

NOTICES & DISCLOSURES

for the 2024 Plan Year



Lebanon County Career & Technology Center

833 Metro Drive
Lebanon, PA 17042
(717) 273-8551

For Questions or Additional Information
Regarding These Notices Contact

Business Administrator at (717) 273-8551
Or email tgeyer@lcctc.k12.pa.us

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING YOUR PHARMACY COVERAGE

If you or your dependents have Medicare or will become eligible for Medicare in the next 12 months, please see the Notice of Creditable Coverage for important information on page 6.

HIPAA Notice of Special Enrollment Rights

Requirements to report HIPAA Life Events

If you decline 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 your other coverage or the employer stops contributing to your other coverage **provided you request enrollment within 30 days of the date of the change.**
- Lose coverage or have a change in eligibility for premium assistance subsidy under Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) **provided you request enrollment within 60 days of the date Medicaid or CHIP coverage ends or changes.**

If you have a new dependent due to marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents. **You must request enrollment within 30 days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.**

Enrollment in this Plan is not automatic. You must complete the enrollment process to secure coverage.

The Plan reserves the right to require a written reason for declining an offer of coverage. A signed and dated letter declining coverage and the specific reason for declining the coverage may be required.

To request special enrollment or obtain more information, please contact Business Administrator at (717) 273-8551 or tgeyer@lcctc.k12.pa.us.

HIPAA Privacy Notice

The Plan uses and discloses health information about you and any covered dependents only as needed to administer the Plan. To protect the privacy of health information, access to your health information is limited to such purposes. For insured health coverage, the insurance issuer is responsible for providing its own Privacy Notice. If you have any question about this notice, contact the customer service number on your ID card.

HIPAA Privacy Policy Notice of Availability

For purposes of the health benefits offered under the Plan, the Plan uses and discloses health information about you and any covered dependents only as needed to administer the Plan. To protect the privacy of health information, access to your health information is limited to such purposes. The health plan options offered under the Plan will comply with the applicable health information privacy requirements of federal Regulations issued by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). The Plan's privacy policies are described in more detail in the Plan's Notice of Health Information Privacy Practices or Privacy Notice. Plan participants in the are reminded that the Notice of Privacy Practices is available submitting a written request to Business Administrator at (717) 273-8551 or tgeyer@lcctc.k12.pa.us.

Waiver of Group Health Plan Coverage and Marketplace Eligibility

This Plan is a qualifying health plan in accordance with the Affordable Care Act (ACA). If you waive coverage, it may affect eligibility for subsidized coverage in the Marketplace (health exchange).

No Surprises Act Notice of Availability

The Plan is subject to the No Surprises Act, which limits the amount participants may have to pay for certain out-of-network surprise medical bills as defined by the Act. More information about surprise billing requirements under the No Surprises Act and any similar state laws, can be found on our medical insurer website. Additional information will also be included on your Explanation of Benefits (EOB) for any affected claims, as required under federal law.

State Individual Coverage Mandates

Taxpayers in CA, DC, MA, NJ, RI and VT (neither a complete nor exhaustive list) are reminded that your state imposes an individual mandate penalty (tax) should you, your spouse, and children choose to not have and keep medical/prescription coverage for each tax year. Please consult your tax advisor for how a non-election for health coverage may affect your tax situation.

Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008

This act expands the mental health parity requirements in the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), the Internal Revenue Code (IRC), and the Public Health Services Act (PHSA) by imposing new mandates on group health plans that provide both medical and surgical benefits and mental health or substance abuse disorder benefits. Among the new requirements, such plans (or the health insurance coverage offered in connection with such plans) must ensure that: the financial requirements applicable to mental health or substance abuse disorder benefits are no more restrictive than the predominant financial requirements applied to substantially all medical and surgical benefits covered by the plan (or coverage), and there are no separate cost sharing requirements that are applicable only with respect to mental health or substance abuse disorder benefits.

Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act Notice

Group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under Federal law, 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 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).

Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act Notice

If you have or going to have a mastectomy, you may be entitled to certain benefits under the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 (WHCRA). For individuals receiving mastectomy-related benefits, coverage will be provided in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, 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; and
- Treatment of physical complications of the mastectomy, including lymphedema.

To request more information on WHCRA benefits, please contact Business Administrator at (717) 273-8551 or tgeyer@lcctc.k12.pa.us.

Genetic Nondiscrimination

The Genetic Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 (GINA) prohibits employers and other entities covered by GINA Title II from requesting, or requiring, genetic information of an individual or family member of the individual, except as specifically allowed by this law. To comply with this law, the Company asks Employees not to provide any genetic information when providing or responding to a request for medical information. Genetic information, as defined by GINA, includes an individual's family medical history, the results of an individual's or family member's genetic tests, the fact that an individual or an individual's family member sought or received genetic services, and genetic information of a fetus carried by an individual or an individual's family member or an embryo lawfully held by an individual or family member receiving assistive reproductive services.

Qualified Medical Child Support Order

QMCSO is a medical child support order issued under State law that creates or recognizes the existence of an "alternate recipient's" right to receive benefits for which a participant or beneficiary is eligible under a group health plan. An "alternate recipient" is any child of a participant (including a child adopted by or placed for adoption with a participant in a group health plan) who is recognized under a medical child support order as having a right to enrollment under a group health plan with respect to such participant. Upon receipt, the administrator of a group health plan is required to determine, within a reasonable period of time, whether a medical child support order is qualified, and to administer benefits in accordance with the applicable terms of each order that is qualified. In the event you are served with a notice to provide medical coverage for a dependent child as the result of a legal determination, you may obtain information from your employer on the rules for seeking to enact such coverage. These rules are provided at no cost to you and may be requested from your employer at any time.

Employee Rights Under the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)

Leave Entitlements

Eligible employees who work for a covered employer can take up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave in a 12-month period for the following reasons:

- The birth of a child or placement of a child for adoption or foster care.
- To bond with a child (leave must be taken within 1 year of the child's birth or placement).
- To care for the employee's spouse, child, or parent who has a qualifying serious health condition.
- For the employee's own qualifying serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job.
- For qualifying exigencies related to the foreign deployment of a military member who is the employee's spouse, child, or parent.

An eligible employee who is a covered servicemember's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin may also take up to 26 weeks of FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember with a serious injury or illness. An employee does not need to use leave in one block. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, employees may take leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule. Employees may choose, or an employer may require, use of accrued paid leave while taking FMLA leave. If an employee substitutes accrued paid leave for FMLA leave, the employee must comply with the employer's normal paid leave policies.

Benefits & Protections

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While employees are on FMLA leave, employers must continue health insurance coverage as if the employees were not on leave. Upon return from FMLA leave, most employees must be restored to the same job or one nearly identical to it with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions. An employer may not interfere with an individual's FMLA rights or retaliate against someone for using or trying to use FMLA leave, opposing any practice made unlawful by the FMLA, or being involved in any proceeding under or related to the FMLA.

Eligibility Requirements

An employee who works for a covered employer must meet three criteria in order to be eligible for FMLA leave. The employee must:

- Have worked for the employer for at least 12 months;
- Have at least 1,250 hours of service in the 12 months before taking leave* and
- Work at a location where the employer has at least 50 employees within 75 miles of the employee's worksite

**Special "hours of service" requirements apply to airline flight crew employees.*

Requesting Leave

Generally, employees must give 30-days' advance notice of the need for FMLA leave. If it is not possible to give 30-days' notice, an employee must notify the employer as soon as possible and, generally, follow the employer's usual procedures.

Employees do not have to share a medical diagnosis but must provide enough information to the employer so it can determine if the leave qualifies for FMLA protection. Sufficient information could include informing an employer that the employee is or will be unable to perform his or her job functions, that a family member cannot perform daily activities, or that hospitalization or continuing medical treatment is necessary. Employees must inform the employer if the need for leave is for a reason for which FMLA leave was previously taken or certified.

Employers can require a certification or periodic recertification supporting the need for leave. If the employer determines that the certification is incomplete, it must provide a written notice indicating what additional information is required.

Employer Responsibilities

Once an employer becomes aware that an employee's need for leave is for a reason that may qualify under the FMLA, the employer must notify the employee if he or she is eligible for FMLA leave and, if eligible, must also provide a notice of rights and responsibilities under the FMLA. If the employee is not eligible, the employer must provide a reason for ineligibility. Employers must notify its employees if leave will be designated as FMLA leave, and if so, how much leave will be designated as FMLA leave.

Enforcement

Employees may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer. The FMLA does not affect any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family or medical leave rights. For additional information or to file a complaint, call (866) 4-USWAGE (866-487-9243; TTY 877-889-5627) or go to www.dol.gov/whd.

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act

USERRA protects the job rights of individuals who voluntarily or involuntarily leave employment positions to undertake military service or certain types of service in the National Disaster Medical System. USERRA also prohibits employers from discriminating against past and present members of the uniformed services, and applicants to the uniformed services.

Reemployment Rights

You have the right to be reemployed in your civilian job if you leave that job to perform service in the uniformed service and:

- You ensure that your employer receives advance written or verbal notice of your service;
- You have five years or less of cumulative service in the uniformed services while with that particular employer;
- You return to work or apply for reemployment in a timely manner after conclusion of service; and
- You have not been separated from service with a disqualifying discharge or under other than honorable conditions.

If you are eligible to be reemployed, you must be restored to the job and benefits you would have attained if you had not been absent due to military service or, in some cases, a comparable job.

Right to be Free from Discrimination and Retaliation

If you:

- Are a past or present member of the uniformed service;
- Have applied for membership in the uniformed service; or
- Are obligated to serve in the uniformed service.

Then an employer may not deny you:

- Initial employment;
- Reemployment;

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- Retention in employment.
- Promotion; or
- Any benefit of employment because of this status.

In addition, an employer may not retaliate against anyone assisting in the enforcement of USERRA rights, including testifying or making a statement in connection with a proceeding under USERRA, even if that person has no service connection.

Health Insurance Protection

If you leave your job to perform military service, you have the right to elect to continue your existing employer-based health plan coverage for you and your dependents for up to 24 months while in the military.

Even if you don't elect to continue coverage during your military service, you have the right to be reinstated in your employer's health plan when you are reemployed, generally without any waiting periods or exclusions (e.g., pre-existing condition exclusions) except for service-connected illnesses or injuries.

Enforcement

The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS) is authorized to investigate and resolve complaints of USERRA violations.

For assistance in filing a complaint, or for any other information on USERRA, contact VETS at **1-866-4-USA-DOL** or visit its website at <http://www.dol.gov/vets>. An interactive online USERRA Advisor can be viewed at <http://www.dol.gov/elaws/userra.htm>.

If you file a complaint with VETS and VETS is unable to resolve it, you may request that your case be referred to the Department of Justice or the Office of Special Counsel, as applicable, for representation.

You may also bypass the VETS process and bring a civil action against an employer for violations of USERRA.

The rights here may vary depending on the circumstances. The text of this notice was prepared by VETS and may be viewed at <http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra/poster/htm>.

Medicare Part D Notice of Creditable Coverage

ARE YOU, OR A FAMILY MEMBER, MEDICARE ELIGIBLE (OR ABOUT TO BECOME MEDICARE ELIGIBLE)? IF SO, PLEASE READ AND KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS!

For Prescription Coverage in the Group Health Plans

We have determined that the prescription drug coverage provided under Lebanon County Career & Technology Center Health and Welfare Plan is expected to pay out, on average, the same or more than what the standard Medicare prescription drug coverage will pay. This is known as **CREDITABLE COVERAGE** as defined by the Medicare Modernization Act (MMA).

Why This is Important

When someone first becomes eligible to enroll in a government-sponsored Medicare “Part D” prescription drug plan, enrollment is considered timely if completed by the end of his or her “Initial Enrollment Period” which ends 3 months after the month in which he or she turned age 65.

Unfortunately, if you choose not to enroll in Medicare Part D during your Initial Enrollment Period, **when you finally do enroll you may be subject to a late enrollment penalty** added to your monthly Medicare Part D premium. Specifically, the extra cost, if any, increases *based on the number of full, uncovered months* during which you went without either Medicare Part D or else without **CREDITABLE** prescription drug coverage from another source (such as ours).

It is important for those eligible for both Medicare and our group health plan to look ahead and weigh the costs and benefits of the various options on a regular, if not annual, basis. Based on individual facts and circumstances some choose to elect Medicare only, some choose to elect coverage under the group health plan only, while some choose to enroll in both coverages. When both are elected, please note that benefits coordinate according to the Medicare Secondary Payer Rules. That is, one plan or the other would **reduce payment** and prevent you from being reimbursed the full amount from both sources. Your age, the reason for your Medicare eligibility and other factors determine which plan is primary (pays first, generally without reductions) versus secondary (pays second, generally with reductions).

Eligible individuals can enroll in a Medicare Part D prescription drug plan during Medicare’s **Annual Coordinated Election Period** (a.k.a. **Open Enrollment Period**) running from Oct. 15 through Dec. 7 of each year, as well during what is known as a **Medicare Special Enrollment Period** (which is triggered by certain qualifying events, such as the loss of employer/union-sponsored group health coverage).

Those who miss these opportunities are generally unable to enroll in a Medicare Part D plan until another enrollment period becomes available. Finally, please be cautioned that even if you elect our coverage, you could be subject to a payment of higher Part D premiums if you subsequently experience a break in coverage of 63 continuous days or longer before enrolling in the Medicare Part D plan. **Carefully coordinating your transition between plans is therefore essential.**

If you are unsure as to whether or when you will become eligible for Medicare, or if you have questions about how to get help to pay for it, please call the Social Security Administration at (800) 772-1213 or visit [socialsecurity.gov](https://www.socialsecurity.gov). Specific questions about our prescription drug coverage should be directed to the customer service number on your ID card, if enrolled, or to Business Administrator at (717) 273-8551 or tgeyer@lcctc.k12.pa.us.

Keep this notice of Creditable Coverage. If you decide to join one of the Medicare drug plans, you may be required to provide a copy of this notice when you join to show whether you have maintained creditable coverage and, therefore, whether you are required to pay a higher premium (a penalty).

Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage Options and Your Health Coverage

PART A: General Information

To assist you as you evaluate options for you and your family, this notice provides some basic information about the ACA Health Insurance Marketplace (the “exchange”) and employment-based health coverage offered.

What is the Government-run Health Insurance Marketplace (exchange)?

The Marketplace is designed to help you find health insurance that meets your needs and fits your budget. The Marketplace offers "one-stop shopping" to find and compare private health insurance options. You may also be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your monthly premium right away. Open enrollment for health insurance coverage occurs on an annual basis, and Special enrollment Periods are available throughout the year to those with a qualifying life event such as marriage, divorce, birth or adoption of a child, loss of a job and other events.

Can I save money on my health insurance premiums in the Marketplace?

You may qualify to save money and lower your monthly premium, but only if your employer does not offer coverage, or offers coverage that doesn't meet certain standards. The savings on your premium that you're eligible for depends on your household income.

Does employer health coverage affect eligibility for premium savings through the Marketplace?

Yes. If you have an offer of health coverage from your employer that meets certain standards, you will not be eligible for a tax credit through the Marketplace and may wish to enroll in your employer's health plan. However, you may be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your monthly premium and a reduction in plan cost-sharing if your employer a) does not offer coverage to you at all or b) does not offer coverage that meets certain standards. Specifically, if your cost for SELF-ONLY coverage on a plan offered to you by your employer is more than 9.5% of your household income for the year (plus all applicable adjustments for inflation), OR if the coverage your employer provides does not meet the "Minimum Value (MV) Standard" set by the Affordable Care Act, you may be eligible for a tax credit.¹

Note: There may be some disadvantages if you purchase a health plan through the Marketplace instead of accepting coverage offered by your employer. First, current regulations generally prohibit employers from contributing funds toward non-group health premiums. This means that you will lose any employer premium contributions that would have otherwise been payable. Second, the costs paid toward employer-offered health coverage are generally excluded from income for Federal and State income tax purposes. However, payments for coverage through the Marketplace are made on an AFTER-TAX basis.

How can I get more information?

For more information about your coverage offered by your employer, please check your coverage materials or contact to Business Administrator at (717) 273-8551 or tgeyer@lcctc.k12.pa.us.

The Marketplace or a licensed insurance broker can help you evaluate your coverage options, including your eligibility for coverage through the Marketplace and its cost. Please visit [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) to find more information.

¹ *An employer-sponsored health plan meets the “Minimum Value (MV) Standard” if the plan’s share of the total allowed benefit costs covered by the plan is no less than 60 percent of such costs and meets other requirements.*

PART B: General Information

This section contains information about any health coverage offered by your employer. If you decide to complete an application for coverage in the Marketplace, you will be asked to provide this information. This information is numbered to correspond to the Marketplace application.

3. Employer name		4. Employer Identification Number	
Lebanon County Career & Technology Center		23-1685610	
5. Employer address		6. Employer phone number	
833 Metro Drive		(717) 273-8551	
7. City	8. State	9. Zip code	
Lebanon	PA	17042	
10. Who can we contact about employee health coverage at this job?			
Business Administrator			
11. Phone number (if different from above)		12. Email address	
(717) 273-8551		tgeyer@lcctc.k12.pa.us	

Here is some basic information about health coverage offered by this employer:

As your employer, we offer a health plan to:

All employees we deem eligible for health coverage under the plan's eligibility rules. Coverage is offered to full-time employees working at least 30 hours per week, but other criteria may apply based on employment class and other facts and circumstances.

With respect to dependents:

All eligible spouses and dependents to the end of the month they reach the age of 26, as well as others who meet specified criteria. Please contact the individual listed in Box 10 (above) with any questions.

X	If checked, this coverage meets the minimum value standard, and the cost of this coverage is intended to be affordable under one of the §4980H Affordability Safe Harbors.
**	Even if your employer intends your coverage to be affordable, you may still be eligible for a premium discount through the Marketplace. The Marketplace will use your household income, along with other factors, to determine whether you may be eligible for a premium discount. If, for example, your wages vary from week to week (perhaps you are an hourly employee or you work on a commission basis), if you are newly employed mid-year, or if you have other income losses, you may still qualify for a premium discount.

If you decide to shop for coverage in the Marketplace, [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) will guide you through the process. You may need to get information from your employer, about their coverage, to find out if you qualify for a tax credit to lower your monthly premiums.

General Notice of COBRA Continuation Coverage Rights

This notice has important information about your right to COBRA continuation coverage, which is a temporary extension of coverage under the Plan. This notice explains Federal COBRA continuation coverage, when it may become available to you and your family, and what you need to do to protect your right to get it. When you become eligible for COBRA, you may also become eligible for other coverage options that may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage.

The right to COBRA continuation coverage was created by a federal law, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA). COBRA continuation coverage can become available to you and other members of your family when group health coverage would otherwise end. For more information about your rights and obligations under the Plan and under federal law, you should review the Plan's Summary Plan Description or contact the Plan Administrator.

You may have other options available to you when you lose group health coverage. For example, you may be eligible to buy an individual plan through the Health Insurance Marketplace. By enrolling in coverage through the Marketplace, you may qualify for lower costs on your monthly premiums and lower out-of-pocket costs. Additionally, you may qualify for a 30-day special enrollment period for another group health plan for which you are eligible (such as a spouse's plan), even if that plan generally doesn't accept late enrollees.

What is COBRA continuation coverage?

COBRA continuation coverage is a continuation of Plan coverage when it would otherwise end because of a life event. This is also called a "qualifying event." Specific qualifying events are listed later in this notice. After a qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage must be offered to each person who is a "qualified beneficiary." You, your spouse, and your dependent children could become qualified beneficiaries if coverage under the Plan is lost because of the qualifying event. Under the Plan, qualified beneficiaries who elect COBRA continuation coverage must pay for COBRA continuation coverage.

If you're an employee, you'll become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

- Your hours of employment are reduced, or
- Your employment ends for any reason other than your gross misconduct.
- If you're the spouse of an employee, you'll become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:
 - Death of your spouse.
 - Your spouse's hours of employment are reduced.
 - Your spouse's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct.
 - Your spouse becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); or
 - You become divorced or legally separated from your spouse.
 - Your dependent children will become qualified beneficiaries if they lose coverage under the Plan for any of the following qualifying events:
 - Death of parent-employee.
 - The parent-employee's hours of employment are reduced.
 - The parent-employee's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct.
 - The parent-employee becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (Part A, Part B, or both).
 - The parents become divorced or legally separated.
 - The child stops being eligible for coverage under the Plan as a "dependent child."

When is COBRA continuation coverage available?

The Plan will offer COBRA continuation coverage to qualified beneficiaries only after the Plan Administrator has been notified that a qualifying event has occurred. The employer must notify the Plan Administrator of the following qualifying events:

- The end of employment or reduction of hours of employment
- Death of the employee.
- The employee's becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both).

For all other qualifying events (divorce or legal separation of the employee and spouse or a dependent child's losing eligibility for coverage as a dependent child), you must notify the Plan Administrator within 60 days after the qualifying event occurs. You must provide this notice to the person listed at the front of this booklet.

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How is COBRA continuation coverage provided?

Once the Plan Administrator receives notice that a qualifying event has occurred, COBRA continuation coverage will be offered to each of the qualified beneficiaries. Each qualified beneficiary will have an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Covered employees may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their spouses, and parents may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their children.

COBRA continuation coverage is a temporary continuation of coverage that generally lasts for 18 months due to employment termination or reduction of hours of work. Certain qualifying events, or a second qualifying event during the initial period of coverage, may permit a beneficiary to receive a maximum of 36 months of coverage.

There are also ways in which this 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage can be extended:

Disability extension of 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage

If you or anyone in your family covered under the Plan is determined by Social Security to be disabled and you notify the Plan Administrator in a timely fashion, you and your entire family may be entitled to get up to an additional 11 months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 29 months. The disability would have to have started at some time before the 60th day of COBRA continuation coverage and must last at least until the end of the 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage.

Second qualifying event extension of 18-month period of continuation coverage

If your family experiences another qualifying event during the 18 months of COBRA continuation coverage, the spouse and dependent children in your family can get up to 18 additional months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 36 months, if the Plan is properly notified about the second qualifying event. This extension may be available to the spouse and any dependent children getting COBRA continuation coverage if the employee or former employee dies; becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); gets divorced or legally separated; or if the dependent child stops being eligible under the Plan as a dependent child. This extension is only available if the second qualifying event would have caused the spouse or dependent child to lose coverage under the Plan had the first qualifying event not occurred.

Are there other coverage options besides COBRA Continuation Coverage?

Yes. Instead of enrolling in COBRA continuation coverage, there may be other coverage options for you and your family through the Health Insurance Marketplace, Medicaid, or other group health plan coverage options (such as a spouse's plan) through what is called a "special enrollment period." Some of these options may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage. You can learn more about many of these options at www.healthcare.gov.

Can I enroll in Medicare instead of COBRA after my group health plan coverage ends?

In general, if you don't enroll in Medicare Part A or B when you are first eligible because you are still employed, after the Medicare initial enrollment period, you have an 8-month special enrollment period to sign up for Medicare Part A or B, beginning on the earlier of:

- The month after your employment ends; or
- The month after group health plan coverage based on current employment ends.

If you don't enroll in Medicare and elect COBRA continuation coverage instead, you may have to pay a Part B late enrollment penalty and you may have a gap in coverage if you decide you want Part B later. If you elect COBRA continuation coverage and later enroll in Medicare Part A or B before the COBRA continuation coverage ends, the Plan may terminate your continuation coverage. However, if Medicare Part A or B is effective on or before the date of the COBRA election, COBRA coverage may not be discontinued on account of Medicare entitlement, even if you enroll in the other part of Medicare after the date of the election of COBRA coverage.

If you are enrolled in both COBRA continuation coverage and Medicare, Medicare will generally pay first (primary payer) and COBRA continuation coverage will pay second. Certain plans may pay as if secondary to Medicare, even if you are not enrolled in Medicare.

For more information visit <https://www.medicare.gov/medicare-and-you>.

If You Have Questions

Questions concerning your Plan, or your COBRA continuation coverage rights can be directed to Business Administrator at (717) 273-8551 or tgeyer@lcctc.k12.pa.us.

For more information about your rights including COBRA, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and other laws affecting group health plans, contact the nearest Regional or District Office of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) in your area or visit www.dol.gov/ebsa.

For more information about the Marketplace, visit www.healthcare.gov.

Keep Your Plan Informed of Address Changes

To protect your family's rights, let the Plan Administrator know about any changes in the addresses of family members. You should also keep a copy, for your records, of any notices you send to the Plan Administrator.

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’re eligible for health coverage from your employer, your state may have a premium assistance program that can help pay for coverage, using funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs. If you or your children aren’t eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, you won’t be eligible for these premium assistance programs, but you may be able to buy individual insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace. For more information, visit www.healthcare.gov.

If you or your dependents are already enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP and you live in a State listed below, 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, 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, ask your state if it has a program that might help you pay the premiums for an employer-sponsored plan.

If you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, as well as eligible under your employer plan, your employer must allow you to enroll in your employer plan if you aren’t 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, contact the Department of Labor at www.askebsa.dol.gov or call 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, 2023. Contact your State for more information on eligibility –

ALABAMA – Medicaid Website: http://myalhipp.com/ Phone: 1-855-692-5447	ALASKA – Medicaid The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment Program Website: http://myakhipp.com/ Phone: 1-866-251-4861 Email: CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com Medicaid Eligibility: https://health.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/default.aspx
ARKANSAS – Medicaid Website: http://myarhipp.com/ Phone: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)	CALIFORNIA – Medicaid Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program Website: http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp Phone: 916-445-8322 Fax: 916-440-5676 Email: hipp@dhcs.ca.gov
COLORADO – Health First Colorado (Colorado’s Medicaid Program) & Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+) Health First Colorado Website: https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/ Health First Colorado Member Contact Center: 1-800-221-3943/State Relay 711 CHP+: https://hcpf.colorado.gov/child-health-plan-plus CHP+ Customer Service: 1-800-359-1991/State Relay 711 Health Insurance Buy-In Program (HIBI): https://www.mycohibi.com/ HIBI Customer Service: 1-855-692-6442	FLORIDA – Medicaid Website: https://www.flmedicaidptprecovery.com/flmedicaidptprecovery.com/hipp/index.html Phone: 1-877-357-3268
GEORGIA – Medicaid GA HIPP Website: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 1 GA CHIPRA Website: https://medicaid.georgia.gov/programs/third-party-liability/childrens-health-insurance-program-reauthorization-act-2009-chipra Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 2	INDIANA – Medicaid Healthy Indiana Plan for low-income adults 19-64 Website: http://www.in.gov/fssa/hip/ Phone: 1-877-438-4479 All other Medicaid Website: https://www.in.gov/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-457-4584

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<p>IOWA – Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki)</p> <p>Medicaid Website: https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members Medicaid Phone: 1-800-338-8366 Hawki Website: http://dhs.iowa.gov/Hawki Hawki Phone: 1-800-257-8563 HIPP Website: https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid-a-to-z/hipp HIPP Phone: 1-888-346-9562</p>	<p>KANSAS – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: https://www.kancare.ks.gov/ Phone: 1-800-792-4884 HIPP Phone: 1-800-967-4660</p>
<p>KENTUCKY – Medicaid</p> <p>Kentucky Integrated Health Insurance Premium Payment Program (KI-HIPP) Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: KIHIPPPROGRAM@ky.gov KCHIP Website: https://kidshealth.ky.gov/Pages/index.aspx Phone: 1-877-524-4718 Kentucky Medicaid Website: https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms</p>	<p>LOUISIANA – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: www.medicaid.la.gov or www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp Phone: 1-888-342-6207 (Medicaid hotline) or 1-855-618-5488 (LaHIPP)</p>
<p>MAINE – Medicaid</p> <p>Enrollment Website: https://www.mymaineconnection.gov/benefits/s/?language=en_US Phone: 1-800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711 Private Health Insurance Premium Webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms Phone: 1-800-977-6740 TTY: Maine relay 711</p>	<p>MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP</p> <p>Website: https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pa Phone: 1-800-862-4840 TTY: 711 Email: masspreassistance@accenture.com</p>
<p>MINNESOTA – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/seniors/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/medical-assistance.jsp https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/children-and-families/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/other-insurance.jsp Phone: 1-800-657-3739</p>	<p>MISSOURI – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm Phone: 573-751-2005</p>
<p>MONTANA – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP Phone: 1-800-694-3084 Email: HSHIPPProgram@mt.gov</p>	<p>NEBRASKA – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov Phone: 1-855-632-7633 Lincoln: 402-473-7000 Omaha: 402-595-1178</p>
<p>NEVADA – Medicaid</p> <p>Medicaid Website: http://dhcfp.nv.gov Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900</p>	<p>NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/medicaid/health-insurance-premium-program Phone: 603-271-5218 Toll free number for the HIPP program: 1-800-852-3345, ext. 5218</p>
<p>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>NEW YORK – Medicaid</p> <p>Website: https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-541-2831</p>

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NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid Website: https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/ Phone: 919-855-4100	NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid Website: https://www.hhs.nd.gov/healthcare Phone: 1-844-854-4825
OKLAHOMA – Medicaid and CHIP Website: http://www.insureoklahoma.org Phone: 1-888-365-3742	OREGON – Medicaid Website: http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx Phone: 1-800-699-9075
PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid and CHIP Website: https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/HIPP-Program.aspx Phone: 1-800-692-7462 CHIP Website: Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) (pa.gov) CHIP Phone: 1-800-986-KIDS (5437)	RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid and CHIP Website: http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/ Phone: 1-855-697-4347, or 401-462-0311 (Direct Rlte Share Line)
SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid Website: https://www.scdhhs.gov Phone: 1-888-549-0820	SOUTH DAKOTA - Medicaid Website: http://dss.sd.gov Phone: 1-888-828-0059
TEXAS – Medicaid Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program Texas Health and Human Services Phone: 1-800-440-0493	UTAH – Medicaid and CHIP Medicaid Website: https://medicaid.utah.gov/ CHIP Website: http://health.utah.gov/chip Phone: 1-877-543-7669
VERMONT– Medicaid Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program Department of Vermont Health Access Phone: 1-800-250-8427	VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP Website: https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/famis-select https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs Medicaid/CHIP Phone: 1-800-432-5924
WASHINGTON – Medicaid Website: https://www.hca.wa.gov/ Phone: 1-800-562-3022	WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP Website: https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/ http://mywvhipp.com/ Medicaid Phone: 304-558-1700 CHIP Toll-free phone: 1-855-MyWVHIPP (1-855-699-8447)
WISCONSIN – Medicaid and CHIP Website: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm Phone: 1-800-362-3002	WYOMING – Medicaid Website: https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility/ Phone: 1-800-251-1269

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since Jul. 31, 2023, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor
Employee Benefits Security Administration
www.dol.gov/agencies/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