

# Portsmouth Public Schools

## Important Legal Notices



**If you (and/or your dependents) have Medicare or will become eligible for Medicare in the next 12 months, a Federal law gives you more choices about your prescription drug coverage.  
Please see page 10 for more details.**

***IMPORTANT NOTICE:** This document is provided to help employers understand the compliance obligations for Health & Welfare benefit plans, but it may not take into account all the circumstances relevant to a particular plan or situation. It is not exhaustive and is not a substitute for legal advice.*



# Important Legal Notices Affecting Your Health Plan Coverage

## THE WOMEN'S HEALTH CANCER RIGHTS ACT OF 1998 (WHCRA)

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.

## NEWBORNS ACT DISCLOSURE – FEDERAL

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).

## NOTICE OF SPECIAL ENROLLMENT RIGHTS

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

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

Further, if you decline enrollment for yourself or eligible dependents (including your spouse) while Medicaid coverage or coverage under a State CHIP program is in effect, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if:

- coverage is lost under Medicaid or a State CHIP program; or
- you or your dependents become eligible for a premium assistance subsidy from the State.

In either case, you must request enrollment within 60 days from the loss of coverage or the date you become eligible for premium assistance.

To request special enrollment or obtain more information, contact the person listed at the end of this summary.

## NOTICE REGARDING WELLNESS PROGRAMS

Portsmouth Public Schools' MyLife MyPlan Rewards Program is a voluntary wellness program available to all employees. The program is administered according to federal rules permitting employer-sponsored wellness programs that seek to

improve employee health or prevent disease, including the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008, and the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, as applicable, among others. If you choose to participate in the wellness program you will be asked to complete a voluntary health risk assessment or "HRA" that asks a series of questions about your health-related activities and behaviors and whether you have or had certain medical conditions (e.g., cancer, diabetes, or heart disease). You will also be asked to complete a biometric screening, which will include a blood test for cholesterol. You are not required to complete the HRA or to participate in the blood test or other medical examinations.

However, employees who choose to participate in the wellness program will receive an incentive of gaining one chance to win in each of the drawings in the MyLife MyPlan Rewards Program for completing a personal health assessment including the biometric data. Although you are not required to complete the HRA or participate in the biometric screening, only employees who do so will receive one chance to win in each of the drawings.

The information from your HRA and the results from your biometric screening will be used to provide you with information to help you understand your current health and potential risks, and may also be used to offer you services through the wellness program. You also are encouraged to share your results or concerns with your own doctor.

### **Protections from Disclosure of Medical Information**

We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your personally identifiable health information. Although the wellness program and Portsmouth Public Schools may use aggregate information it collects to design a program based on identified health risks in the workplace, MyLife MyPlan will never disclose any of your personal information either publicly or to the employer, except as necessary to respond to a request from you for a reasonable accommodation needed to participate in the wellness program, or as expressly permitted by law. Medical information that personally identifies you that is provided in connection with the wellness program will not be provided to your supervisors or managers and may never be used to make decisions regarding your employment.

Your health information will not be sold, exchanged, transferred, or otherwise disclosed except to the extent permitted by law to carry out specific activities related to the wellness program, and you will not be asked or required to waive the confidentiality of your health information as a condition of participating in the wellness program or receiving an incentive. Anyone who receives your information for purposes of providing you services as part of the wellness program will abide by the same confidentiality requirements.

In addition, all medical information obtained through the wellness program will be maintained separate from your personnel records, information stored electronically will be encrypted, and no information you provide as part of the wellness program will be used in making any employment decision. Appropriate precautions will be taken to avoid any data breach, and in the event a data breach occurs involving information you provide in connection with the wellness program, we will notify you immediately.

You may not be discriminated against in employment because of the medical information you provide as part of participating in the wellness program, nor may you be subjected to retaliation if you choose not to participate.

If you have questions or concerns regarding this notice, or about protections against discrimination and retaliation, please contact the Benefits Office at (757) 393-8488.

## **HIPAA WELLNESS PROGRAM DISCLOSURE**

Your health plan is committed to helping you achieve your best health. Rewards for participating in a wellness program are available to all employees. If you think you might be unable to meet a standard for a reward under this wellness program, you might qualify for an opportunity to earn the same reward by different means. Contact the Benefits Office at (757) 393-8488 and we will work with you (and, if you wish, with your doctor) to find a wellness program with the same reward that is right for you in light of your health status.

## **PATIENT PROTECTION MODEL DISCLOSURE**

Optima Health generally requires 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. Until you make this designation, Optima Health designates one for you. For information on how to

select a primary care provider and for a list of the participating primary care providers, contact Member Services at (800) 229-1199.

For children, you may designate a pediatrician as the primary care provider.

You do not need prior authorization from Optima Health 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 preapproved treatment plan, or procedures for making referrals. For a list of participating health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics or gynecology, contact Member Services at (800) 229-1199.

## STATEMENT OF ERISA RIGHTS

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

### Receive Information about Your Plan and Benefits

- Examine, without charge, at the Plan Administrator’s office and at other specified locations, the Plan and Plan documents, including the insurance contract and copies of all documents filed by the Plan with the U.S. Department of Labor, if any, such as annual reports and Plan descriptions.
- Obtain copies of the Plan documents and other Plan information upon written request to the Plan Administrator. The Plan Administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.
- Receive a summary of the Plan’s annual financial report, if required to be furnished under ERISA. The Plan Administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this summary annual report, if any.

### Continue Group Health Plan Coverage

If applicable, you may continue health care coverage for yourself, spouse, or dependents if there is a loss of coverage under the plan as a result of a qualifying event. You and your dependents may have to pay for such coverage. Review the summary plan description and the documents governing the Plan for the rules on COBRA continuation of coverage rights.

### Prudent Actions by Plan Fiduciaries

In addition to creating rights for participants, ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the Plan. These people, called “fiduciaries” of the Plan, have a duty to operate the Plan prudently and in the interest of you and other Plan participants.

No one, including the Company or any other person, may fire you or discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining welfare benefits or exercising your rights under ERISA.

### Enforce your Rights

If your claim for a welfare benefit is denied in whole or in part, you must receive a written explanation of the reason for the denial. You have a right to have the Plan reviewed and reconsider your claim.

Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce these rights. For instance, if you request materials from the Plan Administrator and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in federal court. In such a case, the court may require the Plan Administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to \$110 per day, until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent due to reasons beyond the control of the Plan Administrator. If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, and you have exhausted the available claims procedures under the Plan, you may file suit in a state or federal court. If it should happen that Plan fiduciaries misuse the Plan’s money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful, the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose (for example, if the court finds your claim is frivolous) the court may order you to pay these costs and fees.

### Assistance with your Questions

If you have any questions about your Plan, this statement, or your rights under ERISA, you should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefits and Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory

or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefits and Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions regarding any of this information can be directed to:

Sharon Plummer  
801 Crawford Street, 3rd Floor  
Portsmouth, Virginia United States 23704  
757-393-8488  
[Sharon.Plummer@portsk12.com](mailto:Sharon.Plummer@portsk12.com)



# Your Information. Your Rights. Our Responsibilities.

*This notice describes how medical information about you may be used and disclosed and how you can get access to this information. **Please review it carefully.***

*Contact information for questions or complaints is available at the end of the notice.*

## Your Rights

You have the right to:

- Get a copy of your health and claims records
- Correct your health and claims records
- Request confidential communication
- Ask us to limit the information we share
- Get a list of those with whom we've shared your information
- Get a copy of this privacy notice
- Choose someone to act for you
- File a complaint if you believe your privacy rights have been violated

## Your Choices

You have some choices in the way that we use and share information as we:

- Answer coverage questions from your family and friends
- Provide disaster relief
- Market our services and sell your information

## Our Uses and Disclosures

We may use and share your information as we:

- Help manage the health care treatment you receive
- Run our organization
- Pay for your health services
- Administer your health plan
- Help with public health and safety issues
- Do research
- Comply with the law
- Respond to organ and tissue donation requests and work with a medical examiner or funeral director
- Address workers' compensation, law enforcement, and other government requests
- Respond to lawsuits and legal actions

## Your Rights

**When it comes to your health information, you have certain rights.**

This section explains your rights and some of our responsibilities to help you.

### Get a copy of health and claims records

- You can ask to see or get a copy of your health and claims records and other health information we have about you. Ask us how to do this.
- We will provide a copy or a summary of your health and claims records, usually within 30 days of your request. We may charge a reasonable, cost-based fee.

### Ask us to correct health and claims records

- You can ask us to correct your health and claims records if you think they are incorrect or incomplete. Ask us how to do this.
- We may say "no" to your request, but we'll tell you why in writing, usually within 60 days.

### Request confidential communications

- You can ask us to contact you in a specific way (for example, home or office phone) or to send mail to a different address.

- We will consider all reasonable requests, and must say “yes” if you tell us you would be in danger if we do not.

### **Ask us to limit what we use or share**

- You can ask us not to use or share certain health information for treatment, payment, or our operations.
- We are not required to agree to your request.

### **Get a list of those with whom we’ve shared information**

- You can ask for a list (accounting) of the times we’ve shared your health information for up to six years prior to the date you ask, who we shared it with, and why.
- We will include all the disclosures except for those about treatment, payment, and health care operations, and certain other disclosures (such as any you asked us to make). We’ll provide one accounting a year for free but will charge a reasonable, cost-based fee if you ask for another one within 12 months.

### **Get a copy of this privacy notice**

You can ask for a paper copy of this notice at any time, even if you have agreed to receive the notice electronically. We will provide you with a paper copy promptly.

### **Choose someone to act for you**

- If you have given someone medical power of attorney or if someone is your legal guardian, that person can exercise your rights and make choices about your health information.
- We will make sure the person has this authority and can act for you before we take any action.

### **File a complaint if you feel your rights are violated**

- You can complain if you feel we have violated your rights by contacting us using the information at the end of this notice.
- You can file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights by sending a letter to 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, calling 1-877-696-6775, or visiting [www.hhs.gov/hipaa/filing-a-complaint/index.html](http://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/filing-a-complaint/index.html).
- We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

## **Your Choices**

### **For certain health information, you can tell us your choices about what we share.**

If you have a clear preference for how we share your information in the situations described below, talk to us. Tell us what you want us to do, and we will follow your instructions.

In these cases, you have both the right and choice to tell us to:

- Share information with your family, close friends, or others involved in payment for your care
- Share information in a disaster relief situation  
*If you are not able to tell us your preference, for example if you are unconscious, we may go ahead and share your information if we believe it is in your best interest. We may also share your information when needed to lessen a serious and imminent threat to health or safety.*
- In these cases, we never share your information unless you give us written permission:
  - Marketing purposes
  - Sale of your information

## **Our Uses and Disclosures**

### **How do we typically use or share your health information?**

We typically use or share your health information in the following ways.

### **Help manage the health care treatment you receive**

We can use your health information and share it with professionals who are treating you.

*Example: A doctor sends us information about your diagnosis and treatment plan so we can arrange additional services.*

### **Pay for your health services**

We can use and disclose your health information as we pay for your health services.

*Example: We share information about you with your dental plan to coordinate payment for your dental work.*

### **Administer your plan**

We may disclose your health information to your health plan sponsor for plan administration.

*Example: Your company contracts with us to provide a health plan, and we provide your company with certain statistics to explain the premiums we charge.*

### **Run our organization**

- We can use and disclose your information to run our organization and contact you when necessary.
- We are not allowed to use genetic information to decide whether we will give you coverage and the price of that coverage. This does not apply to long-term care plans.

*Example: We use health information about you to develop better services for you.*

### **How else can we use or share your health information?**

We are allowed or required to share your information in other ways – usually in ways that contribute to the public good, such as public health and research. We have to meet many conditions in the law before we can share your information for these purposes. For more information see: [www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-individuals/guidance-materials-for-consumers/index.html](http://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-individuals/guidance-materials-for-consumers/index.html).

### **Help with public health and safety issues**

We can share health information about you for certain situations such as:

- Preventing disease
- Helping with product recalls
- Reporting adverse reactions to medications
- Reporting suspected abuse, neglect, or domestic violence
- Preventing or reducing a serious threat to anyone's health or safety

### **Do research**

We can use or share your information for health research.

### **Comply with the law**

We will share information about you if state or federal laws require it, including with the Department of Health and Human Services if it wants to see that we're complying with federal privacy law.

### **Respond to organ and tissue donation requests and work with a medical examiner or funeral director**

- We can share health information about you with organ procurement organizations.
- We can share health information with a coroner, medical examiner, or funeral director when an individual dies.

### **Address workers' compensation, law enforcement, and other government requests**

We can use or share health information about you:

- For workers' compensation claims
- For law enforcement purposes or with a law enforcement official
- With health oversight agencies for activities authorized by law
- For special government functions such as military, national security, and presidential protective services

### **Respond to lawsuits and legal actions**

We can share health information about you in response to a court or administrative order, or in response to a subpoena.

## **Our Responsibilities**

- We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your protected health information.



- We will let you know promptly if a breach occurs that may have compromised the privacy or security of your information.
- We must follow the duties and privacy practices described in this notice and give you a copy of it.
- We will not use or share your information other than as described here unless you tell us we can in writing. If you tell us we can, you may change your mind at any time. Let us know in writing if you change your mind.

For more information see: [www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-individuals/guidance-materials-for-consumers/index.html](http://www.hhs.gov/hipaa/for-individuals/guidance-materials-for-consumers/index.html).

### **Changes to the Terms of this Notice**

We can change the terms of this notice, and the changes will apply to all information we have about you. The new notice will be available upon request, on our web site (if applicable), and we will mail a copy to you.

### **Other Instructions for Notice**

- Effective Date: 1/1/2025
- Contact Information:
  - Sharon Plummer  
Phone: (757) 393-8488  
Email: Sharon.Plummer@pps.k12.va.us

## **Important Notice from Portsmouth Public Schools 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 Portsmouth Public Schools 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. Portsmouth Public Schools has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered in the "in a Portsmouth Public Schools Medical Plan" are, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is therefore considered Creditable Coverage. Because your existing coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare drug plan.

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### **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 15<sup>th</sup> to December 7<sup>th</sup>. 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, the following options may apply:

- You may stay in the Portsmouth Public Schools Medical Plan and not enroll in the Medicare prescription drug coverage at this time. You may be able to enroll in the Medicare prescription drug program at a later date without penalty either:
  - During the Medicare prescription drug annual enrollment period, or
  - If you lose Portsmouth Public Schools Medical Plan creditable coverage.
- You may stay in the Portsmouth Public Schools Medical Plan and also enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan. The Portsmouth Public Schools Medical Plan will be the primary payer for prescription drugs and Medicare Part D will become the secondary payer.
- You may decline coverage in the Portsmouth Public Schools Medical Plan and enroll in Medicare as your only payer for all medical and prescription drug expenses. If you do not enroll in the Portsmouth Public Schools Medical Plan, you are not able to receive coverage through the plan unless and until you are eligible to reenroll in the plan at the next open enrollment period or due to a status change under the cafeteria plan or special enrollment event.

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

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

Contact the person listed below for further information

NOTE: You'll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, and if this coverage through Portsmouth Public Schools changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time.

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

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

For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage:

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

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

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

Date: 1/1/2025  
Name of Entity/Sender: Portsmouth Public Schools  
Contact--Position/Office: Benefits Office – Sharon Plummer  
Address: 801 Crawford Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Portsmouth, VA 23704  
Phone Number: (757) 393-8488

# 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](http://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](http://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](http://www.askebsa.dol.gov) or call **1-866-444-EBSA (3272)**.

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**If you live in one of the following states, you may be eligible for assistance paying your employer health plan premiums. The following list of states is current as of July 31, 2024. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.flmedicaidprecovery.com/flmedicaidprecovery.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: 1-800-403-0864  
Member Services Phone: 1-800-457-4584

### 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: [KIHIPPPROGRAM@ky.gov](mailto:KIHIPPPROGRAM@ky.gov)  
KCHIP Website: <https://kynect.ky.gov>  
Phone: 1-877-524-4718  
Kentucky Medicaid Website: <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms>

### LOUISIANA – Medicaid

Website: [www.medicaid.la.gov](http://www.medicaid.la.gov) or [www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp](http://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](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/ofl/applications-forms>  
Phone: 1-800-977-6740  
TTY: Maine relay 711

### MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP

Website: <https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pa>  
Phone: 1-800-862-4840  
TTY: 711  
Email: [masspremassistance@accenture.com](mailto:masspremassistance@accenture.com)

### MINNESOTA – Medicaid

Website: <https://mn.gov/dhs/health-care-coverage/>  
Phone: 1-800-657-3739

### 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: [HSHIPPProgram@mt.gov](mailto:HSHIPPProgram@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.ThirdPartyLiabi@dhhs.nh.gov](mailto:DHHS.ThirdPartyLiabi@dhhs.nh.gov)

### NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP

Medicaid Website: <http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/>  
Phone: 1-800-356-1561  
Medicaid Phone: 609-631-2392  
CHIP Website: <http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html>  
CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710 (TTY: 711)

### NEW YORK – Medicaid

Website: [https://www.health.ny.gov/health\\_care/medicaid/](https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/)  
Phone: 1-800-541-2831

### NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid

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



## NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid

Website: <https://www.hhs.nd.gov/healthcare>  
Phone: 1-844-854-4825

## 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 \(CHIP\) \(pa.gov\)](#)  
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 Rlte 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](#)  
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](mailto: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](#)  
Phone: 1-800-250-8427

## VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP

Website: <https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/famis-select>  
<https://coverva.dmas.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/>  
<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://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility/>

Phone: 1-800-251-1269

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since July 31, 2024, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security Administration  
[www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa](http://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](http://www.cms.hhs.gov)  
1-877-267-2323, Menu Option 4, Ext. 61565

### Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

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

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

OMB Control Number 1210-0137 (expires 1/31/2026)



# Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage Options and Your Health Coverage

Form Approved  
OMB No. 1210-0149  
(expires 12-31-2026)

## PART A: General Information

Even if you are offered health coverage through your employment, you may have other coverage options through the Health Insurance Marketplace ("Marketplace"). To assist you as you evaluate options for you and your family, this notice provides some basic information about the Health Insurance Marketplace and health coverage offered through your employment.

### What is the Health Insurance Marketplace?

The Marketplace is designed to help you find health insurance that meets your needs and fits your budget. The Marketplace offers "one-stop shopping" to find and compare private health insurance options in your geographic area.

### Can I Save Money on my Health Insurance Premiums in the Marketplace?

You may qualify to save money and lower your monthly premium and other out-of-pocket costs, but only if your employer does not offer coverage, or offers coverage that is not considered affordable for you and doesn't meet certain minimum value standards (discussed below). The savings that you're eligible for depends on your household income. You may also be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your costs.

### Does Employment-Based Health Coverage Affect Eligibility for Premium Savings through the Marketplace?

Yes. If you have an offer of health coverage from your employer that is considered affordable for you and meets certain minimum value standards, you will not be eligible for a tax credit, or advance payment of the tax credit, for your Marketplace coverage and may wish to enroll in your employment-based health plan. However, you may be eligible for a tax credit, and advance payments of the credit that lowers your monthly premium, or a reduction in certain cost-sharing, if your employer does not offer coverage to you at all or does not offer coverage that is considered affordable for you or meet minimum value standards. If your share of the premium cost of all plans offered to you through your employment is more than 9.12%<sup>1</sup> of your annual household income, or if the coverage through your employment does not meet the "minimum value" standard set by the Affordable Care Act, you may be eligible for a tax credit, and advance payment of the credit, if you do not enroll in the employment-based health coverage. For family members of the employee, coverage is considered affordable if the employee's cost of premiums for the lowest-cost plan that would cover all family members does not exceed 9.12% of the employee's household income.<sup>2</sup>

Note: If you purchase a health plan through the Marketplace instead of accepting health coverage offered through your employment, then you may lose access to whatever the employer contributes to the employment-based coverage. Also, this employer contribution – as well as your employee contribution to employment-based coverage – is generally excluded from income for federal and state income tax purposes. Your payments for coverage through the Marketplace are made on an after-tax basis. In addition, note that if the health coverage offered through your employment does not meet the affordability or minimum value standards, but you accept that coverage anyway, you will not be eligible for a tax credit. You should consider all these factors in determining whether to purchase a health plan through the Marketplace.

### When Can I Enroll in Health Insurance Coverage through the Marketplace?

You can enroll in a Marketplace health insurance plan during the annual Marketplace Open Enrollment Period. Open Enrollment varies by state but generally starts November 1 and continues through at least December 15.

Outside the annual Open Enrollment Period, you can sign up for health insurance if you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period. In general, you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period if you've had certain qualifying life events, such as getting married, having a baby, adopting a child, or losing eligibility for other health coverage. Depending on your Special Enrollment Period type, you may have 60 days before or 60 days following the qualifying life event to enroll in a Marketplace plan.

There is also a Marketplace Special Enrollment Period for individuals and their families who lose eligibility for Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage on or after March 31, 2023, through July 31, 2024. Since the onset

<sup>1</sup> Indexed annually; see <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/rp-22-34.pdf> for 2023.

<sup>2</sup> An employer-sponsored or other employment-based health plan meets the "minimum value standard" if the plan's share of the total allowed benefit costs covered by the plan is no less than 60 percent of such costs. For purposes of eligibility for the premium tax credit, to meet the "minimum value standard," the health plan must also provide substantial coverage of both inpatient hospital services and physician services.

of the nationwide COVID-19 public health emergency, state Medicaid and CHIP agencies generally have not terminated the enrollment of any Medicaid or CHIP beneficiary who was enrolled on or after March 18, 2020, through March 31, 2023. As state Medicaid and CHIP agencies resume regular eligibility and enrollment practices, many individuals may no longer be eligible for Medicaid or CHIP coverage starting as early as March 31, 2023. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is offering a temporary Marketplace Special Enrollment period to allow these individuals to enroll in Marketplace coverage.

Marketplace-eligible individuals who live in states served by HealthCare.gov and either- submit a new application or update an existing application on HealthCare.gov between March 31, 2023, and July 31, 2024, and attest to a termination date of Medicaid or CHIP coverage within the same time period, are eligible for a 60-day Special Enrollment Period. That means that if you lose Medicaid or CHIP coverage between March 31, 2023, and July 31, 2024, you may be able to enroll in Marketplace coverage within 60 days of when you lost Medicaid or CHIP coverage. In addition, if you or your family members are enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP coverage, it is important to make sure that your contact information is up to date to make sure you get any information about changes to your eligibility. To learn more, visit HealthCare.gov or call the Marketplace Call Center at 1-800-318-2596. TTY users can call 1-855-889-4325.

## **What about Alternatives to Marketplace Health Insurance Coverage?**

If you or your family are eligible for coverage in an employment-based health plan (such as an employer-sponsored health plan), you or your family may also be eligible for a Special Enrollment Period to enroll in that health plan in certain circumstances, including if you or your dependents were enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP coverage and lost that coverage. Generally, you have 60 days after the loss of Medicaid or CHIP coverage to enroll in an employment-based health plan, but if you and your family lost eligibility for Medicaid or CHIP coverage between March 31, 2023, and July 10, 2023, you can request this special enrollment in the employment-based health plan through September 8, 2023. Confirm the deadline with your employer or your employment-based health plan.

Alternatively, you can enroll in Medicaid or CHIP coverage at any time by filling out an application through the Marketplace or applying directly through your state Medicaid agency. Visit <https://www.healthcare.gov/medicaid-chip/getting-medicaid-chip/> for more details.

## **How Can I Get More Information?**

For more information about your coverage offered through your employment, please check your health plan's summary plan description or contact.

The Marketplace can help you evaluate your coverage options, including your eligibility for coverage through the Marketplace and its cost. Please visit HealthCare.gov for more information, including an online application for health insurance coverage and contact information for a Health Insurance Marketplace in your area.

## PART B: Information About Health Coverage Offered by Your Employer

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

3. Employer Name Portsmouth Public Schools		4. Employer Identification Number (EIN) 54-6001517	
5. Employer address 801 Crawford Street, 3rd Floor		6. Employer phone number (757) 393-8488	
7. City Portsmouth	8. State Virginia	9. ZIP code 23704	
10. Who can we contact about employee health coverage at this job? Sharon Plummer			
11. Phone number (if different from above)		12. Email address Sharon.Plummer@portsk12.com	

Here is some basic information about health coverage offered by this employer:

- As your employer, we offer a health plan to:  
 All employees. Eligible employees are:

- Some employees. Eligible employees are:

All full-time employees are eligible the first of the month following 30 days of hire.

- With respect to dependents:  
 We do offer coverage. Eligible dependents are:

Spouses and eligible dependents up to the age of 26 if the employee is eligible and enrolled in the health plan.

- We do not offer coverage.

- If checked, this coverage meets the minimum value standard, and the cost of this coverage to you is intended to be affordable, based on employee wages.

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

If you decide to shop for coverage in the Marketplace, [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) will guide you through the process. Here's the employer information you'll enter when you visit [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) to find out if you can get a tax credit to lower your monthly premium.

