



NY 23-25

MEMORANDUM

TO: New York State Health Benefits Administrators
FROM: Employee Benefits Division
SUBJECT: October 2023 *Empire Plan Reports* for NY Active Groups and NYS Retirees
DATE: October 31, 2023

The October 2023 *Empire Plan Reports* for NY Active are now available online and will soon be mailed to enrollee homes and agencies. Due to differences in collective bargaining status, there are settled and unsettled versions of the Reports, as follows:

- **Settled (NY1480)** applies to the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA), judges, justices and nonjudicial employees and employees designated Management/Confidential (M/C) of the Unified Court System (UCS) and employees designated M/C; Legislature.
- **Unsettled (NY1481)** applies to the Agency Police Services Unit (APSU) represented by the Police Benevolent Association of New York State (PBANYS); Council 82 (C-82); District Council 37 (DC-37); New York State Correctional Officers and Police Benevolent Association (NYSCOPBA); Troopers and Supervisors of the New York State Police represented by the Police Benevolent Association (PBA); and the BCI Unit of the New York State Police represented by the Police Investigators Association (PIA).

Note: Refer to HBA Memo NY 23-24 for information about the October 2023 *Special Empire Plan Report* for enrollees represented by the Public Employees Federation (PEF) and the United University Professions (UUP).

The *Reports* explain changes to The Empire Plan and NYSHIP and have important reminders for enrollees, including information on the assignment of benefits for non-participating Medical/Surgical providers, preventive vaccines and boosters updates and the Empire BlueCross name change to Anthem Blue Cross. The unsettled version also includes information about the 2024 In-Network Out-of-Pocket Maximum Limits, the Building Healthy Families Program, the Carelon Behavioral Health name change and the new MHSU benefits for eating disorders and online therapy.

There is also an October 2023 *Empire Plan Report* for Retirees of NYS agencies and Participating Employers (PEs) (AL2016) and much of the content mirrors that of the settled NY active *Report*.

Distribution

The *Reports* will begin to mail to enrollees' homes in 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 send you two copies of each *Report*.

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

You can also access the *Reports* online under the Using Your Benefits tab on the NYSHIP Online homepage, then click on Current Publications.

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