

2017

Annual Notices

Table of Contents

Medicare Part D Notice	2
Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act.....	4
Newborns’ and Mothers’ Health Protection Act.....	4
HIPAA Notice of Special Enrollment Rights	5
Michelle’s Law	5
Premium Assistance Under Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP).....	6



Medicare Part D Notice

Important Notice from City of Mount Vernon About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare

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

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

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

When Can You Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

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

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

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

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your City of Mount Vernon coverage *will not* be affected. See below for more information about what happens to your current coverage if you join a Medicare drug plan.

Since the existing prescription drug coverage under City of Mount Vernon Welfare Plan is creditable (e.g., as good as Medicare coverage), you can retain your existing prescription drug coverage and choose not to enroll in a Part D plan; or you can enroll in a Part D plan as a supplement to, or in lieu of, your existing prescription drug coverage.

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

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

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

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

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

Contact the person listed below for further information. NOTE: You'll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, and if this coverage through City of Mount Vernon changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time.

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

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

For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage:

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

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

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

Date:	January 1, 2017
Name of Entity/Sender:	City of Mount Vernon
Contact-Position/Office:	Human Resources
Address:	910 Cleveland Avenue Mt Vernon, WA 98273
Phone Number:	360.336.0638

Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act

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

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

These benefits will be provided subject to the same deductibles and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under this plan.

Therefore, the following deductibles and coinsurance apply: HSA-\$1,500 individual deductible and 20% coinsurance; PPO - \$0 individual deductible and 10% coinsurance. If you would like more information on WHCRA benefits, call your plan administrator 360.336.0638.

Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act

Group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under Federal law, restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less than 96 hours following a cesarean section. However, Federal law generally does not prohibit the mother's or newborn's attending provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable). In any case, plans and issuers may not, under Federal law, require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan or the insurance issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours). If you would like more information on maternity benefits, call your plan administrator at 360.336.0638.

HIPAA Notice of Special Enrollment Rights

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

- Lose other health insurance or group health plan coverage. You must request enrollment within 31 days after the loss of other coverage.
- Gain a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption. You must request medical plan enrollment within 31 days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.
- Lose Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage because you are no longer eligible. You must request medical plan enrollment within 60 days after the loss of such coverage.

If you request a change due to a special enrollment event within the 31 day timeframe, coverage will be effective the date of birth, adoption or placement for adoption. For all other events, coverage will be effective the first of the month following your request for enrollment. In addition, you may enroll in City of Mount Vernon medical plan if you become eligible for a state premium assistance program under Medicaid or CHIP. You must request

enrollment within 60 days after you gain eligibility for medical plan coverage. If you request this change, coverage will be effective the first of the month following your request for enrollment. Specific restrictions may apply, depending on federal and state law.

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

Michelle's Law

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

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

If your child will lose eligibility for coverage because of a medically necessary leave of absence from school and you want his or her coverage to be extended, notify Human Resources in writing as soon as the need for the leave is recognized. In addition, contact your child's health plan to see if any state laws requiring extended coverage may apply to his or her benefits.

Premium Assistance Under Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

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

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

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

If you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, as well as eligible under your employer plan, your employer must allow you to enroll in your employer plan if you aren’t already enrolled. This is called a “special enrollment” opportunity, and you must request coverage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium assistance. If you have questions about enrolling in your employer plan, contact the Department of Labor at askebsa.dol.gov or call 1-866-444-EBSA (3272).

If you live in one of the following states, you may be eligible for assistance paying your employer health plan premiums. The following list of states is current as of July 31, 2016. Contact your State for more information on eligibility —

ALABAMA – Medicaid	ARKANSAS – Medicaid
Website: www.myalhipp.com Phone: 1-855-692-5447	Website: http://myarhipp.com Phone: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)
ALASKA – Medicaid	COLORADO – Medicaid
The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment Program Website: myakhipp.com/ Phone: 1-866-251-4861 Email: CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com Medicaid Eligibility: dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/medicaid/default.aspx	Medicaid Website: colorado.gov/hcpf Medicaid Customer Contact Center: 1-800-221-3943

FLORIDA – Medicaid	MISSOURI – Medicaid
Website: flmedicaidtplecovery.com/hipp/ Phone: 1-877-357-3268	Website: dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm Phone: 573-751-2005
GEORGIA – Medicaid	MONTANA – Medicaid
Website: dch.georgia.gov/medicaid <i>Click on Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP)</i> Phone: 404-656-4507	Website: dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP Phone: 1-800-694-3084
INDIANA – Medicaid	NEBRASKA – Medicaid
Healthy Indiana Plan for low-income adults 19-64: Website: hip.in.gov Phone: 1-877-438-4479 All other Medicaid: Website: indianamedicaid.com Phone 1-800-403-0864	Website: dhhs.ne.gov/Children_Family_Services/AccessNebraska/Pages/accessnebraska_index.aspx Phone: 1-855-632-7633
IOWA – Medicaid	NEVADA – Medicaid
Website: dhs.state.ia.us/hipp/ Phone: 1-888-346-9562	Medicaid Website: dwss.nv.gov Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900
KANSAS – Medicaid	NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid
Website: kdheks.gov/hcf/ Phone: 1-785-296-3512	Website: dhhs.nh.gov/oii/documents/hippapp.pdf Phone: 603-271-5218
KENTUCKY – Medicaid	NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: chfs.ky.gov/dms/default.htm Phone: 1-800-635-2570	Medicaid Website: state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/ Medicaid Phone: 609-631-2392 CHIP Website: njfamilycare.org/index.html CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710
LOUISIANA – Medicaid	NEW YORK – Medicaid
Website: dhh.louisiana.gov/index.cfm/subhome/1/n/331 Phone: 1-888-695-2447	Website: nyhealth.gov/health_care/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-541-2831
MAINE – Medicaid	NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid
Website: maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/public-assistance Phone: 1-800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711	Website: ncdhhs.gov/dma Phone: 919-855-4100
MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP	NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid
Website: mass.gov/MassHealth Phone: 1-800-462-1120	Website: nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/ Phone: 1-844-854-4825
MINNESOTA – Medicaid	OKLAHOMA – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: http://mn.gov/dhs/ma/ Phone: 1-800-657-3739	Website: insureoklahoma.org Phone: 1-888-365-3742

OREGON – Medicaid	VERMONT– Medicaid
Website: oregonhealthykids.gov hijosaludablesoregon.gov Phone: 1-800-699-9075	Website: greenmountaincare.org/ Phone: 1-800-250-8427
PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid	VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: dhs.pa.gov/hipp Phone: 1-800-692-7462	Medicaid Website: coverva.org/programs_premium_assistance.cfm Medicaid Phone: 1-800-432-5924 CHIP Website: coverva.org/programs_premium_assistance.cfm CHIP Phone: 1-855-242-8282
RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid	WASHINGTON – Medicaid
Website: eohhs.ri.gov/ Phone: 401-462-5300	Website: hca.wa.gov/medicaid/premiumpymt/pages/index.aspx Phone: 1-800-562-3022 ext. 15473
SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid	WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid
Website: scdhhs.gov Phone: 1-888-549-0820	Website: dhr.wv.gov/bms/Medicaid%20Expansion/Pages/default.aspx Phone: 1-877-598-5820, HMS Third Party Liability
SOUTH DAKOTA – Medicaid	WISCONSIN – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: dss.sd.gov Phone: 1-888-828-0059	Website: dhs.wisconsin.gov/publications/p1/p10095.pdf Phone: 1-800-362-3002
TEXAS – Medicaid	WYOMING – Medicaid
Website: gethipptexas.com/ Phone: 1-800-440-0493	Website: https://wequalitycare.acs-inc.com/ Phone: 307-777-7531
UTAH – Medicaid and CHIP	
Medicaid Website: health.utah.gov/medicaid CHIP Website: health.utah.gov/chip Phone: 1-877-543-7669	

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since July 31, 2016, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration
dol.gov/ebsa
1-866-444-EBSA (3272)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
cms.hhs.gov
1-877-267-2323, Menu Option 4, Ext. 61565

OMB Control Number 1210-0137 (expires 10/31/2016)



Rev. 10/11/16