.

The definitions of the types of Claims are:

### **Urgent Care Claim**

A Claim involving Urgent Care is any Claim for medical care or treatment where the Plan conditions receipt of benefits, in whole or in part, on approval in advance of obtaining the care or treatment, and using the timetable for a non-urgent care determination could seriously jeopardize the life or health of the claimant; or the ability of the claimant to regain maximum function; or in the opinion of the attending or consulting Physician, would subject the claimant to severe pain that could not be adequately managed without the care or treatment that is the subject of the Claim. The Urgent Care Claim rules do not apply to claims involving urgent care where Plan benefits are not conditioned on prior approval. These claims are subject to the rules on Post-Service Claims described below.



A Physician with knowledge of the claimant's medical condition may determine if a Claim is one involving Urgent Care. The Claims Administrator will defer to the attending provider's determination that the Claim involves Urgent Care. If there is no such Physician, an individual acting on behalf of the Plan applying the judgment of a prudent layperson who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine may make the determination.

In the case of a Claim involving Urgent Care, responses must be made as soon as possible consistent with the medical urgency involved, and no later than the following times:

Notification to claimant of Claim determination	72 hours
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Insufficient information on the Claim, or failure to follow the Plan's procedure for filing a Claim:

Notification to claimant, orally or in writing	24 hours
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Response by claimant, orally or in writing	48 hours
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Benefit determination, orally or in writing	48 hours
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Notification of Adverse Benefit Determination on Appeal	72 hours
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If there is an Adverse Benefit Determination on a Claim involving Urgent Care, a request for an expedited Appeal may be submitted orally or in writing by the claimant. All necessary information, including the Plan's benefit determination on review, may be transmitted between the Plan and the claimant by telephone, facsimile, or other similarly expeditious method. Alternatively, the claimant may request an expedited review under the External Review Process.

### **Concurrent Care Claims**

A Concurrent Care Claim is a special type of Claim that arises if the Plan informs a claimant that benefits for a course of treatment that has been previously approved for a period of time or number of treatments is to be reduced or eliminated. In that case, the Plan must notify the claimant sufficiently in advance of the effective date of the reduction or elimination of treatment to allow the claimant to file an Appeal. This rule does not apply if benefits are reduced or eliminated due to Plan amendment or termination. A similar process applies for Claims based on a rescission of coverage for fraud or misrepresentation.

In the case of a Concurrent Care Claim, the following timetable applies:

Notification to claimant of benefit reduction	Sufficiently prior to scheduled termination of course of treatment to allow claimant to appeal
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Notification to claimant of rescission	30 days
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Notification of determination on Appeal of Claims involving Urgent Care	24 hours (provided claimant files Appeal more than 24 hours prior to scheduled termination of course of treatment)
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Notification of Adverse Benefit Determination on Appeal for non-Urgent Claims	As soon as feasible, but not more than 30 days
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Notification of Adverse Benefit Determination on Appeal for Rescission Claims	30 days
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### **Pre-Service Claim**

A Pre-Service Claim means any Claim for a benefit under this Plan where the Plan conditions receipt of the benefit, in whole or in part, on approval in advance of obtaining medical care. These are, for example, Claims

subject to pre-certification. Please see the Cost Management section of this booklet for further information about Pre-Service Claims.

In the case of a Pre-Service Claim, the following timetable applies:

Notification to claimant of Benefit Determination (whether or not adverse)	15 days
Extension due to matters beyond the control of the Plan	15 days
Insufficient information on the Claim:	
Notification of	15 days
Response by claimant	45 days
Notification, orally or in writing, of failure to follow the Plan's procedures for filing a Claim	5 days
Notification of Adverse Benefit Determination on Appeal	15 days per benefit appeal

### **Post-Service Claim**

A Post-Service Claim means any Claim for a Plan benefit that is not an Urgent Care Claim or a Pre-Service Claim; in other words, a Claim that is a request for payment under the Plan for medical services already received by the claimant.

In the case of a Post-Service Claim, the following timetable applies:

Notification to claimant of Adverse Benefit Determination	30 days
Extension due to matters beyond the control of the Plan	15 days
Extension due to insufficient information on the Claim	15 days
Response by claimant following notice of insufficient information	45 days
Notification of Adverse Benefit Determination on Appeal	30 days per benefit appeal

### **Notice to claimant of Adverse Benefit Determinations**

If a Claim is denied in whole or in part, the denial is considered to be an Adverse Benefit Determination. Except with Urgent Care Claims, when the notification may be oral followed by written or electronic notification within three days of the oral notification, the Plan Administrator shall provide written or electronic notification of the Adverse Benefit Determination. The notice will state in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner and in a manner calculated to be understood by the claimant:

- (1) Information sufficient to allow the claimant to identify the Claim involved (including date of service, the healthcare provider, and the claim amount, if applicable), and a statement that the diagnosis code and treatment code and their corresponding meanings will be provided to the claimant as soon as feasible upon request.
- (2) The specific reason or reasons for the adverse determination, including the denial code and its corresponding meaning, and a description of the Plan's standard, if any, that was used in denying the Claim. In the case of a Final Adverse Benefit Determination, the description must include a discussion of the decision.
- (3) Reference to the specific Plan provisions on which the determination was based.

- (4) A description of any additional material or information necessary for the claimant to perfect the Claim and an explanation of why such material or information is necessary.
- (5) A description of the Plan's internal and external Appeal procedures. This description will include information on how to initiate the Appeal and the time limits applicable to such procedures.
- (6) If the Adverse Benefit Determination was based on an internal rule, guideline, protocol, or other similar criterion, the specific rule, guideline, protocol, or criterion will be provided free of charge. If this is not practical, a statement will be included that such a rule, guideline, protocol, or criterion was relied upon in making the Adverse Benefit Determination and a copy will be provided free of charge to the claimant upon request.
- (7) If the Adverse Benefit Determination is based on the Medical Necessity or Experimental or Investigational treatment or similar exclusion or limit, an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the determination, applying the terms of the Plan to the claimant's medical circumstances, will be provided. If this is not practical, a statement will be included that such explanation will be provided free of charge, upon request.
- (8) Information about the availability of and contact information for, any applicable office of health insurance consumer assistance or ombudsman established under applicable federal law to assist individuals with the internal claims and appeals and external review process.

## Appeals

When a claimant receives notification of an Adverse Benefit Determination, the claimant generally has 180 days following receipt of the notification in which to file a written request for an Appeal of the decision. However, for Concurrent Care Claims, the Claimant must file the Appeal prior to the scheduled reduction or termination of treatment. For a claim based on rescission of coverage, the claimant must file the Appeal within 30 days. A claimant may submit written comments, documents, records, and other information relating to the Claim.

The Plan Administrator shall provide the claimant, as soon as possible and sufficiently in advance of the time within which a final determination on Appeal is required to allow the claimant time to respond, any new or additional evidence that is relied upon, considered or generated by or at the direction of the Plan. This evidence shall be provided free of charge.

A document, record, or other information shall be considered relevant to a Claim if it:

- (1) was relied upon in making the benefit determination;
- (2) was submitted, considered, or generated in the course of making the benefit determination, without regard to whether it was relied upon in making the benefit determination;
- (3) demonstrated compliance with the administrative processes and safeguards designed to ensure and to verify that benefit determinations are made in accordance with Plan documents and Plan provisions have been applied consistently with respect to all claimants; or
- (4) constituted a statement of policy or guidance with respect to the Plan concerning the denied treatment option or benefit.

The period of time within which a benefit determination on Appeal is required to be made shall begin at the time an Appeal is filed in writing in accordance with the procedures of the Plan. This timing is without regard to whether all the necessary information accompanies the filing.

Before the Plan Administrator issues its Final Adverse Benefit Determination based on a new or additional rationale, the claimant must be provided, free of charge, with a copy of the rationale. The rationale must be provided as soon as possible and sufficiently in advance of the time within which a final determination on Appeal is required to allow the claimant time to respond. If it is impossible under the circumstances to give the claimant a reasonable time to respond, the period for issuing the Final Adverse Benefit Determination will be delayed until the claimant has a reasonable opportunity to respond. After the claimant responds, or if the claimant fails to

do so, the Plan Administrator will issue its Final Adverse Benefit Determination as soon as reasonably possible, taking into account the medical exigencies.

The review shall take into account all comments, documents, records, and other information submitted by the claimant relating to the Claim, without regard to whether such information was submitted or considered in the initial benefit determination. The review will not afford deference to the initial Adverse Benefit Determination and will be conducted by a fiduciary of the Plan who is neither the individual who made the adverse determination nor a subordinate of that individual.

If the determination was based on a medical judgment, including determinations with regard to whether a particular treatment, drug, or other item is Experimental, Investigational, or not Medically Necessary or appropriate, the fiduciary shall consult with a health care professional who was not involved in the original benefit determination. This health care professional will have appropriate training and experience in the field of medicine involved in the medical judgment. Additionally, medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the Plan in connection with the initial determination will be identified.

If the Appeal of a Claim is denied, in whole or in part, the Plan Administrator shall provide written notification of the Adverse Benefit Determination on Appeal. The notice will state, in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner and in a manner calculated to be understood by the claimant:

- (1) Information sufficient to allow the claimant to identify the Claim involved (including date of service, the healthcare provider, and the claim amount, if applicable), and a statement that the diagnosis code and treatment code and their corresponding meanings will be provided to the claimant as soon as feasible upon request.
- (2) The specific reason or reasons for the adverse determination, including the denial code and its corresponding meaning, and a description of the Plan's standard, if any, that was used in denying the Claim.
- (3) Reference to the specific Plan provisions on which the determination was based.
- (4) A description of any additional material or information necessary for the claimant to perfect the Claim and an explanation of why such material or information is necessary.
- (5) A description of the Plan's internal and external review procedures and the time limits applicable to such procedures.
- (6) A statement that the claimant is entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information relevant to the Claim.
- (7) If the Adverse Benefit Determination was based on an internal rule, guideline, protocol, or other similar criterion, the specific rule, guideline, protocol, or criterion will be provided free of charge. If this is not practical, a statement will be included that such a rule, guideline, protocol, or criterion was relied upon in making the Adverse Benefit Determination and a copy will be provided free of charge to the claimant upon request.
- (8) If the Adverse Benefit Determination is based on the Medical Necessity or Experimental or Investigational treatment or similar exclusion or limit, an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the determination, applying the terms of the Plan to the claimant's medical circumstances, will be provided. If this is not practical, a statement will be included that such explanation will be provided free of charge, upon request.
- (9) Information about the availability of and contact information for, any applicable office of health insurance consumer assistance or ombudsman established under applicable federal law to assist individuals with the internal claims and appeals and external review process.

If the claimant disagrees with the Adverse Benefit Determination on Appeal, he or she may file a request for a second level of Appeal. This request must be made in writing within 180 days following receipt of the Adverse Benefit Determination on Appeal. The claimant may submit written comments, documents, records, and other information relating to the Claim. The second level of review will be conducted, and written notification of the

decision, shall be made in accordance with all of the procedures that apply to the first level of review. If the Claim is denied in whole or in part after this second level of Appeal, the written notification describing the Adverse Benefit Determination is the Final Adverse Benefit Determination.

### **EXTERNAL REVIEW PROCESS**

If a claimant receives a Final Adverse Benefit Determination under the Plan's internal Claims and Appeals Procedures, he or she may request that the Claim be reviewed under the Plan's External Review process. For requests made on or after September 20, 2011, the External Review process is available only where the Final Adverse Benefit Determination is denied on the basis of (1) a medical judgment (which includes but is not limited to, Plan requirements for medical necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care, or effectiveness of a covered benefit; eligibility for a reasonable alternative under a wellness program; or application of nonquantitative treatment limitations), (2) a determination that a treatment is experimental or investigational, or (3) a rescission of coverage. The request for External Review must be filed in writing within 4 months after receipt of the Final Adverse Benefit Determination.

The Plan Administrator will determine whether the Claim is eligible for review under the External Review process. This determination is based on the criteria described above and whether:

- (1) The claimant is or was covered under the Plan at the time the Claim was made or incurred;
- (2) The denial relates to the claimant's failure to meet the Plan's eligibility requirements;
- (3) The claimant has exhausted the Plan's internal Claims and Appeal Procedures; and
- (4) The claimant has provided all the information required to process an External Review.

Within one business day after completion of this preliminary review, the Plan Administrator will provide written notification to the claimant of whether the claim is eligible for External Review.

If the request for review is complete but not eligible for External Review, the Plan Administrator will notify the claimant of the reasons for its ineligibility. The notice will include contact information for the Employee Benefits Security Administration at its toll free number (866-444-3272).

If the request is not complete, the notice will describe the information needed to complete it. The claimant will have 48 hours or until the last day of the 4 month filing period, whichever is later, to submit the additional information.

If the request is eligible for the External Review process, the Plan will assign it to a qualified independent review organization ("IRO"). The IRO is responsible for notifying the claimant, in writing, that the request for External Review has been accepted. The notice should include a statement that the claimant may submit in writing, within 10 business days, additional information the IRO must consider when conducting the review. The IRO will share this information with the Plan. The Plan may consider this information and decide to reverse its denial of the Claim. If the denial is reversed, the External Review process will end.

If the Plan does not reverse the denial, the IRO will make its decision on the basis of its review of all of the information in the record, as well as additional information where appropriate and available, such as:

- (1) The claimant's medical records;
- (2) The attending health care professional's recommendation;
- (3) Reports from appropriate health care professionals and other documents submitted by the plan or issuer, claimant, or the claimant's treating provider;
- (4) The terms of the Plan;
- (5) Appropriate practice guidelines;

- (6) Any applicable clinical review criteria developed and used by the Plan; and
- (7) The opinion of the IRO's clinical reviewer.

The IRO must provide written notice to the Plan and the claimant of its final decision within 45 days after the IRO receives the request for the External Review. The IRO's decision notice must contain:

- (1) A general description of the reason for the External Review, including information sufficient to identify the claim;
- (2) The date the IRO received the assignment to conduct the review and the date of the IRO's decision;
- (3) References to the evidence or documentation the IRO considered in reaching its decision;
- (4) A discussion of the principal reason(s) for the IRO's decision;
- (5) A statement that the determination is binding and that judicial review may be available to the claimant; and
- (6) Contact information for any applicable office of health insurance consumer assistance or ombudsman established under the PPACA.

Generally, a claimant must exhaust the Plan's Claims and Procedures in order to be eligible for the External Review process. However, in some cases the Plan provides for an expedited External Review if:

- (1) The claimant receives an Adverse Benefit Determination that involves a medical condition for which the time for completion of the Plan's internal Claims and Appeal Procedures would seriously jeopardize the claimant's life or health or ability to regain maximum function and the claimant has filed a request for an expedited internal review; or
- (2) The claimant receives a Final Adverse Benefit Determination that involves a medical condition where the time for completion of a standard External Review process would seriously jeopardize the claimant's life or health or the claimant's ability to regain maximum function, or if the Final Adverse Benefit Determination concerns an admission, availability of care, continued stay, or health care item or service for which the claimant received emergency services, but has not been discharged from a facility.

Immediately upon receipt of a request for expedited External Review, the Plan must determine and notify the claimant whether the request satisfies the requirements for expedited review, including the eligibility requirements for External Review listed above. If the request qualifies for expedited review, it will be assigned to an IRO. The IRO must make its determination and provide a notice of the decision as expeditiously as the claimant's medical condition or circumstances require, but in no event more than 72 hours after the IRO receives the request for an expedited External Review. If the original notice of its decision is not in writing, the IRO must provide written confirmation of the decision within 48 hours to both the claimant and the Plan.

## COORDINATION OF BENEFITS

**Coordination of the benefit plans.** Coordination of benefits sets out rules for the order of payment of Covered Charges when two or more plans -- including Medicare -- are paying. When a Covered Person is covered by this Plan and another plan, or the Covered Person's Spouse is covered by this Plan and by another plan or the couple's Covered children are covered under two or more plans, the plans will coordinate benefits when a claim is received.

When this Plan is secondary, the maximum benefit payable to the Covered Person for covered services is limited to 100% of the Allowable Charges during the Plan Year claim determination period. The Covered Person will receive credit for any savings this Plan experiences due to coordination of benefits. Any savings to the Plan resulting from the benefits paid under the other plan will be applied to the credit of the Covered Person. This credit may be applied to future benefits payable under this Plan on a Plan Year claim determination basis. In addition, a secondary plan will credit its plan deductible any amounts that would have been credited in the absence of other coverage.

The plan that pays first according to the rules will pay as if there were no other plan involved. The secondary and subsequent plans will pay the balance due up to 100% of the total Allowable Charges. EXCEPTION: See item # 3 below and section titled "Medicare" in this Plan.

**Benefit plan.** This provision will coordinate the medical benefits of a benefit plan. The term benefit plan means this Plan or any one of the following plans:

- (1) Group or group-type plans, including franchise or blanket benefit plans.
- (2) Blue Cross and Blue Shield group plans.
- (3) Group practice and other group prepayment plans.
- (4) Federal government plans or programs. This includes, but is not limited to, Medicare and Tricare.
- (5) Other plans required or provided by law. This does not include Medicaid or any benefit plan like it that, by its terms, does not allow coordination.
- (6) No Fault Auto Insurance, by whatever name it is called, when not prohibited by law.

**Allowable Charge.** For a charge to be allowable it must be a Negotiated or Recognized Charge and at least part of it must be covered under this Plan.

In the case of HMO (Health Maintenance Organization) or other in-network only plans: This Plan will not consider any charges in excess of what an HMO or network provider has agreed to accept as payment in full. Also, when an HMO or network plan is primary and the Covered Person does not use an HMO or network provider, this Plan will not consider as an Allowable Charge any charge that would have been covered by the HMO or network plan had the Covered Person used the services of an HMO or network provider.

In the case of service type plans where services are provided as benefits, the reasonable cash value of each service will be the Allowable Charge.

**Automobile limitations.** When medical payments are available under vehicle insurance, the Plan shall pay excess benefits only, without reimbursement for vehicle plan deductibles. The Plan shall always be considered the secondary carrier regardless of the individual's election to file a claim under PIP (personal injury protection) coverage with the auto carrier.

**Benefit plan payment order.** When two or more plans provide benefits for the same Allowable Charge, benefit payment will follow these rules:

- (1) Plans that do not have a coordination provision, or one like it, will pay first. Plans with such a provision will be considered after those without one.

- (2) Plans with a coordination provision will pay their benefits up to the Allowable Charge:
- (a) The benefits of the plan which covers the person directly (that is, as an employee, member or subscriber) ("Plan A") are determined before those of the plan which covers the person as a dependent ("Plan B").
  - (b) The benefits of a benefit plan which covers a person as an Employee who is neither laid off nor retired are determined before those of a benefit plan which covers that person as a laid-off or Retired Employee. The benefits of a benefit plan which covers a person as a Dependent of an Employee who is neither laid off nor retired are determined before those of a benefit plan which covers a person as a Dependent of a laid off or Retired Employee. If the other benefit plan does not have this rule, and if, as a result, the plans do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule does not apply.
  - (c) The benefits of a benefit plan which covers a person as an Employee who is neither laid off nor retired or a Dependent of an Employee who is neither laid off nor retired are determined before those of a plan which covers the person as a COBRA beneficiary.
  - (d) When a child is covered as a Dependent and the parents are not separated or divorced, these rules will apply:
    - (i) The benefits of the benefit plan of the parent whose birthday falls earlier in a year are determined before those of the benefit plan of the parent whose birthday falls later in that year;
    - (ii) If both parents have the same birthday, the benefits of the benefit plan which has covered the parent for the longer time are determined before those of the benefit plan which covers the other parent.
  - (e) When a child's parents are divorced or legally separated, these rules will apply:
    - (i) This rule applies when the parent with custody of the child has not remarried. The benefit plan of the parent with custody will be considered before the benefit plan of the parent without custody.
    - (ii) This rule applies when the parent with custody of the child has remarried. The benefit plan of the parent with custody will be considered first. The benefit plan of the stepparent that covers the child as a Dependent will be considered next. The benefit plan of the parent without custody will be considered last.
    - (iii) This rule will be in place of items (i) and (ii) above when it applies. A court decree may state which parent is financially responsible for medical and dental benefits of the child. In this case, the benefit plan of that parent will be considered before other plans that cover the child as a Dependent.
    - (iv) If the specific terms of the court decree state that the parents shall share joint custody, without stating that one of the parents is responsible for the health care expenses of the child, the plans covering the child shall follow the order of benefit determination rules outlined above when a child is covered as a Dependent and the parents are not separated or divorced.
    - (v) For parents who were never married to each other, the rules apply as set out above as long as paternity has been established.
  - (f) If there is still a conflict after these rules have been applied, the benefit plan which has covered the patient for the longer time will be considered first. This includes situations in which a person who is covered as a dependent child under one benefit plan is also covered as a dependent spouse under another benefit plan. When there is a conflict in coordination of benefit rules, the Plan will never pay more than 50% of Allowable Charges when paying secondary.



- (3) Medicare will pay primary, secondary or last to the extent stated in federal law. If a Plan Participant is Medicare entitled this Plan will base its payment upon benefits that would have been paid by Medicare under Parts A, and B, regardless of whether or not the person was enrolled under any of these parts.

If this Plan is primary coverage for your health care, Medicare regulations allow you to delay Medicare enrollment until this Plan becomes secondary according to the Medicare Secondary Payer rules. However, to avoid the potential of balance billing for outpatient dialysis charges you should enroll in Medicare Part B when first eligible for Medicare benefits under end stage renal disease (ESRD) (Medicare 30-month ESRD coordination period). Your local Social Security Office can provide details on enrollment requirements and any penalties for late enrollment.

- (4) If a Plan Participant is under a disability extension from a previous benefit plan, that benefit plan will pay first and this Plan will pay second.
- (5) The Plan will pay primary to Tricare and a State child health plan to the extent required by federal law.

**Claims determination period.** Benefits will be coordinated on a Calendar Year basis. This is called the claims determination period.

**Right to receive or release necessary information.** To make this provision work, this Plan may give or obtain needed information from another insurer or any other organization or person. This information may be given or obtained without the consent of or notice to any other person. A Covered Person will give this Plan the information it asks for about other plans and their payment of Allowable Charges.

**Facility of payment.** This Plan may repay other plans for benefits paid that the Plan Administrator determines it should have paid. That repayment will count as a valid payment under this Plan.

**Right of recovery.** This Plan may pay benefits that should be paid by another benefit plan. In this case this Plan may recover the amount paid from the other benefit plan or the Covered Person. That repayment will count as a valid payment under the other benefit plan.

Further, this Plan may pay benefits that are later found to be greater than the Allowable Charge. In this case, this Plan may recover the amount of the overpayment from the source to which it was paid.

## MEDICARE

If Medicare is primary for you or your Dependent, the benefits of the Plan will be integrated as follows:

- (1) **Medicare Payment Integration.** The Plan determines its benefits in the absence of Medicare, and then pays the difference between its usual benefits and Medicare's benefits.
- (2) **Not Enrolled in Medicare.** This integration will apply to persons eligible for Medicare whether or not they are actually enrolled in Medicare or incur services in a Veterans Administration Hospital/federal facility.

If Medicare is primary for an eligible person who is not enrolled in Medicare Part A and Part B or in Part C, the Medicare benefit will be estimated and used to reduce Allowable Fees. This could result in significant reduction or denial of the Plan benefits. Part A services will be estimated according to Medicare payment rules. Part B or similar services under Part C will be estimated, based on 80% of Usual and Reasonable Charges for covered services or supplies without regard to Medicare deductibles and other coinsurance limits.

For services Incurred in a Veterans Administration Hospital/federal facility which are not billable to Medicare, benefit integration will be estimated. Part A services will be estimated according to Medicare payment rules. Part B will be estimated, based on 80% of Usual and Reasonable Charges for covered services or supplies without regard to Medicare deductibles and other coinsurance limits.

- (3) **Medicare Private Contract Options.** This integration will apply to persons eligible for Medicare primary benefits if Medicare benefits are not paid due to a Medicare Private Contract Option with Physicians and certain other practitioners. (When a Medicare beneficiary agrees to the terms of a Private Contract with certain Providers, Medicare will not pay. The patient is responsible for the entire charge. The Provider may bill more than the charges allowed by Medicare.) Under this Plan, if a private contract is used, Medicare benefits will be estimated. Part A services will be estimated according to Medicare payment rules. Part B or similar services under Part C will be estimated, based on 80% of Usual and Reasonable Charges for covered services or supplies without regard to Medicare deductibles and other coinsurance limits. The estimated Medicare benefits will be used to coordinate benefits. This could result in significant reduction or denial of the Plan benefits.
- (4) **Medicare Part C (Medicare Advantage).** This integration will not apply when Medicare and a Medicare-sponsored Advantage Plans deny coverage due to its enrolled beneficiary's failure to abide by the HMO or Participating Provider Program requirements. This Plan will not cover the expenses for those services or supplies and Plan benefits will not be paid.

### **Allowable Fees for Medicare Integration Only Will be Based on the Following:**

- (1) If the Provider accepts Medicare assignment of benefits, the Allowable Fees will be the same fees allowed by Medicare.
- (2) If the Provider does not accept Medicare assignment, the Allowable Fees will be based on the Usual and Reasonable Charges for Out-of-Network Providers, the Network allowance for Network Providers or the charges determined by Medicare limiting charge regulations, whichever is the lower charge.
- (3) If the Provider provides services under a Medicare Private Contract Option, Allowable Fees will be based on the Usual and Reasonable Charges or the Network allowance, if applicable for services covered by this Plan.

According to Medicare regulations, a beneficiary cannot be billed the difference between the Medicare allowed amounts and the Provider's charges when that Provider accepts Medicare assignment. If a Provider does not accept assignment, a beneficiary cannot be billed for charges over the limiting charge established by Medicare for that service by that Provider. However, if services are provided under the Medicare Private Contract Option, the Provider's charges can exceed the Medicare allowable fees.

## THIRD PARTY RECOVERY PROVISION

### RIGHT OF SUBROGATION AND REFUND

**When this provision applies.** The Covered Person may incur medical or dental charges due to Injuries which may be caused by the act or omission of a Third Party. In such circumstances, the Covered Person may have a claim for payment of the medical or dental charges. Accepting benefits under this Plan for those incurred medical or dental expenses automatically assigns to the Plan any rights the Covered Person may have to Recover payments from any Third Party or any other insurer or source, including but not limited to, "first party" underinsured or uninsured motorist coverage, worker's compensation, crime victim restitution funds, medical or disability payments, homeowner's plan, renter's plan, medical malpractice plan, or any other liability plan or any other source of coverage.

This Subrogation right allows the Plan to pursue any claim which the Covered Person has against any Third Party, or insurer, whether or not the Covered Person chooses to pursue that claim. The Plan may make a claim directly against the Third Party or insurer, but in any event, the Plan has a lien on any amount Recovered by the Covered Person whether or not designated as payment for medical expenses. This lien shall remain in effect until the Plan is repaid in full.

The Plan Administrator retains sole, full and final discretionary authority to construe, apply, and interpret the language of this provision, to determine all questions of fact and law arising under this provision, and to administer the Plan's subrogation and reimbursement rights. The Plan Administrator also retains the right to delegate this discretionary authority to the Claims Administrator without notice.

The payment for benefits received by a Covered Person under the Plan shall be made in accordance with the assignment of rights by or on behalf of the Covered Person as required by Medicaid.

In any case in which the Plan has a legal liability to make payments for benefits received by a Covered Person, to the extent that payment has been made through Medicaid, the payment for benefits under the Plan shall be made in accordance with any state law that has provided that the state has acquired the rights of the Covered Person to the payments of those benefits.

The Covered Person:

- (1) automatically assigns to the Plan his or her rights against any Third Party or insurer when this provision applies; and
- (2) must repay to the Plan the benefits paid on his or her behalf out of the Recovery made from the Third Party or insurer.

**Amount subject to Subrogation or Refund.** The Covered Person agrees to recognize the Plan's right to Subrogation and Refund. These rights provide the Plan with a 100%, first dollar priority over any and all Recoveries and funds paid by a Third Party or insurer to a Covered Person relative to the Injury or Sickness, including a priority over any claim for non-medical or dental charges, attorney fees, or other costs and expenses, even if the Covered Person's Recovery is less than the amount claimed, and, as a result, the Covered Person is not made whole. The Covered Person further specifically agrees and acknowledges that the "made whole doctrine" and "common fund" doctrine are completely abrogated under this Plan, and will not affect the Plan's right to 100% Subrogation or Refund for any and all benefits paid. The Plan shall have an equitable lien which supersedes all common law or statutory rules, doctrines, and laws of any state prohibiting assignment of rights which interfere with or compromise in any way the Plan's equitable subrogation lien. Accepting benefits under this Plan for those incurred medical or dental expenses automatically assigns to the Plan any and all rights the Covered Person may have to recover payments from any responsible third party or insurer. Further, accepting benefits under this Plan for those incurred medical or dental expenses automatically assigns to the Plan the Covered Person's Third Party Claims and/or the Covered Person's claims under any other policy of insurance or other coverage.

Notwithstanding its priority to funds, the Plan's Subrogation and Refund rights, as well as the rights assigned to it, are limited to the extent to which the Plan has made, or will make, payments for medical or dental charges as well as any costs and fees associated with the enforcement of its rights under the Plan. The Plan reserves the

right to be reimbursed for its court costs and attorneys' fees if the Plan needs to file suit in order to Recover payment for medical or dental expenses from the Covered Person.

When a right of Recovery exists, the Covered Person will execute and deliver all required instruments and papers as well as doing whatever else is needed to secure the Plan's right of Subrogation as a condition to having the Plan make payments. In addition, the Covered Person will do nothing to prejudice the right of the Plan to Subrogate.

Failure by the Covered Person(s) and/or his attorney to comply with any of these requirements may, at the Plan's discretion, result in forfeiture of payment by the Plan of medical benefits and any funds or payments due under this Plan may be withheld until the Covered Person(s) satisfies his or her obligation.

**Conditions Precedent to Coverage.** The Plan shall have no obligation whatsoever to pay medical or dental benefits to a Covered Person if a Covered Person refuses to cooperate with the Plan's reimbursement and Subrogation rights or refuses to execute and deliver such papers as the Plan may require in furtherance of its reimbursement and Subrogation rights. Further, in the event the Covered Person is a minor, the Plan shall have no obligation to pay any medical or dental benefits incurred on account of Injury or Sickness caused by a responsible Third Party until after the Covered Person or his authorized legal representative obtains valid court recognition and approval of the Plan's 100%, first dollar reimbursement and Subrogation rights on all Recoveries, as well as approval for the execution of any papers necessary for the enforcement thereof, as described herein.

**Defined terms:** "Covered Person" means anyone covered under the Plan, including minor dependents.

"Recover," "Recovered," "Recovery" or "Recoveries" means all monies paid to the Covered Person or his designee by way of judgment, settlement, or otherwise to compensate for all losses caused by the Injury or Sickness, whether or not said losses reflect medical or dental charges covered by the Plan. "Recoveries" further includes, but is not limited to, recoveries for medical or dental expenses, attorneys' fees, costs and expenses, pain and suffering, loss of consortium, wrongful death, lost wages and any other recovery of any form of damages or compensation whatsoever.

"Refund" means repayment to the Plan for medical or dental benefits that it has paid toward care and treatment of the Injury or Sickness.

"Subrogation" means the Plan's right to pursue and place a lien upon the Covered Person's claims for medical or dental charges against the other person.

"Third Party" means any Third Party including another person or a business entity.

**Rights of Plan Administrator.** The Plan Administrator has a right to request reports on and approve of all settlements.

### **Plan Participant is a Trustee Over Plan Assets**

- (1) Any Plan Participant who receives benefits and is therefore subject to the terms of this section is hereby deemed a recipient and holder of Plan assets and is therefore deemed a trustee of the Plan solely as it relates to possession of any funds which may be owed to the Plan as a result of any settlement, judgment or recovery through any other means arising from any injury or accident. By virtue of this status, the Plan Participant understands that he/she is required to:
  - (a) notify the Plan or its authorized representative of any settlement prior to finalization of the settlement, execution of a release, or receipt of applicable funds;
  - (b) instruct his/her attorney to ensure that the Plan and/or its authorized representative is included as a payee on all settlement drafts;
  - (c) in circumstances where the Plan Participant is not represented by an attorney, instruct the insurance company or any third party from whom the Plan Participant obtains a settlement, judgment or other source of coverage to include the Plan or its authorized representative as a payee on the settlement draft; and,

- (d) hold any and all funds so received in trust, on the Plan's behalf, and function as a trustee as it applies to those funds, until the Plan's rights described herein are honored and the Plan is reimbursed.
- (2) To the extent the Plan Participant disputes this obligation to the Plan under this section, the Plan Participant or any of its agents or representatives is also required to hold any/all settlement funds, including the entire settlement if the settlement is less than the Plan's interests, and without reduction in consideration of attorney's fees, for which he/she exercises control, in an account segregated from their general accounts or general assets until such time as the dispute is resolved.
- (3) No participant, beneficiary, or the agents or representatives thereof, exercising control over plan assets and incurring trustee responsibility in accordance with this section will have any authority to accept any reduction of the Plan's interest on the Plan's behalf.

## CONTINUATION COVERAGE RIGHTS UNDER COBRA

Under federal law, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA), certain Employees and their families covered under San Jose Unified School District Self-Funded PPO Health Plan (the Plan) will be entitled to the opportunity to elect a temporary extension of health coverage (called "COBRA continuation coverage") where coverage under the Plan would otherwise end. This notice is intended to inform Plan Participants and beneficiaries, in summary fashion, of their rights and obligations under the continuation coverage provisions of COBRA, as amended and reflected in final and proposed regulations published by the Department of the Treasury. This notice is intended to reflect the law and does not grant or take away any rights under the law.

COBRA continuation coverage under the Plan is administered by the COBRA Administrator. The COBRA Administrator is San Jose Unified School District, 855 Lenzen Avenue, San Jose, California 95126, (408) 535-6139. Complete instructions on COBRA, as well as election forms and other information, will be provided by the COBRA Administrator to Plan Participants who become Qualified Beneficiaries under COBRA.

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

**What is COBRA continuation coverage?** COBRA continuation coverage is the temporary extension of group health plan coverage that must be offered to certain Plan Participants and their eligible family members (called "Qualified Beneficiaries") at group rates. The right to COBRA continuation coverage is triggered by the occurrence of a life event that results in the loss of coverage under the terms of the Plan (the "Qualifying Event"). The coverage must be identical to the Plan coverage that the Qualified Beneficiary had immediately before the Qualifying Event, or if the coverage has been changed, the coverage must be identical to the coverage provided to similarly situated active employees who have not experienced a Qualifying Event (in other words, similarly situated non-COBRA beneficiaries).

**Who can become a Qualified Beneficiary?** In general, a Qualified Beneficiary can be:

- (1) Any individual who, on the day before a Qualifying Event, is covered under a Plan by virtue of being on that day either a covered Employee, the Spouse of a covered Employee, or a Dependent child of a covered Employee. If, however, an individual who otherwise qualifies as a Qualified Beneficiary is denied or not offered coverage under the Plan under circumstances in which the denial or failure to offer constitutes a violation of applicable law, then the individual will be considered to have had the Plan coverage and will be considered a Qualified Beneficiary if that individual experiences a Qualifying Event.
- (2) Any child who is born to or placed for adoption with a covered Employee during a period of COBRA continuation coverage, and any individual who is covered by the Plan as an alternate recipient under a qualified medical support order. If, however, an individual who otherwise qualifies as a Qualified Beneficiary is denied or not offered coverage under the Plan under circumstances in which the denial or failure to offer constitutes a violation of applicable law, then the individual will be considered to have had the Plan coverage and will be considered a Qualified Beneficiary if that individual experiences a Qualifying Event.
- (3) A covered Employee who retired on or before the date of substantial elimination of Plan coverage which is the result of a bankruptcy proceeding under Title 11 of the U.S. Code with respect to the Employer, as is the Spouse, surviving Spouse or Dependent child of such a covered Employee if, on the day before the bankruptcy Qualifying Event, the Spouse, surviving Spouse or Dependent child was a beneficiary under the Plan.

The term "covered Employee" includes any individual who is provided coverage under the Plan due to his or her performance of services for the employer sponsoring the Plan (e.g., common-law employees (full or part-time), self-employed individuals, independent contractor, or corporate director). However, this provision does not establish eligibility of these individuals. Eligibility for Plan Coverage shall be determined in accordance with Plan Eligibility provisions.

An individual is not a Qualified Beneficiary if the individual's status as a covered Employee is attributable to a period in which the individual was a nonresident alien who received from the individual's Employer no earned income that constituted income from sources within the United States. If, on account of the preceding reason, an individual is not a Qualified Beneficiary, then a Spouse or Dependent child of the individual will also not be considered a Qualified Beneficiary by virtue of the relationship to the individual.

A Domestic Partner and his or her children are not Qualified Beneficiaries and do not have an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. However, if an Employee who is a Qualified Beneficiary elects COBRA continuation coverage for himself, he may also elect to continue coverage for his Domestic Partner and Children or Qualified Dependents if they are covered under the Plan on the day before the Qualifying Event.

Each Qualified Beneficiary (including a child who is born to or placed for adoption with a covered Employee during a period of COBRA continuation coverage) must be offered the opportunity to make an independent election to receive COBRA continuation coverage.

**What is a Qualifying Event?** A Qualifying Event is any of the following if the Plan provided that the Plan participant would lose coverage (i.e.: cease to be covered under the same terms and conditions as in effect immediately before the Qualifying Event) in the absence of COBRA continuation coverage:

- (1) The death of a covered Employee.
- (2) The termination (other than by reason of the Employee's gross misconduct), or reduction of hours, of a covered Employee's employment.
- (3) The divorce or legal separation of a covered Employee from the Employee's Spouse. If the Employee reduces or eliminates the Employee's Spouse's Plan coverage in anticipation of a divorce or legal separation, and a divorce or legal separation later occurs, then the divorce or legal separation may be considered a Qualifying Event even though the Spouse's coverage was reduced or eliminated before the divorce or legal separation.
- (4) A covered Employee's enrollment in any part of the Medicare program.
- (5) A Dependent child's ceasing to satisfy the Plan's requirements for a Dependent child (for example, attainment of the maximum age for dependency under the Plan).
- (6) A proceeding in bankruptcy under Title 11 of the U.S. Code with respect to an Employer from whose employment a covered Employee retired at any time.

If the Qualifying Event causes the covered Employee, or the covered Spouse or a Dependent child of the covered Employee, to cease to be covered under the Plan under the same terms and conditions as in effect immediately before the Qualifying Event (or in the case of the bankruptcy of the Employer, any substantial elimination of coverage under the Plan occurring within 12 months before or after the date the bankruptcy proceeding commences), the persons losing such coverage become Qualified Beneficiaries under COBRA if all the other conditions of COBRA are also met. For example, any increase in contribution that must be paid by a covered Employee, or the Spouse, or a Dependent child of the covered Employee, for coverage under the Plan that results from the occurrence of one of the events listed above is a loss of coverage.

The taking of leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, as amended ("FMLA") does not constitute a Qualifying Event. A Qualifying Event will occur, however, if an Employee does not return to employment at the end of the FMLA leave and all other COBRA continuation coverage conditions are present. If a Qualifying Event occurs, it occurs on the last day of FMLA leave and the applicable maximum coverage period is measured from this date (unless coverage is lost at a later date and the Plan provides for the extension of the required periods, in which case the maximum coverage date is measured from the date when the coverage is lost.) Note that the covered Employee and family members will be entitled to COBRA continuation coverage even if they failed to pay the employee portion of premiums for coverage under the Plan during the FMLA leave.

**What factors should be considered when determining to elect COBRA continuation coverage?** When considering options for health coverage, Qualified Beneficiaries should consider:

- **Premiums:** This plan can charge up to 102% of total plan premiums for COBRA coverage. Other options, like coverage on a spouse's plan or through the Marketplace, may be less expensive. Qualified Beneficiaries have special enrollment rights under federal law (HIPAA). They have the right to request special enrollment in another group health plan for which they are otherwise eligible (such as a plan sponsored by a spouse's employer) within 30 days after Plan coverage ends due to one of the Qualifying Events listed above.
- **Provider Networks:** If a Qualified Beneficiary is currently getting care or treatment for a condition, a change in health coverage may affect access to a particular health care provider. You may want to check to see if your current health care providers participate in a network in considering options for health coverage.
- **Drug Formularies:** For Qualified Beneficiaries taking medication, a change in health coverage may affect costs for medication - and in some cases, the medication may not be covered by another plan. Qualified beneficiaries should check to see if current medications are listed in drug formularies for other health coverage.
- **Severance payments:** If COBRA rights arise because the Employee has lost his job and there is a severance package available from the employer, the former employer may have offered to pay some or all of the Employee's COBRA payments for a period of time. This can affect the timing of coverage available in the Marketplace. In this scenario, the Employee may want to contact the Department of Labor at 1-866-444-3272 to discuss options.
- **Medicare Eligibility:** You should be aware of how COBRA coverage coordinates with Medicare eligibility. If you are eligible for Medicare at the time of the Qualifying Event, or if you will become eligible soon after the Qualifying Event, you should know that you have 8 months to enroll in Medicare after your employment -related health coverage ends. Electing COBRA coverage does not extend this 8-month period. For more information, see [medicare.gov/sign-up-change-plan](http://medicare.gov/sign-up-change-plan).
- **Service Areas:** If benefits under the Plan are limited to specific service or coverage areas, benefits may not be available to a Qualified Beneficiary who moves out of the area.
- **Other Cost-Sharing:** In addition to premiums or contributions for health coverage, the Plan requires participants to pay copayments, deductibles, coinsurance, or other amounts as benefits are used. Qualified beneficiaries should check to see what the cost-sharing requirements are for other health coverage options. For example, one option may have much lower monthly premiums, but a much higher deductible and higher copayments.

**Are there other coverage options besides COBRA Continuation Coverage?** Yes. Instead of enrolling in COBRA continuation coverage, there may be other coverage options for Qualified Beneficiaries through the Health Insurance Marketplace, Medicaid, or other group health plan coverage options (such as a spouse's plan) through what is called a "special enrollment period." Some of these options may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage. You can learn more about many of these options at [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov).

**What is the procedure for obtaining COBRA continuation coverage?** The Plan has conditioned the availability of COBRA continuation coverage upon the timely election of such coverage. An election is timely if it is made during the election period.

**What is the election period and how long must it last?** The election period is the time period within which the Qualified Beneficiary must elect COBRA continuation coverage under the Plan. The election period must begin no later than the date the Qualified Beneficiary would lose coverage on account of the Qualifying Event and ends 60 days after the later of the date the Qualified Beneficiary would lose coverage on account of the Qualifying Event or the date notice is provided to the Qualified Beneficiary of her or his right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. If coverage is not elected within the 60 day period, all rights to elect COBRA continuation coverage are forfeited.

**Note:** If a covered Employee who has been terminated or experienced a reduction of hours qualifies for a trade readjustment allowance or alternative trade adjustment assistance under a federal law called the Trade Act of 2002, as extended by the Trade Preferences Extension Act of 2015, and the Employee and his or her covered



Dependents have not elected COBRA coverage within the normal election period, a second opportunity to elect COBRA coverage will be made available for themselves and certain family members, but only within a limited period of 60 days or less and only during the six months immediately after their group health plan coverage ended. Any person who qualifies or thinks that he and/or his family members may qualify for assistance under this special provision should contact the Plan Administrator for further information about the special second election period. If continuation coverage is elected under this extension, it will not become effective prior to the beginning of this special second election period.

**Is a covered Employee or Qualified Beneficiary responsible for informing the Plan Administrator of the occurrence of a Qualifying Event?** The Plan will offer COBRA continuation coverage to Qualified Beneficiaries only after the Plan Administrator has been timely notified that a Qualifying Event has occurred. The employer (if the employer is not the Plan Administrator) will notify the Plan Administrator of the Qualifying Event within 30 days following the date coverage ends when the Qualifying Event is:

- (1) the end of employment or reduction of hours of employment,
- (2) death of the Employee,
- (3) commencement of a proceeding in bankruptcy with respect to the employer, or
- (4) entitlement of the employee to any part of Medicare.

**IMPORTANT:**

**For the other Qualifying Events (divorce or legal separation of the Employee and Spouse or a Dependent child's losing eligibility for coverage as a Dependent child), you or someone on your behalf must notify the COBRA Administrator at 855 Lenzen Avenue, San Jose, California 95126, fax number 408-535-2396, within 60 days after the Qualifying Event occurs, using the procedures specified below. If these procedures are not followed or if the notice is not provided in writing to the Plan Administrator or its designee during the 60-day notice period, any Spouse or Dependent child who loses coverage will not be offered the option to elect continuation coverage.**

**NOTICE PROCEDURES:**

Any notice that you provide must be ***in writing***. Oral notice, including notice by telephone, is not acceptable. You must mail, fax or hand-deliver your notice to the person listed at the address shown above.

If mailed, your notice must be postmarked no later than the last day of the required notice period. Any notice you provide must state:

- the **name of the plan or plans** under which you lost or are losing coverage,
- the **name and address of the Employee** covered under the plan,
- the **name(s) and address(es) of the Qualified Beneficiary(ies)**, and
- the **Qualifying Event** and the **date** it happened.

If the Qualifying Event is a **divorce or legal separation**, your notice must include **a copy of the divorce decree or the legal separation agreement**.

Be aware that there are other notice requirements in other contexts, for example, in order to qualify for a disability extension.

Once the COBRA Administrator receives ***timely notice*** that a Qualifying Event has occurred, COBRA continuation coverage will be offered to each of the qualified beneficiaries. Each Qualified Beneficiary will have an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Covered Employees may elect COBRA continuation coverage for their Spouses, and parents may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their children. For each Qualified Beneficiary who elects COBRA continuation coverage, COBRA continuation coverage will begin on the date that plan coverage would otherwise have been lost. If you or your Spouse or Dependent children do not elect continuation coverage within the 60-day election period described above, the right to elect continuation coverage will be lost.

**Is a waiver before the end of the election period effective to end a Qualified Beneficiary's election rights?** If, during the election period, a Qualified Beneficiary waives COBRA continuation coverage, the waiver can be revoked at any time before the end of the election period. Revocation of the waiver is an election of COBRA continuation coverage. However, if a waiver is later revoked, coverage need not be provided retroactively (that is, from the date of the loss of coverage until the waiver is revoked). Waivers and revocations of waivers are considered made on the date they are sent to the COBRA Administrator.

**Is COBRA coverage available if a Qualified Beneficiary has other group health plan coverage or Medicare?** Qualified beneficiaries who are entitled to elect COBRA continuation coverage may do so even if they are covered under another group health plan or are entitled to Medicare benefits on or before the date on which COBRA is elected. However, a Qualified Beneficiary's COBRA coverage will terminate automatically if, after electing COBRA, he or she becomes entitled to Medicare or becomes covered under other group health plan coverage.

**When may a Qualified Beneficiary's COBRA continuation coverage be terminated?** During the election period, a Qualified Beneficiary may waive COBRA continuation coverage. Except for an interruption of coverage in connection with a waiver, COBRA continuation coverage that has been elected for a Qualified Beneficiary must extend for at least the period beginning on the date of the Qualifying Event and ending not before the earliest of the following dates:

- (1) The last day of the applicable maximum coverage period.
- (2) The first day for which Timely Payment is not made to the Plan with respect to the Qualified Beneficiary.
- (3) The date upon which the Employer ceases to provide any group health plan (including a successor plan) to any employee.
- (4) The date, after the date of the election, that the Qualified Beneficiary first becomes entitled to Medicare (either part A or part B, whichever occurs earlier).
- (5) In the case of a Qualified Beneficiary entitled to a disability extension, the later of:
  - (a) (i) 29 months after the date of the Qualifying Event, or (ii) the first day of the month that is more than 30 days after the date of a final determination under Title II or XVI of the Social Security Act that the disabled Qualified Beneficiary whose disability resulted in the Qualified Beneficiary's entitlement to the disability extension is no longer disabled, whichever is earlier; or
  - (b) the end of the maximum coverage period that applies to the Qualified Beneficiary without regard to the disability extension.

The Plan can terminate for cause the coverage of a Qualified Beneficiary on the same basis that the Plan terminates for cause the coverage of similarly situated non-COBRA beneficiaries, for example, for the submission of a fraudulent claim.

In the case of an individual who is not a Qualified Beneficiary and who is receiving coverage under the Plan solely because of the individual's relationship to a Qualified Beneficiary, if the Plan's obligation to make COBRA continuation coverage available to the Qualified Beneficiary ceases, the Plan is not obligated to make coverage available to the individual who is not a Qualified Beneficiary.

**What are the maximum coverage periods for COBRA continuation coverage?** The maximum coverage periods are based on the type of the Qualifying Event and the status of the Qualified Beneficiary, as shown below:

- (1) In the case of a Qualifying Event that is a termination of employment or reduction of hours of employment, the maximum coverage period ends 18 months after the Qualifying Event if there is not a disability extension and 29 months after the Qualifying Event if there is a disability extension.

- (2) In the case of a covered Employee's enrollment in the Medicare program before experiencing a Qualifying Event that is a termination of employment or reduction of hours of employment, the maximum coverage period for Qualified Beneficiaries ends on the later of:
  - (a) 36 months after the date the covered Employee becomes enrolled in the Medicare program. This extension does not apply to the covered Employee; or
  - (b) 18 months (or 29 months, if there is a disability extension) after the date of the covered Employee's termination of employment or reduction of hours of employment.
- (3) In the case of a bankruptcy Qualifying Event, the maximum coverage period for a Qualified Beneficiary who is the covered retiree ends on the date of the retiree's death. The maximum coverage period for a Qualified Beneficiary who is the covered Spouse, surviving Spouse or Dependent child of the retiree ends on the earlier of the Qualified Beneficiary's death or 36 months after the death of the retiree.
- (4) In the case of a Qualified Beneficiary who is a child born to or placed for adoption with a covered Employee during a period of COBRA continuation coverage, the maximum coverage period is the maximum coverage period applicable to the Qualifying Event giving rise to the period of COBRA continuation coverage during which the child was born or placed for adoption.
- (5) In the case of any other Qualifying Event than that described above, the maximum coverage period ends 36 months after the Qualifying Event.

**Under what circumstances can the maximum coverage period be expanded?** If a Qualifying Event that gives rise to an 18-month or 29-month maximum coverage period is followed, within that 18- or 29-month period, by a second Qualifying Event that gives rise to a 36-months maximum coverage period, the original period is expanded to 36 months, but only for individuals who are Qualified Beneficiaries at the time of and with respect to both Qualifying Events. In no circumstance can the COBRA maximum coverage period be expanded to more than 36 months after the date of the first Qualifying Event. The Plan Administrator must be notified of the second Qualifying Event within 60 days of the second Qualifying Event. This notice must be sent to **Plan Administrator at 855 Lenzen Avenue, San Jose, California, 95126, (408) 535-6139** in accordance with the procedures above.

**How does a Qualified Beneficiary become entitled to a disability extension?** A disability extension will be granted if an individual (whether or not the covered Employee) who is a Qualified Beneficiary in connection with the Qualifying Event that is a termination or reduction of hours of a covered Employee's employment, is determined under Title II or XVI of the Social Security Act to have been disabled at any time during the first 60 days of COBRA continuation coverage. To qualify for the disability extension, the Qualified Beneficiary must also provide the Plan Administrator with notice of the disability determination on a date that is both within 60 days after the date of the determination and before the end of the original 18-month maximum coverage. This notice should be sent to **Plan Administrator at 855 Lenzen Avenue, San Jose, California, 95126, (408) 535-6139** in accordance with the procedures above.

**Does the Plan require payment for COBRA continuation coverage?** For any period of COBRA continuation coverage under the Plan, qualified beneficiaries who elect COBRA continuation coverage must pay for COBRA continuation coverage. Qualified beneficiaries will pay up to 102% of the applicable premium and up to 150% of the applicable premium for any expanded period of COBRA continuation coverage covering a disabled Qualified Beneficiary due to a disability extension. The Plan will terminate a Qualified Beneficiary's COBRA continuation coverage as of the first day of any period for which Timely Payment is not made.

**Must the Plan allow payment for COBRA continuation coverage to be made in monthly installments?** Yes. The Plan is also permitted to allow for payment at other intervals.

**What is Timely Payment for payment for COBRA continuation coverage?** Timely Payment means a payment made no later than 30 days after the first day of the coverage period. Payment that is made to the Plan by a later date is also considered Timely Payment if either under the terms of the Plan, covered employees or Qualified Beneficiaries are allowed until that later date to pay for their coverage for the period or under the terms of an arrangement between the Employer and the entity that provides Plan benefits on the Employer's behalf,

the Employer is allowed until that later date to pay for coverage of similarly situated non-COBRA beneficiaries for the period.

Notwithstanding the above paragraph, the Plan does not require payment for any period of COBRA continuation coverage for a Qualified Beneficiary earlier than 45 days after the date on which the election of COBRA continuation coverage is made for that Qualified Beneficiary. Payment is considered made on the date on which it is postmarked to the Plan.

If Timely Payment is made to the Plan in an amount that is not significantly less than the amount the Plan requires to be paid for a period of coverage, then the amount paid will be deemed to satisfy the Plan's requirement for the amount to be paid, unless the Plan notifies the Qualified Beneficiary of the amount of the deficiency and grants a reasonable period of time for payment of the deficiency to be made. A "reasonable period of time" is 30 days after the notice is provided. A shortfall in a Timely Payment is not significant if it is no greater than the lesser of \$50 or 10% of the required amount.

#### **IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS**

If you have questions about your COBRA continuation coverage, you should contact **Plan Administrator at 855 Lenzen Avenue, San Jose, California, 95126, (408) 535-6139**. For more information about your rights under COBRA, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and other laws affecting group health plans, contact the nearest Regional or District Office of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA). Addresses and phone numbers of Regional and District EBSA Offices are available through EBSA's website at [www.dol.gov/ebsa](http://www.dol.gov/ebsa).

#### **KEEP YOUR PLAN ADMINISTRATOR INFORMED OF ADDRESS CHANGES**

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

## RESPONSIBILITIES FOR PLAN ADMINISTRATION

**PLAN ADMINISTRATOR.** San Jose Unified School District Self-Funded PPO Health Plan is the benefit plan of San Jose Unified School District, the Plan Administrator, also called the Plan Sponsor. An individual or committee may be appointed by San Jose Unified School District to be Plan Administrator and serve at the convenience of the Employer. If the Plan Administrator or a committee member resigns, dies or is otherwise removed from the position, San Jose Unified School District shall appoint a new Plan Administrator as soon as reasonably possible.

The Plan Administrator shall administer this Plan in accordance with its terms and establish its policies, interpretations, practices, and procedures. It is the express intent of this Plan that the Plan Administrator shall have maximum legal discretionary authority to construe and interpret the terms and provisions of the Plan, to make determinations regarding issues which relate to eligibility for benefits, to decide disputes which may arise relative to a Plan Participant's rights, and to decide questions of Plan interpretation and those of fact relating to the Plan. The decisions of the Plan Administrator will be final and binding on all interested parties.

### DUTIES OF THE PLAN ADMINISTRATOR.

- (1) To administer the Plan in accordance with its terms.
- (2) To interpret the Plan, including the right to remedy possible ambiguities, inconsistencies or omissions.
- (3) To decide disputes which may arise relative to a Plan Participant's rights.
- (4) To prescribe procedures for filing a claim for benefits and to review claim denials.
- (5) To keep and maintain the Plan documents and all other records pertaining to the Plan.
- (6) To appoint a Claims Administrator to pay claims.
- (7) To delegate to any person or entity such powers, duties and responsibilities as it deems appropriate.

**PLAN ADMINISTRATOR COMPENSATION.** The Plan Administrator serves **without** compensation; however, all expenses for plan administration, including compensation for hired services, will be paid by the Plan.

**CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR IS NOT A FIDUCIARY.** A Claims Administrator is **not** a fiduciary under the Plan by virtue of paying claims in accordance with the Plan's rules as established by the Plan Administrator.

**FORCE MAJEURE.** Should the performance of any act required by the Plan be prevented or delayed by reason of any act of nature, strike, lock-out, labor troubles, restrictive governmental laws or regulations, or any other cause beyond a party's control, the time for the performance of the act will be extended for a period equivalent to the period of delay, and non-performance of the act during the period of delay will be excused. In such an event, however, all parties will use reasonable efforts to perform their respective obligations under the Plan.

**COMPLIANCE WITH HIPAA PRIVACY STANDARDS.** Certain members of the Employer's workforce perform services in connection with administration of the Plan. In order to perform these services, it is necessary for these employees from time to time to have access to Protected Health Information (as defined below).

Under the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information (45 CFR Part 164, the "Privacy Standards"), these employees are permitted to have such access subject to the following:

- (1) **General.** The Plan shall not disclose Protected Health Information to any member of the Employer's workforce unless each of the conditions set out in this HIPAA Privacy section is met. "Protected Health Information" shall have the same definition as set out in the Privacy Standards but generally shall mean individually identifiable health information about the past, present or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual, including genetic information and information about treatment or payment for treatment.

- (2) **Permitted Uses and Disclosures.** Protected Health Information disclosed to members of the Employer's workforce shall be used or disclosed by them only for purposes of Plan administrative functions. The Plan's administrative functions shall include all Plan payment and health care operations. The terms "payment" and "health care operations" shall have the same definitions as set out in the Privacy Standards, but the term "payment" generally shall mean activities taken with respect to payment of premiums or contributions, or to determine or fulfill Plan responsibilities with respect to coverage, provision of benefits, or reimbursement for health care. "Health care operations" generally shall mean activities on behalf of the Plan that are related to quality assessment; evaluation, training or accreditation of health care providers; underwriting, premium rating and other functions related to obtaining or renewing an insurance contract, including stop-loss insurance; medical review; legal services or auditing functions; or business planning, management and general administrative activities. However, Protected Health Information that consists of genetic information will not be used or disclosed for underwriting purposes.
- (3) **Authorized Employees.** The Plan shall disclose Protected Health Information only to members of the Employer's workforce who are designated and are authorized to receive such Protected Health Information, and only to the extent and in the minimum amount necessary for these persons to perform duties with respect to the Plan. For purposes of this HIPAA Privacy section, "members of the Employer's workforce" shall refer to all employees and other persons under the control of the Employer.
- (a) **Updates Required.** The Employer shall amend the Plan promptly with respect to any changes in the members of its workforce who are authorized to receive Protected Health Information.
- (b) **Use and Disclosure Restricted.** An authorized member of the Employer's workforce who receives Protected Health Information shall use or disclose the Protected Health Information only to the extent necessary to perform his or her duties with respect to the Plan.
- (c) **Resolution of Issues of Noncompliance.** In the event that any member of the Employer's workforce uses or discloses Protected Health Information other than as permitted by the Privacy Standards, the incident shall be reported to the privacy official. The privacy official shall take appropriate action, including:
- (i) Investigation of the incident to determine whether the breach occurred inadvertently, through negligence, or deliberately; whether there is a pattern of breaches; and the degree of harm caused by the breach;
- (ii) Applying appropriate sanctions against the persons causing the breach, which, depending upon the nature of the breach, may include, oral or written reprimand, additional training, or termination of employment;
- (iii) Mitigating any harm caused by the breach, to the extent practicable; and
- (iv) Documentation of the incident and all actions taken to resolve the issue and mitigate any damages.
- (4) **Certification of Employer.** The Employer must provide certification to the Plan that it agrees to:
- (a) Not use or further disclose the Protected Health Information other than as permitted or required by the Plan documents or as required by law;
- (b) Ensure that any agent or subcontractor, to whom it provides Protected Health Information received from the Plan, agrees to the same restrictions and conditions that apply to the Employer with respect to such information;
- (c) Not use or disclose Protected Health Information for employment-related actions and decisions or in connection with any other benefit or employee benefit plan of the Employer;

- (d) Report to the Plan any use or disclosure of the Protected Health Information of which it becomes aware that is inconsistent with the uses or disclosures hereunder or required by law;
- (e) Make available Protected Health Information to individual Plan members in accordance with Section 164.524 of the Privacy Standards;
- (f) Make available Protected Health Information for amendment by individual Plan members and incorporate any amendments to Protected Health Information in accordance with Section 164.526 of the Privacy Standards;
- (g) Make available the Protected Health Information required to provide any accounting of disclosures to individual Plan members in accordance with Section 164.528 of the Privacy Standards;
- (h) Make its internal practices, books and records relating to the use and disclosure of Protected Health Information received from the Plan available to the Department of Health and Human Services for purposes of determining compliance by the Plan with the Privacy Standards;
- (i) If feasible, return or destroy all Protected Health Information received from the Plan that the Employer still maintains in any form, and retain no copies of such information when no longer needed for the purpose of which disclosure was made, except that, if such return or destruction is not feasible, limit further uses and disclosures to those purposes that make the return or destruction of the information unfeasible; and
- (j) Ensure the adequate separation between the Plan and member of the Employer's workforce, as required by Section 164.504(f)(2)(iii) of the Privacy Standards.

The following members of San Jose Unified School District's workforce are designated as authorized to receive Protected Health Information from San Jose Unified School District Self-Funded PPO Health Plan ("the Plan") in order to perform their duties with respect to the Plan: Privacy officer, and other individuals trained and authorized by the Privacy Officer to receive Protected Health Information.

**COMPLIANCE WITH HIPAA ELECTRONIC SECURITY STANDARDS.** Under the Security Standards for the Protection of Electronic Protected Health Information (45 CFR Part 164.300 et. seq., the "Security Standards"), the Employer agrees to the following:

- (1) The Employer agrees to implement reasonable and appropriate administrative, physical and technical safeguards to protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of Electronic Protected Health Information that the Employer creates, maintains or transmits on behalf of the Plan. "Electronic Protected Health Information" shall have the same definition as set out in the Security Standards, but generally shall mean Protected Health Information that is transmitted by or maintained in electronic media.
- (2) The Employer shall ensure that any agent or subcontractor to whom it provides Electronic Protected Health Information shall agree, in writing, to implement reasonable and appropriate security measures to protect the Electronic Protected Health Information.
- (3) The Employer shall ensure that reasonable and appropriate security measures are implemented to comply with the conditions and requirements set forth in Compliance With HIPAA Privacy Standards provisions (3) Authorized Employees and (4) Certification of Employers described above.

#### **FUNDING THE PLAN AND PAYMENT OF BENEFITS**

The cost of the Plan is funded as follows:

**For Employee and Dependent Coverage:** Funding is derived from the funds of the Employer and contributions made by the covered Employees.

The level of any Employee contributions will be set by the Plan Administrator. These Employee contributions will be used in funding the cost of the Plan as soon as practicable after they have been received from the Employee or withheld from the Employee's pay through payroll deduction.

Benefits are paid directly from the Plan through the Claims Administrator.

### **PLAN IS NOT AN EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT**

The Plan is not to be construed as a contract for or of employment.

### **CLERICAL ERROR**

Any clerical error by the Plan Administrator or an agent of the Plan Administrator in keeping pertinent records or a delay in making any changes will not invalidate coverage otherwise validly in force or continue coverage validly terminated. An equitable adjustment of contributions will be made when the error or delay is discovered.

If, an overpayment occurs in a Plan reimbursement amount, the Plan retains a contractual right to the overpayment. The person or institution receiving the overpayment will be required to return the incorrect amount of money. In the case of a Plan Participant, the amount of overpayment may be deducted from future benefits payable.

### **OFFSET**

If timely repayment is not made, or the Plan Participant and/or his or her attorney fails to comply with any of the requirements of the Plan, the Plan has the right, in addition to any other lawful means of recovery, to deduct the value of the Plan Participant's amount owed to the Plan. To do this, the Plan may refuse payment of any future medical benefits and any funds or payments due under this Plan on behalf of the Plan Participant(s) in an amount equivalent to any outstanding amounts owed by the Plan Participant to the Plan. This provision applies even if the Plan Participant has disbursed settlement funds.

### **RECOVERING OVERPAYMENTS AND MISTAKEN PAYMENTS**

In the event that a participant, beneficiary or a third party is paid benefits from the Plan in an improper amount or otherwise receives Plan assets not in compliance with the Plan (hereinafter "overpayments" or "mistaken payments"), the Claims Administrator, on behalf of the Plan, has the right to start paying the correct benefit amount. In addition, the Claims Administrator, on behalf of the Plan, has the right to recover any overpayment or mistaken payment made to a claimant or to a third party. The claimant, third party, or other individual or entity receiving the overpayment or mistaken payment must pay back the overpayment or mistaken payment to the Claims Administrator, on behalf of the Plan, with interest at 12% per annum. Such a recovery may be made by reducing other benefit payments made to or on behalf of the claimant or your Spouse or Dependents, by commencing a legal action or by such other methods as the Claims Administrator, on behalf of the Plan, determines to be appropriate. The claimant, third party, or other individual or entity shall reimburse the Claims Administrator, on behalf of the Plan, for attorneys' fees and paralegal fees, court costs, disbursements, and any expenses incurred in attempting to collect and in collecting the overpayment or mistaken payment of benefits.



## GENERAL PLAN INFORMATION

### TYPE OF ADMINISTRATION

The Plan is a self-funded group health Plan and the administration is provided through a Third Party Claims Administrator. The funding for the benefits is derived from the funds of the Employer and contributions made by covered Employees. The Plan is not insured.

### PLAN NAME

San Jose Unified School District Self-Funded PPO Health Plan

**TAX ID NUMBER:** 94-6002606

**PLAN RESTATED:** July 1, 2018

**PLAN YEAR ENDS:** June 30

### EMPLOYER INFORMATION

San Jose Unified School District  
855 Lenzen Avenue  
San Jose, California 95126  
(408) 535-6139

### PLAN ADMINISTRATOR

San Jose Unified School District  
855 Lenzen Avenue  
San Jose, California 95126  
(408) 535-6139

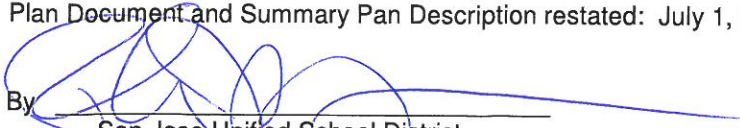
### CLAIMS ADMINISTRATOR

HealthComp Administrators  
P.O. Box 45018  
Fresno, California 93718  
(800) 442-7247

BY THIS AGREEMENT, San Jose Unified School District Self-Funded PPO Health Plan is hereby adopted as shown.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this instrument is executed for San Jose Unified School District on or as of the day and year first below written.

Plan Document and Summary Plan Description restated: July 1, 2018.

By  \_\_\_\_\_  
San Jose Unified School District

Date 6/25/18

Witness Dean S. Myer

Date 6/25/18

**ACCEPTANCE OF RESPONSIBILITY & CONFIRMATION OF ACCURACY**

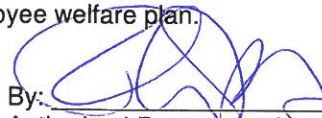
Pursuant to the terms of your agreement with HealthComp Administrators, Inc. ("HealthComp") we have assisted in the preparation of the enclosed San Jose Unified School District Self-Funded PPO Health Plan. Our assistance has been based upon our understanding of what you, the Plan Sponsor, wish to have incorporated into this document. While we have undertaken to prepare this document to the best of our abilities, responsibility for the accuracy of this document remains that of the Plan Sponsor.

It is imperative that you immediately review this document in detail. You may wish to have legal counsel review this document to ensure that it reflects your plan's objectives in terms of the types and amounts of coverage afforded, exclusions, rights, and other substantive material provisions, and that it meets with all applicable regulatory requirements.

By signing below, you acknowledge your acceptance of responsibility for the contents and accuracy of this document. Please sign and return this form. If you have any questions regarding this document, please immediately contact our office.

We, the Plan Sponsor, recognize that we have full responsibility for the contents of the San Jose Unified School District Self-Funded PPO Health Plan restated January 1, 2018 and that while HealthComp, its employees, agents, and/or sub-contractors may have assisted in the preparation of this document, we are responsible for the final text and meaning. We further certify that the document has been fully read, understood, and describes our intent with regard to our employee welfare plan.

Dated: 6/25/18

By:   
Authorized Representative of San Jose Unified School District

Print Name: PAULA V. WARREN

Title: Administrator, Human Resources