



NY 23-24

MEMORANDUM

TO: New York State Health Benefits Administrators
FROM: Employee Benefits Division
SUBJECT: October 2023 *Empire Plan Special Report* for NY Active Employees
Represented by PEF and UUP
DATE: October 31, 2023

Effective January 1, 2024, there will be Empire Plan benefit changes as a result of the recently ratified contracts between the State and the Public Employees Federation (PEF) and the United University Professions (UUP).

Special Empire Plan Report

An October 2023 *Empire Plan Special Report* for affected NY Active employees (NY1483) is now available online and will soon be mailed to enrollee homes and agencies. The October *Report* includes information about reduced in-network maximum out-of-pocket limits, single visit copayment, new reimbursement methodology for non-network claims and a new Center of Excellence for Substance Use Disorder. **Note:** Since copayments are not changing, group-specific copayment cards are still accurate and enrollees may contact HBAs for replacement copies.

Distribution

The October 2023 publication will begin to mail to enrollee homes in late October-early November. The mail files were pulled from NYBEAS on October 28, 2023, so any enrollee who was not on the file on that date should be provided with a copy. We will also ship two copies of the publication to agencies.

January 1 Benefit Changes Online Presentation

An informational presentation about the benefit changes has been created and is available online. A QR code is included in the *Report* to access the presentation using a mobile device or tablet. The approximately 12-minute online resource can also be accessed on NYSHIP Online under What's New.

Publications Available on NYSHIP Online: www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits

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