



**NYSHIP**  
New York State  
Health Insurance Program

# 2018 Annual Webinar for Participating Agencies

**New York State Department of Civil Service  
Employee Benefits Division**

Prepared for use by the Department of Civil Service, Employee Benefits Division representatives only.

# Agenda

- Financial Update
- Benefit Changes
- Federal Health Care Reform Update
- Benefit Administration
- Questions & Answers





## Financial Update

Ron Kuiken – Assistant Director of Financial Management



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## Financial Update

**Presenter- Ron Kuiken, Assistant Director, Financial Services**

**New York State Department of Civil Service  
Employee Benefits Division**

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# Topics

- Premium Development
- Projected 2018 Empire Plan Experience
- Projected 2019 Rate Renewal Information
- NYSHIP Billing Statement Change

# Premium Development

- Goals:           Lowest Premium  
                      Rate Stability  
                      Timely Approval

# Empire Plan Rate Components

- Hospital +
  - Medical +
  - MHSA +
  - Rx Drug +
  - Administrative Expense =
  - **Gross Rates**
- Dividends
  - Interest
  - = Net Rate**

# Cost Components

## Key Components

- Base Period (2018) Incurred Claims x
- Trend Factor =
- Rate Period Incurred Claims +
- Retention (Administrative Fee/Other) +
- Margin =
- Gross Premium Charge



# 2018 Premium Development Recap

- 7.1% Gross Premium Increase
- \$70.0 million in dividend application
- 8.2% Empire Plan Net Premium Increase

# Projected Year 2018 Empire Plan Experience<sup>1</sup> (000's)

	Blue Cross Hospital	UHC Medical	Beacon MHSA	CVS Drug	Total
<b>Premium</b>	\$3,278,835	\$3,293,913	\$283,686	\$2,014,422	\$8,897,856
<b>Incurred Claims</b>	\$3,104,200	\$3,106,647	\$260,940	\$1,998,014	\$8,469,801
<b>Administrative Expense</b>	<u>\$93,303</u>	<u>\$194,130</u>	<u>\$15,562</u>	<u>\$30,097</u>	<u>\$333,092</u>
<b>Gain/(Loss)</b>	<b>\$81,332</b>	<b>(\$6,864)</b>	<b>\$7,184</b>	<b>\$13,311</b>	<b>\$94,963</b>

(1) 2019 Rate Renewal Submissions

# 2019 Rate Renewal

- Projected Net Premium Increase: 0.7%
- Includes 6.2% Trend
- Rate Includes 0% margin
- Rate action is considerably lower than the Plan's historical average annual increase due to the re-procurement of the Prescription Drug Program and the implementation of benefit changes effective January 1, 2019
- \$150 Million Dividend Application

# Projected Dividends All Payors (in Millions)

	<b>Dividends</b>
<b>Available as of 12/31/17</b>	<b>\$220.7</b>
2017 Earned	+ \$260.2
2018 Projected Applied	- \$70.0
<b>Projected Available 12/31/18</b>	<b>\$410.9</b>
2018 Projected Earned	+ \$107.9
2019 Projected Applied	- \$150.0
<b>Projected Available as of 12/31/19</b>	<b>\$368.8</b>

# NYSHIP Billing Statement Change

- Beginning in December, monthly NYSHIP billing statements will be updated with a new remittance page
- The new remittance page will include an agency “scan line” to improve processing speed and accuracy
- Agencies will detach the top portion of the new remittance page and send it, along with the check/payment, to EBD’s banking vendor using the provided blue envelopes.
- December billing statement (January 2019 Coverage) will include an insert letter announcing the change

# Questions?





# Benefit Changes for 2019

MaryEllen



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## Benefit Update

Presenter- Mindy Beyer  
Contract Manager

New York State Department of Civil Service  
Employee Benefits Division

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# Benefit Changes for 2019

- Medical, Hospital, and Mental Health & Substance Abuse changes agreed to by NYS employee unions will be extended to PAs/PEs in 2019 as follows:

In-Network Medical	Current Copayment	Change Effective 1/1/19
Office Visit, Office Surgery, Radiology, Lab, PT, Chiropractic, OT, Convenience Care	\$20	\$25
Non-Hospital Urgent Care Center Visit	\$20	\$30
Non-Hospital Outpatient Surgical Location Visit	\$30	\$50
Licensed Ambulance Service	\$35	\$70

In-Network Hospital	Current Copayment	Change Effective 1/1/19
Outpatient Physical Therapy	\$20	\$25
Urgent Care Visit, Outpatient Services for Diagnostic Radiology and Lab	\$40	\$50
Outpatient Surgery	\$60	\$95
Emergency Department Visit	\$70	\$100
Skilled Nursing Facility Days (In and Out of Network)	365 x 2	120 x 2

# Benefit Changes for 2019

In-Network Mental Health & Substance Abuse	Current Copayment	Change Effective 1/1/19
Mental Health Professional Office Visit	\$20	\$25
Outpatient Substance Abuse Treatment Program Visit	\$20	\$25
Emergency Department Visit	\$70	\$100

Non-Network Benefits	Current Deductible/Coinsurance	Change Effective 1/1/19
Deductible	\$1,000 Enrollee \$1,000 Spouse/DP \$1,000 Children (combined)	\$1,250 Enrollee \$1,250 Spouse/DP \$1,250 Children (combined)
Coinsurance	\$3,000 Enrollee \$3,000 Spouse/DP \$3,000 Children (combined)	\$3,750 Enrollee \$3,750 Spouse/DP \$3,750 Children (combined)

- **Prescription Drug Program:** Effective January 1, 2019, the 30-day quantity limit for maintenance medications required by the New to You Program will be eliminated.

# Questions?





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## Federal Health Care Reform Update

Presenter – Jesse Horton  
Policy Analysis and Strategic Planning Unit

# PA & PE PPACA Requirements

- The “individual mandate” has been repealed for 2019, but employer reporting requirements remain in effect
- Employer Shared Responsibility provisions, commonly known as the “employer mandate”
- Reporting Requirements to which Empire and Excelsior Plan employers must adhere
- Dependent Social Security Number solicitation
- Penalty Letters
- Each employer is responsible for their own compliance!

# Employer Shared Responsibility Provisions

- “Employer Mandate”
- Large employers must offer affordable and comprehensive health insurance benefits to 95% of full-time employees
- Failure to comply could result in severe federal penalties
- Who is a “large employer”?
  - Employers with 50 or more employees meeting federal full-time criteria
  - Employee count is based on the number of employees during the preceding calendar year

# Reporting Requirements

- All NYSHIP employers are subject to PPACA reporting requirements
  - Including those not designated as “Large Employers”
- Employers must provide a form, known as Form 1095-B or 1095-C, to all full-time employees, retirees, vestees, dependent survivors, and COBRA enrollees
- These forms must be provided to employees and enrollees by 1/31/19 and to the IRS by 2/28/19 if filing on paper and 4/1/19 if filing electronically
- Employers do not have to report for Medicare-primary enrollees

# What Form Should My Employer Use?

- Employers designated as “Large Employers” should provide Form 1095-C to its employees and enrollees
- All other employers should provide Form 1095-B to its Empire Plan enrollees
- For each of the last two years, the IRS has extended the due dates – we do not expect a similar extension this year



# Dependent SSN Solicitation

- Form 1095-B and Form 1095-C use Social Security numbers to identify enrollees
- Employers must make three “good faith efforts” to solicit missing dependent SSNs:
  1. At the time of enrollment;
  2. By December 31 of the year following enrollment; and
  3. Once in the following year
- NYSHIP employers still must ask for dependent SSNs upon enrollment

# Penalty Letters

- IRS is sending penalty notices for prior tax years
- Penalty letters will be addressed to the individual whose name appears on the IRS Business Master File
- Alert your tax and finance department
- Responses are time sensitive!

## EBD Assistance

- EBD has two downloadable reports available to assist NYSHIP employers with these requirements
  - The first report shows all enrolled dependents with a missing SSN
  - The second report provides all of the information to be included in Part III of Form 1095-C or Part IV of Form 1095-B
- HBA Memos PA15-23, PAEX15-21, PA 16-02, PA EX 16-02 provide information on how to access these reports
- EBD FAQ: <http://www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits/nyship/shared/publications/faq/2015/pa-pe-ppaca-faq.pdf>

# Questions?



# Benefits Administration Topics

- Department of Civil Service Systems and Access
- Submitting Requests to EBD
- Medicare and NYSHIP
- Communications and Publications Update
- EBD Contacts



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## Department of Civil Service Systems and Access

Presenter- Tim Burke

New York State Department of Civil Service  
Employee Benefits Division

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# The Department of Civil Service (DCS) Systems NYBEAS and HBA Online

Agencies who participate in NYSHIP are granted access to Department of Civil Service (Department) systems. The following provides detailed information regarding the systems purpose and how to obtain, remove or change who has access.

# The Department of Civil Service (DCS) Systems NYBEAS and HBA Online

NYBEAS is:

The New York Benefits Eligibility and Accounting System (NYBEAS) is the system that maintains New York State Health Insurance Program (NYSHIP) enrollment information for NYSHIP participating agencies and employers.



# The Department of Civil Service (DCS) Systems NYBEAS and HBA Online

HBA Online is:


an online resource that contains current and historical NYSHIP information, as well as up-to-date memos and announcements specifically prepared for NYSHIP participating agencies. The Department communicates with HBAs through HBA Online.

# The Department of Civil Service (DCS) Systems NYBEAS and HBA Online

Who needs access to NYBEAS and HBA Online?

The agency staff member (s) who work directly with employee benefits and is responsible for providing benefit information to their members and enrolling and updating enrollees benefit information. EBD refers to the staff responsible for administering NYSHIP benefits as the agency Health Benefits Administrator (HBA).

# NYBEAS



[Home](#) | [Worklist](#) | [Add to Favorites](#) | [Sign Out](#)

**Menu**

Search:

- My Favorites
- Benefits**
  - History
  - Plan History
  - Transactions
- Billing
- COBRA
- MyNYSHIP
- NYBEAS Processes
- NYBEAS Reports
- NYSTEP Review
- Income Protection Plan(IPP)
- EBD Call Center
- Data Corrections
- Workforce Administration
- System Announcement
- Workforce Monitoring
- Set Up HRMS
- Worklist
- Tree Manager
- Reporting Tools
- User Info
- PeopleTools
- [Change My Password](#)

**Main Menu >**

**Benefits**

Select benefit plans, track company cars & FMLA, calculate leave accrual & annuity, maintain primary job, NDT, FSA details, auto enrollment, COBRA, and merchants.

**History**  
Allows users to view history of transactions for a given enrollee.

- [NYBEAS Update History](#)
- [Archived Accounting](#)
- [Billing Options](#)
- [Direct Pay Transaction ID](#)
- [Employee Compact History](#)
- [Employee Information Changes](#)
- [Enrollee Supplemental E-Box](#)
- [DP Enrollee Billing Number](#)
- [Medicare Elig 65 Letters](#)
- [Letter Notification](#)
- [Life Insurance Premium](#)
- [Med Advantage HMO Transactions](#)
- [National Medical Support Order](#)
- [OOP Eligibility History](#)
- [Sick Leave History](#)
- [OSC Salary Grade Inquiry](#)
- [OSC Unsettled Group](#)
- [Blue Cross](#)
- [CMS/RDS Data](#)
- [DEAS](#)
- [Conversion Data](#)
- [Empire Card](#)
- [PEP](#)
- [Search](#)
- [Caremark EGWP](#)

**Plan History**

Tracks history of rates, department data, broadcast message and other data associated with NYSHIP.


- [Broadcast Messages](#)
- [Flat Rate Summary](#)
- [Message Agent Log](#)
- [Review NYBEAS/NYSTEP JobCodes](#)
- [Department Data](#)
- [Agency Recon Report Inquiry](#)

**Transactions**

Allows for the processing of NYBEAS transactions that change an enrollee's coverage.

- [Young Adult Enrollment](#)
- [Benefit Plan Change](#)
- [Benefit Program Change](#)
- [Billing Option Change](#)
- [Cancel Enrollment](#)
- [Change Coverage](#)
- [COBRA Disability](#)
- [Comments](#)
- [Contribution Rate Change](#)
- [Corrections Requests](#)
- [Unsettled Grp Contribution Chg](#)
- [Dependent Add](#)
- [Dependent/Beneficiary](#)
- [Dependent Delete](#)
- [EGWP Manual Action Page](#)
- [Empire Card Request/History](#)
- [Enroll/Waive Benefits](#)
- [Federal Qualification Change](#)
- [Letter Notification](#)
- [Marriage Domestic Partner](#)
- [Medicare Change](#)
- [Medicare Part D Change](#)
- [MRX Exception](#)
- [National Medical Support Order](#)
- [Payment Method Change](#)
- [PE First Eligibility Dates](#)
- [PE Set Rate Qualifier](#)
- [Personal / Employment](#)
- [Preferred Payment Change](#)
- [Rate Qualifier Change](#)

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# NYBEAS

Below are some examples to show what NYBEAS is used for:

- Enrollments (processing and viewing)
- Changing coverage
- Adding /deleting dependents
- Marital status changes
- Enrollee address changes
- Running agency reconciliations
- Medicare Transactions

# HBA Online



Services News Government Local

Q Search

Location

Translat

Department of Civil Service

Online Services

Job Seekers

State Employees

Retirees

HR Professionals

**hba**\_online  
benefits resource center

HBA Online has a new web address, <https://www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits/hba>. Please update any bookmarked pages.

You Should Know...

Easy Reference

Publications & Forms

HBA Memos

Policy Memos

Phone Numbers / Links

Meetings & More

Health Plan Choices

HBA Manuals

E-Learning

HIPAA Privacy Information

Site Map

Contact Us / Disclaimer

NYSHIP Home

10/14/2017 9:04 am

Find the benefit, click on the group. *Benefits vary by group.*

**Current Topics**

2016 PA/PE Webinars

Young Adult Option Coverage

**General Information Book for:**

NY Active

NY Retiree

Participating Employers (PEs)

Participating Agencies (PAs)

**Pre-retirement Planning**

New York State and PE



NYS Agencies

Participating Agencies and  
Participating Employers

**dental**

APSU

C-82

MC

NYSCOPBA

PBA Supervisors

PBA Troopers

PE

PEF

PIA

SEHP

**vision** Davis Vision Information

APSU

C-82

MC

**life**

M/C

**IPP** Income Protection Plan

M/C

Legislature

Special Enrollees

DC-37

**survivor benefits**

New York State Active Employees

**workers' compensation**

ARS Publications for Executive  
Branch Agencies and Unified Court  
System

ARS Manual



# HBA Online

Below are some examples to show what HBA online is used for:

- HBA memos
- Policy memos
- HBA Manuals
- Forms
- E- Learning videos
- Listing of NYBEAS system announcements
- Empire Plan resource materials
- Ordering publications
- Premium costs

# HBA Online and NYBEAS System Access

How does agency staff obtain access to NYBEAS and HBA online?

# HBA Online and NYBEAS System Access

Agencies must first designate a Data Access Officer (DAO).

The DAO is the officer of the agency who is authorized to request user permissions to NYBEAS and HBA Online.

**There should also be a back up DAO named**



# NYBEAS and HBA Online System Access

## Data Access Officer (DAO)

- The DAO should be established by each agency
- If you do not have a DAO please refer to Memo PA18-02, fill out the attached form EBD-545 and submit by fax or mail
- If you are not sure of your DAO, your EBD contact can assist by calling the HBA help line at 518-474-2780
- To remove a DAO form EBD-545 should be filled out and submitted by fax or mail

# HBA Online and NYBEAS System Access

- The DAO may now update user permissions through the Civil Service Online Permission Request System (OCSPR)
- OCSPR is located on the DCS website at:  
<https://www.cs.ny.gov/login/?tlsd=/permissions-request/index.cfm>

# HBA Online and NYBEAS System Access

## Responsibilities of the DAO

- The DAO will provide HBA's with the necessary links to NYBEAS and HBA Online
- The DAO will provide the HBA(s) with the USER ID and Password that they have been assigned by DCS for NYBEAS and HBA Online

# HBA Online and NYBEAS System Access

Agencies must also designate a Health Benefits Administrator (s) (HBA (s) for the agency

The HBA is the person who works directly with employee benefits and is responsible for providing benefit information to their members and enrolling and updating enrollees benefit information on NYBEAS.

**There can be more than 1 HBA within an agency**

# Agency Contacts

In addition to the Data Access Officer (DAO) information EBD has on record for your agency, EBD maintains agency contact (s) information for each agency.

The information includes; Name, Address, Email and Phone Number for any staff member within the agency that EBD should contact with questions concerning enrollees. Some examples are:

**Health Benefit Administrators**

**Benefits Clerks**

**Agency Officers**

**Mayors**

**Superintendents**

**Chief Financial Officers**

# Agency Contacts

It is important to keep your agency contact information up to date. Any changes to this information should be reported to EBD in writing.

**Agency Name**

**Agency Code**

**Name**

**Address**

**Title**

**Email**

**Phone**

\*\* When providing an update be sure to include the name of any staff member that should no longer be listed as your contact.

# Questions?





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## **Submitting Changes to EBD (Correction requests Vs. Letters)**

**Presenter- MaryEllen Brucculeri**

**New York State Department of Civil Service  
Employee Benefits Division**

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# Submitting Requests to EBD

Agency HBAs are responsible for updating enrollee information by processing a transaction on NYBEAS. Some transactions will need EBD assistance, such as ;

- Transactions over 6 months old at time of processing
- A transaction you processed that needs to be corrected
- Any transaction that an agency is prevented from processing (could be various reasons)

# Submitting Requests to EBD

*Most NYBEAS transactions can be fixed by submitting a “Correction Request”*

Some will require a “letter” along with supporting documentation be sent to EBD

It depends on what needs to be fixed before you can determine whether to process a ‘Correction Request’ or to send a “letter”

# Submitting Requests to EBD



# Transactions Requiring a Correction

When a mistake is made when entering and saving the transaction on NYBEAS, the correction will normally involve:

- Correcting (Change) an effective date, or;
- Deleting (Delete) a transaction processed in error

The appropriate correction request would be a 'Change' or 'Delete'.

Note- Most mistakes are the result of not referencing the documents provided or double checking the effective date before saving.

# Transactions Requiring a Correction

Below is an example of a request to “change” a DEP/NWB effective date.

Benefits								
Plan Type	Txn Type	Action	Reason	Benefit Plan	Covrg Cd	Event Dt	Request Dt	Effdt
10	Change	DEP	NWE	001	4			10/01/2016
Dependents		To	DEP	NWE	001	4		07/06/2016

Job							
Txn Type	Action	Reason	Job Effdt	Department	NU	PCT Fill	

For this correction the ‘benefits’ portion is completed.

If the correction was to fix a hire, retire, or term date the ‘Job’ portion of the correction is completed.

# Transactions Requiring a Correction

When completing a correction request, be sure to enter a comment that summarizes and matches the request:

**Existing Comments** [Find](#) | [View All](#) First ◀ 1 of 1 ▶ Last

Correction to change effective date of Dep Add for Jake Benton from 10/1/2016 to 7/1/2016. The incorrect request date was entered in error. - MXB1 (MXB1 2018-11-08 11:11)

Enter your comments below & click on Add Comments.

When the correction is returned to your worklist, be sure to check comments. The corrections unit may have responded with follow up required by you.

# Transactions Requiring a Correction

A correction request is also needed when an agency is simply prevented from processing the transaction due to any of the following reasons:

- The transaction is blocked by a more recent dated transaction preventing it from processing
- Processing Pension Deduction
- Over 6 months

The appropriate correction request to use in these cases is 'Insert'.

# Transactions Requiring a Correction Recap

When completing a correction request you will have the following choices;

- **Insert**
  - When the transaction you are attempting has a later date blocking yours
  - When you are attempting to process a transaction over 6 months old
  - When you are prevented from processing a transaction and receive an error message.
- **Change**
  - When you need to change an effective date of a transaction that was saved
- **Delete**
  - When you need to remove a transaction that should not have been processed

Choose the action that matches what you want us to do



# Transactions that Require a letter

There are certain situations where a correction request cannot be done, and a letter is required along with supporting documentation.

Example of requests that require a letter:

- Updating a record to Disability Retirement
  - Include Retirement System letter that provides the effective date
- CMS Reinstatements
  - Include supporting documentation (Medicare card, corrected Address or copy of other Medicare plan termination letter)
  - The need for EBD to process a transaction due to NO NYBEAS ACCESS
  - Be sure the steps are taken to obtain access as explained in the previous slides

# Reminders when Submitting Requests to EBD

- When sending requests do not send duplicates. I.e.; do not also send a letter when a correction request was sent
- When sending a letter it should be on Agency letterhead, and include:
  - Agency code
  - Enrollee SSN/Employee ID
  - Enrollee name
  - The reason it is being sent

# Reminders when Submitting Requests to EBD

- Do not send EBD proof for transactions you processed
- Send supporting documentation only when necessary. When the HBA signs a 503.1 form they are verifying that the appropriate documents are on file with the agency. See slide 57 for situations that require proof/supporting documentaiton

# Questions?





# NYSHIP

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## Medicare and NYSHIP

**Presenters-**

**MaryEllen Brucculeri**

**Tim Burke**

**New York State Department of Civil Service  
Employee Benefits Division**

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# Topics

- Overview of Medicare
- Medicare Beneficiary ID (MBI) (Formerly HICN)
- When To Enroll in Medicare Parts A and B
- Updating Medicare Information on NYBEAS
- Empire Plan Medicare Rx
- Role of the Health Benefits Administrator

# Medicare

## What is it?

The federal health insurance benefits program administered by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

# Parts of Medicare

- **Part A** provides inpatient hospital coverage, skilled nursing facility and hospice care. It is free if you meet the Social Security work requirements.
- **Part B** provides outpatient hospital and medical coverage. There is an enrollee premium for Part B.



# Parts of Medicare

- Medicare Advantage Plans (formerly *Part C*)
  - Most NYSHIP HMOs are Medicare Advantage Plans

**NOTE:** NYSHIP Medicare Advantage Plans are not available to PAs.

- *Part D* provides prescription drug coverage (Empire plan Medicare RX is called SilverScripts)

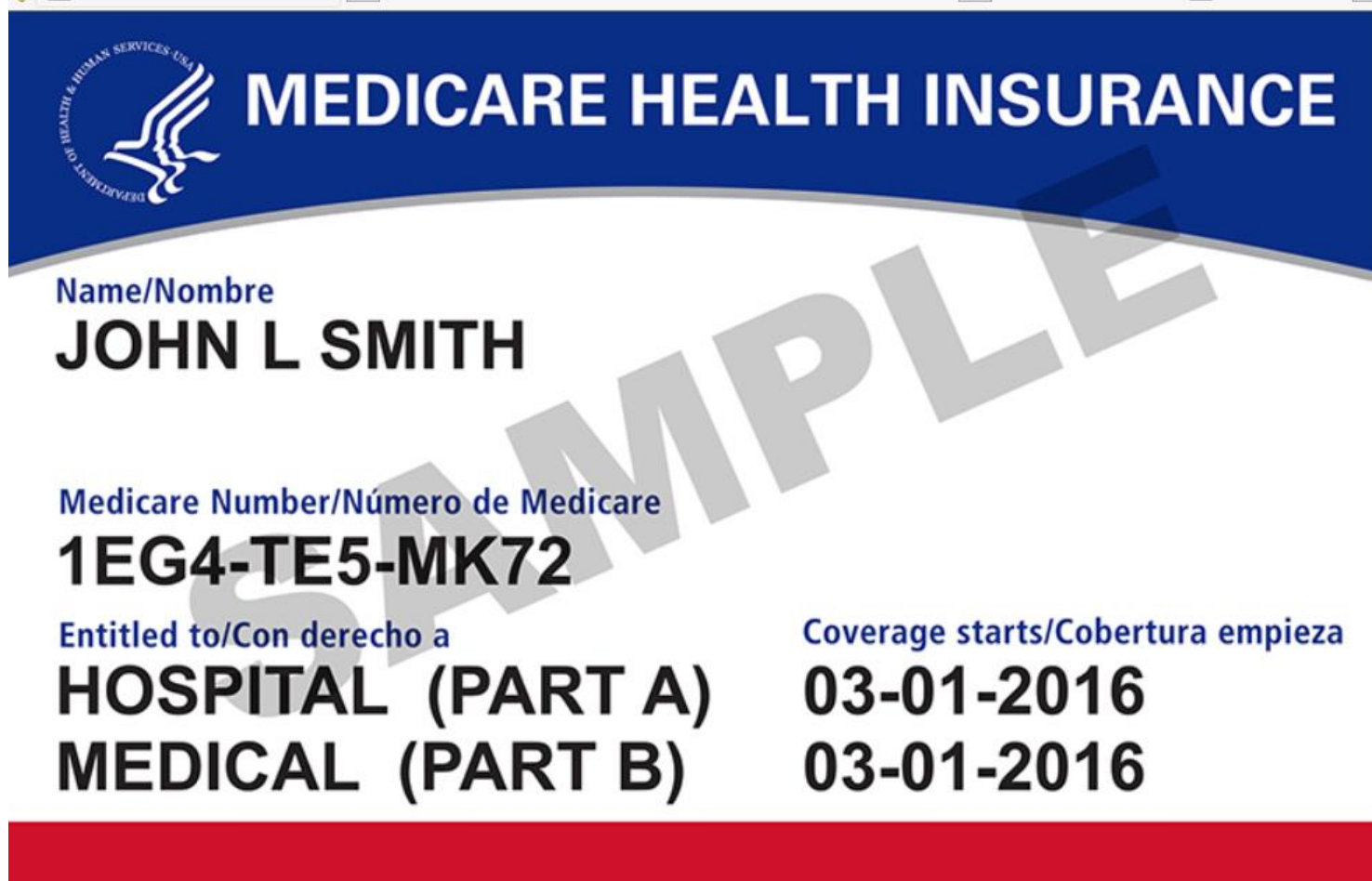
# Medicare Beneficiary ID (MBI) (Formerly SSN/HICN)

## Medicare Beneficiary ID (Formerly HICN)


CMS is replacing the Social Security Number based Health Insurance Claim Number (HICN) with a **Medicare Beneficiary ID**. The transition period began April 1, 2018 and will run through December 31, 2019.

January 1, 2020, CMS will no longer accept a HICN for the submission and processing of claims

# Sample Medicare Card



The image shows a sample Medicare Health Insurance card. At the top left is the Department of Health & Human Services USA logo. The title "MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE" is prominently displayed in white on a blue background. Below this, the cardholder's name "JOHN L SMITH" is listed. The Medicare Number is "1EG4-TE5-MK72". The card specifies coverage for Hospital (Part A) and Medical (Part B), both starting on 03-01-2016. A large "SAMPLE" watermark is overlaid diagonally across the center of the card. A red bar is at the bottom of the card area.

 **MEDICARE HEALTH INSURANCE**

Name/Nombre  
**JOHN L SMITH**

Medicare Number/Número de Medicare  
**1EG4-TE5-MK72**

Entitled to/Con derecho a	Coverage starts/Cobertura empieza
<b>HOSPITAL (PART A)</b>	<b>03-01-2016</b>
<b>MEDICAL (PART B)</b>	<b>03-01-2016</b>

# When Does Medicare Eligibility Begin?

- At age 65; or
- Regardless of age, after being entitled to Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) benefits for 24 months; or
- Regardless of age, when diagnosed with End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD); or
- When receiving SSDI benefits due to Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)

# Enrolling in Medicare

- NYSHIP requires enrollees and their covered dependents to be enrolled in Medicare when it is primary to NYSHIP
- It is the responsibility of **your enrollees' and covered dependents'** to enroll in Medicare Parts A and B when first eligible for primary Medicare coverage. Enrollment is not automatic in all cases

# Enrolling in Medicare

- As a reminder and to help your retired enrollee(s) and dependent(s), as well as your active enrollees, understand the importance of enrolling in Medicare, we send out what we call our **“Happy 65<sup>th</sup> Birthday Letter”** five months before an enrollee or dependent turns 65
- These letters are posted on NYSHIP Online under the Notices page that’s available on the footer on the homepage

# Updating NYBEAS to Reflect Medicare Primacy

- NYBEAS will attempt to update the Medicare Primary indicator for enrollees and dependents who should be treated as Medicare-primary approximately 2 months prior to their 65<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- When your enrollee(s) and/or dependent(s) become Medicare-eligible **prior to age 65 (due to disability) or Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)**, they must notify your office so the enrollment record can be updated.
- When an enrollee or dependent becomes Medicare-eligible due to End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD), send a copy of the member's Medicare card to the Employee Benefits Division, who will research the ESRD coordination period and update the enrollment record.

# Updating NYBEAS to Reflect Medicare Primacy

- When an enrollee's enrollment record is updated to Medicare Primary, NYBEAS communicates this enrollment information to ensure the individual receives the correct benefits (i.e., Empire Plan Medicare Rx).



# The Empire Plan and Medicare

- When an enrollee is Medicare Primary, claims are to be submitted to Medicare first. Once Medicare considers the claim, it is then sent to The Empire Plan for secondary payment.
- This process is referred to as Medicare Crossover. When an enrollee's NYBEAS account is updated to Medicare Primary, he or she is automatically enrolled in Crossover with The Empire Plan.

# Determining Medicare Primacy

When an employee and/or his or her dependents are eligible for Medicare, coordination of benefits occurs.

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## Enrollee is an **ACTIVE** Employee

- Medicare is *secondary* to NYSHIP coverage
- Exceptions
  - End-Stage Renal Disease after completing Medicare's 3 month waiting period and 30 month coordination period
  - Domestic partners age 65 or over

## Enrollee is **RETIRED**

- Medicare is *primary* to NYSHIP coverage
- Exception:
  - End-Stage Renal Disease during Medicare's 30 month coordination period

# Questions?



# The Empire Plan Prescription Drug Benefit

## Empire Plan Medicare Rx

NYSHIP enrollee(s) and their dependent(s) have prescription drug coverage as part of their health insurance coverage.

- Prescription coverage continues even when Medicare becomes the primary coverage.
  - Empire Plan enrollees are enrolled in The Empire Plan Medicare Rx (SilverScripts)
  - Excelsior Plan enrollees experience no change to their prescription drug benefit

All NYSHIP prescription drug coverage pays on average as much or more than Medicare's standard Part D Plan. This is called *creditable coverage*.

# The Empire Plan Prescription Drug Benefit

## Empire Plan Medicare Rx

- Is REQUIRED for Medicare Primary enrollees and dependents enrolled in The Empire Plan
- Once an enrollee or dependent's NYBEAS enrollment record is updated to Medicare primacy, information is automatically sent to CVSCaremark, who communicates with the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to enroll the individual in Empire Plan Medicare Rx

# The Empire Plan Prescription Drug Benefit

## Empire Plan Medicare Rx

To ensure a smooth transition to The Empire Plan Medicare Rx, **before updating NYBEAS to Medicare Primary** make sure you:

- Have been provided with a copy of your employee(s) and/or dependent(s)' Medicare card and the Medicare ID is entered on NYBEAS
- Check for a Post Office Box mailing address on file and if so, you must update their permanent street address. Enrollees with only a P.O Box address will not be enrolled in Medicare Rx.
- Make sure the Medicare card and name on NYBEAS are the same

# The Empire Plan Prescription Drug Benefit

## Empire Plan Medicare Rx

When attempting enrollment in Empire Plan Medicare Rx, enrollees will be notified when additional information is needed in order to remain enrolled in The Empire Plan.

# CMS/Med Rx Enrollment/Terminations

If an enrollee or dependent is terminated from The Empire Plan, a letter will be sent explaining that additional information is needed to stay enrolled in The Empire Plan. The reason they became terminated is necessary to determine what is needed for coverage under The Empire Plan to be reinstated.

Please note that reinstatement will not guarantee that coverage will be continuous (i.e., a late enrollment penalty may apply).



# The Empire Plan Prescription Drug Benefit

## Empire Plan Medicare Rx

The below situations will prevent an enrollee or dependent to be enrolled in Empire Plan Medicare Rx (SilverScript). CMS will reject a request to enroll when any of the following have occurred:

- Wrong DOB on NYBEAS
- Wrong address on NYBEAS
- When a P.O Box address only is listed on NYBEAS
- Enrollment in another Medicare Plan
- Missing or Incorrect Medicare ID (MBI)
- First or last name mismatch between NYBEAS and CMS

If any of the above situations exist when attempting enrollment in Empire Plan Medicare Rx, enrollees will be notified that additional information is needed in order to remain enrolled in The Empire Plan.

# CMS/Med Rx Enrollment/Terminations

If EBD is unable to enroll an enrollee or his/her dependent in The Empire Plan Med Rx, the following steps are taken:

1. EBD is notified by CMS that enrollment in Med Rx rejected
2. EBD sends letter to enrollee or dependent notifying them of the issue with a 30 day deadline to respond
3. EBD awaits required information
4. If required information is received within 30 days, enrollee can be reinstated with no lapse
5. If *not* received within 30 days, EBD proceeds with cancellation
6. If response with required information is sent after the 30 days, Enrollee can be reinstated subject to the normal waiting period rules.

# Role of the Health Benefits Administrator

One of the most important responsibilities of the HBA is to ensure that NYBEAS health benefit information is accurate and up to date for all enrollee(s) and/or dependent(s). Such as;

- Name is correct: First and Last Name (should match what is on file with SSA) If you have the name as “Cindy” and SSA has the name as “Cynthia” you need to update your records to match SSA
- Obtaining enrollees’ Medicare cards and updating Medicare Primacy Indicator on NYBEAS at time of retirement ( or when applicable)
- Verify dates of birth
- Verify address. If enrollee has a P.O Box, a permanent/residential address must also be listed on NYBEAS
- Confirm that Medicare-primary enrollee and/or dependent is not enrolled in any other Medicare D plan

# Role of the Health Benefits Administrator

HBA's can assist their retirees with determining if they are enrolled in another Medicare plan by referring them to the

[www.Medicare.gov](http://www.Medicare.gov) Medicare Plan Finder “Check your enrollment”

Spanish | A A | Print

About Us | Glossary | CMS.Org | Medicare.gov | MyMedicare.gov Login

## Medicare.gov | Medicare Plan Finder

The Official U.S. Government Site for Medicare

Medicare Plan Finder Home | Learn More About Plans | Help | Glossary | FAQ

Home → Check Your Enrollment

### Check Your Enrollment

Use this tool to check your current and future enrollment.

**Enter Your ZIP Code:**

Enter Your Medicare Information:

**Enter Medicare Number:**   
Where can I find my Medicare Number?

**Last Name:**

**Effective Date for Part A:**    
Not Part A? Select here.

**Date of Birth:**

This page is secured to protect your personal information.

**Continue**

[Back to Top](#)

# Questions?



# Publications and Enrollee Notices

# Communications Update

## Recent publications:

- 2018 Participating Provider Directories
- 2018 Creditable Coverage Notice
- Child Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Notice for 2018

# Upcoming Publications

## Fall 2018

- 2019 *At A Glance* for The Empire Plan and the Excelsior Plan  
Enrollee mailing will also include: 2019 versions of The Empire Plan Flexible Formulary or Excelsior Formulary, *Out of Network Reimbursement Disclosure*, *Preventive Care Coverage Chart*, and the *Nondiscrimination Notice*.
- Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC) reminder postcard



# Upcoming Publications

## 2019

- *Empire Plan Report*
- *PA General Information Book 2019* for The Empire Plan and the Excelsior Plan
- *Empire Plan Certificate*

# Be sure to check HBA online at a minimum of once a week to stay informed



HBA Online has a new web address, <https://www.cs.ny.gov/employee-benefits/hba>. Please update any bookmarked pages.

Find the **benefit**, click on the group. *Benefits vary by group.*

You Should Know...
Easy Reference
Publications & Forms
Phone Numbers / Links
Meetings & More
<b>Health Plan Choices</b>
HBA Manuals
E-Learning
HIPAA Privacy Information
Site Map
Help / Tutorial
Contact Us / Disclaimer
NYSHIP Home
Super Search
Suggestions

10/14/2016 8:06 am

**Current Topics**  
 2016 PA/PE Webinars  
 Young Adult Option Coverage

**NYSHIP** For Employees of:  
 New York State  
 Participating Employers (PE)  
 Participating Agencies (PA)  
 Retired NYS Employees  
 Retired PE Employees

Empire Plan Providers,  
 Pharmacies and Services

**NYPERL**<sup>SM</sup>  
 NYS Agencies  
 Participating Agencies and  
 Participating Employers

**dental**

- APSU
- C-82
- M/C
- NYSCOPBA
- PBA Supervisors
- PBA Troopers
- PE
- PEF
- PIA
- SEHP

**vision** Davis Vision Information

- APSU
- C-82
- MC
- NYSCOPBA
- PBA
- PE
- PEF
- PIA
- SEHP

**life**

- M/C

**IPP** Income Protection Plan

- M/C
- Legislature
- Special Enrollees
- DC-37

**survivor benefits**

- New York State Active Employees

**workers' compensation**

- ARS Publications for Executive Branch Agencies and Unified Court System
- ARS Manual
- Dispute Resolution Program
- Workers' Compensation Pharmacy Benefits
- Claimant Information Packet



# General Reminders

## Before Calling EBD

- Have NYBEAS open
- Check NYBEAS Update History for recently processed transactions
- Have SSN/Employee ID available

## Billing Inquiries

- Be sure to run a reconciliation every Monday following the first Friday (billing is run the first Friday of every month)
- Send full payment that is reflected on your billing statement. Don't make adjustments *even though* changes may have been made resulting in a credit that would affect future bill. Credit adjustments will be reflected for transactions that were processed in the next billing cycle

# General Reminders

When receiving inquiries from your employees and retirees;

- Assist your enrollees
  - If you need assistance please call the HBA Helpline. Do not refer caller to EBD
- If inquiry concerns a medical bill or problem receiving services, check NYBEAS for enrollment status
  - If enrollee is covered and services were denied, refer caller to the Empire Plan 877-769-7447
- HBAs should be calling EBD on behalf of their enrollees; not referring them to EBD

# How To Reach Us

HBA Line PA/PE Unit  
(518) 474-2780 Press 1  
for Participating Agency

Responds to questions about:

- Enrollee needs services
- NYBEAS Processing
- Medicare
- Agency Bill
- Retiree Coverage
- Eligibility
- Effective dates of coverage
- Agency Reconciliation
- COBRA
- Survivor Coverage

Public Employer Liaison Unit  
(518) 549-2356

Responds to questions about:

- Compliance
- Agency Resolution Changes
- GASB 45
- Hold Harmless
- Agency Participation
- NYSHIP Policies

# Thank you for joining us today!

## EBD Contact for HBAs

**Phone:** 518-474-2780

**Address:** NYS Department of Civil Service  
Employee Benefits Division  
Albany, NY 12239

**Fax:** 518-485-5590

**Website:** [www.cs.ny.gov](http://www.cs.ny.gov)