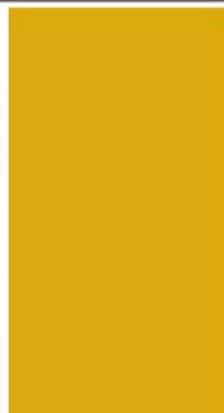




2016

Annual Notices



CITY OF
LONG BEACH



REQUIRED FEDERAL NOTICES

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REQUIRED FEDERAL NOTICES

Notice of Availability of HIPAA Privacy Notice

The federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requires that we periodically remind you of your right to receive a copy of the Insurance Carriers' HIPAA Privacy Notices. You can request copies of the Privacy Notices by contacting the Human Resources Department or by contacting the insurance carriers directly.

The Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act

The Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act (WHCRA) requires employer groups to notify participants and beneficiaries of the group health plan, of their rights to mastectomy benefits under the plan. Participants and beneficiaries have rights for coverage to be provided in a manner determined in consultation with the attending Physician 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 are subject to the same deductible and co-payments applicable to other medical and surgical procedures provided under this plan. You can contact your health plan's Member Services for more information.

Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act Notice

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, call your plan administrator.

Medicare Part D Notice

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 6 for more details.

REQUIRED FEDERAL NOTICES

HIPAA Notice of Special Enrollment Rights for Medical/Health Plan Coverage

If you decline enrollment in a City of Long Beach 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 a City of Long Beach 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 [30/31] 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 [medical plan OR health plan] enrollment within 60 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.

If you request a change due to a special enrollment event within the 31-60 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 City of Long Beach's medical 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 rights, you may add the dependent to your current coverage or change to another health plan.

REQUIRED FEDERAL NOTICES

Rules for Benefit Changes During the Year

Other than during annual open enrollment, you may only make changes to your benefit elections if you experience a qualified status change or qualify for a “special enrollment”. If you qualify for a mid-year benefit change, you may be required to submit proof of the change or evidence of prior coverage.

Qualified Status Changes include:

- **Change in legal marital status**, including marriage, divorce, legal separation, annulment, and death of a spouse
- **Change in number of dependents**, including birth, adoption, placement for adoption, or death of a dependent child
- **Change in employment status that affects benefit eligibility**, including the start or termination of employment by you, your spouse, or your dependent child
- **Change in work schedule**, including an increase or decrease in hours of employment by you, your spouse, or your dependent child, including a switch between part-time and full-time employment that affects eligibility for benefits
- **Change in a child's dependent status**, either newly satisfying the requirements for dependent child status or ceasing to satisfy them
- **Change in place of residence or worksite**, including a change that affects the accessibility of network providers
- **Change in your health coverage or your spouse's coverage** attributable to your spouse's employment
- **Change in an individual's eligibility for Medicare or Medicaid**
- **A court order** resulting from a divorce, legal separation, annulment, or change in legal custody (including a Qualified Medical Child Support Order) requiring coverage for your child.
- **An event that is a “special enrollment” under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)** including acquisition of a new dependent by marriage, birth or adoption, or loss of coverage under another health insurance plan.
- **An event that is allowed under the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Reauthorization Act.** Under provisions of the Act, employees have 60 days after the following events to request enrollment:
 - Employee or dependent loses eligibility for Medicaid (known as Medi-Cal in CA) or CHIP (known as Healthy Families in CA).
 - Employee or dependent becomes eligible to participate in a premium assistance program under Medicaid or CHIP.

Two rules apply to making changes to your benefits during the year:

- **Any changes you make must be consistent with the change in status, AND**
- **You must make the changes within 31 days (60 days for births, adoptions, and marriages) of the date the event occurs (unless otherwise noted above).**

REQUIRED FEDERAL NOTICES

Medicare Part D Notice

Important Notice from City of Long Beach 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 the City of Long Beach 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. The City of Long Beach has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the plans 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.

REQUIRED FEDERAL NOTICES

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 City of Long Beach coverage may 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 City of Long Beach 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 City of Long Beach prescription drug coverage, be aware that you and your dependents may not be able to get this coverage back.

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 City of Long Beach 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.

REQUIRED FEDERAL NOTICES

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 City of Long Beach 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, 2016**

Name of Entity: **City of Long Beach**

Contact: **Human Resources**

Address: **333 W. Ocean Blvd
Long Beach, CA 90802**

Phone Number: **(562) 570-6303**

Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Offer Free or Low Cost Health Coverage to Children and Families

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 July 31, 2015. Contact your State for more information on eligibility –

ALABAMA – Medicaid	GEORGIA – Medicaid
Website: www.myalhipp.com Phone: 1-855-692-5447	Website: http://dch.georgia.gov/ - Click on Programs, then Medicaid, then Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Phone: 404-656-4507
ALASKA – Medicaid	INDIANA – Medicaid
Website: http://health.hss.state.ak.us/dpa/programs/medicaid/ Phone (Outside of Anchorage): 1-888-318-8890 Phone (Anchorage): 907-269-6529	Website: http://www.in.gov/fssa Phone: 1-800-889-9949
COLORADO – Medicaid	IOWA – Medicaid
Medicaid Website: http://www.colorado.gov/hcpf Medicaid Customer Contact Center: 1-800-221-3943	Website: www.dhs.state.ia.us/hipp/ Phone: 1-888-346-9562
FLORIDA – Medicaid	KANSAS – Medicaid
Website: https://www.flmedicaidtprecovery.com/ Phone: 1-877-357-3268	Website: http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/ Phone: 1-800-792-4884

Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Offer Free or Low Cost Health Coverage to Children and Families

KENTUCKY – Medicaid	NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid
Website: http://chfs.ky.gov/dms/default.htm Phone: 1-800-635-2570	Website: http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oii/documents/hippapp.pdf Phone: 603-271-5218
LOUISIANA – Medicaid	NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: http://dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/subhome/1/n/331 Phone: 1-888-695-2447	Medicaid Website: http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/ Medicaid Phone: 609-631-2392 CHIP Website: http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html
MAINE – Medicaid	NEW YORK – Medicaid
Website: http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/public-assistance/index.html Phone: 1-800-977-6740	Website: http://www.nyhealth.gov/health_care/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-541-2831
MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP	NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid
Website: http://www.mass.gov/MassHealth	Website: http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma
MINNESOTA – Medicaid	NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid
Website: http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/id_006254 Click on Health Care, then Medical Assistance Phone: 1-800-657-3739	Website: http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-755-2604
MISSOURI – Medicaid	OKLAHOMA – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm	Website: http://www.insureoklahoma.org Phone: 1-888-365-3742
MONTANA – Medicaid	OREGON – Medicaid
Website: http://medicaid.mt.gov/member Phone: 1-800-694-3084	Website: http://www.oregonhealthykids.gov http://www.hijossaludablesoregon.gov Phone: 1-800-699-9075
NEBRASKA – Medicaid	PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid
Website: www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov Phone: 1-855-632-7633	Website: http://www.dhs.state.pa.us/hipp Phone: 1-800-692-7462
NEVADA – Medicaid	RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid
Medicaid Website: http://dwss.nv.gov/ Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900	Website: http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/ Phone: 401-462-5300

Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Offer Free or Low Cost Health Coverage to Children and Families

SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid	VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: http://www.scdhhs.gov Phone: 1-888-549-0820	Medicaid Website: http://www.coverva.org/programs_premium_assistance.cfm Medicaid Phone: 1-800-432-5924 CHIP Website: http://www.coverva.org/programs_premium_assistance.cfm CHIP Phone: 1-855-242-8282
SOUTH DAKOTA - Medicaid	WASHINGTON – Medicaid
Website: http://dss.sd.gov Phone: 1-888-828-0059	Website: http://www.hca.wa.gov/medicaid/premiumpymt/pages/index.aspx Phone: 1-800-562-3022 ext. 15473
TEXAS – Medicaid	WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid
Website: http://gethipptexas.com/ Phone: 1-800-440-0493	Website: http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/bms/Medicaid%20Expansion/Pages/default.aspx Phone: 1-877-598-5820, HMS Third Party Liability
UTAH – Medicaid and CHIP	WISCONSIN – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: Medicaid: http://health.utah.gov/medicaid CHIP: http://health.utah.gov/chip Phone: 1-866-435-7414	Website: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm Phone: 1-800-362-3002
VERMONT– Medicaid	WYOMING – Medicaid
Website: http://www.greenmountaincare.org/ Phone: 1-800-250-8427	Website: https://wyequalitycare.acs-inc.com/ Phone: 307-777-7531

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since July 31, 2015, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor
 Employee Benefits Security Administration
www.dol.gov/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

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