

THE BENEFIT

Housing Benefits Plan (HBP) is the medical plan provided to you by your housing authority utilizing the Blue Cross/Blue Shield or CIGNA networks. HBP is directed by housing authority Executive Directors from across Southeast and Southwest NAHRO for the benefit of housing authorities.

Please share this with all of the HBP participants at your housing authority, including retirees and Cobra participants.

Take Note

Mercer's New Enrollment and Billing Contact Information


To help better manage the HBP email volume going to Mercer Administration, they have created a custom email inbox specifically for HBP. The new email inbox is: CBS.HBP.Billing&Eligibility@mmc.com

All enrollment and billing related emails should now be directed to this email inbox. Although Alicia Schossow (515-365-1013) and Crystal Ruth (515-365-1114) will have primary responsibility for managing this inbox, additional individuals being trained will also have access to the inbox. Using this new email, will ensure that all team members who are monitoring the centralized email inbox will have access to all of the HBP email inquiries to better serve HBP. Thanks for your help with this.

Medicare Exception Reminder

For all agencies with less than 20 employees the Medicare Exception applies. Each participant in the medical plan that reaches the age of 65 must enroll in Medicare Part B in addition to Part A. Medicare will become the primary coverage and the HBP premium will be significantly reduced for this participant. Bonnie Cooper of PBA will contact members when this applies and walk them through the steps.

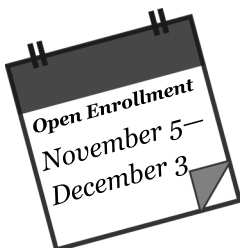
Opioid Pain Medications: What you need to know

 Please see the attached flier which gives information about opioids - what to consider about taking them, and how to safely store and dispose of them.

Open Enrollment

Annual enrollment will take place from November 5 through December 3. This is the time in which individuals may make changes to their coverages.

Rates and benefits are scheduled to be communicated during the first week of October.



September 2018

Naturally Slim Results!

The participants in the summer session have accomplished a lot as shown below:

- ◆ Average total weight loss by week 10 was 9.2 lbs.
- ◆ 29% participants lost more than 10 lbs.
- ◆ 40% individuals lowered their diabetes risk

Way to go, summer session participants! This group provided great testimonials as to how well the program worked for them. Wishing much success to the fall group!

Select statins covered at 0% cost-share

Members who meet specific coverage criteria may receive select statins at 0% cost. Prior authorization is required in most cases. Visit www.optumrx.com for more information.



Use the Website

HBP's website provides valuable information for HBP members including things such as: important information for newly enrolled employees, links to medical programs, contact information for all the services offered, life insurance conversion and portability, death claim packet with instructions, and housing authority Life/AD&D and LTD certificates. Visit the website to see these and even more. www.housingbp.com

The HBP website at www.housingbp.com provides more information and helpful links. Questions or comments? Email us at sstrange@oecwildblue.com or call 318-377-9268.