

NOVEMBER 2014

HEALTH INSURANCE CHOICES FOR 2015

For Unsettled Groups

For Employees of the State of New York who are in Negotiating Units that do **not** have agreements/awards with New York State effective October 1, 2011 or later, their Enrolled Dependents, COBRA Enrollees with their NYSHIP Benefits and Young Adult Option Enrollees. (Check with your agency Health Benefits Administrator or union if you are uncertain.)



INFORMATION & REMINDERS

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MAKE YOUR HEALTH PLAN CHOICES

This booklet explains the options available to you under the New York State Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP) for your health insurance and other elections. You may choose coverage under either The Empire Plan or one of the NYSHIP-approved Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) in your area.

Consider your options carefully. You may not change your option after the deadline except in special circumstances. (See your *NYSHIP General Information Book* and *Empire Plan Reports* or *HMO Reports* for details about changing options outside the Option Transfer Period). If you have questions after you have read the information in this booklet, contact your agency Health Benefits Administrator (HBA) or The Empire Plan administrators and HMOs directly.

RATES FOR 2015 AND DEADLINE FOR CHANGING PLANS

The Empire Plan and HMO rates for 2015 are mailed to your home and posted on our web site, NYSHIP Online, <https://www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits>, as soon as they are approved. Select your group if prompted, and then click on Health Benefits & Option Transfer. Choose Rates and Health Plan Choices.

The rate flyer announces the option change deadline and paycheck deduction dates. You have 30 days from the date your agency receives rate information to make a decision. Your agency HBA can help if you have questions. COBRA and Young Adult Option Enrollees may contact the Employee Benefits Division at 518-457-5754 or 1-800-833-4344 (U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands).

CHANGING YOUR 2015 PRE-TAX CONTRIBUTION PROGRAM STATUS (NOVEMBER 30, 2014 DEADLINE)

Pre-Tax does not apply to COBRA and Young Adult Option Enrollees.

Under the Pre-Tax Contribution Program (PTCP), your share of the health insurance premium is deducted from your wages before taxes are withheld, which may lower your tax liability.

NO ACTION IS REQUIRED TO KEEP YOUR CURRENT PTCP STATUS.

Your paycheck shows whether or not you are enrolled in PTCP.

- If you are enrolled in PTCP, your paycheck stub shows “Regular Before-Tax Health” in the Before-Tax Deductions section.
- If you are not enrolled in PTCP, your paycheck stub shows “Regular After-Tax Health” in the After-Tax Deductions section. Your health insurance premium is deducted from your wages after taxes are withheld.

New Enrollees

New enrollees must elect whether or not to participate in PTCP when enrolling for NYSHIP coverage. No election will be made automatically on the enrollee’s behalf. Your enrollment cannot be completed until you make a PTCP election.

PTCP Enrollment Limits Mid-Year Changes

Under Internal Revenue Service (IRS) rules, if you are enrolled in PTCP, you may change your pre-tax payroll deduction for health benefits during the tax year only after one of the following PTCP-qualifying events:

- Change in employee’s marital status
- Change in employee’s number of dependents
- Change in employment status of employee, spouse or dependent that affects eligibility for health benefits
- Dependent satisfies or ceases to satisfy eligibility requirements for health benefits
- Change in place of residence or worksite of the employee, spouse or dependent
- Significant change in health benefits and/or premium under NYSHIP
- Significant change in health benefits and/or premium under employee’s or dependent’s other employer’s plan
- COBRA events
- Judgment, decree or order regarding health benefits
- Medicare or Medicaid eligibility
- Leaves of absence
- HIPAA special enrollment rights

A request for change in your pre-tax deduction due to a qualifying event must be made within 30 days of the event (or within the waiting period if newly eligible), and delays may be expensive.

If you wish to change your pre-tax selection for 2015, see your agency HBA and complete a Health Insurance Transaction Form (PS-404) by November 30, 2014.

YOUR SHARE OF THE PREMIUM

The following does not apply to COBRA and Young Adult Option enrollees; they pay the full cost of coverage.

New York State helps pay for your health insurance coverage. After the State’s contribution, you are responsible for paying the balance of your premium, usually through biweekly deductions from your paycheck.

For both Empire Plan and HMO enrollees, the State will pay 90 percent of the cost of the premium for enrollee coverage and 75 percent for dependent coverage.

If you enroll in a NYSHIP HMO, the State’s dollar contribution for the hospital, medical/surgical and mental health and substance abuse components of your HMO premium will not exceed its dollar contribution for those components of The Empire Plan premium. For the prescription drug component of your HMO premium, the State pays the share noted above; the dollar amount is not limited by the cost of Empire Plan drug coverage.

As soon as they are available, 2015 rates will be mailed to your home and posted on our web site at <https://www.cs.ny.gov>. Click on Benefit Programs, then on NYSHIP Online. Select your group if prompted, and then click on Health Benefits & Option Transfer. Choose Rates and Health Plan Choices.

See your agency HBA to change your health insurance option, type of coverage or pre-tax status.

NO ACTION IS REQUIRED IF YOU DO NOT WISH TO MAKE CHANGES.

Changes are not automatic and deadlines apply. You must report any change that may affect your coverage to your agency HBA. See pages 1-2 in this booklet and your *NYSHIP General Information Book* for complete information.

LET YOUR AGENCY KNOW ABOUT CHANGES

You must notify your agency HBA if your home address or phone number changes. If you are an active employee of New York State and registered for MyNYSHIP, you may also make address and option changes online.

Changes in your family status, such as gaining or losing a dependent, may mean you need to change your health insurance coverage from Individual to Family or from Family to Individual. If you submit a timely request, you can make most changes any time, not just during the Option Transfer Period. See your *NYSHIP General Information Book* for details. Inform your agency HBA about any change promptly to ensure it is effective on the actual date of change in family status.

RETIRING OR LEAVING STATE SERVICE IN 2015?

If you continue your NYSHIP enrollment as a retiree or vestee, you may change your health insurance plan when your status changes. As a retiree or vestee, you may change health insurance options at any time once during a 12-month period. For more information on changing options as a retiree, ask your agency HBA for *2015 Choices for Retirees*.

ELIGIBLE FOR MEDICARE?

If you or a dependent is eligible for Medicare because of age or disability, see Medicare and NYSHIP on page 4 for important information. Also, please read this section if you or a dependent will be turning age 65 in 2015 or if you are planning to retire in the coming year and will be Medicare primary.

COMPARING YOUR NYSHIP OPTIONS

Choosing the health insurance plan that best meets your needs and the needs of your family requires careful consideration. As with most important purchases, there is more to consider than cost.

The first step in making a good choice is understanding the similarities and the differences among your NYSHIP options. There are two types of health insurance plans available to you under NYSHIP: The Empire Plan and NYSHIP HMOs. The Empire Plan is available to all employees. NYSHIP HMOs are available in various geographic areas of New York State. Depending on where you live or work, one or several NYSHIP HMOs will be available to you. The Empire Plan and NYSHIP HMOs are similar in many ways, but also have important differences.

BENEFITS

The Empire Plan and NYSHIP HMOs

- All NYSHIP plans provide a wide range of hospital, medical/surgical, and mental health and substance abuse coverage.
- All plans provide prescription drug coverage if you do not receive it through a union Employee Benefit Fund.

Benefits differ among plans. Read this booklet and the Empire Plan Certificate (available from your agency HBA) and HMO contracts (available from each HMO) carefully for details.

EXCLUSIONS

- All plans contain coverage exclusions for certain services and prescription drugs.
- Workers' compensation-related expenses and custodial care generally are excluded from coverage.

For details on a plan's exclusions, read the *Empire Plan Certificate*, the NYSHIP HMO contract, or check with the plan directly.

GEOGRAPHIC AREA SERVED

The Empire Plan

Benefits for covered services, not just urgent and emergency care, are available worldwide.

Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs)

- Coverage is available in each HMO's specific service area.
- An HMO may arrange for coverage of care received outside its service area at its discretion in certain circumstances.

BENEFITS PROVIDED BY THE EMPIRE PLAN AND ALL NYSHIP HMOS

- Inpatient medical/surgical hospital care
- Outpatient medical/surgical hospital services
- Physician services
- Emergency services*
- Laboratory services
- Radiology services
- Chemotherapy
- Radiation therapy
- Dialysis
- Diagnostic services
- Diabetic supplies
- Maternity, prenatal care
- Well-child care
- Chiropractic services
- Skilled nursing facility services
- Physical therapy
- Occupational therapy
- Speech therapy
- Prosthetics and durable medical equipment
- Orthotic devices
- Bone density tests
- Mammography
- Inpatient mental health services
- Outpatient mental health services
- Alcohol and substance abuse detoxification
- Inpatient alcohol rehabilitation
- Inpatient drug rehabilitation
- Outpatient alcohol and drug rehabilitation
- Family planning and certain infertility services (Call The Empire Plan administrators or NYSHIP HMO for details).
- Out-of-area emergencies
- Hospice benefits (at least 210 days)
- Home health care in lieu of hospitalization
- Prescription drug coverage including injectable and self-injectable medications, contraceptive drugs and devices and fertility drugs (unless you have coverage through a union Employee Benefit Fund)
- Enteral formulas covered through either HCAP for The Empire Plan or the NYSHIP HMO's prescription drug program (unless you have coverage through a union Employee Benefit Fund)
- Second opinion for cancer diagnosis

Please see the individual plan descriptions in this booklet to review the differences in coverage and out-of-pocket expenses. See plan documents for complete information on benefits.

*Some plans may exclude coverage for airborne ambulance services. Call The Empire Plan or your NYSHIP HMO for details.

NYSHIP'S YOUNG ADULT OPTION

During the Option Transfer Period, eligible adult children of NYSHIP enrollees can enroll in the Young Adult Option and current Young Adult Option enrollees will be able to switch plans. This option allows unmarried, young adult children up to age 30 to purchase their own NYSHIP coverage. The premium is the full cost of Individual coverage for the option selected.

Young Adult Option Web Site

For more information about the Young Adult Option, go to <https://www.cs.ny.gov/yao> and choose your group. This site is your best resource for information on NYSHIP's Young Adult Option. If you have additional questions, please contact the Employee Benefits Division at 518-457-5754 or 1-800-833-4344.

MEDICARE & NYSHIP

If you are an active employee, NYSHIP (The Empire Plan or a NYSHIP HMO) provides primary coverage for you and your dependents, regardless of age or disability. **Exceptions:** Medicare is primary for domestic partners age 65 or over, or for an active employee or dependent of an active employee with end-stage renal disease (following a 30-month coordination period).

NYSHIP requires you and your dependents to be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B when first eligible for Medicare coverage that pays primary to NYSHIP.

If you are planning to retire and you or your spouse is age 65 or older, contact your Social Security office three months before active employment ends to enroll in Medicare Parts A and B. Medicare becomes primary to your NYSHIP coverage the first day of the month following a “runout” period of 28 days after the end of the payroll period in which you retire.

If you or a dependent is eligible for Medicare coverage primary to NYSHIP and you don’t enroll in Parts A and B, The Empire Plan or HMO will not provide benefits for services Medicare would have paid if you or your dependent had enrolled.*

If you are planning to retire or vest in 2015, know how your NYSHIP benefits will be affected when Medicare is your primary coverage:

- **If you are enrolled in original Medicare (Parts A and B) and The Empire Plan:** Since Medicare does not provide coverage outside the United States, The Empire Plan pays primary for covered services received outside the United States.
- **If you enroll in a NYSHIP HMO Medicare Advantage Plan:** You replace your original (fee-for-service) Medicare coverage with benefits offered by the Medicare Advantage Plan. Benefits and networks under the HMO’s Medicare Advantage Plan may differ from your coverage as an active employee. To qualify for benefits, you must follow plan rules.
- **If you enroll in a NYSHIP HMO that coordinates coverage with Medicare:** You receive the same benefits from the HMO as an active employee and still qualify for original Medicare benefits if you receive treatment outside your HMO.

*If you are asked to pay a Part A premium, see your agency HBA for more information.

Medicare Part D is the Medicare prescription drug benefit for Medicare-primary persons. Medicare-primary enrollees and dependents in The Empire Plan are enrolled automatically in Empire Plan Medicare Rx, a Part D prescription drug program. NYSHIP Medicare Advantage HMOs also provide Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage. You can be enrolled in only one Medicare Part D plan at a time. Enrolling in a Medicare Part D plan separate from your NYSHIP coverage may drastically reduce your benefits overall. For example:

- If you are a Medicare-primary Empire Plan enrollee or dependent and get your prescription drug coverage through Empire Plan Medicare Rx and then you enroll in another Medicare Part D plan outside of NYSHIP, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will terminate your coverage in Empire Plan Medicare Rx. Since you must be enrolled in Empire Plan Medicare Rx to maintain Empire Plan coverage, in most cases, this means you and your covered dependents will lose all coverage under The Empire Plan.
- If you are enrolled in a NYSHIP Medicare Advantage HMO and then enroll in a Medicare Part D plan outside of NYSHIP, Medicare will terminate your enrollment in the NYSHIP Medicare Advantage HMO.

If you have been approved for Extra Help by Medicare, and you are enrolled in The Empire Plan or a NYSHIP Medicare Advantage HMO, you may be reimbursed for some or all of your Medicare Part D coverage. For information about qualifying for Extra Help, contact Medicare. If you have been approved for Extra Help, contact the Employee Benefits Division or your HMO.

If you receive prescription drug coverage through a union Employee Benefit Fund, contact the Fund for information about Medicare Part D.

For more information about NYSHIP and Medicare, see your *NYSHIP General Information Book* or ask your agency HBA for a copy of *2015 Choices for Retirees, Planning for Retirement or Medicare & NYSHIP*.

THE EMPIRE PLAN OR A NYSHIP HMO

WHAT'S NEW?

All NYSHIP Plans

- Beginning January 1, 2015, Social Security's definition of "spouse" will be expanded to include a same-sex spouse for the purpose of determining Medicare primacy. Therefore, an active employee's same-sex spouse, age 65 or older, will be Empire Plan primary, not Medicare primary.

The Empire Plan

- Beginning January 1, 2015, there will be no annual maximum for applied behavior analysis services for the treatment of autism spectrum disorder.

NYSHIP HMOs

- As of January 1, 2015, GHI HMO will no longer be offered under NYSHIP. HIP will offer coverage for the service areas formerly covered under GHI (220 and 350) with a few important changes. Delaware County will be moving from code 220 to 350, and Rockland County will not be covered under HIP. Remember, benefits differ from HMO to HMO. The benefits offered by GHI HMO will differ from those offered by HIP. If you currently have coverage under GHI, be sure to review your plan materials and any other related mailings carefully and make an informed selection during the Option Transfer Period.

THE EMPIRE PLAN

The Empire Plan is a unique plan designed exclusively for New York State's public employees. The Empire Plan has many managed care features, but enrollees are not required to choose a primary care physician and do not need referrals to see specialists. However, certain services, such as hospital and skilled nursing facility admissions, certain outpatient radiological tests, certain mental health and substance abuse treatment /services, home care and some prescription drugs, require preapproval. The New York State Department of Civil Service contracts with qualified companies to administer the Plan. The Empire Plan is self-insured.

The Empire Plan provides:

- Network and non-network inpatient and outpatient hospital coverage for medical, surgical and maternity care
- Medical and surgical coverage under the Participating Provider Program or the Basic Medical Program and Basic Medical Provider Discount Program if you choose a nonparticipating provider
- Home care services, durable medical equipment and certain medical supplies (including diabetic and ostomy supplies), enteral formulas and diabetic shoes through the Home Care Advocacy Program (HCAP)
- Chiropractic treatment and physical therapy coverage through the Managed Physical Medicine Program
- Inpatient and outpatient mental health and substance abuse coverage
- Prescription drug coverage
- Centers of Excellence Programs for cancer, transplants and infertility
- 24-hour Empire Plan NurseLine_{SM} for health information and support
- Worldwide coverage

Providers

Under The Empire Plan, you can choose from over 250,000 participating physicians and other providers and facilities nationwide, and from more than 68,000 participating pharmacies across the United States or a mail order pharmacy.

NYSHIP HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS

A Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) is a managed care system in a specific geographic area that provides comprehensive health care coverage through a network of providers.

- Coverage for services received outside the specified geographic area is limited. HMO enrollees who use doctors, hospitals or pharmacies outside the HMO's network must, in most cases, pay the full cost of services unless authorized by the HMO or in an emergency.
- Enrollees usually choose a primary care physician (PCP) from the HMO's network for routine medical care and for referrals to specialists and hospitals when medically necessary.

THE EMPIRE PLAN OR A NYSHIP HMO

- HMO enrollees usually pay a copayment as a per-visit fee or coinsurance (percentage of cost).
- HMOs have no annual deductible.
- Referrals to network specialists may be required.
- Claim forms rarely are required.

All NYSHIP HMOs provide a wide range of health services. Each offers a specific package of hospital, medical, surgical and preventive care benefits. These services are provided or arranged by the PCP selected by the enrollee from the HMO's staff or physician network.

All NYSHIP HMOs cover inpatient and outpatient hospital care at a network hospital and offer prescription drug coverage.*

NYSHIP HMOs are organized in one of two ways:

- A Network HMO provides medical services through its own health centers as well as outside participating physicians, medical groups and multispecialty medical centers.
- An Independent Practice Association (IPA) HMO provides medical services through private practice physicians who have contracted independently with the HMO to provide services in their offices.

*Unless prescription drug coverage is provided through a union Employee Benefit Fund.

Members enrolling in Network and IPA model HMOs may be able to select a doctor they already use if that doctor participates with the HMO.

See the individual HMO pages in this booklet for additional benefit information and to learn which HMOs serve your geographic area.

NYSHIP HMOs and Medicare

If you are Medicare primary, see page 4 for an explanation of how Medicare affects your NYSHIP HMO coverage.

SUMMARY OF BENEFITS AND COVERAGE

The *Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC)* is a standardized comparison document required by PPACA.

To view a copy of an SBC for The Empire Plan or a NYSHIP HMO, visit <https://www.cs.ny.gov/sbc/index.cfm>. If you do not have internet access, call 1-877-7-NYSHIP (1-877-769-7447) and select the Medical Program to request a copy of the SBC for The Empire Plan. If you need a NYSHIP HMO SBC, contact the HMO.

CONSIDER COST

The following does NOT apply to COBRA and Young Adult Option Enrollees.

When considering cost, think about all your costs throughout the year, not just your biweekly paycheck deduction. Keep in mind out-of-pocket expenses you are likely to incur during the year, such as copayments for prescriptions and other services, coinsurance and any costs of using providers or services not covered under the plan. Learn about the coverage plans might provide for expensive health conditions or unexpected or catastrophic illness or injury. Watch for the *NYSHIP Rates & Deadlines for 2015* flyer that will be mailed to your home and posted on our web site, <https://www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits>, as soon as rates are approved. Along with this booklet, which provides copayment information, *NYSHIP Rates & Deadlines for 2015* will provide the information you need to determine your annual cost under each of the available plans.

MAKING A CHOICE

Selecting a health insurance plan is an important personal decision. Only you know your family's lifestyle, health, budget and benefit preferences. Think about what health care you and your family might need during the next year. Review the plans and ask for more information. Here are several questions to consider:

- What is my premium for the health plan?
- What benefits does the plan have for office visits and other medical care? What is my share of the cost?
- What benefits does the plan have for prescription drugs? Will the medicine I take be covered under the plan? What is my share of the cost? What type of formulary does the plan have? Am I required to use the mail order pharmacy? (If you receive your drug coverage from a union Employee Benefit Fund, ask the Fund about your benefits).
- Does the plan cover special needs? How are durable medical equipment and other supplies covered? Are there any benefit limitations? (If you or one of your dependents has a medical or mental health/substance abuse condition requiring specific treatment or other special needs, check on coverage carefully. Don't assume you'll have coverage. Ask The Empire Plan administrators or HMOs about your specific treatment).
- Are routine office visits and urgent care covered for out-of-area college students or is only emergency health care covered?
- What benefits are available for catastrophic illness or injury?
- What choice of providers do I have under the plan? (Ask if the provider or facilities you use are covered). How would I consult a specialist if I needed one? Would I need a referral?
- How much paperwork is involved in the health plan? Do I have to fill out forms?

THINGS TO REMEMBER

- Gather as much information as possible.
- Consider the unique needs of yourself and your family.
- Compare the coverage and cost of your options.
- Look for a health plan that provides the best balance of cost and benefits for you.

HOW TO USE THE CHOICES BENEFIT CHARTS, PAGES 14 – 41

All NYSHIP plans must include a minimum level of benefits (see page 3). For example, The Empire Plan and all NYSHIP HMOs provide a paid-in-full benefit for medically necessary inpatient medical/surgical hospital care at network hospitals.

Use the charts to compare the plans. The charts list out-of-pocket expenses and benefit limitations effective January 1, 2015. See plan documents for complete information on benefit limitations.

To generate an easy-to-read, side-by-side comparison of the benefits provided by each of the NYSHIP plans in your area, use the NYSHIP Plan Comparison tool, available on the Department of Civil Service web site. Go to our homepage at <https://www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits>. Select your group if prompted and then choose Health Benefits & Option Transfer. Click on Rates and Health Plan Choices and then NYSHIP Plan Comparison. Select your group and the counties in which you live and work. Then, check the box next to the plans you want to compare and click on Compare Plans to generate the comparison table.

Note: Most benefits described in this booklet are subject to medical necessity and may involve limitations or exclusions. Please refer to plan documents, or call the plans directly for details.

IF YOU DECIDE TO CHANGE YOUR PLAN

The Empire Plan and NYSHIP HMOs are summarized in this booklet. The Empire Plan is available to all employees. NYSHIP HMOs are available to employees in areas where they live or work. Pick the plans that would serve your needs best and call each plan for details before you choose.

If you decide to change your plan:

- See your agency HBA before the Option Transfer deadline announced in the rate flyer.
- Complete the necessary Health Insurance Transaction Form (PS-404), or change your option online using MyNYSHIP if you are an active employee of a New York State agency.

THE EMPIRE PLAN & NYSHIP HMOs: SIMILARITIES & DIFFERENCES

Will I be covered for care I receive away from home?

The Empire Plan:

Yes. The Empire Plan provides worldwide coverage. However, access to network benefits is not guaranteed.

NYSHIP HMOs:

Under an HMO, you are always covered for emergency care. Some HMOs may provide coverage for routine care outside the HMO service area. Some HMOs provide coverage for college students away from home if the care is urgent or if follow-up care has been preauthorized. See the Out-of-Area benefit description on each HMO page for more information or contact the HMO directly.

If I am diagnosed with a serious illness, can I see a physician or go to a hospital that specializes in my illness?

The Empire Plan:

Yes. You can use the specialist of your choice. You have Basic Medical Program benefits for nonparticipating providers and Basic Medical Provider Discount Program benefits for nonparticipating providers who are part of The Empire Plan MultiPlan group. (See page 17 for more information on the Basic Medical Provider Discount Program). Your hospital benefits will differ depending on whether you choose a network or non-network hospital. (See page 9 for details).

NYSHIP HMOs:

You should expect to choose a participating physician and a participating hospital. Under certain circumstances, you may be able to receive a referral to a specialist care center outside the network.

Can I be sure I will not need to pay more than my copayment when I receive medical services?

The Empire Plan:

Your copayment should be your only expense if you receive medically necessary and covered services and you:

- Use a participating provider¹;
- Receive inpatient or covered outpatient hospital services at a network hospital and follow Benefits Management Program requirements.

NYSHIP HMOs:

As long as you receive medically necessary and covered services, follow HMO requirements and receive the appropriate referral (if required), your copayment or coinsurance should be your only expense.

¹ The Empire Plan does not guarantee that participating providers are available in all specialties or geographic locations.

Can I use the hospital of my choice?

The Empire Plan:

Yes. You have coverage worldwide, but your benefits differ depending on whether you choose a network or non-network hospital. Your benefits are highest at network hospitals participating in the BlueCross and BlueShield Association BlueCard® PPO Program, or for mental health or substance abuse care in the ValueOptions network.

Network hospital inpatient: Paid-in-full hospitalization benefits.

Network hospital outpatient and emergency care: Subject to network copayments.

Non-network hospital inpatient stays and outpatient services: 10 percent coinsurance for inpatient stays and the greater of 10 percent coinsurance or \$75 for outpatient services, up to the combined annual coinsurance maximum per enrollee; per enrolled spouse or domestic partner; per all enrolled dependent children combined (see page 17).

NYSHIP HMOs:

Except in an emergency, you generally do not have coverage at non-network hospitals unless authorized by the HMO.

What kind of care is available for physical therapy and chiropractic care?

The Empire Plan:

You have guaranteed access to unlimited medically necessary care when you follow Plan requirements.

NYSHIP HMOs:

Coverage is available for a specified number of days/visits each year, as long as you follow the HMO's requirements.

What if I need durable medical equipment, medical supplies or home nursing?

The Empire Plan:

You have guaranteed, paid-in-full access to medically necessary home care, equipment and supplies² through the Home Care Advocacy Program (HCAP) when preauthorized and arranged by the Plan.

NYSHIP HMOs:

Benefits are available and vary depending on the HMO. Benefits may require a greater percentage of cost-sharing.

² Diabetic shoes have an annual maximum benefit of \$500.

Note: These responses are generic and highlight only general differences between The Empire Plan and NYSHIP HMOs. Details for each plan are available on individual plan pages beginning on page 14 of this booklet, in the *Empire Plan Certificate* (available from your agency HBA) and in the HMO contract (available from each HMO).

TERMS TO KNOW

Coinsurance: The enrollee's share of the cost of covered services; a fixed percentage of medical expenses.

Copayment: The enrollee's share of the cost of covered services, which is a fixed dollar amount paid when medical service is received, regardless of the total charge.

Deductible: The dollar amount an enrollee is required to pay before health plan benefits begin to reimburse for services.

Fee-for-service: A method of billing for health care services. A provider charges a fee each time an enrollee receives a service.

Formulary: A list of preferred drugs used by a health plan. If a plan has a **closed formulary**, you have coverage only for drugs that appear on the list. An **open or incented formulary** encourages use of preferred drugs to non-preferred drugs based on a tiered copayment schedule. In a **flexible formulary**, brand-name prescription drugs may be assigned to different copayment levels based on value to the plan and clinical judgment. In some cases, drugs may be excluded from coverage under a flexible formulary if a therapeutic equivalent is covered or available as an over-the-counter drug.

Health Benefits Administrator (HBA): An individual located in a State agency, often in the Human Resources or Personnel Office, who works with the Employee Benefits Division in the Department of Civil Service to process enrollment transactions and answer health insurance questions.

Health Maintenance Organization (HMO): A managed care delivery system organized to deliver health care services in a geographic area. An HMO provides a predetermined set of benefits through a network of selected physicians, laboratories and hospitals for a prepaid premium. Except for emergency services, you and your enrolled dependents may have coverage only for services received from your HMO's network. See NYSHIP Health Maintenance Organizations on pages 5 and 6 for more information on HMOs including descriptions of the two different types, Network and Independent Practice Association (IPA), which are offered under NYSHIP.

Managed Care: A health care program designed to ensure you receive the highest quality medical care for the lowest cost, in the most appropriate setting. Most managed care plans require you to select a primary care physician employed by (or who contracts with) the managed health care system. He/she serves as your health care manager by coordinating virtually all health care services you receive. Your primary care physician provides routine medical care and refers you to a specialist if necessary.

Medicare: A federal health insurance program that covers certain people age 65 or older, disabled persons under 65, and those who have end-stage renal disease (permanent kidney failure). Medicare is directed by the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and administered by the Social Security Administration.

Medicare Advantage Plan: A Medicare option wherein the plan agrees with Medicare to accept a fixed monthly payment for each Medicare enrollee. In exchange, the plan provides or pays for all medical care needed by the enrollee. If you join a Medicare Advantage Plan, you replace your Original (fee-for-service) Medicare coverage (Parts A and B) with benefits offered by the plan and all of your medical care (except for emergency or out-of-area, urgently needed care) must be provided, arranged or authorized by the Medicare Advantage Plan. All NYSHIP Medicare Advantage HMOs include Medicare Part D drug coverage. The benefits under these plans are set in accordance with federal guidelines for Medicare Advantage Plans.

Network: A group of doctors, hospitals and/or other health care providers who participate in a health plan and agree to follow the plan's procedures.

New York State Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP): NYSHIP covers over 1.2 million public employees, retirees and dependents and is one of the largest group health insurance programs in the country. The Program provides health care benefits through The Empire Plan or a NYSHIP-approved HMO.

Option: A health insurance plan offered through NYSHIP. Options include The Empire Plan and NYSHIP-approved HMOs within specific geographic areas.

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Q: Can I join The Empire Plan or any NYSHIP-approved HMO?

A: The Empire Plan is available worldwide, wherever you live or work. To enroll or continue enrollment in a NYSHIP-approved HMO, you must live or work in that HMO's service area. If you move permanently out of and/or no longer work in your HMO's service area, you must change options. See Plans by County on pages 12 and 13 and the individual HMO pages in this booklet to check the counties each HMO will serve in 2015.

Q: How do I find out which providers and hospitals participate? What if my doctor or other provider leaves my plan?

A: Check with your providers directly to see whether they participate in The Empire Plan or in a NYSHIP HMO.

For Empire Plan provider information:

- Use the Find a Provider tool at <https://www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits>. Select your group if prompted, and then click on Find a Provider. **Note:** This is the most up-to-date source for provider information.
- Ask your agency HBA for The Empire Plan Participating Provider Directory.
- Call The Empire Plan toll free at 1-877-7-NYSHIP (1-877-769-7447) and select the appropriate program for the type of provider you need.

For HMO provider information:

- Visit the web sites for provider information (web site addresses are provided on the individual HMO pages in this booklet).
- Call the telephone numbers on the HMO pages in this booklet. Ask which providers participate and which hospitals are affiliated.

If you choose a provider who does not participate in your plan, check carefully whether benefits would be available to you. Ask if you need authorization to have the provider's services covered. In most circumstances, HMOs do not provide benefits for services by nonparticipating providers or hospitals.

Under The Empire Plan, you have benefits for participating and nonparticipating providers.

Note: You cannot change your plan outside the Option Transfer Period because your provider no longer participates.

Q: I have a preexisting condition. Will I have coverage if I change options?

A: Yes. Under NYSHIP, you can change your option and still have coverage for a preexisting condition. There are no preexisting condition exclusions in any NYSHIP plan. However, coverage and exclusions differ. Ask the plan you are considering about coverage for your condition.

Q: What if I retire in 2015 and become eligible for Medicare?

A: Regardless of which option you choose, as a retiree, you and your dependent must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B when either of you first becomes eligible for primary Medicare coverage. (See page 4). Please note, especially, that your NYSHIP benefits become secondary to Medicare and that your benefits may change.

Q: I am a COBRA dependent in a Family plan. Can I switch to Individual coverage and select a different health plan from the rest of my family?

A: Yes. As a COBRA dependent, you may elect to change to Individual coverage in a plan different from the enrollee's Family coverage. During the Option Transfer Period, you may enroll in The Empire Plan or choose any NYSHIP-approved HMO in the area where you live or work.

PLANS BY COUNTY

THE EMPIRE PLAN

The Empire Plan is available to all enrollees in the New York State Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP). You may choose The Empire Plan regardless of where you live or work. Coverage is worldwide. See pages 14-23 for a summary of The Empire Plan.

HEALTH MAINTENANCE ORGANIZATIONS (HMOS)

Most NYSHIP enrollees have a choice among HMOs. You may enroll, or continue to be enrolled, in any NYSHIP-approved HMO that serves the area where you live or work. You may not be enrolled in an HMO outside your area. This list will help you determine which HMOs are available by county. The pages indicated will describe benefits available from each HMO.

Page in Choices	14	24	26	28	30	30	30	32	32	32	34	34	34	36	36	38	40	40	40	40	40	
	The Empire Plan	Aetna*	Blue Choice*	BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York*	CDPHP*	CDPHP*	CDPHP*	Empire BlueCross BlueShield HMO*	Empire BlueCross BlueShield HMO*	Empire BlueCross BlueShield HMO*	HIP*	HIP	HIP	HMOBlue	HMOBlue	Independent Health*	MVP*	MVP*	MVP*	MVP*	MVP	
NYSHIP CODE	001	210	066	067	063	300	310	280	290	320	050	220	350	072	160	059	058	060	330	340	360	
Albany	•				•			•				•						•				
Allegany	•			•												•						
Bronx	•	•							•		•											
Broome	•					•								•					•			
Cattaraugus	•			•												•						
Cayuga	•													•					•			
Chautauqua	•			•												•						
Chemung	•													•								
Chenango	•					•									•				•			
Clinton	•							•							•							
Columbia	•				•			•				•						•				
Cortland	•													•					•			
Delaware	•						•	•					•		•				•			
Dutchess	•						•			•			•							•		
Erie	•			•												•						
Essex	•					•		•							•							
Franklin	•														•							•
Fulton	•				•			•							•			•				
Genesee	•			•												•	•					
Greene	•				•			•				•						•				
Hamilton	•					•												•				
Herkimer	•					•									•				•			
Jefferson	•														•				•			
Kings	•	•							•		•											

* Medicare-primary NYSHIP enrollees will be enrolled in this HMO's Medicare Advantage Plan. For more information about NYSHIP Medicare Advantage Plans, ask your agency HBA for a copy of 2015 Choices for Retirees.

Page in Choices	14	24	26	28	30	30	30	32	32	32	34	34	34	36	36	38	40	40	40	40	40	
	The Empire Plan	Aetna*	Blue Choice*	BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York*	CDPHP*	CDPHP*	CDPHP*	Empire BlueCross BlueShield HMO*	Empire BlueCross BlueShield HMO*	Empire BlueCross BlueShield HMO*	HIP*	HIP	HIP	HMOBlue	HMOBlue	Independent Health*	MVP*	MVP*	MVP*	MVP*	MVP	
NYSHIP CODE	001	210	066	067	063	300	310	280	290	320	050	220	350	072	160	059	058	060	330	340	360	
Lewis	•														•				•			
Livingston	•		•														•					
Madison	•					•			•						•				•			
Monroe	•		•														•					
Montgomery	•				•			•							•			•				
Nassau	•	•							•		•											
New York	•	•							•		•											
Niagara	•			•												•						
Oneida	•					•									•				•			
Onondaga	•													•					•			
Ontario	•		•														•					
Orange	•	•					•			•			•								•	
Orleans	•			•												•	•					
Oswego	•													•					•			
Otsego	•					•									•				•			
Putnam	•	•								•			•							•		
Queens	•	•							•		•											
Rensselaer	•				•			•				•						•				
Richmond	•	•							•		•											
Rockland	•	•							•											•		
Saratoga	•				•			•				•						•				
Schenectady	•				•			•				•						•				
Schoharie	•				•			•										•				
Schuyler	•												•									
Seneca	•		•														•					
St. Lawrence	•														•							•
Steuben	•													•			•					
Suffolk	•	•							•		•											
Sullivan	•	•								•			•							•		
Tioga	•					•								•					•			
Tompkins	•													•					•			
Ulster	•					•				•			•							•		
Warren	•				•			•				•						•				
Washington	•				•			•				•						•				
Wayne	•		•														•					
Westchester	•	•							•		•											
Wyoming	•			•												•	•					
Yates	•		•														•					
New Jersey	•	•																				

* Medicare-primary NYSHIP enrollees will be enrolled in this HMO's Medicare Advantage Plan. For more information about NYSHIP Medicare Advantage Plans, ask your agency HBA for a copy of 2015 Choices for Retirees.

THE EMPIRE PLAN — NYSHIP CODE #001

This section summarizes benefits available under each portion of The Empire Plan as of January 1, 2015.¹ You may also visit <https://www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits> or call toll free 1-877-7-NYSHIP (1-877-769-7447), the one number for The Empire Plan. Call to connect to:

MEDICAL/SURGICAL PROGRAM

UnitedHealthcare

Medical and surgical coverage through:

- **Participating Provider Program** – More than 250,000 physicians and other providers participate; certain services are subject to a \$20 copayment.
- **Basic Medical Program** – If you use a nonparticipating provider, the Program considers up to 80 percent of reasonable and customary charges for covered services after the combined annual deductible is met. After the combined annual coinsurance maximum is met, the Plan pays up to 100 percent of reasonable and customary charges for covered services. See Cost Sharing (beginning on page 16) for additional information.
- **Basic Medical Provider Discount Program** – If you are Empire Plan-primary and use a nonparticipating provider who is part of The Empire Plan MultiPlan group, you are eligible for a discount (see page 17).

Home Care Advocacy Program (HCAP) – Paid-in-full benefits for home care, durable medical equipment and certain medical supplies (including diabetic and ostomy supplies), enteral formulas and diabetic shoes. Diabetic shoes have an annual maximum benefit of \$500. Guaranteed access to network benefits nationwide. Limited non-network benefits available. (See the *Empire Plan Certificate/Reports* for details).

Managed Physical Medicine Program – Chiropractic treatment and physical therapy through a Managed Physical Network (MPN) provider are subject to a \$20 copayment. Unlimited network benefits when medically necessary. Guaranteed access to network benefits nationwide. Non-network benefits available.

Under the **Benefits Management Program**, you must call the Medical/Surgical Program for Prospective Procedure Review before an elective (scheduled) Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Magnetic Resonance Angiography (MRA), Computerized Tomography (CT), Positron Emission Tomography (PET) scan or Nuclear Medicine tests unless you are having the test as an inpatient in a hospital. (See the *Empire Plan Certificate* for details).

When arranged by the Medical/Surgical Program, a voluntary, paid-in-full Specialist Consultant Evaluation is available.

Voluntary outpatient Medical Case Management is available to help coordinate services for catastrophic and complex cases.

HOSPITAL PROGRAM

Empire BlueCross BlueShield

The following benefit level applies for covered services received at a BlueCross and BlueShield Association BlueCard® PPO **network hospital**:

- Medical or surgical inpatient stays are covered at no cost to you.
- Hospital outpatient and emergency care are subject to network copayments.
- When you use a network hospital, anesthesiology, pathology and radiology, provider charges for covered hospital services are paid in full under the Medical/Surgical Program if The Empire Plan provides your primary coverage.
- Certain covered outpatient hospital services provided at network hospital extension clinics are subject to hospital outpatient and emergency care copayments. Physician charges for covered services received at a hospital extension clinic will be paid in full if the provider is a Participating Provider under the Medical/Surgical Program. Physician charges for covered services received from a non-network provider will be paid in accordance with the Basic Medical portion of the Medical/Surgical Program.

¹ These benefits are subject to medical necessity and to limitations and exclusions described in the *Empire Plan Certificate* and *Empire Plan Reports/Certificate Amendments*.

The following benefit level applies for hospital services received at **non-network hospitals** (for Empire Plan-primary enrollees only²):

- Non-network hospital inpatient stays and outpatient services – 10 percent coinsurance for inpatient stays and the greater of 10 percent coinsurance or \$75 for outpatient services, up to the combined annual coinsurance maximum per enrollee; per enrolled spouse or domestic partner; per all enrolled dependent children combined.

The Empire Plan will approve network benefits for hospital services received at a non-network facility if:

- Your hospital care is emergency or urgent.
- You do not have access to a network facility within 30 miles of your residence.
- No network facility can provide the medically necessary services.
- Another insurer or Medicare provides your primary coverage (pays first).

Preadmission Certification Requirements

Under the Benefits Management Program, if The Empire Plan is your primary coverage, you must call the Hospital Program for certification of any inpatient stay:

- before a maternity or scheduled (nonemergency) hospital admission,
- within 48 hours or as soon as reasonably possible after an emergency or urgent hospital admission, and
- before admission or transfer to a skilled nursing facility.

If you do not follow the preadmission certification requirement for the Hospital Program, you must pay:

- a \$200 hospital penalty if it is determined any portion was medically necessary, and
- all charges for any day's care determined not to be medically necessary.

Voluntary inpatient Medical Case Management is available to help coordinate services for catastrophic and complex cases.

² If Medicare or another plan provides primary coverage, you receive network benefits for covered services at both network and non-network hospitals.

³ You are responsible for obtaining MHSA Program certification for care obtained from a non-network practitioner or facility.

MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM

ValueOptions, Inc.

The Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program (MHSA) offers two levels of benefits. If you call the MHSA Program before you receive services and follow their recommendations, you receive:

Network Benefits (unlimited when medically necessary)

- Inpatient (paid in full)
- Crisis intervention (up to three visits per crisis paid in full)
- Outpatient including office visits, home-based or telephone counseling and nurse practitioner services, subject to a \$20 copayment.
- Outpatient rehabilitation to an approved Structured Outpatient Rehabilitation Program for substance abuse, subject to a \$20 copayment.

If you do **NOT** follow the requirements for network coverage, you receive:

Non-network Benefits³ (unlimited when medically necessary)

- For Practitioner Services: the MHSA Program will consider up to 80 percent of reasonable and customary charges for covered outpatient practitioner services after you meet the combined annual deductible per enrollee; per enrolled spouse or domestic partner; per all enrolled dependent children combined. After the combined annual coinsurance maximum is reached per enrollee; per enrolled spouse or domestic partner; per all enrolled dependent children combined, the Plan pays up to 100 percent of reasonable and customary charges for covered services.

THE EMPIRE PLAN — NYSHIP CODE #001

- For Approved Facility Services: You are responsible for the greater of 10 percent or \$75 up to the combined annual coinsurance maximum per enrollee; per enrolled spouse or domestic partner; per all enrolled dependent children combined.³ After the coinsurance maximum is met, the Plan pays 100 percent of billed charges for covered services.
- Outpatient treatment sessions for family members of an alcoholic, alcohol abuser or substance abuser are covered for a maximum of 20 visits per year for all family members combined. **Note:** The amount you pay for inpatient and outpatient services counts toward meeting the deductible or coinsurance maximum. Deductible, coinsurance and maximum coinsurance amounts are combined with other deductible, coinsurance or maximum coinsurance amounts.

EMPIRE PLAN COST SHARING

Plan Providers

Under The Empire Plan, benefits are available for covered services when you use a participating or nonparticipating provider. However, your share of the cost of covered services depends on whether the provider you use is participating under the Plan.

If you use an Empire Plan participating or network provider or facility, you pay a copayment for certain services; some are covered at no cost to you. The provider or facility files the claim and is reimbursed by The Empire Plan.

You are guaranteed access to network benefits when you contact the program before receiving services and follow program requirements for:

- Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program services;
- Managed Physical Medicine Program services (physical therapy and chiropractic care); and
- Home Care Advocacy Program (HCAP) services (including durable medical equipment).

If you use a nonparticipating provider or non-network facility, benefits for covered services are subject to a deductible and/or coinsurance.

The following changes reflect the 2.5% increase in the medical care component of the Consumer Price Index of Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers, all Cities (CPI-W) for the period of July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. **Note:** You have no deductible or coinsurance when you use Empire Plan participating providers.

Combined Annual Deductible

For medical/surgical and mental health and substance abuse services, The Empire Plan has a combined annual deductible of \$437 per enrollee, \$437 per enrolled spouse/domestic partner and \$437 per all dependent children combined. The combined annual deductible must be met before covered services under the Basic Medical Program and non-network expenses under both the Home Care Advocacy Program (HCAP) and Mental Health and Substance Abuse (MHSA) Program can be reimbursed. The Managed Physical Medicine Program has a separate \$250 deductible per enrollee, \$250 per enrolled spouse/domestic partner and \$250 per all dependent children combined that is not included in the combined annual deductible.

After you satisfy the combined annual deductible, The Empire Plan pays 80 percent of the reasonable and customary charge for the Basic Medical Program and non-network practitioner services for the MHSA Program and 90 percent of covered services for the non-network HCAP services and non-network approved facility services for the MHSA Program. You are responsible for the remaining 20 percent coinsurance and all charges in excess of the reasonable and customary charge for Basic Medical Program and non-network practitioner services. You also are responsible for the remaining 10 percent coinsurance for non-network HCAP services and non-network MHSA-approved facility services.

³ You are responsible for obtaining MHSA Program certification for care obtained from a non-network practitioner or facility.

Combined Annual Coinsurance Maximum

The Empire Plan has a combined annual coinsurance maximum of \$962 per enrollee, \$962 per enrolled spouse/domestic partner and \$962 per all dependent children combined. After you reach the combined annual coinsurance maximum, you will be reimbursed up to 100 percent of the reasonable and customary charge. You are responsible for paying the provider and will be reimbursed by the Plan for covered charges.

The combined annual coinsurance maximum will be shared among the Basic Medical Program and non-network coverage under the Hospital Program and Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program. The Managed Physical Medicine Program and Home Care Advocacy Program do not have a coinsurance maximum.

Basic Medical Provider Discount Program

If you are Empire Plan-primary, The Empire Plan also includes a program to reduce your out-of-pocket costs when you use a nonparticipating provider. The Empire Plan Basic Medical Provider Discount Program offers

discounts from certain physicians and providers who are not part of The Empire Plan participating provider network. These providers are part of the nationwide MultiPlan group, a provider organization contracted with UnitedHealthcare. Empire Plan Basic Medical Program provisions apply and you must meet the combined annual deductible.

Providers in the Basic Medical Provider Discount Program accept a discounted fee for covered services. Your 20 percent coinsurance is based on the lower of the discounted fee or the reasonable and customary charge. The provider submits your claims and UnitedHealthcare pays The Empire Plan portion of the provider fee directly to the provider if the services qualify for the Basic Medical Provider Discount Program. Your Explanation of Benefits, which details claims payments, shows the discounted amount applied to billed charges.

To find a provider in The Empire Plan Basic Medical Provider Discount Program, ask if the provider is an Empire Plan MultiPlan provider or call The Empire Plan toll free at 1-877-7-NYSHIP (1-877-769-7447), choose

THE EMPIRE PLAN CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAMS

The Centers of Excellence for Cancer Program includes paid-in-full coverage for cancer-related expenses received through Cancer Resource Services (CRS). CRS is a nationwide network including many of the nation's leading cancer centers. The enhanced benefits, including a travel allowance, are available only when you are enrolled in the Program.

The Centers of Excellence for Transplants Program provides paid-in-full coverage for services covered under the Program and performed at a qualified Center of Excellence. The enhanced benefits, including a travel allowance, are available only when you are enrolled in the Program and The Empire Plan is your primary coverage. Precertification is required.

Infertility Centers of Excellence are a select group of participating providers contracted by UnitedHealthcare and recognized as leaders in reproductive medical technology and infertility procedures. Benefits are paid in full, subject to the lifetime maximum benefit of \$50,000. A travel allowance is available. Precertification is required.

For details on The Empire Plan Centers of Excellence Programs, see the *Empire Plan Certificate/Reports and Reporting On Centers of Excellence* available at <https://www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits> or from your agency HBA.

THE EMPIRE PLAN — NYSHIP CODE #001

the Medical Program and ask a representative for help. You can also visit our web site at <https://www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits>. Select the group if prompted, and then click on Find a Provider.

The best savings are with participating providers. For more information, read *Reporting On Network Benefits*. You can find this publication at <https://www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits> or, ask your agency HBA for a copy.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG PROGRAM

CVS/caremark, Inc.

- When you use a network retail pharmacy or the mail order pharmacy for up to a 30-day supply of a covered drug, you pay a \$5 copayment for Level 1 or generic drugs, a \$15 copayment for Level 2 or preferred brand-name drugs and a \$40 copayment for Level 3 or non-preferred brand-name drugs.
 - For a 31- to 90-day supply of a covered drug through a network retail pharmacy, you pay a \$10 copayment for Level 1 or generic drugs, a \$30 copayment for Level 2 or preferred brand-name drugs and a \$70 copayment for Level 3 non-preferred brand-name drugs.
 - For a 31- to 90-day supply of a covered drug through the mail order pharmacy, you pay a \$5 copayment for Level 1 or most generic drugs, a \$20 copayment for Level 2 or preferred brand-name drugs and a \$65 copayment for Level 3 or non-preferred brand-name drugs.
 - No copayment required for oral cancer chemotherapy drugs for the treatment of cancer.
 - When you fill a prescription for a covered brand-name drug that has a generic equivalent, you pay the Level 3 or non-preferred brand-name drug copayment plus the difference in cost between the brand-name drug and the generic equivalent (or “ancillary charge”), not to exceed the full retail cost of the drug. Exceptions apply. Please contact The Empire Plan Prescription Drug Program at 1-877-7-NYSHIP (1-877-769-7447) for more information.
 - The Empire Plan has a flexible formulary that excludes certain prescription drugs from coverage.
- Prior authorization is required for certain drugs.
 - A pharmacist is available 24 hours a day to answer questions about your prescriptions.
 - You can use a nonparticipating pharmacy or pay cash at a participating pharmacy (instead of using your Empire Plan Benefit Card) and fill out a claim form for reimbursement. In almost all cases, you will not be reimbursed the total amount you paid for the prescription, and your out-of-pocket expenses may exceed the usual copayment amount. To reduce your out-of-pocket expenses, use your Empire Plan Benefit Card whenever possible.

Specialty Pharmacy

The Prescription Drug Program’s Specialty Pharmacy Program offers enhanced services to individuals using specialty drugs, such as those used to treat complex conditions and those that require special handling, special administration or intensive patient monitoring. (The complete list of specialty drugs included in the Specialty Pharmacy Program is available on NYSHIP Online. Go to <http://www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits>. Choose your group, then Using Your Benefits and then Specialty Pharmacy Drug List).

The Program provides enrollees with enhanced services that include disease and drug education, compliance management, side-effect management, safety management, expedited, scheduled delivery of medications at no additional charge, refill reminder calls and all necessary supplies such as needles and syringes applicable to the medication.

CVS/caremark Specialty Pharmacy is the designated pharmacy for the Specialty Pharmacy Program. Under the Specialty Pharmacy Program, you are covered for an initial 30-day fill of most specialty medication at a retail pharmacy, but all subsequent fills must be obtained through the designated specialty pharmacy, CVS/caremark Specialty Pharmacy. When CVS/caremark dispenses a specialty medication, the applicable mail order copayment is charged. Specialty drugs can be ordered through the Specialty Pharmacy

Program using the CVS/caremark Mail Service Order Form. To request mail order envelopes or refills or to speak to a specialty-trained pharmacist or nurse, call The Empire Plan toll free at 1-877-7-NYSHIP (1-877-769-7447) between 7:30 a.m. and 9 p.m., Monday through Friday, Eastern time. Choose the Prescription Drug Program, and ask to speak with Specialty Customer Care.

Medicare-primary enrollees and dependents: If you are or will be Medicare-primary in 2015, ask your agency HBA for a copy of *2015 Choices for Retirees* for information about your coverage under Empire Plan Medicare Rx, a Medicare Part D prescription drug program.

GRANDFATHERED HEALTH PLANS

Under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), a grandfathered health plan is permitted to preserve certain basic health coverage that was already in effect when the Act was signed into law on March 23, 2010. Being a grandfathered health plan means that the plan can delay implementation of certain features of health care reform that apply to non-grandfathered health plans. For example, the requirement for the provision of preventive health services without any cost sharing does not need to be included under a health care plan until the plan is no longer grandfathered. However, grandfathered health plans must comply with certain other consumer protections in the Act such as the elimination of lifetime limits on certain benefits. Questions regarding which protections apply and which protections do not apply to a grandfathered health plan and what might cause a plan to change from grandfathered health plan status can be directed to the New York State Department of Civil Service, Employee Benefits Division, Albany, NY 12239. Or, visit the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services web site at <http://www.hhs.gov/healthcare/insurance/grandfather/index.html> to learn more.

THE EMPIRE PLAN NURSELINSM

Call The Empire Plan toll free at 1-877-7-NYSHIP (1-877-769-7447) and choose The Empire Plan NurseLineSM for health information and support. For recorded messages on more than 1,000 topics in the Health Information Library, enter PIN number 335, then say one or two words about the information you are looking for or enter a four-digit topic code from The Empire Plan NurseLine brochure. If you do not have your brochure, ask the NurseLine to send you one.

Representatives are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

EMPIRE PLAN BENEFITS ARE AVAILABLE WORLDWIDE

The Empire Plan gives you the freedom to choose a participating provider or a nonparticipating provider.

TELETYPEWRITER (TTY) NUMBERS

For callers who use a TTY device because of a hearing or speech disability. All TTY numbers are toll free.

Medical/Surgical Program

TTY only:1-888-697-9054

Hospital Program

TTY only:1-800-241-6894

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Program

TTY only:1-855-643-1476

Prescription Drug Program

TTY only:1-800-863-5488

THE EMPIRE PLAN

For employees of the State of New York who are in negotiating units that do not have agreements/awards with New York State effective 10/1/11 or later, their enrolled dependents and for COBRA and Young Adult Option Enrollees with their NYSHIP benefits

Benefits	Network Hospital Benefits ¹	Participating Provider	Nonparticipating Provider
Office Visits		\$20 per visit	Basic Medical ²
Specialty Office Visits		\$20 per visit	Basic Medical ²
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services			
Radiology	\$40 per outpatient visit	\$20 per visit	Basic Medical ²
Lab Tests	\$40 per outpatient visit	\$20 per visit	Basic Medical ²
Pathology	No copayment	\$20 per visit	Basic Medical ²
EKG/EEG	\$40 per outpatient visit	\$20 per visit	Basic Medical ²
Radiation, Chemotherapy, Dialysis	No copayment	No copayment	Basic Medical ²
Women's Health Care/OB GYN			
Pap Tests	\$40 per outpatient visit	\$20 per visit	Basic Medical ²
Mammograms	\$40 per outpatient visit	\$20 per visit	Basic Medical ²
Pre/Postnatal Visits		No copayment	Basic Medical ²
Bone Density Tests	\$40 per outpatient visit	\$20 per visit	Basic Medical ²
Family Planning Services		\$20 per visit	Basic Medical ²
Infertility Services	\$40 per outpatient visit	\$20 per visit; no copayment at designated Centers of Excellence ³ (\$50,000 lifetime allowance for Qualified Procedures)	Basic Medical ²
Contraceptive Drugs and Devices		\$20 per visit	Basic Medical ²
Inpatient Hospital Surgery	Network Hospital: No copayment ³ ; Non-network Hospital/Nonparticipating Provider: Hospital charges subject to 10% of billed charges up to coinsurance maximum. Nonparticipating Provider charges subject to Basic Medical.		
Outpatient Surgery⁴	Network Hospital/Participating Provider: Hospital charges \$60 per visit. Participating Provider charges \$35 per visit. Network Hospital/Nonparticipating Provider: Hospital charges \$60 per visit. Nonparticipating Provider charges subject to Basic Medical; Non-network Hospital/Nonparticipating Provider: Hospital charges subject to 10% of billed charges or a \$75 copayment, whichever is greater, up to coinsurance maximum. Nonparticipating Provider charges subject to Basic Medical.		

Benefits	Network Hospital Benefits ¹	Participating Provider ²	Nonparticipating Provider
Emergency Room	\$70 per visit ⁵	No copayment	Basic Medical ^{2,6}
Urgent Care	\$40 per outpatient visit ⁷	\$20 per visit	Basic Medical ²
Ambulance	No copayment ⁸	\$35 per trip ⁹	\$35 per trip ⁹
Mental Health Practitioner Services		\$20 per visit	Applicable annual deductible, 80% of reasonable and customary; after applicable coinsurance max, 100% of reasonable and customary (See pages 16 and 17 for details). ²
Approved Facility Mental Health Services		No copayment	90% of billed charges; after applicable coinsurance max, covered in full (See pages 16 and 17 for details). ²
Outpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehabilitation		\$20 per visit to approved Structured Outpatient Rehabilitation Program	Applicable annual deductible, 80% of reasonable and customary; after applicable coinsurance max, 100% of reasonable and customary (See pages 16 and 17 for details). ²

¹ Inpatient stays at network hospitals are paid in full. Provider charges are covered under the Medical Benefits Program. Non-network hospital coverage provided subject to coinsurance (see page 17).

² See Cost Sharing (beginning on page 16) for Basic Medical information.

³ Precertification required.

⁴ In outpatient surgical locations (Medical/Surgical Program), the copayment for the facility charge is \$30 per visit or Basic Medical benefits apply depending upon the status of the center. (Check with the center or The Empire Plan administrators).

⁵ Copayment waived if admitted.

⁶ Attending emergency room physicians and providers who administer or interpret radiological exams, laboratory tests, electrocardiograms and/or pathology services are paid in full. Other providers covered subject to deductible but not coinsurance.

⁷ At a hospital-owned urgent care facility only.

⁸ If service is provided by admitting hospital.

⁹ Ambulance transportation to the nearest hospital where emergency care can be performed is covered when the service is provided by a licensed ambulance service and the type of ambulance transportation is required because of an emergency situation.

THE EMPIRE PLAN, CONTINUED

Benefits	Network Hospital Benefits ¹	Participating Provider ²	Nonparticipating Provider
Inpatient Drug/ Alcohol Rehabilitation		No copayment	90% of billed charges; after applicable coinsurance max, ² covered in full (See pages 16 and 17 for details). ³
Durable Medical Equipment		No copayment (HCAP)	50% of network allowance (See the <i>Empire Plan Certificate/Reports</i>).
Prosthetics		No copayment ¹⁰	Basic Medical; ^{2,10} \$1,500 lifetime maximum benefit for prosthetic wigs
Orthotic Devices		No copayment ¹⁰	Basic Medical ^{2,10}
External Mastectomy Protheses			Paid-in-full benefit for one single or double prosthesis per calendar year under Basic Medical, not subject to deductible or coinsurance ^{2,10} (Precertification may be required).
Rehabilitative Care (not covered in a skilled nursing facility if Medicare-primary)	No copayment as an inpatient; \$20 per visit for outpatient physical therapy following related surgery or hospitalization	Physical or occupational therapy \$20 per visit (MPN) Speech therapy \$20 per visit	\$250 annual deductible, 50% of network allowance Basic Medical ²
Diabetic Supplies		No copayment (HCAP)	50% of network allowance (See the <i>Empire Plan Certificate/Reports</i>).
Insulin and Oral Agents (covered under the Prescription Drug Program subject to drug copayment)			
Diabetic Shoes		\$500 annual maximum benefit	75% of network allowance up to an annual maximum benefit of \$500 (See the <i>Empire Plan Certificate/Reports</i>).
Hospice	No copayment, no limit		10% of billed charges up to the combined annual coinsurance maximum

Benefits	Network Hospital Benefits ¹	Participating Provider ²	Nonparticipating Provider
Skilled Nursing Facility	No copayment up to 365 benefit days ³		
Prescription Drugs (see pages 18-19) Specialty Drugs (see pages 18-19)			
Additional Benefits			
Dental (preventive)		Not covered	Not covered
Vision (routine only)		Not covered	Not covered
Hearing Aids		No network benefit. See non-participating provider.	Up to \$1,500 per aid per ear every 4 years (every 2 years for children) if medically necessary
Out of Area Benefit	Benefits for covered services are available worldwide.		
24-hour NurseLine SM for health information and support at 1-877-7-NYSHIP (1-877-769-7447)			
Voluntary Disease Management Programs available for conditions such as asthma, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), cardiovascular disease, chronic kidney disease (CKD), chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, congestive heart failure, depression, diabetes and eating disorders			
Diabetes Education Centers for enrollees who have a diagnosis of diabetes			

¹ Inpatient stays at network hospitals are paid in full. Provider charges are covered under the Medical Benefits Program. Non-network hospital coverage provided subject to coinsurance (see page 17).

² See Cost Sharing (beginning on page 16) for Basic Medical information.

³ Precertification required.

¹⁰ Benefit paid up to cost of device meeting individual's functional need.



Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Office Visits	\$20 per visit
Annual Adult Routine Physicals	No copayment
Well Child Care	No copayment
Specialty Office Visits	\$20 per visit
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	
Radiology	\$20 per visit
Lab Tests	No copayment
Pathology	No copayment
EKG/EEG	\$20 per visit
Radiation	\$20 per visit
Chemotherapy	\$20 per visit
Women's Health Care/OB GYN	
Pap Tests	No copayment
Mammograms	No copayment
Prenatal Visits	No copayment
Postnatal Visits	\$20 for initial visit only ¹
Bone Density Tests	\$20 per visit
Family Planning Services	\$20 per visit
Infertility Services	\$20 per visit
Contraceptive Drugs	Applicable Rx copayment ²
Contraceptive Devices	No copayment
Inpatient Hospital Surgery	No copayment
Outpatient Surgery	
Hospital	No copayment
Physician's Office	\$20 per visit
Outpatient Surgery Facility	No copayment
Emergency Room (waived if admitted)	\$50 per visit
Urgent Care Facility	\$35 per visit
Ambulance	\$50 per trip

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Outpatient Mental Health	
Individual, unlimited	\$20 per visit
Group, unlimited	\$20 per visit
Inpatient Mental Health unlimited	No copayment
Outpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab unlimited	\$20 per visit
Inpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab unlimited	No copayment
Durable Medical Equipment	20% coinsurance
Prosthetics	No copayment
Orthotics	No copayment
Rehabilitative Care, Physical, Speech and Occupational Therapy	
Inpatient, unlimited	No copayment
Outpatient Physical or Occupational Therapy, max 60 consecutive days	\$20 per visit
Outpatient Speech Therapy, max 60 consecutive days	\$20 per visit
Diabetic Supplies	\$20 per item
Insulin and Oral Agents	\$20 per item
Diabetic Shoes one pair per calendar year	No copayment
Hospice , unlimited	No copayment
Skilled Nursing Facility , unlimited	No copayment
Prescription Drugs	
Retail, 30-day supply	\$10 Tier 1, \$20 Tier 2, \$35 Tier 3
Mail Order ³ , 90-day supply	\$20 Tier 1, \$40 Tier 2, \$70 Tier 3

Coverage includes contraceptive drugs and devices, injectable and self-injectable medications, fertility drugs and enteral formulas.

¹ One-time \$20 copayment for postnatal visits (delivery, postpartum care).

² No copayment for generic and applicable Rx copayment for brand-name contraceptive drugs.

³ Member communication materials will be mailed to the member upon enrollment explaining the mail order process and how to submit a prescription.

Specialty Drugs

Specialty drugs are obtained through Aetna Specialty Pharmacy, which is our preferred specialty pharmacy provider for Aetna Pharmacy Management members. As a full-service specialty pharmacy, we do not charge for delivery or dispensing fees for injectables. Specialty drugs dispensed through Aetna Specialty Pharmacy are subject to our retail and mail order pharmacy copayment/coinsurance amounts, coverage limits and exclusions. Aetna Specialty Pharmacy is wholly owned and operated by Aetna Inc.

Additional Benefits

Dental	Not covered
Vision ⁴	No copayment ⁵
Hearing Aids	Not covered
Out of Area	While traveling outside the service area, coverage is provided for emergency situations only.
Eyeglasses	Discount Program
Home Health Care (HHC) unlimited (by HHC agency).....	No copayment
Outpatient Home Health Care unlimited visits per 365-day period ⁶	No copayment
Hospice Bereavement Counseling	No copayment

Plan Highlights for 2015

Aetna offers an array of quality benefits and a variety of special health programs for every stage of life; access to extensive provider and hospital networks in our multi-state service areas; emergency care covered worldwide; confidence in knowing that most of Aetna's mature HMOs have received the distinction of accreditation by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA).

Participating Physicians

Services are provided by local participating physicians in their private offices throughout Aetna's service area. Participating physicians are not employees of Aetna.

Affiliated Hospitals

Aetna members are covered at area hospitals to which their Aetna participating physician has admitting privileges. Aetna members may be directed to other hospitals to meet special needs.

Pharmacies and Prescriptions

Aetna members have access to an extensive network of participating pharmacies in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Aetna offers an **incented formulary**. Please refer to our formulary guide at www.aetna.com/formulary for prescriptions that require prior approval.

Medicare Coverage

Medicare-primary enrollees are required to enroll in Aetna's **Medicare Advantage Plan**, The Golden Medicare Plan.

Important Note: Only participating providers in the counties listed below are part of this HMO's network within NYSHIP. Please be sure to check before receiving care that your provider participates with this HMO's NYSHIP network.

NYSHIP Code Number 210

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties:

In New York: Bronx, Kings, Nassau, New York, Orange, Putnam, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, Suffolk, Sullivan and Westchester

In New Jersey: All counties in New Jersey

Aetna

9 Entin Road, Parsippany, NJ 07054

For information:

Customer Service Department: 1-800-323-9930

Medicare Advantage Customer Service:
1-800-282-5366

**For Preenrollment Medicare Information
and a Medicare Packet:** 1-800-832-2640

TTY: 1-800-654-5984

Web site: www.aetna.com

⁴ Routine only. Includes refraction.

⁵ Frequency and age schedules apply.

⁶ Four hours of home health aid equals one home care visit.

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Office Visits	\$25 per visit ((\$5 for children to age 26)
Annual Adult Routine Physicals	No copayment
Well Child Care	No copayment
Specialty Office Visits	\$40 per visit
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	
Radiology	\$40 per visit
Lab Tests	No copayment
Pathology	No copayment
EKG/EEG	No copayment
Radiation	\$25 per visit
Chemotherapy	\$25 for Rx injection and \$25 office copayment (max two copayments per day)
Women's Health Care/OB GYN	
Pap Tests	No copayment
Mammograms	No copayment (routine) \$40 copayment (diagnostic)
Prenatal Visits	No copayment
Postnatal Visits	No copayment
Bone Density Tests	No copayment (routine) \$40 copayment (diagnostic)
Family Planning Services	\$25 PCP/ \$40 Specialist per visit
Infertility Services	Applicable physician/ facility copayment
Contraceptive Drugs	Applicable Rx copayment ¹
Contraceptive Devices	Applicable copayment/ coinsurance ¹
Inpatient Hospital Surgery	
Physician	\$200 copayment or 20% coinsurance, whichever is less
Facility	No copayment

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Outpatient Surgery	
Hospital	\$50 per visit
Physician's Office	\$50 copayment or 20% coinsurance, whichever is less
Outpatient Surgery Facility	\$40 Physician \$50 Facility per visit
Emergency Room	\$100 per visit (waived if admitted within 24 hours)
Urgent Care Facility	\$35 per visit
Ambulance	\$100 per trip
Outpatient Mental Health	
Individual, unlimited	\$40 per visit
Group, unlimited	\$40 per visit
Inpatient Mental Health	No copayment unlimited
Outpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab	\$25 per visit unlimited
Inpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab	No copayment unlimited
Durable Medical Equipment	50% coinsurance
Prosthetics	50% coinsurance
Orthotics	50% coinsurance
Rehabilitative Care, Physical, Speech and Occupational Therapy	
Inpatient, max 60 days	No copayment
Outpatient Physical or Occupational Therapy, max 30 visits for all outpatient services combined	\$40 per visit
Outpatient Speech Therapy, max 30 visits for all outpatient services combined	\$40 per visit
Diabetic Supplies	\$25 per item up to a 30-day supply
Insulin and Oral Agents	\$25 per prescription up to a 30-day supply

¹ Generic oral contraceptives and certain OTC contraceptive devices covered in full in accordance with the Affordable Care Act.

Benefits Enrollee Cost

Diabetic Shoes 50% coinsurance
one pair per year when medically necessary

Hospice, max 210 days No copayment

Skilled Nursing Facility No copayment
max 45 days per admission, 360-day lifetime max

Prescription Drugs

Retail, 30-day supply \$10 Tier 1,
\$30 Tier 2, \$50 Tier 3²

Mail Order, up to 90-day supply \$20 Tier 1,
\$60 Tier 2, \$100 Tier 3²

You can purchase a 90-day supply of a maintenance medication at a retail pharmacy for a \$30, \$90 or \$150 copayment. You are limited to a 30-day supply for the first fill. Coverage includes fertility drugs, injectable and self-injectable medications and enteral formulas.

Specialty Drugs

Designated specialty drugs are covered only at a network specialty pharmacy, subject to the same days' supply and cost-sharing requirements as the retail benefit, and cannot be filled via mail order. A current list of specialty medications and pharmacies is available at www.excellusbcb.com.

Additional Benefits

Dental³.....\$40 per visit

Vision⁴.....\$40 per visit

Hearing Aids.....Children to age 19:
Covered in full for up to two hearing aids every three years

Out of Area.....Our BlueCard and Away From Home Care Programs cover routine and urgent care while traveling, for students away at school, members on extended out-of-town business and for families living apart.

Maternity

(Physician's charge for delivery).....\$50 copayment

Plan Highlights for 2015

Laboratory and pathology services are now covered in full for 2015. We deliver high-quality coverage plus discounts on services that encourage you to keep a healthy lifestyle.

Participating Physicians

With over 3,200 providers available, Blue Choice offers you more choice of doctors than any other area HMO. Talk to your doctor about whether Blue Choice is the right plan for you.

Affiliated Hospitals

All operating hospitals in the Blue Choice service area are available to you, plus some outside the service area. Please call the number provided for a directory, or visit www.excellusbcb.com.

Pharmacies and Prescriptions

Fill prescriptions at any of our more than 60,000 participating pharmacies nationwide. Simply show the pharmacist your ID card. Blue Choice offers an **incented formulary**. Call PrimeMail at 1-866-260-0487 for mail order prescriptions.

Medicare Coverage

Medicare-primary NYSHIP enrollees must enroll in Medicare Blue Choice, our **Medicare Advantage Plan**. To qualify, you must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B and live in the service area. Some copayments will vary.

Important Note: Only participating providers in the counties listed below are part of this HMO's network within NYSHIP. Please be sure to check before receiving care that your provider participates with this HMO's NYSHIP network.

NYSHIP Code Number 066

A Network HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Seneca, Wayne and Yates

Blue Choice

165 Court Street, Rochester, NY 14647

For information:

Blue Choice: 585-454-4810 or 1-800-462-0108

Medicare Blue Choice: 1-877-883-9577

TTY: 1-877-398-2282

Web site: www.excellusbcb.com

² If your doctor prescribes a brand-name drug when an FDA-approved generic equivalent is available, you pay the difference between the cost of the generic and the brand-name plus any applicable copayments.

³ Coverage for accidental injury to sound and natural teeth and for care due to congenital disease or anomaly; routine care not covered.

⁴ Coverage for exams to treat a disease or injury; routine care not covered.



Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Office Visits	\$15 per visit
Annual Adult Routine Physicals	No copayment
Well Child Care	No copayment
Specialty Office Visits	\$20 per visit
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	
Radiology	\$20 per visit
Lab Tests	No copayment ¹
Pathology	No copayment
EKG/EEG	\$20 per visit
Radiation	\$20 per visit
Chemotherapy	\$20 per visit
Women's Health Care/OB GYN	
Pap Tests	No copayment
Mammograms	No copayment (routine only)
Prenatal Visits	\$15 for initial visit only ²
Postnatal Visits	No copayment
Bone Density Tests	No copayment
Family Planning Services³	\$20 per visit
Infertility Services⁴	\$20 per visit
Contraceptive Drugs⁵	No copayment ⁶
Contraceptive Devices	No copayment ⁶
Inpatient Hospital Surgery	No copayment
Outpatient Surgery	
Hospital	\$75 per visit
Physician's Office	\$20 per visit
Outpatient Surgery Facility	\$50 per visit

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Emergency Room (waived if admitted)	\$100 per visit
Urgent Care Facility	\$50 per visit
Ambulance	\$100 per trip
Outpatient Mental Health	
unlimited when medically necessary	
Individual	\$20 per visit
Group	\$20 per visit
Inpatient Mental Health	No copayment
unlimited when medically necessary	
Outpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab	\$20 per visit
unlimited when medically necessary	
Inpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab	No copayment
unlimited when medically necessary	
Durable Medical Equipment	20% coinsurance
Prosthetics	20% coinsurance
Orthotics	20% coinsurance
Rehabilitative Care, Physical, Speech and Occupational Therapy	
Inpatient, max 45 days	No copayment
Outpatient Physical or Occupational Therapy, max 20 visits ⁷	\$20 per visit
Outpatient Speech Therapy, max 20 visits ⁷	\$20 per visit
Diabetic Supplies	\$15 per item
Insulin and Oral Agents	\$15 per item
Diabetic Shoes	Not covered

- 1 For services at a stand-alone Quest lab or outpatient hospital that participates as a Quest Diagnostics hospital draw site. Lab services performed in conjunction with outpatient surgery or an emergency room visit will also be paid in full.
- 2 One-time \$15 copayment to confirm pregnancy. No copayment for inpatient maternity care or gestational diabetes screenings.
- 3 Coverage is provided for diagnostic testing and procedures in conjunction with artificial insemination. The copayments, coinsurance and deductible under your Policy, which apply to hospital, medical or prescription drug benefits, are applicable to the benefits covered under family planning services.
- 4 For services to diagnose and treat infertility. See "Additional Benefits" for artificial insemination.
- 5 Coverage is provided for prescription drugs approved by the FDA for use in treatment associated with contraception.
- 6 No copayment for contraceptive drugs and devices unless a generic equivalent is available and you are subject to a \$25 (Tier 2) or \$40 (Tier 3) copayment. A mail-order supply costs 2.5 times the applicable copayment.
- 7 Twenty visits in aggregate for physical therapy, occupational therapy and speech therapy.

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Hospice , max 210 days per year	No copayment
Skilled Nursing Facility max 50 days	No copayment
Prescription Drugs	
Retail, 30-day supply	\$5 Tier 1, \$25 Tier 2, \$40 Tier 3
Mail Order, 90-day supply	\$12.50 Tier 1, \$62.50 Tier 2, \$100 Tier 3 ⁸
Includes prenatal vitamins, fertility drugs, injectable/ self-injectable medications, insulin, oral diabetic agents. May require prior approval.	
Specialty Drugs	
Available through mail order at the applicable copayment.	
Additional Benefits	
Dental	20% discount at select providers, free second annual exam
Vision	VisionPLUS Program (details below)
Hearing Aids	Discounts available at select locations
Out of Area	Worldwide coverage for emergency and urgent care through the BlueCard Program. Guest membership for routine care away from home that enables members on extended business trips or family members away at school to join a nearby Blue HMO for the same benefits.
VisionPLUS Program	Includes routine eye exam covered in full and participating VisionPLUS provider discounts. Low copayments on frames, lenses and a discount on contact lenses and supplies.
Artificial Insemination	20% coinsurance Other artificial means to induce pregnancy (in-vitro embryo transfer etc.) are not covered.
Wellness Services	\$250 Wellness Card allowance for use at participating providers

Plan Highlights for 2015

Wellness programs, online & community-based. Acupuncture, massage therapy, nutritional counseling, fitness centers, spa discounts.

Participating Physicians

You have access to 3,000+ physicians/healthcare professionals.

Affiliated Hospitals

You may receive care at all Western New York hospitals, and other hospitals if medically necessary.

Pharmacies and Prescriptions

Our network includes 45,000 participating pharmacies. Prescriptions are filled up to 30-day supply. BlueCross BlueShield offers an **incented formulary**.

Medicare Coverage

Medicare-primary enrollees are required to enroll in Senior Blue HMO. To qualify, you must enroll in Medicare Parts A and B and live in one of the counties listed below.

Important Note: Only participating providers in the counties listed below are part of this HMO's network within NYSHIP. Please be sure to check before receiving care that your provider participates with this HMO's NYSHIP network.

NYSHIP Code Number 067

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans and Wyoming

BlueCross BlueShield of Western New York

P.O. Box 80, Buffalo, NY 14240-0080

For information:

Buffalo: 716-887-8840 or 1-877-576-6440

Olean: 716-376-6000 or 1-800-887-8130

Jamestown: 716-484-1188 or 1-800-944-2880

TTY: 1-888-249-2583

Web site: www.bcbswny.com

⁸ Two and a half copayments



Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Office Visits	\$20 per visit
Annual Adult Routine Physicals	No copayment
Well Child Care	No copayment
Specialty Office Visits	\$20 per visit
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	
Radiology	\$20 per visit ¹
Lab Tests	\$20 per visit ²
Pathology	\$20 per visit ²
EKG/EEG	\$20 per visit
Radiation	\$20 per visit
Chemotherapy	\$20 per visit
Women's Health Care/OB GYN	
Pap Tests	No copayment
Mammograms	No copayment
Prenatal Visits	No copayment
Postnatal Visits	No copayment
Bone Density Tests	\$20 per visit
Family Planning Services	\$20 per visit
Infertility Services	\$20 per visit
Contraceptive Drugs	No copayment ³
Contraceptive Devices	No copayment ³
Inpatient Hospital Surgery	No copayment
Outpatient Surgery	
Hospital	\$75 per visit
Physician's Office	\$20 per visit
Outpatient Surgery Facility	\$75 per visit
Emergency Room	\$50 per visit
(waived if admitted within 24 hours)	
Urgent Care Facility	\$25 per visit
Ambulance	\$50 per trip

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Outpatient Mental Health	
Individual, unlimited	\$20 per visit
Group, unlimited	\$20 per visit
Inpatient Mental Health	No copayment
unlimited	
Outpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab	\$20 per visit
unlimited	
Inpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab	No copayment
unlimited	
Durable Medical Equipment	50% coinsurance
Prosthetics	50% coinsurance
Orthotics⁴	50% coinsurance
Rehabilitative Care, Physical, Speech and Occupational Therapy	
Inpatient, max 60 days	No copayment
Outpatient Physical or Occupational Therapy, max 30 visits each per calendar year	\$20 per visit
Outpatient Speech Therapy, max 20 visits per calendar year	\$20 per visit
Diabetic Supplies	
Retail, 30-day supply	\$15 per item
Mail-Order, 90-day supply	\$37.50 per item
Insulin and Oral Agents	
Retail, 30-day supply	\$15 per item
Mail-Order, 90-day supply	\$37.50 per item
Diabetic Shoes	\$15 per pair
one pair per year, when medically necessary	
Hospice, max 210 days	No copayment
Skilled Nursing Facility	No copayment
max 45 days	

¹ Waived if provider is a preferred center.

² Waived if provider is a designated laboratory.

³ OTC contraceptives with a written physician order/prescription will be reimbursed at no member cost share. OTC contraceptives without a prescription will not be covered. Non-formulary contraceptives require prior authorization to be covered at no copayment. If not approved, 100% member liability applies.

⁴ Excludes shoe inserts.

Benefits **Enrollee Cost**

Prescription Drugs

Retail, 30-day supply	\$5 Tier 1, \$30 Tier 2, \$50 Tier 3
Mail Order, 90-day supply	\$12.50 Tier 1, \$75 Tier 2, \$125 Tier 3

Coverage includes injectable and self-injectable medications, fertility drugs and enteral formulas. OTC formulary drugs are subject to Tier 1 copayment. By law, generics match brand-name strength, purity and stability. Ask your doctor about generic alternatives.

Specialty Drugs

Certain specialty drugs, regardless of tier, require prior approval, are subject to clinical management programs and must be filled by a network specialty pharmacy. Contact Caremark Specialty Pharmacy Services at 1-800-237-2767. A representative will work with your doctor and arrange delivery. For more information, visit Rx Corner at www.cdphp.com.

Additional Benefits

Dental	Not covered
Vision	Not covered
Hearing Aids	Not covered
Out of Area	Coverage for emergency care out of area. College students are also covered for preapproved follow-up care.
Allergy Injections	No copayment
Diabetes Self-management Education	\$15 per visit
Glucometer	\$15 per item

Plan Highlights for 2015

CDPHP covers emergency care worldwide. CDPHP InMotion_{SM} is a free mobile smartphone fitness application with GPS technology to map your runs. View or share results at inmotion.cdphp.com. With Rx for Less, get deep discounts on specified generic prescriptions filled at any CVS, Walmart or Price Chopper. The LifePoints program allows you to earn points for healthy activities, then points are redeemed for gift cards worth up to \$365 per contract, per year. Go to cdphp.com/lifepoints to get started. Dedicated member services reps are available weekdays from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. We also have health experts who can find the best program or service for you. Simply call 1-888-94-CDPHP.

Participating Physicians

CDPHP has nearly 10,000 participating practitioners and providers.

Affiliated Hospitals

CDPHP is affiliated with most major hospitals in our service area. An out-of-network facility or Center of Excellence can be approved for special care needs.

Pharmacies and Prescriptions

CDPHP offers a **closed formulary** with few excluded drugs. Find participating pharmacies nationwide. Log in to Rx Corner at www.cdphp.com to view claims. Mail order saves money; find forms online or call 518-641-3700 or 1-800-777-2273. Some drugs require prior approval, and a few specialty drugs require clinical management programs and must be filled by a network specialty pharmacy.

Medicare Coverage

Medicare-primary NYSHIP retirees and dependents must enroll in CDPHP Group Medicare Rx (HMO). To qualify, you must have Medicare Parts A and B and live in one of the counties listed below.

Important Note: Only participating providers in the counties listed below are part of this HMO’s network within NYSHIP. Please be sure to check before receiving care that your provider participates with this HMO’s NYSHIP network.

NYSHIP Code Number 063

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Albany, Columbia, Fulton, Greene, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren and Washington

NYSHIP Code Number 300

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Broome, Chenango, Essex, Hamilton, Herkimer, Madison, Oneida, Otsego and Tioga

NYSHIP Code Number 310

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Delaware, Dutchess, Orange and Ulster

Capital District Physicians’ Health Plan, Inc. (CDPHP)

500 Patroon Creek Boulevard, Albany, NY 12206-1057

For information:

Member Services: 518-641-3700 or 1-800-777-2273

TTY: 1-877-261-1164

Web site: www.cdphp.com



Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Office Visits	\$20 per visit
Annual Adult Routine Physicals	No copayment
Well Child Care	No copayment
Specialty Office Visits	\$20 per visit
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	
Radiology ¹	\$20 per visit
Lab Tests	No copayment
Pathology	No copayment
EKG/EEG	\$20 per visit
Radiation	No copayment
Chemotherapy	No copayment
Women's Health Care/OB GYN	
Pap Tests	No copayment
Mammograms	No copayment
Prenatal Visits	No copayment
Postnatal Visits	No copayment
Bone Density Tests	No copayment
Family Planning Services	\$20 per visit
Infertility Services	\$20 per visit
Contraceptive Drugs	Applicable Rx copayment ²
Contraceptive Devices	No copayment
Inpatient Hospital Surgery¹	No copayment
Outpatient Surgery	
Hospital	\$75 per visit
Physician's Office	\$20 per visit
Outpatient Surgery Facility ¹	\$75 per visit
Emergency Room	\$75 per visit
(waived if admitted within 24 hours)	

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Urgent Care Facility	\$20 per visit
Ambulance	No copayment
Outpatient Mental Health	
Individual, ¹ unlimited	\$20 per visit ³
Group, ¹ unlimited	\$20 per visit ³
Inpatient Mental Health¹	No copayment
unlimited	
Outpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab¹	No copayment
Inpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab¹	No copayment
as many days as medically necessary	
Durable Medical Equipment¹	20% coinsurance
Prosthetics¹	20% coinsurance
Orthotics¹	20% coinsurance
Rehabilitative Care, Physical, Speech and Occupational Therapy	
Inpatient, max 30 days	No copayment
Outpatient Physical or Occupational Therapy ⁴	\$20 per visit
Outpatient Speech Therapy ⁴	\$20 per visit
Diabetic Supplies⁵	\$20 per item
Insulin and Oral Agents⁵	\$20 per item
Diabetic Shoes	\$20 per pair
unlimited pairs when medically necessary	
Hospice	No copayment
210 days maximum per lifetime	
Skilled Nursing Facility¹	No copayment
60 days per calendar year maximum	

¹ Empire's network provider must precertify in-network services, or services may be denied; Empire network providers cannot bill members beyond in-network copayment (if applicable) for covered services. For ambulatory surgery, preapproval is required for cosmetic/reconstructive procedures, outpatient transplants and ophthalmological or eye-related procedures.

² Certain prescription contraceptives are covered in full in accordance with the Affordable Care Act. To be covered in full, the prescription must be a generic drug or a brand-name drug with no generic equivalent and filled at a network pharmacy.

³ No copayment for visits at an outpatient mental health facility.

⁴ Up to 30 visits per calendar year combined between home, office or outpatient facility.

⁵ For diabetic DME/supplies, copayment applies for up to 52 combined items annually, then covered at 100%.

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Prescription Drugs	
Retail, 30-day supply	\$10 Tier 1, \$25 Tier 2, \$50 Tier 3
Mail Order, 90-day supply	\$20 Tier 1, \$50 Tier 2, \$100 Tier 3

Specialty Drugs

Specialty medications are only dispensed in 30-day supplies. Enrollees are required to pay the applicable copayment for each 30-day supply.

Additional Benefits

Dental Not covered

Vision Not covered

Hearing Aids Not covered

Out of Area The Guest Membership Program offers temporary coverage through the local BlueCross and/or BlueShield HMO plan for contract holders who are away from home for more than 90 days but less than 180 days, and for full-time students and other eligible dependents who are away from home for more than 90 days. The BlueCard Program covers enrollees traveling outside of the service area who may encounter an urgent or emergent situation and are not enrolled in the Guest Membership Program.

LiveHealth Online \$20 per visit

Plan Highlights for 2015

LiveHealth Online is a convenient way for you to interact with a doctor via live, two-way video on your computer or mobile device. Empire BlueCross BlueShield HMO provides a full range of benefits including low out-of-pocket costs. Log in to www.empireblue.com to find a list of your claims and payment status, email messages, your personal profile and healthcare provider information.

Participating Physicians

Our network provides access to over 65,000 provider locations.

Affiliated Hospitals

Members are covered through a comprehensive network of area hospitals (over 140) to which their participating physician has admitting privileges. HMO members may be directed to other hospitals to meet special needs. Our web site contains a list of all participating hospitals, including New York City hospitals.

Pharmacies and Prescriptions

Enrollees with prescription coverage can use local and national pharmacies. Members who use our mail service pay only two copayments for each 90-day supply of medication. Coverage includes contraceptive drugs and devices, injectable and self-injectable drugs, fertility drugs and enteral formulas. Empire BlueCross BlueShield HMO offers an **incented formulary**.

Medicare Coverage

Medicare-primary enrollees are required to enroll in MediBlue, the Empire BlueCross BlueShield **Medicare Advantage Plan**. To qualify, you must be enrolled in Medicare Parts A and B and live in one of the counties listed below.

Important Note: Only participating providers in the counties listed below are part of this HMO's network within NYSHIP. Please be sure to check before receiving care that your provider participates with this HMO's NYSHIP network.

NYSHIP Code Number 280

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Albany, Clinton, Columbia, Delaware, Essex, Fulton, Greene, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren and Washington

NYSHIP Code Number 290

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Bronx, Kings, Nassau, New York, Queens, Richmond, Rockland, Suffolk and Westchester

NYSHIP Code Number 320

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Sullivan and Ulster

Empire BlueCross BlueShield HMO

11 Corporate Woods Boulevard
P.O. Box 11800, Albany, NY 12211-0800

For information:

Empire BlueCross BlueShield HMO: 1-800-453-0113

For Medicare Advantage Plan

Preenrollment Information: 1-800-205-6551

TTY: 1-800-241-6894

Web site: www.empireblue.com



HEALTH PLAN OF NEW YORK
an EmblemHealth Company

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Office Visits	\$5 per visit
Annual Adult Routine Physicals	No copayment
Well Child Care	No copayment
Specialty Office Visits	\$10 per visit
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	
Radiology	No copayment
Lab Tests	No copayment
Pathology	No copayment
EKG/EEG	No copayment
Radiation	No copayment
Chemotherapy	\$10 per visit
Women's Health Care/OB GYN	
Pap Tests	No copayment
Mammograms	No copayment
Prenatal Visits	No copayment
Postnatal Visits	No copayment
Bone Density Tests	No copayment
Family Planning Services	\$5 PCP/ \$10 Specialist per visit
Infertility Services	\$10 per visit
Contraceptive Drugs¹	No copayment
Contraceptive Devices¹	No copayment
Inpatient Hospital Surgery	No copayment
Outpatient Surgery	
Hospital	No copayment
Physician's Office	\$5 PCP/ \$10 Specialist per visit
Outpatient Surgery Facility	No copayment
Emergency Room (waived if admitted)	\$75 per visit
Urgent Care Facility	\$5 PCP/\$10 Specialist
Ambulance	No copayment

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Outpatient Mental Health	
Individual, unlimited	No copayment
Group, unlimited	No copayment
Inpatient Mental Health unlimited	No copayment
Outpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab unlimited	\$5 PCP/ \$10 Specialist per visit
Inpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab unlimited	No copayment
Durable Medical Equipment	No copayment
Prosthetics	No copayment
Orthotics	No copayment
Rehabilitative Care, Physical, Speech and Occupational Therapy	
Inpatient, max 30 days	No copayment
Outpatient Physical or Occupational Therapy, max 90 visits for all outpatient rehabilitative care	\$10 per visit
Outpatient Speech Therapy, max 90 visits for all outpatient rehabilitative care	\$10 per visit
Diabetic Supplies	\$5 per 34-day supply
Insulin and Oral Agents	\$5 per 34-day supply
Diabetic Shoes² when medically necessary	No copayment
Hospice, max 210 days	No copayment
Skilled Nursing Facility unlimited	No copayment
Prescription Drugs	
Retail, 30-day supply	\$5 Tier 1, \$20 Tier 2
Mail Order, 90-day supply	\$7.50 Tier 1, \$30 Tier 2

Subject to drug formulary, includes fertility drugs, injectable and self-injectable medications and enteral formulas. Copayments reduced by 50% when utilizing

¹ Covered for FDA-approved contraceptive drugs and devices only.

² Precertification must be obtained from the participating vendor prior to purchase.

Prescription Drugs, *continued*

EmblemHealth mail order service. Up to a 90-day supply of generic or brand-name drugs may be obtained.

Specialty Drugs

Coverage through EmblemHealth Specialty Pharmacy Program. Specialty drugs include injectables and oral agents that are more complex to administer, monitor and store in comparison to traditional drugs. Specialty drugs require prior approval, which can be obtained by the HIP prescribing physician. Specialty drugs subject to the applicable Rx copay and Rx formulary.

Additional Benefits

Dental	Not covered
Vision	No copayment
Hearing Aids	Cochlear implants only
Out of Area	Covered for emergency services only
Eyeglasses	\$45 per pair; one pair every 24 months for selected frames
Laser Vision Correction (LASIK)	Discount Program
Fitness Program	Discount Program
Alternative Medicine Program	Discount Program
Artificial Insemination	\$10 per visit
Prostate Cancer Screening	No copayment
Dialysis Treatment	\$10 per visit

Plan Highlights for 2015

The HIP Prime network has over 54,000 providers in more than 120,000 locations. HIP (an EmblemHealth company) offers more than 60 years' experience caring for union members and has the support of the New York State Central Labor Council. Our web site, www.emblemhealth.com, is available in English, Spanish, Chinese and Korean.

Participating Physicians

The HIP Prime network offers the choice of a traditional network of independent physicians who see patients in their own offices, as well as providers in physician group practices that offer most, if not all, of a member's medical needs under one roof. Group practices offer services in most major specialties such as cardiology and ophthalmology, plus ancillary services like lab tests, X-rays and pharmacy services.

Affiliated Hospitals

HIP Prime members have access to over 100 of the area's leading hospitals, including major teaching institutions.

Pharmacies and Prescriptions

Filling a prescription is easy with over 40,000 participating pharmacies nationwide, including over 4,700 participating pharmacies throughout New York State. HIP Prime members have access to a mail order program through Express Scripts. The HIP Prime Plan offers a **closed formulary**. Tier 1 includes generic drugs and Tier 2 includes brand-name drugs.

Medicare Coverage

Retirees who are not Medicare eligible are offered the same coverage as active employees. Medicare-primary retirees who reside in NYSHIP-approved downstate service counties are required to enroll in the VIP Premier (HMO) Medicare Plan, a **Medicare Advantage Plan** that provides Medicare benefits and more.

Important Note: Only participating providers in the counties listed below are part of this HMO's network within NYSHIP. Please be sure to check before receiving care that your provider participates with this HMO's NYSHIP network.

NYSHIP Code Number 050

A Network HMO and IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Bronx, Kings, Nassau, New York, Queens, Richmond, Suffolk and Westchester

NYSHIP Code Number 220

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Warren and Washington

NYSHIP Code Number 350

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Delaware, Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Sullivan and Ulster

EmblemHealth

55 Water Street, New York, NY 10041

For information:

Customer Service: 1-877-861-0175

TTY: 1-888-447-4833

Web site: www.emblemhealth.com



A product of Excellus BlueCross BlueShield

An Independent Licensee of the BlueCross BlueShield Association

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Office Visits	\$25 per visit
Annual Adult Routine Physicals	No copayment
Well Child Care	No copayment
Specialty Office Visits	\$40 per visit
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	
Radiology	\$40 per visit
Lab Tests	No copayment
Pathology	No copayment
EKG/EEG	No copayment
Radiation	\$25 per visit
Chemotherapy	\$25 per visit
Women's Health Care/OB GYN	
Pap Tests	No copayment
Mammograms	No copayment
Prenatal Visits	No copayment
Postnatal Visits	No copayment
Bone Density Tests	\$25 per visit
Family Planning Services	\$25 PCP/ \$40 Specialist per visit
Infertility Services	Applicable physician/ facility copayment
Contraceptive Drugs	Applicable Rx copayment ¹
Contraceptive Devices	Applicable copayment/ coinsurance ¹
Inpatient Hospital Surgery	
Physician	\$200 copayment or 20% coinsurance, whichever is less
Facility	No copayment
Outpatient Surgery	
Hospital	\$40 Physician copayment per visit
Physician's Office	\$50 copayment or 20% coinsurance, whichever is less
Outpatient Surgery Facility	\$50 per visit

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Emergency Room (waived if admitted)	\$100 per visit
Urgent Care Facility	\$35 per visit
Ambulance	\$100 per trip
Outpatient Mental Health	
Individual, unlimited	\$40 per visit
Group, unlimited	\$40 per visit
Inpatient Mental Health unlimited	No copayment
Outpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab unlimited	\$25 per visit
Inpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab unlimited	No copayment
Durable Medical Equipment	50% coinsurance
Prosthetics	50% coinsurance
Orthotics	50% coinsurance
Rehabilitative Care, Physical, Speech and Occupational Therapy	
Inpatient, max 60 days	No copayment
Outpatient Physical or Occupational Therapy, max 30 visits for all outpatient services combined	\$40 per visit
Outpatient Speech Therapy, max 30 visits for all outpatient services combined	\$40 per visit
Diabetic Supplies 30-day supply	\$25 per item
Insulin and Oral Agents 30-day supply	\$25 per item
Diabetic Shoes three pairs per year when medically necessary	50% coinsurance
Hospice , max 210 days	No copayment
Skilled Nursing Facility max 45 days per calendar year	No copayment

¹ Generic oral contraceptives and certain OTC contraceptive devices covered in full in accordance with the Affordable Care Act.

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Prescription Drugs	
Retail, 30-day supply	\$10 Tier 1, \$30 Tier 2, \$50 Tier 3 ²
Mail Order, 90-day supply	\$20 Tier 1, \$60 Tier 2, \$100 Tier 3 ²
Coverage includes injectable and self-injectable medications, fertility drugs and enteral formulas.	

Specialty Drugs

Specialty medications after the initial first fill must be purchased from one of our participating specialty pharmacies. A current list of specialty medications and pharmacies is available on our web site.

Additional Benefits

Dental.....Not covered

Vision.....\$40 per visit for eye exams associated with disease or injury

Hearing Aids.....Children to age 19:
Covered in full for up to two hearing aids every three years, \$40 copayment per visit for fittings

Out of Area.....The BlueCard and Away From Home Care Programs provide routine and urgent care coverage while traveling, for students away at college, members on extended out-of-town business and families living apart.

Hearing Exam.....\$40 per visit for routine (once every 12 months) and diagnostic

Maternity

Physician charge for delivery.....\$200 copayment or 20% coinsurance, whichever is less

Smoking Cessation.....The Quit For Life program is an award-winning support program to help you quit using tobacco for good. Call 1-800-442-8904 or go to www.quitnow.net/Excellus for more information.

Plan Highlights for 2015

New for 2015, all laboratory and pathology services are covered in full. No referrals required. Routine preventive services, such as adult physicals, mammograms, pap smears, prostate screenings and routine adult immunizations are covered in full.

Participating Physicians

HMOBlue is affiliated with more than 4,700 physicians and health care professionals.

Affiliated Hospitals

All hospitals within our designated service area participate with HMOBlue. Members may be directed to other hospitals to meet special needs when medically necessary.

Pharmacies and Prescriptions

HMOBlue members may purchase prescription drugs from over 60,000 participating FLRx Network pharmacies nationwide. We offer an **incented formulary**.

Medicare Coverage

HMOBlue offers the same benefits to Medicare-eligible NYSHIP enrollees. HMOBlue **coordinates coverage** with Medicare.

Important Note: Only participating providers in the counties listed below are part of this HMO's network within NYSHIP. Please be sure to check before receiving care that your provider participates with this HMO's NYSHIP network.

NYSHIP Code Number 072

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Broome, Cayuga, Chemung, Cortland, Onondaga, Oswego, Schuyler, Steuben, Tioga and Tompkins

NYSHIP Code Number 160

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Chenango, Clinton, Delaware, Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Montgomery, Oneida, Otsego and St. Lawrence

Excellus BlueCross BlueShield HMOBlue 072

333 Butternut Drive, Syracuse, NY 13214-1803
or

Excellus BlueCross BlueShield HMOBlue 160

12 Rhoads Drive, Utica, NY 13502

For information:

HMOBlue 072 Customer Service: 1-800-447-6269

HMOBlue 160 Customer Service: 1-800-722-7884

TTY: 1-877-398-2275

Web site: www.excellusbcbcs.com

² Should a doctor select a brand-name drug (Tier 2 or Tier 3) when an FDA-approved generic equivalent is available, the benefit will be based on the generic drug's cost, and the member will have to pay the difference, plus any applicable copayments. If your prescription has no approved generic available, your benefit will not be affected.



Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Office Visits	\$20 per visit
Annual Adult Routine Physicals	No copayment
Well Child Care	No copayment
Specialty Office Visits	\$20 per visit
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	
Radiology ¹	\$20 per visit
Lab Tests	\$10 per visit
Pathology	\$10 per visit
EKG/EEG	\$20 per visit
Radiation	\$20 per visit
Chemotherapy	\$20 per visit
Women's Health Care/OB GYN	
Pap Tests	No copayment
Mammograms	No copayment
Prenatal Visits	No copayment
Postnatal Visits	No copayment
Bone Density Tests	No copayment
Family Planning Services	\$20 per visit
Infertility Services	
Physician Office	\$20 per visit
Outpatient Surgery Facility	\$75 per visit
Contraceptive Drugs	Applicable Rx copayment ²
Contraceptive Devices	Applicable Rx copayment ²
Inpatient Hospital Surgery	No copayment
Outpatient Surgery	
Hospital	\$75 per visit
Physician's Office	\$20 per visit
Outpatient Surgery Facility	\$75 per visit
Emergency Room	\$100 per visit
(waived if admitted within 24 hours)	
Urgent Care Facility	\$35 per visit ³

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Ambulance	\$100 per trip
Outpatient Mental Health	
Individual, unlimited	\$20 per visit
Group, unlimited	\$20 per visit
Inpatient Mental Health	No copayment
unlimited	
Outpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab	\$20 per visit
unlimited	
Inpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab	No copayment
unlimited	
Durable Medical Equipment	50% coinsurance
Prosthetics	No copayment
Orthotics⁴	No copayment
Rehabilitative Care, Physical, Speech and Occupational Therapy	
Inpatient, max 45 days	No copayment
Outpatient Physical or Occupational Therapy, max 20 visits per year for all outpatient services combined	\$20 per visit
Outpatient Speech Therapy, max 20 visits per year for all outpatient services combined	\$20 per visit
Diabetic Supplies	
Retail, 30-day supply	\$20 per item
Mail Order	Not available
Insulin and Oral Agents	\$20 per item or applicable Rx copayment, whichever is less
Diabetic Shoes	No copayment one pair per year when medically necessary
Hospice, unlimited	No copayment
Skilled Nursing Facility	No copayment max 45 days

¹ Office based: \$20 copayment; hospital based: \$40 copayment.

² Copayment applies only for select Tier 3 oral contraceptive drugs and devices.

³ Within the service area. Outside the service area: \$20 copayment plus the difference in cost between Independent Health's payment and the provider's charges, if any. \$35 per visit to a participating After Hours Care Facility.

⁴ Excludes shoe inserts.

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
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Prescription Drugs	
Retail, 30-day supply	\$5 Tier 1, \$25 Tier 2, \$60 Tier 3
Mail Order, 90-day supply	\$12.50 Tier 1, \$62.50 Tier 2, \$150 Tier 3 (maintenance drugs)
Coverage includes injectable and self-injectable medications, fertility drugs and enteral formulas.	
Specialty Drugs	
Benefits are provided for specialty drugs by two contracted specialty pharmacy vendors, Reliance Rx Pharmacy and Walgreens Specialty Pharmacy. Specialty drugs, available through the prescription drug benefit, include select high-cost injectables and oral agents such as oral oncology drugs. Specialty drugs require prior approval and are subject to the applicable Rx copayment based on the formulary status of the medication. Members pay one copayment for each 30-day supply.	
Additional Benefits	
Dental	\$50 per cleaning and 20% discount on additional services at select providers (preventive only)
Vision	\$10 per visit once every 12 months (routine only)
Hearing Aids	Discounts available at select locations
Out of Area	While traveling outside the service area, members are covered for emergency and urgent care situations only.
Home Health Care , max 40 visits	\$20 per visit
Eyeglasses	\$50 for single vision lenses, frames 40% off retail price
Urgent Care in Service Area for After Hours Care	\$50 per visit
Wellness Services	\$250 allowance for use at a participating facility

Plan Highlights for 2015

Independent Health has led the way in providing Western New York with innovative solutions that set the standard for quality and service for health plans. We've consistently earned top ratings from NCQA, which is why you can feel comfortable and confident choosing us for your health coverage needs.

Participating Physicians

Independent Health is affiliated with over 4,000 physicians and health care providers throughout the eight counties of Western New York.

Affiliated Hospitals

Independent Health members are covered at all Western New York hospitals and may be directed to other hospitals when medically necessary.

Pharmacies and Prescriptions

All retail pharmacies in Western New York participate. Members may obtain prescriptions out of the service area by using our National Pharmacy Network, which includes 58,000 pharmacies nationwide.

Medicare Coverage

Medicare-primary NYSHIP retirees must enroll in Medicare Encompass, a **Medicare Advantage Plan**. Copayments differ from the copayments of a NYSHIP-primary enrollee. Call for detailed information.

Important Note: Only participating providers in the counties listed below are part of this HMO's network within NYSHIP. Please be sure to check before receiving care that your provider participates with this HMO's NYSHIP network.

NYSHIP Code Number 059

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, Orleans and Wyoming

Independent Health

511 Farber Lakes Drive, Buffalo, NY 14221

For information:

Customer Service: 1-800-501-3439

TTY: 716-631-3108

Web site: www.independenthealth.com



Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Office Visits	\$25 per visit (\$10 for children) ¹
Annual Adult Routine Physicals	No copayment
Well Child Care	No copayment
Specialty Office Visits	\$40 per visit
Diagnostic/Therapeutic Services	
Radiology	\$25 per visit
Lab Tests	No copayment
Pathology	No copayment
EKG/EEG	\$25 per visit
Radiation	\$40 per visit
Chemotherapy	\$40 per visit
Women's Health Care/OB GYN	
Pap Tests	No copayment
Mammograms	No copayment
Prenatal Visits	\$25 for initial visit only
Postnatal Visits	No copayment
Bone Density Tests	No copayment
Family Planning Services	\$25 PCP/ \$40 Specialist per visit
Infertility Services	\$25 PCP/ \$40 Specialist per visit
Contraceptive Drugs ²	No copayment ³
Contraceptive Devices ²	No copayment ³
Inpatient Hospital Surgery	No copayment
Outpatient Surgery	
Hospital	\$40 per visit
Physician's Office	\$25 PCP/ \$40 Specialist per visit
Outpatient Surgery Facility	\$40 per visit
Emergency Room (waived if admitted)	\$75 per visit
Urgent Care Facility	\$25 per visit
Ambulance	\$50 per trip

Benefits	Enrollee Cost
Outpatient Mental Health	
Individual, unlimited	\$25 per visit
Group, unlimited	\$25 per visit
Inpatient Mental Health	
unlimited	No copayment
Outpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab	
unlimited	\$25 per visit
Inpatient Drug/Alcohol Rehab	
unlimited	No copayment
Durable Medical Equipment	50% coinsurance
Prosthetics	50% coinsurance
Orthotics	50% coinsurance
Rehabilitative Care, Physical, Speech and Occupational Therapy	
Inpatient, max 2 months per condition	No copayment
Outpatient Physical or Occupational Therapy, max 30 visits for all outpatient services combined	\$40 per visit
Outpatient Speech Therapy max 30 visits for all outpatient services combined	\$40 per visit
Diabetic Supplies	\$25 per boxed item 31-day supply
Insulin and Oral Agents	\$25 per boxed item 31-day supply
Diabetic Shoes	50% coinsurance unlimited pairs when medically necessary
Hospice, max 210 days	No copayment
Skilled Nursing Facility	No copayment max 45 days/calendar year
Prescription Drugs	
Retail, 30-day supply	\$10 Tier 1, \$30 Tier 2, \$50 Tier 3
Mail Order, 90-day supply	\$25 Tier 1, \$75 Tier 2, \$125 Tier 3

¹ PCP Sick Visits for Children (newborn up to age 26) \$10 per visit.

² Over-the-counter contraceptives are not covered.

³ Brand-name contraceptives with generic equivalents require member payment of the difference in cost between the generic and brand-name drugs plus the Tier 1 copayment.

Prescription Drugs, *continued*

If a member requests a brand-name drug to the prescribed generic drug, he/she pays the difference between the cost of the generic and the brand-name plus the Tier 1 copayment. Coverage includes fertility, injectable and self-injectable medications and enteral formulas. Approved prescription generic contraceptive drugs and devices and those without a generic equivalent are covered at 100% under retail and mail order.

Specialty Drugs

MVP uses CVS/caremark for specialty pharmacy services. Copayments are listed under the Prescription Drug benefit.

Additional Benefits

Dental.....\$25 per preventive visit (children to age 19)

Vision.....\$25 per exam every 24 months (routine only)

Hearing Aids.....Not covered

Out of Area.....While traveling outside the service area, coverage is provided for emergency situations only.

Plan Highlights for 2015

Each MVP subscriber receives \$100 HealthDollars to spend on health, wellness and fitness programs! No referrals required! As an MVP member, you can enjoy significant savings on a wide variety of health-related items, plus special discounts on LASIK eye surgery, eyewear and alternative medicine.

Participating Physicians

MVP Health Care provides services through more than 28,500 participating physicians and health practitioners located throughout its service area.

Affiliated Hospitals

MVP members are covered at participating area hospitals to which their MVP physician has admitting privileges. MVP members may be directed to other hospitals to meet special needs when medically necessary upon prior approval from MVP.

Pharmacies and Prescriptions

Virtually all pharmacy “chain” stores and many independent pharmacies within the MVP service area participate with MVP. Also, MVP offers convenient mail order service for select maintenance drugs. MVP offers an **incented formulary**.

Medicare Coverage

Medicare-primary NYSHIP enrollees must enroll in the MVP Gold Plan, MVP Health Care’s **Medicare Advantage Plan**. Some of the MVP Gold Plan’s copayments may vary from the MVP HMO Plan’s copayments. The MVP HMO plan coordinates coverage with Medicare in the North Region (360). Please contact Member Services for further details.

Important Note: Only participating providers in the counties listed below are part of this HMO’s network within NYSHIP. Please be sure to check before receiving care that your provider participates with this HMO’s NYSHIP network.

NYSHIP Code Number 058

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates

NYSHIP Code Number 060

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Albany, Columbia, Fulton, Greene, Hamilton, Montgomery, Rensselaer, Saratoga, Schenectady, Schoharie, Warren and Washington

NYSHIP Code Number 330

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Broome, Cayuga, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware, Herkimer, Jefferson, Lewis, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego, Otsego, Tioga and Tompkins

NYSHIP Code Number 340

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan and Ulster

NYSHIP Code Number 360

An IPA HMO serving individuals living or working in the following counties in New York: Franklin and St. Lawrence

MVP Health Care

P.O. Box 2207, 625 State Street
Schenectady, NY 12301-2207

For information:

Customer Service: 1-888-MVP-MBRS (687-6277)

TTY: 1-800-662-1220

Web site: www.mvphealthcare.com

NYSHIP ONLINE

NYSHIP Online is designed to provide you with targeted information about your NYSHIP benefits. Visit the New York State Department of Civil Service web site at <https://www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits> and select your group if prompted.

Ask your agency HBA for a copy of the NYSHIP Online flyer that provides helpful navigation information.



Reminder: If you are an active employee of New York State and a registered user of MyNYSHIP, you may change your option online during the Option Transfer Period. See your agency HBA if you have questions.

HOW TO FIND ANSWERS TO YOUR BENEFIT QUESTIONS AND GAIN ACCESS TO ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- If you are an active employee, contact your agency HBA, usually located in your agency's Personnel Office.
- If you have questions regarding health insurance claims for The Empire Plan, call 1-877-7-NYSHIP (1-877-769-7447) toll free and choose the appropriate program on the main menu. HMO enrollees should contact their HMO directly.
- A comprehensive list of contact information for HBAs, HMOs, government agencies, Medicare and other important resources is available on NYSHIP Online in the Using Your Benefits section.

The screenshot shows the NYSHIP Online website interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for "Job Seekers", "Employees", "Retirees", and "HR Professionals". Below these is a secondary navigation bar with links for "Civil Service Home", "Site Map", "HIPAA Privacy Information", "About Us", "Awards", "Tech Help", and "Copyright/Disclaimer". The main header features the "nyshiponline" logo. Below the logo is a navigation bar with links for "Current Topics", "Health Benefits", "Other Benefits", "Using Your Benefits", "Planning to Retire?", "Find a Provider", "Search", "Calendar", and "What's New?". A secondary navigation bar includes "Your Group • Your Plan", "Change Your Group | Text Version | Text Adjust", and "Self-Service Login (MyNYSHIP)".

Using Your Benefits

[Empire Plan Copayments](#)

[Telephone Numbers](#) - General contact information for health and other benefits, benefit funds, and State and U.S. government.

[Publications](#) - A library of recent publications related to your benefits.

[Empire Plan Providers, Pharmacies and Services](#)

[Forms](#) - Empire Plan Claims Forms and Non-Participating Provider Claims Forms and Administrative Forms.

[2014 Empire Plan Flexible Formulary | PDF Version](#)

[Drugs that Require Prior Authorization](#)

[Specialty Pharmacy Drug List](#)

[January 2014 At A Glance | PDF Version](#) - Easy to access benefits summary that can answer most of your general questions.

[Archived Publications](#)

[Health Benefits Administrators](#)

[Young Adult Option Coverage](#)

[Format Options for Forms and Publications](#)

[Military Leave Benefit Extension for Employees of the State of New York](#)

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NOTES



New York State
Department of Civil Service
Employee Benefits Division
P.O. Box 1068
Schenectady, New York 12301-1068
<https://www.cs.ny.gov>



2015 Health Insurance Choices (Unsettled Actives) –
November 2014

It is the policy of the New York State Department of Civil Service to provide reasonable accommodation to ensure effective communication of information in benefits publications to individuals with disabilities. These publications are also available on the Department of Civil Service web site (<https://www.cs.ny.gov>). Click on Benefit Programs then NYSHIP Online for timely information that meets universal accessibility standards adopted by New York State for NYS Agency web sites. If you need an auxiliary aid or service to make benefits information available to you, please contact your agency Health Benefits Administrator. COBRA and Young Adult Option Enrollees, contact the Employee Benefits Division.

Health Insurance Choices was printed using recycled paper and environmentally sensitive inks. Choices 2015/Unsettled Actives NY1084



The New York State Department of Civil Service, which administers NYSHIP, produced this booklet in cooperation with NYSHIP administrators and Joint Labor/Management Committees on Health Benefits.

Care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of the material contained in this booklet. However, the HMO contracts and The Empire Plan certificate of insurance with amendments are the controlling documents for benefits available under NYSHIP.