

Highmark Update

This email is intended for producers with business in all markets and across all regions.

PHE COST SHARE WAIVER EXTENSION - ASO CLIENTS & FULLY-INSURED CLIENTS

On January 30, 2023, the Biden administration announced that emergency declarations related to the COVID-19 pandemic would expire on May 11, 2023. There are several coverage and cost-share waivers tied to the federal public health emergency (PHE) affecting Highmark's Commercial, ASO and Medicare business including:

- \$0 COVID-19 vaccines
- \$0 COVID-19 diagnostic and antibody testing
- \$0 OTC COVID-19 testing
- \$0 Prescription antiviral treatment

- \$0 Office visits (in-person or telehealth), emergency room visits, or urgent care visits to diagnose COVID-19

Highmark has decided to extend the cost-share waivers above through May 31, 2023, to allow for an orderly transition. After this date, the services above will default to contractually covered benefits and appropriate cost-sharing.

Please keep in mind, state PHE-related cost share waiver mandates may continue to be in place for Commercial Insured lines after the federal PHE ends.

Action Required by our Self-Insured Clients

To ensure an orderly transition out of the public health emergency, we encourage our self-insured clients to, likewise, extend cost share waivers through May 31, 2023, as well. If a client does not wish to extend coverage, they will need to let their Client Manager know as soon as possible.

Actions Being Taken by Highmark

In alignment with Highmark's goal of seamless and valued service, large group Client Managers have been asked to communicate these changes (for all 51+ clients) and decision opportunities (for self-insured clients) via client email templates. For Small Group clients, the templates are provided for your distribution. Please see the templates below.

- [Fully-Insured Client Template](#)
- [ASO Client Template](#)
- [Partner Plans Client Template](#)

Questions

Please contact your Highmark Client Manager with any questions.

Highmark Inc. is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. Insurance or benefit administration may be provided by or through Highmark Inc. or one of its affiliated Blue companies. Highmark Inc. d/b/a Highmark Blue Shield and certain of its affiliated Blue companies serve Blue Shield members in the 21 counties of central Pennsylvania. As a partner in joint operating agreements, Highmark Blue Shield also provides services in conjunction with a separate health plan in southeastern Pennsylvania. Highmark Inc. or certain of its affiliated Blue companies serve Blue Cross Blue Shield members in the 29 counties of western Pennsylvania, 13 counties in northeast Pennsylvania, the state of West Virginia plus Washington County, Ohio, and the entire state of Delaware. Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield of Western New York is a trade name of Highmark Western and Northeastern New York Inc., an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. Highmark Blue Shield of Northeastern New York (Highmark BSNENY) is a trade name of Highmark Western and Northeastern New York Inc., an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association.

This email and any attachments contain important information about Highmark, including its products, customers and business processes, and may include information which Highmark considers to be confidential and proprietary ("the Highmark Information"). The Highmark Information is intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed, including employees of that entity with a need to access such information. Unauthorized use, disclosure or copying of the Highmark Information, including the posting of such information on a website or social media sites that can be accessed by third parties, is strictly prohibited.