

# Employer Plan

## **2023 Plan Document for:**

Plan Name: Boise Municipal Health Care Trust Employee  
Benefit Plan

Plan Sponsor: City of Boise

Trust: Boise Municipal Health Care Trust  
Administered by Blue Cross of Idaho

**ASC CONNECTED CARE - ST. LUKE'S HEALTH  
PARTNERS**

***Effective Date: January 1, 2023***

***Benefit Period:  
January 1 through December 31***

*This is a self-funded plan and is not an insurance policy and the Boise Municipal Health Care Trust does not participate in the Idaho Life and Health Guaranty Association.*



An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

## MANAGED CARE BENEFITS OUTLINE

**This Summary Plan Document constitutes a part of your benefits guide, benefits booklet, summary plan description, or other similar governing plan document (as the case may be) that provides a summary of the Plan. To the extent there is any conflict between such governing Plan documents of the Employer and this Summary Plan Document, this Summary Plan Document shall be the governing document upon which BCI shall administer claims. Notwithstanding any provision in this document to the contrary, if the resolution of a benefit claim is tied to an individual's eligibility for coverage under the Plan, such eligibility determination shall be resolved by the Plan Sponsor.**

### **Your Rights and Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills**

When you get emergency care or are treated by an Out-of-Network Provider at an In-Network Hospital or Ambulatory Surgical Center, you are protected from balance billing. In these cases, you shouldn't be charged more than your plan's Copayments, Cost Sharing and/or Deductible.

#### **WHAT IS "BALANCE BILLING" (SOMETIMES CALLED "SURPRISE BILLING")?**

When you see a doctor or other health care Provider, you may owe certain Out-of-Pocket costs, like Copayment, Cost Sharing, or Deductible. You may have additional costs or have to pay the entire bill if you see a Provider or visit a health care facility that isn't in your health plan's network.

"Out-of-Network" means Providers and facilities that haven't signed a contract with your health plan to provide services. Out-of-Network providers may be allowed to bill you for the difference between what your plan pays and the full amount charged for a service. This is called **"balance billing."** This amount is likely more than In-Network costs for the same service and might not count toward your plan's Deductible or annual Out-of-Pocket Limit.

"Surprise billing" is an unexpected balance bill. This can happen when you can't control who is involved in your care—like when you have an emergency or when you schedule a visit at an In-Network facility but are unexpectedly treated by an Out-of-Network Provider. Surprise medical bills could cost thousands of dollars depending on the procedure or service.

#### **YOU'RE PROTECTED FROM BALANCE BILLING FOR:**

##### **Emergency services**

If you have an Emergency Medical Condition and get emergency services from an Out-of-Network Provider or facility, the most they can bill you is your plan's In-Network Cost Sharing amount (such as Copayments, Cost Sharing, and Deductibles). You **can't** be balance billed for these emergency services. This includes services you may get after you're in stable condition, unless you give written consent and give up your protections not to be balance billed for these post-stabilization services.

##### **Certain services at an In-Network Hospital or Ambulatory Surgical Center**

When you get services from an In-Network Hospital or Ambulatory Surgical Center, certain Providers there may be Out-of-Network. In these cases, the most those Providers can bill you is your plan's In-Network Cost Sharing amount. This applies to emergency medicine, anesthesia, pathology, radiology, laboratory, neonatology, assistant surgeon, hospitalist, or intensivist services. These Providers **can't** balance bill you and may **not** ask you to give up your protections not to be balance billed.

If you get other types of services at these In-Network facilities, Out-of-Network Providers **can't** balance bill you, unless you give written consent and give up your protections.

**You're never required to give up your protections from balance billing. You also aren't required to get Out-of-Network care. You can choose a Provider or facility in your plan's network.**

**WHEN BALANCE BILLING ISN'T ALLOWED, YOU ALSO HAVE THESE PROTECTIONS:**

- You're only responsible for paying your share of the cost (like the Copayments, Cost Sharing, and Deductibles that you would pay if the Provider or facility was In-Network). Your health plan will pay any additional costs to Out-of-Network Providers and facilities directly.
- Generally, your health plan must:
- Cover emergency services without requiring you to get approval for services in advance (also known as "Prior Authorization").
- Cover emergency services by Out-of-Network Providers.
- Base what you owe the Provider or facility (Cost Sharing) on what it would pay an In-Network Provider or facility and show that amount in your explanation of benefits.
- Count any amount you pay for emergency services or Out-of-Network services toward your In-Network Deductible and Out-of-Pocket Limit.

**If you believe you've been wrongly billed**, you may contact the Idaho Department of Insurance by visiting the department's Website at [www.doi.idaho.gov](http://www.doi.idaho.gov) or calling the department's telephone number at 1 (208) 334-4250 or toll-free in Idaho at 1 (800) 721-3272.

Visit [www.cms.gov/nosurprises](http://www.cms.gov/nosurprises) for more information about the No Surprises Act and your rights under federal law with respect to payment disputes.

**WOMEN'S HEALTH AND CANCER RIGHTS ACT NOTICE**

The Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 requires health plans to provide the following mastectomy-related services.

1. Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy/lumpectomy was performed;
2. Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance; and
3. Prostheses and treatment of physical complications at all stages of the mastectomy/ lumpectomy, including lymphedemas.

**OBSTETRIC OR GYNECOLOGICAL CARE NOTICE**

You do not need Prior Authorization from Blue Cross of Idaho 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 or procedures for making referrals. For a list of participating health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics or gynecology, please visit our Website at [www.bcoidaho.com](http://www.bcoidaho.com). You may also contact our Customer Service Department at 208-331-7626 or 866-685-2259 for assistance in locating a Provider.

**PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER NOTICE**

Blue Cross of Idaho currently 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, Blue Cross of Idaho 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 your insurance agent or our Customer Service Department at 208-331-7626 or 866-685-2259. You can also search our online directly located at the BCI Website, [www.bcoidaho.com](http://www.bcoidaho.com), under "Find a Doctor", for names and locations of PCP's.

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

This Benefits Outline describes the benefits of this Plan in general terms. It is important to read the Plan in full for specific and detailed information that includes additional exclusions and limitations on benefits. Your manager of employee benefits should be able to help if you have questions. If Participants receive these documents and/or any other Plan notices electronically, Participants have the right to receive paper copies of the electronic documents, including summary plan descriptions and plan amendments, upon request at no additional charge.

Throughout this Plan, Blue Cross of Idaho may be referred to as BCI. For Covered Services under the terms of this Plan, Maximum Allowance is the amount established as the highest level of compensation for a Covered Service. There is more detailed information on how Maximum Allowance is determined and how it affects out-of-state coverage in the Definitions Section.

To locate a Contracting Provider in your area, please visit our Website at [www.bcidaho.com](http://www.bcidaho.com). You may also call our Customer Service Department at 208-331-7626 or 866-685-2259 for assistance in locating a Provider.

#### **NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT: DISCRIMINATION IS AGAINST THE LAW**

Blue Cross of Idaho complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex. Blue Cross of Idaho does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex.

Blue Cross of Idaho:

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

If you need these services, contact Blue Cross of Idaho Customer Service Department. Call 1-866-685-2259 (TTY:711), or call the customer service phone number on the back of your card.

If you believe that Blue Cross of Idaho has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex, you can file a grievance with Blue Cross of Idaho's Grievances and Appeals Department at:

Manager, Grievances and Appeals  
3000 East Pine Avenue, Meridian, Idaho 83642  
Telephone: (800) 274-4018, Fax: (208) 331-7493  
Email: [grievances&appeals@bcidaho.com](mailto:grievances&appeals@bcidaho.com)  
TTY: 711

You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a grievance, our Grievances and Appeals team is available to help you. You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue SW., Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington, DC 20201, 1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TTY).

Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

#### **Language Assistance**

ATTENTION: If you speak Arabic, Bantu, Chinese, Farsi, French, German, Japanese, Korean, Nepali, Romanian, Russian, Serbo-Croatian, Spanish, Tagalog, or Vietnamese, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call 1-866-685-2259 (TTY: 711).

هغلا ركذا قير علا ثحنت تنك اذ: تظو حلمم، **Arabic:** لصتا  
ناجملاب كل رفاونت قيوغلا قدعاسملا تامدخ ناف: مكبلو مصلا فتاه  
مقر (مقرب 1-866-685-2259 (711).

**Bantu** ICITONDERWA: Nimba uvuga Ikirundi, uzohabwa serivisi zo gufasha mu ndimi, ku buntu. Woterefona 1-866-685-2259 (TTY: 711).

**Chinese** 注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-866-685-2259 (TTY : 711)

دينك يم وگتفگ يسراف نابز هب رگا: هجوت **Farsi:** يم مهارف  
امش يارب ناگيار تروصب ي نابز تاليهست (711)  
1-866-685-2259 (TTY: اب دشاب  
دير يگب سامت

**French** ATTENTION : Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le 1-866-685-2259 (ATS : 711).

**German** ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung.  
Rufnummer: 1-866-685-2259 (TTY:711).

**Japanese** 注意事項：日本語を話される場合、無料の言語支援をご利用いただけます。1-866-685-2259 (TTY:711) まで、お電話にてご連絡ください。

**Korean** 주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. 1-866-685-2259 (TTY:711)번으로 전화해 주십시오.

**Nepali** ध्यान दिनुहोस्: तपाईंले नेपाली बोल्नुहुन्छ भने तपाईंको निम्ति भाषा सहायता सेवाहरू निःशुल्क रूपमा उपलब्ध छ । फोन गर्नुहोस् 1-866-685-2259 (टिटीवाइ: 711) ।

**Romanian** ATENȚIE: Dacă vorbiți limba română, vă stau la dispoziție servicii de asistență lingvistică, gratuit. Sunați la 1-866-685-2259 (TTY:711).

**Russian** ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните 1-866-685-2259 (телетайп:711).

**Serbo-Croatian** OBAVJEŠTENJE: Ako govorite srpsko-hrvatski, usluge jezičke pomoći dostupne su vam besplatno. Nazovite 1-866-685-2259 (TTY- Telefon za osobe sa oštećenim govorom ili sluhom:711).

**Spanish** ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-866-685-2259 (TTY: 711).

**Tagalog** PAUNAWA: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa 1-866-685-2259 (TTY:711).

**Vietnamese** CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số 1-866-685-2259 (TTY: 711).

## ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT

To qualify as an Eligible Employee under this Plan, a person must be and remain (i) a full-time employee of the Employer who regularly works at least 20 hours per week and is paid on a regular, periodic basis through the Employer's payroll system; (ii) an employee on an approved leave of absence who has been designated by the Employer as eligible for coverage; (iii) an elected official; or (iv) a retiree of the Employer who has been designated by the Employer as eligible for coverage.

*(see the Plan for additional Eligibility and Enrollment provisions)*

## PROBATIONARY PERIOD

The Plan Sponsor will determine if there are certain probationary periods that must be satisfied before a new Eligible Employee can qualify for coverage under this Plan. Please contact your manager of employee benefits for the probationary period applicable to you.

## PRIMARY CARE PHYSICIAN

Blue Cross of Idaho (BCI) requires the selection of a specific Primary Care Physician (PCP) for each Participant, to ensure a qualified Provider is aware of the care you are currently receiving and have received in the past. The PCP is there to provide you with necessary care and to ensure you receive the right care at the right time. A PCP includes general/family practice, pediatrics, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology physicians. *If you did not select a PCP, BCI will assign one for you.*

To select a PCP or to change your PCP, please call our Customer Service Department at 1-866-685-2259, or in the Boise area dial 208-331-7626.

## POINT OF SERVICE CONNECTED CARE BENEFITS

**Note:** *In order to receive maximum benefits, some Covered Services require Emergency Admission Notification, Non-Emergency Preadmission Notification, and/or Prior Authorization. Please review the Inpatient Admission Notification Section, Prior Authorization Section and Attachment 2 for specific details.*

**See Attachment 2 of this Benefits Outline or the BCI Website, [www.bcidaho.com](http://www.bcidaho.com) for a complete list of services which require Prior Authorization.**

It is important for you to understand your Point of Service benefits. A Point of Service plan pays Covered Services at the highest benefit level if you seek care from a Contracting Provider. If you seek care from a Contracting Provider, no referral is necessary. This is referred to as In-Network benefits.

If you receive care from a Noncontracting Provider, you may receive benefits however the benefit level may be substantially less. This is referred to as Out-of-Network benefits.

The only exception to this rule regarding care provided by Noncontracting Providers, is in the case of Emergency Services or if you seek care from a Noncontracting Provider with the approval of both your PCP and BCI.

## REFERRALS

Please refer to the Referral Procedures Section listed in the Plan.

DIABETES PREVENTIVE PROGRAM (DPP)
<p>This program is available at no cost to Participants who qualify. You'll be able to choose from an array of national and local programs. Find out if you qualify by taking a one (1) minute survey at <a href="http://www.Solera4me.com/bcidaho">www.Solera4me.com/bcidaho</a> or call the BCI Diabetes Prevention Program hotline at 833-868-6895.</p> <p>The Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) program is a structured lifestyle intervention that includes dietary coaching, lifestyle intervention, and moderate physical activity, all with the goal of preventing the onset of diabetes in individuals who are pre-diabetic. The clinical intervention consists of sixteen (16) intensive "core" sessions of a curriculum in a group-based, classroom-style setting that Provides practical training in long-term dietary change, increased physical activity, and behavior change strategies for weight control. After the sixteen (16) core sessions, less intensive monthly follow-up meetings help ensure that the Participant maintain healthy behaviors. The primary goal of the intervention is a 5-7% average weight loss among Participants. Limited to one program, per Benefit Period, per Participant.</p>

In order to receive the highest level of benefits, Participants should see a SLHP Provider.

Benefits	In-Network SLHP Provider	Out-of-Network
<b>Deductibles:</b>  Individual	Participant pays the first \$300 of In-Network and Out-of-Network Services for eligible expenses per Benefit Period	
Family <i>(No Participant may contribute more than the Individual Deductible amount toward the Family Deductible)</i>	Participants pay the first \$600 of In-Network and Out-of-Network Services for eligible expenses for all Participants under same Family Coverage per Benefit Period	
<b>Out of Pocket Limits:</b> <i>(See Plan for services that do not apply to the limit)</i> <i>(Includes applicable Deductible, Cost Sharing and Copayments)</i> <i>(See Prescription Drug Benefits section for separate Prescription Drug Out-of-Pocket Limit)</i>	Participant pays first \$2,000 or Participants pay a combination of \$4,000 of In-Network eligible expenses for all Participants under the same Family coverage per Benefit Period  <i>(No Participant may contribute more than the Individual Out-of-Pocket Limit amount towards the Family Out-of-Pocket Limit)</i>  <i>(When the Out-of-Pocket Limit is met, benefits payable for Covered Services increase to 100% of the Maximum Allowance during the remainder of the Benefit Period, except for services that do not apply to the limit as listed in the Plan.)</i>	Participant pays first \$3,000 of Out-of-Network eligible expenses per Benefit Period  <i>(When the Out-of-Pocket Limit is met, benefits payable for Covered Services increase to 100% of the Maximum Allowance during the remainder of the Benefit Period, except for services that do not apply to the limit as listed in the Plan.)</i>
<b>Be aware that your actual costs for services provided by an Out-of-Network Provider may exceed this Plan's Out-of-Pocket Limit for Out-of-Network services. Except as provided by the No Surprises Act, Out-of-Network Providers can bill you for the difference between the amount charged by the Provider and the amount allowed by Blue Cross of Idaho, and that amount is not counted toward the Out-of-Network Out-of-Pocket Limit.</b>		

Benefits	In-Network	Out-of-Network
<b>Allergy Injections</b>	Participant pays \$5 Copayment per visit if this is the only service provided during the visit	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Ambulance Transportation Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Ground Ambulance Services</b></li> <li><b>Air Ambulance Services</b>  <i>Payment for Out-of-Network Air Ambulance Services is based on the Qualifying Payment Amount. Out-of-Network Air Ambulance Services accumulate towards the In-Network Out-of-Pocket Limit.</i> </li> </ul>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible  Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible  Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Breastfeeding Support and Supply Services</b> <i>(Includes rental and/or purchase of manual or electric breast pumps. Limited to one (1) breast pump purchase per Benefit Period, per Participant.)</i>	Plan pays 100% of Maximum Allowance (Deductible does not apply)	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Chiropractic Care /Alternative Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Chiropractic Care Services</b></li> <li><b>Acupuncture and Naturopathy Services</b></li> </ul>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible  Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible  Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
	<i>Up to a combined total of 23 visits per Participant, per Benefit Period</i>	
<b>Dental Services Related to Accidental Injury</b>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Diabetes Self-Management Education Services</b> <i>(Only for accredited Providers approved by BCI)</i>	Participant pays \$0 Copayment per visit	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Diagnostic X-ray &amp; Laboratory</b> <i>(including diagnostic mammograms)</i>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Durable Medical Equipment / Prosthetic Appliances / Orthotics Devices</b>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Emergency Services</b> <i>Payment for Out-of-Network Emergency Services is based on the Qualifying Payment Amount.</i>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible. Emergency Services accumulate towards the In-Network Out-of-Pocket Limit.	
<b>Hearing Aids</b> <i>(Includes exam, assessments and hearing aids) (Deductible does not apply; Services are not included in the Out-of-Pocket Limits.)</i>	Plan pays 100% of Maximum Allowance up to \$3,000 per Participant per Benefit Period. For services in excess of \$3,000, Plan pays 10% of Maximum Allowance	
<b>Home Health Skilled Care Nursing Services</b>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Home Intravenous Therapy</b>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible



<b>Benefits</b>	<b>In-Network</b>	<b>Out-of-Network</b>
<b>Hospice Services</b> (Deductible does not apply)	Plan pays 100% of Maximum Allowance	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance
<b>Inpatient Hospital Facility Services</b>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Inpatient Physician Medical Services</b>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Inpatient Rehabilitation or Habilitation Services</b>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Maternity and/or Involuntary complications of Pregnancy Services</b> (Physician Services including prenatal, delivery, and postnatal care)	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services</b> (Inpatient Covered Services) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facility and Professional Services</li> </ul>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services</b> (Outpatient Covered Services) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Outpatient Psychotherapy Services</li> <li>Facility and other Professional Services</li> </ul>	Participant pays \$0 Copayment per visit  Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Outpatient Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA)</b>	Participant pays \$0 Copayment per visit	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorder</b>	Covered the same as any other illness, depending on the services rendered. Please see the appropriate section of the Benefits Outline. Visit limits do not apply to Treatments for Autism Spectrum Disorder, and related diagnoses.	
<b>Morbid Obesity Surgical Services</b>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Outpatient Cardiac Rehabilitation Services</b>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Outpatient Facility Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hospital</li> <li>Ambulatory Surgical Facility</li> <li>Licensed Birthing Center</li> <li>Observation Room/area</li> </ul>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Outpatient Habilitation Therapy Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occupational therapy</li> <li>Physical therapy</li> <li>Speech therapy</li> </ul>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Outpatient Rehabilitation Therapy Services</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Occupational therapy</li> <li>Physical therapy</li> <li>Speech therapy</li> </ul>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Palliative Care Services</b> (Deductible does not apply)	Plan pays 100% of Maximum Allowance	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance

<b>Benefits</b>	<b>In-Network</b>	<b>Out-of-Network</b>
<b>Physician Office Visits</b> <i>(Office visit/exam only; related diagnostic services are subject to specified terms of the Plan)</i>	Participant pays \$0 Copayment for Primary Care Physician (PCP)  Participant pays \$30 Copayment for Contracting Provider (non-PCP)	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Post-Mastectomy/Lumpectomy Reconstructive Surgery</b>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Prescribed Contraceptive Services</b> <i>(Includes diaphragms, intrauterine devices (IUDs), implantables, injections, and tubal ligation.)</i>	Plan pays 100% of Maximum Allowance (Deductible does not apply)	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Skilled Nursing Facility</b>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
	<i>Up to a combined total of 30 days per Participant, per Benefit Period</i>	
<b>Surgical Services</b> <i>(Physician Inpatient or Outpatient Services)</i>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Telehealth Virtual Care Services</b>	Telehealth Virtual Care Services are available for any category of covered outpatient services. The amount of payment and other conditions for in-person services will apply to Telehealth Virtual Care Services. Please see the appropriate section of the Benefits Outline for those terms.	
<b>Therapy Services</b> <i>(including Radiation, Chemotherapy, Renal Dialysis and Growth Hormone)</i>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible
<b>Transplant Services</b>	Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible	Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible

PREVENTIVE CARE BENEFITS		
Benefits	In-Network	Out-of-Network
<p><b>For specifically listed Covered Services</b>  <i>Routine or scheduled well-baby and well-child examinations, including vision, hearing and developmental screenings, Adult annual physical examinations, screening examinations for school or sports physicals; Dental fluoride application for Participants age 5 and under; Bone Density; Chemistry Panels; Cholesterol Screening; Colorectal Cancer Screening; Complete Blood Count (CBC); Diabetes Screening; Pap Test; PSA Test; Rubella Screening; Screening EKG; Screening Mammogram; Thyroid Stimulating Hormone (TSH); Transmittable Diseases Screening (Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), Human papillomavirus (HPV), Syphilis, Tuberculosis (TB)); Hepatitis B Virus Screening; Sexually Transmitted Infections assessment; HIV assessment; Screening and assessment for interpersonal and domestic violence; Urinalysis (UA); Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm Screening and Ultrasound; Unhealthy Alcohol and Drug Use Assessment; Breast Cancer (BRCA) Risk Assessment and Genetic Counseling and Testing for High Risk Family History of Breast or Ovarian Cancer; Newborn Metabolic Screening (PKU, Thyroxine, Sickle Cell); Health Risk Assessment for Depression; Newborn Hearing Test; Lipid Disorder Screening; Nicotine, Smoking and Tobacco-use Cessation Counseling Visit; Dietary Counseling and Physical Activity Behavioral Counseling; Behavioral Counseling for Participants who are overweight or obese; Preventive Lead Screening; Lung Cancer Screening for Participants age 50 and over; Hepatitis C Virus Infection Screening; Urinary Incontinence Screening; Urine Culture for Pregnant Women; Iron Deficiency Screening for Pregnant Women; Rh (D) Incompatibility Screening for Pregnant Women; Diabetes Screening for Pregnant Women; Perinatal Depression Counseling and Intervention; Behavioral Counseling for Healthy Weight and Weight Gain in Pregnancy.</i></p> <p><i>The specifically listed Preventive Care Services may be adjusted accordingly to coincide with federal government changes, updates, and revisions.</i></p>	<p>Plan pays 100% of Maximum Allowance (Deductible does not apply)</p>	<p>Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible</p>
<p><b>For services not specifically listed</b></p>	<p>Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible</p>	<p>Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible</p>
<p><b>Immunizations</b>  <i>Acellular Pertussis, Diphtheria, Haemophilus Influenza B, Hepatitis B, Influenza, Measles, Mumps, Pneumococcal (pneumonia), Poliomyelitis (polio), Rotavirus, Rubella, Tetanus, Varicella (Chicken Pox.), Hepatitis A, Meningococcal, Human papillomavirus (HPV) and Zoster.</i></p> <p><i>All Immunizations are limited to the extent <b>recommended</b> by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) and may be adjusted accordingly to coincide with federal government changes, updates and revisions.</i></p> <p>Other immunizations not specifically listed may be covered at the discretion of BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, when Medically Necessary.</p>	<p><b>In-Network</b>  Listed immunizations requires no Copayment, Deductible, or Cost Sharing</p> <p>Plan pays 80% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible</p>	<p><b>Out-of-Network</b>  Listed immunizations requires no Copayment, Deductible or Cost Sharing</p> <p>Plan pays 60% of Maximum Allowance after Deductible</p>

\*If a Participant chooses a Noncontracting or a nonparticipating Provider, the Participant may be responsible for any charges that exceed the Maximum Allowance.

## SUPPLEMENTAL ACCIDENT BENEFITS

### For Providers and Services

Plan pays up to \$500 per Participant, per Accidental Injury (after which Deductibles and Cost Sharing apply)

### PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS

(The Formulary will be made available to any Participant on request by contacting our Blue Cross of Idaho Customer Service Department at 208-331-7626 or 866-685-2259.)

*(Comprehensive Major Medical Deductible does not apply to Prescription Drug Benefits.)*

### OUT-OF-POCKET LIMIT

**Individual:** Participant pays \$3,600 in Copayments and/or Cost Sharing per Benefit Period for a combination of all Prescription Drug charges incurred.

**Family:** Participants pay a combination of \$7,200 in Copayments and/or Cost Sharing per Benefit Period for a combination of all Prescription Drug charges incurred. *(No Participant may contribute more than the Individual Prescription Drug Out-of-Pocket Limit amount toward the Family Prescription Drug Out-of-Pocket Limit.)*

*When the Prescription Drug Out-of-Pocket Limit is met, the Prescription Drug Benefits payable will increase to 100% of the Allowed Charge or the Usual Charge for the remainder of the Benefit Period.*

### RETAIL PHARMACIES

*Each non-Specialty Prescription Drug shall not exceed a 90 day supply at one (1) time.*

*One Copayment **for each** 30 day supply.*

### BCI MAIL ORDER PHARMACIES

*Each non-Specialty Prescription Drug shall not exceed a 90 day supply at one (1) time.*

*One (1) Copayment for 30 day supply; and two (2) Copayments for 31 to 90 day supply.*

### SPECIALTY PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

*The Plan may increase the Cost Sharing listed below to take full advantage of any available drug cost share assistance program offered by drug manufacturers (either directly or indirectly through third parties). This feature, known as the Cost Relief Program, can lower overall costs to the Plan for certain Specialty Prescription Drugs. If a Participant enrolls in the Cost Relief Program, they will not be responsible for the additional Cost Sharing. If a Participant does not enroll, their Cost Sharing may increase, and may not count towards, their Deductible or Out-of-Pocket Limit.*

#### Tier 1 - Preferred Generic Drugs

Participant pays \$0 per Copayment per prescription

#### Tier 2 - Non-Preferred Generic Drugs

Participant pays \$0 Copayment per prescription

#### Tier 3 - Preferred Brand Name Drugs

Participant pays \$30 Copayment per prescription

#### Tier 4 - Non-Preferred Brand Name Drugs

Participant pays \$60 Copayment per prescription

#### Tier 5 - Preferred Specialty Drugs and Generic Specialty Prescription Drugs\*

*(30 day supply limit at one time)*

Participant pays \$75 Copayment per prescription

#### Tier 6 - Non-Preferred Specialty Drugs\*

*(30 day supply limit at one time)*

Participant pays \$150 Copayment per prescription

#### \*Specialty Prescription Drug Cost Relief Program

Please note that certain Specialty Prescription Drugs are only available from an In-Network Specialty Pharmacy, and a Participant will not be able to get them at a Retail Pharmacy. For more information about applicable Cost Sharing amounts available to Specialty Drugs that are eligible for the Cost Relief Program, please see the "Drug Cost Relief Program" section in the Prescription Drug Benefits Section.

#### ACA Preventive Prescription Drugs

Plan pays 100% for ACA Preventive Prescription Drugs as specifically listed on the BCI Formulary on the BCI Website, [www.bcidaho.com](http://www.bcidaho.com). (Deductible does not apply)

<b>Prescribed Contraceptives</b>	<p>Plan pays 100% for Women’s Preventive Prescription Drugs and devices as specifically listed on the BCI Formulary on the BCI Website, <a href="http://www.bcidaho.com">www.bcidaho.com</a>; Deductible does not apply. The day supply allowed shall not exceed a 90 day supply at one (1) time, as applicable to the specific contraceptive drug or supply.</p> <p>The Plan allows the right to request an exception for any FDA-approved contraceptive not included on BCI’s formularies or one that is included with Cost Sharing. Under the exceptions process, if a Participant’s attending Provider recommends a particular FDA-approved contraceptive based on a determination of Medical Necessity with respect to that Participant, the Plan will cover that service or item without Cost Sharing. Contact Customer Service to obtain the appropriate request form.</p>
<b>Diabetes Management Supplies</b>  Syringes/Needles/Other Diabetic Supplies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>lancets</i></li> <li>• <i>test strips (blood glucose and urine)</i></li> <li>• <i>insulin pump supplies (reservoirs and syringes, administration sets, and access sets)</i></li> </ul>	<p>Insulin syringes/needles have no Copayment if purchased within ninety (90) days of insulin purchase. All other supplies will be subject to the Brand Name Drug Copayment.</p>
<p><b>Note:</b> Certain Prescription Drugs have generic equivalents. If the Participant requests a Brand Name Drug, the Participant is responsible for the difference between the price of the Generic Drug and the Brand Name Drug, regardless of the Preferred or Non-Preferred status.</p>	

**Attachment 2:**  
**NON-EMERGENCY SERVICES REQUIRING PRIOR AUTHORIZATION ANNUAL NOTICE**

***NOTICE: Prior Authorization is required to determine if the specified services listed below are Medically Necessary and a Covered Service. If Prior Authorization has not been obtained to determine Medical Necessity, services may be subject to denial. Any dispute involved in Blue Cross of Idaho's Medical Necessity decision must be resolved by use of the Blue Cross of Idaho appeal process.***

***If Non-Medically Necessary services are performed by Contracting Providers, without the Prior Authorization by Blue Cross of Idaho, and benefits are denied, the cost of said services are not the financial responsibility of the Participant. The Participant is financially responsible for Non-Medically Necessary services performed by a provider who does not have a Provider contract with Blue Cross of Idaho.***

Blue Cross of Idaho will respond to a request for Prior Authorization for the services listed on the Prior Authorization page of the BCI Website received from either the Provider or the Participant within two (2) business days of the receipt of the medical information necessary to make a determination. For additional information, please check with your Provider, call Customer Service at the telephone number listed on the back of the Participant's Identification Card or check the BCI Website at [www.bcidaho.com](http://www.bcidaho.com).

***Prior Authorization is not a guarantee of payment. It is a pre-service determination of Medical Necessity based on information provided to Blue Cross of Idaho at the time the Prior Authorization request is made. Blue Cross of Idaho retains the right to review the Medical Necessity of services, eligibility of services and benefit limitations and exclusions after services are received. When Prior Authorization for a Covered Service is required of and obtained by or on behalf of a Participant, we will provide benefits in accordance with the Prior Authorization and the terms of this Plan after the Covered Service has been provided except in cases of fraud, intentional misrepresentation, nonpayment of Contribution, exhaustion of benefits or if the Participant for whom the Prior Authorization was granted is not enrolled at the time the Covered Service was provided.***

The following services require Prior Authorization:

**Procedures:**

- Radiation therapy
- Dental Surgery related to an accident
- Treatment of veins
- Reconstructive and plastic Surgery, including breast, eyelid, jaw and sinus
- Surgery for snoring or sleep problems
- Transplants (organ, tissue, etc.)
- Gender affirming services
- Breast reduction surgery
- Other Inpatient and Outpatient surgical procedures
- Certain genetic and laboratory testing
- Wound Care and Hyperbaric Oxygen (HCO)

**Services:**

- Acute Inpatient hospitalization
- Long-term acute care hospital (LTACH) admissions
- Rehabilitation and long-term care facility admissions
- Skilled nursing facility admissions
- Sub-acute and transitional care admissions
- Non-emergency ambulance transport
- Surgical Treatment of Morbid Obesity
- Behavioral Health Services
  - Psychological testing/neuropsychological evaluation testing
  - Electroconvulsive therapy (ECT)
  - Intensive outpatient program (IOP)
  - Partial hospitalization program (PHP)
  - Residential treatment center (RTC)
  - Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation (TMS)

**Durable Medical Equipment:**

- Equipment with costs of more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) (including rent-to-purchase items)
- Orthotic Devices and Prosthetic Appliances with costs of more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000)

**Pharmacy**

- Certain Prescription Drugs (find a full list at [members.bcidaho.com](https://members.bcidaho.com))
- Chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell Therapy
- Growth hormone therapy
- Outpatient intravenous (IV) therapy for infusion drugs (find a list at [members.bcidaho.com](https://members.bcidaho.com))

## PRENATAL EDUCATION PROGRAM ENDORSEMENT

***Program Goal:*** *To promote healthy prenatal care through education to expectant mothers. Blue Cross of Idaho provides this program to any employee, or female spouse, who is pregnant. The program provides members with information about nutrition, exercise, prenatal care, and childcare information to help maintain a healthy pregnancy and to deliver a healthy baby.*

### ***Enrolling in the Program***

If an expectant mother wishes to participate in the Bright Beginnings program and be eligible for the incentive, the expectant mother must enroll by contacting Blue Cross of Idaho. Simply call Bright Beginnings at (208) 387-6999 or (800) 741-1871.

### ***The Program Includes***

Upon enrollment, the expectant mother will receive the *Mayo Clinic Guide to a Healthy Pregnancy* as a gift from Blue Cross of Idaho. One month prior to delivery, Blue Cross of Idaho will send out a reminder card that prompts the expectant mother to obtain a list of all visits with their provider both during their pregnancy and after their post-partum visit. Within six months of delivery the expectant mother needs to return the printout from their provider documenting a minimum of eight pre-natal visits and one post-partum visit to Blue Cross of Idaho. Upon receipt of documentation the mother will receive a \$100 gift card and the book, *What to Expect – The First Year*.

### ***Remember***

The first step is to call Bright Beginnings at (208) 387-6999 or (800) 741-1871. The expectant mother must see their physician or licensed midwife throughout their pregnancy.

### ***Important Note***

This program should not be construed to replace prenatal medical care. All treatment decisions about medical care rest exclusively with the expectant mother and their physician or licensed midwife. The Bright Beginnings program does not grant, or change, any medical policy coverage. All claims submitted to Blue Cross of Idaho will be administered in accordance with the applicable medical policy.



Boise Municipal Health Care Trust

Effective Date: January 1, 2023

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## HOW TO SUBMIT CLAIMS

A Participant must submit a claim to Blue Cross of Idaho (BCI) in order to receive benefits for Covered Services. There are two ways for a Participant to submit a claim:

1. The health care Provider (hospital, doctor, or other facility or specialist) can file the claim for the Participant. Most Providers will submit a claim on a Participant's behalf if the Participant shows them a BCI identification card and asks them to send BCI the claim.
2. The Participant can send BCI the claim.

### TO FILE A PARTICIPANT'S OWN CLAIMS

If a Provider prefers that a Participant file the claim, here is the procedure to follow:

1. Ask the Provider for a completed itemized billing. The itemized billing should show each service received and its procedure code and its diagnosis code, the date each service was furnished, and the charge for each service. BCI cannot accept billings that only say "Balance Due," "Payment Received" or some similar statement.
2. Obtain a Member Claim Form from the BCI Website, [www.bcidaho.com](http://www.bcidaho.com), from the Provider or any of BCI's offices, and follow the instructions. Use a separate billing and Member Claim Form for each patient involved.
3. Attach the billing to the Member Claim Form and send it to:

Blue Cross of Idaho Claims Control  
Blue Cross of Idaho  
P.O. Box 7408  
Boise, ID 83707

For assistance with claims or health benefit information, please call BCI Customer Service at (208) 331-7626 or 1 (866) 685-2259.

### Notice of Claim Time Limit and Documentation

BCI will process claims for benefits on behalf of the Employer according to the Administrative Services Agreement between the parties. A claim for Covered Services must be submitted within one year from the date of service and must include all the information necessary for BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, to determine benefits.

### HOW BLUE CROSS OF IDAHO NOTIFIES THE PARTICIPANT

BCI will send the Participant an Explanation of Benefits (EOB) either electronically or by mail, as soon as the claim is processed. The EOB will show the payments BCI made and to whom the payments were sent. It will also explain any charges BCI did not pay in full. Participants should print the electronic copy and keep the EOB for their records. If a Participant would like a paper copy of their EOB, they may request one from BCI Customer Service.

## BLUE CROSS OF IDAHO CONTACT INFORMATION

For general information, please contact your local Blue Cross of Idaho office:

### **Meridian**

Customer Service Department  
3000 East Pine Avenue  
Meridian, ID 83642

2929 W. Navigator Drive, Suite 140  
Meridian, ID 83642

### **Mailing Address**

P.O. Box 7408  
Boise, ID 83707  
(208) 387-6683 (Boise Area)  
1-800-365-2345

### **Coeur d'Alene**

1812 N. Lakewood Dr., Suite 200  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
(208) 666-1495

### **Pocatello**

852 W. Quinn Rd.  
Chubbuck, ID 83202  
(208) 232-6206

### **Idaho Falls**

3630 S. 25th E., Suite 1  
Idaho Falls, ID 83404  
(208) 522-8813

### **Twin Falls**

428 Cheney Dr. W., Suite 101  
Twin Falls, ID 83301  
(208) 733-7258

## IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE CONTACT INFORMATION

### **Idaho Department of Insurance**

Consumer Affairs  
700 W State Street, 3rd Floor  
PO Box 83720  
Boise ID 83720-0043  
1-800-721-3272 or [www.DOI.Idaho.gov](http://www.DOI.Idaho.gov)

## INPATIENT NOTIFICATION SECTION

This section describes procedures that should be followed in order for Participants to receive the maximum benefits available for Covered Services. As specified, Non-Emergency Preadmission Notification or Emergency Admission Notification is required for all Inpatient services.

NOTE: Some Inpatient services also require the Provider to obtain Prior Authorization. Please refer to the Prior Authorization Section.

### **I. Non-Emergency Preadmission Notification**

Non-Emergency Preadmission Notification is a notification to Blue Cross of Idaho by the Participant and is required for all Inpatient admissions except Covered Services subject to Emergency or Maternity delivery Admission Notification. A Participant should notify BCI of all proposed Inpatient admissions as soon as they know they will be admitted as an Inpatient. The notification should be made before any Inpatient admission. Non-Emergency Preadmission Notification informs BCI, or a delegated entity, of the Participant's proposed Inpatient admission to a Licensed General Hospital, Alcohol or Substance Use Disorder Treatment Facility, Psychiatric Hospital, or any other Facility Provider. This notification alerts Blue Cross of Idaho of the proposed stay. When timely notification of an Inpatient admission is provided by the Participant to BCI, payment of benefits is subject to the specific benefit levels, limitations, exclusions and other provisions of this Plan.

For Non-Emergency Preadmission Notification call BCI at the telephone number listed on the back of the Enrollee's Identification Card.

### **II. Emergency Admission Notification**

When an Emergency Admission occurs for Emergency Medical Conditions and notification cannot be completed prior to admission due to the Participant's condition, the Participant, or their representative, should notify BCI within seventy-two (72) hours of the admission. If the admission is on a weekend or legal holiday, BCI should be notified by the end of the next working day after the admission.

This notification alerts BCI to the emergency stay.

If the Participant is outside the Service Area, Blue Cross of Idaho's medical management department must be notified of the emergency room services within twenty-four (24) or by the end of the first working day following care if admitted.

### **III. Continued Stay Review**

BCI will contact the hospital utilization review department and/or the attending Physician regarding the Participant's proposed discharge. If the Participant will not be discharged as originally proposed, BCI will evaluate the Medical Necessity of the continued stay and approve or disapprove benefits for the proposed course of Inpatient treatment. Payment of benefits is subject to the specific benefit levels, limitations, exclusions and other provisions of this Plan.

### **IV. Discharge Planning**

BCI will provide information about benefits for various post-discharge courses of treatment.

## PRIOR AUTHORIZATION SECTION

### I. Prior Authorization

***NOTICE: Prior Authorization is required to determine if the services listed in the Attachment 2 of the Benefits Outline or on the Prior Authorization page of the BCI Website are Medically Necessary and a Covered Service. If Prior Authorization has not been obtained to determine Medical Necessity, services may be subject to denial. Any dispute involved in Blue Cross of Idaho's Medical Necessity decision must be resolved by use of the Blue Cross of Idaho appeal process.***

***If Non-Medically Necessary services are performed by Contracting Providers, without the Prior Authorization by Blue Cross of Idaho, and benefits are denied, the cost of said services are not the financial responsibility of the Participant. The Participant is financially responsible for Non-Medically Necessary services performed by a Provider who does not have a Provider contract with Blue Cross of Idaho.***

Prior Authorization is a request by the Participant's Contracting Provider to BCI, or delegated entity, for authorization of a Participant's proposed treatment. BCI may review medical records, test results and other sources of information to ensure that it is a Covered Service and make a determination as to Medical Necessity or alternative treatments.

Please refer to Attachment 2 of the Benefits Outline, check the BCI Website at [www.bcidaho.com](http://www.bcidaho.com), or call Customer Service at the telephone number listed on the back of the Participant's Identification Card to determine if the Participant's proposed services require Prior Authorization. To request Prior Authorization, the Contracting Provider must notify BCI of the Participant's intent to receive services that require Prior Authorization.

The notification may be completed by telephone call or in writing and must include the information necessary to establish that the proposed services are Covered Services under the Participant's Plan and Medically Necessary. BCI will respond to a request for Prior Authorization received from either the Provider or the Participant within two (2) business days of the receipt of the medical information necessary to make a determination.

Noncontracting Providers: Please refer to Attachment 2 of the Benefits Outline, check the BCI Website at [www.bcidaho.com](http://www.bcidaho.com), or call Customer Service at the telephone number listed on the back of the Participant's Identification Card to determine if the proposed services require Prior Authorization. The Participant is responsible for obtaining Prior Authorization when seeking treatment from a Noncontracting Provider. The Participant is financially responsible for services performed by a Noncontracting Provider when those services are determined to be not Medically Necessary. The Participant is responsible for notifying BCI if the proposed treatment will be provided by a Noncontracting Provider.

***Prior Authorization is not a guarantee of payment. It is a pre-service determination of Medical Necessity based on information provided to Blue Cross of Idaho at the time the Prior Authorization request is made. Blue Cross of Idaho retains the right to review the Medical Necessity of services, eligibility of services and benefit limitations and exclusions after services are received. When Prior Authorization for a Covered Service is required of and obtained by or on behalf of a Participant, we will provide benefits in accordance with the Prior Authorization and the terms of this Plan after the Covered Service has been provided except in cases of fraud, intentional misrepresentation, nonpayment of Contribution, exhaustion of benefits or if the Participant for whom the Prior Authorization was granted is not enrolled at the time the Covered Service was provided.***

### II. Referral Procedures

#### A. Non-Emergency Services Network Gap Exception

To receive Covered Services at the In-Network benefit level from a Noncontracting Provider, your Primary Care Physician (PCP) may request a referral from BCI when there is no Provider within your Plan's Provider Network capable of providing the services. BCI will respond to a referral request received from either the PCP or the Participant within fourteen (14) business days of the receipt of the medical information necessary to make a determination. BCI's referral determination will be sent to



both the Participant and PCP. BCI will evaluate referral requests that are outside of the Plan's Provider Network to determine if the services may be performed by an In-Network Provider. If BCI determines that there is no In-Network Provider capable of providing the service, BCI will evaluate the referred Provider in accordance with quality and efficiency standards listed on the Referrals page of the BCI Website at: [www.bcidaho.com](http://www.bcidaho.com). If the referral to the Noncontracting Provider meets this criteria, BCI will allow the network gap exception and In-Network benefits will be applied to the services.

Non-emergency Covered Services provided by a Provider not contracting with the local Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan are eligible for Out-of-Network benefits.

Except as provided by the federal No Surprises Act, the Participant is responsible for the Copayment, Deductible, and/or Cost Sharing, as applicable, and may be responsible for any charges that exceed the Maximum Allowance when a referral is not obtained by the Participant or not accepted by the Provider for services provided by a Provider not contracting with the local Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan.

**B. Emergency Services**

For all Emergency Services, Covered Services provided by a Noncontracting Provider or Provider not contracting with the local Blue Cross/Blue Shield plan are eligible for In-Network Services without a referral from your PCP.

Participants may self-refer for emergency services.

## BENEFITS SECTION

This section specifies the benefits a Participant is entitled to receive for the Covered Services described, subject to the other provisions of this Plan.

### I. **Benefit Period**

The Benefit Period is the specified period of time in which a Participant's benefits for incurred Covered Services accumulate toward annual benefit limits, Deductible Limits and/or Out-of-Pocket Limits. Please see the cover page of this Plan for the Benefit Period. If the Participant's Effective Date is after the Plan Date, the initial Benefit Period for that Participant may be less than twelve (12) months.

The Benefit Period for Hospice Covered Services is a continuous six (6) month period that begins when a Hospice Plan of Treatment is approved by Blue Cross of Idaho (BCI). The Participant may apply to BCI for an extension of the Hospice Benefit Period.

### II. **Deductible**

#### A. **Individual**

An individual Participant's Deductible consists of eligible expenses paid per Benefit Period. The Individual Deductible is shown in the Benefits Outline.

#### B. **Family**

The aggregate dollar amount required to satisfy the Deductible in eligible benefits for family members under the same Family Coverage in any one Benefit Period is shown in the Benefits Outline. However, no Participant may contribute more than the Individual Deductible amount.

### III. **Out-of-Pocket Limit**

The Out-of-Pocket Limit is shown in the Benefits Outline. Eligible Out-of-Pocket expenses include only the Participant's Deductible, Copayment and Cost Sharing, if applicable, for eligible Covered Services. If a Participant is admitted as an Inpatient at the end of a Benefit Period and the hospitalization continues uninterrupted into the succeeding Benefit Period, all eligible Out-of-Pocket expenses incurred for Inpatient Hospital Services are considered part of the Benefit Period in which the date of admission occurred.

#### A. Out-of-Pocket expenses associated with the following are not included in the In-Network Out-of-Pocket Limit:

1. Amounts that exceed the Maximum Allowance.
2. Amounts that exceed benefit limits.
3. Services covered under a separate Plan, if any.
4. Prescription Drug Covered Services.
5. Noncovered services or supplies.
6. Hearing Aid Services

#### B. Out-of-Pocket expenses associated with the following are not included in the Out-of-Network Out-of-Pocket Limit:

1. Amounts that exceed the Maximum Allowance.
2. Amounts that exceed benefit limits.
3. Dental care Covered Services.
4. Services covered under a separate Plan, if any.
5. Noncovered services or supplies.
6. Prescription Drug Covered Services.

### IV. **Providers**

All Providers and Facilities must be licensed and/or registered by the state where the services are rendered, unless exempt by federal law, and must be performing within the scope of license in order for BCI to provide benefits.

### V. **Covered Services**

***Note: In order to receive maximum benefits, some Covered Services require Emergency Admission Notification, Non-Emergency Preadmission Notification, and/or Prior Authorization. Please review the***

***Inpatient Admission Notification Section, Prior Authorization Section and Attachment 2 of the Benefits Outline for specific details.***

The Benefits Outline, attached to this Plan, is an easy reference document that contains general payment information and a descriptive list of Covered Services. Benefits for Covered Services may be subject to Copayments, Deductibles, Cost Sharing, visit limits and other limits specified in the Benefits Outline.

For Covered Services eligible for benefits under more than one benefit section of this Plan, the amount paid for Covered Services may be applied to any benefit limit(s) in each benefit section.

To be eligible for benefits, Covered Services must be Medically Necessary and must be provided to an eligible Participant under the terms of this Plan.

Noncontracting Providers may not be obligated to accept Blue Cross of Idaho's reimbursement as payment in full and may be paid at a lesser amount than Contracting Providers. The Participant may be responsible for these additional noncovered amounts if Covered Services are provided by Noncontracting Providers.

**A. Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) - Outpatient**

Benefits are covered for ABA services by Providers, including those rendered by a Provider who has obtained a Board Certified Behavioral Analysis (BCBA) certification issued by the Behavioral Analyst Certification Board.

**B. Professional Services**

For In-Network Services provided by the Primary Care Physician (PCP), benefits may require a PCP Copayment per visit as shown in the Benefits Outline.

For In-Network Services provided by a Contracting Professional Provider other than the PCP, or with a BCI approved referral by the Participant's PCP by a Noncontracting Professional Provider, benefits may require a Contracting Provider Copayment per visit as shown in the Benefits Outline.

Covered Services include the following:

**1. Office/Home Medical Care**

Covered Services include:

- a) Office Visits.
- b) consultations.
- c) after-hours Office Visits for emergency care.
- d) covered medical supplies such as dressings, casts, splints, braces, bandages and crutches that are furnished during an Office Visit in conjunction with medical services in quantities appropriate for the treatment of an acute medical condition.
- e) Preventive Care Services

Benefits are provided for:

- (1) Preventive Care Covered Services—See Benefits Outline for complete list. Dietary Counseling, also referred to as “medical nutritional counseling”, includes the assessment of a Participant's overall nutritional status followed by the assignment of individualized diet, counseling, and/or specialized nutrition therapies to treat a chronic illness or condition. Dietary Counseling is only covered under the Preventive Care Benefit and includes Dietary Counseling for Diabetes. Dietary Counseling is covered only if provided by a doctor of medicine (M.D.), doctor of osteopathy (D.O.), Registered Dietitian, Physician Assistant (P.A.), or a Nurse Practitioner (N.P.).

**2. Immunizations—see Benefits Outline for complete list.**

**3. Injections**

**4. Surgical Services**

Covered Services include Inpatient or Outpatient Surgeries, and the administration of blood and blood plasma. Coverage includes:

- a) **Surgery**—Surgery performed by a Physician or other Professional Provider.
- b) **Multiple Surgical Procedures**—benefits for multiple surgical procedures performed during the same operative session by one (1) or more Physicians or other

Professional Providers are calculated based upon the Maximum Allowance and payment guidelines.

- c) **Surgical Supplies**—when a Physician or other Professional Provider performs covered Surgery in the office, benefits are available for a sterile suture or Surgery tray normally required for minor surgical procedures.
- d) **Surgical Assistant**—Medically Necessary services rendered by a Physician or other appropriately qualified surgical assistant who actively assists the operating surgeon in the performance of covered Surgery where an assistant is required. The percentage of the Maximum Allowance that is used as the actual Maximum Allowance to calculate the amount of payment under this section for Covered Services rendered by a surgical assistant is 20% for a Physician assistant and 10% for other appropriately qualified surgical assistants.
- e) **Anesthesia**—in conjunction with a covered procedure, the administration of anesthesia ordered by the attending Physician and rendered by a Physician or other Professional Provider. The use of Hypnosis as anesthesia is not a Covered Service. General anesthesia administered by the surgeon or assistant surgeon is not a Covered Service.
- f) **Second and Third Surgical Opinion**—
  - (1) Services consist of a Physician's consultative opinion to verify the need for elective Surgery as first recommended by another Physician.
  - (2) Specifications:
    - (a) Elective Surgery is covered Surgery that may be deferred and is not an emergency.
    - (b) Use of a second consultant is at the Participant's option.
    - (c) If the first recommendation for elective Surgery conflicts with the second consultant's opinion, then a third consultant's opinion is a Covered Service.
    - (d) The third consultant must be a Physician other than the Physician who first recommended elective Surgery or the Physician who was the second consultant.

5. **Diagnostic Services**

Diagnostic Services include mammograms. Tests to determine pregnancy and Pap tests are covered regardless of results. Benefits for Medically Necessary genetic testing are only available when Prior Authorization has been completed and approved by BCI.

6. **Maternity Services**

Benefits for a normal or cesarean section delivery are paid at a percentage of the Maximum Allowance as shown in the Benefits Outline for eligible covered expenses that exceed the Deductible. Benefits for involuntary complications of pregnancy other than a cesarean section delivery will be allowed as any other illness and paid according to the appropriate Benefits Section (i.e., Surgical Services or Inpatient Medical Services).

For termination of pregnancy when the mother suffers a life-endangering condition the benefits are allowed under Surgical Services and may require a Copayment for each prenatal office visit prior to the termination of pregnancy.

Covered Services include prenatal, delivery and postnatal care of:

- a) **Normal Pregnancy**—Normal Pregnancy includes all conditions arising from pregnancy or delivery, including any condition usually associated with the management of a difficult pregnancy that is not defined below as an Involuntary Complication of Pregnancy.
- b) **Involuntary Complications of Pregnancy**—Involuntary Complications of Pregnancy include, but are not limited to:
  - (1) Cesarean section delivery, ectopic pregnancy that is terminated, spontaneous termination of pregnancy that occurs during a period of gestation in which a viable birth is not possible (miscarriage), puerperal infection, and eclampsia.
  - (2) Conditions requiring Inpatient confinement (when the pregnancy is not terminated), the diagnoses of which are distinct from pregnancy but are

adversely affected or are caused by pregnancy. These conditions include acute nephritis, nephrosis, cardiac decompensation, missed abortion, and similar medical and surgical conditions of comparable severity, but do not include false labor, occasional spotting, Physician-prescribed bed rest during pregnancy, morning sickness, hyperemesis gravidarum, preeclampsia, and similar conditions associated with the management of a difficult pregnancy not constituting a nosologically distinct complication of pregnancy.

Benefits provided for any normal pregnancy, cesarean section, involuntary complication of pregnancy or interruption of pregnancy are covered for Enrollee, the Enrollee's spouse (if a Participant) or Eligible Dependent child (if a Participant). Diagnostic x-ray and laboratory services related to pregnancy, childbirth or, miscarriage are covered.

Nursery care of a newborn infant is not a maternity service.

7. **Inpatient Medical Services**
8. **Telehealth Virtual Care Services**

### C. **Hospital Services**

#### 1. **Inpatient Hospital Services**

##### a) **Room and Board and General Nursing Service**

Room and board, special diets, the services of a dietician, and general nursing service when a Participant is an Inpatient in a Licensed General Hospital is covered as follows:

- (1) A room with two (2) or more beds is covered. If a private room is used, the benefit provided in this section for a room with two (2) or more beds will be applied toward the charge for the private room. Any difference between the charges is a noncovered expense under this Plan and is the sole responsibility of the Participant.
- (2) If isolation of the Participant is: (a) required by the law of a political jurisdiction, or (b) required to prevent contamination of either the Participant or another patient by the Participant, then payment for approved private room isolation charges shall be in place of the benefits for the daily room charge stated in paragraph one (1).
- (3) Benefits for a bed in a Special Care Unit shall be in place of the benefits for the daily room charge stated in paragraph one (1).
- (4) A bed in a nursery unit is covered.

If you have a birth, benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child will include forty-eight (48) hours following a vaginal delivery and ninety-six (96) hours following a cesarean section delivery. 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 forty-eight (48) hours or ninety-six (96) hours as applicable. For stays in excess of forty-eight (48) hours or ninety-six (96) hours, additional benefits may be available under the terms of Item III., Continued Stay Review, in the Inpatient Notification Section.

##### b) **Ancillary Services**

Licensed General Hospital services and supplies including, but not restricted to:

- (1) Use of operating, delivery, cast, and treatment rooms and equipment.
- (2) Prescribed drugs administered while the Participant is an Inpatient.
- (3) Administration and processing of whole blood and blood products when the whole blood or blood products are actually used in a transfusion for a Participant; whole blood or blood plasma that is not donated on behalf of the Participant or replaced through contributions on behalf of the Participant.

- (4) Anesthesia, anesthesia supplies and services rendered by the Licensed General Hospital as a regular hospital service and billed by the same hospital in conjunction with a procedure that is a Covered Service.
- (5) All medical and surgical dressings, supplies, casts, and splints that have been ordered by a Physician and furnished by a Licensed General Hospital. Specially constructed braces and supports are not Covered Services under this section.
- (6) Oxygen and administration of oxygen.
- (7) Patient convenience items essential for the maintenance of hygiene provided by a Licensed General Hospital as a regular hospital service in connection with a covered hospital stay. Patient convenience items include, but are not limited to, an admission kit, disposable washbasin, bedpan or urinal, shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrush, and deodorant.
- (8) Diagnostic Services and Therapy Services.

If Diagnostic Services or Therapy Services furnished through a Licensed General Hospital are provided by a Physician under contract with the same hospital to perform such services and the Physician bills separately, then the Physician's services are a Covered Service.

c) **Special Services**

Hospital benefits may be provided for dental extractions, or other dental procedures if certified by a Physician that a non-dental medical condition requires hospitalization to safeguard the health of the Participant. Non-dental conditions that may receive hospital benefits are:

- (1) Brittle diabetes.
- (2) History of a life-endangering heart condition.
- (3) History of uncontrollable bleeding.
- (4) Severe bronchial asthma.
- (5) Children under ten (10) years of age who require general anesthetic.
- (6) Other non-dental life-endangering conditions that require hospitalization, subject to approval by BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator.

2. **Outpatient Facility Services**

- a) For Surgery or use of a licensed Outpatient birthing center, Ambulatory Surgical Facility or use of an observation room/area.

b) **Emergency Services**

Medical care to treat an Emergency Medical Condition or an Accidental Injury. Emergency room services include:

- Emergency room Physician and Facility services;
- Freestanding Emergency Department;
- Post-Stabilization Care Services;
- Equipment, supplies and drugs used in the emergency room;
- Inpatient Admission that is necessary even after Stabilization.
- Services and exams for Stabilization of an Emergency Medical Condition; and
- equipment and devices, telemedicine services, Diagnostic Services, preoperative and postoperative services, and other items and services, rendered during the Emergency room visit.

For purposes of this section, Stabilization means that no material deterioration of the Emergency Medical Condition is likely to result from or occur during the transfer of the Participant from a facility.

- (1) Benefits for Emergency Services are shown in the Benefits Outline for eligible covered expenses that exceed the Deductible unless the Participant is admitted to the hospital, in which case benefits are applied according to the Inpatient Hospital Services Section. The emergency room Copayment will be waived if the Participant is admitted.

**D. Therapy Services**

Covered Services include:

1. **Physical Therapy**

Payment is limited to Physical Therapy Services for Habilitative and Rehabilitative care, where there is a reasonable expectation that the services will produce measurable improvement in the Participant's condition in a reasonable period of time. Physical Therapy services are covered when performed by:

- a) a Physician;
- b) a Licensed Physical Therapist provided the Covered Services are directly related to a written treatment regimen prepared by the Therapist; or
- c) a Podiatrist.

No benefits are provided for:

- a) The following Physical Therapy Services when the specialized skills of a Licensed Physical Therapist are not required:
  - (1) range of motion and passive exercises which are not related to restoration of a specific loss of function, but are useful in maintaining range of motion in paralyzed extremities;
  - (2) assistance in walking such as that provided in support for feeble or unstable patients.
- b) Facility related charges for Outpatient Physical Therapy Services, health club dues or charges, or Physical Therapy Services provided in a health club, fitness facility or similar setting.
- c) General exercise programs, even when recommended by a Physician or a Chiropractic Physician, and even when provided by a Licensed Physical Therapist.
- d) Maintenance, palliative or supportive care.
- e) Behavioral modification services.

2. **Occupational Therapy**

Payment is limited to Occupational Therapy Services for Habilitative and Rehabilitative care, where there is a reasonable expectation that the services will produce measurable improvement in the Participant's condition in a reasonable period of time. Occupational Therapy services are covered when performed by:

- a) a Physician; or
- b) a Licensed Occupational Therapist provided the services are directly related to a written treatment regimen designed by the Occupational Therapist.

No benefits are provided for:

- a) The following Occupational Therapy Services when the specialized skills of a Licensed Occupational Therapist are not required:
  - (1) range of motion and passive exercises which are not related to restoration of a specific loss of function, but are useful in maintaining range of motion in paralyzed extremities;
  - (2) assistance in walking such as that provided in support for feeble or unstable patients.
- b) Facility related charges for Outpatient Occupational Therapy Services, health club dues or charges, or Occupational Therapy Services provided in a health club, fitness facility or similar setting.
- c) General exercise programs, even when recommended by a Physician or a Chiropractic Physician, and even when provided by a Licensed Occupational Therapist.
- d) Maintenance, palliative or supportive care.
- e) Behavioral modification services.

3. **Speech Therapy**

Benefits are limited to Speech Therapy Services related to Habilitative and Rehabilitative care, with reasonable expectation that the services will produce measurable improvement in the Participant's condition in a reasonable period of time. Speech Therapy Services are covered when performed by either of the following:

- a) A Physician.
- b) A Speech Therapist provided the services are directly related to a written treatment regimen designed by the Therapist.

- c) No benefits are provided for:
    - (1) Maintenance or supportive care.
    - (2) Behavioral modification services.
- 4. **Renal Dialysis**  
The Maximum Allowance for Renal Dialysis is 125% of the current Medicare allowed amount for In-Network and Out-of-Network Providers, unless a different rate is negotiated with the treating Provider.
- 5. **Chemotherapy**
- 6. **Radiation Therapy**
- 7. **Growth Hormone Therapy**
- 8. **Home Intravenous Therapy (Home Infusion Therapy)**  
Benefits are limited to medications, services and/or supplies provided to or in the home of the Participant, including but not limited to, hemophilia-related products and services and IVIG products and services that are administered via an intravenous, intraspinal, intra-arterial, intrathecal, subcutaneous, enteral, or intramuscular injection or access device inserted into the body.

**E. Ambulance Transportation Services**

Ambulance transportation services are covered for Medically Necessary transportation of a Participant within the local community by Ambulance under the following conditions:

- 1. From a Participant's home or scene of Accidental Injury or Emergency Medical Condition to a Licensed General Hospital.
- 2. Between Licensed General Hospitals.
- 3. Between a Licensed General Hospital and a Skilled Nursing Facility.
- 4. From a Licensed General Hospital to the Participant's home.
- 5. From a Skilled Nursing Facility to the Participant's home.

For purposes of 1., 2. and 3. above, if there is no facility in the local community that can provide Covered Services appropriate to the Participant's condition, then Ambulance Transportation Service means transportation to the closest facility that can provide the necessary service.

Air Ambulance transportation services are covered only when Medically Necessary when geographic restraints prevent Ground Ambulance transportation to the nearest facility that can provide Covered Services appropriate to the Participants condition, or ground transportation would put the health and safety of the Participant at risk.

Ground Ambulance and Air Ambulance services that are not for an Emergency Medical Conditions must be Medically Necessary and require Prior Authorization.

**F. Home Health Skilled Nursing Care Services**

The delivery of Skilled Nursing Care services under the direction of a Physician to a Homebound Participant, provided such Provider does not ordinarily reside in the Participant's household or is not related to the Participant by blood or marriage. The services must not constitute Custodial Care. Services must be provided by a Medicare Certified Home Health Agency and limited to intermittent Skilled Nursing Care. The patient's Physician must review the care at least every thirty (30) days. No benefits are provided during any period of time in which the Participant is receiving Hospice Covered Services.



**G. Skilled Nursing Facility**

Benefits provided to an Inpatient of a Licensed General Hospital are also provided for services and supplies customarily rendered to an Inpatient of a Skilled Nursing Facility, including twenty-four (24) hour onsite nursing services. If a Participant is admitted for Skilled Nursing Services, the contract terms in effect on the date of the admission will apply to the Skilled Nursing Facility visit for the entire Inpatient stay. However, if a Participant's admission crosses Benefit Periods and the previous Benefit Period limit has been exhausted, BCI will credit the new Benefit Period limit without discharge. Skilled Nursing Facility care does not include Custodial Care, supervised living, or other similar facilities providing primarily a supportive and/or recreational environment, even if some Skilled Nursing Care is provided in such facilities.

No benefits are provided if the care received consists primarily of:

1. Room and board, routine nursing care, training, supervisory, or Custodial Care.
2. Care for senile deterioration, mental deficiency or intellectual disability.
3. Care for Mental or Nervous Conditions, Alcoholism or Substance Use Disorder or Addiction.
4. Maintenance Physical Therapy, hydrotherapy, Speech Therapy, or Occupational Therapy.

**H. Inpatient Rehabilitation or Habilitation Services**

Benefits are provided for Inpatient Rehabilitation or Habilitation Services subject to the following:

1. Admission for Inpatient Physical Rehabilitation must occur within one hundred twenty (120) days of discharge from an Acute Care Licensed General Hospital.
2. Continuation of benefits is contingent upon approval by BCI of a Rehabilitation or Habilitation Plan of Treatment and documented evidence of patient progress submitted to BCI at least twice each month.

**I. Hospice Services**

**1. Conditions**

A Participant must specifically request Hospice benefits and must meet the following conditions to be eligible:

- a) The attending or primary Physician must certify that the Participant is a terminally ill patient with a life expectancy of six (6) months or less.
- b) The Participant must live within the Hospice's local geographical area.
- c) The Participant must be formally accepted by the Hospice.
- d) The Participant must have a designated volunteer Primary Care Giver at all times.

**2. Exclusions and Limitations**

No benefits are provided for:

- a) Hospice Services not included in a Hospice Plan of Treatment and not provided or arranged and billed through a Hospice.
- b) Continuous Skilled Nursing Care except as specifically provided as a part of Respite Care or Continuous Crisis Care.
- c) Hospice benefits provided during any period of time in which a Participant is receiving Home Health Skilled Nursing Care benefits.

**J. Durable Medical Equipment**

The lesser of the Maximum Allowance or billed charge for rental, (but not to exceed the lesser of the Maximum Allowance or billed charge for the total purchase price) or, at the option of BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, the purchase of Medically Necessary Durable Medical Equipment required for therapeutic use. The Durable Medical Equipment must be prescribed by an attending Physician or other Professional Provider within the scope of license. Benefits shall not exceed the cost of the standard, most economical Durable Medical Equipment that is consistent, according to generally accepted medical treatment practices, with the Participant's condition. If the Participant and their Provider have chosen a more expensive treatment than is determined to be the standard and most economical by BCI, the excess charge is solely the responsibility of the Participant. Equipment items considered to be common household items are not covered.

Due to ongoing service requirements and safety issues relating to oxygen equipment, BCI will not limit the cost of oxygen and the rental of oxygen delivery systems to the purchase price of the system(s).

**K. Prosthetic Appliances**

The purchase, fitting, necessary adjustment, repair, and replacement of Prosthetic Appliances including post-mastectomy prostheses.

Benefits for Prosthetic Appliances are subject to the following limitations:

1. Benefits shall not exceed the cost of the standard, most economical Prosthetic Appliance that is consistent, according to generally accepted medical treatment practices, with the Participant's condition. If the Participant and their Provider have chosen a more expensive treatment than is determined to be the standard and most economical by BCI, the excess charge is solely the responsibility of the Participant.
2. No benefits are provided for dental appliances or major Artificial Organs, including but not limited to, artificial hearts and pancreases, except as specified as a Covered Service under this Plan.
3. Following cataract Surgery, benefits for a required contact lens or a pair of eyeglasses are limited to the first contact lens or pair of eyeglasses, which must be purchased within ninety (90) days of the Surgery.
4. Benefits for required contact lens or a pair of eyeglasses for treatment of Keratoconus.
5. No benefits are provided for the rental or purchase of any synthesized, artificial speech or communications output device or system or any similar device, appliance or computer system designed to provide speech output or to aid an inoperative or unintelligible voice, except for voice boxes to replace all or part of a surgically removed larynx.

**L. Orthotic Devices**

Orthotic Devices include, but are not limited to, Medically Necessary braces, arch supports, other foot support devices, back or special surgical corsets, splints for extremities, and trusses, when prescribed by a Physician, Chiropractic Physician, Podiatrist, Licensed Physical Therapist, or Licensed Occupational Therapist. Orthopedic shoes, and garter belts are not considered Orthotic Devices. Benefits shall not exceed the cost of the standard, most economical Orthotic device that is consistent, according to generally accepted medical treatment practices, with the Participant's condition.

For Participants with Diabetes, when prescribed by a Licensed Provider, Covered Services include therapeutic shoes and inserts. Benefits are limited to the following, per Benefit Period: one (1) pair of custom-molded shoes and inserts, (1) one pair of extra-depth shoes, two (2) additional pairs of inserts for custom-molded shoes, and three (3) pairs of inserts for extra-depth shoes.

**M. Transplant Services**

The benefits provided for hospital services and medical services in this section are also provided for Transplant Covered Services.

1. **Autotransplants**  
Autotransplants of arteries, veins, ear bones (ossicles), cartilage, muscles, skin, hematopoietic, CAR T-Cell and tendons; teeth or tooth buds and other Autotransplants as Medically Necessary.

The applicable benefits provided for Hospital and Surgical/Medical Services are provided only for a recipient of Medically Necessary Autotransplant Services. Autologous blood transfusion, FDA approved mechanical or biological heart valves and implanting of artificial pacemakers are not considered Transplants and are a Covered Service if Medically Necessary.

2. **Transplants**

Transplants of intestines, artificial hearts, corneas, kidneys, bone marrow, livers, hearts, lungs, pancreas, islet tissue, hematopoietic, heart/lung and pancreas/kidney combinations and other solid organ or tissue Transplants or combinations, , and other Transplants as Medically Necessary.

- a) The applicable benefits provided for Hospital and Surgical/Medical Services are provided for a recipient of Medically Necessary Transplant Services.
- b) The recipient must have the Transplant performed at an appropriate Recognized Transplant Center to be eligible for Benefits for Transplant(s). If the recipient is eligible for Medicare, the recipient must have the Transplant performed at a Recognized Transplant Center that is approved by the Medicare program for the requested Transplant Covered Services.
- c) If the recipient is eligible to receive benefits for these Transplant Services, Organ Procurement charges are paid for the donor (even if the donor is not a Participant). Benefits for the donor will be charged to the recipient's coverage.
- d) A travel allowance may be available when the Participant is traveling to and from a Blue Distinction Centers for Transplants (BDCT), or in the case of a kidney transplant from a Recognized Transplant Center. Transplant Services must be Prior Authorized by BCI. The Participant will be notified of their eligibility for this allowance upon Prior Authorization of the scheduled Transplant services.

3. **Exclusions and Limitations**

In addition to any other exclusions and limitations of this Plan, the following exclusions and limitations apply to Transplant or Autotransplant services. No benefits are available under this Plan for the following:

- a) Transplants of brain tissue or brain membrane, , pituitary and adrenal glands, hair Transplants, or any other Transplant not specifically named as a Covered Service in this section; or for Artificial Organs including but not limited to, artificial hearts or pancreases, except as specified as a Covered Service under this Plan.
- b) Any eligible expenses of a donor related to donating or transplanting an organ or tissue unless the recipient is a Participant who is eligible to receive benefits for Transplant services.
- c) The cost of a human organ or tissue that is sold rather than donated to the recipient.
- d) Transportation costs including but not limited to, Ambulance Transportation Service or air service for the donor, or to transport a donated organ or tissue.
- e) Living expenses for the recipient, donor, or family members except as specifically listed as a Covered Service in this Plan.
- f) Costs covered or funded by governmental, foundation or charitable grants or programs; or Physician fees or other charges, if no charge is generally made in the absence of health benefits coverage.
- g) Any complication to the donor arising from a donor's Transplant Surgery is not a covered benefit under the Participant Transplant recipient's Plan. If the donor is a BCI Participant, eligible to receive benefits for Covered Services, benefits for medical complications to the donor arising from Transplant Surgery will be allowed under the donor's policy.
- h) Costs related to the search for a suitable donor.
- i) No benefits are available for services, expenses, or other obligations of or for a deceased donor (even if the donor is a Participant).

**N. Dental Services Related to Accidental Injury**

Dental services which are rendered by a Physician or Dentist and required as a result of Accidental Injury to the jaw, teeth, mouth, or face. Such services are covered only for the twelve (12) month period immediately following the date of injury providing the Plan remains in effect during the twelve (12) month period. Temporomandibular joint (TMJ) disorder and injuries as a result of chewing or biting are not considered Accidental Injuries, unless the source of the injury is an act of domestic violence. No benefits are available under this section for Orthodontia -or orthognathic services.

Benefits are provided for repair of damage to teeth, lips, gums, and other portions of the mouth, including fractures of the maxilla or mandible. Repair or replacement of damaged dentures, bridges,

or other dental appliances is not covered, unless the appliance must be modified or replaced due to Accidental Injury to teeth which are abutting the bridge or denture.

Benefits provided for dental services related to Accidental Injury under this provision shall be secondary to dental benefits available to a Participant under another benefit section of this Plan or available under a dental contract of insurance, contract, or underwriting plan that is separate and distinct from this Plan.

**O. Diabetes Self-Management Education**

Diabetes Self-Management Education includes instruction in the basic skills of diabetes management through books/educational material as well as an individual or group consultation with a certified diabetes educator, nurse, or dietitian in an American Diabetes Association (ADA) or American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE) certified program, or other accredited program approved by BCI.

**P. Post-Mastectomy/Lumpectomy Reconstructive Surgery**

Reconstructive Surgery in connection with a Disease related mastectomy/lumpectomy, including:

1. reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy/lumpectomy was performed;
2. surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance; and
3. prostheses and treatment of physical complications at all stages of the mastectomy/lumpectomy, including lymphedemas;

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

**Q. Prescribed Contraceptive Services**

Covered Services include FDA approved female contraceptives including prescribed devices, injectable, insertable and implantable methods of temporary contraception, such as diaphragms, intrauterine devices (IUDs), and injections. Covered Services include tubal ligation. FDA approved contraceptives are payable under the Prescription Drug Program.

There are no benefits for:

1. Over-the-counter items including, but not limited to condoms, spermicides, and sponges.
2. Prescribed contraceptives that could otherwise be purchased over-the-counter.
3. Oral contraceptive prescription drugs and other prescription hormonal contraceptives. See Prescription Drug Benefit Section for oral contraceptive benefits.

**R. Chiropractic Care Services**

- a) Benefits are limited to Chiropractic Care Services related to a significant medical condition necessitating appropriate Medically Necessary evaluation and Neuromusculoskeletal Treatment services. Chiropractic Care Services are covered when:

- (1) Services are directly related to a written treatment regimen prepared and performed by a Chiropractic Physician.
- (2) Services must be related to recovery or improvement in function, with reasonable expectation that the services will produce measurable improvement in the Participant's condition in a reasonable period of time.

- b) No benefits are provided for:

- (1) Surgery as defined in this Plan to include injections.
- (2) Laboratory and pathology services.
- (3) Range of motion and passive exercises that are not related to restoration of a specific loss of function.
- (4) Massage therapy, if not performed in conjunction with other modalities or manipulations.
- (5) Maintenance, palliative or supportive care.
- (6) Preventive or wellness care.
- (7) Facility-related charges for Chiropractic Care Services, health club dues or charges, or Chiropractic Care Services provided in a health club, fitness facility, or similar setting.
- (8) General exercise programs.
- (9) Diagnostic Services, except for x-rays to assist in the diagnosis and Neuromusculoskeletal Treatment plan as defined in this Plan.

**S. Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services**

1. Covered Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services include Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP), Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP), Residential Treatment Center, psychological testing/neuropsychological evaluation testing and Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT).
2. **Inpatient Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Care**—The benefits provided for Inpatient hospital services and Inpatient medical services in this section are also provided for the care of Mental or Nervous Conditions, Alcoholism, Substance Use Disorder or Addiction, or any combination of these.
3. **Outpatient Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Care**—The benefits provided for Outpatient Hospital Services and Outpatient Medical Services in this section are also provided for Mental or Nervous Conditions, Alcoholism, Substance Use Disorder or Addiction, or any combination of these. The use of Hypnosis to treat a Participant's Mental or Nervous Condition is a Covered Service.
4. **Outpatient Psychotherapy Services**—Covered Services include professional office visit services, family, individual and/or group therapy.

**T. Breastfeeding Support and Supply Services**

The lesser of the Maximum Allowance or billed charge for rental, (but not to exceed the lesser of the Maximum Allowance or billed charge for the total purchase price) or, at the option of BCI, the purchase of breastfeeding support and supplies. The breastfeeding support and supplies must be prescribed by an attending Physician or other Professional Provider within the scope of license and must be supplied by a Provider. If the Participant and her Provider have chosen a more expensive item than is determined to be the standard and most economical by BCI, the excess charge is solely the responsibility of the Participant. Supply items considered to be personal care items or common household items are not covered.

**U. Sleep Study Services**

Services rendered, referred, or prescribed by a Physician to diagnose a sleep disturbance or disorder. Services may be performed in a sleep laboratory, monitored by a qualified Sleep Study technician or through a home Sleep Study, via a portable recording device.

**V. Approved Clinical Trial Services**

Coverage is available for routine patient costs associated with an Approved Clinical Trial. Routine patient costs include but are not limited to Office Visits, diagnostic, laboratory tests and/or other services related to treatment of a medical condition. Routine patient costs are items and services that typically are Covered Services for a Participant not enrolled in an Approved Clinical Trial, but do not include:

1. An Investigational item, device, or service that is the subject of the Approved Clinical Trial;
2. Items and services provided solely to satisfy data collection and analysis needs and not used in the direct clinical management of the Participant; or
3. A service that is clearly inconsistent with widely accepted and established standards of care for the particular diagnosis.

**W. Treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorder**

Treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorder, and related diagnoses.

**X. Medical Foods**

Medical Foods for inborn errors of metabolism such as Phenylketonuria (PKU) or when a Provider has diagnosed the presence of inadequate nutritional oral intake related to a medical condition or due to a progressive impairment of swallowing or digestion.

**Y. Palliative Care Services**Error! Bookmark not defined.

A Participant, or a Provider on behalf of the Participant, must specifically request services for Palliative Care. Palliative Care Covered Services are covered when a Provider has assessed that a Participant is in need of Palliative Care for a serious Illness (including remission support), life-limiting injury or end-of-life care, and is limited to the following:

1. Acute Inpatient, Skilled Nursing Facility or Rehabilitation based Palliative Care services.
2. Home Health pain and symptom management services.
3. Home Health psychological and social services including individual and family counseling.
4. Caregiver support rendered by a Provider to a Participant.
5. Advanced care planning limited to face-to-face services between a Provider and a Participant to discuss the Participant's health care wishes if they become unable to make decisions about their care.

**Z. Acupuncture and Naturopathy**

Benefits for Acupuncture and Naturopathy Services are shown in the Benefits Schedule.

**AA. Treatment for Morbid Obesity**

For Covered Services for the treatment of Morbid Obesity the Plan shall pay or otherwise satisfy a percentage of the Maximum Allowance as shown in the Benefits Outline.

Benefits are provided for treatment of Morbid Obesity subject to the following:

1. Surgery for Morbid Obesity is Medically Necessary to control other medical conditions that are eligible for Covered Services under this Plan and nonsurgical methods have been unsuccessful in treating the Morbid Obesity; or
2. Surgery for Morbid Obesity is considered Medically Necessary when the Morbid Obesity is the result of persistent and uncontrollable weight gain that constitutes a present or potential threat to life.

**AB. Hearing Examination and Hearing Aid Services**

Benefits for exam, assessments and hearing aids are covered as shown in the Benefits Outline.

**VI. Out-of-Area Care - Outside the State of Idaho**

**Provider Reimbursement**

A Contracting Provider rendering Covered Services shall not make an additional charge to a Participant for amounts in excess of BCI's payment except for Deductibles, Cost Sharing, Copayments, and noncovered services.

For Covered Services furnished outside the state of Idaho by a Provider who has an agreement for claims payment with the Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield plan in the area where the Covered Services were rendered, Blue Cross of Idaho shall pay the local Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield plan's contractual charge or the actual charge, whichever is less, minus the Participant's Copayment, Deductible, and/or Cost Sharing, as applicable.

For Covered Services furnished outside the state of Idaho by a Provider who does not have an agreement for claims payments with the Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield plan in the area where the Covered Services were rendered, Blue Cross of Idaho shall pay the Maximum Allowance minus the Participant's Copayment, Deductible, and/or Cost Sharing, as applicable. Except as provided by the federal No Surprises Act, the Participant may be responsible for charges that exceed the Maximum Allowance.

## SUPPLEMENTAL ACCIDENT BENEFITS SECTION

This section specifies the benefits a Participant is entitled to receive for the Covered Services described, subject to the other provisions of this Plan.

### **I. Benefit Period**

The Benefit Period is the specified period of time in which a Participant's benefits for incurred Covered Services accumulate toward annual benefit limits. Please see the cover page of this Plan for the Benefit Period. If the Participant's Effective Date is after the Plan Date, the initial Benefit Period for that Participant may be less than twelve (12) months.

### **II. Providers**

The following are Providers under this section:

- Ambulance Transportation Service
- Ambulatory Surgical Facility (Surgery Center)
- Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist
- Clinical Nurse Specialist
- Dentist
- Durable Medical Equipment Supplier
- Licensed General Hospital
- Licensed Occupational Therapist
- Licensed Physical Therapist
- Nurse Practitioner
- Optometrist
- Physician
- Physician Assistant
- Podiatrist
- Speech Therapist

### **III. Covered Services**

There are benefits for:

- A.** Hospital Covered Services as specified in the Comprehensive Major Medical Benefits Section.
- B.** Surgical services performed by a Physician or other Professional Provider.
- C.** Medically Necessary services rendered by a Physician who actively assists the operating surgeon in the performance of covered Surgery where an assistant surgeon is required.
- D.** Anesthesia, anesthesia supplies and services rendered in conjunction with a Covered Service in a Licensed General Hospital or other Facility Provider by an employee of the hospital or facility. Also, the administration of anesthesia ordered by the attending Physician and rendered in conjunction with a covered procedure by a Physician or other Professional Provider (other than the surgeon or surgical assistant).
- E.** Medical care and consultations of a Physician or other Professional Provider for the diagnosis and treatment of an Accidental Injury.
- F.** Professional nursing services that can only be furnished by a licensed registered nurse (R.N.) or a licensed practical nurse (L.P.N.), provided such nurse does not ordinarily dwell in the Participant's household or is not related to the Participant by blood or marriage. An attending Physician must certify that the services are Medically Necessary.
- G.** Dental services rendered by a Physician or Dentist that are required as a result of Accidental Injury to the jaw, teeth, mouth, or face. Injuries as a result of chewing or biting and Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) Disorder are not considered Accidental Injuries.

- H.** Ambulance Transportation Service providing transportation within the local community where the accident occurred, to a Licensed General Hospital by means of a specially designed and equipped vehicle used only for transporting the sick and injured.
- I.** The lesser of the Maximum Allowance or billed charge for rental (but not to exceed the lesser of the Maximum Allowance or billed charge for the total purchase price) or, at the option of BCI, the purchase of Medically Necessary Durable Medical Equipment required for therapeutic use. The Durable Medical Equipment must be prescribed by an attending Physician or other Professional Provider within the scope of license. Benefits shall not exceed the cost of the standard, most economical Durable Medical Equipment that is consistent, according to generally accepted medical treatment practices, with the Participant's condition. If the Participant and their Provider have chosen a more expensive treatment than is determined to be the standard and most economical by BCI, the excess charge is solely the responsibility of the Participant. Equipment items considered to be common household items are not covered.  
Due to ongoing service requirements and safety issues relating to oxygen equipment, BCI will not limit the cost of oxygen and the rental of oxygen delivery systems to the purchase price of the system(s).
- J.** The purchase, fitting, necessary adjustment, repair, and replacement of Prosthetic Appliances.

Benefits for Prosthetic Appliances are subject to the following exclusions and limitations:

1. In all cases, benefits shall not exceed the standard, most economical Prosthetic Appliance that is consistent, according to generally accepted medical treatment practices, with the Participant's condition. If the Participant and their Provider have chosen a more expensive treatment than is determined to be the standard and most economical by BCI, the excess charge is solely the responsibility of the Participant.
2. No benefits are available for dental appliances or major Artificial Organs, including but not limited to, artificial hearts and pancreases, except as specified as a Covered Service under this Plan.
3. No benefits are available for Contact Lenses and/or eyeglasses following cataract Surgery.
4. No benefits are provided for the rental or purchase of any synthesized or artificial speech, or communication output device or system, or any similar device, appliance, or computer system designed to provide speech output or to aid an inoperative or unintelligible voice, except for voice boxes used to replace all or part of a surgically removed larynx.

#### **IV. Amount Of Payment Provisions**

The Supplemental Accident benefit amount is shown in the Benefits Outline. If the Participant incurs eligible Covered Services in excess of the Supplemental Accident benefit amount, then Comprehensive Major Medical benefits are applied including Deductibles and Cost Sharing. For Covered Services eligible for benefits under more than one benefit section of this Plan, the amount paid for Covered Services may be applied to any benefit limit(s) in each benefit section. Blue Cross of Idaho (BCI) will provide the following benefits for Covered Services:

- A.** For Supplemental Accident Covered Services provided in the state of Idaho and rendered by any of the Providers listed in this section under II. Providers, BCI will pay or otherwise satisfy 100% of the Maximum Allowance, up to the Accidental Injury benefit limit.
- B.** There are no benefits for Supplemental Accident Covered Services furnished by a Provider not listed as a Provider in this section.
- C.** If Supplemental Accident Covered Services are furnished outside the state of Idaho by a Provider, BCI will provide payment up to the annual Accidental Injury benefit limit according to the following:
  1. If the Provider has an agreement for claims payment with the Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield plan in the area where the Covered Services were rendered, then BCI will pay or otherwise satisfy 100% of the local Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield plan's contractual charge or 100% of



the actual charge, whichever is less. The Provider shall not make an additional charge to a Participant for amounts in excess of BCI's payment except as stated elsewhere in this Plan.

2. If Supplemental Accident Covered Services are furnished outside the state of Idaho by a Provider and the Provider does not have an agreement for claims payment with the Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield plan in the area where the Covered Services were rendered, then BCI will pay 100% of the Maximum Allowance. Except as provided by the federal No Surprises Act, the Provider is not obligated to accept BCI's payment as payment in full. Neither BCI nor the Plan Administrator are responsible for the difference, if any, between BCI's payment and the actual charge except as stated elsewhere in this Plan.

**D.** A Contracting Provider rendering Covered Services as described shall not make an additional charge to a Participant for amounts in excess of BCI's payment except for Deductibles, Cost Sharing, Copayments, and noncovered services.

**E.** A Noncontracting Provider inside or outside the state of Idaho is not obligated to accept BCI's payment as payment in full. Neither BCI nor the Plan Administrator are responsible for the difference, if any, between BCI's payment and the actual charge except as stated elsewhere in this Plan.

**V. Exclusions And Limitations**

In addition to any other exclusions and limitations of this Plan, the following exclusions and limitations apply to this particular section and throughout the entire Plan, unless otherwise specified:

- A.** Benefits provided under this section are for Covered Services related to the treatment of an Accidental Injury as long as the Participant is covered under this Plan and providing the Plan remains in effect.
- B.** No benefits are provided under this section for Chiropractic Care, Acupuncture and Naturopathy services.

## PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS SECTION

This Prescription Drug Benefits Section specifies the benefits a Participant is entitled to receive for Covered Services described in this section, subject to all of the other provisions of this Plan.

### **I. Prescription Drug Copayment/Cost Sharing/Deductible/Out-of-Pocket**

For the types and levels of benefits coverage regarding Prescription Drugs, see the Benefits Outline.

#### **Retail Prescription Drugs:**

For a thirty (30) day or less supply of a Prescription Drug, the Participant is responsible for paying one (1) Copayment and/or Cost Sharing amount.

For a thirty-one (31) day to sixty (60) day supply of a Prescription Drug, the Participant is responsible for paying two (2) Copayment and/or Cost Sharing amounts.

For a sixty-one (61) day to ninety (90) day supply of a Prescription Drug, the Participant is responsible for paying three (3) Copayment and/or Cost Sharing amounts.

#### **Mail Order Prescription Drugs:**

For a thirty (30) day or less supply of a Mail Order Prescription Drug, the Participant is responsible for paying one (1) Copayment and/or Cost Sharing amount.

For a thirty-one (31) day to ninety (90) day supply of a Mail Order Prescription Drug, the Participant is responsible for paying two (2) Copayment and/or Cost Sharing amounts.

#### **Diabetic Supplies:**

Insulin syringes/needles have no Copayment and/or Cost Sharing if purchased within ninety (90) days of insulin purchase. All other supplies will be subject to applicable Cost Sharing, Copayment and/or Deductible.

### **II. Providers**

The following are Providers under this section:

Licensed Pharmacist  
Participating Pharmacy/Pharmacist  
Physician

### **III. Dispensing Limitations**

Retail:

Each covered prescription for a Prescription Drug is limited to no more than a ninety (90) day supply. Specialty Drugs are limited to no more than a thirty (30) day supply. However, certain prescriptions and Prescription Drugs may be subject to more restrictive day-supply and allowed quantity limitations.

Mail Order:

Each covered prescription for a mail order Prescription Drug is limited to no more than a ninety (90) day supply. Specialty Drugs are limited to no more than a thirty (30) day supply. However, certain prescriptions and Prescription Drugs may be subject to more restrictive day-supply and allowed quantity limitations. In addition, certain Prescription Drugs may not be available under this Plan by mail order due to circumstances such as unstable shelf life, and required special storage conditions.

### **IV. Drug Cost Share Assistance Program**

If a Participant qualifies for certain non-needs-based drug cost share assistance programs offered by drug manufacturers (either directly or indirectly through third parties), the PBM, at the direction of the Contract, may contact the Participant regarding enrollment in a drug cost relief program (the "Program"). The Program allows Participants to further reduce costs and may eliminate out-of-pocket costs altogether. The PBM will work with manufacturers to get the maximum drug cost share assistance available and will manage enrollment and renewals, when possible, on the behalf of Participants. The list of Prescription Drugs covered by the Program may be updated periodically. Please visit the BCI Website, [members.bcidaho.com](http://members.bcidaho.com), then click on the Pharmacy link, or call the PBM at 1-877-638-4008 for Program details.

Participants currently taking one or more Prescription Drugs included in this Program will have the opportunity to enroll in the program and will receive a welcome letter, followed up with a phone call to provide specific information about the Program as it pertains to applicable medication(s) from the PBM.

Any cost share assistance the Participant receives from the Program will not accumulate to their Deductible and Out-of-Pocket limit. Participation in this Program could exhaust a Participant's access to a manufacturer's copay assistance later in a year when they may no longer have coverage under this Contract or another health plan.

***Nonparticipation***

Participation in this Program is voluntary. However, Participants that do not enroll in the Program will be responsible for the increased portion of the cost of the Specialty Drug. The cost will depend on the Specialty Drug prescribed and the level of cost share assistance that would have been available to the Participant under the Program but will not be more than forty-five percent (45%) of the Allowed Charge.

Because certain Specialty Drugs under the Program are not classified as "essential health benefits" in accordance with the Affordable Care Act, Participant Cost Sharing for Specialty Drugs under the Program do not count towards a Participant's Deductible or Out-of-Pocket Limit. If a Participant has already met their Deductible and/or Out-of-Pocket Limit with other claims, they will still be required to pay a portion of the cost for these Specialty Drugs. A list of Specialty Drugs that are not considered to be "essential health benefits" under the Program is available.

**V. Amount Of Payment**

Except for Specialty Prescription Drugs available under the Program described in Section IV, BCI or its designated Pharmacy Benefits Manager (PBM), will provide the following benefits for Covered Services:

- A.** The amount of payment for a covered Prescription Drug dispensed by a Participating Pharmacist is the balance remaining after subtracting the Prescription Drug Copayment, Cost Sharing and/or Deductible, if applicable, from the lower of the Allowed Charge or the Usual Charge for the Prescription Drug.
- B.** For a covered Prescription Drug dispensed by a Physician or a Licensed Pharmacist who is not a Participating Pharmacist, the Participant is responsible for paying for the Prescription Drug at the time of purchase and must submit a claim to BCI or its PBM. The amount of payment for a covered Prescription Drug is the balance remaining after subtracting the Prescription Drug Copayment, Cost Sharing and/or Deductible, if applicable, from the lower of the Allowed Charge or the Usual Charge for the Prescription Drug.
- C.** Submission of a prescription to a pharmacy is not a claim. If a Participant receives Covered Services from a pharmacy and believes that the Copayment, Cost Sharing or other amount is incorrect, the Participant may then submit a written claim to BCI requesting reimbursement of any amounts the Participant believes were incorrect. Refer to the Inquiry and Appeals Procedures in the General Provisions Section of this Plan.
- D.** The amount of payment for a covered Prescription Drug dispensed by a mail order Participating Pharmacy is the balance remaining after subtracting the Prescription Drug Copayment, Cost Sharing and/or Deductible, if applicable, from the lower of the Allowed Charge or the Usual Charge for the Prescription Drug.

**VI. Mandatory Generic Drug Substitution**

Certain Prescription Drugs are restricted to Generic Drugs for payment by BCI. Even if the Participant, the Physician or other duly licensed Provider requests the Brand Name Drug, the Participant is responsible for the difference between the price of the Generic Drug and the Brand Name Drug, plus any applicable Brand Name Drug Deductible/Copayment/Cost Sharing. The difference between the price of the Generic and Brand Name Drug shall not apply to the applicable Deductible and/or Out of Pocket Limits.

**VII. Utilization Review**

Prescription Drug benefits include utilization review of Prescription Drug usage for the Participant's health and safety. If there are patterns of over-utilization or misuse of drugs the Participant's personal Physician and Pharmacist will be notified. BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, reserves the right to limit benefits to prevent over-utilization or misuse of Prescription Drugs.

**VIII. Prior Authorization**

Certain Prescription Drugs may require Prior Authorization. If the Participant's Physician or other Provider prescribes a drug, which requires Prior Authorization, the Participant will be informed by the Provider or Pharmacist. To obtain Prior Authorization the Participant's Physician must notify BCI or its designated agent, describing the Medical Necessity for the prescription. BCI or its designated agent will respond to a request for Prior Authorization received from either the Participants' Physician or the Participant within two (2) business days of the receipt of the medical information necessary to make a determination.

**IX. Covered Services**

As listed on the Formulary, Generic and Brand Name Prescription Drugs, certain allowed Compound Drugs and Diabetic Supplies. The drugs or medicines must be directly related to the treatment of an Illness, Disease, medical condition or Accidental Injury and must be dispensed pursuant to a written prescription by a Licensed Pharmacist or Physician on or after the Participant's Effective Date. Benefits for Prescription Drugs are available up to the dispensing limitations stated in Item III. of this section.

Covered prescription drugs include medications prescribed for the treatment of erectile dysfunction or impotency if Preauthorized.

Smoking cessation Prescription Drugs are a Covered Service.

**X. Definitions**

- A. **Allowed Charge**—the amount payable for a Prescription Drug dispensed to a Participant based on the reimbursement formula determined between BCI and its PBM plus the dispensing fee for a Prescription Drug dispensed by a retail pharmacy.
- B. **Brand Name Drug**—a Prescription Drug, approved by the FDA, that is protected by a patent and is marketed and supplied under the manufacturer's brand name.
- C. **Compound Drug**—a customized medication derived from two or more raw chemicals, powders or devices, of which at least one ingredient is a federal legend drug, prepared by a Pharmacist according to a prescriber's specifications.
- D. **Diabetic Supplies**—supplies that can be purchased at a Participating Pharmacy using the Participant's pharmacy benefit. Includes: insulin syringes, insulin pen needles, lancets, test strips (blood glucose and urine), and insulin pump supplies (reservoirs and syringes, administration sets, and access sets).
- E. **Formulary**—a list of Covered Prescription Drugs approved by Blue Cross of Idaho's Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee. This list is managed and subject to periodic review and amendment by the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.

Prescription Drugs covered by the Prescription Drug Benefit are classified into one of the tiers as follows.

**First Tier** – Covered Preferred Generic Drugs.

**Second Tier** – Covered Non-Preferred Generic Drugs.

**Third Tier** – Covered Preferred Brand Name Drugs.

**Fourth Tier** – Covered Non-Preferred Brand Name Drugs.

**Fifth Tier** – Covered Preferred Specialty Drugs and Covered Generic Specialty Drugs.

**Sixth Tier** – Covered Non-Preferred Specialty Drugs.

- ACA Preventive Drugs** – ACA Mandated Preventive Drugs.
- F. **Generic Drug**—a Prescription Drug, approved by the FDA, that has the same active ingredients, strength, and dosage as its Brand Name Drug counterpart.
  - G. **Nonparticipating Pharmacy/Pharmacist**—a Licensed Pharmacist, a retail, mail-order or Specialty Pharmacy that has not entered into a contract with BCI's PBM for the purpose of providing Prescription Drug Covered Services to Participants under this Plan.
  - H. **Participating Pharmacy/Pharmacist**—a Licensed Pharmacist, a retail, mail order or Specialty Pharmacy that has a contract with BCI's PBM for the purpose of providing Prescription Drug Covered Services to Participants under this Plan.
  - I. **Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee**—a committee of Physicians and Licensed Pharmacists established by BCI that recommends policy regarding the evaluation, selection, and therapeutic use of various drugs. The Committee also decides which drugs are eligible for benefits under this Plan.
  - J. **Prescription Drugs**—drugs, biologicals and Compounded prescriptions that are FDA approved and can be dispensed only according to a written prescription given by a Physician and/or duly licensed Provider, that are listed and accepted in the *United States Pharmacopeia*, *National Formulary*, or *AMA Drug Evaluations* published by the American Medical Association (AMA), that are prescribed for human consumption, and that are required by law to bear the legend: "Caution—Federal Law prohibits dispensing without prescription."
  - K. **Specialty Drugs**—are injectable and non-injectable medications that are typically used to treat complex conditions and meet one or more of the following criteria:
    - a. are biotech-derived or biological in nature;
    - b. are significantly higher cost than traditional medications;
    - c. are used in complex treatment regimens; require special delivery, storage and handling;
    - d. require special medication-administration training for patients;
    - e. require on-going monitoring of medication adherence, side effects, and dosage changes;
    - f. are available through limited-distribution channels; and
    - g. may require additional support and coordinated case management.
  - L. **Specialty Pharmacy**—a duly licensed Pharmacy that primarily dispenses Specialty Drugs.
  - M. **Usual Charge**—the lowest retail price being charged by a Licensed Pharmacist for a Prescription Drug at the time of purchase by a Participant.

## **XI. Prescription Drug Exclusions and Limitations**

In addition to any other exclusions and limitations of this Plan, the following exclusions and limitations apply to this particular section and throughout the entire Plan, unless otherwise specified.

If a Participant receives a discount, direct or indirect support, or other cost reduction, in any form, including but not limited to a coupon or discount card from a pharmaceutical manufacturer, pharmacy, other health care Provider, or Cost Sharing from a prohibited third party organization, the cost reduction or amount discounted toward the purchase of the Prescription Drug will not be applied to the Participant's applicable Deductible amounts, and will not be applied to the Participant's Out of Pocket Limit for this Plan.

Blue Cross of Idaho prohibits direct or indirect payment by third parties unless it meets the standards set below.

Family, friends, religious institutions, private, not-for-profit foundations such as Indian tribes, tribal organizations, urban Indian organizations, state and federal government programs or grantees or sub-grantees such as the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program and other similar entities are not prohibited. Cost Sharing contributions made from permitted third parties will be applied to the Participants applicable Deductible and/or Out-of-Pocket Limit.

Each of the following criteria must be met for BCI to accept a third party payment:

1. the assistance is provided on the basis of the Participant's financial need;
2. the institution/organization is not a healthcare Provider; and
3. the institution/organization is not financially interested. Financially interested institutions/organizations include institutions/organizations that receive the majority of their funding from entities with a pecuniary interest in the payment of health insurance claims, or institutions/organizations that are subject to direct or indirect control of entities with a pecuniary interest in the payment of health insurance claims.

To assist in appropriately applying Cost Sharing contributions made from a permitted third party to the Participant's applicable Deductible and/or Out-of-Pocket Limit, the Participant is encouraged to provide notification to BCI if they receive any form of assistance for payment of their Contribution, Cost Sharing, Copayment or Deductible amounts.

BCI will inform the Participant in writing of the reason for rejecting or otherwise refusing to treat a third party payment as a payment from the Participant and of the Participant's right to file a complaint with the Department of Insurance.

No benefits are provided for the following:

1. Drugs used for the termination of early pregnancy, and complications arising therefrom, except when required to correct an immediately life-endangering condition.
2. Over-the-counter drugs other than insulin and ACA mandated over the counter drugs, even if prescribed by a Physician. Notwithstanding this exclusion, BCI, through the determination of the BCI Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee may choose to cover certain over-the-counter medications when Prescription Drug benefits are provided under this Plan. Such approved over-the-counter medications must be identified by BCI in writing and will specify the procedures for obtaining benefits for such approved over-the-counter medications. Please note that the fact a particular over-the-counter drug or medication is covered does not require BCI to cover or otherwise pay or reimburse the Participant for any other over-the-counter drug or medication.
3. Charges for the administration or injection of any drug, except for vaccinations listed on the Prescription Drug Formulary.
4. Therapeutic devices or appliances, including hypodermic needles, syringes, support garments, and other non-medicinal substances except Diabetic Supplies, regardless of intended use
5. Drugs labeled "Caution—Limited by Federal Law to Investigational Use," or experimental drugs, even though a charge is made to the Participant.
6. Immunization agents, except for vaccinations listed on the Prescription Drug Formulary, biological sera, blood or blood plasma. Benefits may be available under the Benefits Section of this Plan.
7. Medication that is to be taken by or administered to a Participant, in whole or in part, while the Participant is an Inpatient in a Licensed General Hospital, rest home, sanatorium, Skilled Nursing Facility, extended care facility, convalescent hospital, nursing home, or similar institution which operates or allows to operate on its premises, a facility for dispensing pharmaceuticals.
8. Any prescription refilled in excess of the number specified by the Physician, or any refill dispensed after one (1) year from the Physician's original order.
9. Prescription Drugs that are:
  - a) Prescribed primarily to aid or assist the Participant in weight loss, including all anorectics, whether amphetamine or nonamphetamine.
  - b) Prescribed primarily to retard the rate of hair loss or to aid in the replacement of lost hair.
  - c) Prescribed primarily to increase fertility, including but not limited to, drugs which induce or enhance ovulation.
  - d) Prescribed primarily for personal hygiene, comfort, beautification, or for the purpose of improving appearance.
  - e) Prescribed primarily to increase growth, including but not limited to, growth hormone.
  - f) Provided by or under the direction of a Home Intravenous Therapy Company, Home Health Agency or other Provider approved by BCI. Benefits are available for this Therapy Service under the Major Medical Benefits Section of this Plan only as preauthorized and approved when Medically Necessary.
10. Lost, stolen, broken or destroyed medications, except in the case of loss due directly to a natural disaster.

## ELIGIBILITY AND ENROLLMENT SECTION

### I. Eligibility And Enrollment

All Eligible Employees will have the opportunity to apply for coverage under this Plan.

#### A. Eligible Employee

Qualifications for eligibility are shown in the Benefits Outline.

#### B. Eligible Dependent

To qualify as an Eligible Dependent under this Plan, a person must be and remain one (1) of the following:

1. The Enrollee's spouse under a legally valid marriage provided said spouse is not an Eligible Employee of the Employer and enrolled in any other healthcare plan offered by the Employer.
2. The Enrollee's or the Enrollee's spouse's natural child, stepchild, legally adopted child, child placed with the Enrollee for adoption, or child for whom the Enrollee or the Enrollee's spouse has court-appointed guardianship or custody. The child must be under the age of twenty-six (26).
3. A child as described in the first sentence of subparagraph two (2) who has attained age twenty-six (26) provided:
  - a) The child is medically certified as incapable of self-sustaining employment due to an intellectual disability or physical handicap that began prior to age twenty-six (26);
  - b) The child is chiefly dependent upon the Enrollee or the Enrollee's spouse for support and maintenance; and
  - c) The Enrollee submits proof of such child's incapacity and dependency as described in this subparagraph three (3) within thirty-one (31) days of such child's attainment of age twenty-six (26) and as subsequently required by BCI and/or the Employer at reasonable intervals.
4. A child under a QMCSO is also eligible.

A child whose coverage has terminated coverage under this Plan due to reaching the age limit, and then becomes disabled, is not eligible to re-enroll as a disabled Dependent child under this Plan.

An Enrollee must notify the Boise Municipal Health Care Trust within thirty (30) days when a dependent no longer qualifies as an Eligible Dependent. Coverage for the former Eligible Dependent will terminate the last day of the month in which the change in eligibility occurred.

#### C. Annual Open Enrollment Periods

Applications for coverage for an Eligible Employee will only be accepted by BCI during the Employer's annual Open Enrollment Period, during the Eligible Employee's Initial Enrollment Period, or during a Special Enrollment Period as described in this section. If an Eligible Employee does not apply for coverage during these time periods, they must wait until the next Open Enrollment Period or Special Enrollment Period.

#### D. Initial Enrollment Period

The Initial Enrollment Period is thirty (30) days for Eligible Employees and Eligible Dependents. The Initial Enrollment Period begins on the date the Eligible Employee or Eligible Dependent first becomes eligible for coverage under this Plan.

#### E. Enrollment of Eligible Dependents

1. For an Eligible Employee to enroll themselves and any Eligible Dependents for coverage under this Plan (or for an Enrollee to enroll Eligible Dependents for coverage) the Eligible Employee or Enrollee, as the case may be, must complete a BCI application and submit it to BCI.

2. Newborn/Adoption---When a newborn child is added and the monthly Contribution changes, a full month's Contribution is required for the child if their date of birth falls on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) through the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) day of the month. No Contribution is required if the child's date of birth falls on the sixteenth (16<sup>th</sup>) through the last day of the month. An Enrollee's newborn Dependent, including adopted newborn children who are placed with the adoptive Enrollee within sixty (60) days of the adopted child's date of birth, are covered under this Plan from and after the date of birth for sixty (60) days.
  - A. Contribution for the first sixty (60) days of coverage is due not less than thirty-one (31) days following receipt of a billing for the required Contribution. In order to continue coverage beyond the sixty (60) days outlined above, the Enrollee must complete an enrollment application within sixty (60) days of date of birth and submit the required Contribution, for the first sixty (60) days, within thirty-one (31) days of the date monthly billing is received and a notice of Contribution is provided to the Enrollee from the Employer.
  - B. If the date of adoption or the date of placement for adoption of a child is more than sixty (60) days after the child's date of birth, the Effective Date of coverage will be the date of adoption or the date of placement for adoption. In this Plan, 'child' means an individual who has not attained age eighteen (18) years as of the date of the adoption or placement for adoption. In this Plan, "placed for adoption" means physical placement in the care of the adoptive Enrollee, or in those circumstances in which such physical placement is prevented due to the medical needs of the child requiring placement in a medical facility, it means when the adoptive Enrollee signs an agreement for adoption of the child and signs an agreement assuming financial responsibility for the child.

**F. Effective Dates of Coverage**

Subject to receiving the applicable Contribution payment:

1. If the Eligible Employee or Eligible Dependent enrolled in this Plan during their Initial Enrollment Period or the Employer's Open Enrollment Period, the Effective Date of coverage for an Eligible Employee and any Eligible Dependents listed on the Eligible Employee's application is the Employer's Plan Date if the application is submitted to BCI by the Employer on or before the Plan Date.
2. Except as provided otherwise in this section, if enrollment is requested during an Initial Enrollment Period or annual Open Enrollment Period, the Effective Date of coverage for an Eligible Employee or an Eligible Dependent will be the first day of the month following the month of enrollment.
3. If enrollment is requested during a Special Enrollment Period due to the loss of Minimum Essential Coverage or marriage, the Effective Date of coverage will be the first day of the month following the marriage or loss of coverage.
4. The Effective Date of coverage for enrollment requested during a Special Enrollment Period will be the date of birth for a newborn natural child or a newborn child adopted or placed for adoption within sixty (60) days of the child's date of birth.
5. For other enrollment requested through a Special Enrollment Period, if the application is received between the first and fifteenth day of the month, coverage will begin on the first day of the following month. If the application is received between the sixteenth day and the last day of the month, coverage will begin on the first day of the second month.

**G. Late Enrollee**

If an Eligible Employee or Eligible Dependent does not enroll during the applicable initial enrollment period described in Paragraph D. of this section, or during a special enrollment period described in Paragraph H. of this section, the Eligible Employee or Eligible Dependent is a Late Enrollee.



Following the receipt and acceptance of a completed enrollment application, the Effective Date of coverage for a Late Enrollee will be the date of the Employer's next Plan Date.

#### **H. Special Enrollment Periods**

Outside of the Eligible Employee's Initial Enrollment Period or annual Open Enrollment Period, an Eligible Employee or Eligible Dependent will not be considered a Late Enrollee and may enroll for coverage, unless otherwise noted, within thirty (30) days of the occurrence of one of the following events:

1. The Eligible Employee or Eligible Dependent meets each of the following:
  - a) The individual was covered under Minimum Essential Coverage at the time of the initial enrollment period.
  - b) The individual involuntarily lost coverage under Minimum Essential Coverage.
  - c) The individual requests enrollment within thirty (30) days after termination of the Minimum Essential Coverage.
2. Addition of an Eligible Dependent through marriage, birth, adoption or placement of adoption and coverage is requested under this Plan no later than sixty (60) days after the event.
3. A court has issued a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO) requiring that coverage be provided for an Eligible Dependent by an Enrollee under this Plan, and application for enrollment is made within thirty (30) days after issuance of the QMCSO.
4. The Eligible Employee and/or Eligible Dependent become eligible for financial assistance under Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) and coverage under this Plan is requested no later than sixty (60) days after the date the Eligible Employee and/or Eligible Dependent is determined to be eligible for such assistance.
5. Coverage under Medicaid or CHIP for an Eligible Employee and/or Eligible Dependent is terminated as a result of loss of eligibility for such coverage, and coverage is requested under this Plan no later than sixty (60) days after the date of termination of such coverage.

#### **II. Leave Of Absence**

During an Employer-approved, temporary leave of absence, and subject to the payment by the Employer of the amount paid in benefits plus the administrative fee provided in the Administrative Services Agreement and payment of the monthly Excess Loss Premium, if any, submitted with the regular Employer billing, coverage under this Plan shall continue for no more than three calendar months or as allowed/approved by the Employer.

On its regular billing, the Employer shall notify Blue Cross of Idaho of the Enrollee's date of departure for the leave of absence, and shall continue its regular Contribution for the Enrollee's coverage during the leave of absence.

##### **LEAVE OF ABSENCE (Special Circumstances)**

##### **Family and/or Medical Leave (FMLA)**

In general, to be eligible for FMLA, an employee must have worked for their employer for at least 12 months, met the 1,250 hours of service requirement in the 12 months prior to the leave, and worked at a location where the employer employed at least 50 employees within 75 miles. If the employee is eligible for FMLA the employee is entitled by law to up to 12 weeks each year (in some cases, up to 26 weeks) of unpaid family or medical leave for specified family or medical purposes, such as the birth or adoption of a child, to provide care of a Spouse, child or parent who is seriously ill, or for the employee's own serious illness.

For the calculation of the 12-month period used to determine employee eligibility for FMLA, this Plan uses a rolling 12 month period measured backward in time from the date the employee uses any FMLA leave.

While you are officially on such a family or medical leave, you can keep health coverage for yourself and your Dependents in effect during that family or medical leave period by continuing to pay your Contributions during that leave period.

- Since you will not be paid while you are on family or medical leave, you may pay your Contributions as they come due on the dates you would have been paid (or on some other schedule agreed to by you and your Employer) had you not taken family or medical leave, in which case your Contributions will be made on an after-tax basis.

- Whether or not you keep your coverage while you are on family or medical leave, if you return to work promptly at the end of that leave, your health care coverage will be reinstated without any additional limits or restrictions imposed on account of your leave. This is also true for any of your Dependents who were covered by the Plan at the time you took your leave.
- Of course, any changes in the Plan's terms, rules or practices that went into effect while you were away on that leave will apply to you and your Dependents in the same way they apply to all other employees and their Dependents. To find out more about your entitlement to family or medical leave as required by federal and/or state law, and the terms on which you may be entitled to it, contact your Human Resources department.

### **Leave for Military Service/Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA)**

#### **USERRA CONTINUATION COVERAGE IS ADMINISTERED BY THE TRUST. BCI DOES NOT ADMINISTER USERRA CONTINUATION COVERAGE. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR GROUP ADMINISTRATOR FOR USERRA INFORMATION.**

A participant who enters military service will be provided continuation and reinstatement rights in accordance with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA), as amended from time to time. This section contains important information about your rights to continuation coverage and reinstatement of coverage under USERRA.

**What is USERRA?** USERRA Continuation Coverage is a temporary continuation of coverage when it would otherwise end because the employee has been called to active duty in the uniformed services. USERRA protects employees who leave for and return from any type of uniformed service in the United States armed forces, including the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, National Guard, National Disaster Medical Service, the reserves of the armed forces, and the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service.

An employee's coverage under this Plan will terminate when the employee enters active duty in the uniformed services.

- If the employee elects USERRA temporary continuation coverage, the employee (and any eligible dependents covered under the Plan on the day the leave started) may continue Plan coverage for up to 24 months measured from the last day of the month in which the employee stopped working.
- If the employee goes into active military service for **up to 31 days**, the employee (and any eligible dependents covered under the Plan on the day the leave started) can continue health care coverage under this Plan during that leave period if the employee continues to pay the appropriate Contributions for that coverage during the period of that leave.

**Duty to Notify the Plan:** The Plan will offer the employee USERRA continuation coverage only after the Plan Administrator has been notified by the employee in writing that they have been called to active duty in the uniformed services and provides a copy of the orders. The employee must notify the Plan Administrator as soon as possible but no later than sixty (60) days after the date on which the employee will lose coverage due to the call to active duty, unless it is impossible or unreasonable to give such notice.

**Plan Offers Continuation Coverage:** Once the Plan Administrator receives notice that the employee has been called to active duty, the Plan will offer the right to elect USERRA coverage for the employee (and any eligible dependents covered under the Plan on the day the leave started). Unlike COBRA Continuation Coverage, if the employee does not elect USERRA for the dependents, those dependents cannot elect USERRA separately. Additionally, the employee (and any eligible dependents covered under the Plan on the day the leave started) may also be eligible to elect COBRA temporary continuation coverage. Note that USERRA is an alternative to COBRA therefore either COBRA or USERRA continuation coverage can be elected and that coverage will run simultaneously, not consecutively. Contact your Human Resources department to obtain a copy of the COBRA or USERRA election forms. Completed USERRA election forms must be submitted to the Plan in the same timeframes as is permitted under COBRA.

### **Paying for USERRA Coverage:**

- If the employee goes into active military service for up to **31 days**, the employee (and any eligible dependents covered under the Plan on the day the leave started) can continue health care coverage under this Plan during that leave period if the employee continues to pay the appropriate Contributions for that coverage during the period of that leave.
- If the employee elects USERRA temporary continuation coverage, the employee (and any eligible dependents covered under the Plan on the day the leave started) may continue Plan coverage for up to **24 months** measured from the last day of the month in which the employee stopped working. USERRA continuation coverage operates in the same way as COBRA coverage and Contributions for USERRA coverage will be 102% of the cost of coverage. Payment of USERRA and termination of coverage for non-payment of USERRA works just like with COBRA coverage. See the COBRA chapter for more details.

In addition to USERRA or COBRA coverage, an employee's eligible dependents may be eligible for health care coverage under TRICARE (the Department of Defense health care program for uniformed service members and their families). This plan coordinates benefits with TRICARE. You should carefully review the benefits, costs, provider networks and restrictions of the TRICARE plan as compared to USERRA or COBRA to determine whether TRICARE coverage alone is sufficient or if temporarily continuing this Plan's benefits under USERRA or COBRA is the best choice.

#### **After Discharge from the Armed Forces:**

When the employee is discharged from military service (not less than honorably), eligibility will be reinstated on the day the employee returns to work provided the employee returns to employment within:

- 90 days from the date of discharge from the military if the period of services was more than 180 days; or
- 14 days from the date of discharge if the period of service was 31 days or more but less than 180 days; or
- at the beginning of the first full regularly scheduled working period on the first calendar day following discharge (plus travel time and an additional 8 hours), if the period of service was less than 31 days.

If the employee is hospitalized or convalescing from an injury caused by active duty, these time limits are extended up to two years.

The employee must notify the Plan Administrator in writing within the time periods listed above. Upon reinstatement, the employee's coverage will not be subject to any exclusions or waiting periods other than those that would have been imposed had the coverage not terminated. Questions regarding your entitlement to USERRA leave and to continuation of health care coverage should be referred to your Human Resources department.

### **III. Changing Your Coverage During the Year (Mid-Year Change of Status/Election Change)**

**Government regulations generally require that your Plan coverages remain in effect throughout the Plan Year** (from January 1 through December 31), but you may be able to make some changes during the year (mid-year) if the Plan Administrator or its designee determines that you have a permissible **change** in your status (as permitted by the IRS) affecting your benefit needs. Generally, proof of the change of status event will be required. The following changes are the only ones permitted under the Plan:

1. **Change in employee's legal marital status**, including gaining a Spouse through marriage, or losing a Spouse through divorce, legal separation (where permissible by law), annulment or death.
2. **Change in number of employee's Dependents**, including gaining a child through birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, or losing a child such as through death.

3. **Change in your, your Spouse's or Dependent Child's employment status or work schedule IF it impairs (or creates) your, your Spouse's or your Dependent Children's eligibility for benefits,** including the start or termination of employment, an increase or decrease in hours of employment (including a switch in part-time and full-time employment), a strike or lock-out, the start of or return from an unpaid leave of absence that is either required by law (such as FMLA and military leave or, other leave permitted by your employer), or a change of work-site.
4. **Change in Dependent status that satisfies or ceases to satisfy the Plan's eligibility requirements,** including changes due to attainment of age, or a change affecting a requirement described under the definition of Dependent in this document.
5. **Change of residence or worksite that allows or impairs your, your Spouse's or Dependent Child's eligibility for benefits.**
6. **Change required under the terms of a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO),** including a change necessary to add the child as a covered Dependent as specified in the order, or to cancel coverage for the child if the order requires your former Spouse to provide that coverage.
7. **Change consistent with your right to Special Enrollment** as described in the section dealing with Special Enrollment in the Eligibility chapter of this document.
8. **Change consistent with entitlement to (or loss of eligibility for) Medicare or Medicaid** affecting you, your Spouse or Dependent Child (except for coverage solely under the program for distribution of pediatric vaccines), including prospective cancellation of coverage of the person entitled to Medicare/Medicaid following such entitlement or prospective reinstatement or election of coverage following loss of eligibility for Medicare/Medicaid.
9. **Automatic Change in the Cost of Coverage.** If the cost of a qualified benefits plan increases or decrease during the Plan year and under the terms of the Plan employees are required to make a corresponding change in their payments, the Plan may, on a reasonable and consistent basis, automatically make a prospective increase or decrease in the affected employees' elective Contribution for the Plan.
10. **Significant Change in the Cost of Coverage.** If the cost charged to an employee for a benefit package significantly increases or significantly decreases during the Plan year, the Plan may permit the employee to make a corresponding change in election under the Plan. In such a case the employee may start coverage in the Plan option with the decreased cost; or, revoke coverage in the Plan option with an increased cost and elect, on a prospective basis, coverage under another plan option providing similar coverage, if one is available, or drop the coverage if no other such plan option is available.
11. **Significant curtailment without loss of coverage.** If the employee or employee's Spouse or Dependent child has a significant curtailment of coverage under a plan during the Plan year that is not a loss of coverage, the Plan may permit the employee who has been participating in the Plan to revoke his/her election for that coverage and elect to receive, on a prospective basis, coverage under another benefit package option providing similar coverage, or to drop coverage if no similar benefit package option is available. Coverage is significantly curtailed only if there is an overall reduction in coverage provided to participants under the Plan so as to constitute reduced coverage to participants generally.
12. **Addition or elimination of a benefit package option providing similar coverage.** If during a Plan Year, the Plan adds a new benefit package option or other coverage option (or eliminates an existing benefit package option or other coverage option) the Participant may elect the newly-added option (or elect another option if an option has been eliminated) prospectively and make corresponding election changes with respect to other benefit package options providing similar coverage.
13. **Addition or significant improvement of any Plan option under the employer's Health Care Programs or the Spouse's employer's health care plans or programs.** In such a case, a Participant may revoke coverage in the current plan and either elect, on a prospective basis, coverage under a new or improved plan option.

14. **Change in coverage under another employer's plan or program** that permits Participants to make an election change that would be permitted by these mid-year changes, or that permits Participants to make an election for a period of coverage that is different from the Plan Year of this Plan (e.g. Spouse's employer coverage has different open enrollment/Plan year). In such a case, a Participant may elect, on a prospective basis, the same change in coverage under this Plan that was available under the other plan.
15. **Reduction of Hours.** An employee who was expected to average at least 30 hours of service per week may prospectively drop group health plan coverage midyear if the employee's status changes so that the employee is expected to average less than 30 hours of service, even if the reduction of hours does not result in loss of eligibility for the plan. However, the mid-year change must correspond to the employee's intended enrollment (and the intended enrollment of any related individuals whose coverage is being dropped) in other minimum essential coverage (MEC). The new MEC coverage must be effective no later than the first day of the second month following the month in which the original coverage is dropped. For example, other minimum essential coverage could mean intended enrollment in Health Insurance Marketplace coverage, minimum essential coverage through the spouse's group health plan, to change to a different medical plan option of the employee's own employer or to enroll in Medicaid/CHIP.
16. **Exchange Coverage.** An employee who is eligible to enroll in Marketplace coverage (during a Marketplace special enrollment or open enrollment period) may prospectively drop the Trust's group health plan coverage midyear, but only if the change corresponds to the employee's intended enrollment (and the intended enrollment of any related individuals whose coverage is being dropped) in Marketplace coverage that is effective no later than the day after the last day of the original coverage. This means that the Trust's group health plan coverage is not to be terminated until Marketplace coverage takes effect.

**These rules apply to making changes to your benefit coverage(s) during the year:**

1. Any change you make to your benefits must be determined by the Plan Administrator or its designee to be necessary, appropriate to and consistent with the change in status; *(For example, if mid-year, the employee and Spouse deliver a newborn child they can add that child to this Plan but it would be inconsistent with a birth event to drop the Spouse from coverage at this time)* **and**
2. You must notify the Plan in writing within 31 days of the change in status, otherwise, the request will not be considered to be made on account of your change of status and you will have to wait until the next Open Enrollment period to make your changes in coverage. (You have 60 days from the loss of eligibility for Medicaid or CHIP to request to enroll in this Plan as discussed under Special Enrollment); **and**
3. If you have a permissible change in status, you are only allowed to make changes to your coverage that are consistent with the change of status event. Generally only coverage for the individual who has lost eligibility as a result of a change of status (or who has gained eligibility elsewhere and actually enrolled for that coverage) can be dropped mid-year from this Plan. Generally, proof of the change of status event will be required; **and**
4. If you will be adding an eligible individual to the Plan, **coverage changes associated with a mid-year change of status opportunity for benefits-eligible persons must be prospective** and are therefore effective the first day of the month following the change, provided you submit a completed enrollment change form to your Human Resources department, except for:
  - Newborns, who are effective on the date of birth and
  - Children adopted or placed for adoption, who are effective on the date of adoption or placement for adoption.

## A Brief Summary of Common Change of Status Events and the Mid-Year Enrollment Changes Allowed Under the Medical Plan

Mid-year changes are only those permitted in accordance with Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code. Generally, proof of the change of status event will be required. This chart is only a summary of some of the permitted medical plan changes and is not all inclusive.

This chart should NOT be referenced for a Health FSA or Dependent Care Assistance Plan (DCAP).

If you experience the following Event...	You may make the following change(s) within 31 days of the Event.	YOU MAY NOT make these types of changes...
<b>REMINDER:</b> Failure to notify the Plan within 60 days of the date of a divorce or the date a child loses eligibility will cause the individuals losing coverage to forfeit the right to elect COBRA continuation coverage.		
<b>Family Events</b>		
Marriage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enroll yourself, if applicable</li> <li>Enroll your new Spouse and other eligible dependents</li> <li>Drop health coverage (to enroll in your Spouse's plan)</li> <li>Change health plans, when options are available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drop health coverage and not enroll in Spouse's plan.</li> </ul>
Divorce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove your Spouse from your health coverage</li> <li>Enroll yourself (and your children) if you or they were previously enrolled in your Spouse's plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change health plans</li> <li>Drop health coverage for yourself or any other covered individual</li> </ul>
Gain a child due to birth or adoption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enroll yourself, if applicable</li> <li>Enroll the eligible child and any other eligible dependents</li> <li>Change health plans, when options are available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drop health coverage for yourself or any other covered individuals</li> </ul>
Child requires coverage due to a QMCSO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add child named on QMCSO to your health coverage (enroll yourself, if applicable and not already enrolled)</li> <li>Change health plans, when options are available, to accommodate the child named on the QMCSO</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make any other changes, except as required by the QMCSO</li> </ul>
Loss of a Dependent's eligibility (e.g., child reaches the maximum age for coverage)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove the Dependent from your health coverage</li> <li>Dependent will be offered COBRA. You may pay for dependent's COBRA coverage on a pre-tax basis.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change health plans</li> <li>Drop health coverage for yourself or any other covered individuals</li> </ul>
Death of a dependent (Spouse or child)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove the dependent from your health coverage</li> <li>Change health plans, when options are available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drop health coverage for yourself or any other covered individuals</li> </ul>
Covered person has become entitled to (or lost entitlement to) Medicaid or Medicare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drop coverage for the person who became entitled to Medicare or Medicaid.</li> <li>Add the person who lost Medicare/Medicaid entitlement.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drop health coverage for yourself or any other covered individuals</li> </ul>
<b>Employment Status Events</b>		

### A Brief Summary of Common Change of Status Events and the Mid-Year Enrollment Changes Allowed Under the Medical Plan

Mid-year changes are only those permitted in accordance with Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code. Generally, proof of the change of status event will be required. This chart is only a summary of some of the permitted medical plan changes and is not all inclusive.

This chart should NOT be referenced for a Health FSA or Dependent Care Assistance Plan (DCAP).

If you experience the following Event...	You may make the following change(s) within 31 days of the Event.	YOU MAY NOT make these types of changes...
Spouse becomes eligible for health benefits in another group health plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove your Spouse from your health coverage, with proof of Spouse's other new plan coverage</li> <li>Remove your children from your health coverage, with proof of children's other new plan coverage</li> <li>Drop coverage for yourself only with proof that Spouse added you to the Spouse's new group health plan</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Change health plans</li> <li>Add any eligible dependents to your health coverage</li> </ul>
Spouse loses employment or otherwise becomes ineligible for health benefits in another plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enroll your Spouse and, if applicable, eligible children in your health plan</li> <li>Enroll yourself in a health plan if previously not enrolled because you were covered under your Spouse's plan</li> <li>Change health plans, when options are available</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drop health coverage for yourself or any other covered dependents</li> </ul>
You lose employment or otherwise become ineligible for health benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enroll in your Spouse's plan, if available</li> <li>Elect temporary COBRA coverage for the Qualified Beneficiaries (you and your covered Dependents)</li> </ul>	
<b><i>Proof of a status change may be required to make a corresponding change in coverage/enrollment.</i></b>		

#### IV. Employer Contribution and Enrollment Requirements

- A.** All applications submitted to Blue Cross of Idaho (BCI) by the Employer now or in the future, will be for Eligible Employees or Eligible Dependents only.

The Trust agrees to be responsible for and make the total required payment to BCI as provided in the Administrative Services Agreement. The Trust further agrees that no other hospital, medical or surgical group coverage will be offered to employees during the term of this Plan, unless required by State or Federal law.

- B.** The Trust agrees it will pay one hundred percent (100%) of the amount paid in benefits for all Participants under this Plan, except as modified by the Administrative Services Agreement.
- C.** Before the Effective Date of the change, the Employer shall submit all eligibility changes for Enrollees and Eligible Dependents on BCI's usual forms. It is the Employer's responsibility to verify that all Participants are eligible for coverage as specified in this Plan. BCI shall have the right to audit the Employer's employment, payroll, and eligibility records to ensure that all Participants are eligible and properly enrolled and to ensure that the Employer meets enrollment requirements.
- D.** This Plan is issued to the Employer upon the express condition that a pre-established required percentage of the Eligible Employees specified in the Employer Group Application and Questionnaire who meet the underwriting criteria of BCI are and continue to be Enrollees. This Plan is issued upon the express condition that the Employer continues to make the Employer Contribution specified in the Employer Group Application and Questionnaire and this Plan. BCI may terminate this Plan if the

percentage of Eligible Employees as Enrollees or the percentage of the Employer Contribution drops below the required level.

**V. Qualified Medical Child Support Order**

**A.** If this Plan provides for Family Coverage, BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, will comply with a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO) according to applicable federal or state laws. A medical child support order is any judgement, decree, or order (including approval of a settlement agreement) issued by a court of competent jurisdiction that:

1. Provides for child support with respect to a child of an Enrollee or provides for health benefit coverage to such a child, is made pursuant to a state domestic relations law (including a community property law) and relates to benefits under this Plan, or
2. Enforces a law relating to medical child support described in Section 1908 of the Social Security Act with respect to a group health plan.

**B.** A medical child support order meets the requirements of a QMCSO if such order clearly specifies:

1. The name and the last known mailing address (if any) of the Enrollee and the name and mailing address of each child covered by the order.
2. A reasonable description of the type of coverage to be provided by this Plan to each such child, or the manner in which such type of coverage is to be determined.
3. The period to which such order applies.

**C.** 1. Within fifteen (15) days of receipt of a medical child support order, BCI will notify the party who sent the order and each affected child of the receipt and of the criteria by which BCI determines if the medical child support order is a QMCSO. In addition, BCI will send an application to each affected child. The application must be completed by or on behalf of the affected child and promptly returned to BCI. With respect to a medical child support order, affected children may designate a representative for receipt of copies of notices sent to each of them.

2. Within thirty (30) days after receipt of a medical child support order and a completed application, BCI will determine if the medical child support order is a QMCSO and will notify the Enrollee, the party who sent the order, and each affected child of such determination.

**D.** BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, will make benefit payments to the respective party for reimbursement of eligible expenses paid by an enrolled affected child or by an enrolled affected child's custodial parent, legal guardian, or the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare.

**VI. Other Eligibility Provisions**

All Participants must maintain their principal residence in the Service Area to be eligible for coverage with BCI.



## DEFINITIONS SECTION

For reference, most terms defined in this section are capitalized throughout this Plan. Other terms may be defined where they appear in this Plan. All Providers and Facilities must be licensed and/or registered by the state where the services are rendered, unless exempt by federal law, and must be performing within the scope of license in order for BCI to provide benefits. Definitions in this Plan shall have control over any other definition or interpretation unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

**Accidental Injury**—an objectively demonstrable impairment of bodily function or damage to part of the body caused by trauma from a sudden, unforeseen external force or object, occurring at a reasonably identifiable time and place, and without a Participant's foresight or expectation, which requires medical attention at the time of the accident. The force may be the result of the injured party's actions, but must not be intentionally self-inflicted unless caused by a medical condition or domestic violence. Contact with an external object must be unexpected and unintentional, or the results of force must be unexpected and sudden.

**Acute Care**—Medically Necessary Inpatient treatment in a Licensed General Hospital or other Facility Provider for sustained medical intervention by a Physician and Skilled Nursing Care to safeguard a Participant's life and health. The immediate medical goal of Acute Care is to stabilize the Participant's condition, rather than upgrade or restore a Participant's abilities.

**Administrative Services Agreement**—a formal agreement between BCI and the Plan Administrator outlining responsibilities, general administrative services and benefit payment services.

**Admission**—begins the first day a Participant becomes a registered Hospital bed patient or a Skilled Nursing Facility patient and continues until the member is discharged.

**Adverse Benefit Determination**—any denial, reduction, rescission of coverage, or termination of, or the failure to provide payment for, a benefit for services or ongoing treatment under this Plan.

**Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)**—a committee consisting of immunization field experts who provide guidance to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), on the effective control of vaccine-preventable diseases in the United States. The committee develops written recommendations for the routine administration of vaccines to children and adults; to include dose, route, frequency of administration, precautions and contraindications.

**Air Ambulance**—medical transport by rotary wing air ambulance or fixed wing air ambulance as those terms are used in Medicare Regulations, including transportation that is certified as either a fixed wing or rotary wing air ambulance and such services and supplies as may be Medically Necessary.

**Alcoholism**—a behavioral or physical disorder manifested by repeated excessive consumption of alcohol to the extent that it interferes with a Participant's health, social, or economic functioning.

**Alcoholism or Substance Use Disorder Treatment**—a Provider that is acting under the scope of its license, where required, that is primarily engaged in providing detoxification and Rehabilitative care for Alcoholism, or Substance Use Disorder, or Addiction.

**Ambulatory Surgical Facility (Surgery Center)**—a Facility Provider that is Medicare Certified and/or otherwise acting under the scope of its license, where required, with a staff of Physicians, which:

1. Has permanent facilities and equipment for the primary purpose of performing surgical procedures on an Outpatient basis.
2. Provides treatment by or under the supervision of Physicians and provides Skilled Nursing Care while the Participant is in the facility.
3. Does not provide Inpatient accommodations.
4. Is not primarily a facility used as an office or clinic for the private practice of a Physician or other Professional Provider.

**Amendment (Amend)**—a formal document signed by the representatives of Boise Municipal Health Care Trust . The Amendment adds, deletes or changes the provisions of the Plan and applies to all covered persons, including those persons covered before the Amendment becomes effective, unless otherwise specified.

**American Psychiatric Association**—an organization composed of medical specialists who work together to ensure effective treatment for all persons with a mental disorder.

**American Psychological Association**—a scientific and professional organization that represents psychology in the United States.

**Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA)**—the process of systematically applying interventions based upon the principles of learning theory to make changes to socially significant behavior to a meaningful degree, and to demonstrate the interventions are responsible for the improvement in behavior.

**Approved Clinical Trial**—a phase I, phase II, phase III, or phase IV clinical trial conducted in relation to prevention, detection, or treatment of cancer or other life-threatening condition.

**Artificial Organs**—permanently attached or implanted man-made devices that replace all or part of a Diseased or nonfunctioning body organ, including but not limited to, artificial hearts and pancreases.

**Autism Spectrum Disorder**—means any of the pervasive developmental disorders, autism spectrum disorders, or related diagnoses, as defined by the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM).

**Autotransplant (or Autograft)**—the surgical transfer of an organ or tissue from one (1) location to another within the same individual.

**Benefits Outline**—a listing of certain Covered Services specifying Cost Sharing, Copayments, Deductibles, and Benefit limitations and maximums under the Plan.

**Benefit Period**—the specified period of time in which a Participant's benefits for incurred Covered Services accumulate toward annual benefit limits, Deductible amounts and Out-of-Pocket Limits. The Benefit period is explained on the cover of this document.

**Blue Cross of Idaho Health Service, Inc. (Blue Cross of Idaho or BCI)**—a nonprofit mutual health benefits coverage company, hired by the Boise Municipal Health Care Trust to act as the third party Contract Administrator to perform claims processing and other specific administrative services as outlined in the Plan and/or Administrative Services Agreement.

**BlueCard**—a program to process claims for most Covered Services received by Participants outside of BCI's service area while capturing the local Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield Plan's Provider discounts.

**Blue Distinction Centers for Transplants (BDCT)**—the BDCT are major Hospitals and research institutions located throughout the United States that are designated for Transplants.

**Certified Nurse-Midwife**—an individual licensed to practice as a Certified Nurse Midwife.

**Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist**—a licensed individual registered as a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist.

**Chiropractic Care**—services rendered, referred, or prescribed by a Chiropractic Physician.

**Chiropractic Physician**—an individual licensed to practice chiropractic.

**Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA)**—a Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) program which regulates all human performed laboratory testing in the United States to ensure quality laboratory testing.

**Clinical Nurse Specialist**—an individual licensed to practice as a Clinical Nurse Specialist.

**Clinical Psychologist**—an individual licensed to practice clinical psychology.

**Congenital Anomaly**—a condition existing at or from birth, which is a significant deviation from the common form or function of the body, whether caused by a hereditary or a developmental defect or Disease. In this Plan, the term significant deviation is defined to be a deviation which impairs the function of the body and includes but is not limited to the conditions of cleft lip, cleft palate, webbed fingers or toes, sixth toes or fingers, or defects of metabolism and other conditions that are medically diagnosed to be Congenital Anomalies.

**Continuous Crisis Care**—Hospice Nursing Care provided during periods of crisis in order to maintain a terminally ill Participant at home. A period of crisis is one in which the Participant's symptom management demands predominantly Skilled Nursing Care.

**Contract Administrator**—Blue Cross of Idaho has been hired as the third party Contract Administrator by the Trustees to perform claims processing and other specified administrative services in relation to the Plan. The Contract Administrator is not an insurer of health benefits under this Plan, is not a fiduciary of the Plan, and does not exercise any of the discretionary authority and responsibility granted to the Trustees. The Contract Administrator is not responsible for Plan financing and does not guarantee the availability of benefits under this Plan.

**Contracting Provider**—a Provider in the Service Area that has entered into a written agreement with BCI regarding payment for Covered Services rendered to a Participant under this St. Luke's Health Partners Connected Care program.

**Contribution**—the amount paid or payable by the Employer or Eligible Employee into the Trust fund.

**Copayment**—a designated dollar and/or percentage amount, separate from Cost Sharing, that a Participant is financially responsible for and must pay to a Provider at the time certain Covered Services are rendered.

**Cost Effective**—a requested or provided medical service or supply that is Medically Necessary in order to identify or treat a Participant's health condition, illness or injury and that is:

1. Provided in the most cost-appropriate setting consistent with the Participant's clinical condition and the Provider's expertise. For example, when applied to services that can be provided in either an Inpatient hospital setting or Outpatient hospital setting, the Cost Effective setting will generally be the outpatient setting. When applied to services that can be provided in a hospital setting or in a physician office setting, the Cost Effective setting will generally be the physician office setting.
2. Not more costly than an alternative service or supply, including no treatment, and at least as likely to produce an equivalent result for the Participant's condition, Disease, Illness or injury.

**Cost Sharing**—the percentage of the Maximum Allowance or the actual charge, whichever is less, a Participant is responsible to pay Out-of-Pocket for Covered Services after satisfaction of any applicable Deductibles or Copayments, or both. In this Plan, the term Cost Sharing is used instead of the term coinsurance and is defined the same.

**Covered Service**—when rendered by a Provider, a service, supply, or procedure specified in this Plan for which benefits will be provided to a Participant.

**Custodial Care**—care designated principally to assist a Participant in engaging in the activities of daily living; or services which constitute personal care, such as help in walking and getting in and out of bed, assistance in eating, dressing, bathing, and using the toilet; preparation of special diets; and supervision of medication, which can usually be self-administered and does not require the continuing attention of trained medical or paramedical personnel. Custodial Care is normally, but not necessarily, provided in a nursing home, convalescent home, rest home, or similar institution.

**Deductible**—the amount a Participant is responsible to pay Out-of-Pocket before BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, begins to pay benefits for most Covered Services. The amount credited to the Deductible is based on the Maximum Allowance or the actual charge, whichever is less.

**Dentist**—an individual licensed to practice Dentistry.

**Dentistry or Dental Treatment**—the treatment of teeth and supporting structures, including but not limited to, the replacement of teeth.

**Diagnostic Imaging Provider**—a person or entity that is licensed, where required, and/or Medicare Certified (and/or otherwise acting under the scope of license) to render Covered Services.

**Diagnostic Service**—a test or procedure performed on the order of a Physician or other Professional Provider because of specific symptoms, in order to identify a particular condition, Disease, Illness, or Accidental Injury. Diagnostic Services, include but are not limited to:

1. Radiology services.
2. Laboratory and pathology services.
3. Cardiographic, encephalographic, and radioisotope tests.

**Disease**—any alteration in the body or any of its organs or parts that interrupts or disturbs the performance of vital functions, thereby causing or threatening pain, weakness, or dysfunction. A Disease can exist with or without a Participant's awareness of it, and can be of known or unknown cause(s).

**Durable Medical Equipment**—items which can withstand repeated use, are primarily used to serve a therapeutic purpose, are generally not useful to a person in the absence of Accidental Injury, Disease or Illness, and are appropriate for use in the Participant's home.

**Durable Medical Equipment Supplier**—a business that is licensed, where required, and/or Medicare Certified (and/or otherwise acting under the scope of license) to sell or rent Durable Medical Equipment.

**Effective Date**—the date when coverage for a Participant begins under this Plan.

**Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT)**—Electroconvulsive Therapy (ECT) is a treatment for severe forms of depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia and other serious mental illnesses that uses electrical impulses to induce a convulsive seizure.

**Eligible Dependent**—a person eligible for enrollment under an Enrollee's coverage. For the purposes of this Plan, the child of a Surrogate will not be considered an Eligible Dependent of the Surrogate or her spouse.

**Eligible Employee**—an employee of the Employer who is entitled to apply as an Enrollee.

**Emergency Admission Notification**—notification by the Participant to BCI of an Emergency Inpatient Admission resulting in an evaluation conducted by BCI to determine the Medical Necessity of a Participant's Emergency Inpatient Admission and the accompanying course of treatment.

**Emergency Inpatient Admission**—Medically Necessary Inpatient admission to a Licensed General Hospital or other Inpatient Facility due to the sudden, acute onset of a medical condition, Mental or Nervous Condition, Substance Use Disorder or Addiction, or an Accidental Injury which requires immediate medical treatment to preserve life or prevent severe, irreparable harm to a Participant.

**Emergency Medical Condition**—a condition reflected by sudden and unexpected symptoms that are severe enough that a reasonably prudent layperson with average knowledge of health and medicine would expect extreme consequences to result without immediate medical care. These consequences include placing the health of the individual (or, regarding a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child) in serious jeopardy, serious impairment to bodily functions, or serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part. Emergency Medical Conditions, include but are not limited to, heart attacks, cerebrovascular accidents, poisonings, loss of consciousness or respiration, and convulsions, Mental or Nervous Condition, or Substance Use Disorder or Addiction.

**Employer**—City of Boise.

**Enrollee**—an Eligible Employee who has enrolled for coverage and has satisfied the requirements of the Eligibility and Enrollment Section.

**Family Coverage**—the enrollment of an Enrollee and two (2) or more Eligible Dependents under this Plan.

**Freestanding Diabetes Facility**—a person or entity that is recognized by the American Diabetes Association, and/or otherwise acting under the scope of its license, where required, to render Covered Services.

**Freestanding Dialysis Facility**—a Medicare Certified Facility Provider, or other Facility Provider acting under the scope of its license, that is primarily engaged in providing dialysis treatment, maintenance, or training to patients on an Outpatient or home care basis.

**Freestanding Emergency Department**—a health care facility that is geographically distinct and licensed separately from a Hospital under applicable state law and provides emergency services.

**Ground Ambulance**—a licensed ground vehicle that is specially designed and equipped for transporting the sick and injured.

**Habilitation (or Habilitative)**—developing skills and functional abilities necessary for daily living and skills related to communication of persons who have never acquired them.

**Health Benefit Plan**—any hospital or medical policy or certificate, any subscriber contract provided by a hospital or professional service corporation, or managed care organization subscriber contract. Health Benefit Plan does not include policies or health benefits coverage for specific Disease, hospital confinement indemnity, accident-only, credit, dental, vision, Medicare supplement, long-term care, or disability income insurance, student health benefits-only coverage issued as a supplement to liability insurance, Workers' Compensation or similar insurance, automobile medical payment insurance, or nonrenewable short-term coverage issued for a period of twelve (12) months or less.

**Homebound**—confined primarily to the home as a result of a medical condition. The term connotes that it is “a considerable and taxing effort” to leave the home due to a medical condition and not because of inconvenience.

**Home Health Agency**—any agency or organization that provides Skilled Nursing Care services and other therapeutic services.

**Home Health Aide**—an individual employed by a Hospice, under the direct supervision of a licensed registered nurse (R.N.), who performs and trains others to perform, intermittent Custodial Care services which include but are not limited to, assistance in bathing, checking vital signs, and changing dressings.

**Home Health Skilled Nursing Care Services**—the delivery of Skilled Nursing Care services under the direction of a Physician to a Homebound Participant. Home Health Skilled Nursing is generally intended to transition a Homebound patient from a hospital setting to a home or prevent a hospital stay, provided such nurse does not ordinarily reside in the Participant's household or is not related to the Participant by blood or marriage.

**Home Intravenous Therapy Company**—a licensed, where required, and/or Medicare Certified (and/or otherwise acting under the scope of its license) pharmacy or other entity that is principally engaged in providing services, medical supplies, and equipment for certain home infusion Therapy Covered Services, to Participants in their homes or other locations outside of a Licensed General Hospital.

**Hospice**—a Medicare Certified (and/or otherwise acting under the scope of its license, if required) public agency or private organization designated specifically to provide services for care and management of terminally ill patients, primarily in the home.

**Hospice Nursing Care**—Skilled Nursing Care and Home Health Aide services provided as a part of the Hospice Plan of Treatment.

**Hospice Plan of Treatment**—a written plan of care that describes the services and supplies for the Medically Necessary care and treatment to be provided to a Participant by a Hospice. The written plan of care must be established and periodically reviewed by the attending Physician.

**Hospital Grade Breast Pump**—a stronger piston based breast pump that meets hospital requirements for electrical safety, cleaning and sterilization for rental between users. Typically used by a mother with a premature baby or a personal medical condition that affects milk production.

**Hypnosis**—an induced passive state in which there is an increased responsiveness to suggestions and commands, provided that these do not conflict seriously with the subject’s conscious or unconscious wishes.

**Illness**—a deviation from the healthy and normal condition of any bodily function or tissue. An Illness can exist with or without a Participant’s awareness of it, and can be of known or unknown cause(s).

**In-Network Services**—Covered Services provided by a Contracting Provider or a BCI approved referral by the Participant’s PCP by a Noncontracting Provider.

**Inpatient**—a Participant who is admitted as a bed patient in a Licensed General Hospital or other Facility Provider and for whom a room and board charge is made.

**Intensive Outpatient Program**—Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP) is a treatment program that includes extended periods of therapy sessions, several times a week for a minimum of three (3) hours per day, a minimum of three (3) days per week and a minimum of nine (9) hours per week. It is an intermediate setting between traditional therapy sessions and partial hospitalization.

**Investigational**—any technology (service, supply, procedure, treatment, drug, device, facility, equipment or biological product), which is in a developmental stage or has not been proven to improve health outcomes such as length of life, quality of life, and functional ability. A technology is considered investigational if, as determined by BCI, it fails to meet any one of the following criteria:

- The technology must have final approval from the appropriate government regulatory body. This applies to drugs, biological products, devices, and other products/procedures that must have approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) or another federal authority before they can be marketed. Interim approval is not sufficient. The condition for which the technology is approved must be the same as that BCI is evaluating.
- The scientific evidence must permit conclusions concerning the effect of the technology on health outcomes. The evidence should consist of current published medical literature and investigations published in peer-reviewed journals. The quality of the studies and consistency of results will be considered. The evidence should demonstrate that the technology can measure or alter physiological changes related to a Disease, injury, Illness, or condition. In addition, there should be evidence that such measurement or alteration affects health outcomes.
- The technology must improve the net health outcome. The technology’s beneficial effects on health outcomes should outweigh any harmful effects on health outcomes.
- The technology must be as beneficial as any established alternatives.
- The technology must show improvement that is attainable outside the investigational setting. Improvements must be demonstrated when used under the usual conditions of medical practice.

If a technology is determined to be investigational, all services specifically associated with the technology, including but not limited to associated procedures, treatments, supplies, devices, equipment, facilities or drugs will also be considered investigational.

In determining whether a technology is investigational, BCI considers the following source documents: Blue Cross Blue Shield Association Center for Clinical Effectiveness (CCE) assessments, the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association Medical Policy Reference Manual as adopted by BCI, and Blue Cross of Idaho Medical Policies. BCI also considers current published medical literature and peer review publications based upon scientific evidence, and evidence-based guidelines developed by national organizations and recognized authorities.

**Keratoconus**—a developmental or dystrophic deformity of the cornea in which it becomes cone-shaped due to a thinning and stretching of the tissue in its central area.

**Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC)**—a licensed individual providing diagnosis and treatment of Mental or Nervous Conditions.

**Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)**—a licensed individual providing diagnosis and treatment of Mental or Nervous Conditions.

**Licensed General Hospital**—a short term, Acute Care, general hospital that:

1. Is an institution licensed in the state in which it is located and is lawfully entitled to operate as a general, Acute Care hospital.
2. Is primarily engaged in providing Inpatient diagnostic and therapeutic services for the diagnosis, treatment, and care of injured and sick persons by or under the supervision of Physicians, for compensation from and on behalf of its patients.
3. Has functioning departments of medicine and Surgery.
4. Provides twenty-four (24)-hour nursing service by or under the supervision of licensed R.N.s.
5. Is not predominantly a:
  - a. Skilled Nursing Facility
  - b. Nursing home
  - c. Custodial Care home
  - d. Health resort
  - e. Spa or sanatorium
  - f. Place for rest
  - g. Place for the treatment or Rehabilitative care of Mental or Nervous Conditions
  - h. Place for the treatment or Rehabilitative care of Alcoholism or Substance Use Disorder or Addiction
  - i. Place for Hospice care
  - j. Residential Treatment Center
  - k. Transitional Living Center

**Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT)**—a licensed individual providing diagnosis and treatment of Mental or Nervous Conditions.

**Licensed Pharmacist**—an individual licensed to practice pharmacy.

**Licensed Rehabilitation Hospital**—a Facility Provider principally engaged in providing diagnostic, therapeutic, and Physical Rehabilitation Services to Participants on an Inpatient basis.

**Maximum Allowance**—for Covered Services under the terms of this Plan, Maximum Allowance is the lesser of the billed charge or the amount established by BCI as the highest level of compensation for a Covered Service. If the Covered Services are rendered outside the state of Idaho by a Noncontracting or Contracting Provider with a Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield affiliate in the location of the Covered Services, the Maximum Allowance is the lesser of the billed charge or the amount established by the affiliate as compensation.

The Maximum Allowance is determined using many factors, as applicable, including pre-negotiated payment amounts; diagnostic related groupings (DRGs); a resource based relative value scale (RBRVS); ambulatory payment classifications (APCs); the Provider's charge(s); the charge(s) of Providers with similar training and experience within a particular geographic area; Medicare reimbursement amounts; Qualifying Payment Amount, amount determined under an Independent Dispute Resolution (IDR) in accordance with surprise medical billing requirements under the federal No Surprises Act; and/or the cost of rendering the Covered Service. Moreover, Maximum Allowance may differ depending on whether the Provider is Contracting or Noncontracting.

In addition, Maximum Allowance for Covered Services provided by Contracting or Noncontracting Dentists is determined using many factors, including pre-negotiated payment amounts, a calculation of charges submitted by Contracting Idaho Dentists, and/or a calculation of the average charges submitted by all Idaho Dentists.

**Medicaid**—Title XIX (Grants to States for Medical Assistance Programs) of the United States Social Security Act as amended.

**Medical Food**—a food which is formulated to be consumed or administered orally or enterally under the supervision of a Physician.

**Medically Necessary (or Medical Necessity)**—the Covered Service or supply recommended by the treating Provider to identify or treat a Participant's condition, Disease, Illness or Accidental Injury and which is determined by BCI to be:

1. The most appropriate supply or level of service, considering potential benefit and harm to the Participant.
2. Proven to be effective in improving health outcomes:
  - a. For new treatment, effectiveness is determined by peer reviewed scientific evidence; or
  - b. For existing treatment, effectiveness is determined first by peer reviewed scientific evidence, then by professional standards, then by expert opinion.
3. Not primarily for the convenience of the Participant or Provider.
4. Cost Effective for this condition.

The fact that a Provider may prescribe, order, recommend, or approve a service or supply does not, in and of itself, necessarily establish that such service or supply is Medically Necessary under this Plan.

The term Medically Necessary as defined and used in this Plan is strictly limited to the application and interpretation of this Plan, and any determination of whether a service is Medically Necessary hereunder is made solely for the purpose of determining whether services rendered are Covered Services.

In determining whether a service is Medically Necessary, BCI considers the medical records and, the following source documents: Blue Cross Blue Shield Association Center for Clinical Effectiveness (CCE) assessments, the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association Medical Policy Reference Manual as adopted by BCI, and Blue Cross of Idaho Medical Policies. BCI also considers, current published medical literature and peer review publications based upon scientific evidence, and evidence-based guidelines developed by national organizations and recognized authorities.

**Medicare**—Title XVIII (Health Insurance for the Aged and Disabled) of the United States Social Security Act as amended.

**Medicare Certified**—Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) develops standards that health care organizations must meet in order to begin and continue participating in the Medicare and Medicaid programs. These minimum health and safety standards are the foundation for improving quality and protecting the health and safety of beneficiaries.

These standards are the minimum health and safety requirements that providers and suppliers must meet in order to be Medicare and Medicaid Certified.

**Mental or Nervous Conditions**—means and includes mental disorders, mental illnesses, psychiatric illnesses, mental conditions, and psychiatric conditions (whether organic or inorganic, whether of biological, nonbiological, chemical or nonchemical origin and irrespective of cause, basis, or inducement). Mental and Nervous Conditions, include but are not limited to: psychoses, neurotic disorders, schizophrenic disorders, affective disorders, personality disorders, and psychological or behavioral abnormalities associated with transient or permanent dysfunction of the brain or related neurohormonal systems.

**Minimum Essential Coverage**—the type of coverage an individual needs to have to meet the individual responsibility requirement under the Affordable Care Act. This includes individual market policies, job-based coverage, Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, TRICARE and certain other coverage.

**Morbid Obesity**—a condition where an individual's body mass index (BMI) is over 40 kg/meter squared, or the BMI is over 35 kg/meter squared with at least one clinically significant obesity-related disease: diabetes mellitus, obstructive sleep apnea, coronary artery disease, or hypertension.

**Neuromusculoskeletal Treatment**—means and includes diagnosis and treatment in the form of manipulation and adjustment of the vertebrae, disc, spine, back, neck and adjacent tissues in an Outpatient office or clinic setting and for acute or Rehabilitative purposes.

**Noncontracting Provider**—a Provider that is not a Contracting Provider under this Connected Care program.

**Non-Emergency Preadmission Notification**—Non-Emergency Preadmission Notification is a notification to BCI by the Participant and is required for all Inpatient admissions except Covered Services subject to Emergency Admission Notification. Non-Emergency Preadmission Notification informs BCI, or a delegated entity, of Participant's proposed Inpatient admission to a Licensed General Hospital, Alcohol or Substance Use Disorder Treatment Facility, Psychiatric Hospital, or any other Facility Provider.



**Nurse Practitioner**—an individual licensed to practice as a Nurse Practitioner.

**Occupational Therapist**—an individual licensed to practice occupational therapy.

**Office Visit**—any direct, one-on-one examination and/or exchange, conducted in the Provider's office, between a Participant and a Provider, or members of their staff for the purposes of seeking care and rendering Covered Services. For purposes of this definition, a Medically Necessary visit by a Physician to a Homebound Participant's place of residence may be considered an Office Visit.

**Open Enrollment Period**—the period of time chosen by the Employer, other than during an Initial Enrollment Period or Special Enrollment Period, in which an Eligible Employee and/or Eligible Dependent may enroll in an available Health Benefit Plan offered by their Employer, usually once a year.

**Ophthalmologist**—a doctor of medicine (M.D.) who is both a medical doctor and a surgeon. The ophthalmologist is licensed to examine, diagnose and treat disorders and diseases of the eye and visual system of the brain, as well as prescribe corrective lenses (glasses or contacts).

**Optometrist**—a person who is licensed and specializes in optometry to examine, measure and treat certain visual defects by means of corrective lenses or other methods that do not require a license as a physician.

**Organ Procurement**—Diagnostic Services and medical services to evaluate or identify an acceptable donor for a recipient and a donor's surgical and hospital services directly related to the removal of an organ or tissue for such purpose. Transportation for a donor or for a donated organ or tissue is not an Organ Procurement service.

**Orthotic Devices**—any rigid or semi-rigid supportive devices that restrict or eliminate motion of a weak or Diseased body part.

**Out-of-Network Services**—any Covered Services rendered by a Noncontracting Provider.

**Out-of-Pocket Limit**—the amount of Out-of-Pocket expenses incurred during one (1) Benefit Period that a Participant is responsible for paying. Eligible Out-of-Pocket expenses include only the Participant's Copayments, Deductible and/or Cost Sharing for eligible Covered Services.

**Outpatient**—a Participant who receives services or supplies while not an Inpatient.

**Palliative Care**—is an approach that improves the quality of life of patients and their families facing the problem associated with life-threatening Illness, through the prevention and relief of suffering by means of early identification and impeccable assessment and treatment of pain and other problems, physical and psychosocial.

**Partial Hospitalization Program**—Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP) is a treatment program that provides interdisciplinary medical and psychiatric services. Partial Hospitalization Program (PHP) involves a prescribed course of psychiatric treatment provided on a predetermined and organized schedule and provided in lieu of hospitalization for a patient who does not require full-time hospitalization.

**Participant**—either the Enrollee or enrolled Eligible Dependent, as specified in the Eligibility and Enrollment Section.

**Physical Rehabilitation**—Medically Necessary non-acute therapy rendered by qualified health care professionals. Physical Rehabilitation is intended to restore a Participant's physical health and well-being as close as reasonably possible to the level that existed immediately prior to the occurrence of a condition, Disease, Illness, or Accidental Injury.

**Physical Therapist**—an individual licensed to practice physical therapy.

**Physician**—a doctor of medicine (M.D.) or doctor of osteopathy (D.O.) licensed to practice medicine.

**Physician Assistant**—an individual licensed to practice as a Physician Assistant.

**Plan(s)**—a multiple employer plan under which payment for medical, surgical, hospital, and other services for prevention, diagnosis, or treatment of any disease, injury, or bodily condition of an Eligible Employee is, or is to be, regularly provided for or promised from funds created or maintained in whole or in part by Contributions or payments thereto by the Employer and Eligible Employees.

**Plan Administrator**—the Plan Administrator, Boise Municipal Health Care Trust, who is the sole fiduciary of the Plan, has all discretionary authority to interpret the provisions and control the operation and administration of the Plan within the limits of the law. All decisions made by the Plan Administrator, including final determination of Medical Necessity, shall be final and binding on all parties. Boise Municipal Health Care Trust also reserves the right to modify eligibility clauses for new Plan participants who join the Plan as a result of a merger, acquisition or for any employee who was covered under a labor agreement plan during a previous period of employment to which Boise Municipal Health Care Trust, contributes, provided that coverage under this Plan begins within 31 days of the date coverage under the previous Plan terminates. Boise Municipal Health Care Trust may choose to hire a consultant and/or Contract Administrator to perform specified duties in relation to the Plan. The Plan Administrator also has the right to amend, modify or terminate the Plan at any time or in any manner as outlined in the Administrative Services Agreement.

The administration of the Plan document is under the supervision of the Plan Administrator, Boise Municipal Health Care Trust. The Employee Benefits Department of Boise Municipal Health Care Trust acts on behalf of the Plan Administrator. Boise Municipal Health Care Trust has agreed to indemnify each employee in the Employee Benefits Department for any liability he/she incurs as a result of acting on behalf of the Plan Administrator, except if such liability is due to his/her gross negligence or misconduct.

**Plan Administrator—COBRA**—BCI is not the Plan Administrator for compliance with the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA) and any amendments to it. Except for services BCI has agreed to perform regarding COBRA, the Trust is responsible for satisfaction of notice, disclosure, and other obligations if these laws are applicable to the Employer.

**Plan Date**—the date specified in this Plan on which coverage commences for the Employer.

**Plan Sponsor**—City of Boise.

**Podiatrist**—an individual licensed to practice podiatry.

**Post-Service Claim**—any claim for a benefit under this Plan that does not require Prior Authorization before services are rendered.

**Post-Stabilization Care Services**—any additional items and services that are Covered Services under this Plan after a Participant is stabilized and as part of Outpatient observation or Inpatient or Outpatient stay with respect to the visit in which the emergency services are furnished.

**Preadmission Testing**—tests and studies required in connection with a Participant's Inpatient admission to a Licensed General Hospital that are rendered or accepted by the Licensed General Hospital on an Outpatient basis. Preadmission tests and studies must be done prior to a scheduled Inpatient admission to the Licensed General Hospital, provided the services would have been available to an Inpatient of that hospital. Preadmission Testing does not include tests or studies performed to establish a diagnosis.

**Prescription Drugs**—drugs, biologicals, and Compounded prescriptions that are FDA approved and can be dispensed only according to a written prescription given by a Physician and/or duly licensed Provider, that are listed with approval in the *United States Pharmacopeia*, *National Formulary* or *AMA Drug Evaluations* published by the American Medical Association (AMA), that are prescribed for human consumption, and that are required by law to bear the legend: "Caution—Federal Law prohibits dispensing without prescription."

**Pre-Service Claim**—any claim for a benefit under this Plan that requires Prior Authorization before services are rendered.

**Primary Care Giver**—a person designated to give direct care and emotional support to a Participant as part of a Hospice Plan of Treatment. A Primary Care Giver may be a spouse, relative, or other individual who has personal

significance to the Participant. A Primary Care Giver must be a volunteer who does not expect or claim any compensation for services provided to the Participant.

**Primary Care Physician (PCP)**—any duly licensed Physician, who is a Contracting Provider under this managed care program to provide primary care and coordinate Covered Services for Participants and who is willing to accept a panel of patients. A Primary Care Physician includes, general/family practice, pediatrics, internal medicine, obstetric and gynecology (OB-GYN).

**Prior Authorization**—the Provider's or the Participant's request to BCI, or delegated entity, for a Medical Necessity determination of a Participant's proposed treatment. BCI or the delegated entity may review medical records, test results and other sources of information to make the determination. Prior Authorization is not a determination of benefit coverage. Benefit coverage and eligibility for payment is determined by BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator.

**Prosthetic and Orthotic Supplier**—a person or entity that is licensed, where required, and Medicare Certified (or otherwise acting under the scope of its license) to render Covered Services.

**Prosthetic Appliances**—Prosthetic Appliances are devices that replace all or part of an absent body organ, including contiguous tissue, or replace all or part of the function of a permanently inoperative or malfunctioning body organ.

**Provider**—a person or entity that is licensed, where required, to render Covered Services. For the purposes of this Plan, Providers include any facility or individual who provides a Covered Service while operating within the scope of their professional license and applicable state law, unless exempted by federal law.

1. Facility Providers
  - a. Alcoholism or Substance Use Disorder Treatment
  - b. Ambulatory Surgical Facility (Surgery Center)
  - c. CLIA Certified, Independent Laboratory
  - d. Diagnostic Imaging Provider
  - e. Freestanding Diabetes Facility
  - f. Freestanding Dialysis Facility
  - g. Home Health Agency
  - h. Home Intravenous Therapy Company
  - i. Hospice
  - j. Licensed General Hospital
  - k. Licensed Rehabilitation Hospital
  - l. Prosthetic and Orthotic Supplier
  - m. Psychiatric Hospital
  - n. Radiation Therapy Center
  - o. Residential Treatment Center
  - p. Skilled Nursing Facility
2. Professional Providers
  - a. Ambulance Transportation Service
  - b. Audiologist
  - c. Certified Nurse-Midwife
  - d. Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist
  - e. Speech Therapist
  - f. Chiropractic Physician
  - g. Clinical Nurse Specialist
  - h. Clinical Psychologist
  - i. Licensed Associate Marriage and Family Therapist (LAMFT)
  - j. Dentist/Denturist
  - k. Durable Medical Equipment Supplier
  - l. Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC)
  - m. Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW)
  - n. Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT)
  - o. Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW)
  - p. Licensed Occupational Therapist
  - q. Licensed Pharmacist

- r. Licensed Physical Therapist
- s. Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC)
- t. Licensed Psychologist Associate (LPA)
- u. Nurse Practitioner
- v. Optometrist/Optician
- w. Physician
- x. Physician Assistant
- y. Podiatrist
- z. Registered Dietitian

**Psychiatric Hospital**—a Facility Provider principally engaged in providing diagnostic and therapeutic services and Rehabilitation Services for the Inpatient treatment of Mental or Nervous Conditions, Alcoholism or Substance Use Disorder or Addiction. These services are provided by or under the supervision of a staff of Physicians, and continuous nursing services are provided under the supervision of a licensed R.N.

**Qualifying Payment Amount**—the median contracted rates recognized by BCI as the maximum payment for the same or similar Covered Services provided by a Provider in same or similar specialty, in the same geographic area (increased by the consumer price index) in accordance with surprise medical billing requirements under the federal No Surprises Act.

**Radiation Therapy Center**—a Facility Provider that is primarily engaged in providing Radiation Therapy Services to patients on an Outpatient basis.

**Recognized Transplant Center**—a Licensed General Hospital that meets any of the following criteria:

1. Is approved by the Medicare program for the requested Transplant Covered Services.
2. Is included in the Blue Cross and Blue Shield System’s National Transplant Networks.
3. Has an arrangement(s) with another Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield Plan for the delivery of the requested Transplant Covered Services, based on appropriate approval criteria established by that Plan.
4. Is approved by BCI based on the recommendation of BCI’s Medical Director.

**Registered Dietitian**—a professional trained in foods and the management of diets (dietetics) who is credentialed by the Commission on Dietetic Registration of the American Dietetic Association, or otherwise acting under the scope of their license, where required.

**Rehabilitation (or Rehabilitative)**—restoring skills and functional abilities necessary for daily living and skills related to communication that have been lost or impaired due to disease, illness or injury.

**Rehabilitation or Habilitation Plan of Treatment**—a written plan which describes the services and supplies for the Rehabilitation or Habilitation care and treatment to be provided to a Participant. The written plan must be established and periodically reviewed by an attending Physician.

**Residential Treatment Center**—a Facility Provider licensed by the appropriate state/local authorities as a Residential Treatment Center that is primarily engaged in providing twenty-four (24) hour level of care, including twenty-four (24) hour onsite or on call nursing services and a defined course of therapeutic intervention and special programming in a controlled environment. Care includes treatment with a range of diagnostic and therapeutic behavioral health services that cannot be provided through existing community programs. Residential Treatment Center does not include Custodial Care, outdoor behavioral health programs, half-way houses, supervised living, group homes, boarding houses or other similar facilities providing primarily a supportive and/or recreational environment, even if Mental Health or Substance Use Disorder counseling is provided in such facilities.

**Respite Care**—care provided to a Homebound Participant as part of a Hospice Plan of Treatment. The purpose of Respite Care is to provide the Primary Care Giver a temporary period of rest from the stress and physical exhaustion involved in caring for the Participant at home.

**Service Area**—the specific geographic region where PCPs are located and provide services to Participants. The Service Area for each Participant is determined by the Provider network’s geographical area. Please refer to the Provider Directory on the BCI Website, [www.bcidaho.com](http://www.bcidaho.com), under “Find a Doctor”, for Contracting Providers.

**Skilled Nursing Care**—nursing service that must be rendered by or under the direct supervision of a licensed R.N. to maximize the safety of a Participant and to achieve the medically desired result according to the orders and direction of an attending Physician. The following components of Skilled Nursing Care distinguish it from Custodial Care that does not require professional health training:

1. The observation and assessment of the total medical needs of the Participant.
2. The planning, organization, and management of a treatment plan involving multiple services where specialized health care knowledge must be applied in order to attain the desired result.
3. Rendering to the Participant, direct nursing services that require specialized training.

**Skilled Nursing Facility**—a licensed Facility Provider primarily engaged in providing Inpatient Skilled Nursing Care to patients requiring convalescent care rendered by or under the supervision of a Physician. Other than incidentally, a Skilled Nursing Facility is not a place or facility that provides minimal care, Custodial Care, ambulatory care, or part-time care services; or care or treatment of Mental or Nervous Conditions, Alcoholism, or Substance Use Disorder or Addiction.

**Sleep Study**—the continuous monitoring of physiological parameters, such as brain and breathing activity of the Participant during sleep.

**Special Care Unit**—a designated unit within a Licensed General Hospital that has concentrated facilities, equipment, and support services to provide an intensive level of care for critically ill patients.

**Substance Use Disorder or Addiction**—a behavioral or physical disorder manifested by repeated excessive use of a drug or alcohol to the extent that it interferes with a Participant’s health, social, or economic functioning.

**Surgery**—within the scope of a Provider’s license, the performance of:

1. Generally accepted operative and cutting procedures.
2. Endoscopic examinations and other invasive procedures using specialized instruments.
3. The correction of fractures and dislocations.
4. Customary preoperative and postoperative care.

**Surrogate**—a woman who agrees to become pregnant and give birth to a child for another individual or couple (the “Intended Parents”) in order to give the child to the Intended Parents whether or not the Surrogate is the genetic mother of the child and whether or not the Surrogate does so for compensation.

**Telehealth Virtual Care Services**—health care services conducted with technology that includes live audio and video communication between the Participant and a Provider in compliance with state and federal laws. No benefits are available for visits conducted by (a) audio-only communication when treatment by such method is not permitted under applicable law at the time of visit, (b) e-mail or (c) fax.

**Temporomandibular Joint (TMJ) Syndrome**—jaw joint conditions including temporomandibular joint disorders and craniomandibular disorders, and all other conditions of the joint linking the jaw bone and skull and the complex muscles, nerves, and other tissues relating to that joint.

**Therapy Services**—Therapy Services include only the following:

1. Radiation Therapy—treatment of Disease by x-ray, radium, or radioactive isotopes.
2. Chemotherapy—treatment of malignant Disease by chemical or biological antineoplastic agents.
3. Renal Dialysis—treatment of an acute or chronic kidney condition, which may include the supportive use of an artificial kidney machine.
4. Physical Therapy—treatment by physical means, hydrotherapy, heat or similar modalities, physical agents, biomechanical and neurophysiological principles, or devices to relieve pain, restore maximum function, or prevent disability following a condition, Disease, Illness, Accidental Injury, or loss of a body part.
5. Occupational Therapy—treatment that employs constructive activities designed and adapted for a physically disabled Participant to help satisfactorily accomplish the ordinary tasks of daily living and tasks required by the Participant’s particular occupational role.

6. Speech Therapy—corrective treatment of a speech impairment resulting from a condition, Illness, Disease, Surgery, or Accidental Injury; or from Congenital Anomalies, or previous therapeutic processes.
7. Growth Hormone Therapy—treatment administered by intramuscular injection to treat children with growth failure due to pituitary disorder or dysfunction.
8. Home Intravenous Therapy (Home Infusion Therapy)—treatment provided in the home of the Participant or other locations outside of a Licensed General Hospital, that is administered via an intravenous, intraspinal, intra-arterial, intrathecal, subcutaneous, enteral, or intramuscular injection or access device inserted into the body, at or under the direction of a Home Health Agency or other Provider approved by BCI.

**Transplant**—surgical removal of a donated organ or tissue and the transfer of that organ or tissue to a recipient.

**Treatments for Autism Spectrum Disorder**—means evidence-based care and related equipment prescribed or ordered for an individual diagnosed with an Autism Spectrum Disorder, or related diagnoses, by a Provider, including but not limited to behavioral health treatment, pharmacy care, psychiatric care, psychological care, and therapeutic care.

**Trust**—Boise Municipal Health Care Trust.

**Trustee**—the trustee, whether a single or multiple trustees of the Trust.

## EXCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS SECTION

In addition to the exclusions and limitations listed elsewhere in this Plan, the following exclusions and limitations apply to the entire Plan, unless otherwise specified.

### **I. General Exclusions and Limitations**

There are no benefits for services, supplies, drugs or other charges that are:

- A.** Not Medically Necessary. If services requiring Prior Authorization by Blue Cross of Idaho are performed by a Contracting Provider and benefits are denied as not Medically Necessary, the cost of said services are not the financial responsibility of the Participant. However, the Participant could be financially responsible for services found to be not Medically Necessary when provided by a Noncontracting Provider.
- B.** In excess of the Maximum Allowance.
- C.** For hospital Inpatient or Outpatient care for extraction of teeth or other dental procedures, unless necessary to treat an Accidental Injury or unless an attending Physician certifies in writing that the Participant has a non-dental, life-endangering condition which makes hospitalization necessary to safeguard the Participant's health and life.
- D.** Not prescribed by or upon the direction of a Physician or other Professional Provider; or which are furnished by any individuals or facilities other than Licensed General Hospitals, Physicians, and other Providers.
- E.** Investigational in nature.
- F.** Provided for any condition, Disease, Illness or Accidental Injury to the extent that the Participant is entitled to benefits under occupational coverage, obtained or provided by or through the Employer under state or federal Workers' Compensation Acts or under Employer Liability Acts or other laws providing compensation for work-related injuries or conditions. This exclusion applies whether or not the Participant claims such benefits or compensation or recovers losses from a third party.
- G.** Provided or paid for by any federal governmental entity or unit except when payment under this Plan is expressly required by federal law, or provided or paid for by any state or local governmental entity or unit where its charges therefore would vary, or are or would be affected by the existence of coverage under this Plan.
- H.** Provided for any condition, Accidental Injury, Disease or Illness suffered as a result of any act of war or any war, declared or undeclared.
- I.** Furnished by a Provider who is related to the Participant by blood or marriage and who ordinarily dwells in the Participant's household.
- J.** Received from a dental, vision, or medical department maintained by or on behalf of an employer, a mutual benefit association, labor union, trust or similar person or group.
- K.** For Surgery intended mainly to improve appearance or for complications arising from Surgery intended mainly to improve appearance, except for:
  - 1. Reconstructive Surgery necessary to treat an Accidental Injury, infection or other Disease of the involved part; or
  - 2. Reconstructive Surgery to correct Congenital Anomalies in a Participant.
  - 3. Benefits for reconstructive Surgery to correct an Accidental Injury are available even though the accident occurred while the Participant was covered under a prior insurer's coverage.
- L.** Rendered prior to the Participant's Effective Date.
- M.** For personal hygiene, comfort, beautification (including non-surgical services, drugs, and supplies intended to enhance the appearance) even if prescribed by a Physician.

- N.** For exercise or relaxation items or services even if prescribed by a Physician, including but not limited to, air conditioners, air purifiers, humidifiers, physical fitness equipment or programs, spas, hot tubs, whirlpool baths, waterbeds or swimming pools.
- O.** For convenience items including but not limited to Durable Medical Equipment such as bath equipment, cold therapy units, duplicate items, home traction devices, or safety equipment.
- P.** For relaxation or exercise therapies, including but not limited to, educational, art, aroma, dance, sex, sleep, electro sleep, vitamin, chelation, homeopathic or naturopathic, massage, or music even if prescribed by a Physician.
- Q.** Recreational therapy or therapeutic recreation programs, which can include, but are not limited to, diabetes camps, adventure therapy, and/or wilderness therapy (which can include, but are not limited to, programs for outdoor behavioral health, childhood diabetes, and childhood cancer).
- R.** For telephone consultations, and all computer or Internet communications, except as provided by or in connection with Telehealth Virtual Care Services.
- S.** For failure to keep a scheduled visit or appointment; for completion of a claim form; for interpretation services; or for personal mileage, transportation, food or lodging expenses, unless specified as a Covered Service in this Plan, or for mileage, transportation, food or lodging expenses billed by a Physician or other Professional Provider.
- T.** For Inpatient admissions that are primarily for Diagnostic Services or Therapy Services; or for Inpatient admissions when the Participant is ambulatory and/or confined primarily for bed rest, special diet, behavioral problems, environmental change or for treatment not requiring continuous bed care.
- U.** For Inpatient or Outpatient Custodial Care; or for Inpatient or Outpatient services consisting mainly of educational therapy, behavioral modification, self-care or self-help training, except as specified as a Covered Service in this Plan.
- V.** For any cosmetic foot care, including but not limited to, treatment of corns, calluses, and toenails (except for surgical care of ingrown or Diseased toenails).
- W.** Related to Dentistry or Dental Treatment, even if related to a medical condition; or Orthoptics, eyeglasses or Contact Lenses, or the vision examination for prescribing or fitting eyeglasses or Contact Lenses, unless specified as a Covered Service in this Plan.
- X.** For hearing aids or examinations for the prescription or fitting of hearing aids except as specified as a Covered Service in this Plan.
- Y.** For any treatment of sexual dysfunction, or sexual inadequacy, including erectile dysfunction and/or impotence, even if related to a medical condition, except as specified as a Covered Service in this Plan.
- Z.** Made by a Licensed General Hospital for the Participant's failure to vacate a room on or before the Licensed General Hospital's established discharge hour.
- AA.** Not directly related to the care and treatment of an actual condition, Illness, Disease or Accidental Injury.
- AB.** Furnished by a facility that is primarily a nursing home, a convalescent home, or a rest home.
- AC.** For Acute Care, Rehabilitative care, diagnostic testing, except as specified as a Covered Service in this Plan; for Mental or Nervous Conditions and Substance Use Disorder or Addiction services not recognized by the American Psychiatric and American Psychological Associations.



- AD.** For any of the following:
1. For appliances, splints or restorations necessary to increase vertical tooth dimensions or restore the occlusion, except as specified as a Covered Service in this Plan;
  2. For orthognathic Surgery, including services and supplies to augment or reduce the upper or lower jaw;
  3. For implants in the jaw; for pain, treatment, or diagnostic testing or evaluation related to the misalignment or discomfort of the temporomandibular joint (jaw hinge), including splinting services and supplies;
  4. For alveolectomy or alveoloplasty when related to tooth extraction.
- AE.** For weight control or treatment of obesity or morbid obesity, even if Medically Necessary, except as specified as a Covered Service under this Plan. For reversals or revisions of Surgery for obesity, except when required to correct a life-endangering condition.
- AF.** For use of operating, cast, examination, or treatment rooms or for equipment located in a Contracting or Noncontracting Provider's office or facility, except for emergency room facility charges in a Licensed General Hospital unless specified as a Covered Service in this Plan.
- AG.** For the reversal of sterilization procedures, including but not limited to, vasovasostomies or salpingoplasties.
- AH.** Treatment for reproductive procedures, including but not limited to, ovulation induction procedures and pharmaceuticals, artificial insemination, in vitro fertilization, embryo transfer or similar procedures, or procedures that in any way augment or enhance a Participant's reproductive ability, including but not limited to laboratory services, radiology services or similar services related to treatment for reproduction procedures. Any expenses, procedures or services related to Surrogate pregnancy, delivery or donor eggs.
- AI.** For Transplant services and Artificial Organs, except as specified as a Covered Service under this Plan.
- AJ.** For acupuncture, except as specified as a Covered Service in this Plan.
- AK.** For surgical procedures that alter the refractive character of the eye, including but not limited to, radial keratotomy, myopic keratomileusis, Laser-In-Situ Keratomileusis (LASIK), and other surgical procedures of the refractive-keratoplasty type, to cure or reduce myopia or astigmatism, even if Medically Necessary, unless specified as a Covered Service in a Vision Benefits Section of this Plan, if any. Additionally, reversals, revisions, and/or complications of such surgical procedures are excluded, except when required to correct an immediately life-endangering condition.
- AL.** For Hospice, except as specified as a Covered Service in this Plan.
- AM.** For pastoral, spiritual, bereavement or marriage counseling.
- AN.** For homemaker and housekeeping services or home-delivered meals.
- AO.** Payment for items or services not permitted under applicable state law or for the treatment of injuries sustained while committing a felony, voluntarily taking part in a riot, or while engaging in an illegal act or occupation, unless such injuries are a result of a medical condition or domestic violence.
- AP.** For treatment or other health care of any Participant in connection with an Illness, Disease, Accidental Injury or other condition which would otherwise entitle the Participant to Covered Services under this Plan, if and to the extent those benefits are payable to or due the Participant under any medical payments provision, no fault provision, uninsured motorist provision, underinsured motorist provision, or other first party or no fault provision of any automobile, homeowner's, or other similar policy of insurance, contract, or underwriting plan.

In the event Blue Cross of Idaho (BCI) for any reason makes payment for or otherwise provides benefits excluded by the above provisions, it shall succeed to the rights of payment or reimbursement of the compensated Provider, the Participant, and the Participant's heirs and personal representative against all insurers, underwriters, self-insurers or other such obligors contractually liable or obliged to the Participant, or their estate for such services, supplies, drugs or other charges so provided by BCI in connection with such Illness, Disease, Accidental Injury or other condition.

- AQ.** For which a Participant would have no legal obligation to pay in the absence of coverage under this Plan or any similar coverage; or for which no charge or a different charge is usually made in the absence of health benefits coverage or charges in connection with work for compensation or charges; or for which reimbursement or payment is contemplated under an agreement with a third party.
- AR.** For a routine or periodic mental or physical examination that is not connected with the care and treatment of an actual Illness, Disease or Accidental Injury or for an examination required on account of employment; or related to an occupational injury; for a marriage license; or for insurance, school or camp application; or a screening examination including routine hearing examinations, except as specified as a Covered Service in this Plan.
- AS.** For immunizations, except as specified as a Covered Service in this Plan.
- AT.** For nutritional supplements.
- AU.** For replacements or nutritional formulas except, when administered enterally due to impairment in digestion and absorption of an oral diet and is the sole source of caloric need or nutrition in a Participant, or except as specified as a Covered Service in this Plan.
- AV.** For vitamins and minerals, unless required through a written prescription and cannot be purchased over the counter or as required by ACA.
- AW.** For an elective abortion, except to preserve the life of the Participant upon whom the abortion is performed.
- AX.** For alterations or modifications to a home or vehicle.
- AY.** For special clothing, including shoes (unless permanently attached to a brace).
- AZ.** Provided to a person enrolled as an Eligible Dependent, but who no longer qualifies as an Eligible Dependent due to a change in eligibility status that occurred after enrollment.
- AAA.** Provided outside the United States, which if had been provided in the United States, would not be a Covered Service under this Plan.
- AAB.** For Outpatient pulmonary and/or cardiac Rehabilitation except as specified as a Covered Service in this Plan.
- AAC.** For complications arising from the acceptance or utilization of services, supplies or procedures that are not a Covered Service.
- AAD.** For the use of Hypnosis, as anesthesia or other treatment, except as specified as a Covered Service.
- AAE.** For dental implants, appliances (with the exception of sleep apnea devices), and/or prosthetics, and/or treatment related to Orthodontia, even when Medically Necessary unless specified as a Covered Service in this Plan.
- AAF.** Orthopedic shoes, except as specified as a Covered Service in this Plan.
- AAG.** For wigs.

- AAH.** For cranial molding helmets, unless used to protect post cranial vault surgery.
- AAI.** For surgical removal of excess skin that is the result of weight loss or gain, including but not limited to association with prior weight reduction (obesity) Surgery.
- AAJ.** For the purchase of Therapy or Service Dogs/Animals and the cost of training/maintaining said animals.
- AAK.** For procedures including but not limited to breast augmentation, liposuction, Adam's apple reduction, rhinoplasty and facial reconstruction and other procedures considered cosmetic in nature.
- AAI.** Any newly FDA approved Prescription Drug, biological agent, or other agent until it has been reviewed and implemented by BCI's Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee.
- AAM.** For the treatment of injuries sustained while operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol and/or narcotics. For purposes of this Plan exclusion, "Under the influence" as it relates to alcohol means having a whole blood alcohol content of .08 or above or a serum blood alcohol content of .10 or above as measured by a laboratory approved by the State Police or a laboratory certified by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. For purposes of this Plan exclusion, "Under the influence" as it relates to narcotics means impairment of driving ability caused by the use of narcotics not prescribed or administered by a Physician.
- AAN.** All services, supplies, devices and treatment that are not FDA approved.
- AAO.** Any services, interventions occurring within the framework of an educational program or institution; or provided in or by a school/educational setting; or provided as a replacement for services that are the responsibility of the educational system.
- AAP.** Rendered after exhaustion of an established benefit limit, unless authorized at the discretion of the Plan Sponsor and in accordance with specific BCI medical criteria.

## **II. Preexisting Condition Waiting Period**

There is no preexisting condition waiting period for benefits available under this Plan.

## GENERAL PROVISIONS SECTION

### **I. Termination or Modification of a Participant's Coverage Under this Plan**

- A.** If an Enrollee ceases to be an Eligible Employee or the Employer does not remit the required Contribution, the Enrollee's coverage and the coverage of any and all enrolled Eligible Dependents will terminate on the last day of the last month for which payment was made. If the Employer does not remit the required payments as required by the Administrative Services Agreement and Blue Cross of Idaho elects to terminate this Agreement, the enrollee's coverage and the coverage of any and all enrolled Eligible Dependents will terminate on the last day for which the Employer reimbursed Blue Cross of Idaho for the payment of claims and administrative fees.
- B.** Except as provided in this paragraph, coverage for a Participant who is no longer eligible under this Plan will terminate on the last day of the month in which a Participant no longer qualifies as a Participant, as defined in the Eligibility and Enrollment Section. Coverage will not terminate because of age for a Participant who is a dependent child incapable of self-sustaining employment by reason of intellectual disability or physical handicap, who became so incapable prior to reaching the age limit, and who is chiefly dependent on the Enrollee for support and maintenance, provided the Enrollee, within thirty-one (31) days of when the dependent child reaches the age limit, has submitted to BCI (at the Enrollee's expense) a Physician's certification of such dependent child's incapacity. BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, may require, at reasonable intervals during the two (2) years following when the child reaches the age limit, subsequent proof of the child's continuing disability and dependency. After two (2) years, BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, may require such subsequent proof once each year. Coverage for the dependent child will continue so long as this Plan remains in effect, the child's disability and financial dependency exists, and the child has not exhausted benefits.
- C.** Termination or modification of this Plan automatically terminates or modifies all of the Participant's coverage and rights hereunder. It is the responsibility of the Trust to notify all of its Participants of the termination or any modification of this Plan, and BCI's notice to the Trust, upon mailing or any other delivery, constitutes complete and conclusive notice to the Participants.
- D.** Except as otherwise provided in this Plan, no benefits are available to a Participant for Covered Services rendered after the date of termination of a Participant's coverage.
- E.** The Plan Administrator may terminate or retroactively rescind a Participant's coverage under this Plan for any intentional misrepresentation, omission, or concealment of fact by, concerning, or on behalf of any Participant that was or would have been material to the Plan Administrator's acceptance of a risk, extension of coverage, provision of benefits, or payment of any claim.
- F.** Prior to legal finalization of an adoption, the coverage provided in this Plan for a child placed for adoption with an Enrollee continues as it would for a naturally born child of the Enrollee until the first of the following events occurs:
1. The date the child is removed permanently from placement and the legal obligation terminates, or
  2. The date the Enrollee rescinds, in writing, the agreement of adoption or the agreement assuming financial responsibility.
- If one (1) of the foregoing events occurs, coverage terminates on the last day of the month in which such event occurs.
- G.** Coverage under this Plan will terminate for an Eligible Dependent on the last day of the month the Participant no longer qualifies as an Eligible Dependent due to a change in eligibility status.

## II. When The Plan Can End Your Coverage for Cause

In accordance with the requirements in the Affordable Care Act, the Plan will not retroactively cancel coverage (a rescission) except when Contributions are not timely paid, or in cases when an individual performs an act, practice or omission that constitutes fraud, or makes an intentional misrepresentation of material fact that is prohibited by the terms of the Plan, (for example, failure to timely notify the Plan of a divorce, is not a rescission), as discussed below:

A. The Plan Administrator or its designee may end your coverage and/or the coverage of any of your covered Dependents for cause thirty (30) days after it gives you written notice of its finding that you or your covered Dependent:

1. **engages in an act, practice or omission that constitutes fraud or an intentional misrepresentation of a fact** in any enrollment, claim or other form in order to obtain coverage, services or benefits under the Plan; or
2. **allowed anyone else to use the identification card** that entitles you or your covered Dependent to coverage, services or benefits under the Plan; or
3. **altered any prescription** furnished by a Physician or other Health Care Practitioner.

If your coverage is terminated for any of the above reasons, it may be terminated retroactively to the date that you or your covered Dependent performed or permitted the acts described above.

For example, you must immediately notify your Human Resource department, in writing, of any change in eligibility status for any Dependent enrolled for coverage under the Plan, such as divorce or other event resulting in a loss of eligibility. A failure to notify the Plan of such a change in status will be deemed an act of omission constituting fraud or an intentional misrepresentation of a fact by the Participant and ineligible Dependent.

B. The Plan Administrator or its designee may end your coverage and/or the coverage of any of your covered Dependents for cause thirty (30) days after it gives you written notice of its finding that you or your covered Dependent(s) engaged in **conduct that was abusive, obstructive, or otherwise detrimental to a Physician or Health Care Practitioner**. If your coverage is terminated for this reason, it will be terminated on a going forward basis.

C. The Plan Administrator or its designee may end your coverage and/or the coverage of any of your covered Dependents for cause fifteen (15) days after it gives you written notice of its finding that you have failed to pay your Contribution payment. In this instance, your coverage may be terminated retroactively to the date of the delinquent Contribution payment. In addition, your coverage may be suspended during the fifteen (15) day notice period.

## III. Plan Administrator—COBRA

BCI is not the plan administrator for compliance with the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA) and any amendments to it. Except for services BCI has agreed to perform regarding COBRA, the Trust is responsible for satisfaction of notice, disclosure, and other obligations if these laws are applicable to the Employer.

## IV. Contract Between BCI and the Trust—Description of Coverage

This Plan is a contract between BCI and the Trust. BCI will provide the Trust with copies of the Plan to give to each Enrollee as a description of coverage or provide electronic access to the Plan, but this Plan shall not be construed as a contract between BCI and any Enrollee. BCI's mailing or any other delivery of this Plan to the Trust constitutes complete and conclusive issuance and delivery thereof to each Enrollee.

## V. Applicable Law

This Plan shall be governed by and interpreted according to the laws of the state of Idaho.

## VI. Benefits to Which Participants are Entitled

- A. Subject to all of the terms of this Plan, a Participant is entitled to benefits for Covered Services in the amounts specified in the benefit sections and/or in the Benefits Outline.
- B. In the event of an Inpatient Admission that occurs prior to the Employer's transfer to BCI and the Effective Date of coverage under this Plan, benefits will be provided only when the Participant receives services that are Covered Services under this Plan. The outgoing carrier has primary responsibility for providing benefits for the Inpatient treatment from the date of admission until the first of the following events occur:
- The Participant is discharged,
  - The Benefit Period under the previous coverage ends, or
  - Until benefits under the outgoing carrier's policy are exhausted.
- BCI will provide benefits for Covered Services incurred following the Effective Date of coverage reduced by the benefits paid by the outgoing carrier.
- C. Benefits will be provided only if Covered Services are prescribed by, or performed by, or under the direction of a Physician or other Professional Provider and are regularly and customarily included in such Providers' charges.
- D. Covered Services are subject to the availability of Licensed General Hospitals and other Facility Providers and the ability of the employees of such Providers and of available Physicians to provide such services. The Plan Administrator and/or BCI shall not assume nor have any liability for conditions beyond its control which affect the Participant's ability to obtain Covered Services.
- E. Boise Municipal Health Care Trust intends the Plan to be permanent, but because future conditions affecting Boise Municipal Health Care Trust cannot be anticipated or foreseen, Boise Municipal Health Care Trust reserves the right to amend, modify, or terminate the Plan at any time, which may result in the termination or modification of the Participants' Coverage. Expenses incurred prior to the Plan modification or termination will be paid as provided under the terms of the Plan prior to its modification or termination. Any material change made to this Plan will be provided in writing within sixty (60) days of the Effective Date of change.

#### **VII. Notice of Claim**

BCI will process claims for benefits on behalf of the Trust according to the Administrative Services Agreement between the parties. A claim for Covered Services must be submitted within one year from the date of service and must include all the information necessary for BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, to determine benefits.

#### **VIII. Release and Disclosure of Medical Records and Other Information**

- A. In order to effectively apply the provisions of this Plan, BCI may obtain information from Providers and other entities pertaining to any health related services that the Participant may receive or may have received in the past. BCI may also disclose to Providers and other entities, information obtained from the Participant's transactions such as policy coverage, Contributions, payment history and claims data necessary to allow the processing of a claim and for other health care operations. To protect the Participant's privacy, BCI treats all information in a confidential manner. For further information regarding BCI's privacy policies and procedures, the Participant may request a copy of BCI's Notice of Privacy Practices by contacting Customer Service at the number provided in this Plan.

#### **HIPAA: USE AND DISCLOSURE OF PROTECTED HEALTH INFORMATION**

Effective April 14, 2003, a federal law, the **Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA)**, as amended by the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH), requires that certain self-funded health plans sponsored by the Boise Municipal Health Care Trust (hereafter referred to as the "Plan"), maintain the privacy of your personally identifiable health information (called **Protected Health Information or PHI**).

- The term “**Protected Health Information**” (PHI) includes all information related to your past, present or future health condition(s) that individually identifies you or could reasonably be used to identify you and is transferred to another entity or maintained by the Plan in oral, written, electronic or any other form.
- **PHI does not include** health information contained in employment records held by your employer in its role as an employer, including but not limited to health information on disability, work-related illness/injury, sick leave, Family and Medical Leave (FMLA), life insurance, dependent care FSA, drug testing, etc.

A complete description of your rights under HIPAA can be found in the Plan’s Notice of Privacy Practices, which was distributed to you upon enrollment in the Plan and is also available from your Human Resources department and the employee benefits Website. Information about HIPAA in this document is not intended to and cannot be construed as the Plan’s Notice of Privacy Practices.

The Plan, and the Trust (the Board of Trustees for the Boise Municipal Health Care Trust), will not use or further disclose information that is protected by HIPAA (“protected health information or PHI”) except as necessary for treatment, payment, health care operations and Plan administration, or as permitted or required by law. **In particular, the Plan will not, without your written authorization, use or disclose protected health information for employment-related actions and decisions or in connection with any other benefit or employee benefit plan of the Trust.**

Except as permitted by HIPAA, the Plan will only use or disclose your PHI for marketing purposes or sell (exchange) your PHI for remuneration (payment), with your written authorization. The Plan may disclose PHI to the Trust for the purpose of reviewing a benefit claim, appeal or for other reasons related to the administration of the Plan.

- A. The Plan’s Use and Disclosure of PHI:** The Plan will use protected health information (PHI), without your authorization or consent, to the extent and in accordance with the uses and disclosures permitted by the privacy regulations under the HIPAA. Specifically, the Plan will use and disclose protected health information for purposes related to health care treatment, payment for health care, and health care operations (sometimes referred to as TPO), as defined below.
- **Treatment** is the provision, coordination or management of health care and related services. It also includes but is not limited to consultations and referrals between one or more of your health care providers. The Plan rarely, if ever, uses or discloses PHI for treatment purposes.
  - **Payment** includes activities undertaken by the Plan to obtain Contributions or determine or fulfill its responsibility for coverage and provision of Plan benefits with activities that include, but are not limited to, the following:
    - a. Determination of eligibility, coverage, Cost Sharing amounts (e.g. cost of a benefit, Plan maximums, and copayments as determined for an individual’s claim), and establishing employee Contributions for coverage;
    - b. Claims management and related health care data processing, adjudication of health benefit claims (including appeals and other payment disputes), coordination of benefits, subrogation of health benefit claims, billing, collection activities and related health care data processing, and claims auditing; and
    - c. Medical necessity reviews, reviews of appropriateness of care or justification of charges, utilization management, including precertification, concurrent review and/or retrospective review.
  - **Health Care Operations** includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Business planning and development, such as conducting cost-management and planning-related analyses for the management of the Plan, development or improvement of methods of payment or coverage policies, quality assessment, patient safety activities;
- b. Population-based activities relating to improving health or reducing health care costs, protocol development, case management and care coordination, disease management, contacting of health care providers and patients with information about treatment alternatives and related functions;
- c. Underwriting (the Plan does not use or disclose PHI that is genetic information as defined in 45 CFR 160.103 for underwriting purposes as set forth in 45 CFR 164.502(a)(5)(1)), enrollment, Contribution rating, and other activities relating to the renewal or replacement of a contract of health insurance or health benefits, rating provider and Plan performance, including accreditation, certification, licensing, or credentialing activities;
- d. Conducting or arranging for medical review, legal services and auditing functions, including fraud and abuse detection and compliance programs;
- e. Business management and general administrative activities of the Plan, including, but not limited to management activities relating to implementation of and compliance with the requirements of HIPAA Administrative Simplification, customer service, resolution of internal grievances, or the provision of data analyses for policyholders, Trusts, or other customers.

**B. When an Authorization Form is Needed:** Generally the Plan will require that you sign a valid authorization form (available from your Human Resources department) in order for the Plan to use or disclose your PHI **other than** when you request your own PHI, a government agency requires it, or the Plan uses it for treatment, payment or health care operations or other instance in which HIPAA explicitly permits the use or disclosure without authorization. The Plan's Notice of Privacy Practices also discusses times when you will be given the opportunity to agree or disagree before the Plan uses and discloses your PHI.

**C. The Plan will disclose PHI to the Trust only** upon receipt of a certification from the Trust that the Plan documents have been amended to incorporate the following provisions. With respect to PHI, the Trust agrees to:

1. Not use or disclose the information other than as permitted or required by the Plan Document or as required by law;
2. Ensure that any agents, including their subcontractors, to whom the Trust provides PHI received from the Plan agree to the same restrictions and conditions that apply to the Trust with respect to such information. This Plan hires professionals and other companies, referred to as Business Associates, to assist in the administration of benefits. The Plan requires these Business Associates to observe HIPAA privacy rules;
3. Not use or disclose the information for employment-related actions and decisions;
4. Not use or disclose the information in connection with any other benefit or employee benefit Plan of the Trust, (unless authorized by the individual or disclosed in the Plan's Notice of Privacy Practices);
5. Report to the Plan any use or disclosure of the information that is inconsistent with the uses or disclosures provided for of which it becomes aware;
6. Make PHI available to the individual in accordance with the access requirements of HIPAA;



7. Make PHI available for amendment and incorporate any amendments to PHI in accordance with HIPAA;
8. Make available the information required to provide an accounting of PHI disclosures;
9. Make internal practices, books, and records relating to the use and disclosure of PHI received from the group health Plan available to the Secretary of the Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) for the purposes of determining the Plan's compliance with HIPAA;
10. If feasible, return or destroy all PHI received from the Plan that the Trust maintains in any form and retain no copies of such information when no longer needed for the purpose for which disclosure was made. If return or destruction is not feasible, limit further uses and disclosures to those purposes that make the return or destruction of the PHI infeasible; and
11. If a breach of your unsecured protected health information (PHI) occurs, the Plan will notify you.

**D. In order to ensure that adequate separation between the Plan and the Trust is maintained** in accordance with HIPAA, only the following employees or classes of employees may be given access to use and disclose PHI:

1. Your Human Resources staff charged with administration of the Plan;
2. Business Associates under contract to the Plan including but not limited to the vendors who assist in administering our self-funded health plans such as the Medical plan claims administrator and preferred provider organization network, utilization management company, outpatient prescription drug program, wellness program, Dental and Vision Plan claims administrators and network administrators, COBRA administrator, etc.

**E.** The persons described in section D above may only have access to and use and disclose PHI for Plan administration functions that the Trust performs for the Plan. If these persons do not comply with this obligation, the Trust has designed a mechanism for resolution of noncompliance. **Issues of noncompliance** (including disciplinary sanctions as appropriate) will be investigated and managed by the Trust's Privacy Officer:

If you are a minor and have concerns about the Plan releasing PHI to your parents or guardian, please contact the Privacy Officer.

**F.** Effective April 21, 2005 in compliance with **HIPAA Security** regulations, the Trust will:

1. Implement administrative, physical and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity and availability of electronic PHI that it creates, receives, maintains or transmits on behalf of the group health plan,
2. Ensure that the adequate separation discussed in D above, specific to electronic PHI, is supported by reasonable and appropriate security measures,
3. Ensure that any agent, including a subcontractor, to whom it provides electronic PHI agrees to implement reasonable and appropriate security measures to protect the electronic PHI, and
4. Report to the Plan any security incident of which it becomes aware concerning electronic PHI.

**G. Hybrid Entity:** For purposes of complying with the HIPAA Privacy rules, this Plan is a "hybrid entity" because it has both group health plan functions (a health care component of the entity) and

non-group health plan functions. The Plan designates that its health care group health plan functions are covered by the privacy rules. The health care group health plan functions include the self-funded medical plan options, self-funded dental plan options, self-funded vision plan options, wellness program, COBRA administration and Health Flexible Spending Account (FSA) administration.

**IX. Exclusion of General Damages**

Liability under this Plan for benefits conferred hereunder, including recovery under any claim or breach of this Plan, shall be limited to the actual benefits for Covered Services as provided herein and shall specifically exclude any claim for general damages, including but not limited to, alleged pain, suffering or mental anguish, or for economic loss, or consequential loss or damages.

**X. Payment of Benefits**

Blue Cross of Idaho provides administrative claims payment services only and does not assume any financial risk or obligation with respect to claims.

**A.** BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, is authorized by the Participant to make payments directly to Providers rendering Covered Services to the Participant for benefits provided under this Plan. Notwithstanding this authorization, BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, reserves and shall have the right to make such payments directly to the Participant. Except as provided by law, BCI's right, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, to pay a Participant directly is not assignable by a Participant nor can it be waived without BCI's concurrence, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, nor may the right to receive benefits for Covered Services under this Plan be transferred or assigned, either before or after Covered Services are rendered. Payments will also be made in accordance with any assignment of rights required by state Medicaid plan.

**B.** Blue Cross of Idaho prohibits direct or indirect payment by third parties unless it meets the standards set below.

Family, friends, religious institutions, private, not-for-profit foundations such as Indian tribes, tribal organizations, urban Indian organizations, state and federal government programs or grantees or sub-grantees such as the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program and other similar entities are not prohibited from paying contribution on behalf of an individual receiving medical treatment. Cost Sharing contributions made from permitted third parties will be applied to the Participants applicable Deductible and/or Out-of-Pocket Limit.

Each of the following criteria must be met for BCI to accept a third party payment:

1. the assistance is provided on the basis of the Participant's financial need;
2. the institution/organization is not a healthcare Provider; and
3. the institution/organization is not financially interested. Financially interested institutions/organizations include institutions/organizations that receive the majority of their funding from entities with a pecuniary interest in the payment of health insurance claims, or institutions/organizations that are subject to direct or indirect control of entities with a pecuniary interest in the payment of health insurance claims.

To assist in appropriately applying Cost Sharing contributions made from a permitted third party to the Participants applicable Deductible and/or Out-of-Pocket Limit, the Participant is encouraged to provide notification to BCI if they receive any form of assistance for payment of their Contribution, Cost Sharing, Copayment or Deductible amounts.

Contributions submitted in violation of this provision will not be accepted and the Enrollee's Plan may be terminated for non-payment. Cost Sharing contributions made from non-permitted third parties will not be applied to the Participants applicable Deductible and/or Out-of-Pocket Limit. BCI will inform the Participant in writing of the reason for rejecting or otherwise refusing to treat a third party payment as a payment from the Participant and of the Participant's right to file a complaint with the Department of Insurance.

**C.** Once Covered Services are rendered by a Provider, BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, shall not be obliged to honor Participant requests not to pay claims submitted by such Provider, and BCI, on

behalf of the Plan Administrator, shall have no liability to any person because of its rejection of such request; however, in its sole discretion, for good cause, BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, may nonetheless deny all or any part of any Provider claim.

**XI. Participant/Provider Relationship**

- A.** The choice of a Primary Care Physician or other Provider is solely the Participant's.
- B.** BCI does not render Covered Services but only makes payment for Covered Services received by Participants. BCI and the Plan Administrator are not liable for any act or omission or for the level of competence of any Provider, and BCI and the Plan Administrator have no responsibility for a Provider's failure or refusal to render Covered Services to a Participant.
- C.** The use or nonuse of an adjective such as Contracting or Noncontracting is not a statement as to the ability of the Provider.

**XII. Participating Plan**

BCI may, in its sole discretion, make an agreement with any appropriate entity (referred to as a Participating Plan) to provide, in whole or in part, benefits for Covered Services to Participants, but it shall have no obligation to do so.

**XIII. Coordination of this Plan's Benefits with Other Benefits**

This Coordination of Benefits (COB) provision applies when a Participant has health care coverage under more than one (1) Contract. Contract is defined below.

The Order of Benefit Determination Rules govern the order in which each Contract will pay a claim for benefits. The Contract that pays first is called the Primary Contract. The Primary Contract must pay benefits in accordance with its policy terms without regard to the possibility that another Contract may cover some expenses. The Contract that pays after the Primary Contract is the Secondary Contract. The Secondary Contract may reduce the benefits it pays so that payments from all Contracts does not exceed one hundred percent (100%) of the total Allowable Expenses.

**A. Definitions**

- 1.** A Contract is any of the following that provides benefits or services for medical or dental care or treatment. If separate contracts are used to provide coordinated coverage for members of a group, the separate contracts are considered parts of the same contract and there is no COB among those separate contracts.
  - a)** Contract includes: group and non-group insurance contracts, health maintenance organization (HMO) contracts, Closed Panel Plans or other forms of group or group type coverage (whether insured or uninsured); medical care components of long-term care contracts, such as skilled nursing care; medical benefits under group or individual automobile contracts; and Medicare or any other federal governmental plan, as permitted by law.
  - b)** Contract does not include: hospital indemnity coverage or other fixed indemnity coverage; accident only coverage; specified disease or specified accident coverage; limited benefit health coverage, as defined by state law; school accident type coverage; benefit for non-medical components of long-term care policies; Medicare supplement policies; Medicare or any other federal governmental plans, unless permitted by law.

Each Contract for coverage under a) or b) is a separate Contract. If a Contract has two (2) parts and COB rules apply only to one (1) of the two (2), each of the parts is treated as a separate Contract.

- 2.** This Contract means, in a COB provision, the part of the Contract providing the health care benefits to which the COB provision applies and which may be reduced because of the benefits of other Contracts. Any other part of the Contract providing health care benefits is

separate from this plan. A Contract may apply one (1) COB provision to certain benefits, such as dental benefits, coordinating only with similar benefits, any may apply under COB provision to coordinate other benefits.

3. The Order of Benefit Determination Rules determine whether This Contract is a Primary Contract or Secondary Contract when the Participant has health care coverage under more than one (1) Contract. When This Contract is primary, it determines payment for its benefits first before those of any other Contract without considering any other Contract's benefits. When This Contract is secondary, it determines its benefits after those of another Contract and may reduce the benefits it pays so that all Contract benefits do not exceed one hundred percent (100%) of the total Allowable Expense.
4. Allowable Expense is a health care expense, including Deductibles, Cost Sharing and Copayments, that is covered at least in part by any Contract covering the Participant. When a Contract provides benefits in the form of services, the reasonable cash value of each service will be considered an Allowable Expense and a benefit paid. An expense that is not covered by any Contract covering the Participant is not an Allowable Expense. In addition, any expense that a provider by law or in accordance with a contractual agreement is prohibited from charging a covered person is not an Allowable Expense.

The following are examples of expenses that are not Allowable Expenses:

- a) The difference between the cost of a semi-private hospital room and a private hospital room is not an Allowable Expense, unless one of the Contracts provides coverage for private hospital room expenses.
  - b) If a Participant is covered by two (2) or more Contracts that compute their benefit payments on the basis of usual and customary fees or relative value schedule reimbursement methodology, or other similar reimbursement methodology, any amount in excess of the highest reimbursement amount for a specific benefit is not an Allowable Expense.
  - c) If a Participant is covered by two (2) or more Contracts that provide benefits or services on the basis of negotiated fees, an amount in excess of the highest of the negotiated fees it not an Allowable Expense.
  - d) If a Participant is covered by one (1) Contract that calculates its benefits or services on the basis of usual and customary fees or relative value schedule reimbursement methodology or other similar reimbursement methodology and another Contract that provides its benefits or services on the basis of negotiated fees, the Primary Contract's payment arrangement shall be the Allowable Expense for all Contracts. However, if the provider has contracted with the Secondary Contract to provide the benefit or service for a specific negotiated fee or payment amount that is different than the Primary Contract's payment arrangement and if the provider's contract permits, the negotiated fee or payment shall be the Allowable Expense used by the Secondary Contract to determine its benefits.
  - e) The amount of any benefit reduction by the Primary Contract because a covered person has failed to comply with the Contract provisions is not an Allowable Expense. Examples of these types of Contract provisions include second surgical opinions, pre-certificate of admissions, and preferred provider arrangements.
5. Closed Panel Plan is a Contract that provides health care benefits to covered persons primarily in the form of services through a panel of providers that have contracted with or are employed by the Plan, and that excludes coverage for services provided by other providers, except in cases of emergency or referral by a panel member.

6. Custodial Parent is the parent awarded custody by a court decree or, in the absence of a court decree, is the parent with whom the child resides more than one half of the calendar year excluding any temporary visitation.

**B. Order of Benefit Determination Rules**

When a Participant is covered by two (2) or more Contracts, the rules for determining the order of benefit payments are as follows:

1. The Primary Contract pays or provides its benefits according to its terms of coverage and without regard to the benefits of any other Contract.
2.
  - a) Except as provided in Paragraph 2.b) below, a Contract that does not contain a coordination of benefits provision that is consistent with this regulation is always primary unless the provisions of both Contracts state that the complying Contract is primary.
  - b) Coverage that is obtained by virtue of membership in a group that is designed to supplement a part of a basic package of benefits and provides that this supplementary coverage shall be excess to any other parts of the Contract provided by the Contract holder. Examples of these types of situations are major medical coverages that are superimposed over base plan hospital and surgical benefits, and insurance type coverages that are written in connection with a Closed Panel Plan to provide out-of-network benefits.
3. A Contract may consider the benefits paid or provided by another Contract in calculating payment of its benefits only when it is secondary to that other Contract.
4. Each Contract determines its order of benefits using the first of the following rules that apply:
  - a) Non-Dependent or Dependent. The Contract that covers the Participant other than as a dependent, for example as an employee, member, policyholder, subscriber or retiree is the Primary Contract and the Contract that covers the Participant as a dependent is the Secondary Contract. However, if the Participant is a Medicare beneficiary and, as a result of federal law, Medicare is secondary to the Contract covering the Participant as a dependent; and primary to the Contract covering the Participant as other than a dependent (e.g. a retired employee); then the order of benefits between the two Contracts is reversed so that the Contract covering the Participant as an employee, member, policyholder, subscriber or retiree is the Secondary Contract and the other Contract is the Primary Contract.
  - b) Dependent Child Covered Under More Than One Contract. Unless there is a court decree stating otherwise, when a dependent child is covered by more than one Contract the order of benefits is determined as follows:
    - (1) For a dependent child whose parents are married or are living together, whether or not they have ever been married: The Contract of the parent whose birthday falls earlier in the calendar year is the Primary Contract; or if both parents have the same birthday, the Contract that has covered the parent the longest is the Primary Contract.
    - (2) For a dependent child whose parents are divorced or separated or not living together, whether or not they have ever been married:
      - i. If a court decree states that one of the parents is responsible for the dependent child's health care expenses or health care coverage and the Contract of that parent has actual knowledge of those terms, that Contract is primary. This rule applies to Contract year commencing after the Contract is given notice of the court decree;
      - ii. If a court decree states that both parents are responsible for the health care expenses or health care coverage of the dependent

- child, the provisions of Subparagraph (1) shall determine the order of benefits;
- iii. If a court decree states both parents have joint custody without specifying that one parent has responsibility for the health care expenses or health care coverage, the provisions of Subparagraph (1) above shall determine the order of benefits;
  - iv. If there is no court decree allocating responsibility for the dependent child's health care expenses or health care coverage, the order of benefits for the child are as follows:
    - 1. The Contract covering the Custodial Parent;
    - 2. The Contract covering the spouse of the Custodial Parent;
    - 3. The Contract covering the non-Custodial Parent; and then
    - 4. The Contract covering the spouse of the non-Custodial Parent.

For a dependent child covered under more than one Contract of individuals who are not the parents of the child, the provisions of Subparagraph (1) or (2) above shall determine the order of benefits as if those individuals were the parents of the child.

- c) **Active Employee or Retired or Laid-off Employee.** The Contract that covers a Participant as an active employee, that is, an employee who is neither laid off nor retired, is the Primary Contract. The Contract covering that same Participant as a retired or laid-off employee is the Secondary Contract. The same would hold true if a Participant is a dependent of an active employee and that same Participant is a dependent of a retired or laid-off employee. If the other Contract does not have this rule, and as a result, the Contracts do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule is ignored. This rule does not apply if the rule labeled 4.a) can determine the order of benefits.
- d) **COBRA or State Continuation Coverage.** If a Participant whose coverage is provided pursuant to COBRA or under a right of continuation provided by state or other federal law is covered under another Contract, the Contract covering the Participant as an employee, member, subscriber or retiree or covering the Participant as a dependent of an employee, member, subscriber or retiree is the Primary Contract and the COBRA or state or other federal continuation coverage is the Secondary Contract. If the other Contract does not have this rule, and as a result, the Contracts do not agree on the order of benefits, this rule is ignored. This rule does not apply if the rule labeled 4.a) can determine the order of benefits.

## **CONTINUATION OF COVERAGE (COBRA)**

### **Entitlement to COBRA Continuation Coverage**

In compliance with a federal law, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (commonly called COBRA), eligible employees, eligible retirees and their covered Dependents (called "Qualified Beneficiaries") will have the opportunity to elect a temporary continuation of their group health coverage ("COBRA Continuation Coverage") under the Plan when that coverage would otherwise end because of certain events (called "Qualifying Events" by the law).

## Other Health Coverage Alternatives to COBRA

Note that you may also have other health coverage alternatives to COBRA available to you that can be purchased through the **Health Insurance Marketplace** (*the Marketplace helps people without health coverage find and enroll in a health plan. See your state Health Insurance Marketplace or visit the federal Marketplace at [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov)*).

Also, in the Marketplace you could be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your monthly Contributions for Marketplace-purchased coverage. Being eligible for COBRA does not limit your eligibility for coverage for a tax credit. Also, you may qualify for a special enrollment opportunity for another group health plan for which you are eligible (such as a spouse's plan), if you request enrollment in that other plan within thirty (30) days of losing coverage under this Plan, even if that other plan generally does not accept late enrollees.

Qualified Beneficiaries who elect COBRA Continuation Coverage must pay for it at their own expense.

**This Plan provides no greater COBRA rights than what is required by law and nothing in this chapter is intended to expand a person's COBRA rights.**

**COBRA Administrator:** The name, address and telephone number of the COBRA Administrator responsible for the administration of COBRA, is:

Peak One Administration  
608 Northwest Boulevard, Suite 200  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
877-404-9443 (Toll Free)

### **IMPORTANT:**

*This chapter serves as a notice to summarize your rights and obligations under the COBRA Continuation Coverage law. It is provided to all covered employees, retirees, and their covered Spouses and is intended to inform them (and their covered dependents, if any) in a summary fashion about COBRA coverage, when it may become available and what needs to be done to protect the right to receive COBRA coverage. Since this is only a summary, actual rights will be governed by the provisions of the COBRA law itself. It is important that you and your Spouse take the time to read this notice carefully and be familiar with its contents.*

## Who Is Entitled to COBRA Continuation Coverage, When and For How Long

Each Qualified Beneficiary **has an independent right to elect COBRA** Continuation Coverage when a Qualifying Event occurs, **and** as a result of that Qualifying Event that person's health care coverage ends, either as of the date of the Qualifying Event or as of some later date. Covered employees, and retirees may elect COBRA on behalf of their spouses and covered parents/legal guardians may elect COBRA for a minor child. A Qualified Beneficiary also has the same rights and enrollment opportunities under the Plan as other covered individuals including Special Enrollment and Open Enrollment.

1. **"Qualified Beneficiary":** Under the law, a Qualified Beneficiary is any Employee, or retiree or the Spouse or Dependent Child of an employee, or retiree who is covered by the Plan when a Qualifying Event occurs, and who is therefore entitled to elect COBRA Continuation Coverage. A child who becomes a Dependent Child by birth, adoption or placement for adoption with the covered Qualified Beneficiary during a period of COBRA Continuation Coverage is also a Qualified Beneficiary.

- A child of the covered employee, or retiree who is receiving benefits under the Plan because of a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO), during the employee's period of employment, is entitled to the same rights under COBRA as an eligible dependent child.
- A person who becomes the new Spouse of an existing COBRA participant during a period of COBRA Continuation Coverage may be added to the COBRA coverage of the existing COBRA participant but is not a "Qualified Beneficiary." This means that if the existing COBRA participant dies or divorces before the expiration of the maximum COBRA coverage period, the new Spouse is not entitled to elect COBRA for him/herself.

2. **"Qualifying Event":** Qualifying Events are those shown in the chart below. Qualified Beneficiaries are entitled to COBRA Continuation Coverage when Qualifying Events (which are specified in the law) occur, **and**, as a result of the Qualifying Event, coverage of that Qualified Beneficiary ends. **A Qualifying Event triggers the opportunity to elect COBRA when the covered individual LOSES health care coverage under this Plan.** If a covered individual has a Qualifying Event but, as a result, **does not lose** their health care coverage under this Plan, (e. g. employee continues working even though entitled to Medicare) then COBRA is not available.

The following chart lists the COBRA Qualifying Events, who can be a Qualified Beneficiary and the maximum period of COBRA coverage based on that Qualifying Event:

Qualifying Event Causing Health Care Coverage to End	Duration of COBRA for Qualified Beneficiaries <sup>1</sup>		
	Employee	Spouse	Dependent Child(ren)
Employee terminates (for other than gross misconduct), including retirement.	18 months	18 months	18 months
Employee reduction in hours worked (making employee ineligible for the health care coverage).	18 months	18 months	18 months
Employee dies.	N/A	36 months	36 months
Employee becomes divorced or legally separated.	N/A	36 months	36 months
Dependent Child ceases to have Dependent status.	N/A	N/A	36 months
Retiree coverage is terminated or coverage is substantially reduced within one year before or after the employer files for bankruptcy reorganization under Chapter 11 of the federal Bankruptcy Act.	Retiree: for Life	Varies <sup>2</sup>	Varies <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>: When a covered employee's Qualifying Event (e.g. termination of employment or reduction in hours) occurs within the eighteen (18)-month period after the employee becomes entitled to Medicare (entitlement means the employee is eligible for and enrolled in Medicare), the employee's covered Spouse and dependent children who are Qualified Beneficiaries (but not the employee) may become entitled to COBRA coverage for a maximum period that ends thirty-six (36) months after the Medicare entitlement.

<sup>2</sup>: Employer's bankruptcy under Title 11 of the US Code may trigger COBRA coverage for certain retirees and their related Qualified



*Beneficiaries such as COBRA coverage for the life of the retiree. The retiree's Spouse and dependent children are entitled to COBRA for the life of the retiree and if they survive the retiree, for thirty-six (36) months after the retiree's death. If the retiree is not living when the Qualifying Event occurs, but the retiree's surviving Spouse is alive and covered by the group health plan, then that surviving Spouse is entitled to coverage for life.*

### **Special Enrollment Rights**

You have special enrollment rights under federal law that allow you to request special enrollment under another group health plan for which you are otherwise eligible (such as a plan sponsored by your Spouse's employer) within thirty (30) days (or as applicable sixty (60) days) after your group health coverage ends because of the Qualifying Events listed in this chapter. The special enrollment right is also available to you if you continue COBRA for the maximum time available to you.

### **Maximum Period of COBRA Continuation Coverage**

The maximum period of COBRA Continuation Coverage is generally either eighteen (18) months or thirty-six (36) months, depending on which Qualifying Event occurred, measured from the date the Qualifying Event occurs or loss of Plan coverage (generally the end of the month in which the Qualifying Event occurred). The eighteen (18)-month period of COBRA Continuation Coverage may be extended for up to eleven (11) months under certain circumstances (described in another section of this chapter on extending COBRA in cases of disability). The maximum period of COBRA coverage may be cut short for the reasons described in the section on "Early Termination of COBRA Continuation Coverage" that appears later in this chapter.

### **Medicare Entitlement**

A person becomes entitled to Medicare on the first day of the month in which the Participant attains age sixty-five (65), but only if the Participant submits the required application for Social Security retirement benefits within the time period prescribed by law. Generally a person becomes entitled to Medicare on the first day of the 30<sup>th</sup> month after the date on which the Participant was determined by the Social Security Administration to be totally and permanently disabled so as to be entitled to Social Security disability income benefits.

### **Procedure for Notifying the Plan of a Qualifying Event (Very Important Information)**

In order to have the chance to elect COBRA Continuation Coverage after loss of coverage due to these events: a divorce or legal separation, or a child ceasing to be a "dependent child" under the Plan, **you and/or a family member must inform the Plan in writing of that event no later than sixty (60) days after that Qualifying Event occurs.**

That written notice should be sent to the COBRA Administrator at:

Peak One Administration  
608 Northwest Boulevard, Suite 200  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
877-404-9443 (Toll Free)

The written notice can be sent via first class mail, or be hand-delivered, and is to include your name, the Qualifying Event, the date of the event, and appropriate documentation in support of the Qualifying Event, such as divorce documents.

**NOTE: If such a notice is not received by the COBRA Administrator within the sixty (60) day period, the Qualified Beneficiary will not be entitled to choose COBRA Continuation Coverage.**

Officials of the employee's own employer should notify the COBRA Administrator within thirty-one (31) days of these events: an employee's death, termination of employment including retirement, reduction in hours making the employee ineligible for coverage, or entitlement to Medicare (if it causes the employee to be ineligible for coverage). However, **you or your family should also promptly notify the COBRA Administrator in writing** if any such event occurs in order to avoid confusion over the status of your health care in the event there is a delay or oversight in providing that notification.

### **Notices Related to COBRA Continuation Coverage**

When:

- a. **your employer notifies the Plan** that your health care coverage has ended because your employment terminated, your hours are reduced so that you are no longer entitled to health care coverage under the Plan, you died, have become entitled to Medicare, or
- b. **you notify the COBRA Administrator** that a Dependent Child lost Dependent status, you divorced or have become legally separated, **then** the COBRA Administrator will give you and/or your covered Dependents notice of the date on which your coverage ends, and the information and forms needed to elect COBRA Continuation Coverage. **Failure to notify the Plan in a timely fashion may jeopardize an individual's rights to COBRA coverage.** Under the law, you and/or your covered Dependents will then have only sixty (60) days from the date of receipt of that notice to elect COBRA Continuation Coverage.

**NOTE: If you and/or any of your covered dependents do not choose COBRA coverage within 60 days after receiving notice, you and/or they will have no group health coverage from this Plan after the date coverage ends.**

### **The COBRA Continuation Coverage That Will Be Provided**

If you elect COBRA Continuation Coverage, you will be entitled to the same health coverage that you had when the event occurred that caused your health coverage under the Plan to end, but you must pay for it. See the section on Paying for COBRA Continuation Coverage that appears later in this chapter for information about how much COBRA Continuation Coverage will cost you and about grace periods for payment of those amounts. If there is a change in the health coverage provided by the Plan to similarly situated active employees and their families, that same change will apply to your COBRA Continuation Coverage.

When COBRA Continuation Coverage of your participation in the health care flexible spending account (Health FSA) is available, it will be on the same terms outlined above for group health coverage, but since the person who elects COBRA will no longer be employed by their employer, it will not be possible to make contributions to the health care flexible spending account on a before-tax basis.

### **Paying for COBRA Continuation Coverage (The Cost of COBRA)**

Any person who elects COBRA Continuation Coverage must pay the full cost of the COBRA Continuation Coverage. The Trust is permitted to charge the full cost of coverage for similarly situated active employees and families (including both the employer's and employee's share), plus an additional 2%. If the 18-month period of COBRA Continuation Coverage is extended because of disability, the Plan may add an additional 50% applicable to the COBRA family unit (but only if the disabled person is covered) during the 11-month additional COBRA period. Each person will be told the exact dollar charge for the COBRA Continuation Coverage that is in effect at the time the Participant becomes entitled to it. The cost of the COBRA Continuation Coverage may be subject to future increases during the period it remains in effect.

**NOTE: You may not receive an invoice (bill) for the initial COBRA Contribution payment or for the monthly COBRA Contribution payments. You are responsible for making timely payments for COBRA continuation coverage to the COBRA Administrator.**

**IMPORTANT**

**There may not be invoices or payment reminders for COBRA Contribution payments. You are responsible for making sure that timely COBRA Contribution payments are made to the COBRA Administrator.**

**Grace Periods**

The **initial payment** for the COBRA Continuation Coverage is due to the COBRA Administrator **no later than forty-five (45) days** after COBRA Continuation Coverage is elected. If this payment is not made when due, COBRA Continuation Coverage will not take effect.

After the initial COBRA payment, **subsequent payments** are due on the first day of each month, but there will be a **thirty (30) day grace period** to make those payments. If payments are not made within the thirty (30) day time indicated in this paragraph, COBRA Continuation Coverage will be canceled as of the due date. Payment is considered made when it is postmarked.

**For Monthly Payments, What If The Full COBRA Contribution Payment Is Not Made When Due?**

If the COBRA Administrator receives a COBRA Contribution payment that is not for the full amount due, the COBRA Administrator will determine if the COBRA Contribution payment is short by an amount that is significant or not. A Contribution payment will be considered to be **significantly short** of the required Contribution payment if the shortfall exceeds the lesser of \$50 or 10% of the required COBRA Contribution payment.

If there is a **significant shortfall** then COBRA continuation coverage will end as of the date for which the last full COBRA Contribution payment was made.

If there is not a significant shortfall, the COBRA Administrator will notify the Qualified Beneficiary of the deficiency amount and allow a reasonable period of thirty (30) days to pay the shortfall.

- If the shortfall is paid in the thirty (30) day time period, then COBRA continuation coverage will continue for the month in which the shortfall occurred.

- If the shortfall is not paid in the thirty (30) day time period, then COBRA continuation coverage will end as of the date for which the last full COBRA Contribution payment was made (which may result in a mid-month termination of COBRA coverage).

### **Confirmation of Coverage Before Election or Payment of the Cost of COBRA Continuation Coverage**

If a Health Care Provider requests confirmation of coverage and you, your Spouse or Dependent Child(ren) have elected COBRA Continuation Coverage and the amount required for COBRA Continuation Coverage has not been paid while the grace period is still in effect **or** you, your Spouse or Dependent Child(ren) are within the COBRA election period but have not yet elected COBRA, COBRA Continuation Coverage will be confirmed, but with notice to the Health Care Provider that the cost of the COBRA Continuation Coverage has not been paid, that no claims will be paid until the amounts due have been received, and that the COBRA Continuation Coverage will terminate effective as of the due date of any unpaid amount if payment of the amount due is not received by the end of the grace period.

### **Addition of Newly Acquired Dependents**

If, while you (the employee or retiree) are enrolled for COBRA Continuation Coverage, you have a newborn child, adopt a child, or have a child placed with you for adoption, you may enroll that child for COBRA Continuation Coverage if you do so within thirty-one (31) days after the birth, adoption, or placement for adoption. The child will be entitled to the full duration of COBRA.

If you marry while you are enrolled for COBRA, your spouse is not a Qualified Beneficiary, but the spouse can be added for the remainder of the duration of your existing COBRA coverage.

Adding a Spouse or Dependent Child may cause an increase in the amount you must pay for COBRA Continuation Coverage. Contact the COBRA Administrator to add a dependent.

### **Loss of Other Employer Health Plan Coverage**

If, while you (the employee or retiree) are enrolled for COBRA Continuation Coverage your Spouse or dependent loses coverage under another group health plan, you may enroll the Spouse or dependent for coverage for the balance of the period of COBRA Continuation Coverage. The Spouse or dependent must have been eligible but not enrolled in coverage under the terms of the pre-COBRA plan and, when enrollment was previously offered under that pre-COBRA healthcare plan and declined, the Spouse or dependent must have been covered under another group health plan or had other health insurance coverage.

The loss of coverage must be due to exhaustion of COBRA Continuation Coverage under another plan, termination as a result of loss of eligibility for the coverage, or termination as a result of employer Contributions toward the other coverage being terminated. Loss of eligibility does not include a loss due to failure of the individual or participant to pay Contributions on a timely basis or termination of coverage for cause. You must enroll the Spouse or dependent within thirty-one (31) days after the termination of the other coverage. Adding a Spouse or Dependent

Child may cause an increase in the amount you must pay for COBRA Continuation Coverage.

### **Notice of Unavailability of COBRA Coverage**

In the event the Plan is notified of a Qualifying Event but determines that an individual is not entitled to the requested COBRA coverage, the individual will be sent, by the COBRA Administrator an explanation indicating why COBRA coverage is not available. This notice of the unavailability of COBRA coverage will be sent according to the same timeframe as a COBRA election notice.

### **Extended COBRA Continuation Coverage When a Second Qualifying Event Occurs During an 18-Month COBRA Continuation Period**

If, during an 18-month period of COBRA Continuation Coverage resulting from loss of coverage because of your termination of employment or reduction in hours, you die, become divorced or legally separated, become entitled to Medicare (Part A, Part B or both), or if a covered child ceases to be a Dependent Child under the Plan, the maximum COBRA Continuation period for the affected Spouse and/or child is extended to thirty-six (36) months measured from the date of your termination of employment or reduction in hours (or the date you first became entitled to Medicare, if that is earlier, as described below).

NOTE: Medicare entitlement is not a Qualifying Event under this Plan and as a result, Medicare entitlement following a termination of coverage or reduction in hours will not extend COBRA to thirty-six (36) months for Spouses and dependents who are Qualified Beneficiaries.

**Notifying the Plan:** To extend COBRA when a second Qualifying Event occurs, you must notify the COBRA Administrator in writing within sixty (60) days of a second Qualifying Event. Failure to notify the Plan in a timely fashion may jeopardize an individual's rights to extended COBRA coverage. The written notice can be sent via first class mail, or be hand-delivered, and is to include your name, the second Qualifying Event, the date of the second Qualifying Event, and appropriate documentation in support of the second Qualifying Event, such as divorce documents.

**This extended period of COBRA Continuation Coverage is not available to anyone who became your Spouse after the termination of employment or reduction in hours.** This extended period of COBRA Continuation Coverage is available to any child(ren) born to, adopted by or placed for adoption with you (the covered employee) during the eighteen (18) month period of COBRA Continuation Coverage.

In no case is an Employee whose employment terminated or who had a reduction in hours entitled to COBRA Continuation Coverage for more than a total of eighteen (18) months (unless the Employee is entitled to an additional period of up to eleven (11) months of COBRA Continuation Coverage on account of disability as described in the following section). As a result, if an Employee experiences a reduction in hours followed by termination of employment, the termination of employment is not treated as a second Qualifying Event and COBRA may not be extended beyond eighteen (18) months from the initial Qualifying Event.

In no case is anyone else entitled to COBRA Continuation Coverage for more than a total of thirty-six (36) months (except for retirees who become entitled to COBRA because of a Chapter 11 bankruptcy reorganization proceeding on the part of the employee's employer.)

### **Extended COBRA Coverage in Certain Cases of Disability During an 18-Month COBRA Continuation Period**

If, prior to the Qualifying Event or during the first sixty (60) days of an eighteen (18) month period of COBRA Continuation Coverage, the Social Security Administration makes a formal determination that you or a covered Spouse or Dependent Child is totally and permanently disabled so as to be entitled to Social Security Disability Income benefits (SSDI), the disabled person and any covered family members who so choose, may be entitled to keep the COBRA Continuation Coverage for up to twenty-nine (29) months (instead of eighteen (18) months) or until the disabled person becomes entitled to Medicare or ceases to be disabled (whichever is sooner).

1. This extension is available only if:
  - the Social Security Administration determines that the individual's disability began at some time before the 60<sup>th</sup> day of COBRA Continuation Coverage; **and**
  - the disability lasts until at least the end of the eighteen (18) month period of COBRA Continuation Coverage.

**Notifying the Plan:** you or another family member need to follow this procedure (to notify the Plan) by sending a written notification to the COBRA Administrator of the Social Security Administration determination within sixty (60) days after that determination was received by you or another covered family member. Failure to notify the Plan in a timely fashion may jeopardize an individual's rights to extended COBRA coverage. The written notice can be sent via first class mail, or be hand-delivered, and is to include your name, the name of the disabled person, the request for extension of COBRA due to a disability, the date the disability began and appropriate documentation in support of the disability including a copy of the written Social Security Administration disability award documentation, **and** that notice must be received by the COBRA Administrator before the end of the eighteen (18) month COBRA Continuation period.

2. The cost of COBRA Continuation Coverage during the additional eleven (11) month period of COBRA Continuation Coverage may be 50% higher than the cost for coverage during the first eighteen (18) month period.
3. The COBRA Administrator must also be notified within thirty (30) days of the determination by the Social Security Administration that you are no longer disabled.

### **Early Termination of COBRA Continuation Coverage**

Once COBRA Continuation Coverage has been elected, it may be cut short (terminated early) on the occurrence of any of the following events:

1. The date the Contribution payment amount due for COBRA coverage is **not paid in full and on time;**
2. The date the Qualified Beneficiary becomes entitled to Medicare (Part A, Part B or both) after electing COBRA;
3. The date, after the date of the COBRA election, on which the Qualified Beneficiary first becomes covered under another group health plan.  
**IMPORTANT:** The Qualified Beneficiary must notify this Plan as soon as

possible once they become aware that they will become covered under another group health plan, by contacting the COBRA Administrator. COBRA coverage under this Plan ends on the last day of the month prior to the month in which the Qualified Beneficiary is covered under the other group health plan.

4. During an extension of the maximum COBRA coverage period to twenty-nine (29) months due to the disability of the Qualified Beneficiary, the disabled beneficiary is determined by the Social Security Administration to no longer be disabled;
5. The date the Plan has determined that the Qualified Beneficiary must be terminated from the Plan for cause (on the same basis as would apply to similarly situated non-COBRA participants under the Plan).
6. The date the employer no longer provides group health coverage to any of its employees;

#### **Notice of Early Termination of COBRA Continuation Coverage**

The Plan will notify a Qualified Beneficiary if COBRA coverage terminates earlier than the end of the maximum period of coverage applicable to the Qualifying Event that entitled the individual to COBRA coverage. This written notice will explain the reason COBRA terminated earlier than the maximum period, the date COBRA coverage terminated and any rights the Qualified Beneficiary may have under the Plan to elect alternate or conversion coverage. The notice will be provided as soon as practicable after the COBRA Administrator determines that COBRA coverage will terminate early.

Once COBRA coverage terminates early it cannot be reinstated.

#### **No Entitlement to Convert to an Individual Health Plan after COBRA Ends**

There is no opportunity to convert to an individual health plan after COBRA ends under this Plan.

#### **Appealing an Adverse Determination Related to COBRA**

If an individual receives an adverse determination (denial) related to a request for eligibility for COBRA (such as with a Notice of Unavailability of COBRA), a request for extension of COBRA for a disability, a request for extension of COBRA for a second qualifying event, or a notice of early termination of COBRA, the individual is permitted to appeal to the Plan. To request an appeal, follow this process:

- a) Send a written request for an appeal to the COBRA Administrator within sixty (60) days of the date you received the adverse determination letter.
- b) Explain why you disagree with the adverse determination.
- c) Provide any additional information you want considered during the appeal process.
- d) Include the most current name and address of each individual affected by the adverse determination.

The COBRA Administrator will respond in writing to this appeal within sixty (60) days of the Plan's receipt of the request for appeal. The appeal response will be sent to the address provided by the individual. This concludes the COBRA appeal process.

Note that a claim for reimbursement of health expenses would follow the Plan's usual claim appeal process for post-service claims.

### **COBRA Questions or To Give Notice of Changes in Your Circumstances**

If you have any questions about your COBRA rights, please contact the COBRA Administrator at:

Peak One Administration  
608 Northwest Boulevard, Suite 200  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
877-404-9443 (Toll Free)

**Also, remember that to avoid loss of any of your rights to obtain or continue COBRA Continuation Coverage, you must notify the COBRA Administrator:**

1. within thirty-one (31) days of a **change in marital status (e.g. marry, divorce)**; or have a **new dependent child**; or
2. within sixty (60) days of the date you or a covered dependent Spouse or child has been determined to be **totally and permanently disabled** by the Social Security Administration; or
3. within sixty (60) days if a covered child **ceases to be a "dependent child"** as that term is defined by the Plan; or
4. promptly if an individual has **changed their address, becomes entitled to Medicare, or is no longer disabled.**

**FMLA and COBRA:** Taking a leave under the Family & Medical Leave Act (FMLA) is not a COBRA Qualifying Event. A Qualifying Event can occur **after** the FMLA period expires, **if** the employee does not return to work and thus loses coverage under their group health plan. Then, the COBRA period is measured from the date of the Qualifying Event—in most cases, the last day of the FMLA leave. Note that if the employee notifies the employer that they are not returning to employment prior to the expiration of the maximum FMLA twelve (12) week (or in some cases twenty-six (26) week) period, a loss of coverage could occur earlier.

- e) Longer or Shorter Length of Coverage. The Contract that covered the Participant as an employee, member, policyholder, subscriber, or retiree longer is the Primary Contract and the Contract that covered the Participant the shorter period of time is the Secondary Contract.
- f) If the preceding rules do not determine the order of benefits, the Allowable Expenses shall be shared equally between the Contracts meeting the definition of Contract. In addition, This Contract will not pay more than it would have paid had it been the Primary Contract.

### **C. Effect on the Benefits of this Contract**

1. When This Contract is secondary, it may reduce its benefits so that the total benefits paid or provided by all Contracts during a Contract year are not more than the total Allowable Expenses. In determining the amount to be paid for any claim, the Secondary Contract will



calculate the benefits it would have paid in the absence of other health care coverage and apply that calculated amount to any Allowable Expense under its Contract that is unpaid by the Primary Contract. The Secondary Contract may then reduce its payment by the amount so that, when combined with the amount paid by the Primary Contract, the total benefits paid or provided by all Contracts for the claim do not exceed the total Allowable Expenses for that claim. In addition, the Secondary Contract shall credit to its Contract deductible any amounts it would have credited to its deductible in the absence of other health care coverage.

2. If a covered person is enrolled in two or more Closed Panel Plans and if, for any reason, including the provision of service by a non-panel provider, benefits are not payable by one Closed Panel Plan, COB shall not apply between that Contract and other Closed Panel Plans.

**D. Facility of Payment**

A payment made under another Contract may include an amount that should have been paid under This Contract. If it does, BCI may pay that amount to the organization that made that payment. That amount will then be treated as though it were a benefit paid under This Contract. BCI will not have to pay that amount again. The term “payment made” includes providing benefits in the form of services, in which case “payment made” means the reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.

**E. Right of Recovery**

If the amount of the payments made by BCI is more than it should have paid under this COB provision, it may recover the excess from one or more of the Participants it has paid or for whom it has paid; or any other Participant or organization that may be responsible for the benefits or services provided for the covered Participant. The “amount of the payments made” includes the reasonable cash value of any benefits provided in the form of services.

**XIV. Benefits for Medicare Eligibles who are Covered Under this Contract**

- A. If the Employer has twenty (20) or more employees, any Eligible Employee or spouse of an Eligible Employee who becomes or remains a Participant of the Employer covered by this Plan after becoming eligible for Medicare (due to reaching age sixty-five (65)) is entitled to receive the benefits of this Plan as primary.
- B. If the Employer has one hundred (100) or more employees or the Employer is an organization which includes an employer with one hundred (100) or more employees, any Eligible Employee, spouse of an Eligible Employee or dependent child of an Eligible Employee who becomes or remains a Participant of the Employer covered by this Plan after becoming eligible for Medicare due to disability is entitled to receive the benefits of this Plan as primary.
- C. A Participant eligible for Medicare based solely on end stage renal Disease is entitled to receive the benefits of this Plan as primary for eighteen (18) months only, beginning with the month of Medicare entitlement, if Medicare entitlement is effective before March 1, 1996. If Medicare entitlement is effective on or after March 1, 1996, the Participant is entitled to receive benefits of this Plan as primary for thirty (30) months only, beginning with the month of Medicare entitlement. Medicare is secondary during the thirty (30)-month period, known as the coordination period. When this Plan is primary, it pays in accordance with the terms of this Plan. In certain circumstances, such as when using a Noncontracting Provider, Participant may be responsible for amounts in excess of the Maximum Allowance. Medicare does not typically permit billing for amounts in excess of the Maximum Allowance, when it is primary. Participant should contact Medicare for more information about their options.
- D. The Employer's retirees, if covered under this Plan, and Eligible Employees or spouses of Eligible Employees (if a Participant) who are not subject to paragraphs A., B. or C. of this provision and who are Medicare eligible, will receive the benefits of this Plan reduced by any benefits available under Medicare. This applies even if the Participant fails to enroll in Medicare or does not claim the benefits available under Medicare.

**XV. Incorporated by Reference**

All of the terms, limitations and exclusions of coverage contained in this Plan are incorporated by reference into all sections, endorsements, riders, and Amendments and are as effective as if fully expressed in each one unless specifically noted to the contrary.

**XVI. Inquiry and Appeals Procedures**

If the Participant's claim for benefits is denied and BCI issues an Adverse Benefit Determination, the Participant must first exhaust any applicable internal appeals process described below prior to pursuing legal action.

**A. Informal Inquiry**

For any initial questions concerning a claim, a Participant should call or write BCI's Customer Service Department. BCI's phone numbers and addresses are listed on the Explanation of Benefits (EOB) form and in the Contact Information section of this Plan.

**B Formal Appeal**

A Participant who wishes to formally appeal a Pre-Service Claim decision by BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, may do so through the following process:

1. A Participant may have an authorized representative pursue a benefit claim or an appeal of an Adverse Benefit Determination on their behalf. BCI requires that a Participant execute BCI's "Appointment of Authorized Representative" form before BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator determines that an individual has been authorized to act on behalf of the Participant. The form can be found on BCI's Website at [www.bcidaho.com](http://www.bcidaho.com).
2. A written appeal must be sent to the Appeals and Grievance Coordinator within one hundred eighty (180) days after receipt of the notice of Adverse Benefit Determination. Urgent claim appeals, and the documents in support of such appeals may be submitted by phone or facsimile. The appeal should set forth the reasons why the Participant contends BCI's decision was incorrect. Any written comments, documents or other relevant information may be submitted with the appeal.
3. After receipt of the appeal, all facts, including those originally used in making the initial decision and any additional information that is sent or that is otherwise relevant, will be reviewed by a BCI Medical Director or physician designee. For non-urgent claim appeals, BCI will mail a written reply to the Participant within fifteen (15) days after receipt of the written appeal. Urgent claim appeals will be notified orally within seventy-two (72) hours. If the original decision is upheld, the reply will state the specific reasons for denial and the specific provisions on which the decision is based. Each appeal will be processed as quickly as possible taking into account the medical exigencies of each claim.
4. Furthermore, the Participant or their authorized representative has the right to reasonable access to, and copies of all documents, records, and other information that are relevant to the appeal.
5. If the original, non-urgent claim decision is upheld upon reconsideration, the Participant may send an additional written appeal to the Appeals and Grievance Coordinator requesting further review. This appeal must set forth the reasons for requesting additional reconsideration and must be sent within thirty (30) days of BCI's mailing of the initial reconsideration decision. A BCI Medical Director who is not subordinate to the Medical Director or physician designee who decided the initial appeal will issue a final decision after consideration of all relevant information. A final decision on the appeal will be made within fifteen (15) days of its receipt.

**C. A Participant who wishes to formally appeal a Post-Service Claims decision by BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, may do so through the following process:**

1. A Participant may have an authorized representative pursue a benefit claim or an appeal of an Adverse Benefit Determination on their behalf. BCI requires that a Participant execute BCI's "Appointment of Authorized Representative" form before BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator determines that an individual has been authorized to act on behalf of the Participant. The form can be found on BCI's Website at [www.bcidaho.com](http://www.bcidaho.com).
2. A written appeal must be sent to the Appeals and Grievance Coordinator within one hundred eighty (180) days after receipt of the notice of Adverse Benefit Determination. This written

appeal should set forth the reasons why the Participant contends BCI's decision was incorrect. Any written comments, documents or other relevant information may be submitted with the appeal.

3. After receipt of the written appeal, all facts, including those originally used in making the initial decision and any additional information that is sent or that is otherwise relevant, will be reviewed by a BCI Medical Director or physician designee if the appeal requires medical judgment. BCI shall mail a written reply to the Participant within thirty (30) days after receipt of the written appeal. If the original decision is upheld, the reply will list the specific reasons for denial and the specific provisions on which the decision is based. Each appeal will be processed as quickly as possible.
4. Furthermore, the Participant or their authorized representative has the right to reasonable access to, and copies of all documents, records, and other information that are relevant to the appeal.
5. If the original decision is upheld upon reconsideration, the Participant may send an additional written appeal to the Appeals and Grievance Coordinator requesting *further review*. This appeal must set forth the reasons for requesting additional reconsideration and must be sent within sixty (60) days of BCI's mailing of the initial reconsideration decision.
  - a. A BCI Medical Director who is not subordinate to the Medical Director or physician designee who decided the initial appeal, will issue a final decision after consideration of all relevant information, if the appeal requires medical judgment. A final decision on the appeal will be made within thirty (30) days of its receipt and communicated to the Boise Municipal Health Care Trust.
  - b. If the appeal does not require medical judgment, a final decision on the appeal will be made within thirty (30) days of its receipt by BCI on behalf of the Boise Municipal Health Care Trust.

**D. Participant's Rights to an Independent External Review**

*Please read this carefully. It describes a procedure for review of a disputed health claim by a qualified professional who has no affiliation with BCI. If a Participant or their authorized representative requests an independent external review of a claim, the decision made by the independent reviewer will be binding and final on the Plan.*

If BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, issues a final Adverse Benefit Determination of a Participant's request to provide or pay for a health care service or supply, a Participant may have the right to have BCI's decision reviewed by health care professionals who have no association with BCI. A Participant has this right only if BCI's denial decision involved:

- The Medical Necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care, or effectiveness of a Participant's health care service or supply, or
- BCI's determination that a Participant's health care service or supply was Investigational.

A Participant must first exhaust BCI's internal grievance and appeal process. Exhaustion of that process includes completing all levels of appeal. Exhaustion of the appeals process is not required if BCI failed to respond to a standard appeal within thirty-five (35) days in writing or to an urgent appeal within three business days of the date the Participant filed the appeal, unless the Participant requested or agreed to a delay. BCI may also agree to waive the exhaustion requirement for an external review request. The Participant may file for an internal urgent appeal with BCI and for an expedited external review with the Idaho Department of Insurance at the same time if the Participant's request qualifies as an "urgent care request" defined below.

A Participant may submit a written request for an external review to:

Idaho Department of Insurance  
ATTN: External Review  
700 W State St, 3rd Floor  
Boise ID 83720-0043

For more information and for an external review request form:

- See the department's Website, [www.doi.idaho.gov](http://www.doi.idaho.gov), or
- Call the department's telephone number, (208) 334-4250, or toll-free in Idaho, 1-800-721-3272.

A Participant may act as their own representative in a request or a Participant may name another person, including a Participant's treating health care provider, to act as an authorized representative for a request. If a Participant wants someone else to represent them, a Participant must include a signed BCI's "Appointment of an Authorized Representative" form with the request before BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, determines that an individual has been authorized to act on behalf of the Participant. The form can be found on BCI's Website [www.bcidaho.com](http://www.bcidaho.com). A Participant's written external review request to the Department of Insurance must include a completed form authorizing the release of any medical records the independent review organization may require to reach a decision on the external review. The department will not act on an external review request without a Participant's completed authorization form. If the request qualifies for external review, BCI's final Adverse Benefit Determination will be reviewed by an independent review organization selected by the Department of Insurance. The Plan Administrator will pay the costs of the review.

**Standard External Review Request:** A Participant must file a written external review request with the Department of Insurance within four (4) months after the date BCI issues a final notice of denial.

1. Within seven (7) days after the Department of Insurance receives the request, the Department of Insurance will send a copy to BCI.
2. Within fourteen (14) days after BCI receives the request from the Department of Insurance, we will review the request for eligibility. Within five (5) business days after BCI completes that review, we will notify the Participant and the Department of Insurance in writing if the request is eligible or what additional information is needed. If BCI denies the eligibility for review, the Participant may appeal that determination to the Department.
3. If the request is eligible for review, the Department of Insurance will assign an independent review organization to your review within seven (7) days of receipt of BCI's notice. The Department of Insurance will also notify the Participant in writing.
4. Within seven (7) days of the date you receive the Department of Insurance's notice of assignment to an independent review organization, the Participant may submit any additional information in writing to the independent review organization that they want the organization to consider in its review.
5. The independent review organization must provide written notice of its decision to the Participant, BCI and to the Department of Insurance within forty-two (42) days after receipt of an external review request.

**Expedited External Review Request:** A Participant may file a written "urgent care request" with the Department of Insurance for an expedited external review of a pre-service or concurrent service denial. The Participant may file for an internal urgent appeal with BCI and for an expedited external review with the Idaho Department of Insurance at the same time.

"Urgent care request" means a claim relating to an admission, availability of care, continued stay or health care service for which the covered person received emergency services but has not been discharged from a facility, or any Pre-Service Claim or concurrent care claim for medical care or treatment for which application of the time periods for making a regular external review determination:

1. Could seriously jeopardize the life or health of the Participant or the ability of the Participant to regain maximum function;
2. In the opinion of the Provider with knowledge of the covered person's medical condition, would subject the Participant to severe pain that cannot be adequately managed without the disputed care or treatment; or
3. The treatment would be significantly less effective if not promptly initiated.

The Department of Insurance will send your request to us. BCI will determine, no later than the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) full business day, if the request is eligible for review. BCI will notify the Participant and the Department of Insurance no later than one (1) business day after BCI's decision if the request is eligible. If BCI denies the eligibility for review, the Participant may appeal that determination to the Department of Insurance.

If the request is eligible for review, the Department of Insurance will assign an independent review organization to the review upon receipt of BCI's notice. The Department of Insurance will also notify the Participant. The independent review organization must provide notice of its decision to the Participant, BCI and to the Department of Insurance within seventy-two (72) hours after the date of receipt of the external review request. The independent review organization must provide written confirmation of its decision within forty-eight (48) hours of notice of its decision. If the decision reverses BCI's denial, BCI will notify the Participant and the Department of Insurance of BCI's intent to pay for the covered benefit as soon as reasonably practicable, but not later than one (1) business day after receiving notice of the decision.

**Binding Nature of the External Review Decision:**

The external review decision by the independent review organization will be final and binding on the Trust and Participant.

**This means that if the Participant elects to request external review, the Participant will be bound by the decision of the independent review organization. The Participant will not have any further opportunity for review of BCI's denial after the independent review organization issues its final decision.** If the Participant chooses not to use the external review process, other options for resolving a disputed claim may include mediation, arbitration or filing an action in court.

Under Idaho law, the independent review organization is immune from any claim relating to its opinion rendered or acts or omissions performed within the scope of its duties unless performed in bad faith or involving gross negligence.

**XVII. Reimbursement of Benefits Paid by Mistake**

If BCI mistakenly makes payment for benefits on behalf of an Enrollee or their Eligible Dependent(s) that the Enrollee or their Eligible Dependent(s) is not entitled to under this Plan, the Enrollee must reimburse the erroneous payment to BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator.

The reimbursement is due and payable as soon as BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, notifies the Enrollee and requests reimbursement. BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, may also recover such erroneous payment from any other person or Provider to whom the payments were made. If reimbursement is not made in a timely manner, BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, may reduce benefits or reduce an allowance for benefits as a set-off toward reimbursement.

Even though BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, may elect to continue to provide benefits after mistakenly paying benefits, BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, may still enforce this provision. This provision is in addition to, not instead of, any other remedy BCI, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, may have at law or in equity.

**XVIII. Subrogation and Reimbursement Rights of Blue Cross of Idaho**

The benefits of this Plan will be available to a Participant when the Participant is injured, suffers harm or incurs loss due to any act, omission, or defective or unreasonably hazardous product or service of another person, firm, corporation or entity (hereinafter referred to as "third party"). To the extent that such benefits for Covered Services are provided or paid for by Blue Cross of Idaho, on behalf of the Plan Administrator under this Plan or any other Blue Cross of Idaho plan, agreement, certificate, contract or plan, Blue Cross of Idaho, on behalf of the Plan Administrator shall be subrogated and succeed to the rights of the Participant or, in the event of the Participant's death, to the rights of their heirs, estate, and/or personal representative.

As a condition of receiving benefits for Covered Services in such an event, the Participant or their personal representative shall furnish Blue Cross of Idaho in writing with the names, addresses, and contact information of the third party or parties that caused or are responsible, or may have caused or may be responsible for such injury, harm or loss, and all facts and information known to the Participant or their personal representative concerning the injury, harm or loss. In addition, the Participant shall furnish the name and contact information of the liability insurer and its adjuster of the third party, including the policy number, of any liability insurance that covers, or may cover, such injury, harm, or loss.

Blue Cross of Idaho, on behalf of the Plan Administrator may at its option elect to enforce either or both of its rights of subrogation and reimbursement.

Subrogation is taking over the Participant's right to receive payments from other parties. The Participant or their legal representative will transfer to Blue Cross of Idaho, on behalf of the Plan Administrator any rights the Participant may have to take legal action arising from the injury, harm or loss to recover any sums paid on behalf of the Participant. Thus, Blue Cross of Idaho, on behalf of the Plan Administrator may initiate litigation at its sole discretion, in the name of the Participant, against any third party or parties. Furthermore, the Participant shall fully cooperate with Blue Cross of Idaho in its investigation, evaluation, litigation and/or collection efforts in connection with the injury, harm or loss and shall do nothing whatsoever to prejudice Blue Cross of Idaho's subrogation rights and efforts. Blue Cross of Idaho, on behalf of the Plan Administrator will be reimbursed in full for all benefits paid even if the Participant is not made whole or fully compensated by the recovery. Moreover, Blue Cross of Idaho and the Plan Administrator are not responsible for any attorney's fees, other expenses or costs incurred by the Participant without the prior written consent of Blue Cross of Idaho and, therefore, the "common fund" doctrine does not apply to any amounts recovered by any attorney the Participant hires regardless of whether amounts recovered are used to repay benefits paid by Blue Cross of Idaho, on behalf of the Plan Administrator.

Additionally, Blue Cross of Idaho, on behalf of the Plan Administrator may at its option elect to enforce its right of reimbursement from the Participant, or their legal representative, of any benefits paid from monies recovered as a result of the injury, harm or loss. The Participant shall fully cooperate with Blue Cross of Idaho, on behalf of the Plan Administrator in its investigation, evaluation, litigation and/or collection efforts in connection with the injury, harm or loss and shall do nothing whatsoever to prejudice the Plans reimbursement rights and efforts.

The Participant shall pay Blue Cross of Idaho, on behalf of the Plan Administrator as the first priority, and Blue Cross of Idaho shall have a constructive trust and an equitable lien on, all amounts from any recovery by suit, settlement or otherwise from any third party or parties or from any third party's or parties' insurer(s), indemnitor(s) or underwriter(s), to the extent of benefits provided by Blue Cross of Idaho, on behalf of the Plan Administrator under this Plan, regardless of how the recovery is allocated (*i. e.*, pain and suffering) and whether the recovery makes the Participant whole. Thus, Blue Cross of Idaho will be reimbursed by the Participant, or their legal representative, from monies recovered as a result of the injury, harm or loss, for all benefits paid even if the Participant is not made whole or fully compensated by the recovery. Moreover, Blue Cross of Idaho and the Plan Administrator are not responsible for any attorney's fees, other expenses or costs incurred by the Participant without the prior written consent of Blue Cross of Idaho and, therefore, the "common fund" doctrine does not apply to any amounts recovered by any attorney the Participant hires regardless of whether amounts recovered are used to repay benefits paid by Blue Cross of Idaho, on behalf of the Plan Administrator.

To the extent that Blue Cross of Idaho, on behalf of the Plan Administrator provides or pays benefits for Covered Services, Blue Cross of Idaho's rights of subrogation and reimbursement extend to any right the Participant has to recover from the Participant's insurer, or under the Participant's "Medical Payments" coverage or any "Uninsured Motorist," "Underinsured Motorist," or other similar coverage provisions, and workers' compensation benefits.

Blue Cross of Idaho, on behalf of the Plan Administrator shall have the right, at its option, to seek reimbursement from, or enforce its right of subrogation against, the Participant, the Participant's personal representative, a special needs trust, or any trust, person or vehicle that holds any payment or recovery from or on behalf of the Participant including the Participant's attorney.

Blue Cross of Idaho's subrogation and reimbursement rights shall take priority over the Participant's rights both for benefits provided and payments made by Blue Cross of Idaho, and for benefits to be provided or payments to be made by Blue Cross of Idaho in the future on account of the injury, harm or loss giving rise to Blue Cross of Idaho's subrogation and reimbursement rights. Further, the Plan's subrogation and reimbursement rights for such benefits and payments provided or to be provided are primary and take precedence over the rights of the Participant, even if there are deficiencies in any recovery or insufficient financial resources available to the third party or parties to totally satisfy all of the claims and judgments of the Participant and Blue Cross of Idaho.

Collections or recoveries made by a Participant for such injury, harm or loss in excess of such benefits provided and payments made shall first be allocated to such future benefits and payments that would otherwise be owed by the Plan on account of the injury, harm or loss giving rise to Blue Cross of Idaho's subrogation and reimbursement rights, and shall constitute a Special Credit applicable to such future benefits and payments that would otherwise be owed by this Plan, or any subsequent Plan provided by this Trust. Thereafter, Blue Cross of Idaho, on behalf of the Plan Administrator, shall have no obligation to provide any further benefits or make any further payment until the Participant has incurred medical expenses in treatment of such injury, harm or loss equal to such Special Credit.

**XIX. Statements**

In the absence of fraud, all statements made by an applicant, or the planholder, or by an enrolled person shall be deemed representations and not warranties, and no statement made for the purpose of acquiring coverage under the Plan shall void such coverage under the Plan or reduce benefits unless contained in a written instrument signed by the Plan Sponsor or the enrolled person.

**XX. Out of Area Services  
Overview**

BCI has a variety of relationships with other Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield Licensees referred to generally as "Inter-Plan Arrangements." These Inter-Plan Arrangements operate under rules and procedures issued by the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association ("Association"). Whenever Participants access healthcare services outside the geographic area BCI serves, the claim for those services may be processed through one of these Inter-Plan Arrangements. The Inter-Plan Arrangements are described generally below.

Typically, when accessing care outside the geographic area BCI serves, Participants obtain care from healthcare Providers that have a contractual agreement ("participating Providers") with the local Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield Licensee in that other geographic area ("Host Blue"). In some instances, Participants may obtain care from healthcare Providers in the Host Blue geographic area that do not have a contractual agreement ("nonparticipating Providers") with the Host Blue. BCI remains responsible for fulfilling its contractual obligations to you. BCI payment practices in both instances are described below.

This disclosure describes how claims are administered for Inter-Plan Arrangements and the fees that are charged in connection with Inter-Plan Arrangements. Note that Dental Care Benefits, except when not paid as medical claims/benefits, and those Prescription Drug Benefits or Vision Care Benefits that may be administered by a third party contracted by BCI to provide the specific service or services are not processed through Inter-Plan Arrangements.

**A. BlueCard® Program**

The BlueCard® Program is an Inter-Plan Arrangement. Under this Arrangement, when Participants access Covered Services within the geographic area served by a Host Blue/outside the geographic area BCI serve, the Host Blue will be responsible for contracting and handling all interactions with its participating healthcare Providers. The financial terms of the BlueCard Program are described generally below.

**1. Liability Calculation Method Per Claim – In General**

**a. Participant Liability Calculation**

Unless subject to a fixed dollar copayment, the calculation of the Participant liability on claims for Covered Services will be based on the lower of the participating Provider's billed charges for Covered Services or the negotiated price made available to BCI by the Host Blue.

b. The Trust Liability Calculation

The calculation of the Trust liability on claims for Covered Services processed through the BlueCard Program will be based on the negotiated price made available to BCI by the Host Blue under the contract between the Host Blue and the Provider. Sometimes, this negotiated price may be greater for a given service or services than the billed charge in accordance with how the Host Blue has negotiated with its participating healthcare Provider(s) for specific healthcare services. In cases where the negotiated price exceeds the billed charge, the Trust may be liable for the excess amount even when the Participant's deductible has not been satisfied. This excess amount reflects an amount that may be necessary to secure (a) the Provider's participation in the network and/or (b) the overall discount negotiated by the Host Blue. In such a case, the entire contracted price is paid to the Provider, even when the contracted price is greater than the billed charge.

**2. Claims Pricing**

Host Blues determine a negotiated price, which is reflected in the terms of each Host Blue's Provider contracts. The negotiated price made available to BCI by the Host Blue may be represented by one of the following:

- (i) An actual price. An actual price is a negotiated rate of payment in effect at the time a claim is processed without any other increases or decreases; or
- (ii) An estimated price. An estimated price is a negotiated rate of payment in effect at the time a claim is processed, reduced or increased by a percentage to take into account certain payments negotiated with the Provider and other claim- and non-claim-related transactions. Such transactions may include, but are not limited to, anti-fraud and abuse recoveries, Provider refunds not applied on a claim-specific basis, retrospective settlements and performance-related bonuses or incentives; or
- (iii) An average price. An average price is a percentage of billed charges for Covered Services in effect at the time a claim is processed representing the aggregate payments negotiated by the Host Blue with all of its healthcare Providers or a similar classification of its Providers and other claim- and non-claim-related transactions. Such transactions may include the same ones as noted above for an estimated price.

The Host Blue determines whether it will use an actual, estimated or average price. The use of estimated or average pricing may result in a difference (positive or negative) between the price the Trust pay on a specific claim and the actual amount the Host Blue pays to the Provider. However, the BlueCard Program requires that the amount paid by the Participant and the Trust is a final price; no future price adjustment will result in increases or decreases to the pricing of past claims.

Any positive or negative differences in estimated or average pricing are accounted for through variance accounts maintained by the Host Blue and are incorporated into future claim prices. As a result, the amounts charged to the Trust will be adjusted in a following year, as necessary, to account for over- or underestimation of the past years' prices. The Host Blue will not receive compensation from how the estimated price or average price methods, described above, are calculated. Because all amounts paid are final, neither positive variance account amounts (funds available to be paid in the following year), nor negative variance amounts (the funds needed to be received in the following year), are due to



or from the Trust. If the Trust terminates, you will not receive a refund or charge from the variance account.

Variance account balances are small amounts relative to the overall paid claims amounts and will be liquidated/drawn down over time. The timeframe for their liquidation depends on variables, including, but not limited to, overall volume/number of claims processed and variance account balance. Variance account balances may earn interest at the federal funds or similar rate. Host Blues may retain interest earned on funds held in variance accounts.

### **3. BlueCard Program Fees and Compensation**

The Trust understands and agrees to reimburse BCI for certain fees and compensation which BCI are obligated under the BlueCard Program to pay to the Host Blues, to the Association and/or to vendors of BlueCard Program-related services. The specific BlueCard Program fees and compensation that are charged to the Trust are set forth in Appendix A. BlueCard Program Fees and compensation may be revised from time to time as described in section G. below.

## **B. Special Cases: Value-Based Programs**

### *Value-Based Programs Overview*

The Trust's Participants may access Covered Services from Providers that participate in a Host Blue's Value-Based Program. Value-Based Programs may be delivered either through the BlueCard Program or a Negotiated Arrangement. These Value-Based Programs may include, but are not limited to, Accountable Care Organizations, Global Payment/Total Cost of Care arrangements, Patient Centered Medical Homes and Shared Savings arrangements.

### *Value-Based Programs under the BlueCard Program Value-Based Programs Administration*

Under Value-Based Programs, a Host Blue may pay Providers for reaching agreed-upon cost/quality goals in the following ways:

The Host Blue may pass these Provider payments to BCI, which BCI will pass directly on to the Trust as either an amount included in the price of the claim or an amount charged separately in addition to the claim.

When such amounts are included in the price of the claim, the claim may be billed using one of the following pricing methods, as determined by the Host Blue:

- (i) **Actual Pricing:** The charge to accounts for Value-Based Programs incentives/Shared Savings settlements is part of the claim. These charges are passed to the Trust via an enhanced Provider fee schedule.
- (ii) **Supplemental Factor:** The charge to accounts for Value-Based Programs incentives/Shared Savings settlements is a supplemental amount that is included in the claim as an amount based on a specified supplemental factor (e.g., a small percentage increase in the claim amount). The supplemental factor may be adjusted from time to time.

When such amounts are billed separately from the price of the claim, they may be billed as follows:

- **Per Member Per Month (PMPM) Billings:** Per Member Per Month billings for Value-Based Programs incentives/Shared Savings settlements to accounts are outside of the claim system. BCI will pass these Host Blue charges directly through to the Trust as a separately identified amount on the group billings.

The amounts used to calculate either the supplemental factors for estimated pricing or PMPM billings are fixed amounts that are estimated to be necessary to finance the cost of a particular Value-Based Program. Because amounts are estimates, there may be positive or negative differences based on actual experience, and such differences will be accounted for in a variance account maintained by the Host Blue (in the same manner as described in the BlueCard claim pricing section above) until the end of the applicable Value-Based Program payment and/or reconciliation measurement period. The amounts needed to fund a Value-Based Program may be changed before the end of the measurement period if it is determined that amounts being collected are projected to exceed the amount necessary to fund the program or if they are projected to be insufficient to fund the program.

At the end of the Value-Based Program payment and/or reconciliation measurement period for these arrangements, Host Blues will take one of the following actions:

- Use any surplus in funds in the variance account to fund Value-Based Program payments or reconciliation amounts in the next measurement period.
- Address any deficit in funds in the variance account through an adjustment to the PMPM billing amount or the reconciliation billing amount for the next measurement period.

The Host Blue will not receive compensation resulting from how estimated, average or PMPM price methods, described above, are calculated. If the Trust terminates, you will not receive a refund or charge from the variance account. This is because any resulting surpluses or deficits would be eventually exhausted through prospective adjustment to the settlement billings in the case of Value-Based Programs. The measurement period for determining these surpluses or deficits may differ from the term of this Plan.

Variance account balances are small amounts relative to the overall paid claims amounts and will be liquidated/drawn down over time. The timeframe for their liquidation depends on variables, including, but not limited to, overall volume/number of claims processed and variance account balance. Variance account balances may earn interest, and interest is earned at the federal funds or similar rate. Host Blues may retain interest earned on funds held in variance accounts.

Note: Participants will not bear any portion of the cost of Value-Based Programs except when a Host Blue uses either average pricing or actual pricing to pay Providers under Value-Based Programs.

#### *Care Coordinator Fees*

Host Blues may also bill BCI for Care Coordinator Fees for Provider services which we will pass on to the Trust as follows:

1. PMPM billings; or
2. Individual claim billings through applicable care coordination codes from the most current editions of either Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) published by the American Medical Association (AMA) or Healthcare Common Procedure Coding System (HCPCS) published by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

As part of this Plan, BCI and the Trust will not impose Participant Cost Sharing for Care Coordinator Fees.

#### *Value-Based Programs under Negotiated Arrangements*

If BCI has entered into a Negotiated Arrangement with a Host Blue to provide Value-Based Programs to the Trust's Participants, BCI will follow the same procedures for Value-Based Programs administration and Care Coordination Fees as noted in the BlueCard Program section.

Exception: For negotiated arrangements, when Control/Home Licensees have negotiated with accounts to

waive member Cost Sharing for care coordinator fees, the following provision will apply: As part of this Plan, BCI and the Trust have agreed to waive Participant Cost Sharing for care coordinator fees.

**C. Prepayment Review and Return of Overpayments**

If a Host Blue conducts prepayment review activities including, but not limited to, data mining, itemized bill reviews, secondary claim code editing, and DRG audits, the Host Blue may bill BCI up to a maximum of 16 percent of the savings identified, unless an alternative reimbursement arrangement is agreed upon by BCI and the Host Blue, and these fees may be charged to the Trust. If a Host Blue engages a third party to perform these activities on its behalf, the Host Blue may bill BCI the lesser of the full amount of the third-party fees or up to 16 percent of the savings identified, unless an alternative reimbursement arrangement is agreed upon by BCI and the Host Blue, and these fees may be charged to the Trust.

Recoveries from a Host Blue or its participating and nonparticipating Providers can arise in several ways, including, but not limited to, anti-fraud and abuse recoveries, audits/healthcare Provider/hospital bill audits, credit balance audits, utilization review refunds and unsolicited refunds. Recoveries will be applied so that corrections will be made, in general, on either a claim-by-claim or prospective basis. If recovery amounts are passed on a claim-by-claim basis from a Host Blue to BCI they will be credited to the Trust's account. In some cases, the Host Blue will engage a third party to assist in identification or collection of recovery amounts. The fees of such a third party may be charged to the Trust as a percentage of the recovery.

Unless otherwise agreed to by the Host Blue, for retroactive cancellations of membership, BCI will request the Host Blue to provide full refunds from participating healthcare Providers for a period of only one year after the date of the Inter-Plan financial settlement process for the original claim. For Care Coordinator Fees associated with Value-Based Programs, BCI will request such refunds for a period of only up to ninety (90) days from the termination notice transaction on the payment innovations delivery platform. In some cases, recovery of claim payments associated with a retroactive cancellation may not be possible if, as an example, the recovery (a) conflicts with the Host Blue's state law or healthcare Provider contracts, (b) would result from Shared Savings and/or Provider Incentive arrangements or (c) would jeopardize the Host Blue's relationship with its participating healthcare Providers, notwithstanding to the contrary any other provision of this Plan.

**D. Inter-Plan Programs: Federal/State Taxes/Surcharges/Fees**

In some instances, federal or state laws or regulations may impose a surcharge, tax or other fee that applies to self-funded accounts. If applicable, BCI will disclose any such surcharge, tax or other fee to the Trust, which will be the Trust liability.

**E. Nonparticipating Providers Outside BCI Service Area**

*Please refer to the Out-of-Area Care section in this Plan.*

**F. Blue Cross Blue Shield Global Core**

**1. General Information**

If Participants are outside the United States, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands (hereinafter: "BlueCard service area"), they may be able to take advantage of BCBS Global Core when accessing Covered Services. BCBS Global Core is unlike the BlueCard Program available in the BlueCard service area in certain ways. For instance, although BCBS Global Core assists Participants with accessing a network of Inpatient, outpatient and professional Providers, the network is not served by a Host Blue. As such, when Participants receive care from Providers outside the BlueCard service area, the Participants will typically have to pay the Providers and submit the claims themselves to obtain reimbursement for these services.

- **Inpatient Services**

In most cases, if Participants contact the BCBS Global Core Service Center for assistance, hospitals will not require Participants to pay for covered Inpatient services, except for their deductibles, Cost Sharing, etc. In such cases, the hospital will submit Participant claims to the BCBS Global Core service center to initiate claims processing. However, if the Participant paid in full at the time of service, the Participant must submit a claim to obtain reimbursement for Covered Services. **Participants must contact Blue Cross of Idaho to obtain precertification for non-emergency Inpatient services.**

- **Outpatient Services**

Physicians, urgent care centers and other outpatient Providers located outside the BlueCard service area will typically require Participants to pay in full at the time of service. Participants must submit a claim to obtain reimbursement for Covered Services.

- **Submitting a BCBS Global Core Claim**

When Participants pay for Covered Services outside the BlueCard service area, they must submit a claim to obtain reimbursement. For institutional and professional claims, Participants should complete a BCBS Global Core claim form and send the claim form with the Provider's itemized bill(s) to the BCBS Global Core service center address on the form to initiate claims processing. The claim form is available from Blue Cross of Idaho, the BCBS Global Core service center, or online at [www.bcbsglobalcore.com](http://www.bcbsglobalcore.com). If Participants need assistance with their claim submissions, they should call the BCBS Global Core service center at 1.800.810.BLUE (2583) or call collect at 1.804.673.1177, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

## **2. BCBS Global Core-Related Fees**

The Trust understands and agrees to reimburse Blue Cross of Idaho for certain fees and compensation which we are obligated under applicable Inter-Plan Arrangement requirements to pay to the Host Blues, to the Association and/or to vendors of Inter-Plan Arrangement-related services. The specific fees and compensation that are charged to the Trust under BCBS Global Core are set forth in Appendix A. Fees and compensation under applicable Inter-Plan Arrangements may be revised from time to time as provided for in section G. below.

## **G. Modifications or Changes to Inter-Plan Arrangement Fees or Compensation**

Modifications or changes to Inter-Plan Arrangement fees are generally made effective Jan. 1 of the calendar year, but they may occur at any time during the year. In the case of any such modifications or changes, BCI shall provide the Trust with at least thirty (30) days' advance written notice of any modification or change to such Inter-Plan Arrangement fees or compensation describing the change and the effective date thereof and the Trust right to terminate this Agreement without penalty by giving written notice of termination before the effective date of the change. If the Trust fails to respond to the notice and does not terminate this Agreement during the notice period, the Trust will be deemed to have approved the proposed changes, and BCI will then allow such modifications to become part of this Agreement.

## **XXI. Coverage and Benefits Determinations**

BCI is vested with authority and discretion to determine eligibility for coverage and whether a claim for benefits is covered under the terms of this Plan, based on all the terms and provisions set forth in this Plan, and also to determine the amount of benefits owed on claims which are covered.

## **XXII. Individual Benefits Management**

Individual Benefits Management allows BCI to provide alternative benefits in place of specified Covered Services when alternative benefits allow the Participant to achieve optimum health care in the most cost-effective way.

The decision to allow alternative benefits will be made by BCI in its sole and absolute discretion on a case-by-case basis. BCI may allow alternative benefits in place of specified Covered Services when a Participant, or the Participant's legal guardian, and their Physician concur in the request for and the advisability of alternative benefits. BCI reserves the right to modify, limit, or cease providing alternative benefits at any time.

A determination to cover alternative benefits for a Participant shall not be deemed to waive, alter, or affect BCI's right to reject any other requests or recommendations for alternative benefits.

## **XXIII. Health Care Providers Outside the United States**

The benefits available under this Plan are also available to Participants traveling or living outside the United States. The Inpatient Notification and Prior Authorization requirements will apply. If the Provider is a Contracting Provider with BlueCard, the Contracting Provider will submit claims for reimbursement on behalf of the Participant. Reimbursement for Covered Services will be made directly to the Contracting Provider. If the Health Care Provider does not participate with BlueCard, the Participant will be responsible for payment of services and submitting a claim for reimbursement to BCI. BCI will require the original claim along with an English translation. It is the Participant's responsibility to provide this information.

BCI will reimburse covered Prescription Drugs purchased outside the United States by Participants who live outside the United States where no suitable alternative exists. Reimbursement will also be made in instances where Participants are traveling and new drug therapy is initiated for acute conditions or where emergency replacement of drugs originally prescribed and purchased in the United States is necessary. The reimbursable supply of drugs in travel situations will be limited to an amount necessary to assure continuation of therapy during the travel period and for a reasonable period thereafter.

Finally, there are no benefits for services, supplies, drugs or other charges that are provided outside the United States, which if had been provided in the United States, would not be a Covered Service under this Plan.