

2025

Annual Notices

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Medicare Part D Notice

Important Notice from IWCO Direct About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare

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

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

1. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.
2. IWCO Direct has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the [Blue Cross Blue Shield Minnesota] is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is therefore considered Creditable Coverage. Because your existing coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare drug plan.

When Can You Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

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

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

What Happens To Your Current Coverage If You Decide to Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your IWCO Direct coverage will not be affected. See below for more information about what happens to your current coverage if you join a Medicare drug plan.

Since the existing prescription drug coverage under [Blue Cross Blue Shield Minnesota] is creditable (e.g., as good as Medicare coverage), you can retain your existing prescription drug coverage and choose not to enroll in a Part D plan; or you can enroll in a Part D plan as a supplement to, or in lieu of, your existing prescription drug coverage.

If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your IWCO Direct prescription drug coverage, be aware that you and your dependents can only get this coverage back at open enrollment or if you experience an event that gives rise to a HIPAA Special Enrollment Right.

When Will You Pay A Higher Premium (Penalty) To Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

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

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

For More Information About This Notice Or Your Current Prescription Drug Coverage...

Contact the person listed below for further information [Joanne Wacker joanne.wacker@iwco.com>]. NOTE: You'll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, and if this coverage through IWCO Direct changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time.

For More Information About Your Options Under Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage...

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

For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage:

- Visit medicare.gov

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

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

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

Date: January 1, 2026
Name of Entity/Sender: IWCO Direct
Contact-Position/Office: Joanne Wacker, Benefits Manager
Address: 7951 Powers Boulevard, Chanhassen, MN 55317
Phone Number: (952) 896-1700
Email: joanne.wacker@iwco.com

Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act

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

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

These benefits will be provided subject to the same deductibles and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under this plan. Therefore, the following deductibles and coinsurance apply: [\$300 Individual / \$600 Family / 90% . If you would like more information on WHCRA benefits, contact Joanne Wacker joanne.wacker@iwco.com.

Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act

Group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under Federal law, restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less than 96 hours following a cesarean section. However, Federal law generally does not prohibit the mother's or newborn's attending provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable). In any case, plans and issuers may not, under Federal law, require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan or the insurance issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours). If you would like more information on maternity benefits, contact Joanne Wacker joanne.wacker@iwco.com.

HIPAA Notice of Special Enrollment Rights

If you decline enrollment in IWCO Direct health plan for you or your dependents (including your spouse) because of other health insurance or group health plan coverage, you or your dependents may be able to enroll in IWCO Direct health plan without waiting for the next open enrollment period if you:

- Lose other health insurance or group health plan coverage. You must request enrollment within [30] days after the loss of other coverage.
- Gain a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption. You must request health plan enrollment within [30] days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.
- Lose Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage because you are no longer eligible. You must request medical plan enrollment within 60 days after the loss of such coverage.
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If you request a change due to a special enrollment event within the [30] day timeframe, coverage will be effective the date of birth, adoption or placement for adoption. For all other events, coverage will be effective the first of the month following your request for enrollment. In addition, you may enroll in IWCO Direct health plan if you become eligible for a state premium assistance program under Medicaid or CHIP. You must request enrollment within 60 days after you gain eligibility for medical plan coverage. If you request this change, coverage will be effective the first of the month following your request for enrollment. Specific restrictions may apply, depending on federal and state law.

Note: If your dependent becomes eligible for a special enrollment right, you may add the dependent to your current coverage or change to another health plan.

Availability of Privacy Practices Notice

We maintain the HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices for IWCO Direct describing how health information about you may be used and disclosed. You may obtain a copy of the Notice of Privacy Practices by contacting Joanne Wacker - joanne.wacker@iwco.com.

Notice of Choice of Providers

The [Blue Cross Blue Shield Minnesota] generally [allows] the designation of a primary care provider. You have the right to designate any primary care provider who participates in our network and who is available to accept you or your family members. For information on how to select a primary care provider, and for a list of the participating primary care providers, contact the Joanne Wacker joanne.wacker@iwco.com.

You do not need prior authorization from [Blue Cross Blue Shield Minnesota] or from any other person (including a primary care provider) in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a health care professional in our network who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology. The health care professional, however, may be required to comply with certain procedures, including obtaining prior authorization for certain services, following a pre-approved treatment plan, or procedures for making referrals. For a list of participating health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics or gynecology, contact Joanne Wacker joanne.wacker@iwco.com.

Michelle's Law

The Blue Cross Blue Shield Minnesota plan may extend medical coverage for dependent children if they lose eligibility for coverage because of a medically necessary leave of absence from school. Coverage may continue for up to a year, unless your child's eligibility would end earlier for another reason.

Extended coverage is available if a child's leave of absence from school—or change in school enrollment status (for example, switching from full-time to part-time status)—starts while the child has a serious illness or injury, is medically necessary and otherwise causes eligibility for student coverage under the plan to end. Written certification from the child's physician stating that the child suffers from a serious illness or injury and the leave of absence is medically necessary may be required.

If your child will lose eligibility for coverage because of a medically necessary leave of absence from school and you want his or her coverage to be extended, [notify Joanne Wacker joanne.wacker@iwco.com.] as soon as the need for the leave is recognized. In addition, contact your child's health plan to see if any state laws requiring extended coverage may apply to his or her benefits.

ACA Disclaimer

This offer of coverage may disqualify you from receiving government subsidies for an Exchange plan even if you choose not to enroll. To be subsidy eligible you would have to establish that this offer is unaffordable for you, meaning that the required contribution for employee only coverage under our base plan exceeds 8.39% in 2024 (9.02% in 2025) of your modified adjusted household income.

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

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

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

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

If you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, as well as eligible under your employer plan, your employer must allow you to enroll in your employer plan if you aren't already enrolled. This is called a "special enrollment" opportunity, and **you must request coverage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium**

assistance. If you have questions about enrolling in your employer plan, contact the Department of Labor at www.askebsa.dol.gov or call **1-866-444-EBSA (3272)**.

If you live in one of the following states, you may be eligible for assistance paying your employer health plan premiums. The following list of states is current as of March 17, 2025. Contact your State for more information on eligibility—

ALABAMA – Medicaid
Website: http://myalhipp.com/ Phone: 1-855-692-5447
ALASKA – Medicaid
The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment Program Website: http://myakhipp.com/ Phone: 1-866-251-4861
Email: CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com Medicaid Eligibility: https://health.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/default.aspx
ARKANSAS – Medicaid
Website: http://myarhipp.com/ Phone: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)
CALIFORNIA – Medicaid
Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program website: http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp Phone: 916-445-8322 Fax: 916-440-5676 Email: hipp@dhcs.ca.gov
COLORADO – Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) & Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)
Health First Colorado Website: https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/ Health First Colorado Member Contact Center: 1-800-221-3943 State Relay 711 CHP+: https://hcpf.colorado.gov/child-health-plan-plus CHP+ Customer Service: 1-800-359-1991 State Relay 711 Health Insurance Buy-In Program (HIBI): https://www.mycohibi.com/ HIBI Customer Service: 1-855-692-6442
FLORIDA – Medicaid
Website: https://www.flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/hipp/index.html Phone: 1-877-357-3268
GEORGIA – Medicaid
GA HIPP Website: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp Phone: 678-564-1162, press 1 GA CHIPRA Website: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/programs/third-party-liability/childrens-health-insurance-program-reauthorization-act-2009-chipra Phone: 678-564-1162, press 2
INDIANA – Medicaid
Health Insurance Premium Payment Program All other Medicaid Website: https://www.in.gov/medicaid/ http://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/ Family and Social Services Administration Phone: (800) 403-0864 Member Services Phone: (800) 457-4584
IOWA – Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki)
Medicaid Website: Iowa Medicaid Health & Human Services Medicaid Phone: 1-800-338-8366 Hawki Website: Hawki - Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa Health & Human Services Hawki Phone: 1-800-257-8563 HIPP Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Health & Human Services (iowa.gov) HIPP Phone: 1-888-346-9562
KANSAS – Medicaid
Website: https://www.kancare.ks.gov/ Phone: 1-800-792-4884 HIPP Phone: 1-800-967-4660
KENTUCKY – Medicaid
Kentucky Integrated Health Insurance Premium Payment Program (KI-HIPP) Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov KCHIP Website: https://kynekt.ky.gov Phone: 1-877-524-4718 Kentucky Medicaid Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms
LOUISIANA – Medicaid
Website: www.medicaid.la.gov or www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp Phone: 1-888-342-6207 (Medicaid hotline) or 1-855-618-5488 (LaHIPP)
MAINE – Medicaid
Enrollment Website: https://www.mymaineconnection.gov/benefits/s/?language=en_US Phone: 1-800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711 Private Health Insurance Premium Webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms Phone: 800-977-6740 TTY: Maine relay 711
MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pa Phone: 1-800-862-4840 TTY: 711 Email: masspremessaging@accenture.com
MINNESOTA – Medicaid
Website: https://mn.gov/dhs/health-care-coverage/ Phone: 1-800-657-3672
MISSOURI – Medicaid
Website: http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm Phone: 573-751-2005
MONTANA – Medicaid
Website: http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP Phone: 1-800-694-3084 email: HHSIPPProgram@mt.gov
NEBRASKA – Medicaid
Website: http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov Phone: 1-855-632-7633 Lincoln: 402-473-7000 Omaha: 402-595-1178
NEVADA – Medicaid

Medicaid Website: <http://dhcfp.nv.gov> | Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900

NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid

Website: <https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/medicaid/health-insurance-premium-program>

Phone: 603-271-5218 | Toll-free number for the HIPP program: 1-800-852-3345, ext. 15218

Email: DHHS.ThirdPartyLiab@dhhs.nh.gov

NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP

Medicaid Website: <http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/> | Phone: 800-356-1561

CHIP Premium Assistance Phone: 609-631-2392 | CHIP Website: <http://www.nifamilycare.org/index.html>

CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710 (TTY: 711)

NEW YORK – Medicaid

Website: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/ | Phone: 1-800-541-2831

NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid

Website: <https://medicaid.ncdohhs.gov/> | Phone: 919-855-4100

NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid

Website: <https://www.hhs.nd.gov/healthcare> | Phone: 1-866-614-6005

OKLAHOMA – Medicaid and CHIP

Website: <http://www.insureoklahoma.org> | Phone: 1-888-365-3742

OREGON – Medicaid and CHIP

Website: <http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx> | Phone: 1-800-699-9075

PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid and CHIP

Website: <https://www.pa.gov/en/services/dhs/apply-for-medicaid-health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp.html> | Phone: 1-800-692-7462

CHIP Website: [Children's Health Insurance Program \(CHIP\) \(pa.gov\)](https://www.pa.gov/childrens-health-insurance-program-chip) | CHIP Phone: 1-800-986-KIDS (5437)

RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid and CHIP

Website: <http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/> | Phone: 1-855-697-4347 or 401-462-0311 (Direct RIte Share Line)

SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid

Website: <https://www.scdhhs.gov> | Phone: 1-888-549-0820

SOUTH DAKOTA – Medicaid

Website: <http://dss.sd.gov> | Phone: 1-888-828-0059

TEXAS – Medicaid

Website: [Health Insurance Premium Payment \(HIPP\) Program | Texas Health and Human Services](https://www.hhs.texas.gov/programs-and-services/medicaid/medicaid-and-chip/hipp-program)

Phone: 1-800-440-0493

UTAH – Medicaid and CHIP

Utah's Premium Partnership for Health Insurance (UPP) Website: <https://medicaid.utah.gov/upp/>

Email: upp@utah.gov | Phone: 1-888-222-2542 |

Adult Expansion Website: <https://medicaid.utah.gov/expansion/>

Utah Medicaid Buyout Program Website: <https://medicaid.utah.gov/buyout-program/>

CHIP Website: <https://chip.utah.gov/>

VERMONT – Medicaid

Website: [Health Insurance Premium Payment \(HIPP\) Program | Department of Vermont Health Access](https://www.vermont.gov/vermont-health-access/medicaid)

Phone: 1-800-250-8427

VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP

Website: <https://www.dhss.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/famis-select> or <https://www.dhss.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs>

Medicaid/CHIP Phone: 1-800-432-5924

WASHINGTON – Medicaid

Website: <https://www.hca.wa.gov/> | Phone: 1-800-562-3022

WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP

Website: <https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/> or <http://mywvhipp.com/>

Medicaid Phone: 304-558-1700 | CHIP Toll-free phone: 1-855-MyWVHIPP (1-855-699-8447)

WISCONSIN – Medicaid and CHIP

Website: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm> | Phone: 1-800-362-3002

WYOMING – Medicaid

Website: <https://www.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility/> | Phone: 1-800-251-1269

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since March 17, 2025, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor

Employee Benefits Security Administration

www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa

1-866-444-EBSA (3272)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

www.cms.hhs.gov

1-877-267-2323, Menu Option 4, Ext. 61565

The ‘No Surprises’ Rules

The “No Surprises” rules protect you from surprise medical bills in situations where you can’t easily choose a provider who’s in your health plan network. This is especially common in an emergency situation, when you may get care from out-of-network providers. Out-of-network providers or emergency facilities may ask you to sign a notice and consent form before providing certain services after you’re no longer in need of emergency care. These are called “post-stabilization services.” You

shouldn't get this notice and consent form if you're getting emergency services other than post-stabilization services. You may also be asked to sign a notice and consent form if you schedule certain non-emergency services with an out-of-network provider at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center.

The notice and consent form informs you about your protections from unexpected medical bills, gives you the option to give up those protections and pay more for out-of-network care, and provides an estimate of what your out-of-network care might cost. You aren't required to sign the form and shouldn't sign the form if you didn't have a choice of health care provider or facility before scheduling care. If you don't sign, you may have to reschedule your care with a provider or facility in your health plan's network.

This applies to you if you're a participant, beneficiary, enrollee, or covered individual in a group health plan or group or individual health insurance coverage, including a Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) plan.

Nondiscrimination in Health Programs and Activities

IWCO Direct complies with all applicable federal civil rights laws, including Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act (Section 1557). IWCO Direct does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin (including limited English proficiency and primary language), age, disability, or sex (consistent with the scope of sex discrimination described at 45 CFR § 92.101(a)(2)) (or sex, including sex characteristics, including intersex traits; pregnancy or related conditions; sexual orientation; gender identity, and sex stereotypes). In compliance with Section 1557 and other federal civil rights laws, we provide individuals the following in a timely manner and free of charge:

- **Language assistance services.** IWCO Direct will provide language assistance services for individuals with limited English proficiency (including individuals' companions with limited English proficiency) to ensure meaningful access to our programs, activities, services, and other benefits. Language assistance services may include:
 - Electronic and written translated documents
 - Qualified interpreters
 - Qualified bilingual/multilingual staff
- **Appropriate auxiliary aids and services.** IWCO Direct will provide appropriate auxiliary aids and services for individuals with disabilities (including individuals' companions with disabilities) to ensure effective communication. Appropriate auxiliary aids and services may include:
 - Qualified interpreters, including American Sign Language interpreters
 - Video remote interpreting
 - Information in alternate formats (including but not limited to large print, recorded audio, and accessible electronic formats)
 - Qualified readers
- **Reasonable modifications.** IWCO Direct will provide reasonable modifications for qualified individuals with disabilities, when necessary to ensure accessibility and equal opportunity to participate in our programs, activities, services, or other benefits.

To access our language assistance services, auxiliary aids and services, and for assistance in getting a reasonable modification, you may also contact [Joanne Wacker joanne.wacker@iwco.com].

Entities may add additional information related to their nondiscrimination processes for: service animals, public health emergencies, telehealth, accessible diagnostic equipment, value assessment methods, patient care decision support tools (including, but not limited to crisis standards of care), etc.).

If you believe IWCO Direct has failed to provide these services or has discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, you can:

- File a grievance with IWCO Direct by [contacting Joanne Wacker joanne.wacker@iwco.com]]
- File a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/smartscreen/main.jsf> or via mail at:
 - U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
 - 200 Independence Avenue, S.W. – 509F
 - Washington, D.C. 20201
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Notice of Availability of Language Assistance Services and Auxiliary Aids and Services

ATTENTION: Free language assistance services are available to you. Appropriate auxiliary aids and services to provide information in accessible formats are also available free of charge. For more information, contact Joanne Wacker joanne.wacker@iwco.com.