

Premium Assistance under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

If you or your children are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP and you are eligible for health coverage from your employer, your State may have a premium assistance program that can help pay for coverage. These States use funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs to help people who are eligible for these programs, but also have access to health insurance through their employer. If you or your children are not eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, you will not be eligible for these premium assistance programs.

If you or your dependents are already enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP and you live in a State listed below, you can contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office to find out if premium assistance is available.

If you or your dependents are NOT currently enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, and you think you or any of your dependents might be eligible for either of these programs, you can contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office or dial **1-877-KIDS NOW** or www.insurekidsnow.gov to find out how to apply. If you qualify, you can ask the State if it has a program that might help you pay the premiums for an employer-sponsored plan.

Once it is determined that you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, as well as eligible under your employer plan, your employer must permit you to enroll in your employer plan if you are not already enrolled. This is called a "special enrollment" opportunity, and you must request coverage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium assistance. If you have questions about enrolling in your employer plan, you can contact the Department of Labor electronically at www.askebsa.dol.gov or by calling toll-free **1-866-444-EBSA (3272)**.

If you live in one of the following States, you may be eligible for assistance paying your employer health plan premiums. The following list of States is current as of July 31, 2013. You should contact your State for further information on eligibility –

| | |
|--|---|
| ALABAMA – Medicaid | COLORADO – Medicaid |
| Website: http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov Phone: 1-855-692-5447 | Medicaid Website: http://www.colorado.gov/ Medicaid Phone (In state): 1-800-866-3513 Medicaid Phone (Out of state): 1-800-221-3943 |
| ALASKA – Medicaid | |
| Website: http://health.hss.state.ak.us/dpa/programs/medicaid/ Phone (Outside of Anchorage): 1-888-318-8890 Phone (Anchorage): 907-269-6529 | |
| ARIZONA – CHIP | FLORIDA – Medicaid |
| Website: http://www.azahcccs.gov/applicants Phone (Outside of Maricopa County): 1-877-764-5437 Phone (Maricopa County): 602-417-5437 | Website: https://www.flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/ Phone: 1-877-357-3268 |
| | GEORGIA – Medicaid |
| | Website: http://dch.georgia.gov/ Click on Programs, then Medicaid, then Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Phone: 1-800-869-1150 |

| | |
|---|---|
| <p align="center">IDAHO – Medicaid and CHIP</p> <p>Medicaid Website: www.accesstohealthinsurance.idaho.gov Medicaid Phone: 1-800-926-2588 CHIP Website: www.medicaid.idaho.gov CHIP Phone: 1-800-926-2588</p> | <p align="center">MONTANA – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://medicaidprovider.hhs.mt.gov/clientpages/clientindex.shtml Phone: 1-800-694-3084</p> |
| <p align="center">INDIANA – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://www.in.gov/fssa Phone: 1-800-889-9949</p> | <p align="center">NEBRASKA – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov Phone: 1-800-383-4278</p> |
| <p align="center">IOWA – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: www.dhs.state.ia.us/hipp/ Phone: 1-888-346-9562</p> | <p align="center">NEVADA – Medicaid</p> <p>Medicaid Website: http://dwss.nv.gov/ Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900</p> |
| <p align="center">KANSAS – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/ Phone: 1-800-792-4884</p> | <p align="center">NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oii/documents/hippapp.pdf Phone: 603-271-5218</p> |
| <p align="center">KENTUCKY – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://chfs.ky.gov/dms/default.htm Phone: 1-800-635-2570</p> | <p align="center">NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP</p> <p>Medicaid Website: http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/ Medicaid Phone: 609-631-2392 CHIP Website: http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710</p> |
| <p align="center">LOUISIANA – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://www.lahipp.dhh.louisiana.gov Phone: 1-888-695-2447</p> | <p align="center">NEW YORK – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://www.nyhealth.gov/health_care/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-541-2831</p> |
| <p align="center">MAINE – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/public-assistance/index.html Phone: 1-800-977-6740 TTY 1-800-977-6741</p> | <p align="center">MINNESOTA – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/ Click on Health Care, then Medical Assistance Phone: 1-800-657-3629</p> |
| <p align="center">MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP</p> <p>Website: http://www.mass.gov/MassHealth Phone: 1-800-462-1120</p> | <p align="center">NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma Phone: 919-855-4100</p> |
| <p align="center">MISSOURI – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm Phone: 573-751-2005</p> | <p align="center">NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-755-2604</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| OKLAHOMA – Medicaid and CHIP | UTAH – Medicaid and CHIP |
| Website: http://www.insureoklahoma.org Phone: 1-888-365-3742 | Website: http://health.utah.gov/upp Phone: 1-866-435-7414 |
| OREGON – Medicaid and CHIP | VERMONT– Medicaid |
| Website: http://www.oregonhealthykids.gov http://www.hijosaludablesoregon.gov Phone: 1-800-699-9075 | Website: http://www.greenmountaincare.org/ Phone: 1-800-250-8427 |
| PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid | VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP |
| Website: http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/hipp Phone: 1-800-692-7462 | Medicaid Website: http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/rcp-HIPP.htm Medicaid Phone: 1-800-432-5924 CHIP Website: http://www.famis.org/ CHIP Phone: 1-866-873-2647 |
| RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid | WASHINGTON – Medicaid |
| Website: www.ohhs.ri.gov Phone: 401-462-5300 | Website: http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/premiumpymt/Apply.shtm Phone: 1-800-562-3022 ext. 15473 |
| SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid | WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid |
| Website: http://www.scdhhs.gov Phone: 1-888-549-0820 | Website: www.dhhr.wv.gov/bms/ Phone: 1-877-598-5820, HMS Third Party Liability |
| SOUTH DAKOTA - Medicaid | WISCONSIN – Medicaid |
| Website: http://dss.sd.gov Phone: 1-888-828-0059 | Website: http://www.badgercareplus.org/pubs/p-10095.htm Phone: 1-800-362-3002 |
| TEXAS – Medicaid | WYOMING – Medicaid |
| Website: https://www.gethipptexas.com/ Phone: 1-800-440-0493 | Website: http://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/equalitycare Phone: 307-777-7531 |

To see if any more States have added a premium assistance program since July 31, 2013, or for more information on special enrollment rights, you can contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration
www.dol.gov/ebsa
1-866-444-EBSA (3272)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
www.cms.hhs.gov
1-877-267-2323, Menu Option 4, Ext. 61565

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

Ascension Parish School Board Plan
Notice of Privacy Practices

Date: August 15, 2016

Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (“HIPAA”), you have certain rights with respect to your Protected Health Information (“PHI”), including the right to know how your PHI may be used by a group health plan.

This Notice of Privacy Practices (“Notice”) covers the following group health plans (collectively referred to as the “Plan”):

- Medical
- Dental
- Vision
- Health Flexible Spending Accounts
- Life, AD&D, & Disability
- Voluntary Worksite Products

The Plan is required by law to maintain the privacy of your PHI and to provide this Notice to you pursuant to HIPAA. This Notice describes how your PHI may be used or disclosed to carry out treatment, payment, health care operations, or for any other purposes that are permitted or required by law. This Notice also provides you with the following important information:

- Your privacy rights with respect to your PHI;
- The Plan’s duties with respect to your PHI;
- Your right to file a complaint with the Plan’s Privacy Officer and/or to the Secretary of the Office of Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and
- The person or office to contact for further information about the Plan’s privacy practices.

PHI is health information (including genetic information) in any form (oral, written, electronic) that:

- Is created or received by or on behalf of the Plan;
- Relates to your past, present or future physical or mental condition, or the provision of health care services to you, or the payment for those health care services; and

- Identifies you or from which there is a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify you.

Health information your employer receives during the course of performing non-Plan functions is not PHI. For example, health information you submit to your employer to document a leave of absence under the Family and Medical Leave Act is not PHI.

Section 1. USES AND DISCLOSURES OF YOUR PHI

Under HIPAA, the Plan may use or disclose your PHI under certain circumstances without your consent, authorization or opportunity to agree or object. Such uses and disclosures fall within the categories described below. Note that not every permissible use or disclosure in a category is listed; however, all the ways in which the Plan is permitted to use or disclose PHI will fall within one of the categories.

General Uses and Disclosures

Treatment. The Plan may use and/or disclose your PHI to help you obtain treatment and/or services from providers. Treatment includes the provision, coordination or management of health care and related services. It also includes, but is not limited to, consultations and referrals between one or more of your providers. For example, the Plan may disclose to a treating orthodontist the name of your treating dentist so that the orthodontist may ask for your dental x-rays from the treating dentist. The Plan may also disclose information about your prior prescriptions to a pharmacist to determine if any medicines contraindicate a pending prescription.

Payment. The Plan may use and/or disclose your PHI in order to determine your eligibility for benefits, to facilitate payment of your health claims and to determine benefit responsibility. Payment includes, but is not limited to billing, claims management, subrogation, plan reimbursement, reviews for medical necessity and appropriateness of care and utilization review and preauthorizations. For example, the Plan may tell a doctor whether you are eligible for coverage or what percentage of the bill will be paid by the Plan. The Plan may also disclose your PHI to another entity to assist with the adjudication or subrogation of health claims or to another health plan to coordinate payment of benefits.

Health Care Operations. The Plan may use and/or disclose your PHI for other Plan operations. These uses and disclosures are necessary to run the Plan and include, but are not limited to, conducting quality assessment and improvement activities, reviewing competence or qualifications of health care professionals, underwriting, premium and other activities relating to Plan coverage. It also includes cost management, conducting or arranging for medical review, legal services and auditing functions including fraud and abuse compliance programs, business planning and development, business management and general Plan administrative activities. For example, the Plan may use your PHI in connection with submitting claims for stop-loss coverage. The Plan may also use your PHI to refer you to a disease management program, project future costs or audit the accuracy of its claims processing functions. However, the Plan is prohibited from using or disclosing PHI that is an individual's genetic information for underwriting purposes.

Business Associates. The Plan may contract with individuals or entities known as Business Associates to perform various functions on the Plan's behalf or to provide certain types of services. In order to perform these functions or to provide such services, the Business Associates will receive, create, maintain, use and/or disclose your PHI. For example, the Plan may disclose your PHI to a Business Associate to administer claims or provide pharmacy benefit management services. However, Business Associates will receive, create, maintain, use and/or disclose your PHI on behalf of the Plan only after they have entered into a Business Associate agreement with the Plan and agree in writing to protect your PHI against inappropriate use or disclosure and to require that their subcontractors and agents do the same.

Plan Sponsor. For purposes of administering the Plan, the Plan may disclose your PHI to certain employees of the Ascension Parish School Board. However, these employees will only use or disclose such information as necessary to perform administration functions for the Plan or as otherwise required by HIPAA, unless you have authorized further disclosures. Your PHI cannot be used for employment purposes without your specific authorization.

Required By Law. The Plan may disclose your PHI when required to do so by federal, state or local law. For example, the Plan may disclose your PHI when required by public health disclosure laws.

Health or Safety. The Plan may disclose and/or use your PHI when necessary to prevent a serious threat to your health or safety or the health or safety of another individual or the public. Under these circumstances, any disclosure will be made only to the person or entity able to help prevent the threat.

Special Situations

In addition to the above, the following categories describe other possible ways that the Plan may use and disclose your PHI without your consent, authorization or opportunity to agree or object. Note that not every permissible use or disclosure in a category is listed; however, all the ways in which the Plan is permitted to use or disclose PHI will fall within one of the categories.

Public Health Activities. The Plan may disclose your PHI when permitted for purposes of public health actions, including when necessary to report child abuse or neglect or domestic violence, to report reactions to drugs or problems with products or devices, and to notify individuals about a product recall. Your PHI may also be used or disclosed if you have been exposed to a communicable disease or are at risk of spreading a disease or condition.

Health Oversight. The Plan may disclose your PHI to a public health oversight agency for oversight activities authorized by law. Oversight activities can include civil, administrative or criminal actions, audits and inspections, licensure or disciplinary actions (for example, to investigate complaints against providers); other activities necessary for appropriate oversight of government benefit programs (for example, to investigate Medicare or Medicaid fraud); compliance with civil rights laws and the health care system in general.

Lawsuits, Judicial and Administrative Proceedings. If you are involved in a lawsuit or similar proceeding, the Plan may disclose your PHI in response to a court or administrative order. The Plan may also disclose your PHI in response to a subpoena, discovery request or other lawful process by another individual involved in the dispute, provided certain conditions are met. One of these conditions is that satisfactory assurances must be given to the Plan that the requesting party has made a good faith attempt to provide written notice to you, and the notice provided sufficient information about the proceeding to permit you to raise an objection and no objections were raised or were resolved in favor of disclosure by the court or tribunal.

Law Enforcement. The Plan may disclose your PHI when required for law enforcement purposes, including for the purposes of identifying or locating a suspect, fugitive, material witness or missing person.

Coroners, Medical Examiners and Funeral Directors. The Plan may disclose your PHI when required to be given to a coroner or medical examiner for the purpose of identifying a deceased person, determining a cause of death or other duties as authorized by law. Also, disclosure is permitted to funeral directors, consistent with applicable law, as necessary to carry out their duties with respect to the decedent.

Workers' Compensation. The Plan may release your PHI for workers' compensation or similar programs that provide benefits for work-related injuries or illness.

National Security and Intelligence. The Plan may release PHI to authorized federal officials for intelligence, counterintelligence, and other national security activities authorized by law.

Military and Veterans. If you are a member of the armed forces, the Plan may disclose your PHI as required by military command authorities. The Plan may also release PHI about foreign military personnel to the appropriate foreign military authority.

Organ and Tissue Donations. If you are an organ donor, the Plan may disclose your PHI to organizations that handle organ procurement or organ, eye or tissue transplantation or to an organ donation bank, as necessary to facilitate organ or tissue donation and transplantation.

Research. The Plan may disclose your PHI for research when the individual identifiers have been removed or when the institutional review board or privacy board has reviewed the research proposal and established protocols to ensure the privacy of the requested information, and approves the research.

Required Disclosure to Secretary

The Plan is required to disclose your PHI to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services when the Secretary is investigating or determining the Plan's compliance with HIPAA.

Disclosures to Family Members and Personal Representatives

The Plan may disclose your PHI to family members, other relatives and your close personal friends but only to the extent that it is directly relevant to such individual's involvement with a coverage, eligibility or payment matter relating to your care, unless you have requested and the Plan has agreed not to disclose your PHI to such individual. The Plan will disclose your PHI to an individual authorized by you, or to an individual designated as your personal representative, provided the Plan has received the appropriate authorization and/or supporting documents. Your personal representative will be required to produce evidence of his/her authority to act on your behalf before that person will be given access to your PHI or allowed to take any action for you. Proof of such authority may take one of the following forms:

- A power of attorney for health care purposes, notarized by a notary public;
- A court order of appointment of the person as the conservator or guardian of the individual; or
- An individual who is the parent of a minor child.

However, the Plan will not disclose information to an individual, including your personal representative, if it has a reasonable belief that:

- You have been, or may be, subjected to domestic violence, abuse or neglect by such person or treating such person as your personal representative could endanger you; and
- In the exercise of professional judgment, it is not in your best interest to disclose the PHI.

This also applies to personal representatives of minors.

Authorization

Any uses or disclosures of your PHI not described above will be made only with your written authorization. Most disclosures involving psychotherapy notes will require your written authorization. In addition, the Plan generally cannot use your PHI for marketing purposes or engage in the sale of your PHI without your written authorization. You may revoke your written authorization at any time, so long as the revocation is in writing. Once the Plan receives your authorization, it will only be effective for future uses and disclosures. It will not be effective for any information that may have been used or disclosed in reliance upon the written authorization and prior to receiving your written revocation.

Section 2. RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS

You have the following rights with respect to your PHI:

Right to Request Restrictions on PHI Uses and Disclosures. *You may request in writing that the Plan restrict or limit its uses and disclosures of your PHI to carry out treatment, payment, or health care operations, or to limit disclosures to family members, relatives, friends or other persons identified by you who are involved in your care or payment for your care. For example, you could request that the Plan not use or disclose specific information about a specific medical procedure you had. However, the Plan is not required to agree to your request.*

Right to Request Confidential Communications. You have the right to request that the Plan communicate with you about medical matters in a certain way or at a certain location. For example, you may ask that we only contact you at work or by mail. The Plan will not ask you the reason for your request, which must specify how or where you wish to be contacted. The Plan will accommodate all reasonable requests to receive communications of PHI by alternative means if you clearly provide information that the disclosure of all or part of your PHI could endanger you.

Right to Inspect and Copy PHI. *You have a right of access to inspect and obtain a copy of your PHI (including electronic PHI) contained in the Plan's "designated record set," for as long as the PHI is maintained by the Plan in a designated record set. If you request a copy of the information, the Plan may charge you a reasonable fee for the costs of copying, mailing or other supplies associated with your request.*

"Designated Record Set" includes the medical records and billing records about an individual maintained by or for a covered health care provider; enrollment, payment, billing, claims adjudication and case or medical management record systems maintained by or for a health plan; or other information used in whole or in part by or for the covered entity to make decisions about the individual. Information used for quality control or peer review analyses and not used to make decisions about individuals is not in the designated record set.

If your request is granted, the requested information will be provided to you within 30 days after the receipt of your request in the form and format requested, if it is readily producible in such form and format, or if not, in a readable hard copy form (or a readable electronic form and format in the case of PHI maintained in designated records sets electronically) or such other form and format as agreed upon by you and the Plan. If the Plan is unable to comply with request within the 30-day deadline, a one-time 30-day extension is permissible. In such case, you will receive notification of the need for an extension within the initial 30-day period.

Please note that your right does not apply to psychotherapy notes or information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a legal proceeding. The Plan may deny your request to inspect and copy your PHI in very limited circumstances. If access is denied, you or your personal representative will be provided with a written denial setting forth the basis for the denial, a description of how you may exercise those review rights and a description of how you may complain to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Right to Amend PHI. *If you believe that the PHI the Plan has about you is incorrect or incomplete, you have the right to request in writing that the Plan amend your PHI or a record contained in a designated record set for as long as the PHI is maintained by the Plan*

in the designated record set. The Plan has 60 days after the request is made to act on the request. However, a single 30-day extension is allowed if the Plan is unable to comply with the deadline.

The Plan may deny your request for an amendment if it is not in writing or does not include a reason to support the request. In addition, the Plan may deny your request if you ask for the amendment of information that: (1) is not part of the medical information kept by or for the Plan; (2) was not created by the Plan, unless the person or entity that created the information is no longer available to make the amendment; (3) is not part of the information that you would be permitted to inspect or copy; or (4) is already accurate and complete. If the request is denied in whole or in part, the Plan must provide you with a written denial that explains the basis for the denial. You have the right to file a written statement of disagreement and any future disclosures of the disputed information will include your statement.

The Right to Receive an Accounting of PHI Disclosures. You have the right to receive a list of disclosures of your PHI that have been made by the Plan on or after April 14, 2003 (or January 1, 2011 in the case of disclosures of your PHI from electronic health records maintained by the Plan, if any) over a period of up to six years (three years in the case of disclosures from an electronic health record) prior to the date of your request. Certain disclosures are not required to be included in such accounting of disclosures, including but not limited to disclosures made by the Plan (1) for treatment, payment or health care operations (unless the disclosure is made from an electronic health record), or (2) in accordance with your authorization. If you request more than one accounting within a 12-month period, the Plan will charge a reasonable, cost-based fee for each subsequent accounting.

The Right to Receive a Paper Copy of This Notice Upon Request. You have the right to receive a paper copy of this Notice even if you have agreed to receive this Notice electronically.

To exercise any of your HIPAA rights described above, you or your personal representative must contact the HIPAA Privacy Officer in writing at P.O. Box 189 Donaldsonville, LA 70346 or by calling (225) 391-7000. You or your personal representative may be required to complete a form required by the Plan in connection with your specific request.

Section 3. THE PLAN'S DUTIES

*Notice of Privacy Practices. The Plan is required by law to provide individuals covered under the Plan with notice of its legal duties and privacy practices. The Plan is required to comply with the terms of this Notice. However, the Plan reserves the right to change its privacy practices and to apply the changes to any PHI received or maintained by the Plan prior to that date. In the event of any material change to this Notice, a revised version of this Notice will be distributed to all individuals covered under the Plan within 60 days of the effective date of such change **by first-class U.S. mail** or with other Plan communications.*

Breach Notification. The Plan has a legal duty to notify you following the discovery of a breach involving your unsecured PHI

Minimum Necessary Standard. When using or disclosing PHI, the Plan will use and/or disclose only the minimum amount of PHI necessary to accomplish the intended purposes of the use or disclosure. However, the minimum necessary standard will not apply in the following situations:

- Disclosure to or requests by a health care provider for treatment;
- Uses or disclosures made to you; and
- Uses or disclosures that are required by law.

Section 4. COMPLAINTS

If you believe that your privacy rights have been violated, you may file a complaint with the Plan or with the appropriate regional office of the Office for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. To file a complaint with the Plan, contact the HIPAA Privacy Officer in writing at P.O. Box 189 Donaldsonville, LA 70346 or by calling (225) 391-7000.

You will not be penalized or in any other way retaliated against for filing a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights or with the Plan.

Section 5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have any questions regarding this Notice or the subjects addressed in it, you may contact the HIPAA Privacy Officer in writing at P.O. Box 189 Donaldsonville, LA 70346 or by calling (225) 391-7105.

Notice of Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act

The Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 requires group health plans to make certain benefits available to participants who have undergone a mastectomy. In particular, a plan must offer mastectomy patients benefits for:

- All stages of reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance
- Prostheses
- Treatment of physical complications of the mastectomy, including lymphedema

Our plan complies with these requirements. Benefits for these items generally are comparable to those provided under our plan for similar types of medical services and supplies. Of course, the extent to which any of these items is appropriate following mastectomy is a matter to be determined by the patient and her physician. Our plan neither imposes penalties (for example, reducing or limiting reimbursements) nor provides incentives to induce attending providers to provide care inconsistent with these requirements. If you would like more information about WHCRA required coverage, you can contact the plan administrator at our telephone number: (225) 391-7000.

Newborn's and Mothers' Disclosure Notice

MATERNITY BENEFITS

Under Federal and state law you have certain rights and protections regarding your Maternity benefits under the Plan.

Under federal law known as the **“Newborns’ and Mothers’ Health Protection Act of 1996” (Newborns’ Act)** group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less than 96 hours following a cesarean section. However, federal law generally does not prohibit the mother’s or newborn’s attending provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable). In any case, plans and issuers may not, under federal law, require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan or the issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours).

Under Louisiana law, if your Plan provides benefits for obstetrical services your benefits will include coverage for postpartum services. Coverage will include benefits for inpatient care and a home visit or visits, which shall be in accordance with the medical criteria, outlined in the most current version of or an official update to the "Guidelines for Perinatal Care" prepared by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists or the "Standards for Obstetric-Gynecologic Services" prepared by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. Coverage for obstetrical services as an inpatient in a general Hospital or obstetrical services by a Physician shall provide such benefits with durational limits, deductibles, coinsurance factors, and Copayments that are no less favorable than for physical illness generally.

Notice of Special Enrollment Rights

If you are declining enrollment for yourself or your dependents (including your spouse) because of other health insurance or group health plan coverage, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage (or if the employer stops contributing toward your or your dependents' other coverage). However, you must request enrollment within 31 days after your or your dependents' other coverage ends (or after the employer stops contributing toward the other coverage).

In addition, if you have a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents. However, you must request enrollment within 31 days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.

Effective April 1, 2009, if either of the following two events occur, you will have *60 days* from the date of the event to request enrollment in your employer's plan:

- Your dependents lose Medicaid or CHIP coverage because they are no longer eligible.
- Your dependents become eligible for a state's premium assistance program.

To take advantage of special enrollment rights, you must experience a qualifying event *and* provide the employer plan with timely notice of the event and your enrollment request.

To request special enrollment or obtain more information, contact Ascension Parish School Board, Human Resource Dept. at (225) 391-7000.