



**State of Wisconsin**  
**Department of Employee Trust Funds**  
4822 Madison Yards Way  
Madison, WI 53705-9100  
P. O. Box 7931  
Madison, WI 53707-7931

## Contract by Authorized Board

**Commodity or Service:**

Medicare Advantage Plans for Medicare-Enrolled Participants in the State of Wisconsin Group Health Insurance and Wisconsin Public Employer Programs

**Contract/Request for Proposal No:**

**ETH0020 - Amendment Number 1**

**Authorized Board:** Group Insurance Board

**Contract Period:** June 1, 2018 – December 31, 2021 with the option for renewal for two (2) additional two (2) year periods.

1. This Contract Amendment Number 1 is entered into by the State of Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds (Department or ETF) on behalf of the State of Wisconsin Group Insurance Board (Board), and **Sierra Health and Life Insurance Company, Inc. dba UnitedHealthcare** (Contractor), whose address and principal officer appear below. The Department is the sole point of contact for the Contract.
2. Whereby the Department agrees to direct the purchase and Contractor agrees to supply the Contract requirements in accordance with the documents specified in the order of precedence below, which are hereby made a part of the Contract by reference.
3. For purposes of administering the Contract, the order of precedence is:
  - (a) This Contract Amendment Number 1;
  - (b) The Contract signed by the State of Wisconsin Group Insurance Board on May 18, 2018;
  - (c) Exhibit A – Contract Changes (Revised August 16, 2018);
  - (d) Exhibit 1 – State of Wisconsin Group Health Program Agreement released August 22, 2018;
  - (e) Exhibit 5 – Department Terms and Conditions dated April 17, 2018;
  - (f) ETF Request for Proposal (RFP) ETH0020 dated October 17, 2017, as revised November 14, 2017; and,
  - (g) Contractor's proposal dated November 28, 2017.

Signatures on next page.

**Contract Number & Service: ETH0020 Amendment Number 1 - Medicare Advantage Plans for Medicare-Enrolled Participants in the State of Wisconsin Group Health Insurance and Wisconsin Public Employer Programs**

<b>State of Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds</b>	
Authorized Board:	State of Wisconsin Group Insurance Board
By (Name):	Michael Farrell, Chair, Group Insurance Board
Signature:	<small>DocuSigned by:</small> <i>Michael Farrell</i>
Date of Signature:	<small>438109801742482</small> 9/7/2018 11:13:32 AM CDT
Contact A. John Voelker, ETF Deputy Secretary, if questions arise: (608) 266-9854	

<b>Contractor</b>	
Legal Company Name:	Sierra Health and Life Insurance Company, Inc.
Trade Name:	UnitedHealthcare
Taxpayer Identification Number:	94-0734860
Contractor Address (Street Address, City, State, Zip):	UnitedHealthcare Insurance Company 185 Asylum Street Hartford, CT 06103-3408
Name & Title (print name and title of person authorized to legally sign for and bind Contractor):	Greta Redmond, Vice President, FSA, MAAA
Signature:	<small>DocuSigned by:</small> <i>Greta Redmond, UHC Vice President, FSA, MAAA</i>
Date of Signature:	<small>918755874694887</small> 9/6/2018 3:22:10 PM CDT
Email:	greta_redmond@uhc.com
Phone:	952-931-5068

## Exhibit A

### ETH0020 Contract Changes

**Revised August 16, 2018**

Changes agreed to by the parties during contract negotiations for Request for Proposal (RFP) ETH0020 – Medicare Advantage Plans for Medicare-Enrolled Participants in the State of Wisconsin Group Health Insurance and Wisconsin Public Employer Programs.

#### **Additions/Changes made to the Contract signed by the Group Insurance Board on May 18, 2018:**

- 1) Cost: Contractor's revised cost submission dated April 27, 2018 is made a part of this Contract. Contractor agrees that if Contractor's Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Star ratings are lowered, Contractor's rates quoted to ETF in its cost submission dated April 27, 2018 will not increase. Contractor agrees that the Department will pay Contractor the plan premiums by the first Business Day of the coverage month.
- 2) RFP Exhibit 3 – Standard Terms and Conditions (DOA-3054) is deleted.
- 3) RFP Exhibit 4 – Supplemental Standard Terms and Conditions for Procurement for Services (DOA-3681) is deleted.
- 4) RFP Exhibit 5 – Department Terms and Conditions dated April 27, 2017, is deleted and replaced with the attached, revised Exhibit 5 – Department Terms and Conditions dated April 17, 2018.
- 5) RFP Exhibit 1 – State of Wisconsin Medicare Advantage Program Agreement revised November 14, 2017, is deleted and replaced with the attached, revised Exhibit 1 – State of Wisconsin Group Health Program Agreement dated May 16, 2018.
- 6) The following is added to the Contract:  
*The Department and Contractor shall execute a Certification to Health Insurance Issuer for Disclosure of PHI to Department agreement prior to Contractor providing Services.*
- 7) The following is added to the Contract:  
Contractor will provide, at no additional expense to Department, at the Department's request, a part-time Service Account Manager who will perform duties on-site at ETF.
- 8) The following is added to the Contract:  
Contractor must certify annually that its provider contracts meet the requirements in Section 230 of Exhibit 1 – State of Wisconsin Group Health Program Agreement. If the Department determines it is necessary, and has exhausted all other reasonable alternatives, it will invoke Section 13.0 of Exhibit 5, Department Terms and Conditions, in an effort to obtain agreement that Department can review provider contracts for the purpose of confirming that the provider contracts meet the requirements in Section 230 and validating reported data regarding provider payments. The Department understands that Contractor has stated that it is unable to release provider contracts to the Department without express permission by provider to share the contract. UHC may be allowed to

redact proprietary and confidential information from such provider contracts before the Department review, unless such information is imperative to the review.

- 9) The following is added to the Contract:

The Department represents that employer manuals will conform with the Medicare Managed Care Manual Chapter 9 Section 20.4.2 requirements regarding employer conditions in determining plan beneficiary premium subsidy.

Pursuant to the Wisconsin Public Employers' Group Health Insurance Program Manual, the employer may determine if and/or how much of an annuitant's plan beneficiary premium they will subsidize, subject to the following conditions in determining the plan beneficiary premium subsidy:

- The employer can subsidize different amounts for different classes of annuitants and employees in the plan provided such classes are reasonable and based on objective business criteria, such as years of service, date of retirement, business location, job category, and nature of compensation (e.g., salaried v. hourly); and
- The employer cannot vary the plan beneficiary premium subsidy for individuals within a given class of annuitants.

- 10) The following is added to the Contract:

The Department acknowledges that federal law preempts Wis. Stat. § 609.24(1)(e), which requires that provider contracts contain provisions addressing reimbursement rendered under Section 230C of Exhibit 1 – State of Wisconsin Group Health Program Agreement and if provider contracts do not contain such provisions, Contractor is required to reimburse the provider according to the most recent contracted rate.

**Additions/Changes made to the Contract pursuant to Contract Amendment Number 1:**

- 11) RFP Exhibit 1 – State of Wisconsin Group Health Program Agreement dated May 16, 2018, is deleted and replaced with the attached, revised Exhibit 1 – State of Wisconsin Group Health Program Agreement dated August 7, 2018.

- 12) RFP Exhibit 1 – State of Wisconsin Group Health Program Agreement dated August 7, 2018, is modified as follows:

**205A Identification (ID) Cards**

The CONTRACTOR must provide PARTICIPANTS with ID cards indicating, at a minimum, the ~~EFFECTIVE DATE of~~ ID card print date and the emergency room and office visit copayment amounts, if applicable. The CONTRACTOR must issue new ID cards upon enrollment and BENEFIT changes that impact the information printed on the ID cards.

- 13) RFP Exhibit 1 – State of Wisconsin Group Health Program Agreement dated August 7, 2018, is modified as follows:

**310B Deliverables to Participants**

<b>1) ID Cards</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR provides PARTICIPANTS with ID cards indicating, at a minimum, the <del>EFFECTIVE DATE of coverage</del> <u>ID card print date</u> and the emergency room and office visit copayment amounts, if applicable. (See Section 205A.)
<b>Due</b>	Upon enrollment and BENEFIT changes that impact the information printed on the ID cards

- 14) RFP Exhibit 1 – State of Wisconsin Group Health Program Agreement dated August 7, 2018, is modified as follows:

The following paragraph f, from Section 150C Data Warehouse File Requirements, is deleted:

f) Benefit Accumulator Data – On each BUSINESS DAY, the CONTRACTOR must submit and retrieve data files with the vendor designated by the DEPARTMENT for the purpose of calculating the benefit accumulator for medical and pharmacy benefits. The CONTRACTOR must retrieve the pharmacy accumulator data and apply it to any combined deductibles and/or maximum out-of-pocket amounts for PARTICIPANTS. The CONTRACTOR must work with the DEPARTMENT to audit the benefit accumulator against the DEPARTMENT’S PBM to ensure the accumulator amounts are in sync.

- 15) RFP Exhibit 1 – State of Wisconsin Group Health Program Agreement dated August 7, 2018, is modified as follows:

**230 Provider Contracts**

The CONTRACTOR shall have staff solely dedicated to network management and provider relations that includes a credentialing process, collaboration on quality initiatives, and provider communications. The CONTRACTOR must engage in regular provider negotiations to strategically realize cost savings to the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM. The CONTRACTOR must, at a minimum, provide an annual update on provider discount negotiations efforts and outcomes to be included in the rate renewal reports. The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to require more frequent status updates on provider negotiation strategies, efforts, and outcomes.

Upon request by the DEPARTMENT, the CONTRACTOR shall agree to disclose the cost savings calculated with implementing any provider contract reimbursement methods as directed by the BOARD. This may include a detailed explanation of how providers and HOSPITALS are compensated as described in [Section 160D](#), 3. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

Upon request by the DEPARTMENT, the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR shall agree to disclose the cost savings calculated with implementing any provider contract reimbursement methods as directed by the BOARD. This may include a detailed explanation of how providers and HOSPITALS compensation is established, reviewed and changed. The intent is to secure information on how a CONTRACTOR reimburses its providers. The BOARD is not interested in specific fees or salary information.



**State of Wisconsin  
Group Health Insurance Program Agreement**

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**Issued by the State of Wisconsin  
Department of Employee Trust Funds  
On behalf of the Group Insurance Board**

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Release Date: August 22, 2018

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## 000 DEFINITIONS

Unless otherwise defined herein, any term needing definition shall have the definition found in UNIFORM BENEFITS (of this AGREEMENT) or in applicable Wisconsin law. These terms, when used and capitalized in this AGREEMENT are defined and limited to that meaning only:

**AGREEMENT** means this State of Wisconsin Group Health Insurance Program Agreement, which is the binding agreement between the BOARD and CONTRACTOR for the administration of the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM.

### **ANNUITANT**

When not specified, ANNUITANT means all ANNUITANTS, including state and LOCAL.

**STATE ANNUITANT** means any retired EMPLOYEE of the State of Wisconsin: receiving an immediate annuity under the Wisconsin Retirement System, a currently insured recipient of a long-term disability benefit under [Wis. Adm. Code § ETF 50.40](#), a currently insured recipient of a disability benefit under [Wis. Stat. § 40.65](#); or a terminated EMPLOYEE with twenty (20) years of creditable service.

**LOCAL ANNUITANT** means:

- 1) Any currently insured retired EMPLOYEE of a participating EMPLOYER: receiving an immediate annuity under the Wisconsin Retirement System, or a long-term disability benefit under [Wis. Adm. Code § ETF 50.40](#), or a disability benefit under [Wis. Stat. § 40.65](#), or a person with twenty (20) years of creditable service who is eligible for an immediate annuity but defers application, or a person receiving an annuity through a program administered by the DEPARTMENT under [Wis. Stat. § 40.19 \(4\) \(a\)](#).
- 2) A retired public employee under [Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(25\) \(b\) 11](#), who is receiving an annuity under the Wisconsin Retirement System (but not a disability benefit under [Wis. Stat. § 40.65](#) or Long-Term Disability Insurance (LTDI)), or any DEPENDENT of such an employee, who is receiving a continuation of the employee's annuity, and, if eligible, and who has acted under [Wis. Stat. § 40.51 \(10\)](#) to elect the Local Annuitant Health Program (LAHP).

**BALANCE BILLING** means an OUT-OF-NETWORK provider's practice of billing a patient for the difference between the patient's health plan's standard reimbursement for a covered service and that provider's USUAL and CUSTOMARY CHARGES if the health plan's standard reimbursement is less than the provider's charge.

**BENEFITS** means those items and services as listed in UNIFORM BENEFITS. A PARTICIPANT'S right to BENEFITS is subject to the terms, conditions, limitations and exclusions of the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM.

**BOARD** means the Group Insurance Board.

**BUSINESS DAY** means each calendar DAY except Saturday, Sunday, and official State of Wisconsin holidays (see also: DAY).

**CMS** means Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

**CONFINEMENT** as defined in UNIFORM BENEFITS.

**CONTINUANT** means any SUBSCRIBER enrolled under the federal or state continuation provisions as described in the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM.

**CONTRACT** means the contract document signed by the CONTRACTOR or MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR and the DEPARTMENT, and includes, all exhibits, attachments, supplements, and endorsements or riders made a part thereof, and this AGREEMENT.

**CONTRACTOR or HEALTH PLAN** means the licensed insurer who is the legal signatory to the CONTRACT.

**DAY** means calendar day unless otherwise indicated.

**DEPARTMENT** means the State of Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds.

**DEPENDENT** as defined in UNIFORM BENEFITS.

**EFFECTIVE DATE** as defined in UNIFORM BENEFITS.

**EMPLOYEE**

When not specified, EMPLOYEE means all EMPLOYEES, including state and LOCAL.

**STATE EMPLOYEE** means an eligible EMPLOYEE of the State of Wisconsin as defined under [Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(25\) \(a\), 1., 2., or \(b\), 1m., 2., 2g., or 8.](#)

**LOCAL EMPLOYEE** means an eligible EMPLOYEE as defined under [Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(46\)](#) or [40.19 \(4\) \(a\)](#), of an EMPLOYER as defined under [Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(28\)](#), other than the state, which has acted under [Wis. Stat. § 40.51 \(7\)](#), to make health care coverage available to its EMPLOYEES.

**EMPLOYER**

When not specified, EMPLOYER means all EMPLOYERS, including state and LOCAL.

**STATE EMPLOYER** means an eligible State of Wisconsin agency as defined in [Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(54\)](#).

**LOCAL EMPLOYER** means an employer who has acted under [Wis. Stat. § 40.51 \(7\)](#), to make health care coverage available to its EMPLOYEES.

**HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM** means the Group Health Insurance Program that provides group health BENEFITS to eligible State of Wisconsin and participating LOCAL EMPLOYEES, ANNUITANTS, CONTINUANTS and their eligible DEPENDENTS in accordance with Chapter 40, Wisconsin Statutes. The HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM is established, maintained and administered by the BOARD.

**HIGH DEDUCTIBLE HEALTH PLAN (HDHP)** as defined in UNIFORM BENEFITS.

**HOSPITAL** as defined in UNIFORM BENEFITS.

**IN-NETWORK** refers to a provider who has agreed in writing by executing a participation agreement to provide, prescribe or direct health care services, supplies or other items covered under the policy to PARTICIPANTS. The provider's written participation agreement must be in force at the time such services, supplies or other items covered under the policy are provided to a PARTICIPANT. The CONTRACTOR agrees to give PARTICIPANTS lists of affiliated providers. Some providers require prior authorization by the CONTRACTOR in advance of the services being provided.

**INPATIENT** means a PARTICIPANT admitted as a bed patient to a health care facility or in twenty-four (24)-hour home care.

**IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT** means the enrollment period referred to in the DEPARTMENT materials as the It's Your Choice enrollment period that is available at least annually to insured SUBSCRIBERS allowing them the opportunity to change CONTRACTORS and/or coverage and also to eligible individuals to enroll for coverage in any CONTRACTOR offered by the BOARD.

**LOCAL** means a Wisconsin Public Employer who has acted under [Wis. Stat. § 40.51 \(7\)](#), to participate in the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM for its EMPLOYEES.

**MEDICARE ADVANTAGE** means a program defined under Title 18, Part C of the U.S. Social Security act of 1965, as amended.

**MEDICARE PART A** means the hospital insurance program defined under Title 18, Part A of the U.S. Social Security Act of 1965, as amended, and covers inpatient care.

**MEDICARE PART B** means the medical insurance program defined under Title 18, Part B of the U.S. Social Security Act of 1965, as amended, and covers outpatient care.

**MINIMUM PROVIDER ACCESS STANDARDS** means those as defined under [Wis. Stat. § 609.22](#) and [Wis. Admin. Code INS 9.32](#).

**OUT-OF-NETWORK** refers to a provider who does not have a signed participating provider agreement and is not listed on the most current edition of the CONTRACTOR'S professional directory of providers. Care from an OUT-OF-NETWORK provider may require prior-authorization from the CONTRACTOR unless it is an emergency or urgent care.

**PARTICIPANT** means the SUBSCRIBER or any of the SUBSCRIBER'S DEPENDENTS who have been specified by the DEPARTMENT for enrollment and are entitled to BENEFITS.

**PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGER (PBM)** as defined in UNIFORM BENEFITS.

**PREMIUM** means the rates shown in the It's Your Choice materials that includes the medical, pharmacy, and dental (when applicable) components, and administration fees required by the BOARD. Those rates may be revised by the BOARD annually, effective on each succeeding January 1 following the effective date of this AGREEMENT. The PREMIUM includes the amount paid by the EMPLOYER when the EMPLOYER contributes toward the PREMIUM.

**QUARTERLY** means a period consisting of every consecutive three (3) months beginning January 2018.

**SECURE** means the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the DEPARTMENT'S data is of the highest priority and must be protected at all times. All related hardware, software, firmware, protocols, methods, policies, procedures, standards, and guidelines that govern, store, or transport the data must be implemented in manners consistent with current industry standards, such as, but not limited to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act (GINA), National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) 800-53, and Center for Internet Security (CIS) Critical Security Controls to ensure the protection of all DEPARTMENT data.

**SUBSCRIBER** means an EMPLOYEE, ANNUITANT, or his or her surviving DEPENDENTS, who have been specified by the DEPARTMENT to the CONTRACTOR for enrollment and who is entitled to BENEFITS.

**UNIFORM BENEFITS** means the BENEFITS described in [Section 400](#) that are administered to PARTICIPANTS enrolled in the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM.

## 100 GENERAL

### **105 Introduction**

This State of Wisconsin Health Benefit Program Agreement (“AGREEMENT”) is for the purposes of administering the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM. The HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM is the umbrella term used to describe the program in whole, including the State of Wisconsin Group Benefits Program and the Wisconsin Public Employers Group Benefits Program, herein referred to as “state” and “LOCAL”, respectively. The HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM is administered for the Group Insurance Board (BOARD) by the State of Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds (DEPARTMENT).

By statute, the BOARD has the authority to negotiate the scope and content of the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM for EMPLOYEES and ANNUITANTS of the State of Wisconsin, as well as for local units of government who choose to participate. The DEPARTMENT regularly provides the most current rosters for state agencies and authorities as well as the local employer roster (forms ET-1404 and ET-1407, respectively).

Eligible PARTICIPANTS have the opportunity to choose a benefit plan design. A minimum of two (2) competing benefit plans is required per [Wis. Stat. § 40.51 \(6\)](#).

### **110 Objectives**

The BOARD's objectives of the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM include, but are not limited to the following:

- 1) Management and delivery of health care services to PARTICIPANTS through contracted networks that provide for high-quality, cost-effective care.
- 2) To provide excellent customer service to PARTICIPANTS.
- 3) To offer networks of high value providers, and to incent PARTICIPANTS to choose benefit plan designs with high value providers.
- 4) To provide high-quality services at a competitive price.
- 5) Accurate, timely and responsive administration of health care claims.
- 6) Assist the BOARD in achieving strategy goals of:
  - a) Managing total costs.
  - b) Supporting PARTICIPANTS by providing them with tools and resources needed to manage their health and health purchasing decisions.
  - c) Promoting behavior change and accountability.



- d) Retain managed care elements that provide value.
- 7) To offer tools for PARTICIPANTS to increase engagement, including:
  - a) Knowledge of provider cost and quality.
  - b) Wellness and disease management.
  - c) Self-responsibility.
- 8) To ensure quality population health programs, including case management and disease management, which promote proactive management of PARTICIPANT health concerns.
- 9) To continuously evaluate and incorporate innovative approaches to health care delivery.

### **115 General Requirements**

The CONTRACTOR must meet the minimum requirements of [Wis. Stat. § 40.03 \(6\) \(a\)](#) and this AGREEMENT. The CONTRACTOR must:

- 1) Share data, claims information and other operational information as necessary for the smooth functioning of the program, for example to the BOARD'S Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM), consulting actuary, DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse and the wellness and disease management vendor, using the most recent file and data specifications provided by the DEPARTMENT.
- 2) Administer deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums that depend upon information sharing from one CONTRACTOR, or vendor specified by the DEPARTMENT, to another. Also, assist with the transferring of accumulations towards PARTICIPANTS' meeting deductibles, BENEFIT maximums, and out-of-pocket limits (OOPL).
- 3) Cooperate with the DEPARTMENT to develop procedures and protocols for sharing information as necessary.
- 4) Provide, in a format acceptable to the DEPARTMENT, at no cost and in a timely manner, all data and written or recorded material pertaining to this AGREEMENT.
- 5) Provide the specified level of services as indicated in this AGREEMENT to PARTICIPANTS.
- 6) MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR must comply with all CMS MEDICARE ADVANTAGE and MEDICARE PART D requirements, including provider network access, care utilization review, grievances and appeals, the quality improvement program, eligibility and enrollment, customer service, marketing, and claims processing, except as waived by CMS for EGWP plans. In cases where CMS requirements and the non-Medicare requirements of this AGREEMENT differ, the more rigorous standard shall supersede.

- 7) Assist the DEPARTMENT with the administration of this AGREEMENT, including PARTICIPANT enrollment, record keeping, and general operations.
- 8) Have a mechanism for accurately maintaining records for a minimum of seven (7) years on each PARTICIPANT, including but not limited to, initial determination of eligibility for DEPENDENTS for disabled and full-time student status.
- 9) Apply effective methods for containing costs for medical services, HOSPITAL CONFINEMENTS or other BENEFITS to be provided with effective peer and utilization review mechanisms for monitoring health care costs and the administration of Coordination of Benefit (COB) provisions.
- 10) Have a mechanism, as approved by the DEPARTMENT, for handling complaints and grievances made by PARTICIPANTS.
  - a) This includes a formal grievance procedure, which at a minimum complies with applicable federal or state law, whereby the individual is provided the opportunity to present a complaint to the CONTRACTOR and the CONTRACTOR will consider the complaint and advise the PARTICIPANT of its final decision. PARTICIPANTS must be advised of the grievance process when a claim or referral is denied or if the enrollee expresses, in writing, dissatisfaction with the administration or claims practices or provision of services by the CONTRACTOR. In all final grievance decision letters, the CONTRACTOR shall cite the specific Uniform Benefit contractual provision(s) upon which the CONTRACTOR bases its decision and relies on to support its decision.
  - b) When necessary, the BOARD intends to take a proactive approach in resolving complaints. The CONTRACTOR must cooperate fully with the efforts of the DEPARTMENT in resolving complaints. Adverse decisions are subject to review by the BOARD for contractual compliance if the PARTICIPANT is not satisfied with the CONTRACTOR'S action on the matter.
  - c) The CONTRACTOR must retain records of grievances and submit an annual summary to the DEPARTMENT of the number, types of grievances received, and the resolution or outcome. The annual summary report will contain data and be in a format established by the DEPARTMENT.
- 11) Submit to the DEPARTMENT or its designee, as required by the DEPARTMENT, statistical report(s) showing financial and utilization data that includes claims and enrollment information.
- 12) Have a process for managing services and charges in the event a PARTICIPANT incurs claims in an emergency or urgent situation that results in care from OUT-OF-NETWORK providers.

- 13) Comply with state and federal regulations pertaining to mandated or minimum BENEFITS which may be applicable to the CONTRACTOR under insurance statutes or as directed by the BOARD.
- 14) Provide DEPARTMENT approved materials to PARTICIPANTS as required under this AGREEMENT.
- 15) Provide notification of all significant events:
  - a) Each CONTRACTOR shall notify the BOARD in writing of any "Significant Event" within ten (10) calendar DAYS after the CONTRACTOR becomes aware of it. (In the event of insolvency, the BOARD must be notified immediately.) As used in this provision, a "significant event" is any occurrence or anticipated occurrence that might reasonably be expected to have a material effect upon the CONTRACTOR'S ability to meet its obligations under this AGREEMENT, including, but not limited to, any of the following: disposal of major assets; loss of fifteen percent (15%) or more of the CONTRACTOR'S membership; termination or modification of any contract or subcontract if such termination or modification will have a material effect on the CONTRACTOR'S obligations under this AGREEMENT; the imposition of, or notice of the intent to impose, a receivership, conservatorship or special regulatory monitoring; the withdrawal of, or notice of intent to withdraw, dissolution of existing relationship, state licensing or certification, United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) qualification or any other status under state or federal law; default on a loan or other financial obligations; strikes, slow-downs or substantial impairment of the CONTRACTOR'S facilities or of other facilities used by the CONTRACTOR in the performance of this AGREEMENT.
  - b) In addition, any change in the ownership of or controlling interest in the CONTRACTOR, any merger with another entity or the CONTRACTOR'S acquisition of another organization that participates in the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM is a "significant event." A change in ownership or controlling interest means any change in ownership that results in a change to or acquisition of majority (fifty-one percent (51%)) interest in the CONTRACTOR or any transfer of ten percent (10%) or more of the indicia of ownership, including but not limited to shares of stock. The CONTRACTOR agrees to provide to the BOARD at least sixty (60) DAYS advance notice of any such event. The BOARD may accept a shorter period of notice when it determines the circumstances so justify.
  - c) The BOARD requires the information concerning any change in ownership or controlling interest, any merger or any acquisition of another entity in order to fulfill the BOARD's responsibility to assess the effects of the pending action upon the best interests of the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM and its PARTICIPANTS. The BOARD agrees to keep the information disclosed as required under paragraph (b) above, confidential under [Wis. Stat. § 19.36 \(5\)](#) of the Wisconsin Public Records Law until the earliest of one of the dates noted below unless the CONTRACTOR waives confidentiality or a court orders the DEPARTMENT or BOARD to disclose the information or the DEPARTMENT or BOARD determines that under the particular circumstances, any harm to the public interest that

would result from permitting inspection is outweighed by the public interest in immediate inspection of the records.

The BOARD also agrees to notify the CONTRACTOR of a request to disclose the information as a public record prior to making such disclosure, so as to permit the CONTRACTOR to defend the confidentiality of the information. Information disclosed by a CONTRACTOR concerning any change in ownership or controlling interest, any merger or any acquisition of another entity will be disclosed by the BOARD as a public record beginning on the earliest of the following dates:

- i) The date the pending change in ownership or controlling interest, any merger or any acquisition of another entity becomes public knowledge, as evidenced by public discussion of the action including but not limited to newspaper accounts.
  - ii) The date such action becomes effective.
  - iii) Sixty (60) DAYS after the BOARD receives the information.
- d) The BOARD shall reserve the right to institute action as it deems necessary to protect the interests of the PARTICIPANTS of the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM as the result of a "significant event."
- 16) Agree to utilize identification numbers (group and SUBSCRIBER) according to the system established by the DEPARTMENT. Identification numbers must not correlate to Social Security numbers. Social Security numbers may be incorporated into the SUBSCRIBER'S data file and may be used for identification purposes only and not disclosed or used for any other purpose. CONTRACTORS must always keep record of Social Security numbers for providing data and other reports to the DEPARTMENT or its authorized vendors and track the eight (8)-digit unique member identification number that is assigned by the DEPARTMENT. Any costs incurred by the DEPARTMENT because of CONTRACTOR'S failure to comply with this requirement shall be paid by the CONTRACTOR.
- 17) Comply with the provider network access standards set forth in [WI Adm. Code § INS 9.32., if not preempted by federal law.](#)
- 18) Provide coverage for both state and LOCAL PARTICIPANTS deemed eligible and enrolled by the DEPARTMENT.
- 19) Have legal and technical staff available to the DEPARTMENT for consultation as needed for program administration, and for assistance with any appeals processes. The CONTRACTOR shall monitor the development of and provide notification and information to the DEPARTMENT in a timely manner concerning state or federal regulations or legislation that may affect the HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM.
- 20) Shall not use or disclose names, addresses, or other data for any purpose other than specifically provided for in the CONTRACT.

- 21) Comply with all applicable requirements and provisions of the [Americans with Disabilities Act \(ADA\) of 1990](#). Evidence of compliance with ADA shall be made available to the DEPARTMENT upon request.

## **120 Board Authority**

- 1) [Wis. Stat. § 40.03 \(6\) \(a\)](#), provides authority for the BOARD to enter into contracts with insurers authorized to transact insurance business in the state of Wisconsin for the purpose of providing the group insurance plans, or, provide any group insurance plan on a self-insured basis in which case the BOARD shall approve a written description setting forth the terms and conditions of the plan, and may contract directly with providers of HOSPITAL, medical or ancillary services to provide eligible and enrolled EMPLOYEES with the BENEFITS.
- 2) The BOARD shall establish enrollment periods, known as the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period, which shall permit eligible EMPLOYEES, ANNUITANTS, and CONTINUANTS to enroll or transfer coverage to any benefit plan offered by the BOARD as required by [Wis. Stat. § 40.51](#). Unless otherwise provided by the BOARD, the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period shall be held once annually in the fall of each year with coverage effective the following January 1.
- 3) The BOARD reserves the right to change to a fiscal year or to some other schedule that it deems appropriate.
- 4) In cases where data submitted by the CONTRACTOR is deemed to be inadequate by the BOARD, DEPARTMENT, or the BOARD'S consulting actuary, the BOARD may take any action up to and including limiting new enrollment into the benefit plan administered by the CONTRACTOR.
- 5) In the event a CONTRACTOR becomes or is at risk for becoming insolvent, experiences a significant event or significant loss of primary providers and/or HOSPITALS, or no longer meets the MINIMUM PROVIDER ACCESS STANDARDS in this AGREEMENT, or if the BOARD so directs due to a significant event as described in [Section 115](#), the BOARD may do any of the following, including any combination of the following:
  - a) Terminate the CONTRACT upon any notice it deems appropriate, including no notice.
  - b) Authorize a special enrollment period and require that each SUBSCRIBER enrolled in a benefit plan administered by the CONTRACTOR change to another benefit plan.
  - c) Authorize a special enrollment period so that a SUBSCRIBER enrolled in a benefit plan administered by the CONTRACTOR may voluntarily change to another benefit plan.
  - d) Close the benefit plan administered by the CONTRACTOR to any new enrollments for the remainder of the CONTRACT period.

- e) Require that prior to making a selection between benefit plans, prospective SUBSCRIBERS be given a written notice describing the BOARD'S concerns.
- f) Take no action.
- 6) The BOARD may forfeit a SUBSCRIBER'S rights to the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM if a PARTICIPANT fraudulently or inappropriately assigns or transfers rights to an ineligible individual(s), or aids any other person in obtaining BENEFITS to which they are not entitled, or otherwise fraudulently attempts to obtain BENEFITS. The DEPARTMENT may at any time request such documentation as it deems necessary to substantiate SUBSCRIBER or DEPENDENT eligibility. Failure to provide such documentation upon request shall result in the suspension of BENEFITS.
- 7) The BOARD may initiate disenrollment efforts in situations where a PARTICIPANT has committed acts of physical or verbal abuse, or is unable to establish/maintain a satisfactory physician-patient relationship with the current or alternate primary care provider. The SUBSCRIBER'S disenrollment is effective the first of the month following completion of the grievance process and approval of the BOARD. The BOARD may limit re-enrollment options in the HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM.
- 8) The BOARD shall determine all policy for the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM. In the event that the CONTRACTOR requests, in writing, that the BOARD issue program policy determinations or operating guidelines required for proper performance of the CONTRACT, the DEPARTMENT shall acknowledge receipt of the request in writing and respond to the request within a mutually agreed upon time frame.
- 9) The BOARD must be notified of any major system changes to the CONTRACTOR'S administrative and/or operative systems.

## **125 Eligibility**

### **125A General**

For HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM purposes, eligible EMPLOYEES include:

- 1) General state EMPLOYEES: active state and university EMPLOYEES participating in the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS), as described in [Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(25\) \(a\)](#).
- 2) Elected state officials ([Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(25\) \(a\) 2](#)).
- 3) Members or EMPLOYEES of the legislature ([Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(25\) \(a\) 2](#)).
- 4) Any blind EMPLOYEES of the Beyond Vision (aka WISCRAFT) authorized under [Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(25\) \(a\) 3](#).
- 5) Any EMPLOYEE on leave of absence who has chosen to continue their insurance, as described in [Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(40\)](#).

- 6) Any EMPLOYEE on layoff whose PREMIUMS are being paid from accumulated unused sick leave as described in [Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(40\)](#).
- 7) The following in the University of Wisconsin (UW) System and UW Hospital and Clinics Authority ([Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(25\) \(b\)](#)):
  - a) Any teacher (employment category 40) who is employed by the university for an expected duration of not fewer than six (6) months on at least a one-third (33%) full-time appointment.
  - b) Any teacher who is a participating EMPLOYEE and who is employed by the UW System for an expected duration of not fewer than six (6) months on at least a one-third (33%) full-time appointment.
  - c) Certain visiting faculty members in the UW System.
  - d) Graduate student assistants (research assistants, fellows, advanced opportunity fellows, scholars, trainees, teaching assistants and project/program assistants) holding a combined one-third (33%) or greater appointment of at least one (1) semester per academic year (nine month) appointments or six (6) months for annual (twelve month) appointments.
  - e) Employees-in-training (research associates, post-doctoral fellows, post-doctoral trainees, post-graduate trainees 1 through 7, interns (non-physician), research interns, and graduate interns/trainees) holding a combined one-third time (33%) or greater appointment of at least one (1) semester for academic year (nine (9) month) or six (6) months for annual (twelve (12) month) appointments.
  - f) Short-term academic staff who are employed in positions not covered under the Wisconsin Retirement System (WRS) and who are holding a fixed-term terminal, acting/provisional or interim appointment of twenty-eight percent (28%) or more with an expected duration of at least one (1) semester but less than one (1) academic year if on an academic year (nine (9) month) appointment or have an appointment of twenty-one percent (21%) or more with an expected duration of at least six (6) months but fewer than twelve (12) months if on an annual (twelve (12) month) appointment.
  - g) Visiting appointees (e.g., visiting professors, visiting scientists, visiting lecturers) may be eligible.
  - h) Any person employed as a graduate assistant and other employees-in-training as designated by the board of directors of the UW Hospital and Clinics Authority who are employed on at least a one-third full-time appointment with an expected duration of employment of at least six (6) months.
- 8) LOCAL EMPLOYEES as described in [Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(46\)](#) or 40.19 (4) (a).

9) ANNUITANTS and CONTINUANTS ([Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(25\) \(b\)](#)), which include the following:

- a) Any covered EMPLOYEE who is retired on an immediate annuity or disability annuity, or who receives a lump sum payment under WRS which would have been an immediate annuity if paid as an annuity under [Wis. Stat. § 40.25 \(1\)](#).
- b) The surviving spouse of a SUBSCRIBER.
- c) The surviving insured domestic partner of a SUBSCRIBER.
- d) Covered EMPLOYEES who terminate employment, have attained minimum retirement age (fifty (50) for protective services or fifty-five (55) for all other categories), have twenty (20) years of WRS creditable service and defer their annuity are eligible to continue in the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM if a timely application is submitted.
- e) Any participating STATE EMPLOYEE who terminates employment after attaining twenty (20) years of WRS creditable service, remains an inactive WRS participant and is ineligible for an immediate annuity (that is, under the minimum retirement age) may enroll in the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM at a later date. Enrollment is restricted to the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period in the fall for coverage effective the following January 1, unless there is a HIPAA qualifying event.
- f) Any rehired ANNUITANT electing to return to active WRS participation is immediately eligible to apply for coverage through the EMPLOYER.
- g) Any retired LOCAL EMPLOYEE under [Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(25\) \(b\) 11](#), who is receiving an annuity under the Wisconsin Retirement System (but not those only receiving a duty disability benefit under [Wis. Stat. § 40.65](#) or Long Term Disability Insurance (LTDI)), or any DEPENDENT of such an employee, who is receiving a continuation of the employee's annuity, and, if eligible, and who has acted under [Wis. Stat. § 40.51 \(10\)](#) to elect the Local Annuitant Health Program (LAHP).
- h) Any LOCAL ANNUITANT receiving an annuity through a program administered by the DEPARTMENT under [Wis. Stat. § 40.19 \(4\) \(a\)](#).
- i) PARTICIPANTS who meet federal or state continuation provisions. See [Section 260](#).

ANNUITANTS and CONTINUANTS listed above who are enrolled in MEDICARE PARTS A and B are eligible for enrollment in the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE plan for individual coverage. To enroll in family MEDICARE ADVANTAGE coverage, an ANNUITANT or CONTINUANT and their DEPENDENTS must be enrolled in MEDICARE PARTS A and B. ANNUITANT and CONTINUANT family contracts that include a PARTICIPANT who is not enrolled in MEDICARE PARTS A and B are not eligible to enroll in the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE plan.

10) Disabled persons entitled to benefits under [Wis. Adm. Code § ETF 50.40](#) or [Wis. Stat. § 40.65](#) include:



a) Insured EMPLOYEES or former EMPLOYEES who choose to continue coverage when the EMPLOYEE'S Long-Term Disability Insurance (LTDI) benefit under [Wis. Adm. Code § ETF 50.40](#) or a duty disability benefit under [Wis. Stat. § 40.65](#) is approved.

b) Previously insured EMPLOYEES or former EMPLOYEES whose coverage lapsed and who are eligible and apply for an LTDI benefit under [Wis. Adm. Code § ETF 50.40](#), or a duty disability benefit under [Wis. Stat. § 40.65](#).

### **125B Dependent Coverage Eligibility**

Individual coverage covers only the SUBSCRIBER. All eligible DEPENDENTS listed on the application are covered under a family contract. A SUBSCRIBER cannot choose to exclude any eligible DEPENDENT from family coverage, unless that DEPENDENT is already covered under the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM. See also Section 125A 9.

### **125C Change to Family Coverage**

An EMPLOYEE eligible for and enrolled in individual coverage only may change to family coverage effective on the date of change to family status, including transfer of custody of eligible DEPENDENTS, if an application is received by the EMPLOYER within thirty (30) DAYS after the date of the change to family status. The difference in PREMIUM between individual and family coverage for that month shall be due only if the change is effective before the 16th of the month. ANNUITANTS and CONTINUANTS shall be subject to this provision, except that those ANNUITANTS and CONTINUANTS for whom the EMPLOYER makes no contribution toward PREMIUM shall submit the application to the DEPARTMENT.

Notwithstanding the paragraph above, the birth or adoption of a child to a SUBSCRIBER under an individual benefit plan, who was previously eligible for family coverage, will allow the SUBSCRIBER to change to family coverage if an application is received by the EMPLOYER within sixty (60) DAYS of the birth, adoption, or placement for adoption. See also Section 125B.

### **125D No Double Coverage**

A DEPENDENT or SUBSCRIBER cannot be covered at the same time by two separate SUBSCRIBERS of the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM (including state and LOCAL). In the event it is determined that a DEPENDENT is covered by two (2) separate SUBSCRIBERS, the SUBSCRIBERS will be notified and will have thirty (30) DAYS to determine which SUBSCRIBER will remove coverage of the DEPENDENT and submit an application to remove the DEPENDENT. The EFFECTIVE DATE will be the first of the month following receipt of the application.

If no application is submitted within the thirty (30) DAY period, the DEPARTMENT will designate one PARTICIPANT as the SUBSCRIBER and re-enroll all other PARTICIPANTS as DEPENDENTS.

### **125E Medicare Participants**

ANNUITANTS and their DEPENDENTS, or surviving DEPENDENTS, who become enrolled in Medicare may continue to be covered at reduced PREMIUM rates, as specified by the BOARD. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR shall ensure that all PARTICIPANTS are enrolled in both MEDICARE PARTS A and B by the PARTICIPANT's coverage EFFECTIVE DATE. If a PARTICIPANT disenrolls from MEDICARE PARTS A or B after the EFFECTIVE DATE, the CONTRACTOR shall notify the DEPARTMENT on the BUSINESS DAY after the CONTRACTOR identifies the PARTICIPANT as having disenrolled from PARTS A or B and the effective date.

Enrollment in MEDICARE by SUBSCRIBERS and their DEPENDENTS who are eligible for those programs is waived if the SUBSCRIBER remains covered as an active EMPLOYEE of the STATE or participating LOCAL EMPLOYER. Enrollment in MEDICARE PART A and PART B is required for the EMPLOYEE and/or Medicare-eligible DEPENDENTS at the first Medicare enrollment period after active employment ceases. If an ANNUITANT or an ANNUITANT'S spouse is covered under an active EMPLOYEE'S group health benefit policy with another employer and that policy is the primary payer for MEDICARE PART A and PART B charges, the ANNUITANT and/or the ANNUITANT'S spouse covered under that policy may also defer enrollment in MEDICARE PART B (to the extent allowed by federal law) under this provision and shall pay the MEDICARE reduced PREMIUM for coverage under this program. See also Section 125A 9.

Enrollment in MEDICARE by EMPLOYEES, ANNUITANTS and their DEPENDENTS who are eligible for those programs is waived if the covered EMPLOYEE, ANNUITANT or DEPENDENT is required to pay a premium to enroll in the HOSPITAL portion of MEDICARE. However, if MEDICARE PART A is not elected, the reduced PREMIUM rate is not available. This provision does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

### **125F Notice of Qualifying Event**

Upon discovery, the CONTRACTOR shall report to the DEPARTMENT any qualifying event that makes a PARTICIPANT ineligible for BENEFITS, such as divorce. The CONTRACTOR must provide information including aggregate claim amounts or other documentation, as requested by the DEPARTMENT.

### **125G Notice of Medicare Part B Enrollment**

Should the CONTRACTOR discover that an ANNUITANT who is required to enroll in MEDICARE PART A and PART B has either not elected PART B coverage or has disenrolled in PART B coverage, the CONTRACTOR must provide information, including aggregate claims amounts and other documentation, to the DEPARTMENT. The CONTRACTOR must contact the ANNUITANT to explain the financial ramifications of disenrolling in PART B coverage, and to provide assistance in re-enrolling in MEDICARE PART B. If the ANNUITANT refuses to re-enroll in PART B coverage, the CONTRACTOR should refer the ANNUITANT to the DEPARTMENT for additional follow up. This section does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

## **130 Premiums**

For EMPLOYEES and most ANNUITANTS, SUBSCRIBER PREMIUM payments will be arranged through deductions from salary, accumulated sick leave account (STATE EMPLOYEES only), annuity, or conversion of life insurance under certain circumstances. For all other SUBSCRIBERS, PREMIUMS will be paid directly to the CONTRACTOR and the CONTRACTOR must notify the DEPARTMENT of SUBSCRIBERS who terminate or reinstate coverage. See also [Section 255](#).

The State of Wisconsin's current contribution toward the total health benefit for EMPLOYEES (non-retired) for both individual and family contracts is based on a tiered structure in accordance with [Wis. Stat. § 40.51 \(6\)](#). The tiered structure is based on recommendations from the BOARD'S consulting actuary. Each CONTRACTOR'S claims experience will be reviewed to determine in which of the three premium contribution tiers each plan will be placed. This placement will be based on a risk-adjusted assessment of the CONTRACTOR'S efficiency as determined by the BOARD's consulting actuary. The most efficient plans will be placed in Tier 1, which will have the lowest employee premium contribution level. The moderately efficient plans will be placed in Tier 2. The least efficient plans will be placed in Tier 3, which will have the greatest employee premium contribution level. The employee premium contribution will be a fixed amount per tier, as determined by the non-represented compensation plan or collective bargaining agreement. The employer shall contribute the balance of the total PREMIUM. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

For changes in coverage effective after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month, the difference in PREMIUM between individual and family coverage for that month shall be due only if the change is effective before the 16th of the month.

LOCAL EMPLOYERS that base their contribution on a percentage of the lowest / average cost qualified plan must pay at least 50% but not more than 105% of the lowest costs / 88% of the average cost qualified plan in the LOCAL EMPLOYER'S service area (except for eligible employees who work less than half-time. The county of the LOCAL EMPLOYER is considered the service area. At the request of a LOCAL EMPLOYER, the DEPARTMENT will review the service area used to determine the lowest /average cost qualified plan used for determining the LOCAL EMPLOYER'S maximum PREMIUM contribution. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

### **130A Medicare Participant Premiums**

A reduction in PREMIUM shall be effective on the first DAY of the calendar month, which begins on or after the date the PARTICIPANT is eligible for MEDICARE PARTS A and B BENEFITS as the primary payer and coverage is provided under an ANNUITANT group number, or under an EMPLOYER group number in the case of a LOCAL EMPLOYER paid ANNUITANT.

If a Medicare coordinated family PREMIUM category has been established for a family, and one or more family members enrolled in both parts of Medicare dies, the family PREMIUM category in effect shall not change solely as a result of the death.

Except in cases of fraud which shall be subject to [Section 155F](#), coverage for any PARTICIPANT enrolled in Medicare coordinated coverage who does not enroll in MEDICARE PART B when it is first available as the primary payer, or who subsequently cancels Medicare coverage, shall be limited in accordance with UNIFORM BENEFITS. However, retrospective adjustments to PREMIUM or claims for coverage not validly in force shall be limited to the shortest retroactive enrollment limit set by Medicare for either medical or prescription drug claims, not to exceed six (6) months. In such a case, the PARTICIPANT must enroll in Medicare Part B at the next available opportunity. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

Any PARTICIPANT enrolled in MEDICARE ADVANTAGE within an individual or family contract who subsequently cancels Medicare coverage, shall have all covered PARTICIPANTS on their contract disenrolled from the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE plan and enrolled in the IYC Medicare Plus plan effective the date of loss of Medicare coverage. Benefit payments for that PARTICIPANT shall be limited in accordance with UNIFORM BENEFITS.

In the event that a PARTICIPANT is enrolled in regular coverage, the DEPARTMENT will refund any PREMIUM paid in excess of the Medicare reduced PREMIUM for any months for which BENEFITS are reduced in accordance with UNIFORM BENEFITS. In such cases, the CONTRACTOR will make claims adjustments prospectively. However, PREMIUM refunds for retroactive enrollment on a Medicare reduced contract will correspond with the retroactive enrollment limits and requirements established by Medicare for medical and/or prescription drug coverage. This may limit the amount of PREMIUM refund for the SUBSCRIBER. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

See also [Sections 125F](#) and [220H](#).

### **130B Rate-Setting Process**

This section does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

The CONTRACTOR must submit rate bid(s) for the following benefit year as directed by the DEPARTMENT. (See attachment.) The CONTRACTOR'S sealed bids are submitted in the format as specified by the DEPARTMENT. The bid will be reviewed for reasonableness, considering plan utilization, experience and other relevant factors. Bids are subject to negotiation by the BOARD. The BOARD reserves the right to reject any rate, limit new enrollment, or take other action as appropriate if the BOARD'S consulting actuary determines the CONTRACTOR has failed to include adequate documentation on the development of rates.

The CONTRACTOR must submit statistical report(s) showing utilization and claims data on the plan as a whole (if community rated), or specifically the STATE and LOCAL EMPLOYEES and DEPENDENTS covered thereunder if experience rated. If the premium is community-rated then the CONTRACTOR should give some indication of the percentage the STATE and LOCAL EMPLOYEE groups represent of the total covered community. The BOARD will require each CONTRACTOR to provide an explanation of rate methodology and the rate calculation developed by the CONTRACTOR'S actuary or consultant along with supporting documentation deemed necessary by the BOARD's consulting actuary.

The CONTRACTOR will be subject to the provisions of [Wis. Stat. Chapter 40](#), and the administrative rules of the DEPARTMENT. **The BOARD reserves the right to reject any CONTRACTOR'S bid when the BOARD believes it is not in the best interests of the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM.** The BOARD reserves the right to reopen the bid process after final bids are submitted when the BOARD determines that it is in the best interests of the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM.

Rates shall be uniform statewide, except that CONTRACTORS may submit different rates which result from separate plans with mutually exclusive provider networks. CONTRACTORS may separate higher cost providers within geographic areas under the tiered structure into separate plans if lower rates are achieved while provider access is maintained. The STATE and LOCAL groups must be separately rated in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles. The LOCAL group is to be rated as a single entity for each plan. CONTRACTORS shall provide rates for each of the program options for the LOCAL group.

The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to audit, at the expense of the CONTRACTOR, the financial and utilization data and other data the CONTRACTOR uses to support its bid. A bid based on data which an audit later determines is unsupported subject to re-opening and re-negotiating downward.

Rate adjustments, if any, required for a benefit mandated by applicable state or federal law will occur on January 1 after the next benefit period begins unless otherwise mutually agreed to in writing.

The BOARD limits CONTRACTORS to the following PREMIUM categories, and each CONTRACTOR must provide coverage for each PREMIUM category:

- 1) Individual (EMPLOYEE Only)
- 2) Family (EMPLOYEE Plus Eligible DEPENDENTS)  

Family rates (regular coverage) must be 2.5 times the individual rate.
- 3) HDHP Option for eligible non-Medicare individual and family health insurance rates.
- 4) Medicare Coordinated Coverage: Individual rate must be justified by experience and may not exceed the calculated rate in the utilization data submission without written justification. It may not exceed 50% of the single rate for regular coverage, unless the BOARD's consulting actuary determines that percentage to be lower. Medicare family 2 eligible rate shall be 2 times the individual Medicare coordinated rate; Medicare family 1 rate (1 under Medicare, 1 or more not eligible), shall be the sum of the individual rate (regular coverage) and individual rate (Medicare eligible).
  - a) Individual
  - b) Family 2 (all insureds under Medicare)
  - c) Family 1 (at least 1 under Medicare, at least 1 other not under Medicare)

- 5) Graduate Assistants: Individual rate must be within a range of 65% to 75% of the individual regular coverage rate; family rate must be within a range of 65% to 75% of the family regular coverage rate. It may not exceed the calculated rate in the utilization data submission without written justification.
  - a) Individual
  - b) Family
- 6) Deductible, Coinsurance and HDHP Options for LOCAL Program: The ratio is to be determined annually by the BOARD's consulting actuary based on the relative value of these plans to the Traditional plan, (program option 2/12).
  - a) Individual
  - b) Family

LOCAL Program: Rates must be no greater than 1.5 times the rate for the state program unless the LOCAL group is sufficiently large that the rate is justified by experience, as determined by the BOARD's consulting actuary.

The BOARD will consider rate proposals outside of these standards if the variation is supported by evidence of demographic differences other than age or sex, or is required by federal or state HMO regulations to be community-rated. Otherwise, aberrations will be adjusted by the BOARD upward or downward to the nearest within range percentage to conform to these requirements. The CONTRACTOR will then have the option of accepting the adjusted rates or withdrawing from the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM.

The BOARD will assess administration fees to cover expenses of the DEPARTMENT. This charge is added by the BOARD to the rates quoted by each CONTRACTOR and is collected prior to transmittal of the premiums to the CONTRACTOR.

### **130C Annual Rate-Setting Process for MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR**

The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR must submit rates for each following benefit year as directed by the DEPARTMENT. The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR'S sealed rates are submitted in the format as specified by the DEPARTMENT. The rates will be reviewed for reasonableness, considering plan utilization, experience and other relevant factors. Rates are subject to negotiation by the BOARD and the rate guarantees included in this AGREEMENT. The BOARD reserves the right to reject any rate or take other action up to and including limiting new enrollment with the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR when the BOARD'S consulting actuary determines the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR has failed to include adequate documentation on the development of rates.

The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR must submit statistical report(s) showing utilization and claims data on the plan as a whole (if community rated), or specifically the STATE and LOCAL PARTICIPANTS covered thereunder if experience rated. If the premium is community-rated then the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR should give some indication of the percentage the STATE and LOCAL EMPLOYEE groups represent of the total

covered community. The BOARD will require the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR to provide an explanation of rate methodology and the rate calculation developed by the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR'S actuary or consultant along with supporting documentation deemed necessary by the BOARD's consulting actuary.

Rates shall be uniform statewide, or nationwide if appropriate, except that MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTORS may submit different rates which result from separate plan designs. The STATE and LOCAL groups must be separately rated in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles.

The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to audit, at the expense of the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR, the financial and utilization data and other data the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR uses to support its rate. A rate based on data which an audit later determines is unsupported is subject to re-opening and re-negotiating downward.

Rate adjustments, if any, required for a benefit mandated by applicable state or federal law will occur on January 1 after the next benefit period begins unless otherwise mutually agreed to in writing.

The BOARD will assess administration fees to cover expenses of the DEPARTMENT. This charge is added by the BOARD to the rates quoted by the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR and is collected prior to transmittal of the premiums to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

### **130D Medicare Advantage Uniform Premium Requirements**

The EMPLOYER may determine how much of ANNUITANT'S plan beneficiary premium they will subsidize, subject to the following conditions in determining the plan beneficiary premium subsidy:

- 1) The EMPLOYER can subsidize different amounts for different classes of ANNUITANTS in the plan provided such classes are reasonable and based on objective business criteria, such as years of service, date of retirement, business location, job category, and nature of compensation (e.g., salaried v. hourly); and
- 2) The EMPLOYER cannot vary the plan beneficiary premium subsidy for individuals within a given class of ANNUITANTS.

### **135 Financial Administration**

By the end of each month, the DEPARTMENT will transmit payment to the CONTRACTOR for that month's premium based on the number of enrolled SUBSCRIBERS per the DEPARTMENT'S records. The DEPARTMENT will deduct the pharmacy premium, dental premium if applicable, and other fees required by the BOARD.

### **135A Prohibited Fees**

The CONTRACTOR is prohibited from including in their premium bid or rates:

- 1) The cost to handle any claims paid outside of UNIFORM BENEFITS.

- 2) The cost to administer any optional health and wellness benefit(s) beyond UNIFORM BENEFITS, except as approved by the DEPARTMENT.
- 3) Any fees that are not pre-approved by the BOARD, including, but not limited to travel and meal expenses.

### **135B Included Services**

The CONTRACTOR may not charge an additional fee for the following services:

- 1) Expert services. At the request of the DEPARTMENT, the CONTRACTOR shall make available qualified medical consultants to assist the DEPARTMENT in its reviews of questionable claims, claims recommended for denial for medical reasons, reconsiderations and appealed claim determinations.
- 2) Mailing & Postage. The CONTRACTOR will pay for all mailing, postage and handling costs for the distribution of materials as required by [Section 140](#), or by other express provisions of the CONTRACT.
- 3) Pilot Programs. At the request of the DEPARTMENT, the CONTRACTOR shall enter into a pilot or limited-term trial. See [Section 215C](#).

### **135C Recovery of Overpayments**

The CONTRACTOR shall have procedures to recover or collect overpayments made under this AGREEMENT, including those payments made for an ineligible person.

### **135D Subrogation and Other Payers**

The CONTRACTOR shall correspond with PARTICIPANTS to obtain any required additional information and to determine whether other coverage for the claim exists under subrogation rights or other payers such as worker's compensation, insurance contracts, or government-sponsored benefit programs.

### **135E Amounts Owed by Contractor**

Funds owed to the BOARD must be paid within thirty (30) calendar DAYS from notification of penalties or monies owed. The CONTRACTOR has thirty (30) calendar DAYS to document any dispute of amounts owed. After thirty (30) DAYS, the DEPARTMENT may collect owed funds by deducting the amounts from the payments made to the CONTRACTOR, and the CONTRACTOR may be subject to further penalties.

### **135F Automated Clearinghouse (ACH)**

The CONTRACTOR shall support an ACH mechanism that allows for the DEPARTMENT to submit premium payments.

## **140 Participant Materials and Marketing**

### **140A Informational / Marketing Materials**

- 1) All materials and communications shall be pre-approved by the DEPARTMENT prior to distribution to PARTICIPANTS, potential PARTICIPANTS, and EMPLOYERS of the HEALTH



BENEFIT PROGRAM. This includes written and electronic communication, such as marketing, informational, letters, explanation of BENEFITS, summary plan descriptions, claim denials and appeals, and summary of BENEFITS and coverage.

All HEALTH PLANS must comply with [Section 1557](#) of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and Federal civil rights laws. Upon request, the HEALTH PLAN will provide information on programs, services, and activities in alternate formats to PARTICIPANTS with qualified disabilities as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990, as well as those whose primary language is not English.

The notice in Appendix A of the federal [Section 1557](#) ACA regulations must be published in conspicuously-visible font size in all significant communications and significant publications, both print and web, related to the State of Wisconsin Group Health Benefits Program. The CONTRACTOR must use the notice as provided below, or a significantly similar version that meets the regulation requirements.

“Significant communications” and “significant publications,” while not defined in the law, are interpreted broadly to include the following:

- a) Documents intended for the public, such as outreach, education, and marketing materials;
- b) Written notices requiring a response from an individual; and,
- c) Written notices to an individual, such as those pertaining to rights and benefits.

For purposes of consistency with the DEPARTMENT’S It’s Your Choice (IYC) materials, it is required to use the [top fifteen \(15\) list](#) provided on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services’ [website](#). The CONTRACTOR shall use the [translations](#) of the above-referenced tagline as provided by the federal Department of Health and Human Services.

1) Long Form Non-Discrimination Notice Text:

## Discrimination is Against the Law

[Name of covered entity] complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. [Name of covered entity] does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

[Name of covered entity] provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as qualified sign language interpreters and written information in other formats.

[Name of covered entity] provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as qualified interpreters and information written in other languages.

If you need these services, contact [Name of covered entity's Civil Rights Coordinator].

If you believe that [Name of covered entity] has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with: [Name and Title of Civil Rights Coordinator], [Mailing Address], [Telephone number ], [TTY number—if covered entity has one], [Fax], [Email]. You can file a grievance in person or by mail, fax, or email. If you need help filing a grievance, [Name and Title of Civil Rights Coordinator] is available to help you.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 200 Independence Avenue SW., Room 509F, HHH Building, Washington, DC 20201, 1-800-868-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD).

Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.”

ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al [Telephone number], [TTY number].

LUS CEEV: Yog tias koj hais lus Hmoob, cov kev pab txog lus, muaj kev pab dawb rau koj. Hu rau [Telephone number], [TTY number].

注意：如果您使用繁體中文，您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電[Telephone number], [TTY number].

ACHTUNG: Wenn Sie Deutsch sprechen, stehen Ihnen kostenlos sprachliche Hilfsdienstleistungen zur Verfügung. Rufnummer: [Telephone number], [TTY number].

رقم (1-5020-533-877 ملحوظة: إذا كنت تتحدث اذكر اللغة، فإن خدمات المساعدة اللغوية

هاتف الصم والبكم تتوافر لك بالمجان. اتصل برقم: (800-947-3529-1).

ВНИМАНИЕ: Если вы говорите на русском языке, то вам доступны бесплатные услуги перевода. Звоните [Telephone number], [TTY number].

주의: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 언어 지원 서비스를 무료로 이용하실 수 있습니다. [Telephone number], [TTY number]. 번으로 전화해 주십시오.

CHÚ Ý: Nếu bạn nói Tiếng Việt, có các dịch vụ hỗ trợ ngôn ngữ miễn phí dành cho bạn. Gọi số [Telephone number], [TTY number].

Wann du [Deutsch (Pennsylvania German / Dutch)] schwetzsch, kannscht du mitaus Koschte ebber gricke, ass dihr helft mit die englisch Schprooch. Ruf selli Nummer uff: [Telephone number], [TTY number].

ໂປດຊາບ: ຖ້າວ່າ ທ່ານເວົ້າພາສາ ລາວ, ການບໍລິການຊ່ວຍເຫຼືອດ້ານພາສາ, ໂດຍບໍ່ເສັຽຄ່າ, ແມ່ນມີພ້ອມໃຫ້ທ່ານ. ໂທສ [Telephone number], [TTY number].

ATTENTION : Si vous parlez français, des services d'aide linguistique vous sont proposés gratuitement. Appelez le [Telephone number], [TTY number].

UWAGA: Jeżeli mówisz po polsku, możesz skorzystać z bezpłatnej pomocy językowej. Zadzwoń pod numer [Telephone number], [TTY number].

ध्यान दें: यदि आप हिंदी बोलते हैं तो आपके लिए मुफ्त में भाषा सहायता सेवाएं उपलब्ध हैं। [Telephone Number], [TTY number] पर कॉल करें।

KUJDES: Nëse flitni shqip, për ju ka në dispozicion shërbime të asistencës gjuhësore, pa pagesë. Telefononi në [Telephone number], [TTY number].

PAUNAWA: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, maaari kang gumamit ng mga serbisyo ng tulong sa wika nang walang bayad. Tumawag sa [Telephone number], [TTY number].

## 2) Short Form Non-Discrimination Notice Text

[Name of covered entity] complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al [Telephone number], [TTY number].

LUS CEEV: Yog tias koj hais lus Hmoob, cov kev pab txog lus, muaj kev pab dawb rau koj. Hu rau [Telephone number], [TTY number].

- 2) The CONTRACTOR must ensure that its marketing and communication materials are culturally sensitive and professional in content, appearance, and design. At the request of the DEPARTMENT, the CONTRACTOR must replace images or artwork on the dedicated website, web-portal, or promotional materials within seven (7) BUSINESS DAYS of the CONTRACTOR'S receipt of the DEPARTMENT'S request. The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to require removal of any objectionable content sooner.
- 3) The CONTRACTOR'S costs for developing and distributing communications to PARTICIPANTS in order to correct an error in previous CONTRACTOR communication(s) that was the result of a CONTRACTOR error will be at the cost of the CONTRACTOR.
- 4) The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to require the CONTRACTOR to provide notification to PARTICIPANTS as directed.

### **140B It's Your Choice Open Enrollment Materials**

Each CONTRACTOR will be required to prepare informational materials in a form and content acceptable to the BOARD, as determined by the DEPARTMENT, and clearly indicate any changes from the previous year's materials when submitting draft materials to the DEPARTMENT for review and approval.

- 1) The CONTRACTOR shall issue written notice to PARTICIPANTS enrolled in its benefit plan(s) prior to the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period identifying those providers (individual and groups or clinics, HOSPITALS, and other facilities) that will not be IN-NETWORK for the upcoming benefit period and include any specific language directed by the DEPARTMENT summarizing any BENEFIT or other HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM changes. This notification cannot be combined with informational materials sent to non-PARTICIPANTS. The CONTRACTOR shall send a written confirmation to the DEPARTMENT Program Manager indicating the date(s) this written notice was issued.
- 2) The CONTRACTOR shall submit the following information to the DEPARTMENT, in the format as determined by the DEPARTMENT, for inclusion in the communications from the DEPARTMENT for the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period:
  - a) CONTRACTOR information, including address, toll-free customer service telephone number, twenty-four (24)-hour nurse line telephone number, and website address.
  - b) Content for the CONTRACTOR'S plan description page, including available features.
  - c) Information for PARTICIPANTS to access the CONTRACTOR'S provider directory on its web site, including a link to the provider directory.
- 3) The CONTRACTOR shall submit all informational materials intended for distribution to PARTICIPANTS during the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period to the DEPARTMENT for review and approval.

- 4) The CONTRACTOR shall submit three (3) hard copies of all IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT materials in final format must be provided to the DEPARTMENT at least two (2) weeks prior to the start of the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period.
- 5) MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PARTICIPANT/Marketing Materials. The DEPARTMENT shall provide the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR with copies of any and all materials relating to the coverage available through the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE plan that the DEPARTMENT intends to disseminate to eligible ANNUITANTS and their eligible DEPENDENTS. The DEPARTMENT and the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR will work together to approve materials prior to distribution. The DEPARTMENT understands that the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE plan is subject to federal and state regulatory oversight, and that eligible PARTICIPANT materials and marketing materials (including, but not limited to, cover letters accompanying direct mail kits, announcement mailings, etc.) may be required to be filed with, reviewed and approved by, CMS or state regulators prior to use. The DEPARTMENT agrees not to distribute such material prior to mutual agreement of materials. The DEPARTMENT also agrees to comply with all relevant federal and state regulatory requirements regarding the distribution and fulfillment of eligible PARTICIPANT materials and/or marketing materials and applicable timeframes.

## **145 Information Systems**

- 1) The CONTRACTOR'S systems must have the capability of adapting to any future changes that become necessary as a result of modifications to the STATE and LOCAL programs and its requirements. The CONTRACTOR'S systems shall be scalable and flexible so they can be adapted as needed, within negotiated timeframes, as requirements may change.
- 2) If the CONTRACTOR has plans to migrate to a different data or web platform, the DEPARTMENT must be notified no less than six (6) months in advance of the migration.
- 3) The CONTRACTOR must transmit data SECURELY using current industry standard SECURE transmission protocols, e.g., sFTP/SSH or SSL/TLS. This may require software on desktops or an automated system that collects files from the CONTRACTOR'S repository and SECURELY transmits data.
- 4) The CONTRACTOR'S data centers, network, web-portal and personal computers (PCs) must be protected by an up-to-date firewall. PCs and applications must be updated with the latest security fixes and continually maintained and up-to-date. Servers must be SECURED with only authorized staff allowed access to servers. Data that is at rest must be encrypted using strong industry standard encryption. The CONTRACTOR must have a password policy with a complex password scheme, which, at a minimum, meet these criteria:
  - a) A minimum of eight (8) characters,
  - b) Does not use the user's name or user ID in the password,
  - c) Requires users to change passwords at least every ninety (90) DAYS,

- d) Does not repeat any of the last ten (10) passwords used, and
- e) The password must contain at least three (3) of these four (4) data types:
  - i) Upper case alphabetic letters (A - Z),
  - ii) Lower case alphabetic letters (a - z),
  - iii) Numeric (0 - 9),
  - iv) Special characters (all special characters available on the keyboard).

Other password complexity rules may be acceptable, if approved by the DEPARTMENT.

An audit program must be in place to ensure above practices are being followed. The CONTRACTOR'S staff must be trained and follow SECURE computing best practices. Wireless networks must be protected using strong encryption and password policies. Connectivity to all networks, wired or wireless, must be protected from unwanted/unknown connections. Any sub-contractors must agree to and abide by all the network and data security requirements.

- 5) All data backups must be handled or transmitted SECURELY. Offsite storage must be audited for compliance (i.e. physical security, all used tapes are accounted for). A business recovery plan must be documented and tested annually, at a minimum, by the CONTRACTOR, and submitted to the DEPARTMENT.
- 6) The CONTRACTOR must be able to confirm that emails sent to program PARTICIPANTS and/or EMPLOYERS have been successfully transmitted and will track failed emails and initiate requests to be whitelisted for EMPLOYER groups that may be blocking the CONTRACTOR'S email communication. The CONTRACTOR must deliver failed messages to PARTICIPANTS in another format), within ten (10) BUSINESS DAYS, (e.g. hard copy mail, phone call) if the email transmission is not successful.
- 7) Upon request by the DEPARTMENT, the CONTRACTOR must be able to generate and provide a listing of all individuals that were electronically sent a particular document or communication by the CONTRACTOR or the CONTRACTOR'S subcontractor, the date and time that the document or communication was generated, and the date and time that it was sent to particular individuals. The CONTRACTOR must also provide a listing of those who were sent the communication piece in another format as required by 6), above.
- 8) The CONTRACTOR shall verify and commit that during the length of the CONTRACT, it shall not undertake a major system change or conversion for, or related to, the system used to deliver services for the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM without specific prior written notice of at least one hundred eighty (180) DAYS to the DEPARTMENT. Examples of a major system change include a new platform for enrollment, claims payment or data submission system. This does not apply to any program fixes, modifications and enhancements.

## **150 Data Requirements**

### **150A Data Integration and Technical Requirements**

The DEPARTMENT'S systems identify PARTICIPANT records using an eight (8)-digit member ID. This member ID is transmitted to and must be stored by the CONTRACTOR to communicate information about PARTICIPANTS. The CONTRACTOR must support use of the DEPARTMENT'S member ID in all interfaces that contain PARTICIPANT data. Further, the CONTRACTOR must supply member ID values on any communication or data transmission that refers to individual PARTICIPANTS, including but not limited to HIPAA 834 file transfers, reports, data extracts, and invoices. Given the ubiquitous and central nature of the member ID in the DEPARTMENT'S systems, it is strongly preferred that the member ID is stored in the CONTRACTOR'S system directly, thereby facilitating ad hoc queries, data integrity, and referential integrity within the CONTRACTOR'S system. Any costs incurred by the DEPARTMENT because of CONTRACTOR'S failure to comply with this requirement will be paid by the CONTRACTOR.

The CONTRACTOR must follow the DEPARTMENT'S SECURE file transfer protocols (sFTP) using the DEPARTMENT'S sFTP site to submit and retrieve files from the DEPARTMENT or provide another acceptable means for SECURE electronic exchanging of files with the DEPARTMENT, as approved by the DEPARTMENT.

### **150B Eligibility/834 File Requirements**

The CONTRACTOR'S system(s) must be able to accept and accommodate a HIPAA 834 file transfer from the DEPARTMENT, per the most recent 834 Companion Guide as issued by the DEPARTMENT.

- a) The CONTRACTOR must accept an enrollment file update on a daily basis and accurately process the enrollment file additions, changes, and deletions within two (2) BUSINESS DAYS of the file receipt.

The CONTRACTOR must resolve all enrollment discrepancies (any difference of values between the DEPARTMENT'S database and the CONTRACTOR'S database) outside of the exception report described in item b) below as identified within one (1) BUSINESS DAY of notification by the DEPARTMENT or identification by the CONTRACTOR.

- b) The CONTRACTOR shall assist with a full file comparison (FFC) of enrollment data at the frequency as directed by the DEPARTMENT by submitting a file to the DEPARTMENT containing current enrollment data. The DEPARTMENT will verify that data, compare that data with the DEPARTMENT'S data, and generate an exception report. The CONTRACTOR will be responsible for resolving differences between the DEPARTMENT'S data and the CONTRACTOR'S data, updating the CONTRACTOR'S data, and informing the DEPARTMENT, as appropriate.



- c) The CONTRACTOR shall maintain an exception report spreadsheet that includes the error details and final resolution, and submit it to the DEPARTMENT, at the frequency directed by the DEPARTMENT.
- d) Delays in processing the 834 file must be communicated to the DEPARTMENT Program Manager or designee within one (1) BUSINESS DAY.
- e) The daily and full file compare of the DEPARTMENT'S HIPAA 834 enrollment files must be fully tested and are ready for program operation no later than forty-five (45) calendar DAYS prior to the effective (i.e., "go-live") date.

### **150C Data Warehouse File Requirements**

The CONTRACTOR must establish and maintain a SECURE data transfer with the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse and as otherwise noted in this section. The CONTRACTOR data transfers include, but will not be limited to:

- a) Claims Data - The CONTRACTOR must submit on a monthly basis, or other frequency agreed upon by the CONTRACTOR and the DEPARTMENT, to the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse in the file format specified by the DEPARTMENT in the most recent Medical and Pharmacy Claims Data Specifications document, all claims processed for PARTICIPANTS. All claims paid for the previous month must be submitted to the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse in the correct file layout no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month following the date of payment to the provider, or on a date previously approved by the DEPARTMENT. Within two (2) BUSINESS DAYS of notification, unless otherwise approved by the DEPARTMENT in writing, the CONTRACTOR shall resolve any data errors on the file as identified by the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse or the DEPARTMENT.
- b) Provider Data – The CONTRACTOR must submit on a monthly basis to the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse, in the file format specified by the DEPARTMENT in the most recent Provider Data Specifications document, the specified data for all IN-NETWORK providers including subcontracted providers. Within two (2) BUSINESS DAYS of notification, unless otherwise approved by the DEPARTMENT in writing, the CONTRACTOR shall resolve any data errors on the file as identified by the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse or the DEPARTMENT.
- c) Pharmacy Claims Data – The CONTRACTOR must establish a data transfer process to retrieve pharmacy claims data from the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse for its PARTICIPANTS and integrate the data as required later in this section. The pharmacy claims data is based on data provided by the PBM to the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse. If directed by the DEPARTMENT, the CONTRACTOR must also be able to accept and accommodate a daily file from the DEPARTMENT'S PBM that will be in a file format compliant with the most recent Pharmacy Data Specifications provided by the DEPARTMENT with consultation with the PBM.

- d) Wellness and Disease Management Data – The CONTRACTOR must establish a data transfer process to retrieve this data from the DEPARTMENT’S data warehouse for its PARTICIPANTS and integrate the data into its medical management program. This data includes results from biometric screenings, health risk assessments, and unique PARTICIPANT enrollment in wellness health coaching and/or disease management programs as provided by the wellness and disease management vendor to the DEPARTMENT’S data warehouse. If directed by the DEPARTMENT, the CONTRACTOR must also be able to accept and accommodate a weekly file from the wellness and disease management vendor that will include this data. The file format must comply with the most recent Wellness Data Specifications as provided by the DEPARTMENT.
- e) Dental Claims Data – The CONTRACTOR shall establish a data transfer process to retrieve dental claims data from the DEPARTMENT’S data warehouse for its PARTICIPANTS and integrate the data into its medical management program. This data is based on claims data as provided by the DEPARTMENT’S dental benefits administrator to the DEPARTMENT’S data warehouse.
- f) Benefit Accumulator Data – On each BUSINESS DAY, the CONTRACTOR must submit and retrieve data files with the vendor designated by the DEPARTMENT for the purpose of calculating the benefit accumulator for medical and pharmacy benefits. The CONTRACTOR must retrieve the pharmacy accumulator data and apply it to any combined deductibles and/or maximum out-of-pocket amounts for PARTICIPANTS. The CONTRACTOR must work with the DEPARTMENT to audit the benefit accumulator against the DEPARTMENT’S PBM to ensure the accumulator amounts are in sync.

Delays in submitting program data to the DEPARTMENT’S data warehouse must be communicated via email to the DEPARTMENT Program Manager or designee within one (1) DAY of the scheduled transfer.

For data transfers between vendors of STATE and LOCAL program not specified in this CONTRACT, the CONTRACTOR must establish vendor to vendor data transfers within ninety (90) calendar DAYS of written notification from the DEPARTMENT to do so.

All file formats are subject to change, as determined by the DEPARTMENT, to better serve the needs of the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM.

The CONTRACTOR data provided to vendors of the state and LOCAL program must be accurate, complete and timely. The CONTRACTOR must not place restrictions on the use of the data provided to the STATE and LOCAL program vendors.

Health information provided to the DEPARTMENT will be de-identified, unless authorized by the PARTICIPANT for the purpose of appeal, issue resolution, or fraud investigation.

### **150D Data Integration and Use**

The CONTRACTOR shall provide and receive all reasonable requests for data and other information as needed in a file format as identified by the DEPARTMENT. The CONTRACTOR will place no restraints on the use of the data; provided that the DEPARTMENT shall not disclose to third parties any data received from CONTRACTOR that constitutes a trade secret as defined under Wisconsin law.

Such data also be provided from time to time, at the request of the DEPARTMENT, to a DEPARTMENT designee for purposes of assisting in the implementation and management of disease management programs or other programs desired by the BOARD.

The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR must provide a copy of any CMS Model Output Report (MOR) file and a copy of the Monthly Membership Report (MMR) file, including all fields as received from CMS, for the population served under this AGREEMENT to the DEPARTMENT. The MOR file must be provided upon request, no more often than annually and will be submitted within thirty (30) DAYS of request. The MMR file must be provided monthly by the end of the corresponding month.

The CONTRACTOR is expected to fully incorporate available pharmacy claims data into data reporting, including, but not limited to, HEDIS data, Wisconsin Health Information Organization (WHIO) claims data, information requested on the disease management survey and catastrophic claims data, and other data as required by the DEPARTMENT, using the most recent file and data specifications provided by the DEPARTMENT. Where appropriate, such as for the catastrophic claims data report, the CONTRACTOR is expected to separate out pharmacy claims from the DEPARTMENT'S PBM from any pharmacy claims that are paid by the CONTRACTOR.

The CONTRACTOR shall submit all claims (except Medicaid) data to WHIO for the CONTRACTOR'S commercial and Medicare lives residing in Wisconsin at a minimum. Claims shall be submitted to WHIO in a manner compliant with WHIO requirements.

The CONTRACTOR agrees to assign ID numbers according to the system established by the DEPARTMENT. Social security numbers shall be incorporated into the PARTICIPANT'S data file and may be used for identification purposes only and not disclosed and used for any other purpose, unless the parties have agreed upon a different identification system. Any costs incurred by the DEPARTMENT because of CONTRACTOR'S failure to comply with this requirement will be paid by the CONTRACTOR.

### **150E Data Submission Requirements**

The CONTRACTOR shall cooperate with the DEPARTMENT'S designated data warehouse vendor by submitting to the vendor all of the following data on a schedule to be determined by the DEPARTMENT:

- 1) Data on payments for BENEFITS provided to PARTICIPANTS under this AGREEMENT. Payment data shall include claim payments made or denied, capitation or per-member payments, administrative payments, and payments made after coordinating responsibility with third parties;

- 2) Data on other financial transactions associated with claim payments, including charged amount, allowed amount, per-claim rebates, discounts, and charges to members as co-payments, coinsurance, and deductibles;
- 3) Data on the providers of those BENEFITS provided under this AGREEMENT; and
- 4) Other data, as specified by the DEPARTMENT.

The CONTRACTOR shall comply with the DEPARTMENT'S specifications for submission of the required data elements in the standard formats attached to this AGREEMENT.

To comply with the data submission requirements, the CONTRACTOR must follow the specified data file layout and formatting of all data elements within it and the DEPARTMENT'S specifications for data filtering and extraction. The CONTRACTOR must submit documentation on its data files including a data dictionary. The data files must use the valid values specified in the data dictionary. The claim adjustment data the CONTRACTOR submits must follow the logic the CONTRACTOR defines in the documentation. A unique person/member identifier is required on all data files and the identifier must match the person identifier on the DEPARTMENT'S eligibility file. On all provider and claim files, the CONTRACTOR must supply the 10-digit National Provider Identifier (NPI) as issued by the US Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' National Plan and Provider Enumeration System (NPPES).

The CONTRACTOR must designate someone as a data steward who is knowledgeable of its data and the systems that generate it. The data steward shall attend data submission planning meetings scheduled by the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse vendor on the DEPARTMENT'S behalf and shall be the key point of contact for the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse vendor on the submission of data and the correction of data errors should they occur.

The CONTRACTOR shall follow the data transmission instructions provided by the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse vendor, which shall include industry-standard electronic transmission methods via secure Internet technology.

The quality of CONTRACTOR'S data submissions will be assessed by the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse vendor for timeliness, validity and completeness. If the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse vendor determines that the data submitted by CONTRACTOR fails to meet the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse vendor's thresholds for data quality, the CONTRACTOR must cooperate with the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse vendor in submitting corrected data.

The CONTRACTOR must submit data and corrected data when necessary by the dates indicated by the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse vendor. The DEPARTMENT, in consultation with its data warehouse vendor and the CONTRACTOR, will develop a data improvement plan which will identify specific areas for the CONTRACTOR to improve the quality and completeness of its data submission, along with goals and timelines for improvement.

The CONTRACTOR agrees to financial penalties for failure to submit data in accordance with this AGREEMENT, and which are assessed by the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse vendor on behalf of the DEPARTMENT. Charges or penalties that are the direct result of the CONTRACTOR'S failure to meet the DEPARTMENT'S data submission requirements, timelines,

or other requirements in this AGREEMENT that impact the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse vendor will be deducted from a future payment(s) owed the CONTRACTOR.

During the initial implementation of the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse, the CONTRACTOR will have two (2) chances to submit acceptable data. The DEPARTMENT will charge the CONTRACTOR a penalty for each data file submitted after the second submission not accepted by the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse vendor and a penalty for each data file submitted more than one (1) BUSINESS DAY after the deadline for data file submission.

During the ongoing operation of the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse, the DEPARTMENT will charge the CONTRACTOR a penalty for each data file submitted after the first submission not accepted by the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse vendor and a penalty for each data file submitted after the deadline for submission.

During the ongoing operation of the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse, the DEPARTMENT will charge the CONTRACTOR a per occurrence penalty for any failure to communicate to the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse vendor a change to the valid values or data fields in the CONTRACTOR'S next data file submission by ten (10) BUSINESS DAYS before the next data file submission deadline.

The penalties assessed in Section 150E apply to the penalty maximum described in Section 315.

## **155 Miscellaneous General Requirements**

### **155A Reporting Requirements and Deliverables**

- 1) The CONTRACTOR must submit all reports and deliverables, and comply with all material requirements set forth in this AGREEMENT.
- 2) Each report submitted by the CONTRACTOR to the DEPARTMENT must:
  - a) Be verified by the CONTRACTOR for accuracy and completeness prior to submission,
  - b) Be delivered on or before scheduled due dates,
  - c) Be submitted as directed by the DEPARTMENT,
  - d) Fully disclose all required information in a manner that is responsive and with no material omission, and
  - e) Be accompanied by a brief narrative that describes the content of the report and highlights significant findings of the report.
- 3) THE DEPARTMENT requirements regarding the frequency of report submissions may change during the term of the CONTRACT. The CONTRACTOR must comply with such changes within forty-five (45) DAYS.
- 4) The CONTRACTOR must notify the DEPARTMENT regarding any significant changes in its ability to collect information relative to required data or reports

- 5) The CONTRACTOR must fully support the BOARD and the DEPARTMENT in responding timely to informational requests made by the Legislature.

### **155B Performance Standards and Penalties**

The CONTRACTOR must guarantee performance sufficient to fulfill the needs of the CONTRACT. The CONTRACTOR must meet all performance standards listed in [Section 315](#). After the CONTRACT start date, if additional resources are needed, the CONTRACTOR will bear all costs necessary to satisfy the requirements of the CONTRACT.

Written notification of each failure to meet a performance standard that is listed in [Section 315](#) will be given to the CONTRACTOR prior to assessing penalties. Upon notification by the DEPARTMENT, the CONTRACTOR will have five (5) BUSINESS DAYS to cure the failure, or if agreed to by the DEPARTMENT, to provide an action plan of how the failure will be cured. Additional DAYS can be approved by the DEPARTMENT Program Manager if deemed necessary. If the failure is not resolved within this warning/cure period, penalties may be imposed retroactively to the date of failure to perform. The imposition of penalties is not in lieu of any other remedy available to the DEPARTMENT/BOARD.

If the DEPARTMENT elects to not exercise a penalty clause in a particular instance, this decision shall not be construed as an acceptance of the CONTRACTOR'S performance. The DEPARTMENT retains the right to pursue future assessment of that performance requirement and associated penalties.

The DEPARTMENT shall be the sole determinant as to whether the CONTRACTOR meets a performance standard.

### **155C Audit and Other Services**

The CONTRACTOR shall be required to maintain sufficient documentation to provide for the financial/management audit of its performance under this AGREEMENT. These shall include, but are not limited to, program expenditures, claim processing efficiency and accuracy, and customer service.

At its discretion, the BOARD may require independent third-party audit or review of any function relating to the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM, including a pre-implementation configuration audit. The BOARD may also designate a common vendor which shall provide the annual description of BENEFITS and such other information or services it deems appropriate.

In addition to third-party audits, the CONTRACTOR shall make available prior to the beginning of any benefit year a full description of the configuration of the CONTRACTOR'S claims processing system at the request of the DEPARTMENT. The CONTRACTOR will also certify to the DEPARTMENT that the claims processing system will properly process claims according to the CONTRACT prior to the start of the benefit year.

The CONTRACTOR shall address any areas for improvement as identified in the audit in the timeframe as determined by the DEPARTMENT. The BOARD shall be notified of all identified areas for improvement and the status of all improvements as necessary.

The BOARD shall make a diligent attempt to select a third-party audit firm that is not a competitor of the CONTRACTOR or affiliated with or under the control of a competitor of the CONTRACTOR.

The frequency and extent of such audits shall be determined by the BOARD or DEPARTMENT. Records of paid claims must be maintained in a format and in a media acceptable to the DEPARTMENT.

The CONTRACTOR shall submit a Model Audit Rule (MAR) Certification on an annual basis.

The CONTRACTOR shall submit financial stability documentation on an annual basis, including a balance sheet, statement of operations and financial audit reports (i.e., an annual audited financial statement by a certified public accountant in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles).

The CONTRACTOR must also cooperate fully with audits and/or reviews conducted by the State of Wisconsin Legislative Audit Bureau (LAB). The LAB conducts periodic and other audits at the requests of legislators.

The CONTRACTOR shall make financial records, claims documentation, and all other relevant records available for review or audit as requested by the DEPARTMENT and shall assist as needed in review of these records.

## **155D Fraud and Abuse**

### **1) Participant Fraud**

#### **a) Policy on Participant Fraud**

No person other than a PARTICIPANT is entitled to BENEFITS under this AGREEMENT. The SUBSCRIBER or any of his or her DEPENDENTS are not authorized by this AGREEMENT to assign or transfer their rights under this AGREEMENT, aid any other person in obtaining BENEFITS to which they are entitled or knowingly present or cause a false or fraudulent claim. The SUBSCRIBER'S rights to coverage under the HEALTH BENEFITS PROGRAM are forfeited if a PARTICIPANT assigns or transfers such rights, or aids any other person in obtaining BENEFITS to which they are not entitled, or otherwise falsely or fraudulently attempts to obtain BENEFITS. Coverage terminates the beginning of the month following action of the BOARD. Re-enrollment rights may be limited as determined by the BOARD.

The DEPARTMENT may at any time request such documentation as it deems necessary to substantiate SUBSCRIBER or DEPENDENT eligibility. Failure to provide such documentation upon request shall result in the suspension of BENEFITS.

#### **b) Contractor Responsibility Related to Participant Fraud**

Upon discovery, the CONTRACTOR shall report to the DEPARTMENT any suspected or identified PARTICIPANT fraud. The CONTRACTOR must cooperate with the investigation of fraud and provide information including aggregate claim amounts or other documentation, as requested by the DEPARTMENT. Fraud may result in the reprocessing of claims and recovery of overpayments. See [Section 135C](#).

## 2) Contractor Provider Review Requirements

The CONTRACTOR must regularly complete fraud, waste, and abuse review according to a stated plan. Upon execution of the CONTRACT, the CONTRACTOR will attest that such a plan exists, and will provide a written copy of the plan to the DEPARTMENT upon request. The CONTRACTOR must provide results of any material findings to the DEPARTMENT.

Examples of potential provider fraud that could be included in QUARTERLY reviews:

- a) Billing for items or services not rendered;
- b) Billing for work already reimbursed by another insurer;
- c) Overcharging for services or supplies;
- d) Completing an unjustified Certificate of Medical Necessity (CMN) form;
- e) Double billing resulting in duplicate payment;
- f) Misrepresenting medical diagnoses or procedures to maximize payments;
- g) Inappropriate use of place of service codes;
- h) Knowing misuse of provider identification numbers resulting in improper billing;
- i) Providing medically unnecessary services;
- j) Routinely waiving deductibles/coinsurances;
- k) Submitting bills exceeding the limiting charge;
- l) Unbundling (billing for each component of the service instead of billing or using an inclusive code);
- m) Up-coding the level of service provided; and,
- n) Billing for a known work-related injury.



### **155E Department May Designate Vendor**

At its discretion, the DEPARTMENT may designate a common vendor who shall provide services related to the program as the DEPARTMENT deems appropriate.

### **155F Contract Termination**

In addition to the provisions in the Department Terms and Conditions, the following applies if the CONTRACT is terminated:

- 1) Any PARTICIPANT who is receiving BENEFITS as an INPATIENT on the date of termination shall continue to receive all BENEFITS otherwise available to INPATIENTS until the earliest of the following dates:
  - a) The BENEFIT maximum is reached.
  - b) The attending physician determines that CONFINEMENT is no longer medically necessary.
  - c) The end of twelve (12) months after the date of termination.
  - d) CONFINEMENT ceases.
- 2) If the BOARD terminates the CONTRACT, then all rights to BENEFITS provided by the CONTRACTOR shall cease as of the date of termination. The CONTRACTOR will cooperate with the BOARD in attempting to make equitable arrangements for continuing care of PARTICIPANTS who are INPATIENTS on the termination date. Such arrangements may include, but are not limited to: transferring the patient to another facility or permitting OUT-OF-NETWORK providers to assume responsibility for rendering care. The overall intent is to be in the best interest of the PARTICIPANT.
- 3) The CONTRACTOR will be required to coordinate turnover and transition planning and activities, subject to the DEPARTMENT'S approval.
- 4) The CONTRACTOR must submit claims data as specified in [Section 150](#) during a six (6) month run-out period following the CONTRACT termination date. The DEPARTMENT will withhold twenty-five percent (25%) of premium payment for the last month of the CONTRACT period, to be paid not later than ninety (90) days following the CONTRACT termination date, unless there are issues receiving timely run-out claims data.
- 5) If the CONTRACTOR terminates the CONTRACT, the CONTRACTOR shall not again be considered for participation in the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM under [Wis. Stat. § 40.03 \(6\) \(a\)](#) for a period of three (3) calendar years.

### **155G Transition Plan**

Upon DEPARTMENT request, and prior to CONTRACT termination, the CONTRACTOR must provide a comprehensive transition plan in a mutually agreed upon format that provides a timeline of major tasks and activities, including those identified by the DEPARTMENT. The transition plan

must be approved by the DEPARTMENT prior to the transition begin date. Also see the Department Standard Terms and Conditions.

### **155H Insolvency**

The CONTRACTOR shall maintain appropriate bonding and/or reinsurance and shall submit documentation upon request by the DEPARTMENT. The appropriate bonding and/or reinsurance ensures that, in the event the CONTRACTOR becomes insolvent or otherwise unable to meet the financial provisions of the CONTRACT, bonding or reinsurance exists to pay those obligations. Such bonding or reinsurance shall continue BENEFITS for all PARTICIPANTS at least until the end of the calendar month in which insolvency is declared. For a PARTICIPANT then confined as an INPATIENT, BENEFITS shall continue until the CONFINEMENT ceases, the attending physician determines CONFINEMENT is no longer medically necessary, the end of 12 months from the date of insolvency, or the contract maximum is reached, whichever occurs first. The DEPARTMENT will establish enrollment periods during which SUBSCRIBERS may transfer coverage to another CONTRACTOR.

### **160 Submission of New Proposals**

This section does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR as that contract was awarded through a Request for Proposal process.

The organization must submit a proposal to the BOARD to participate in the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM. The proposal must address each requirement in this section.

The organization must also meet the requirements in this AGREEMENT in order to secure approval from the BOARD to participate in the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM. These requirements have been developed to explain and clarify the general requirements set forth under [Wis. Stat. § 40 Subchapter IV](#), [Wis. Adm. Code § ETF 10](#) and [Wis. Adm. Code § ETF 40](#). Further, they set forth requirements, which are complementary to the statutory provisions contained in Wis. Stat. Chapters 150, 185 (185.981-.985), 600-646, and Public Laws 93-222 (the HMO Assistance Act of 1973) and 94-460 (Health Maintenance Organization Amendments of 1976) and other applicable state/federal health benefit law provisions.

The BOARD may allow an organization that has substantially but not completely met the requirements of this AGREEMENT to participate but not be considered qualified in the first year of operation in the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM for purposes of establishing the EMPLOYER contribution toward PREMIUM when the contribution is based on a percentage of the lowest / average cost qualified plan.

### **160A Operating Experience**

The organization must have at least one (1) year of operating experience and must be able to demonstrate that the organization has broad-based community support. In determining the operating experience requirements, the BOARD shall consider the period of time elapsing from the date the organization first opens its door to the general public to render health care services to the date that such coverage would be effective for public employees.

To document the community support requirement, the organization must submit information on current enrollments, projected growth and historical data that would support the fact that it has experienced steady growth since its inception. The organization must provide a current listing of employer/employee groups participating under the program or actively sponsoring participation in the plan. If the organization is so large that providing a listing of each and every participating

employer/employee group would be an inconvenience, the BOARD will accept a representative listing of twenty (20) such groups.

The BOARD may waive the one year operating experience and community support requirement(s) in those health service areas where the BOARD has determined there is a need for the promotion of innovative approaches to the delivery of health care such as the concept of direct provider contracting.

### **160B Financial Requirements**

The organization must be able to demonstrate that it has the financial resources necessary to carry out its obligations to PARTICIPANTS covered under the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM.

The BOARD prefers to approve only those organizations that have reached the "breakeven point" and are operating at a level where program income equals expenses. However, the BOARD will consider organizations that are not yet self-sufficient, if it provides evidence that it can meet its short and long-term financial obligations.

In determining financial stability, the BOARD will consider financial soundness of arrangements for health care services, adequate working capital (both current and projected), and insolvency protection for subscribers. See [Section 155L](#) for additional detail on insolvency.

The organization must submit documentation of financial stability that may include one or more of the following:

- 1) Federal qualification under Public Law 93-222 (Health Maintenance Assistance Act of 1973), or subsequent amendments.
- 2) Incorporation and regulation under the provisions of Chapter 185 and/or 600 through 646 of the Wisconsin Statutes pertaining to insurance plans.
- 3) Posting financial bond guaranteeing benefit payments in the event the CONTRACTOR fails to meet the continuing requirements for inclusion under the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM and is terminated, or the CONTRACTOR ceases operation. The size of the performance bond required will be based on the number of enrollees and premium income involved.
- 4) The organization has sponsors who are incorporated under Chapter 613 of the Wisconsin Statutes or otherwise possess an appropriate certificate of authorization to transact insurance business under Wis. Stat. § 601.04, and will guarantee future benefit payments.
- 5) Other documentation such as reinsurance as provided by Chapter 627 of the Wisconsin Statutes and as authorized by the Commissioner of Insurance. Terminations will be handled in a manner consistent with the intent of Wis. Adm. Code § INS 6.51 (6) and (7), Rules of the Commissioner of Insurance (register date December 1984).
- 6) The BOARD reserves the right on a case by case basis to request additional documentation of financial stability of a kind and in a form as appropriate.

### **160C Comprehensive Plans**

The BOARD will only consider those organizations that provide benefit payments, or services which are, in whole or substantial part, delivered on a prepaid basis or which meet the requirement

for preferred provider plans. The BOARD reserves the right not to contract with any organization whose premium is not satisfactory to the BOARD.

Organizations that will be considered under these program requirements to be allowed in any service area include any of the following types of organizations defined in [Wis. Stat. § 609.01 \(2\)](#) and [\(4\)](#):

- 1) Independent practice association HMO (IPA's).
- 2) Prepaid group practice HMO.
- 3) Staff model HMO.
- 4) Point of service HMO (POS-HMO).
- 5) Preferred Provider Plan (PPP).

Organizations that embrace the characteristics of one or more of the type of organization models described above may be considered by the BOARD as meeting the definition of a comprehensive health benefit plan. Insuring organizations may not offer more than one of the above listed plan types in any geographic location. This allows organizations sufficient flexibility to develop innovative alternative plans while recognizing the BOARD'S need for administrative efficiency and protection of the competitive environment.

### **160D Provider Agreements**

The organization must submit the following as part of its proposal:

- 1) If professional services are provided through contractual arrangements, such as an Independent Practice Association (IPA), a sample copy of the actual contractual agreement established between the organization and the participating physicians who will be providing professional services. If more than one type of contract is used then include a sample of each.
- 2) Detailed explanation of any relationship between the organization and hospitals which would be IN-NETWORK for the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM. Specify whether there is a contractual relationship between the organization and the hospital(s) involved or if the relationship is limited only to the extent that physicians providing services under the program have staff privileges with the hospital(s).
- 3) Detailed explanation of how providers and HOSPITALS are compensated under the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM, including a description of any and all incentives involved. If providers are financially compensated by the CONTRACTOR, the CONTRACTOR must disclose how compensation is established, reviewed and changed. The intent is to secure information on how a CONTRACTOR reimburses its providers; the BOARD is not interested in specific fees or salary information.
- 4) Detailed explanation of medical specialties associated directly or indirectly with the organization. For those organizations where medical specialists are used as referral physicians rather than primary care, the organizations must submit documentation to

demonstrate that the referral physician(s) has, in fact, agreed to accept such referrals. If there is a contractual arrangement where an organization has contracted with a clinic/individual practitioner to provide either primary or referral care, such contractual agreements must be identified and included with the proposal.

- 5) Except for those benefits which require the PARTICIPANT to satisfy a deductible or be subject to copayment or coinsurance, the contract for professional or hospital services must contain a provision whereby the physician and/or hospital and/or health care provider (as defined under [Wis. Stat. § 655.001 \(8\)](#)) agrees to accept the payments provided by the organization as full payment for covered services. Each organization must certify that it will "hold harmless" the PARTICIPANT from any effort(s) by third parties to collect payments for medical/hospital services, including those efforts due to the CONTRACTOR'S untimely payment of claim.

This provision shall be considered as satisfied if arrangements have been made which prevent the PARTICIPANT from being held liable for hospital or professional charges except for those benefits which require the enrollee to satisfy a deductible; be paid on a copayment or coinsurance basis; or in those instances where the PARTICIPANT failed to comply with published requirements for seeking medical care. Unauthorized referrals or the use of non-participating hospitals or medical personnel in violation of the UNIFORM BENEFITS plan requirements shall not be subject to the "hold harmless" provision.

### **160E Capital Equipment and Expenditures**

The organization must provide in its proposal a detailed explanation of how capital equipment and expenditures for the facility are authorized. If the organization is not specifically providing services but rather functioning as a sponsor, the organization should include with the proposal the following statement:

"Section 160E. of the AGREEMENT is not applicable to this organization. The purchase of capital equipment, etc., is not subject to review by either the state or federal health agencies."

If the approval of capital equipment and expenditures is subject to review by state and/or federal agencies, the applicant should provide information on all reporting requirements.

### **160F Enrollment and Reporting**

If an organization submits a proposal to participate in the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM and the proposal is approved by the BOARD, the organization will be offered to active and retired EMPLOYEES at a time established by the BOARD (IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT) subject to the following:

- 1) The organization must secure a minimum of 100 SUBSCRIBER contracts or demonstrate that 10% of the eligible EMPLOYEES in the service area have opted to participate in the program. The service area means the entire geographic area in which the organization is qualified. See [Section 230A](#).
- 2) The BOARD may waive the minimum participation requirement set forth under 1) above provided the organization submits a marketing plan which demonstrates that this minimum number of contracts will be obtained at some future date. The marketing proposal should include some evidence that the benefit plan has been accepted to a similar extent by

employees of other groups and the location is convenient to potential SUBSCRIBERS. This marketing plan will be considered confidential by the BOARD insofar as permitted by Wisconsin Law.

### **160G Rate-Making Process**

The organization must submit initial premium rates as described in [Section 130B](#). The organization must include a detailed explanation as to how initial premium rates were determined, and how premium rates will be determined for subsequent periods. The organization shall identify whether the rate that will be proposed represents a community rate (factored or not factored for different time periods or for different benefit provisions) or as a projection of claims/benefits based on expected experience of the state/LOCAL group or other groups, etc. This information will be treated as confidential by the BOARD insofar as permitted by Wisconsin Law.

The proposal should also include an explanation of how adverse or favorable experience would be reflected in future rates.

### **160H Submission of Proposals**

The proposal must be received by April 15 and include:

- 1) An electronic copy of all proposal elements.
- 2) Five (5) paper copies.
- 3) Specific listing of the organization's pre-authorization and referral requirements.
- 4) Description of case management and disease management activities.
- 5) List and count of providers under contract arranged by county of practice for state employees, and by zip code for LOCAL employees. An electronic version of the listing must also be made available. The BOARD will expect an updated listing in July in order to determine what region will constitute the CONTRACTOR'S service area.
- 6) Copy of the organization's detailed contingency plan in the event of strike, disaster, etc. The plan must address the method used for providing services and processing claims under such circumstances.
- 7) Organizational chart.
- 8) Statement of agreement to abide by all the terms and conditions set forth in this AGREEMENT.
- 9) If a PPP, include a schedule of benefits.

The Board will treat all proposals as confidential insofar as is permitted by applicable law, except as may be necessary for the proper evaluation of the proposal.

### **160I Implementation**

The CONTRACTOR is required to have an Implementation Manager and Implementation Team available to manage the project from the CONTRACT start date until all implementation tasks are complete, as determined by the DEPARTMENT, and all remaining responsibilities are transferred

over to the Account Manager and key staff. The Implementation Manager must be available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST/CDT to assist DEPARTMENT staff. The CONTRACTOR will provide the DEPARTMENT with an emergency contact number in case issues arise that need to be resolved outside of the aforementioned, normal business hours. The CONTRACTOR will continuously assess the implementation process to ensure a smooth and successful implementation. The Account Manager who will be responsible for the CONTRACT must be an active member of the Implementation Team.

The CONTRACTOR must conduct status meetings with the DEPARTMENT concerning project development, project implementation and CONTRACTOR performance at least twice a week during implementation and for the first two to three (2-3) months following the launch of the benefit period, unless otherwise approved by the DEPARTMENT in writing. Meetings may be in person or by teleconference/webinar, as determined by the DEPARTMENT.

The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to make on-site visits.

The CONTRACTOR is required to perform and/or manage the following activities by the due date to be indicated by the DEPARTMENT:

- 1) Implementation Plan: The CONTRACTOR shall submit an implementation plan in a mutually agreed upon format to the DEPARTMENT Program Manager or designee.
- 2) Program Information: All program informational materials for the upcoming benefit period shall be submitted to the DEPARTMENT Program Manager or designee for review and approval, including:
  - a) Informational mailing to be sent to eligible program households one (1) week prior to the start of the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period.
  - b) Web content that consists of customized web pages dedicated to the program and for the upcoming IT'S YOUR CHOICE ENROLLMENT period.
- 3) Employer Meeting and Health Fairs: The CONTRACTOR shall attend the It's Your Choice EMPLOYER Kick-Off meeting and shall participate in IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT health fairs sponsored by EMPLOYERS in their service area
- 4) Customer Service: The CONTRACTOR'S dedicated toll-free customer service telephone number shall be operational and customer service staff for the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM are trained.
- 5) Enrollment File: The daily and full file compare of the DEPARTMENT HIPAA 834 enrollment files shall be fully tested and are ready for program operation.
- 6) Grievance Procedure: The CONTRACTOR shall submit its grievance procedure, including the DEPARTMENT administrative and external review rights and sample grievance decision letters, for the DEPARTMENT'S review and approval.

- 7) Claims Administrative Services: All medical claims administrative services for the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM shall be fully operational.
- 8) Web-Portal: The CONTRACTOR'S web-portal tracking PARTICIPANT level information shall be launched.
- 9) Data Transfers: The data transfer process to the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse, or other DEPARTMENT vendor as designated by the DEPARTMENT, shall be established, tested, and working correctly for the following transfers:
  - a) Pharmacy Data
  - b) Wellness and Disease Management Data
  - c) Provider Data
  - d) Claims Data



## 200 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

### **205 Enrollment**

CONTRACTORS must participate in the annual IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT offering. The IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period is scheduled for each fall prior to the covered program year. During the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period, the CONTRACTOR will accept any SUBSCRIBER who transfers from one benefit plan to another without requiring evidence of insurability, or waiting periods, or exclusions as defined in [Wis. Adm. Code INS 3.31 \(3\)](#) and any eligible EMPLOYEE or state retiree under [Wis. Stat. § 40.51 \(16\)](#) who enrolls.

Although the DEPARTMENT is responsible for eligibility determination and enrollment, the CONTRACTOR shall maintain an enrollment/eligibility system to support the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM. The BOARD expects the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR to play an active role in member education and outreach prior to the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period to ensure that PARTICIPANTS understand the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE benefits and providers available under the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM and how to access additional information about the program.

### **205A Identification (ID) Cards**

The CONTRACTOR must provide PARTICIPANTS with ID cards indicating, at a minimum, the EFFECTIVE DATE of coverage, and the emergency room and office visit copayment amounts, if applicable. The CONTRACTOR must issue new ID cards upon enrollment and BENEFIT changes that impact the information printed on the ID cards.

The CONTRACTOR shall issue the ID cards, along with a welcome packet for newly enrolled PARTICIPANTS. The CONTRACTOR shall issue ID cards within five (5) BUSINESS DAYS of the generation date of the enrollment file containing the addition or enrollment change, or at least ten (10) days prior to the effective date of coverage.

The CONTRACTOR must notify the DEPARTMENT Program Manager of any delays with issuing the ID cards. The CONTRACTOR shall send a written notice to the DEPARTMENT Program Manager following the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period regarding the expected mailing date of ID cards for the following enrollment year, as well as a confirmation email indicating the dates that ID cards were issued.

The CONTRACTOR must provide replacement cards upon request at no cost to the PARTICIPANT. The CONTRACTOR must also have a process to make available a temporary, printable ID card.

### **205B Participant Information**

The CONTRACTOR must provide the following information, at a minimum, to PARTICIPANTS upon enrollment:

- 1) Information about PARTICIPANT requirements, including prior authorizations and referrals.

- 2) Directions on how to access the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM provider directory on the CONTRACTOR'S website and directions on how to request a printed copy of the provider directory.
- 3) Directions on how to change their Primary Care Provider.
- 4) The CONTRACTOR'S contact information, including the dedicated toll-free customer service phone number, business hours, twenty-four (24)-hour nurse line, telehealth services, and website address.

The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to require the CONTRACTOR to assist with drafting and mailing the federally required Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC) to non-Medicare PARTICIPANTS or an Annual Notice of Coverage to MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PARTICIPANTS in a manner similar to the annual IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT materials mailing process described in [Section 140B](#).

The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to require the CONTRACTOR to assist with developing and mailing the federally required form 1095-Cs.

### **205C Disabled Child Eligibility**

The CONTRACTOR shall report to the DEPARTMENT at least annually the results from its process to verify the eligibility of adult disabled children age twenty-six (26) or older, which includes checking that the:

- 1) Child is incapable of self-support because of a disability that can be expected to be of long-continued or indefinite duration of at least one year, and
- 2) Support and maintenance requirement is met, and
- 3) Child is not married.

### **205D Date of Death**

The CONTRACTOR shall collect and track the date of death and report it to the DEPARTMENT as needed.

### **205E Coordination of Benefits (COB)**

The CONTRACTOR shall collect from SUBSCRIBERS COB information necessary to coordinate BENEFITS under the Wisconsin Administrative Code and report this information to the DEPARTMENT at least annually.

## **210 Primary Care Provider or Primary Care Clinic**

SUBSCRIBERS and DEPENDENTS shall be required to select a primary care provider (PCP) or primary care clinic (PCC). The PCP may be a physician, physician assistant, nurse practitioner or other provider as approved by the BOARD. Modifications to this list may be approved by the DEPARTMENT. The PCP or PCC furnishes primary care-related services, arranges for and

coordinates referrals for all medically necessary specialty services, and is available for urgent or emergency care, directly or through on-call arrangements, twenty-four (24) hours a DAY, seven (7) DAYS a week. Primary care includes ongoing responsibility for preventive health care, treatment of illness and injuries, and the coordination of access to needed specialty providers or other services. The PCP or PCC shall either furnish or arrange for most of the PARTICIPANT'S health care needs, including well check-ups, office visits, referrals, out-patient surgeries, hospitalizations, and health-related services.

The CONTRACTOR must monitor all PARTICIPANT records to ensure there is an assigned, IN-NETWORK PCP or PCC at all times. If a PARTICIPANT does not choose a PCP or PCC, or the PCP or PCC is no longer available, the CONTRACTOR will assign a PCP or PCC, notify the PARTICIPANT in writing, and provide instructions for changing the assigned PCP or PCC. The CONTRACTOR may assign a temporary PCP or PCC when deemed necessary.

If PARTICIPANTS select a PCP or PCC that is OUT-OF-NETWORK, the CONTRACTOR must contact the PARTICIPANTS within five (5) BUSINESS DAYS to assist them in selecting an IN-NETWORK PCP or PCC.

The CONTRACTOR must have a process to allow a PARTICIPANT to change PCPs or PCCs in a reasonable time and to communicate to the PARTICIPANT how to make this change. The CONTRACTOR will assist the PARTICIPANT in selecting a PCP or PCC.

## **215 Medical Management**

### **215A Disease Management / Prior Authorizations / Utilization Review**

The CONTRACTOR shall collaborate and support activities related to population health management as directed by the BOARD.

The CONTRACTOR shall have utilization management processes that are evidence-based and focus on quality, positive PARTICIPANT outcomes, and cost savings. The CONTRACTOR shall use these processes for evidence based medical policy development for coverage of new technologies and to provide input to the DEPARTMENT on benefit design changes, as appropriate. The CONTRACTOR shall provide these policies to PARTICIPANTS upon request.

The CONTRACTOR shall utilize data provided by the PBM, wellness and disease management vendor, and DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse for identifying PARTICIPANTS suitable for case, complex case, and/or disease management programs.

The CONTRACTOR must demonstrate effective and appropriate means of identifying, monitoring and directing PARTICIPANT'S care by providers such as utilization review (UR) and chronic care/disease management, and wellness/prevention programs. The CONTRACTOR shall report annually to the BOARD its utilization and disease management capabilities and effectiveness in improving the health of PARTICIPANTS and encouraging healthy behaviors, demonstrating support for technology and automation (e.g., automated diabetic registry, electronic medical records, etc.) in the format as determined by the DEPARTMENT. The CONTRACTOR shall also include details on the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM'S experience by disease and risk categories, place of services along with comparisons to aggregate benchmarks and any other

measures the CONTRACTOR believes will be useful to DEPARTMENT staff and the BOARD in understanding the source of cost and utilization trends in a format as determined by the DEPARTMENT.

Examples of the minimum UR procedures that CONTRACTORS shall have in place include the following:

- 1) Written guidelines that providers must follow to comply with the CONTRACTOR'S UR program.
- 2) Formal UR program consisting of preadmission review, concurrent review, discharge or transition of care and post-service medical review and individual case management.
- 3) Established procedures for review determinations, including qualified staff (e.g., primary reviewer is licensed nurse), physician reviews of all program denials and PARTICIPANT appeals procedure.
- 4) Authorization procedure for referral to OUT-OF-NETWORK providers and monitoring of physician referral patterns.
- 5) Procedure to monitor emergency admissions to OUT-OF-NETWORK HOSPITALS.
- 6) Retrospective UR procedures to review the appropriateness of care provided, utilization trends and physician practice patterns.
- 7) If PARTICIPANTS are identified as having a disease and/or condition that would place them into a moderate or high risk category, have a process to enroll the PARTICIPANTS into the appropriate wellness, disease management, or chronic care management programs. The CONTRACTOR must coordinate this effort with the program(s) offered by the DEPARTMENT'S wellness and disease management vendor.

Failure to provide effective UR may be grounds for BOARD action.

#### Prior Authorizations

The CONTRACTOR must also offer an integrated prior authorization process that provides PARTICIPANTS with a consolidated medical and benefit (such as deductible, coinsurance and copayment) determination. Prior authorizations with out-of-pocket cost sharing information, including the possibility of BALANCE BILLING if applicable, must be provided to PARTICIPANTS in writing. In urgent situations, prior authorizations may be provided verbally, as long as the PARTICIPANT is notified of cost sharing responsibilities, and it is documented in the PARTICIPANT'S records/file. The CONTRACTOR must still follow up with a written notice. This provision also applies when a provider is seeking the prior authorization on the PARTICIPANT'S behalf.

If the cost sharing is not disclosed at the time of prior authorization, the CONTRACTOR shall hold the PARTICIPANT harmless for out-of-pocket amounts above that of an equivalent IN-NETWORK service, and shall not charge this difference to the DEPARTMENT.

The CONTRACTOR shall work with the DEPARTMENT to develop strategies for OUT-OF-NETWORK costs, including, but not limited to, the use of PARTICIPANT incentives, prior authorization, and negotiating provider fees.

The CONTRACTOR shall be responsible for the full cost of any services not covered under the CONTRACT for which the CONTRACTOR provides written prior authorization to the PARTICIPANT and/or provider for the non-covered service.

### **215B Department Initiatives**

The CONTRACTOR is required to implement and report on the DEPARTMENT Initiatives. Initiatives are subject to change, as determined by the DEPARTMENT, to better serve the needs of the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS. The CONTRACTOR may coordinate with HOSPITALS, provider groups, or vendors to ensure the requirements of the DEPARTMENT Initiatives are met.

The current DEPARTMENT Initiatives are:

- 1) Care Coordination – The CONTRACTOR must ensure care coordination is offered for PARTICIPANTS with high-risk health condition(s) by conducting outreach within three (3) to five (5) BUSINESS DAYS of a PARTICIPANT'S initial discharge from an INPATIENT HOSPITAL stay of more than twenty-four (24) hours.
- 2) High Tech Radiology – The CONTRACTOR must have prior authorization procedures for elective, out-patient computed tomography (CT), computed tomography angiography (CTA), magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), magnetic resonance angiogram (MRA), positron emission tomography (PET) scans, and nuclear stress tests. Such prior authorizations are not required for PARTICIPANTS that require immediate or expedited orthopedic or other specialty referrals. This paragraph does not apply to MEDICARE ADVANTAGE enrolled PARTICIPANTS.
- 3) Low Back Surgery – The CONTRACTOR must have prior authorization procedures for referrals to orthopedists or neurosurgeons for PARTICIPANTS with a diagnosis of low back pain who have not completed an optimal regimen of conservative care. Such prior authorizations are not required for PARTICIPANTS who present clinical diagnoses or scenarios that require immediate or expedited orthopedic, neurosurgical or other specialty referrals. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.
- 4) Shared Decision Making (SDM) – The CONTRACTOR must provide a credible SDM program, at a minimum, to PARTICIPANTS who are eighteen (18) years of age and older as part of the prior authorization process for consultation with an orthopedist or neurosurgeon for low back surgery. The SDM program must provide Patient Decision Aids (PDA) that meet the International Patient Decision Aids Standards (IPDAS). The SDM process must include an

opportunity for PARTICIPANTS, prior to the procedure date but after receiving the PDA, to discuss a particular intervention with their PCP, care manager or health educator who is trained to have a discussion. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

- 5) Advance Care Planning (ACP) / Palliative Care - The CONTRACTOR must provide a credible ACP program that includes hospice care and palliative care. The CONTRACTOR must ensure ACP conversation(s) and/or palliative care consultation(s) are offered to all PARTICIPANTS with a serious disease and/or a likely survival of less than twelve (12) months.
- 6) Monitoring of Potentially Low-Value Services – The CONTRACTOR must provide reporting on select services identified by the DEPARTMENT as potentially low value to PARTICIPANTS. The DEPARTMENT will develop the list of services to be studied on an annual basis. The CONTRACTOR will provide analysis of the utilization of services and potential impact of alternate care pathways.

## **220 Benefits**

### **220A Overview**

The CONTRACTOR must provide the BENEFITS and services listed in UNIFORM BENEFITS to all PARTICIPANTS. BENEFITS are reviewed annually and any BENEFIT changes must be implemented as directed by the BOARD. This shall include developing the necessary reporting and/or data transfers needed by the DEPARTMENT and other vendors to administer the change.

The CONTRACTOR will offer the HDHP described in UNIFORM BENEFITS to all enrolled PARTICIPANTS. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

### **220B Telehealth / Nurse Line**

The CONTRACTOR must provide access to immediate care services such as telehealth and/or a twenty-four (24) hour nurse line to PARTICIPANTS. Such services must provide at minimum consultation services that assist PARTICIPANTS in determining whether additional treatment for a condition should be sought. Such consultation services that result in a referral to a different site of care rather than definitive treatment should be provided at no cost to PARTICIPANTS.

### **220C Emergency / Urgent / Catastrophic Care**

The CONTRACTOR must cover emergency and urgent care and related catastrophic medical care received from IN-NETWORK or OUT-OF-NETWORK providers at the IN-NETWORK level of benefits. This OUT-OF-NETWORK care may be subject to usual and customary charges while holding the PARTICIPANT harmless as described in UNIFORM BENEFITS unless the PARTICIPANT accepted financial responsibility, in writing, for the specific treatment or services (i.e., diagnosis and/or procedure code(s) and related charges) prior to receiving services. The CONTRACTOR must make every effort to settle claim disputes in a reasonable time frame.

The CONTRACTOR will work with OUT-OF-NETWORK providers to manage and reduce medical claim costs incurred in emergency and urgent situations. The CONTRACTOR must coordinate

care in these situations, including directing care IN-NETWORK, authorizing follow-up care on a case-by-case basis, and/or a transfer to a more suitable facility when appropriate.

The CONTRACTOR will provide coverage for certain mental health services OUT-OF-NETWORK as required by law for college students who are PARTICIPANTS in the HEALTH PLAN.

### **220D Inpatient When Changing Coverage**

The CONTRACTOR will administer claims and medical management services for any PARTICIPANT who is CONFINED as INPATIENT at the time of a transfer of coverage to another CONTRACTOR, when the facility in which the PARTICIPANT is CONFINED is not part of the succeeding CONTRACTOR'S network. In this instance, the CONTRACTORS will work together to facilitate a seamless transition in claims administration, medical management services, if applicable, and transferring the PARTICIPANT to an IN-NETWORK facility, if appropriate.

Except when a PARTICIPANT'S coverage terminates because of voluntary cancellation or non-payment of PREMIUM, BENEFITS shall continue to the PARTICIPANT if CONFINED as an INPATIENT, but only until the attending physician determines that CONFINEMENT is no longer medically necessary, the maximum BENEFIT is reached, the end of twelve (12) months after the date of termination, or the CONFINEMENT ceases, whichever occurs first.

### **220E Federal / State Requirements**

The CONTRACTOR must meet any and all applicable state or federal requirements concerning BENEFITS and cost-sharing which may be imposed on EMPLOYERS participating in the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM, the CONTRACTOR, a federally qualified health benefit program, or as contained in this AGREEMENT.

### **220F Out-of-Network Services for Preferred Provider Organization (PPO)**

- 1) The BOARD may permit CONTRACTORS to offer different copayment and deductible schedules for OUT-OF-NETWORK providers, except in the case of emergency, urgent care or when the services are not reasonably available IN-NETWORK.

If the PARTICIPANT resides in a CONTRACTOR'S service area, the PPO must consider the PARTICIPANT'S physical capability to travel the necessary distance to see a specialty IN-NETWORK provider when determining if that provider is reasonably available.

This provision does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

- 2) MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTORS offering a national passive PPO network must offer the same copayment, coinsurance, and deductible schedules for OUT-OF-NETWORK providers as available for IN-NETWORK providers. The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR will be responsible for any BALANCE BILLING if the PARTICIPANT uses an out-of-network provider.

### **220G Medicare**

The CONTRACTOR will provide BENEFITS and services as described in UNIFORM BENEFITS to PARTICIPANTS enrolled in Medicare, carving out the benefits paid by Medicare so that

PARTICIPANTS enrolled in Medicare receive the same UNIFORM BENEFITS level as provided to EMPLOYEES. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

The CONTRACTOR must notify the DEPARTMENT in writing if Medicare does not allow an enrollment due to a PARTICIPANT'S residence in a given area or other reason as specified by Medicare. The notification must be provided within five (5) BUSINESS DAYS of the latter of either the receipt of the DEPARTMENT'S enrollment file or notification by Medicare for non-MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTORS. The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR'S notification must be provided within two (2) BUSINESS DAYS of the latter of either the receipt of the DEPARTMENT'S enrollment file or notification by Medicare.

The CONTRACTOR is responsible for resolving discrepancies in claims payments for all Medicare data match inquiries.

### **220H End Stage Renal Disease - Medicare Participants**

If the EMPLOYEE, ANNUITANT, CONTINUANT or DEPENDENT is eligible for Medicare due to permanent kidney failure or end-stage renal disease, the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM shall pay as the primary payer for the first thirty (30) months after he or she becomes eligible for Medicare due to the kidney disease, whether or not the EMPLOYEE, ANNUITANT, CONTINUANT or DEPENDENT is enrolled in Medicare. The PREMIUM rate for non-MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTORS will be the non-Medicare rate during this period. Medicare becomes the primary payer after this thirty (30)-month period upon enrollment in MEDICARE PART A and PART B. If the EMPLOYEE, ANNUITANT, CONTINUANT or DEPENDENT has more than one period of Medicare enrollment based on kidney disease, there is a separate thirty (30)-month period during which the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM will again be the primary payer. No reduction in PREMIUM is available for active EMPLOYEES under this section.

### **220I Ancillary Services**

If the PARTICIPANT receives anesthesiology, radiology or pathology (includes all lab tests) services at an IN-NETWORK clinic or HOSPITAL, it will be covered at the IN-NETWORK level of benefits even if that care is not provided by an IN-NETWORK provider.

### **220J Transfer of Benefit Maximums / Deductible / Out-of-Pocket Limits**

PARTICIPANTS may have the opportunity to change benefit plans during a benefit period in certain situations (e.g., due to a change in residence, change from or to the HDHP).

- 1) Accumulations to annual medical BENEFIT maximums, medical deductibles, and medical OOPs under UNIFORM BENEFITS will continue to accumulate for the benefit period in the following situations:
  - a) If a PARTICIPANT changes the level of coverage (e.g., single to family) or changes benefit plans, but does not change CONTRACTORS.
  - b) If a PARTICIPANT has a spouse-to-spouse transfer resulting in a change of SUBSCRIBER, but does not change CONTRACTORS.



- 2) Accumulations to annual medical BENEFIT maximums, medical deductibles, and medical OOPs under UNIFORM BENEFITS will start over at zero (\$0) dollars as of the EFFECTIVE DATE of the change if a PARTICIPANT changes from being a PARTICIPANT of the state program to the LOCAL program, or vice versa.
- 3) Accumulations to the annual pharmacy and uniform dental (if applicable) benefits continue to accumulate for the benefit period regardless of a benefit plan/CONTRACTOR change. For HDHPs, medical and pharmacy accumulations are combined.

The CONTRACTOR must cooperate with the DEPARTMENT and the new CONTRACTOR to transfer BENEFIT accumulations upon a PARTICIPANT'S mid-year transfer to coverage under a new CONTRACTOR. The CONTRACTOR shall provide the PARTICIPANT with medical BENEFIT accumulations upon request. This requirement can be satisfied through the mailing of an explanation of benefits.

The CONTRACTOR shall apply any and all Maximum Out-of-Pocket (MOOP) limits as required by state and federal law.

### **220K Coordination / Non-Duplication**

The CONTRACTOR'S administration of BENEFITS provisions must conform to [Wis. Adm. Code INS 3.40, if not preempted by federal law.](#)

### **220L Wellness**

- 1) The CONTRACTOR must receive written approval annually from the DEPARTMENT prior to offering any financial incentive or discount programs to PARTICIPANTS.
- 2) The CONTRACTOR must participate in collaboration efforts between the DEPARTMENT, its wellness and disease management vendor, and other vendors, as directed by the DEPARTMENT.
- 3) The CONTRACTOR must accept PARTICIPANT level data transfers from the DEPARTMENT'S wellness and disease management vendor.
- 4) The CONTRACTOR shall use the PARTICIPANT level data from DEPARTMENT'S wellness and disease management vendor to identify PARTICIPANTS appropriate for complex/chronic case management and enroll PARTICIPANTS in such programs.
- 5) The CONTRACTOR must demonstrate, upon request by the DEPARTMENT, their efforts in utilizing the PARTICIPANT level data at stated in 4) above and in [Section 215A.](#)
- 6) The CONTRACTOR must report, as directed by the DEPARTMENT, all incentive payments issued to ACTIVE EMPLOYEES and their DEPENDENTS for DEPARTMENT distribution to EMPLOYER payroll centers for tax reporting purposes. The CONTRACTOR must link all payment records to the primary SUBSCRIBER and avoid duplication for instances of a reissued incentive.

- 7) The CONTRACTOR must report, as directed by the DEPARTMENT, all incentive payments or other items of monetary value issued to ANNUITANTS, CONTINUANTS, and their DEPENDENTS. The CONTRACTOR must also withhold applicable tax obligations for these PARTICIPANTS and remit these funds to the DEPARTMENT. The CONTRACTOR must link all payment records to the primary SUBSCRIBER and avoid duplications for instances of a reissued incentive.
- 8) Provider obtained biometric screenings as required by the DEPARTMENT'S wellness program shall be provided by the CONTRACTOR at the PARTICIPANT'S request, for no cost to the PARTICIPANT, and at a minimum test: 1) glucose level; 2) body mass index (BMI); 3) cholesterol level; 4) blood pressure. Glucose and cholesterol screenings may be administered as non-fasting and shall be in accordance with current U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) guidelines.

## **225 Quality**

- 1) The CONTRACTOR must demonstrate, upon request by the DEPARTMENT, their efforts in encouraging and/or requiring IN-NETWORK HOSPITALS, providers, large multi-specialty groups, small group practices and systems of care to participate in quality standards and initiatives, including those as identified by the DEPARTMENT.
- 2) The CONTRACTOR must demonstrate, upon request by the DEPARTMENT, its support for the DEPARTMENT'S initiatives in monitoring and improving quality of care. This may include providing actual contract language that specifies provider agreement or terms to participate in or report on quality improvement initiatives/patient safety measures and a description of their link, if any, to provider reimbursement.
- 3) The CONTRACTOR must collect Healthcare Effectiveness Data and Information Set (HEDIS) measures and administer the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) survey as specified by the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) guidelines. Upon request by the DEPARTMENT, the CONTRACTOR shall provide information about subcontractors used to audit the HEDIS results and administer the CAHPS survey.

Annually, the CONTRACTOR shall submit to the DEPARTMENT audited HEDIS data results for the previous calendar year for its contracted membership (commercial or MEDICARE ADVANTAGE) that includes HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS. The results must include integration of the prescription drug data from the PBM. CONTRACTORS utilizing a vended solution to produce HEDIS results, shall utilize a vendor certified by NCQA.

- a) The CONTRACTOR shall submit the results of its annual CAHPS survey to the DEPARTMENT as follows:
  - i) Results must be based on responses from insured adult members in Wisconsin (commercial or MEDICARE ADVANTAGE);

- ii) Survey must be conducted by a certified CAHPS survey vendor;
  - iii) Results must utilize the current version of the CAHPS survey as specified by the NCQA guidelines at the time the survey is administered;
  - iv) Results must be for each standard NCQA composite;
  - v) Results must be submitted annually and in a file format as specified by the DEPARTMENT; and,
  - vi) Separate results must be submitted for each region, if applicable.
- b) The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR shall annually provide the DEPARTMENT its overall CMS Star ratings for the plan serving PARTICIPANTS, and for each measure and each domain included in the overall rating, in a format and timeframe as requested by the DEPARTMENT.
- 4) The DEPARTMENT will monitor health care quality and/or customer satisfaction using quality measures available in the data warehouse and visual business intelligence tool, and will establish quality metrics, baseline results, and target levels. The DEPARTMENT will publish measure results and also establish financial incentives to encourage quality improvement. Quality measures will be established annually by the DEPARTMENT in cooperation with CONTRACTORS.

Prior to the DEPARTMENT holding the CONTRACTOR accountable for any of these measures, either through financial means and/or through publishing the measure results, the DEPARTMENT will provide the CONTRACTOR with an opportunity to review and validate the DEPARTMENT'S results within a specific timeframe, as determined by the DEPARTMENT.

- 6) The CONTRACTOR shall collaborate with providers on quality initiatives to address current population health issues. The CONTRACTOR shall report to the DEPARTMENT semi-annually any initiatives and pilot programs offered by the CONTRACTOR or the CONTRACTOR'S IN-NETWORK providers, including information on patient engagement and outcomes.

### **230 Provider Contracts**

The CONTRACTOR shall have staff solely dedicated to network management and provider relations that includes a credentialing process, collaboration on quality initiatives, and provider communications. The CONTRACTOR must engage in regular provider negotiations to strategically realize cost savings to the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM. The CONTRACTOR must, at a minimum, provide an annual update on provider discount negotiations efforts and outcomes to be included in the rate renewal reports. The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to require more frequent status updates on provider negotiation strategies, efforts, and outcomes.

Upon request by the DEPARTMENT, the CONTRACTOR shall agree to disclose the cost savings calculated with implementing any provider contract reimbursement methods as directed by the

BOARD. This may include a detailed explanation of how providers and HOSPITALS are compensated as described in [Section 160D](#), 3.

The CONTRACTOR must certify annually that their provider contracts meet the requirements in [Section 230](#). The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to review any contracts with providers that are IN-NETWORK for the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR must certify annually that their provider contracts meet the requirements in [Section 230 and Exhibit A](#).

The CONTRACTOR must submit provider data to the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse as specified in [Section 150](#). The DEPARTMENT will not amend its contract with the data warehouse vendor in a manner that directly or indirectly changes the terms of this section without prior notice to the CONTRACTOR. The DEPARTMENT'S notice to the CONTRACTOR will allow for comment by the CONTRACTOR, and when requested by the CONTRACTOR, discussion between the DEPARTMENT and the CONTRACTOR about the proposed changes.

Provider agreements for transplants are expected to specify that re-transplantation due to immediate rejection that occurs within the first thirty (30) DAYS of a transplant shall be covered.

The CONTRACTOR shall use best efforts to incorporate into Wisconsin provider agreements:

- 1) Guidelines as described by Medicare that limit reimbursement for adverse events and preventable errors.
- 2) HOSPITAL readmissions reduction program and the community-based care transitions program as described by Medicare.

Provider contracts must include a provision whereby the provider agrees to accept the CONTRACTOR'S payment as full payment for covered services, not including PARTICIPANT cost-sharing as outlined in UNIFORM BENEFITS. The CONTRACTOR must hold the PARTICIPANT harmless from any efforts(s) by third parties to collect payments for covered services. This is further described in [Section 160D](#), 5 for non-MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTORS.

The CONTRACTOR must provide a copy of the current provider administrative manual upon request by the DEPARTMENT.

### **230A Provider Access Standards**

The CONTRACTOR must provide an annual provider submission to the DEPARTMENT containing their provider network for the upcoming benefit period. See Appendix 7. Additionally, the DEPARTMENT requires the CONTRACTOR to submit a monthly provider data submission as detailed in [Section 150](#). The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR is required to report a change in its provider network to CMS, it must also report such a change to the DEPARTMENT within five (5) BUSINESS DAYS of reporting such a change to CMS.

- 1) These provisions do not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR. The DEPARTMENT will use this data to determine the counties in which the CONTRACTOR is qualified. CONTRACTORS are determined to be qualified on a county by county basis by meeting the provider access standards in this section and the operating experience specified in [Section 160A](#). The BOARD reserves the right to offer the State Maintenance Plan (SMP) in those counties in which a qualified, Tier 1 plan is not available. See [Section 130](#) for information about tiers. A Preferred Provider Plan (PPP) is not qualified in areas served by the SMP.

The DEPARTMENT may also determine a CONTRACTOR is non-qualified in a county in the following situations:

- a) The CONTRACTOR does not meet the provider access standards and has at least one (1) PCP in the county and/or major city.
- b) The CONTRACTOR meets the provider access standards and the DEPARTMENT determines the CONTRACTOR is not effectively administering the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM in accordance with this AGREEMENT (e.g., failure to provide effective medical management, etc.).

The DEPARTMENT shall list the CONTRACTORS determined to be qualified in each county in the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT materials. At its discretion, the DEPARTMENT may also list the CONTRACTORS determined to be non-qualified in the county.

- 2) This provision applies to all CONTRACTORS. Providers will be sorted by zip code based on where they are physically located within each county and major city in the region. Major cities are those that have over thirty-three percent (33%) of the county population. Those cities are Antigo, Appleton, Ashland, Eau Claire, Florence, Fond du Lac, Green Bay, Janesville, Kenosha, LaCrosse, Madison, Manitowoc, Menomonie, Merrill, Milwaukee, Monroe, Oshkosh, Prairie du Chien, Racine, Sheboygan, Stevens Point, Sturgeon Bay, and Superior. These providers must agree to accept new patients unless specifically indicated otherwise.

In addition to the access standards set forth in [Wis. Stat. § 609.22](#), the CONTRACTOR must meet the provider access standards as described in the Provider Network Submission (formerly Addendum 2) that is collected by the DEPARTMENT annually via the DEPARTMENT'S actuary.

- 3) This provision does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR. The BOARD reserves the right to allow for exceptions in certain counties when the CONTRACTOR can demonstrate these criteria cannot be met.

The BOARD reserves the right to make enrollment and eligibility decisions as necessary to implement the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM, including whether to make a Tier 1 option available in those counties in which otherwise no qualified health plan in Tier 1 exists and/or

make a Tier 2 plan available in any county. The DEPARTMENT may take such action as necessary to implement this intent.

### **230B Provider Directory**

- 1) This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR. The CONTRACTOR must make a provider directory available to PARTICIPANTS during the annual IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period and throughout the benefit period. Providers listed in these directories are subject to the access standards above, including accepting new patients, unless otherwise noted. The CONTRACTOR is required to have a current provider directory easily accessible on their website at all times. The provider directory must include a revision date and all past versions within a benefit period and must be provided to the DEPARTMENT upon request for the purposes of resolving complaints.
- 2) The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR must make a provider directory available to PARTICIPANTS during the annual IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period and throughout the benefit period. Providers listed in these directories are subject to CMS MEDICARE ADVANTAGE access standards and requirements to accept new patients, unless otherwise noted. The CONTRACTOR is required to have a current provider directory easily accessible on their website at all times. The provider directory must include a revision date and all past versions within a benefit period and must be provided to the DEPARTMENT upon request for the purposes of resolving complaints. Past versions within a benefit period may be needed for the purpose of resolving complaints. A benefit period is one calendar year.

The provider data submission and the published provider directory must be in alignment for the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT for the upcoming benefit period.

### **230C Continuity of Care**

The CONTRACTOR must comply with the continuity of care provisions under [Wis. Stat. § 609.24](#) if not preempted by federal law, for providers listed in the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT materials and listed in the provider data submission. In the event a provider or provider group terminates its contract with the CONTRACTOR during a benefit period, the CONTRACTOR will follow the continuity of care provisions and pay claims for covered services at the negotiated rate. In this case, the SUBSCRIBER shall be held harmless and indemnified. This does not apply in the loss of providers due to normal attrition (death, retirement, a move from the service area) or as a result of a formal disciplinary action relating to quality of care.

At least thirty (30) DAYS prior to the termination of a provider agreement, or the closing of an IN-NETWORK clinic, provider location, or HOSPITAL during the benefit period, the CONTRACTOR must:

- 1) Send written notification, as approved by the DEPARTMENT, to all PARTICIPANTS who have had services from that provider in the past twelve (12) months that includes the following information:
  - a) How to find a new IN-NETWORK provider or facility;

- b) The continuity of care provision as it relates to this situation; and,
- c) Contact information for questions.

2) Update the provider directory on the CONTRACTOR'S website.

The CONTRACTOR shall keep a record of this notification mailing and shall provide documentation, by SUBSCRIBER and indicating the mailing address used, upon the DEPARTMENT'S request.

The CONTRACTOR will assist the PARTICIPANT in selecting a new IN-NETWORK provider or facility and obtaining any necessary referrals and/or authorizations.

If the CONTRACTOR removes providers from its network for the next benefit period, the CONTRACTOR is prohibited from adding those providers back to the network until the subsequent benefit period unless approved by the DEPARTMENT. This provision does not apply to normal attrition.

### **230D Provider Contracts Shall Include Compliance Plans**

All new (and upon renewal of) provider contracts shall include requirements that provider staff be educated about health care laws, rules and regulations, applicable standards, and how to identify and report inappropriate behavior.

Examples of the types of contract provisions that should be in place include:

- 1) Effective internal controls to assure compliance with Federal and State laws, rules, regulations and internal policies and procedures.
- 2) Staff training on identification and prevention of unlawful and unethical conduct.
- 3) Create a centralized source for distributing information on health care statutes, regulations and other program directives.
- 4) Establish procedures that allow the prompt, thorough investigation of possible misconduct by employees and independent contractors.
- 5) Certify as to the accuracy, completeness and truthfulness of all data submitted to payers.

### **235 Claims**

The CONTRACTOR shall process claims for BENEFITS and services as described in UNIFORM BENEFITS. Targets for claims processing performance standards and associated penalties are specified in [Section 315B](#).

The CONTRACTOR shall comply with [Wis. Stat. § 628.46](#) with regard to any interest due for late payment of claims submitted by an OUT-OF-NETWORK provider. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

In the event MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR receives a written demand from an affected member or an affected OUT-OF-NETWORK provider with regard to any interest due for late payment of clean claims under Wis. Stat. § 628.46, the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR agrees to promptly supplement the Federally required prompt pay interest rate and pay at the 7.5% rate provided for in Wis. Stat. § 628.46.

Upon request of the DEPARTMENT or the PARTICIPANT, the CONTRACTOR shall provide the total dollar amount of claims paid by the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM.

In the event that the CONTRACTOR approves or reimburses for a service in error that is considered non-covered under Section 400 of the AGREEMENT, the CONTRACTOR agrees to pay for the service outside of this AGREEMENT and to hold the PARTICIPANT harmless.

## **240 Grievances**

### **240A Grievance Process Overview**

The CONTRACTOR must have an internal grievance process that complies with external review in accordance with applicable federal or state law, except as otherwise provided in this AGREEMENT. The CONTRACTOR must submit its grievance procedure, including the DEPARTMENT administrative and external review rights and sample grievance decision letters, for the DEPARTMENT'S review and approval during the implementation process and upon request by the DEPARTMENT. See Sections [160I](#), [245E](#), and [245F](#).

Any dispute about BENEFITS or claims arising under this AGREEMENT shall first be submitted for resolution through the CONTRACTOR'S and/or PBM'S (if applicable) internal grievance process and may then, if necessary and appropriate, be submitted to the DEPARTMENT for administrative review.

Grievances regarding non-covered services or services excluded from coverage by the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM shall be handled like any other grievance. Written inquiries received by the CONTRACTOR not related to BENEFITS determinations shall be resolved by the CONTRACTOR within ten (10) BUSINESS DAYS following the CONTRACTOR'S receipt of the inquiry.

If any PARTICIPANT has a problem or complaint relating to a determination of BENEFITS, he/she should contact the CONTRACTOR. The CONTRACTOR shall assist the PARTICIPANT in trying to resolve the matter on an informal basis, and may initiate a claim review of the BENEFITS determination. If the PARTICIPANT wishes, he/she may omit this step and immediately file a formal grievance. A claim review is not a substitute for a grievance.

The following provides an overview of the steps in the PARTICIPANT grievance process. Details are provided in Section 240.

- 1) Claim review (optional for PARTICIPANT);
- 2) PARTICIPANT notice;



- 3) Investigation and resolution;
- 4) Notification of DEPARTMENT Administrative Review Rights (not all grievances eligible): Administrative review by DEPARTMENT staff, and/or the DEPARTMENT appeals process including filing an appeal with the BOARD, an administrative appeal hearing, consideration of the appeal by the BOARD, right to appeal the BOARD's final decision to circuit court; or,
- 5) Federal external review (not all grievances eligible).

### **240B Grievance Process for MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR**

The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR will follow CMS rules set forth in 42 CFR part 422, subpart M, and Chapter 13 of the Medicare Managed Care Manual. All of the following provisions in 240 do not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

### **240C Claim Review**

The CONTRACTOR shall perform a claim review when a PARTICIPANT requests a review of denied BENEFITS. When a claim review has been completed, the CONTRACTOR shall notify the PARTICIPANT of the decision. If the decision is to uphold the denial of BENEFITS, the PARTICIPANT shall receive written notification as to the specific reason(s) for the continued denial of BENEFITS and of his/her right to file a grievance.

### **240D Participant Notice**

The CONTRACTOR must provide the PARTICIPANT with notice of their grievance rights and a period of ninety (90) calendar days to file a grievance after written denial of a BENEFIT or other occurrence of the cause of the grievance along with the Uniform Benefit contractual provision(s) upon which the denial is based.

### **240E Investigation and Resolution Requirements**

Investigation of any grievance will be initiated by the CONTRACTOR within five (5) BUSINESS DAYS of the date the grievance is filed by the complainant for a timely resolution of the problem. Grievances related to an urgent health concern will be handled within three (3) DAYS of the CONTRACTOR'S receipt of the grievance.

### **240F Notification of Department Administrative Review Rights**

In the final grievance decision letters, the CONTRACTOR shall inform PARTICIPANTS of their right to request a DEPARTMENT review of the grievance committee's final decision and their right to request an external review in accordance with applicable federal or state law, using the language approved by the DEPARTMENT. In all final grievance decision letters, the CONTRACTOR shall cite the specific UNIFORM BENEFITS contractual provision(s) upon which the CONTRACTOR bases its decision and relies on to support its decision.

In the event the PARTICIPANT disagrees with the grievance committee's final decision, they may submit a written request for review to the DEPARTMENT within sixty (60) calendar DAYS of the date of the final grievance decision letter. The DEPARTMENT will review and communicate the outcome of the review to the PARTICIPANT. In the event that the PARTICIPANT disagrees with the outcome, they may file a written request for determination from the DEPARTMENT. The

request must be received by the DEPARTMENT within sixty (60) calendar DAYS of the date of the DEPARTMENT'S final review letter.

The determination of the DEPARTMENT is final and not subject to further review unless a timely appeal of the determination by the DEPARTMENT is submitted to the BOARD, as provided by [Wis. Stat. § 40.03 \(6\) \(i\)](#) and [Wis. Adm. Code ETF 11.01 \(3\)](#). However, the DEPARTMENT will not issue a determination regarding denials of coverage by a CONTRACTOR and/or PBM based on medical necessity, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care, effectiveness of a covered benefit, experimental treatment, or the rescission of a policy or certificate that can be resolved through the external review process under applicable federal or state law.

Following a determination by the DEPARTMENT, a PARTICIPANT may submit an appeal to the BOARD, as provided by [Wis. Stat. § 40.03 \(6\) \(i\)](#) and [Wis. Adm. Code ETF 11.01 \(3\)](#). This process includes an administrative hearing. The CONTRACTOR shall, upon the DEPARTMENT'S request, participate in all administrative hearings requested by PARTICIPANTS or the CONTRACTOR, as determined by the DEPARTMENT. The hearings shall be conducted in accordance with guidelines and rules and regulations promulgated by the DEPARTMENT.

BOARD decisions can only be further reviewed as provided by [Wis. Stat. § 40.08 \(12\)](#) and [Wis. Adm. Code ETF 11.15](#).

#### **240G External Review**

The PARTICIPANT shall have the option to request an external review subject to applicable federal or state law. In accordance with federal or state law, any decision by an Internal Review Organization (IRO) is final and binding. PARTICIPANTS have no further right to administrative review by the DEPARTMENT or BOARD once the external review decision is rendered.

Within fourteen (14) calendar DAYS of the CONTRACTOR'S receipt of the notification of the external review's determination, the CONTRACTOR must notify the DEPARTMENT of the outcome.

The CONTRACTOR shall not be in breach of this AGREEMENT solely because the external reviewer does not comply with the timeframes set forth in the statutes or regulations.

#### **240H Provision of Complaint Information**

All information and documentation pertinent to any decisions or actions taken regarding any PARTICIPANT complaint or grievance by a CONTRACTOR shall be made available to the DEPARTMENT upon request. If an authorization from the PARTICIPANT is necessary, the CONTRACTOR shall cooperate in obtaining the authorization and shall accept the DEPARTMENT'S form that complies with all applicable laws regarding patient privacy. Information may include complete copies of grievance files, medical records, consultant reports, customer service contact worksheets or any other documentation the DEPARTMENT deems necessary to review a PARTICIPANT complaint, resolve disputes or to formulate determinations. Such information must be provided at no charge within fifteen (15) BUSINESS DAYS, or by an earlier date as requested by the DEPARTMENT.

### **240I Department Request for Grievance**

The DEPARTMENT may require the CONTRACTOR to treat and process a complaint received by the DEPARTMENT as a grievance and the DEPARTMENT will forward the complaint to the CONTRACTOR on behalf of the PARTICIPANT. The CONTRACTOR shall process the complaint as a grievance in compliance with the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM'S provisions regarding a formal grievance.

### **240J Notification of Legal Action**

If a PARTICIPANT files a lawsuit naming the CONTRACTOR as a defendant, the CONTRACTOR must notify the DEPARTMENT'S chief legal counsel within ten (10) BUSINESS DAYS of notification of the legal action. This requirement does not extend to cases of subrogation.

### **240K Penalty for Noncompliance**

If a departmental determination overturns a CONTRACTOR'S decision on a PARTICIPANT'S grievance, the CONTRACTOR shall comply with the determination within ninety (90) calendar DAYS of the date of the determination. As used in this section, "comply" means to take action as directed in the departmental determination or to appeal the determination to the BOARD within ninety (90) calendar DAYS.

### **245 Cancellation of Participant Coverage**

Coverage terminates at the end of the month in which a notice of cancellation of coverage is received by the EMPLOYER (for EMPLOYEES), or by the DEPARTMENT (for ANNUITANTS and CONTINUANTS), upon date of death, or a later date as specified on the cancellation of coverage notice or sick leave escrow application. No refund of PREMIUM may be granted for the month in which the coverage ends. If the deceased subscriber has covered dependents, see [Section 260D](#).

If the ANNUITANT or CONTINUANT contacts the CONTRACTOR directly to cancel coverage, the CONTRACTOR is to reject the cancellation and immediately notify the ANNUITANT or CONTINUANT to submit a written cancellation notice to the DEPARTMENT. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

If the ANNUITANT or CONTINUANT contacts the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR directly to cancel coverage, the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR is to reject all non-written cancellation requests and immediately notify the ANNUITANT or CONTINUANT to submit a written cancellation notice to the DEPARTMENT. If the ANNUITANT or CONTINUANT contacts the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR directly to cancel coverage, the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR must approve all written cancellation requests, pursuant to CMS Rules and Regulations. Additionally, the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR will immediately notify the DEPARTMENT of the written termination request received.

### **250 Direct Pay Premium Process**

The CONTRACTOR must collect direct pay PREMIUMS for certain SUBSCRIBERS as identified by the DEPARTMENT. The applicable portion of PREMIUMS billed and received by the CONTRACTOR shall be credited to the DEPARTMENT no later than the second Wednesday of the month following receipt.

The CONTRACTOR must support an Automated Clearinghouse (ACH) mechanism that allows for direct pay PREMIUM to be submitted via electronic funds transfer (EFT). Direct pay PREMIUMS may also be submitted to the CONTRACTOR via mail. If the SUBSCRIBER fails to make required PREMIUM payments by the due dates established by the CONTRACTOR, and approved by the DEPARTMENT, the health care coverage shall be canceled by the CONTRACTOR. The CONTRACTOR must provide written notification to the DEPARTMENT within five (5) BUSINESS DAYS of receiving written notice of cancellation from the SUBSCRIBER or within one (1) month of the effective date of termination due to non-payment of PREMIUM, whichever occurs first. LOCAL ANNUITANTS are irrevocably cancelled, see [Section 125E](#).

## **255 Continuation**

### **255A Right to Continue Coverage**

A PARTICIPANT who ceases to meet the definition of EMPLOYEE, ANNUITANT, or DEPENDENT may elect to continue group coverage as required by state and federal law. Application must be postmarked within sixty (60) calendar DAYS of the date the PARTICIPANT is notified of the right to continue or sixty (60) calendar DAYS from the date coverage ceases, whichever is later. The CONTRACTOR shall bill the continuing PARTICIPANT directly for the required PREMIUM.

### **255B Subscriber Nonpayment of Premiums**

A PARTICIPANT who ceases to be eligible for BENEFITS may elect to continue group coverage for a maximum of thirty-six (36) months from the date of the qualifying event or the date of the EMPLOYER notice, whichever is later, except in the following circumstances:

- 1) When coverage is canceled,
- 2) PREMIUMS are not paid when due, or
- 3) Coverage is terminated as permitted by state or federal law.

The CONTRACTOR shall bill the CONTINUANT directly for required PREMIUMS.

As required by federal law, if timely payment is made in an amount that is not significantly less than amount due, that amount is deemed to satisfy the CONTRACTOR'S requirement for the amount due. However, the CONTRACTOR may notify the PARTICIPANT of the amount of the deficiency and grant a reasonable time period for payment of that amount. A reasonable time period is considered thirty (30) calendar DAYS after the notice is given.

The CONTRACTOR must notify the DEPARTMENT within one (1) month of the effective date of termination due to non-payment of PREMIUM. PREMIUM refunds to the CONTRACTOR are limited to one (1) month following the termination date.

### **255C Conversion / Marketplace**

The CONTRACTOR must provide the SUBSCRIBER, upon request, written notification of how to enroll in a conversion policy set forth in [Wis. Stat. § 632.897](#), and/or a Marketplace plan, in the event of termination of employment.

### **255D Surviving Dependents**

As required by [Wis. Adm. Code ETF 40.01](#), the surviving covered DEPENDENT of a covered EMPLOYEE or ANNUITANT shall have the right to continue coverage, either individual or family. A DEPENDENT that regains eligibility and was previously covered under a contract of a deceased EMPLOYEE or ANNUITANT, or a child of the EMPLOYEE or ANNUITANT who is in the process of being adopted by the deceased EMPLOYEE or ANNUITANT, or born within nine (9) months after the death of the EMPLOYEE or ANNUITANT, will be eligible for coverage under the survivor's contract until such time that they are no longer eligible.

Coverage under this section shall be effective on the first DAY of the calendar month following the date of death of the covered EMPLOYEE or ANNUITANT, and shall remain in effect until such time as the DEPENDENT coverage would normally cease had the death not occurred.

PREMIUMS shall be paid:

- 1) By deductions from an annuity that the surviving DEPENDENT is receiving from the Wisconsin Retirement System. If the annuity is insufficient to allow PREMIUM deductions, then
- 2) Directly to the CONTRACTOR.

### **260 Miscellaneous Program Requirements**

#### **260A Account Management and Staffing**

Upon execution of the CONTRACT, the CONTRACTOR shall designate an Account Manager and a backup, assigned to the DEPARTMENT for the life of the CONTRACT, who is accountable for and has the authority to:

- 1) Manage the entire range of services specified in the CONTRACT;
- 2) Respond to DEPARTMENT requests and inquiries;
- 3) Provide daily operational support;
- 4) Implement the DEPARTMENT changes to benefit plan design and procedures; and,
- 5) Resolve general administrative problems identified by the DEPARTMENT.

The Account Manager or backup must be available for consultation with the DEPARTMENT during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST/CDT, Monday through Friday, as required to fulfill the scope of services specified in the contract. The Account Manager or backup must provide an initial response to DEPARTMENT requests and inquiries within one (1) BUSINESS DAY. The CONTRACTOR shall resolve DEPARTMENT issues within five (5) BUSINESS DAYS of receipt, unless otherwise approved by the DEPARTMENT. The CONTRACTOR will provide the DEPARTMENT with an emergency contact number in case issues arise that need to be resolved outside of the aforementioned business hours.

The CONTRACTOR must have a designated Information Technology contact and a backup Information Technology contact who will have overall responsibility for the information technology aspects of the CONTRACT. The Information Technology contact shall be available for consultation with the DEPARTMENT during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST/CDT, Monday through Friday, as required to fulfill the scope of services specified in the CONTRACT. The CONTRACTOR will provide the DEPARTMENT with an emergency contact number in case issues arise that need to be resolved outside of the aforementioned business hours.

The CONTRACTOR shall provide and maintain key, qualified staff at a level that enables the CONTRACTOR to fulfill the requirements of the CONTRACT. The CONTRACTOR shall ensure that all persons, including independent contractors, subcontractors and consultants assigned to perform under the CONTRACT, have the experience and credentials necessary to perform the work required. The CONTRACTOR shall provide the DEPARTMENT with contact information for the key staff, which the DEPARTMENT will share with EMPLOYERS.

The CONTRACTOR shall notify the DEPARTMENT if the Account Manager (within one (1) BUSINESS DAY), backup or key staff changes (within three (3) BUSINESS DAYS). The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to deny the CONTRACTOR'S designees.

The CONTRACTOR must also provide a central point of contact for EMPLOYER issues related to the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM. The CONTRACTOR must acknowledge receipt of the inquiry from the benefit/payroll processing centers and/or EMPLOYER benefit/payroll staff within two (2) BUSINESS DAYS of the inquiry and actively communicate on issue resolution status with the payroll processing centers and/or other payroll. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR.

The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR must also provide a central point of contact for PARTICIPANT enrollment and premium issues related to the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM. The CONTRACTOR must acknowledge receipt of an inquiry from the designated unit within the DEPARTMENT within two (2) BUSINESS DAYS of the inquiry and actively communicate on issue resolution status with the DEPARTMENT.

The CONTRACTOR shall provide onsite staff attendance at the annual IYC EMPLOYER Kick-Off Meeting and other EMPLOYER sponsored meetings, such as health fairs, throughout the state for the annual IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period, and any ANNUITANT group meetings, as appropriate.

The CONTRACTOR will ensure that staff providing services under the CONTRACT have received comprehensive orientation and ongoing training, understand applicable requirements of the CONTRACT, and are knowledgeable about the CONTRACTOR'S operations and policies.

The CONTRACTOR must participate in meetings as requested by the DEPARTMENT. This may include QUARTERLY coordination meetings with other stakeholders of the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM. Meetings may be in person or by teleconference/webinar, as determined by the DEPARTMENT.

The CONTRACTOR must not modify any of the services or program content provided as part of the CONTRACT without prior written approval by the DEPARTMENT Program Manager.

The CONTRACTOR shall achieve a ninety-five percent (95%) satisfaction or better (defined as “top two-box” satisfaction/approval using an approved standard five (5) point survey tool) on a survey developed and administered by the DEPARTMENT to DEPARTMENT staff, benefit/payroll staff, and other parties that work with the CONTRACTOR to assess the quality of services provided by the CONTRACTOR. The survey will include assessments in areas that include, but are not limited to, professionalism, responsiveness, communication, technical knowledge, notifications in disruption of any service (e.g., customer service telephone outage, website outage, etc.), and notification of changes impacting HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM services.

### **260B Customer Service**

The CONTRACTOR shall operate a customer service department for the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM between 7:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., CST/CDT Monday through Thursday and 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CST/CDT on Friday at a minimum, except for legal holidays. PARTICIPANTS must also be able to submit questions using e-mail and/or via a website. For the hearing-impaired population, the call center will utilize the national relay service (711) or the caller can use their own relay system. Calls and correspondence to customer services representatives shall be tracked, recorded, and retrieved when necessary by name or the DEPARTMENT’S eight (8)-digit member ID.

The CONTRACTOR must have a dedicated toll free number for the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM and have customer service staff who are sufficiently trained to respond appropriately to PARTICIPANT inquiries, correspondence, complaints, and issues. The dedicated toll free number must not have more than two (2) menu prompts to reach a live person.

The CONTRACTOR shall notify the DEPARTMENT Program Manager of any disruption in customer service availability or toll-free access regardless of reason for disruption, within one (1) hour of realization that a problem exists.

The CONTRACTOR must monitor and report to the DEPARTMENT the performance standards for the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM that include call answer timeliness and call abandonment rate. Targets for the customer service performance standards and associated penalties are specified in [Section 315C](#) and are based on the dedicated toll free number for the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM.

The CONTRACTOR must have a customer service inquiry system for inquiries received by phone and email and/or website. The system must maintain a history of inquiries for performance management, quality management and audit purposes. Related correspondence and calls shall be indexed and properly recorded to allow for reporting and analysis based on a distinct transaction. On a monthly basis, the CONTRACTOR must submit a report by month for a rolling twelve (12) month period showing the volume and type of inquiry with a break-down by topic. The report must include a comparison to the same month of the previous calendar year and illustrate trends.

The system must track and log the following detail:

- 1) The PARTICIPANT'S identifying information;
- 2) The date and time the inquiry was received;
- 3) The reason for the inquiry (including a reason code using a coding scheme);
- 4) The origin of the transaction (e.g., inbound call, the DEPARTMENT, EMPLOYER group, PARTICIPANT);
- 5) The representative that handled the inquiry;
- 6) For phone inquiries, the length of call; and,
- 7) The resolution of the inquiry (including a resolution code using a coding scheme).

Inquiries not resolved within two (2) BUSINESS DAYS must be added to a tracking document/log that must summarize the issue and the current resolution status. This tracking document/log must be kept current and must be provided to the DEPARTMENT Program Manager or designee within one (1) BUSINESS DAY of the DEPARTMENT'S request.

At the DEPARTMENT'S request, the CONTRACTOR must provide the policies and procedures related to the operation of the customer service department. The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to require changes to the policies and procedures that directly impact PARTICIPANTS.

The CONTRACTOR must have and implement procedures for monitoring and ensuring the quality of services provided by its customer service representatives. At least five percent (5%) each year of all PARTICIPANT inquiries made by each submission type (e.g. phone, email, website) must be audited (e.g. by lead worker, supervisor, manager, auditor, etc.) to ensure accurate information was given to PARTICIPANTS and appropriate coaching and training is given to customer service representatives who failed to accurately respond to PARTICIPANTS. At the DEPARTMENT'S request, the CONTRACTOR must provide the audit results.

The CONTRACTOR must respond directly to PARTICIPANTS upon the DEPARTMENT'S request. For matters designated as urgent by the DEPARTMENT, the CONTRACTOR must contact the PARTICIPANT within one (1) BUSINESS DAY of receiving a request from the DEPARTMENT and actively communicate to the DEPARTMENT'S Program Manager or designee on issue resolution status until the issue is resolved.

### **260C Contractor Web Content and Web-Portal**

The CONTRACTOR must provide dedicated web content (that may be via a microsite that meets all criteria below) and a web-portal as part of the CONTRACT. Web content will provide basic program information. The web-portal will be used to present and track PARTICIPANT level information, such as claim status and BENEFIT accumulation.



- 1) The CONTRACTOR must host and maintain customized web pages and a web-portal dedicated to PARTICIPANTS of the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM.
  - a) The CONTRACTOR must submit the web content and web-portal design for review as directed by the DEPARTMENT.
  - b) The DEPARTMENT must approve the content prior to publishing.
  - c) The web-portal must be available via the three (3) most recent versions of each of the popular browsers available in the market which include the Microsoft products Internet Explorer and/or Edge, Mozilla Firefox, Google Chrome and Apple Safari. Ongoing adoption and support of future browser versions and other browsers that gain significant market share is required.
  - d) The web-portal must be simple, intuitive and easy to use and navigate.
  - e) The web-portal must be able to render effectively on any form factor for mobile devices which include smartphones and tablets.
  - f) The website and web-portal must have mobile capabilities. At a minimum the mobile capabilities must allow the PARTICIPANT to access program information.
  - g) The website must ensure response time averaging two (2) seconds or better, and never more than three (3) second response time, from the time the CONTRACTOR receives the request to the time the response is sent, for all on-line activities. Response time is defined as the amount of time between pressing the “return” or “enter” key or depressing a mouse button and receiving a data-driven response on the screen, i.e., not just a message or indicator that a response is forthcoming.
  - h) The solution must use SSL/TLS for end-to-end encryption for all connections between the user devices and the portal with the use of browsers or smartphone applications (apps).
  - i) The portal must be SECURED with a minimum of SHA2-256 (or similar system such as SHA-256 as approved by the DEPARTMENT) bit EV certificates to provide the latest in encryption and cryptography.
  - j) The portal must disable SSL/TLS negotiations which are using non-SECURE protocols and weak ciphers.
  - k) The CONTRACTOR must provide the DEPARTMENT reports on the current security safeguards enabled for the website and web-portal, upon the DEPARTMENT’S request.
  - l) After the initial website and web-portal implementation, the CONTRACTOR must grant the DEPARTMENT access to the website and web-portal test environment for the DEPARTMENT’S review and approval no less than four (4) weeks prior to the subsequent annual launch dates for each, and for each new major iteration of the website and web-

portal. No less than two (2) weeks prior to the annual launch dates for each, the CONTRACTOR must have final content and functionality completed, as determined by the DEPARTMENT.

- m) Prior to any launch of the CONTRACTOR website or web-portal, the CONTRACTOR must test the accessibility of the website and web-portal on multiple web browsers and from multiple internet carriers to ensure system capability.
  - n) The CONTRACTOR must submit to the DEPARTMENT for review and approval the updated website content for the upcoming IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period. The DEPARTMENT will annually communicate the due date for this submission. Upon DEPARTMENT approval, the updated website content is launched at least two (2) weeks prior to the annual IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period.
  - o) The CONTRACTOR must obtain prior approval from the DEPARTMENT Program Manager for the inclusion of any links from the website or web-portal to an external (governmental and non-governmental) website/portal or webpage.
  - p) The CONTRACTOR will notify the DEPARTMENT Program Manager of any substantial changes being made to the website prior to implementation.
- 2) Basic information must be available on the CONTRACTOR'S website without requiring log in credentials, including:
- a) General information about the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM and other programs offered by the BOARD;
  - b) Directions on how to access the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM provider directory and Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC);
  - c) Information about PARTICIPANT requirements, including prior authorizations and referrals;
  - d) Ability for PARTICIPANTS to submit questions via the website; and,
  - e) Contact information including the dedicated toll-free customer service phone number, business hours, twenty-four (24)-hour nurse line, and mailing address.
- 3) To ensure accessibility among persons with a disability, the CONTRACTOR'S website must comply with Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 USC Section 794d) and implementing regulations at 36 CFR 1194 Subparts A-D. The website must also conform to W3C's Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.0 (see <http://www.w3.org/TR/WCAG20/>).
- 4) The website must be hosted in a SECURE data center with system monitoring, managed firewall services and managed backup services within the United States and available

twenty-four (24) hours a DAY, seven (7) DAYS a week, except for regularly scheduled maintenance.

The data center network shall include robust firewall, intrusion prevention and intrusion detection systems to prevent and detect unauthorized access. Any scheduled maintenance must occur between the hours of midnight and 5:00 a.m. CST/CDT or another time agreed to by the DEPARTMENT Program Manager, and must be scheduled in advance with a notification on the program website/portal. Unscheduled disruption to the availability of the website or web-portal must be communicated to the DEPARTMENT Program Manager within one (1) hour of realization that a problem occurred.

The CONTRACTOR must have a regular patch management process defined for the infrastructure. The CONTRACTOR must have a defined maintenance time window for system patches, software upgrades. Outages in the system must be communicated through the web-portal or via alerts.

- 5) The CONTRACTOR must be able to link user profiles and site access permissions to the daily enrollment file provided by the DEPARTMENT and make updates based on current enrollment within three (3) BUSINESS DAYS of data receipt. The CONTRACTOR may utilize another process for validation if the process is pre-approved by the DEPARTMENT.
- 6) The CONTRACTOR must have web-portal content and functionality updated, tested and approved by the DEPARTMENT Program Manager or designee at least fourteen (14) calendar DAYS prior to the benefit period start date. The web-portal will securely authenticate the user. After the user is authenticated, all web-portal features must be available without the need for an additional login. Available features must include:
  - a) User name and password creation and recovery;
  - b) Enrollment confirmation;
  - c) Secure upload functionality for submitting program required documentation;
  - d) Communication functions that allow users to submit SECURE questions to the CONTRACTOR and allow the CONTRACTOR to push general and targeted communications to users via USPS, e-mail, text and other standard communication vehicles, as requested by the DEPARTMENT; and,
  - e) Incentive payment status, if applicable (e.g., pending, issued, etc.).

### **260D Patient Rights and Responsibilities**

The CONTRACTOR shall comply with and abide by the Patient's Rights and Responsibilities as provided in the DEPARTMENT'S It's Your Choice materials. CONTRACTORS that have their own Patient's Rights and Responsibilities may use them unless there is a conflict. In this case the Patient's Rights and Responsibilities which are more favorable to the PARTICIPANT will apply.

## **260E Errors**

Clerical errors made by the EMPLOYER, the DEPARTMENT or the CONTRACTOR shall not invalidate BENEFITS of a PARTICIPANT otherwise validly in force, nor continue such BENEFITS otherwise validly terminated, nor create eligibility for any BENEFITS where none otherwise existed under the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM.

Retrospective adjustments to PREMIUM or claims for coverage not validly in force shall be limited to no more than six (6) months of PREMIUMS paid, except in cases of fraud, material misrepresentation, resolution of BOARD appeal, or when required by Medicare.

In cases where Medicare is the primary payer, retroactive adjustments to PREMIUM or claims for coverage not validly in force shall correspond with the shortest retroactive enrollment limit set by Medicare for either medical or prescription drug claims, not to exceed six (6) months and in accordance with UNIFORM BENEFITS.

No retroactive PREMIUM refunds shall be made for coverage resulting from any application due to fraud or material misrepresentation.

## **Subscriber Errors**

In the event a SUBSCRIBER files an application during a prescribed enrollment period listing a PCP that is not IN-NETWORK with the selected CONTRACTOR, the CONTRACTOR shall notify the SUBSCRIBER within five (5) BUSINESS DAYS of the DEPARTMENT'S transmission of the enrollment data, and aid him/her in selecting an IN-NETWORK PCP. If the SUBSCRIBER is not responsive to the CONTRACTOR'S efforts, the CONTRACTOR will assign a PCP, notify the PARTICIPANT in writing and provide instructions for changing the assigned PCP.

If the CONTRACTOR offers more than one (1) network to PARTICIPANTS and the networks change on January 1st, a SUBSCRIBER who failed to make an election during the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period to change networks in order to maintain access to his or her current providers may change to the appropriate network during the next IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period or other enrollment opportunity as specified in this AGREEMENT.

## **Contractor / Provider / Subcontractor Errors**

If the CONTRACTOR or its provider or subcontractor sends erroneous or misleading information to PARTICIPANTS, the DEPARTMENT may require the CONTRACTOR to send a corrected mailing at the cost of the CONTRACTOR to inform PARTICIPANTS.

## **260F Examination of Records**

The DEPARTMENT, or its designee, shall have the right to examine any records of the CONTRACTOR relating to the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM in compliance with [Wis. Stat. § 40.07](#) and any applicable federal or other state laws and rules. The information shall be furnished within ten (10) BUSINESS DAYS of the request or as directed by the DEPARTMENT. All such information is the sole property of the DEPARTMENT.

Upon a showing satisfactory to the BOARD that the CONTRACTOR is required by law to maintain a copy of such information, the DEPARTMENT and the CONTRACTOR shall agree

to terms, conditions and provisions permitting the CONTRACTOR to maintain information to the minimum extent and for the minimum time required by law. Any such agreement shall require the CONTRACTOR to:

Keep confidential and properly safeguard each “medical record” and all “personal information”, as those terms are respectively defined in [Wis. Admin. Code ETF 10.01 \(3m\)](#) and [ETF 10.70 \(1\)](#), that are included in such information;

Not make any disclosure of such information without providing advance notice to the DEPARTMENT; and,

Include a liability clause for damages in the event the CONTRACTOR makes any disclosure of personal information or any medical record that would violate [Wis. Stat. § 40.07 \(1\) or \(2\)](#), respectively, if the disclosure was made by the DEPARTMENT.

## **260G Record Retention**

- 1) The CONTRACTOR agrees that the BOARD, until the expiration of seven (7) years after the termination of the CONTRACT, and any extensions, shall have access to and the right to examine any of the CONTRACTOR’S pertinent books, financial records, documents, papers, and records and those of any parent, affiliate, or subsidiary organization performing under formal or informal arrangement any service or furnishing any supplies or equipment to the CONTRACTOR involving transactions related to this AGREEMENT.

Any records that relate to: (1) litigation or settlement of claims arising out of the performance of this AGREEMENT; or (2) costs or expenses of this AGREEMENT with which exception is taken by litigation, claims, or exceptions, must be retained for seven (7) years after the conclusion of the litigation, regardless of the termination date of the contract.

The CONTRACTOR further agrees that the substance of this clause shall be inserted in any subcontract that the CONTRACTOR enters into with any subcontractor to carry out any of the CONTRACTOR’S obligations under this AGREEMENT.

- 2) **MEDICARE ADVANTAGE Enrollment Record Retention:** The DEPARTMENT’S record of a PARTICIPANT’S enrollment election must exist in a format that can be easily, accurately and quickly reproduced for later reference by each individual PARTICIPANT, the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR and/or CMS, as necessary, and be maintained by DEPARTMENT for the term of the CONTRACT and for ten (10) years thereafter.

**MEDICARE ADVANTAGE Disenrollment Record Retention:** The DEPARTMENT’S record of PARTICIPANT’S election to disenroll must exist in a format that can be easily, accurately and quickly reproduced for later reference by each individual PARTICIPANT, the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR and/or CMS, as necessary, and be maintained by the DEPARTMENT for at least ten (10) years following the effective date of the PARTICIPANT’S disenrollment from the Plan.

**260H Disaster Recovery and Business Continuity**

The CONTRACTOR shall ensure that critical PARTICIPANT, provider and other web accessible and/or telephone-based functionality and information, including the website, are available to the applicable system users, except during periods of scheduled system unavailability agreed upon by the DEPARTMENT and the CONTRACTOR. Unavailability caused by events outside of the CONTRACTOR'S span of control is outside of the scope of this requirement. Any scheduled maintenance shall be scheduled in advance with notification on the PARTICIPANT website and web-portal.

**260I Other**

The CONTRACTOR shall not provide claims or other rating information to individual LOCAL EMPLOYERS participating in the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM.

Local governments seeking to participate in the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM are subject to group underwriting and may be assessed a surcharge based on their risk, which is passed on to the CONTRACTOR and DEPARTMENT'S pharmacy benefit manager.

**260J Gifts and/or Kickbacks Prohibited**

No gifts from the CONTRACTOR or any of the CONTRACTOR'S subcontractors are permissible to any EMPLOYEES whose work relates to the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM, or members of the BOARD. Neither the CONTRACTOR nor any of its subcontractors shall request or receive kickbacks.

**2605K Conflict of Interest**

During the term of this AGREEMENT, the CONTRACTOR shall have no interest, direct or indirect, that would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance of services required under this AGREEMENT.

Without limiting the generality of the preceding paragraph, the CONTRACTOR agrees that it shall not, during the initial AGREEMENT period and any extension thereof, acquire or hold any business interest that conflicts with the CONTRACTOR'S ability relating to its performance of its services under this AGREEMENT.

The CONTRACTOR shall not engage in any conduct which violates, or induces others to violate, the provision of the Wisconsin statutes regarding the conduct of public employees. If a BOARD member or an organization in which a BOARD member holds at least ten percent (10%) interest is a party to this AGREEMENT, then this AGREEMENT is voidable by the BOARD unless appropriate disclosure has been made to the Wisconsin Ethics Commission.

## 300 DELIVERABLES

### **305 Reporting Requirements**

As required by the CONTRACT, the CONTRACTOR must submit reports to the DEPARTMENT. Reports must be submitted by SECURE email to the DEPARTMENT, the DEPARTMENT'S sFTP site, or other method as specified by the DEPARTMENT, in the format and timeframe specified by the DEPARTMENT. The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to modify reporting requirements as deemed necessary to monitor the CONTRACT and programs.

Each report submitted by the CONTRACTOR to the DEPARTMENT must:

- Be verified by the CONTRACTOR for accuracy and completeness prior to submission;
- Be delivered on or before scheduled due dates;
- Be submitted as directed by the DEPARTMENT;
- Fully disclose all required information in a manner that is responsive and with no material omission; and
- Be accompanied by a brief narrative that describes the content of the report and highlights significant findings of the report.

Instructions and specific due dates will be provided by the DEPARTMENT annually.

Unless otherwise requested by the DEPARTMENT, each report must be specific to data from the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM, not general data from the CONTRACTOR'S book of business.

<b>1) Direct Pay Terminations Report</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR provides written notification to the DEPARTMENT within five (5) BUSINESS DAYS of receiving notice of cancellation from the SUBSCRIBER or within one (1) month of the effective date of termination due to non-payment of premium, whichever occurs first. <i>(See Section 250.)</i>
<b>Frequency</b>	See description
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>2) Claims Data Transfer to Data Warehouse</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits to the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse in the file format specified by the DEPARTMENT in the most recent Claims Data Specifications document, all claims processed for PARTICIPANTS. <i>(See Section 150C.)</i>
<b>Frequency</b>	Monthly
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>3) Customer Service Inquiry Report</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR must submit a report by month for a rolling twelve (12) month period showing the volume and type of inquiry with a break-down by topic. The report must



	include a comparison to the same month of the previous calendar year and illustrate trends. (See Section 260B.)
<b>Frequency</b>	Monthly
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>4) Provider Data Transfer to Data Warehouse</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits to the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse in the file format specified by the DEPARTMENT in the most recent Provider Data Specifications document, the specified data for all IN-NETWORK providers including subcontracted providers, and any OUT-OF-NETWORK providers for which the CONTRACTOR has processed or expects to process claims. (See Section 150C.)
<b>Frequency</b>	Monthly
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>5) Fraud and Abuse Review Results</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR performs QUARTERLY (unless another timeframe is agreed upon by the DEPARTMENT) fraud and abuse reviews and provides results of material findings to the DEPARTMENT. (See Section 155D.)
<b>Frequency</b>	Quarterly
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>6) Performance Standards Reports</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits all data and reports as required to measure performance standards specified in Section 315.
<b>Frequency</b>	Quarterly, unless otherwise noted
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>7) DEPARTMENT Initiatives</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR implements and reports on the DEPARTMENT Initiatives. Initiatives are subject to change, as determined by the DEPARTMENT, to better serve the needs of the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS. The current DEPARTMENT Initiatives are: Care Coordination, High Tech Radiology, Low Back Surgery, Shared Decision Making, Advance Care Planning, and Low-Value Care. (See Section 215B.)
<b>Frequency</b>	Semi-annually
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>8) Pilot Programs and Initiatives</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR reports to the DEPARTMENT any initiatives and pilot programs offered by the CONTRACTOR or the CONTRACTOR'S IN-NETWORK providers, including information on patient engagement and outcomes. (See Section 225, 5.)
<b>Frequency</b>	Semi-annually

<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>9) Taxable Income Report for PARTICIPANT Incentive Payments</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR reports, as directed by the DEPARTMENT, all incentive payments issued to PARTICIPANTS for DEPARTMENT distribution to EMPLOYER payroll centers for tax reporting purposes. (See Section 220L, 6.)
<b>Frequency</b>	Semi-annually
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>10) Business Recovery Plan and Simulation Report</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits to the DEPARTMENT a business recovery plan that is documented and tested annually, at a minimum. (See Section 145, 5.)
<b>Frequency</b>	Annually
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>11) CAHPS Survey Results Report</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits the results of its annual CAHPS survey to the DEPARTMENT. (See Section 225, 3, b.)
<b>Frequency</b>	Annually
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>12) Coordination of Benefits (COB) Report</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR collects from SUBSCRIBERS COB information necessary to coordinate BENEFITS under the Wisconsin Administrative Code and reports this information to the DEPARTMENT at least annually. (See Section 205E.)
<b>Frequency</b>	Annually
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>13) Disabled Adult Children Eligibility Verification Report</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR reports to the DEPARTMENT results from its process to verify the eligibility of adult disabled children age twenty-six (26) or older, which includes checking that the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child is incapable of self-support because of a disability that can be expected to be of long-continued or indefinite duration of at least one year; and,</li> <li>• Support and maintenance requirement is met; and,</li> <li>• Child is not married.</li> </ul> (See Section 205C.)
<b>Frequency</b>	Annually
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>14) Financial and Utilization Data Submission (Formerly Addendum 1)</b>	

<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits to the DEPARTMENT or its designee, as required by the DEPARTMENT, statistical report(s) showing financial and utilization data that includes claims and enrollment information. (See Sections 115, 11, and 130B or 130C.)
<b>Frequency</b>	Annually
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>15) Financial Stability Documentation</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits financial stability documentation, including a balance sheet, statement of operations and financial audit reports (i.e., an annual audited financial statement by a certified public account in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles). (See <a href="#">Section 155C.</a> )
<b>Frequency</b>	Annually
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>16) Grievance Summary Report</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR retains records of grievances and submits an annual summary to the DEPARTMENT of the number, types of grievances received, and the resolution or outcome. (See Section 115, 10.)
<b>Frequency</b>	Annually
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>17) Group Experience / Utilization Report</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR reports annually to the BOARD its utilization and disease management capabilities and effectiveness in improving the health of PARTICIPANTS and encouraging healthy behaviors, demonstrating support for technology and automation in the format as determined by the DEPARTMENT. The CONTRACTOR also includes details on the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM'S experience by disease and risk categories, place of services along with comparisons to aggregate benchmarks and any other measures the CONTRACTOR believes will be useful to DEPARTMENT staff and the BOARD in understanding the source of cost and utilization trends in a format as determined by the DEPARTMENT. (See Section 215A.)
<b>Frequency</b>	Annually
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>18) HEDIS Results Report</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits audited HEDIS data results for the previous calendar year for its commercial membership that includes HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS. (See Section 225, 3, a.)
<b>Frequency</b>	Annually
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>19) MAR Certification</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits a MAR Certification. (See Section 155C.)
<b>Frequency</b>	Annually

<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>20) Provider Contract Certification</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR must certify that their provider contracts meet the requirements in Section 230.
<b>Frequency</b>	Annually
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met
<b>21) CMS Star Ratings</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR submits CMS overall Star ratings and star ratings for each domain and each measure within each domain ( <i>See Section 225</i> ).
<b>Frequency</b>	Annually
<b>Penalty</b>	Twenty-five hundred (\$2,500) dollars per report or deliverable for which the standard is not met

### **310 Deliverables**

As required by the CONTRACT, the CONTRACTOR must provide deliverables specified in the sections below. Repeated or habitual failure to meet the deadlines as established may impact the CONTRACTOR'S ability to participate in the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM in future years.

#### **310A Deliverables to the Department**

*Instructions on submitting the deliverable and specific due dates will be provided by the DEPARTMENT annually.*

<b>1) Identification (ID) Card Issuance Delays</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR notifies the DEPARTMENT Program Manager of any delays with issuing the ID cards. ( <i>See Section 205A.</i> )
<b>Due</b>	Upon identification of issue
<b>2) ID Card Confirmation</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR sends a written confirmation to the DEPARTMENT Program Manager indicating the date(s) the ID cards were issued. ( <i>See Section 205A.</i> )
<b>Due</b>	January
<b>3) Key Contacts Listing (ET-1728)</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR provides the DEPARTMENT with contact information for the key staff, which the DEPARTMENT will share with EMPLOYERS. ( <i>See Section 260A.</i> )
<b>Due</b>	April, August
<b>4) Provider Network Submission for Upcoming Benefit Period</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR provides an annual provider submission to the DEPARTMENT containing their provider network for the upcoming benefit period. ( <i>See Section 230A.</i> )
<b>Due</b>	June
<b>5) Premium Rate Bid</b>	

<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR must submit rate bid(s) for the following benefit year as directed by the DEPARTMENT. The CONTRACTOR'S sealed bids are submitted in the format as specified by the DEPARTMENT. The BOARD will require each CONTRACTOR to provide an explanation of rate methodology and the rate calculation developed by the CONTRACTOR'S actuary or consultant along with supporting documentation deemed necessary by the BOARD'S consulting actuary. <i>(See Section 130B or Section 130C.)</i>
<b>Due</b>	June – July
<b>6) It's Your Choice Information</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits the following information to the DEPARTMENT, in the format as determined by the DEPARTMENT, for inclusion in the communications from the DEPARTMENT for the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CONTRACTOR information, including address, toll-free customer service telephone number, twenty-four (24)-hour nurse line telephone number, and web site address.</li> <li>• Content for the CONTRACTOR'S plan description page, including available features.</li> <li>• Information for PARTICIPANTS to access the CONTRACTOR'S provider directory on its web site, including a link to the provider directory.</li> </ul> <i>(See Section 140B, 2.)</i>
<b>Due</b>	July
<b>7) It's Your Choice Informational Materials Review</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits all informational materials intended for distribution to PARTICIPANTS during the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period to the DEPARTMENT for review and approval. <i>(See Section 140B, 3.)</i>
<b>Due</b>	July
<b>8) Copies of Materials</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits three (3) hard copies of all IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT materials in final form to the DEPARTMENT at least two (2) weeks prior to the start of the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period. <i>(See Section 140B, 4.)</i>
<b>Due</b>	September
<b>9) SUBSCRIBER Notification of Changes</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits the written notice that it will be issuing to PARTICIPANTS enrolled in its benefit plan(s) prior to the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period identifying those providers that will not be IN-NETWORK for the upcoming benefit period and including any language directed by the DEPARTMENT summarizing any BENEFIT or other HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM changes. <i>(See Section 140B, 1.)</i>
<b>Due</b>	September
<b>10) SUBSCRIBER Notification Confirmation</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits a written confirmation to the DEPARTMENT Program Manager indicating the date(s) the written notice described in item 9) above was issued. <i>(See Section 140B, 1.)</i>
<b>Due</b>	October
<b>11) Enrollment Discrepancy Tracker</b>	

<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR maintains an exception report spreadsheet that includes the error details and final resolution, and submits it to the DEPARTMENT. <i>(See Section 150B.)</i>
<b>Due</b>	As directed by the DEPARTMENT
<b>12) Enrollment Reconciliation Report</b> <i>Full File Compare (FFC)</i>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR assists with a FFC of enrollment by submitting a file to the DEPARTMENT containing current enrollment data. <i>(See Section 150B.)</i>
<b>Due</b>	As directed by the DEPARTMENT
<b>13) Web Content and Web-Portal Design and Changes</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits the web content and web-portal design for review, as directed by the DEPARTMENT. The CONTRACTOR notifies the DEPARTMENT Program Manager of any substantial changes being made to the website prior to implementation. <i>(See Section 260C.)</i>
<b>Due</b>	As directed by the DEPARTMENT
<b>14) Major Administrative and Operative System Changes</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR submits written notice to the DEPARTMENT at least one hundred eighty (180) DAYS prior to undertaking a major system change or conversion for, or related to, the system used to deliver services for the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM. <i>(See Section 145.)</i>
<b>Due</b>	As needed
<b>15) Notification of Account Manager or Key Staff Changes</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR notifies the DEPARTMENT if the Account Manager, backup or key staff changes. <i>(See Section 260A.)</i>
<b>Due</b>	As needed
<b>16) Notification of Legal Action</b>	
<b>Description</b>	If a PARTICIPANT files a lawsuit naming the CONTRACTOR as a defendant, the CONTRACTOR notifies the DEPARTMENT'S chief legal counsel within ten (10) BUSINESS DAYS of notification of the legal action. <i>(See Section 240J.)</i>
<b>Due</b>	As needed
<b>17) Notification of Privacy Breach</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR notifies the DEPARTMENT Program Manager and Privacy Officer within one (1) BUSINESS DAY of discovering that the protected health information (PHI) and/or personal identifiable information (PII) of one (1) or more PARTICIPANTS may have been breached, or has been breached, as defined by state and federal law, including <a href="#">Wis. Stat. § 134.98</a> , HIPAA, and GINA. <i>(See Department Terms and Conditions.)</i>
<b>Due</b>	As needed
<b>18) Notification of Significant Events</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR provides notification of all significant events as described in Section 115, 15.
<b>Due</b>	As needed
<b>19) External Review Determination</b>	

<b>Description</b>	Within fourteen (14) DAYS of the CONTRACTOR'S receipt of the notification of the external review's determination, the CONTRACTOR notifies the DEPARTMENT of the outcome. (See Section 240G.)
<b>Due</b>	See description
<b>20) Medicare Enrollment Denial</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR notifies the DEPARTMENT in writing if Medicare does not allow an enrollment due to a PARTICIPANT'S residence in a given area. The notification must be provided within five (5) BUSINESS DAYS of the later of receipt of the DEPARTMENT'S enrollment file or notification by Medicare. (See Section 220G.)
<b>Due</b>	See description
<b>21) Transition Plan</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR provides a comprehensive transition plan in a mutually agreed upon format that provides a timeline of major tasks and activities, including those identified by the DEPARTMENT. (See Section 155G.)
<b>Due</b>	Upon DEPARTMENT request, and prior to CONTRACT termination
<b>22) Approval of Communications</b>	
<b>Description</b>	Communication materials specified by the DEPARTMENT shall be pre-approved by the DEPARTMENT prior to distribution to PARTICIPANTS, potential PARTICIPANTS, and EMPLOYERS of the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM. This includes written and electronic communication, such as marketing collateral, informational notices, standard letters, summary plan descriptions, claim denials and appeals, and summary of BENEFITS and coverage. (See Sections 140A and 260C.)
<b>Due</b>	As needed
<b>23) CMS Model Output Report and Monthly Membership Reports</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR provides copies of CMS Model Output Reports or Monthly Membership Reports, including all fields as received from CMS. (See Section 150D.)
<b>Due</b>	As needed

### 310B Deliverables to Participants

<b>1) ID Cards</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR provides PARTICIPANTS with ID cards indicating, at a minimum, the EFFECTIVE DATE of coverage, and the emergency room and office visit copayment amounts, if applicable. (See Section 205A.)
<b>Due</b>	Upon enrollment and BENEFIT changes that impact the information printed on the ID cards
<b>2) PARTICIPANT Enrollment Information</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR provides the following information, at a minimum, to PARTICIPANTS upon enrollment:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information about PARTICIPANT requirements, including prior authorizations and referrals.</li> <li>Directions on how to access the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM provider directory on the CONTRACTOR'S website and directions on how to request a printed copy of the provider directory.</li> <li>Directions on how to change their Primary Care Provider.</li> <li>The CONTRACTOR'S contact information, including the dedicated toll-free customer service phone number, business hours, twenty-four (24)-hour nurse line, and website address.</li> </ul> <p>(See Section 205B.)</p>
<b>Due</b>	Upon enrollment
<b>3) SUBSCRIBER Notification of Changes</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR issues written notice to PARTICIPANTS enrolled in its benefit plan(s) prior to the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period identifying those providers that will not be IN-NETWORK for the upcoming benefit period and including any language directed by the DEPARTMENT summarizing any BENEFIT or other HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM changes. (See Section 140B, 1.)
<b>Due</b>	September
<b>4) PARTICIPANT Notification of Terminated Provider Agreement</b>	
<b>Description</b>	<p>At least thirty (30) DAYS prior to the termination of a provider agreement, or the closing of an IN-NETWORK clinic, provider location, or HOSPITAL during the benefit period, the CONTRACTOR sends written notification, as approved by the DEPARTMENT, to all PARTICIPANTS who have had services from that provider in the past twelve (12) months that includes the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How to find a new IN-NETWORK provider or facility,</li> <li>The continuity of care provision as it relates to this situation, and</li> <li>Contact information for questions.</li> </ul> <p>(See Section 230C.)</p> <p>The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR shall send the above written notification subject to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR receiving notification from the provider of their termination.</p>
<b>Due</b>	See description
<b>5) PARTICIPANT Notification of Grievance Rights</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR provides the PARTICIPANT with notice of their grievance rights and a period of ninety (90) DAYS to file a grievance after written denial of a BENEFIT or other occurrence of the cause of the grievance along with the Uniform Benefit contractual provision(s) upon which the denial is based. (See Section 240A or 240B.)
<b>Due</b>	See description
<b>6) PARTICIPANT Notification of DEPARTMENT Administrative Review Rights</b>	
<b>Description</b>	In the final grievance decision letter, the CONTRACTOR informs the PARTICIPANT of their right to request a DEPARTMENT review of the grievance committee's final decision and their right to request an external review in accordance with applicable federal or state law, using the language approved by the DEPARTMENT. (See Section 240D.)
<b>Due</b>	See description



<b>7) SUBSCRIBER Notification Upon Termination of Employment</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The CONTRACTOR provides the SUBSCRIBER written notification of how to enroll in a conversion policy set forth in <a href="#">Wis. Stat. § 632.897</a> , and/or a Marketplace plan, in the event of termination of employment. (See <i>Section 255C.</i> )
<b>Due</b>	See description
<b>8) Assignment of Primary Care Provider (PCP) or Primary Care Clinic (PCC)</b>	
<b>Description</b>	If a PARTICIPANT does not choose a PCP/PCC, or the PCP/PCC is no longer available, the CONTRACTOR assigns a PCP/PCC, notifies the PARTICIPANT in writing, and provides instructions for changing the assigned PCP/PCC. (See <i>Section 210.</i> )
<b>Due</b>	As needed
<b>9) Summary of Benefits and Coverage</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to require the CONTRACTOR to assist with drafting and mailing the federally required Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC) to PARTICIPANTS in a manner similar to the annual IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT materials mailing process. (See <i>Section 205B.</i> )
<b>Due</b>	As needed
<b>10) 1095-C</b>	
<b>Description</b>	The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to require the CONTRACTOR to assist with developing and mailing the federally required 1095-Cs. (See <i>Section 205B.</i> )
<b>Due</b>	As needed

### **315 Performance Standards and Penalties**

Performance standards are specific to data from the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM, not general data from the CONTRACTOR'S book-of-business. The CONTRACTOR must track performance using the template provided by the DEPARTMENT. The CONTRACTOR must submit reports and supporting documentation for validation as mutually agreed upon with the DEPARTMENT. The CONTRACTOR shall notify the DEPARTMENT upon realization that a standard will not be met, prior to the deadline.

The penalties assessed in [Section 150B](#) and [Section 315](#) shall not exceed three percent (3%) of the CONTRACTOR'S total medical premium in any given quarter. Performance standards will be measured by the DEPARTMENT on a QUARTERLY basis. The DEPARTMENT reserves the right to waive a penalty in certain circumstances when the DEPARTMENT determines it is warranted. The performance categories and associated penalty are shown below and explained in greater detail in the tables that follow:

#### **315A Claims Processing**

The CONTRACTOR shall report monthly values on a QUARTERLY basis for these standards.

Performance Standards	Penalties
<p><b>1) Processing Accuracy:</b> At least ninety-seven percent (97%) level of processing accuracy. Processing accuracy means all claims processed correctly in every respect, financial and technical (e.g., coding, procedural, system, payment, etc.), divided by total claims processed. (See Section 235.)</p>	<p>Five thousand (\$5,000) dollars for each percentage point for which the standard is not met in each month</p>
<p><b>2) Claims Processing Time:</b> At least ninety-five percent (95%) of all claims received must be processed within thirty (30) DAYS of receipt of all necessary information, except for those claims for which the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM is the secondary payer. (See Section 235.)</p>	

### 315B Customer Service

The CONTRACTOR shall report monthly values on a QUARTERLY basis for these standards.

Performance Standards	Penalties
<p><b>1) Call Answer Timeliness:</b> At least eighty percent (80%) of calls received by the CONTRACTOR'S customer service (during operating hours) during the measurement period were answered by a live voice within thirty (30) seconds. (See Section 260B.)</p>	<p>Five thousand (\$5,000) dollars for each percentage point for which the standard is not met in each month)</p>
<p><b>2) Call Abandonment Rate:</b> Less than three percent (3%) of calls abandoned, measured by the number of total calls that are not answered by customer service (caller hangs up before answer) divided by the number of total calls received. (See Section 260B.)</p>	
<p><b>3) Open Call Resolution Turn-Around-Time:</b> At least ninety percent (90%) of customer service calls that require follow-up or research will be resolved within two (2) BUSINESS DAYS of initial call. Measured by the number of issues initiated by a call and resolved (completed without need for referral or follow-up action) within two (2) BUSINESS DAYS, divided by the total number of issues initiated by a call. (See Section 260B.)</p>	
<p><b>4) Electronic Written Inquiry Response:</b> At least ninety-eight percent (98%) of customer service issues submitted by email and website are responded to within two (2) BUSINESS DAYS. (See Section 260B.)</p>	

### 315C Data Management

The DEPARTMENT will specify the timetable and dates for which the claims and provider data transfers must be provided.

Performance Standards	Penalties
<p><b>1) Claims Data Transfer:</b> The CONTRACTOR must submit on a monthly basis to the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse in the file</p>	<p>One thousand (\$1,000) dollars per</p>

Performance Standards	Penalties
format specified by the DEPARTMENT in the most recent Claims Data Specifications document, all claims processed for PARTICIPANTS. (See Section 150.)	DAY for which the standard is not met
<b>2) Provider Data Transfer:</b> The CONTRACTOR must submit on a monthly basis to the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse in the file format specified by the DEPARTMENT in the most recent Provider Data Specifications document, the specified data for all IN-NETWORK providers including subcontracted providers, and any OUT-OF-NETWORK providers for which the CONTRACTOR has processed or expects to process claims. (See Section 150.)	
<b>3) Data File Corrections:</b> Within two (2) BUSINESS DAYS of notification, unless otherwise approved by the DEPARTMENT in writing, the CONTRACTOR shall resolve any data errors on the file as identified by the DEPARTMENT'S data warehouse or the DEPARTMENT. (See Section 150.)	One thousand (\$1,000) dollars per DAY for which the standard is not met
<b>4) Notification of Data Breach:</b> The CONTRACTOR shall notify the DEPARTMENT Program Manager and Privacy Officer within one (1) BUSINESS DAY of discovering that the PHI and/or PII of one (1) or more PARTICIPANTS may have been breached, or has been breached. The CONTRACTOR is required to report using the form provided by the DEPARTMENT. (See Department Terms and Conditions.)	
<b>5) CMS Model Output Report (MOR):</b> The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR must provide a copy of any CMS MOR file including all fields as received from CMS, for the population served under this AGREEMENT to the DEPARTMENT. The MOR file must be provided upon request, no more often than annually and will be submitted within 30 days of request. (See Section 150.)	
<b>6) MEDICARE ADVANTAGE Monthly Membership Report (MMR):</b> The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR must provide a copy of the MMR file including all fields as received from CMS, for the population served under this AGREEMENT to the DEPARTMENT. The MMR file must be provided monthly by the end of the corresponding month. (See Section 150.)	

### 315D Enrollment

The CONTRACTOR shall report QUARTERLY any DAY for which any of the following standards are not met.

Performance Standards	Penalties
<b>1) Enrollment File:</b> The CONTRACTOR must accept an enrollment file update on a daily basis and accurately process the enrollment file additions, changes, and deletions within two (2) BUSINESS DAYS of the file receipt. Delays in processing the 834 file must be	One thousand (\$1,000) dollars per DAY for which the standard is not met

Performance Standards	Penalties
communicated to the DEPARTMENT Program Manager or designee within one (1) BUSINESS DAY. (See Section 150B)	
<p><b>2) Enrollment Discrepancies and Exceptions:</b> The CONTRACTOR must resolve all enrollment discrepancies (any difference of values between the DEPARTMENT'S database and the CONTRACTOR'S database) as identified within one (1) BUSINESS DAY of notification by the DEPARTMENT or identification by the CONTRACTOR. The CONTRACTOR must correct the differences on the exception report within five (5) BUSINESS DAYS of notification by the DEPARTMENT. (See Section 150B.)</p>	
<p><b>3) MEDICARE Disenrollment:</b> The MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR shall ensure that all PARTICIPANTS are enrolled in both MEDICARE PARTS A and B by the PARTICIPANT's coverage EFFECTIVE DATE. If a PARTICIPANT disenrolls from MEDICARE PARTS A or B after the EFFECTIVE DATE, the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR shall notify the DEPARTMENT on the day the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE CONTRACTOR identifies the PARTICIPANT as having disenrolled from PARTS A or B and the effective date. (See Section 125F.)</p>	
<p><b>4) ID Cards:</b> The CONTRACTOR shall issue ID cards within five (5) BUSINESS DAYS of the generation date of the enrollment file containing the addition or enrollment change, except as noted in item 4) below. (See Section 205A.)</p>	
<p><b>5) ID Cards for elections made during the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT Period:</b> The CONTRACTOR shall issue ID cards by December 15 (or a later date as approved by the DEPARTMENT) for enrollment additions or changes effective the following January 1 calendar year, as submitted on enrollment files generated on the first DAY of the IT'S YOUR CHOICE OPEN ENROLLMENT period through December 10. (See Section 205A.)</p>	
<p><b>6) Direct Pay Terminations:</b> The CONTRACTOR must provide written notification to the DEPARTMENT within five (5) BUSINESS DAYS of receiving notice of cancellation from the SUBSCRIBER or within one (1) month of the effective date of termination due to non-payment of premium, whichever occurs first. (See Section 255.)</p>	One thousand (\$1,000) dollars per DAY for which the standard is not met

### 315E Other

Performance Standards	Penalties
<p><b>1) Audit:</b> The CONTRACTOR shall address any areas of improvement as identified in the audit in the timeframe as determined by the DEPARTMENT. (See Section 155C.)</p>	One thousand (\$1,000) dollars per DAY for which the standard is not met
<p><b>2) Major System Changes and Conversions:</b> The CONTRACTOR shall verify and commit that during the length of the contract, it shall</p>	

Performance Standards	Penalties
not undertake a major system change or conversion for, or related to, the system used to deliver services for the HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM without specific prior written notice of at least one hundred-eighty (180) days to the DEPARTMENT. <i>(See Section 145.)</i>	
<b>3) Non-Disclosure:</b> The CONTRACTOR shall not use or disclose names, addresses, or other data for any purpose other than specifically provided for in the CONTRACT. <i>(See Section 115, 20.)</i>	Five thousand (\$5,000) dollars per incident
<b>4) Implementation and Go-Live Dates:</b> All services shall take effective/"go live" and be fully operational on the due date specified in the Implementation Plan. <i>(See Section 160l.)</i>	Two hundred thousand (\$200,000) dollars for the first (1 <sup>st</sup> ) DAY and twenty thousand (\$20,000) dollars for each subsequent DAY past the deadline that services are not fully operational

## 400 UNIFORM BENEFITS

**NOTE: Uniform Benefits are reviewed and updated annually. These Uniform Benefits will be updated with any benefit changes approved by the Group Insurance Board for 2018.**

These are the Uniform Benefits or “Summary Plan Description” offered under the Health Benefit Program.

This Section 400 is often excerpted and provided to PARTICIPANTS as their Summary Plan Description.

The contractor shall not alter the language, benefits or exclusions and limitations, herein.

These Uniform Benefits are provided to SUBSCRIBERS via the It’s Your Choice materials as their Summary Plan Description. Included in this section is a set of definitions which is specific to Uniform Benefits. The contractor does not need to recreate the description of benefits nor distribute it to PARTICIPANTS.

These Uniform Benefits are provided to a SUBSCRIBER who is a retired public employee under [Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(25\) \(b\) 11](#), or any DEPENDENT of such an employee, and, if eligible, has acted under [Wis. Stat. § 40.51 \(10\)](#) to elect group health insurance coverage. SUBSCRIBERS or DEPENDENTS who are ineligible and unenrolled in Medicare may join Program Option 16. SUBSCRIBERS or DEPENDENTS who are eligible and enrolled in Medicare may join Program Option 12. Benefits will be provided to SUBSCRIBERS via the Local Annuitant Health Program (LAHP) materials.

## **I. Definitions**

The following terms, when used and capitalized in this Uniform Benefits description in [Section 400](#), are defined and limited to that meaning only:

**ADVANCE CARE PLANNING:** A process across time of understanding, reflecting on and discussing future medical decisions, including end-of-life preferences. ADVANCE CARE PLANNING includes:

- 1) Understanding the PARTICIPANT'S health care treatment options.
- 2) Clarifying the PARTICIPANT'S health care goals.
- 3) Weighing the PARTICIPANT'S options about what kind of care and treatment the PARTICIPANT would want or not want.
- 4) Making decisions about whether the PARTICIPANT wants to appoint a health care agent and/or complete an advance directive.
- 5) Communicating the PARTICIPANT'S wishes and any documents with the PARTICIPANT'S family, friends, clergy, other advisors and physician and other health care professionals.

**ALLOWED AMOUNT:** Means the maximum amount on which payment is based for covered health care services. Generally, this is composed of the PROVIDER'S CHARGE, less any discount negotiated by the HEALTH PLAN.

**BED AND BOARD:** Means all usual and customary and/or negotiated HOSPITAL CHARGES for: (a) Room and meals; and (b) all general care needed by registered bed patients.

**BENEFIT PERIOD:** Means the total duration of CONFINEMENTS that are separated from each other by less than 60 days.

**BENEFIT PLAN:** Means the package of coverage and cost-sharing levels that the SUBSCRIBER is enrolled in under the State of Wisconsin Group Benefit Program.

**CHARGE:** An amount for a health care service from a PROVIDER that is reasonable, as determined by the HEALTH PLAN. The HEALTH PLAN considers, as part of determination of CHARGE:

- 1) Amounts charged for similar health care services in the same general area under comparable circumstances,
- 2) the HEALTH PLAN'S methodology guidelines,
- 3) pricing guidelines of any third party responsible for pricing a claim,
- 4) the negotiated rate determined between the HEALTH PLAN and an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER, and

5) other factors.

The term “area” means a county or other geographical area which the HEALTH PLAN determines is appropriate to obtain a representative cross section of amounts. For example, the “area” may be an entire state.

In some cases, the amount the HEALTH PLAN determines as reasonable may be less than the amount billed. CHARGES for HOSPITAL or other CONFINEMENTS are incurred on the date of admission. All others are incurred on the date the PARTICIPANT receives the health care service. CHARGE includes all taxes for which a PARTICIPANT can legally be charged, including but not limited to, sales tax.

**CONFINEMENT/CONFINED:** Means (a) the period of time between admission as an inpatient or outpatient to a HOSPITAL, covered residential center, SKILLED NURSING FACILITY or licensed ambulatory surgical center on the advice of the PARTICIPANT’S physician; and discharge therefrom, or (b) the time spent receiving EMERGENCY care for ILLNESS or INJURY in a HOSPITAL. HOSPITAL swing bed CONFINEMENT is considered the same as CONFINEMENT in a SKILLED NURSING FACILITY. If the PARTICIPANT is transferred or discharged to another facility for continued treatment of the same or related condition, it is one CONFINEMENT. CHARGES for HOSPITAL or other institutional CONFINEMENTS are incurred on the date of admission. The benefit levels that apply on the HOSPITAL admission date apply to the CHARGES for the covered expenses incurred for the entire CONFINEMENT regardless of changes in benefit levels during the CONFINEMENT.

**CONGENITAL:** Means a condition which exists at birth.

**COINSURANCE:** A specified percentage of the CHARGES that the PARTICIPANT or family must pay each time those covered services are provided, subject to any limits specified in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

**COPAYMENT:** A specified dollar amount that the PARTICIPANT or family must pay each time those covered services are provided, subject to any limits specified in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

**CUSTODIAL CARE:** Provision of room and board, nursing care, personal care or other care designed to assist an individual who, in the opinion of an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER, has reached the maximum level of recovery. CUSTODIAL CARE is provided to patients who need a protected, monitored and/or controlled environment or who need help to support the essentials of daily living. It shall not be considered CUSTODIAL CARE if the PARTICIPANT is under active medical, surgical or psychiatric treatment to reduce the disability to the extent necessary for the PARTICIPANT to function outside of a protected, monitored and/or controlled environment or if it can reasonably be expected, in the opinion of the IN-NETWORK PROVIDER, that the medical or surgical treatment will enable that person to live outside an institution. CUSTODIAL CARE also includes rest cures, respite care, and home care provided by family members.



**DEDUCTIBLE:** The amount the PARTICIPANT owes for health care services the PARTICIPANT'S BENEFIT PLAN covers before the BENEFIT PLAN begins to pay. For example, if the PARTICIPANT'S DEDUCTIBLE is \$1,500, the BENEFIT PLAN will not pay anything until the PARTICIPANT has incurred \$1,500 in out-of-pocket expenses for covered health care services subject to the DEDUCTIBLE. The DEDUCTIBLE may not apply to all services.

**DEPARTMENT:** Means the State of Wisconsin Department of Employee Trust Funds.

**DEPENDENT:** Means, as provided herein, the SUBSCRIBER'S:

- 1) Spouse.<sup>1</sup>
- 2) Child.<sup>2, 3, 4</sup>
- 3) Legal ward who becomes a permanent legal ward of the SUBSCRIBER or SUBSCRIBER'S spouse prior to age 19.<sup>2, 3, 4</sup>
- 4) Adopted child when placed in the custody of the parent as provided by [Wis. Stat. § 632.896](#).<sup>2, 3, 4</sup>
- 5) Stepchild.<sup>1, 2, 3, 4</sup>
- 6) Grandchild if the parent is a DEPENDENT child.<sup>2, 3, 4, 5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A spouse and a stepchild cease to be DEPENDENTS at the end of the month in which a marriage is terminated by divorce or annulment.

<sup>2</sup> All other children cease to be DEPENDENTS at the end of the month in which they turn 26 years of age, except when:

- a) An unmarried DEPENDENT child who is incapable of self-support because of a physical or mental disability that can be expected to be of long-continued or indefinite duration of at least one year is an eligible DEPENDENT, regardless of age, as long as the child remains so disabled and he or she is DEPENDENT on the SUBSCRIBER (or the other parent) for at least 50% of the child's support and maintenance as demonstrated by the support test for federal income tax purposes, whether or not the child is claimed. If the SUBSCRIBER should decease, the disabled adult DEPENDENT must still meet the remaining disabled criteria and be incapable of self-support. The CONTRACTOR will monitor eligibility annually, notifying the EMPLOYER and DEPARTMENT when terminating coverage prospectively upon determining the DEPENDENT is no longer so disabled and/or meets the support requirement. The CONTRACTOR will assist the DEPARTMENT in making a final determination if the SUBSCRIBER disagrees with the CONTRACTOR determination.
- b) After attaining age 26, as required by [Wis. Stat. § 632.885](#), a DEPENDENT includes a child that is a full-time student, regardless of age, who was called to federal active duty when the child was under the age of 27 years and while the child was attending, on a full-time basis, an institution of higher education.

<sup>3</sup> A child born outside of marriage becomes a DEPENDENT of the father on the date of the court order declaring paternity or on the date the acknowledgement of paternity is filed with the Department of Health Services (or equivalent if the birth was outside of Wisconsin) or the date of birth with a birth certificate listing the father's name. The EFFECTIVE DATE of coverage will be the date of birth if a statement or court order of paternity is filed within 60 days of the birth.

<sup>4</sup> A child who is considered a DEPENDENT ceases to be a DEPENDENT on the date the child becomes insured as an ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEE.

<sup>5</sup> A grandchild ceases to be a DEPENDENT at the end of the month in which the DEPENDENT child (parent) turns age 18.

**DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT:** See MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** The date, as certified by the DEPARTMENT (or as shown on the records of the HEALTH PLAN for PARTICIPANTS who pay premium directly to the HEALTH PLAN), on which the PARTICIPANT becomes enrolled and entitled to the benefits specified in the contract.

**ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEE:** As defined under [Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(25\)](#) or [40.02 \(46\)](#) or [Wis. Stat. § 40.19 \(4\) \(a\)](#), of an employer as defined under [Wis. Stat. § 40.02 \(28\)](#). Employers, other than the State, must also have acted under [Wis. Stat. § 40.51 \(7\)](#), to make health care coverage available to its employees.

**EMBEDDED:** Means the individual portion of PARTICIPANT financial responsibility (DEDUCTIBLE, OOP, MOOP) within the family's total financial responsibility. For example, when a PARTICIPANT within a family plan meets the individual DEDUCTIBLE, that PARTICIPANT is no longer responsible for any further DEDUCTIBLE. The remaining family DEDUCTIBLE will still apply to other family PARTICIPANTS.

**EMERGENCY:** Means a medical condition that manifests itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity, including severe pain, to lead a prudent layperson who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine to reasonably conclude that a lack of medical attention will likely result in any of the following:

- 1) Serious jeopardy to the PARTICIPANT'S health. With respect to a pregnant woman, it includes serious jeopardy to the unborn child.
- 2) Serious impairment to the PARTICIPANT'S bodily functions.
- 3) Serious dysfunction of one or more of the PARTICIPANT'S body organs or parts.

Examples of EMERGENCIES are listed in [Section III, A, 1, d](#). EMERGENCY services from an OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDER may be subject to USUAL AND CUSTOMARY CHARGES. However, the HEALTH PLAN must hold the PARTICIPANT harmless from any effort(s) by third parties to collect from the PARTICIPANT the amount above the USUAL AND CUSTOMARY CHARGES for medical/HOSPITAL services.

**EXPERIMENTAL:** The use of any service, treatment, procedure, facility, equipment, drug, device or supply for a PARTICIPANT'S ILLNESS or INJURY that, as determined by the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM: (a) requires the approval by the appropriate federal or other governmental agency that has not been granted at the time it is used; or (b) isn't yet recognized as acceptable medical practice to treat that ILLNESS or INJURY for a PARTICIPANT'S ILLNESS or INJURY. The criteria that the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM uses for determining whether or not a service, treatment, procedure, facility, equipment, drug, device or supply is considered to be EXPERIMENTAL or investigative include, but are not limited to: (a) whether the service, treatment, procedure, facility, equipment, drug, device or supply is commonly performed or used on a widespread geographic basis; (b) whether the service, treatment, procedure, facility, equipment, drug, device or supply is generally accepted to treat that ILLNESS or INJURY by the medical profession in the United States; (c) the failure rate and side effects of the service, treatment, procedure, facility, equipment, drug, device or supply; (d) whether other, more conventional methods of treating the ILLNESS or INJURY have been exhausted by the PARTICIPANT; (e) whether the service, treatment, procedure, facility, equipment, drug, device or supply is medically indicated; (f) whether the service, treatment, procedure, facility, equipment, drug, device or supply is recognized for reimbursement by MEDICARE, MEDICAID and other insurers and self-insured plans.

**FORMULARY:** Means a list of prescription drugs, developed by a committee established by the PBM. The committee is made up of physicians and pharmacists. The PBM may require PRIOR AUTHORIZATION for certain Preferred and NON-PREFERRED DRUGS before coverage applies. Drugs that are not included on the FORMULARY are not covered by the benefits of this program.

**GRIEVANCE:** Means a written complaint filed with the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM concerning some aspect of the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM. Some examples would be a rejection of a claim, denial of a formal REFERRAL, etc.

**HABILITATION SERVICES:** Means health care services that help a person keep, learn or improve skills and functioning for daily living. Examples include therapy for a child who isn't walking or talking at the expected age. These services may include physical and occupational therapy, speech-language pathology and other services for people with disabilities in a variety of inpatient and/or outpatient settings.

**HEALTH PLAN:** Means the health plan entity that is under contract with the Group Insurance Board to provide benefits and services to PARTICIPANTS of the State of Wisconsin Health Benefit Program.

**HIGH DEDUCTIBLE HEALTH PLAN (HDHP):** A benefit plan that, under federal law, has a minimum annual DEDUCTIBLE and a maximum annual OOP set by the IRS. An HDHP does not pay any health care costs until the annual DEDUCTIBLE has been met (with the exception of preventive services mandated by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act). The HDHP is designed to offer a lower monthly premium in turn for more shared health care costs.

**HOSPICE CARE:** Means services provided to a PARTICIPANT whose life expectancy is six months or less. The care is available on an intermittent basis with on-call services available on a 24-hour basis. It includes services provided in order to ease pain and make the PARTICIPANT as

comfortable as possible. HOSPICE CARE must be provided through a licensed HOSPICE CARE PROVIDER approved by the HEALTH PLAN.

**HOSPITAL:** Means an institution that:

- 1) Is licensed and run according to Wisconsin laws, or other applicable jurisdictions, that apply to HOSPITALS; (b) maintains at its location all the facilities needed to provide diagnosis of, and medical and surgical care for, INJURY and ILLNESS; (c) provides this care for fees; (d) provides such care on an inpatient basis; (e) provides continuous 24-hour nursing services by registered graduate nurses, or
- 2) qualifies as a psychiatric or tuberculosis HOSPITAL; (b) is a MEDICARE PROVIDER; and (c) is accredited as a HOSPITAL by the Joint Commission of Accreditation of HOSPITALS.

The term HOSPITAL does not mean an institution that is chiefly: (a) a place for treatment of chemical dependency; (b) a nursing home; or (c) a federal HOSPITAL.

**HOSPITAL CONFINEMENT** or **CONFINED IN A HOSPITAL:** Means (a) being registered as a bed patient in a HOSPITAL on the advice of an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER; or (b) receiving EMERGENCY care for ILLNESS or INJURY in a HOSPITAL. HOSPITAL swing bed CONFINEMENT is considered the same as CONFINEMENT in a SKILLED NURSING FACILITY.

**ILLNESS:** Means a bodily disorder, bodily INJURY, disease, mental disorder, or pregnancy. It includes ILLNESSES which exist at the same time, or which occur one after the other but are due to the same or related causes.

**IMMEDIATE FAMILY:** Means the DEPENDENTS, parents, brothers and sisters of the PARTICIPANT and their spouses.

**INJURY:** Means bodily damage that results directly and independently of all other causes from an accident.

**IN-NETWORK PROVIDER:** A PROVIDER who has agreed in writing by executing a participation agreement to provide, prescribe or direct health care services, supplies or other items covered under the policy to PARTICIPANTS. The PROVIDER'S written participation agreement must be in force at the time such services, supplies or other items covered under the policy are provided to a PARTICIPANT. The HEALTH PLAN agrees to give the PARTICIPANT lists of affiliated PROVIDERS. Some PROVIDERS require PRIOR AUTHORIZATION by the HEALTH PLAN in advance of the services being provided.

**MAINTENANCE CARE:** Means ongoing care delivered after an acute episode of an ILLNESS or INJURY has passed. It begins when a patient's recovery has reached a plateau or improvement in his/her condition has slowed or ceased entirely and only minimal rehabilitative gains can be demonstrated. The determination of what constitutes "MAINTENANCE CARE" is made by the HEALTH PLAN after reviewing an individual's case history or treatment plan submitted by a PROVIDER.

**MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT:** Means items which are, as determined by the HEALTH PLAN:

- 1) Used primarily to treat an ILLNESS or INJURY, and
- 2) generally not useful to a person in the absence of an ILLNESS or INJURY, and
- 3) the most appropriate item that can be safely provided to a PARTICIPANT and accomplish the desired end result in the most economical manner, and
- 4) prescribed by a PROVIDER.

**MEDICALLY NECESSARY:** A service, treatment, procedure, equipment, drug, device or supply provided by a HOSPITAL, physician or other health care PROVIDER that is required to identify or treat a PARTICIPANT'S ILLNESS or INJURY and which is, as determined by the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM:

- 1) Consistent with the symptom(s) or diagnosis and treatment of the PARTICIPANT'S ILLNESS or INJURY, and
- 2) appropriate under the standards of acceptable medical practice to treat that ILLNESS or INJURY, and
- 3) not solely for the convenience of the PARTICIPANT, physician, HOSPITAL or other health care PROVIDER, and
- 4) the most appropriate service, treatment, procedure, equipment, drug, device or supply which can be safely provided to the PARTICIPANT and accomplishes the desired end result in the most economical manner.

**MEDICARE:** Title XVIII (Health Insurance Act for the Aged) of the United States Social Security Act, as added by the Social Security Amendments of 1965 as now or hereafter amended.

**MEDICAID:** Means a program instituted as required by Title XIX (Grants to States for Medical Assistance Program) of the United States Social Security Act, as added by the Social Security Amendments of 1965 as now or hereafter amended.

**MISCELLANEOUS HOSPITAL EXPENSE:** Means usual and customary HOSPITAL ancillary CHARGES, other than BED AND BOARD, made because of the care necessary for an ILLNESS or other condition requiring inpatient or outpatient hospitalization for which benefits are available under this HEALTH PLAN.

**NATURAL TOOTH:** Means a tooth that would not have required restoration in the absence of a PARTICIPANT'S trauma or INJURY, or a tooth with restoration limited to composite or amalgam filling, but not a tooth with crowns or root canal therapy.

**NON-EMBEDDED:** Means that families must meet the full family amount before benefits are paid.

**NON-PARTICIPATING PHARMACY:** Means a pharmacy who does not have a signed written agreement and is not listed on the most current listing of the PBM'S directory of PARTICIPATING PHARMACIES.

**NON-PREFERRED DRUG:** Means a drug the PBM has determined offers less value and/or cost-effectiveness than PREFERRED DRUGS. This would include Non-Preferred GENERIC DRUGS, Non-Preferred BRAND NAME DRUGS and Non-Preferred SPECIALTY MEDICATIONS included on the FORMULARY, which are covered by the benefits of this program with a higher COPAYMENT.

**NUTRITIONAL COUNSELING:** This counseling consists of the following services:

- 1) Consult evaluation and management or preventive medicine service codes for medical nutrition therapy assessment and/or intervention performed by physician.
- 2) Re-assessment and intervention (individual and group).
- 3) Diabetes outpatient self-management training services (individual and group sessions).
- 4) Dietitian visit.

**MAXIMUM OUT-OF-POCKET LIMIT (MOOP):** Means the most the PARTICIPANT pays during a policy period (usually a calendar year) before the BENEFIT PLAN begins to pay 100% of the ALLOWED AMOUNT. This limit never includes premium, balance-billed charges or charges for health care that the BENEFIT PLAN does not cover. Note: payments for out-of-network services or other expenses do not accumulate toward this limit.

**OUT-OF-AREA SERVICE:** Means any services provided to PARTICIPANTS outside the SERVICE AREA.

**OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDER:** A PROVIDER who does not have a signed participating provider agreement and is not listed on the most current edition of the HEALTH PLAN'S professional directory of providers. Care from an OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDER may require PRIOR-AUTHORIZATION from the HEALTH PLAN unless it is EMERGENCY or URGENT CARE.

**OUT-OF-POCKET LIMIT (OOPL):** The most the PARTICIPANT pays during a policy period (usually a calendar year) for essential health benefits as defined by the Affordable Care Act before the BENEFIT PLAN begins to pay 100% of the ALLOWED AMOUNT. This limit never includes premium, balance-billed charges or charges for health care the BENEFIT PLAN does not cover. Note: payments for out-of-network services or other expenses do not accumulate toward this limit.

**PARTICIPANT:** The SUBSCRIBER or any of his/her DEPENDENTS who have been specified for enrollment and are entitled to benefits.

**PARTICIPATING PHARMACY:** Means a pharmacy who has agreed in writing to provide the services to PARTICIPANTS that are administered by the PBM and covered under the policy. The pharmacy's written participation agreement must be in force at the time such services, or other items covered under the policy are provided to a PARTICIPANT. The PBM agrees to give PARTICIPANTS lists of PARTICIPATING PHARMACIES.

**PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGER (PBM):** The PBM is a THIRD PARTY ADMINISTRATOR that is contracted with the Group Insurance Board to administer the prescription drug benefits under this health insurance program. It is primarily responsible for processing and paying prescription drug claims, developing and maintaining the FORMULARY, contracting with pharmacies, and negotiating discounts and rebates with drug manufacturers.

**POSTOPERATIVE CARE:** Means the medical observation and care of a PARTICIPANT necessary for recovery from a covered surgical procedure.

**PREFERRED DRUG:** Means a drug the PBM has determined offers more value and/or cost-effective treatment options compared to a NON-PREFERRED DRUG. This would include Preferred GENERIC DRUGS, Preferred BRAND NAME DRUGS and Preferred SPECIALTY MEDICATIONS included on the FORMULARY, which are covered by the benefits of this program.

**PREFERRED SPECIALTY PHARMACY:** Means a PARTICIPATING PHARMACY which meets criteria established by the PBM to specifically administer SPECIALTY MEDICATION services, with which the PBM has executed a written contract to provide services to PARTICIPANTS, which are administered by the PBM and covered under the policy. The PBM may execute written contracts with more than one PARTICIPATING PHARMACY as a PREFERRED SPECIALTY PHARMACY.

**PREOPERATIVE CARE:** Means the medical evaluation of a PARTICIPANT prior to a covered surgical procedure. It is the immediate preoperative visit in the HOSPITAL, or elsewhere, necessary for the physical examination of the PARTICIPANT, the review of the PARTICIPANT'S medical history and assessment of the laboratory, x-ray and other diagnostic studies. It does not include other procedures done prior to the covered surgical procedure.

**PRIMARY CARE CLINIC (PCC):** Means an IN-NETWORK clinic that can be named as the center where a PARTICIPANT'S PRIMARY CARE PROVIDERS are co-located.

**PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER (PCP):** Means an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER who is named as a PARTICIPANT'S primary health care contact. He/She provides entry into the health care system. He/She also (a) evaluates the PARTICIPANT'S total health needs; and (b) provides personal medical care in one or more medical fields. When medically needed, he/she then preserves continuity of care. He/She is also in charge of coordinating other PROVIDER health services and refers the PARTICIPANT to other PROVIDERS.

**PRIOR AUTHORIZATION:** Means obtaining approval from the HEALTH PLAN before obtaining the services. Unless otherwise indicated by the HEALTH PLAN, PRIOR AUTHORIZATION is required for care from any OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDERS unless it is an EMERGENCY or URGENT CARE. The PRIOR AUTHORIZATION must be in writing. PRIOR AUTHORIZATIONS are at the discretion of the HEALTH PLAN and are described in the It's Your Choice materials.

Some prescriptions may also require PRIOR AUTHORIZATION, which must be obtained from the PBM and are at its discretion.

**PROVIDER:** Means (a) a doctor, HOSPITAL, and clinic; and (b) any other person or entity licensed by the State of Wisconsin, or other applicable jurisdiction, to provide one or more benefits.

**REFERRAL:** When a PARTICIPANT'S PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER sends him/her to another PROVIDER for covered services. In many cases, the REFERRAL must be in writing and on the HEALTH PLAN PRIOR AUTHORIZATION form and approved by the HEALTH PLAN in advance of a PARTICIPANT'S treatment or service. REFERRAL requirements are determined by each HEALTH PLAN and are described in the It's Your Choice materials. The authorization from the HEALTH PLAN will state: a) the type or extent of treatment authorized; and b) the number of PRIOR AUTHORIZED visits and the period of time during which the authorization is valid. In most cases, it is the PARTICIPANT'S responsibility to ensure a REFERRAL, when required, is approved by the HEALTH PLAN before services are rendered.

**REHABILITATION SERVICES:** Means health care services that help a person keep, get back or improve skills and functioning for daily living that have been lost or impaired because a person was sick, hurt, or disabled. These services may include physical and occupational therapy, speech-language pathology and psychiatric REHABILITATION SERVICES in a variety of inpatient and/or outpatient settings.

**SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS:** The document that is issued to accompany this document which details specific benefits for covered services provided to PARTICIPANTS by the BENEFIT PLAN elected.

**SELF-ADMINISTERED INJECTABLE:** Means an injectable that is administered subcutaneously and can be safely self-administered by the PARTICIPANT and is obtained by prescription. This does not include those drugs delivered via IM (intramuscular), IV (intravenous) or IA (intra-arterial) injections or any drug administered through infusion.

**SERVICE AREA:** Specific zip codes in those counties in which the IN-NETWORK PROVIDERS are approved by the HEALTH PLAN to provide professional services to PARTICIPANTS covered by the Health Benefit Program.

**SHARED DECISION MAKING (SDM):** Means a program offered by a HEALTH PLAN or health care PROVIDER that PARTICIPANTS must complete when considering whether to undergo certain medical or surgical interventions. SDM programs are designed to inform PARTICIPANTS about the range of options, outcomes, probabilities, and scientific uncertainties of available treatment options so that PARTICIPANTS can decide the best possible course of treatment. The HEALTH PLAN or health care PROVIDER will provide the PARTICIPANT with written Patient Decisions Aids (PDAs) as part of the SDM program.

**SKILLED CARE:** Means medical services rendered by registered or licensed practical nurses; physical, occupational, and speech therapists. Patients receiving SKILLED CARE are usually quite ill and often have been recently hospitalized. Examples are patients with complicated diabetes, recent stroke resulting in speech or ambulatory difficulties, fractures of the hip and patients



requiring complicated wound care. In the majority of cases, SKILLED CARE is necessary for only a limited period of time. After that, most patients have recuperated enough to be cared for by "nonskilled" persons such as spouses, children or other family or relatives. Examples of care provided by "nonskilled" persons include: range of motion exercises; strengthening exercises; wound care; ostomy care; tube and gastrostomy feedings; administration of medications; and maintenance of urinary catheters. Daily care such as assistance with getting out of bed, bathing, dressing, eating, maintenance of bowel and bladder function, preparing special diets or assisting patients with taking their medicines; or 24-hour supervision for potentially unsafe behavior, do not require SKILLED CARE and are considered CUSTODIAL CARE.

**SKILLED NURSING FACILITY:** Means an institution which is licensed by the State of Wisconsin, or other applicable jurisdiction, as a SKILLED NURSING FACILITY.

**SPECIALTY MEDICATIONS:** Means medications that are used to treat complex chronic and/or life threatening conditions; are more costly to obtain and administer; may not be available from all PARTICIPATING PHARMACIES; require special storage, handling and administration; and involve a significant degree of patient education, monitoring and management.

**SUBSCRIBER:** An ELIGIBLE EMPLOYEE or annuitant who is enrolled for (a) single coverage; or (b) family coverage and whose DEPENDENTS are thus eligible for benefits.

**URGENT CARE:** Means care for an accident or ILLNESS which is needed sooner than a routine doctor's visit. If the accident or INJURY occurs when the PARTICIPANT is out of the SERVICE AREA, this does not include follow-up care unless such care is necessary to prevent his/her health from getting seriously worse before he/she can reach his/her PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER. It also does not include care that can be safely postponed until the PARTICIPANT returns to the SERVICE AREA to receive such care from an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER. Urgent services from an OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDER may be subject to USUAL AND CUSTOMARY CHARGES. However, the HEALTH PLAN must hold the PARTICIPANT harmless from any effort(s) by third parties to collect from the PARTICIPANT the amount above the USUAL AND CUSTOMARY CHARGES for medical/HOSPITAL services.

**USUAL AND CUSTOMARY CHARGE:** An amount for a treatment, service or supply provided by an OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDER that is reasonable, as determined by the HEALTH PLAN, when taking into consideration, among other factors determined by the HEALTH PLAN, amounts charged by health care PROVIDERS for similar treatment, services and supplies when provided in the same general area under similar or comparable circumstances and amounts accepted by the health care PROVIDER as full payment for similar treatment, services and supplies. In some cases the amount the HEALTH PLAN determines as reasonable may be less than the amount billed. In these situations the PARTICIPANT is held harmless for the difference between the billed and paid CHARGE(S), other than the COPAYMENTS or COINSURANCE specified on the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS, unless he/she accepted financial responsibility, in writing, for specific treatment or services (that is, diagnosis and/or procedure code(s) and related CHARGES) prior to receiving services. HEALTH PLAN approved REFERRALS or PRIOR AUTHORIZATIONS to OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDERS are not subject to USUAL AND CUSTOMARY CHARGES. EMERGENCY or urgent services from an OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDER may be subject to USUAL AND CUSTOMARY CHARGES, however, the HEALTH PLAN must hold the

PARTICIPANT harmless from any effort(s) by third parties to collect from the PARTICIPANT the amount above the USUAL AND CUSTOMARY CHARGES for medical/HOSPITAL/dental services.

## **II. Schedule of Benefits**

All benefits are paid according to the terms of the contract between the HEALTH PLAN(S) and the Group Insurance Board. Uniform Benefits and this SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS are wholly incorporated in the contract. The SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS describes certain essential dollar or visit limits of coverage and certain rules, if any, the PARTICIPANT must follow to obtain covered services. In some situations (for example, EMERGENCY services received from an OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDER), benefits will be determined according to the USUAL AND CUSTOMARY CHARGE.

The Group Insurance Board contracts with a PBM to provide prescription drug benefits. The PBM is responsible for the prescription drug benefit as provided for under the terms and conditions of the Uniform Benefits for those who are COVERED under the State of Wisconsin Health Benefit Program.

This Summary Plan Description applies to services received from IN-NETWORK PROVIDERS. If any OUT-OF-NETWORK benefits are available, the PARTICIPANT will be provided with a supplemental SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS that will show the level of benefits for services provided by OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDERS. OUT-OF-NETWORK DEDUCTIBLE amounts do not accumulate to the IN-NETWORK OUT-OF-POCKET LIMIT (OOPL).

**Except as specifically stated for EMERGENCY and URGENT CARE (see Sections [III, A, 1](#) and [III, A, 2](#)), PARTICIPANTS do not have coverage for services from OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDERS unless a PARTICIPANT receives a PRIOR AUTHORIZATION from the HEALTH PLAN before such services are obtained.**

**The covered benefits are subject to the following:**

**State of Wisconsin:**

3) Non-MEDICARE Prime State PARTICIPANTS: DEDUCTIBLES, COINSURANCE and COPAYMENTS as described in this schedule for participants without MEDICARE<sup>1</sup>:

State of Wisconsin		
Benefits	PARTICIPANTS enrolled in the non-High DEDUCTIBLE Health Plan	PARTICIPANTS enrolled in the High DEDUCTIBLE Health Plan (HDHP)
Annual Medical <b>DEDUCTIBLE</b>  DEDUCTIBLE applies to annual OUT-OF-POCKET LIMIT (OOPL) and MAXIMUM OUT OF POCKET (MOOP).	\$250 individual/\$500 family.  The family DEDUCTIBLE is EMBEDDED.  Medical DEDUCTIBLE does not apply to office visit COPAYMENTS, preventive services* or prescription drugs.	\$1,500 per individual plan / \$3,000 per family plan  The family DEDUCTIBLE is NON-EMBEDDED and applies to prescription drugs.  Medical DEDUCTIBLE does not apply to preventive services*.
Annual Medical <b>COINSURANCE</b> <sup>2</sup>  COINSURANCE applies to OOPL and MOOP.	After DEDUCTIBLE: BENEFIT PLAN pays 90% / PARTICIPANT pays 10%.  Applies to medical services except for office visit COPAYMENTS, preventive services* or prescription drugs.	After DEDUCTIBLE: BENEFIT PLAN pays 90% / PARTICIPANT pays 10%.  Applies to medical services except for office visit COPAYMENTS, <b>Preventive Services</b> or prescription drugs.
Annual medical <b>OUT-OF-POCKET LIMIT (OOPL)</b>	\$1,250 individual / \$2,500 family limit except as described below <sup>3</sup> .  The OOPL is EMBEDDED.  Does not apply to prescription drugs. See separate prescription drug benefits for details. OOPL applies to MOOP.	After DEDUCTIBLE: \$2,500 per individual plan / \$5,000 per family plan.  The OOPL is NON-EMBEDDED.  Applies to prescription drugs.  HDHP OOPL is the plan MOOP.
Annual <b>MAXIMUM OUT-OF-POCKET (MOOP)</b>	\$6,850 individual / \$13,700 family limit.  The MOOP is EMBEDDED.	No additional MOOP beyond OOPL.
<b>Preventive Services</b> as required by federal law	No out of pocket costs.	No out of pocket costs.

<sup>1</sup> State of Wisconsin MEDICARE eligible annuitants and their MEDICARE eligible DEPENDENTS are limited to participation under the MEDICARE Prime PARTICIPANTS Uniform Benefits SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS. See Section 400.II.A 2).

<sup>2</sup> Separate COINSURANCE applies for DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL SUPPLIES.

<sup>3</sup> Level 3 prescription drug COINSURANCE will continue to be paid by the PARTICIPANT past the OOPL, to the federal MOOP.

State of Wisconsin		
Benefits	PARTICIPANTS enrolled in the non-High DEDUCTIBLE Health Plan	PARTICIPANTS enrolled in the High DEDUCTIBLE Health Plan (HDHP)
<p><b>Primary Care Office Visit<sup>4</sup></b></p> <p>COPAYMENT applies toward meeting the annual OOPL and MOOP.</p>	<p>PARTICIPANT pays \$15 COPAYMENT per visit.</p> <p>DEDUCTIBLE need not be met first. COPAYMENT does not apply to the DEDUCTIBLE.</p>	<p>PARTICIPANT pays the full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.</p> <p>After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays \$15 COPAYMENT per visit.</p>
<p><b>Telemedicine, telehealth, or e-visit service</b></p>	<p>No out of pocket costs.</p>	<p>PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.</p> <p>After DEDUCTIBLE: No out of pocket costs.</p>
<p><b>Specialist Office Visit / URGENT CARE Visit</b></p> <p>COPAYMENT applies towards meeting the annual OOPL and MOOP.</p>	<p>PARTICIPANT pays \$25 COPAYMENT per visit.</p> <p>DEDUCTIBLE need not be met first. COPAYMENT does not apply to the DEDUCTIBLE.</p>	<p>PARTICIPANT pays the full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.</p> <p>After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays \$25 COPAYMENT per visit.</p>
<p><b>Emergency Room Visit</b></p> <p>Copayment waived if admitted as an inpatient or for observation for 24 hours or longer.</p>	<p>PARTICIPANT pays \$75 COPAYMENT</p> <p>DEDUCTIBLE need not be met first. COPAYMENT does not apply to the DEDUCTIBLE.</p> <p>COPAYMENT applies to OOPL and MOOP.</p>	<p>PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.</p> <p>After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays \$75 COPAYMENT</p> <p>COPAYMENT applies to OOPL and MOOP.</p>
<p><b>ILLNESS/INJURY</b> related services beyond the office visit or Emergency Room visit</p>	<p>PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.</p> <p>After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.</p> <p>COINSURANCE applies to OOPL and MOOP.</p>	<p>PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.</p> <p>After DEDUCTIBLE PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.</p> <p>COINSURANCE applies to OOPL and MOOP.</p>

<sup>4</sup> See Section III. Benefits and Services for a list of example provider types considered to be Primary Care providers under this BENEFIT PLAN.

State of Wisconsin		
Benefits	PARTICIPANTS enrolled in the non-High DEDUCTIBLE Health Plan	PARTICIPANTS enrolled in the High DEDUCTIBLE Health Plan (HDHP)
<b>MEDICAL SUPPLIES, DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT</b> and Durable Diabetic Equipment and Related Supplies. <sup>56</sup>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to the OOP and MOOP.	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to the OOP and MOOP.
<b>Cochlear Implants for PARTICIPANTS <u>under age 18</u></b>  Includes all charges related to implant and follow-up training sessions.	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE. <sup>7</sup>  COINSURANCE applies to the OOP and MOOP.	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to the OOP and MOOP.
<b>Cochlear Implant Devices, Professional Surgery for Implantation, and Follow-Up Device Training for PARTICIPANTS <u>age 18 and older</u></b>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE <b>does not</b> apply to OOP or MOOP. <sup>8</sup>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to OOP and MOOP.
<b>Cochlear Implant HOSPITAL CHARGES for participants <u>age 18 and older</u></b>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to OOP and MOOP.	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to OOP and MOOP.

<sup>5</sup> Excludes hearing aids and cochlear implants for adults and dental implants.

<sup>6</sup> Includes intraoral splints for treatment of temporomandibular joint disorder.

<sup>7</sup> As required by [Wis. Stat. §632.895 \(16\)](#)

<sup>8</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) are not subject to ACA MOOP under Uniform Benefits.

State of Wisconsin		
Benefits	PARTICIPANTS enrolled in the non-High DEDUCTIBLE Health Plan	PARTICIPANTS enrolled in the High DEDUCTIBLE Health Plan (HDHP)
<b>Hearing Aids for PARTICIPANTS under age 18</b>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE. <sup>9</sup>  COINSURANCE applies to the OOP and MOOP.	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to the OOP and MOOP.
<b>Hearing Aids for PARTICIPANTS age 18 and older.</b>  LIMIT: One aid per ear no more than once every 3 years.  Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,000 per hearing aid. <sup>10</sup>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE <b>does not</b> apply to OOP or MOOP. <sup>11</sup>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to OOP.
<b>Diagnosis and Non-Surgical Treatment of Temporomandibular Joint Disorders<sup>12</sup></b>  Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,250 per PARTICIPANT per calendar year. <sup>13</sup>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE <b>does not</b> apply to OOP and MOOP.	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.
<b>Dental Implants</b>  Only covered following accident or INJURY.	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.

<sup>9</sup> As required by [Wis. Stat. §632.895 \(16\)](#)

<sup>10</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

<sup>11</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) are not subject to ACA MOOP under Uniform Benefits.

<sup>12</sup> Intraoral splints covered as DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT.

<sup>13</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

State of Wisconsin		
Benefits	PARTICIPANTS enrolled in the non-High DEDUCTIBLE Health Plan	PARTICIPANTS enrolled in the High DEDUCTIBLE Health Plan (HDHP)
Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,000 per tooth. <sup>14</sup>	After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE <b>does not</b> apply to OOPL and MOOP.	After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to OOPL and MOOP.
<b>Prescription Drugs</b>	See Uniform Pharmacy Benefits.	See Uniform Pharmacy Benefits.

4) MEDICARE Prime State PARTICIPANTS: DEDUCTIBLES, COINSURANCE and COPAYMENTS as described in this schedule for participants with MEDICARE as the primary payor.:

State of Wisconsin	
Benefits <sup>15</sup>	MEDICARE prime PARTICIPANTS
Annual Medical <b>DEDUCTIBLE</b>	None.
Annual Medical <b>COINSURANCE</b> <sup>16</sup>	None.
Annual medical <b>OUT-OF-POCKET LIMIT (OOPL)</b>	\$500 per PARTICIPANT. <sup>17</sup>
Annual <b>MAXIMUM OUT-OF-POCKET (MOOP)</b>	\$6,850 PARTICIPANT / \$13,700 family limit. <sup>18</sup>  The MOOP is EMBEDDED
<b>Preventive Services</b> as required by federal law	No out of pocket costs.
<b>Primary Care Office Visit</b> <sup>19</sup>	No out of pocket costs.

<sup>14</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

<sup>15</sup> State of Wisconsin MEDICARE eligible annuitants and their MEDICARE eligible DEPENDENTS are limited to participation under the MEDICARE Prime PARTICIPANTS Uniform Benefits SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

<sup>16</sup> Separate COINSURANCE applies for DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL SUPPLIES.

<sup>17</sup> OOPL only applies to DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL SUPPLIES.

<sup>18</sup> MOOP applies to all out of pocket costs, including covered prescription drugs as described in the Uniform Pharmacy Benefit.

<sup>19</sup> See Section III. Benefits and Services for a list of example provider types considered to be Primary Care providers under this BENEFIT PLAN.



<b>Telemedicine, telehealth, or e-visit service</b>	No out of pocket costs.
<b>Specialist Office Visit / URGENT CARE Visit</b>	No out of pocket costs.
<b>ILLNESS/INJURY</b> related services beyond the office visit or Emergency Room visit	No out of pocket costs.
<b>Emergency Room Visit</b>  Copayment waived if admitted as an inpatient or for observation for 24 hours or longer.	PARTICIPANT pays \$60 COPAYMENT.
<b>MEDICAL SUPPLIES, DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT</b> and Durable Diabetic Equipment and Related Supplies. <sup>2021</sup>	PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies toward OOP and MOOP.
<b>Cochlear Implants</b> for PARTICIPANTS <u>under age 18</u>  Includes all charges related to implant and follow-up training sessions	No out of pocket costs. <sup>22</sup>
<b>Cochlear Implant Devices, Professional Surgery for Implantation, and Follow-Up Device Training</b> for PARTICIPANTS <u>age 18 and older</u>	PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE <b>does not</b> apply to OOP or MOOP. <sup>23</sup>
<b>Cochlear Implant HOSPITAL CHARGES</b> for participants <u>age 18 and older</u>	No out of pocket costs.

<sup>20</sup> Excludes hearing aids and cochlear implants for adults and dental implants.

<sup>21</sup> Includes intraoral splints for treatment of temporomandibular joint disorder.

<sup>22</sup> As required by [Wis. Stat. §632.895 \(16\)](#)

<sup>23</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) are not subject to ACA MOOP under Uniform Benefits.

<b>Hearing Aids for PARTICIPANTS under age 18</b>	No out of pocket costs. <sup>24</sup>
<b>Hearing Aids for PARTICIPANTS age 18 and older.</b>  LIMIT: One aid per ear no more than once every 3 years.	PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE <b>does not</b> apply to OOPL or MOOP.  Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,000 per hearing aid. <sup>25</sup>
<b>Diagnosis and Non-Surgical Treatment of Temporo- mandibular Joint Disorders<sup>26</sup></b>	Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,250 per PARTICIPANT per calendar year. <sup>27</sup>  PARTICIPANT pays remaining out of pocket costs. Remaining costs <b>do not</b> apply to OOPL or MOOP.
<b>Dental Implants</b>  Only covered following accident or INJURY.	Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,000 per tooth. <sup>28</sup>  PARTICIPANT pays remaining out of pocket costs. Remaining costs <b>do not</b> apply to OOPL and MOOP.
<b>Prescription Drugs</b>	See Uniform Pharmacy Benefits.

<sup>24</sup> As required by [Wis. Stat. §632.895 \(16\)](#)

<sup>25</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

<sup>26</sup> Intraoral splints covered as DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT.

<sup>27</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

<sup>28</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

**Local / Wisconsin Public Employers (WPE):**

1) Program Option (PO) 2/12, and Medicare Prime PARTICIPANTS in PO 6/16 and PO 7/17:  
DEDUCTIBLES, COINSURANCE and COPAYMENTS as described in this schedule:

<b>Local / Wisconsin Public Employers (WPE)</b>	
<b>Benefits<sup>29</sup></b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS enrolled in Program Option (PO) 2/12 &amp; those enrolled in MEDICARE and PO6/16 or PO7/17</b>
Annual Medical <b>DEDUCTIBLE</b>	None.
Annual Medical <b>COINSURANCE<sup>30</sup></b>	None.
Annual medical <b>OUT-OF-POCKET LIMIT (OOPL)</b>	\$500 per PARTICIPANT.
Annual <b>MAXIMUM OUT-OF-POCKET (MOOP)</b>	\$6,850 PARTICIPANT / \$13,700 family limit.  The MOOP is EMBEDDED
Routine, <b>Preventive Services</b> as required by federal law	No out of pocket costs.
<b>Primary Care Office Visit<sup>31</sup></b>	No out of pocket costs.
<b>Telemedicine, telehealth, or e-visit service</b>	No out of pocket costs.
<b>Specialist Office Visit / URGENT CARE Visit</b>	No out of pocket costs.
<b>ILLNESS/INJURY</b> related services beyond the office visit or Emergency Room visit	No out of pocket costs.
<b>Emergency Room Visit</b>  Copayment waived if admitted as an inpatient or for observation for 24 hours or longer.	PARTICIPANT pays \$60 COPAYMENT.

<sup>29</sup> Wisconsin Public Employer MEDICARE eligible annuitants and their MEDICARE eligible DEPENDENTS are limited to participation under the PO2/12 Uniform Benefits SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

<sup>30</sup> Separate COINSURANCE applies for DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL SUPPLIES.

<sup>31</sup> See Section III. Benefits and Services for a list of example provider types considered to be Primary Care providers under this BENEFIT PLAN.

Local / Wisconsin Public Employers (WPE)	
<b>Benefits<sup>29</sup></b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS enrolled in Program Option (PO) 2/12 &amp; those enrolled in MEDICARE and PO6/16 or PO7/17</b>
<b>MEDICAL SUPPLIES, DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT and Durable Diabetic Equipment and Related Supplies.<sup>3233</sup></b>	PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies toward OOP and MOOP.
<b>Cochlear Implants for PARTICIPANTS <u>under age 18</u></b>  Includes all charges related to implant and follow-up training sessions	No out of pocket costs.
<b>Cochlear Implant Devices, Professional Surgery for Implantation, and Follow-Up Device Training for PARTICIPANTS <u>age 18 and older</u></b>	PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE <b>does not</b> apply to OOP or MOOP. <sup>34</sup>
<b>Cochlear Implant HOSPITAL CHARGES for participants <u>age 18 and older</u></b>	No out of pocket costs.
<b>Hearing Aids for PARTICIPANTS <u>under age 18</u></b>	No out of pocket costs. <sup>35</sup>
<b>Hearing Aids for PARTICIPANTS <u>age 18 and older</u>.</b>  LIMIT: One aid per ear once every 3 years.	PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE <b>does not</b> apply to OOP or MOOP. <sup>36</sup>  Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,000 per hearing aid. <sup>37</sup> PARTICIPANT pays any remaining cost out of pocket. Additional out of pocket cost <b>does not</b> apply to OOP or MOOP.
<b>Diagnosis and Non-Surgical Treatment of Temporo- mandibular Joint Disorders<sup>38</sup></b>	Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,250 per PARTICIPANT per calendar year <sup>39</sup> .

<sup>32</sup> Excludes hearing aids and cochlear implants for adults and dental implants.

<sup>33</sup> Includes intraoral splints for treatment of temporomandibular joint disorder.

<sup>34</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) are not subject to the ACA MOOP under Uniform Benefits.

<sup>35</sup> As required by [Wis. Stat. §632.895 \(16\)](#)

<sup>36</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) are not subject to the ACA MOOP under Uniform Benefits.

<sup>37</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

<sup>38</sup> Intraoral splints covered as DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT.

<sup>39</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

Local / Wisconsin Public Employers (WPE)	
<b>Benefits<sup>29</sup></b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS enrolled in Program Option (PO) 2/12 &amp; those enrolled in MEDICARE and PO6/16 or PO7/17</b>
	PARTICIPANT pays remaining out of pocket costs. Remaining costs <b>do not</b> apply to OOPL or MOOP.
<b>Dental Implants</b>  Only covered following accident or INJURY.	Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,000 per tooth. <sup>40</sup>  PARTICIPANT pays remaining out of pocket costs. Remaining costs <b>do not</b> apply to OOPL or MOOP.
<b>Prescription Drugs</b>	See Uniform Pharmacy Benefits.

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<sup>40</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

## 2) PO 4/14 PARTICIPANTS with either MEDICARE Prime or Non-MEDICARE:

<b>Local / Wisconsin Public Employers (WPE)</b>	
<b>Benefits</b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS enrolled in <u>PO4/14</u> including those enrolled in MEDICARE</b>
<b>Annual Medical DEDUCTIBLE</b>	\$500 individual / \$1,000 family.  DEDUCTIBLE applies to annual OUT-OF-POCKET LIMIT (OOPL).  The family DEDUCTIBLE is EMBEDDED.  Medical DEDUCTIBLE does not apply to <b>Preventive Services</b> or prescription drugs.
<b>Annual Medical COINSURANCE<sup>41</sup></b>	After DEDUCTIBLE: None.
<b>Annual medical OUT-OF-POCKET LIMIT (OOPL)</b>	\$500 per PARTICIPANT for DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT.
<b>Annual MAXIMUM OUT-OF-POCKET (MOOP)</b>	\$6,850 PARTICIPANT / \$13,700 family limit.  The MOOP is EMBEDDED
<b>Preventive Services</b> as required by federal law	No out of pocket costs.
<b>Primary Care Office Visit<sup>42</sup></b>	After DEDUCTIBLE: No out of pocket costs.
<b>Telemedicine, telehealth, or e-visit service</b>	After DEDUCTIBLE: No out of pocket costs.
<b>Specialist Office Visit / URGENT CARE Visit</b>	After DEDUCTIBLE: No out of pocket costs.
<b>ILLNESS/INJURY</b> related services beyond the office visit or Emergency Room visit	After DEDUCTIBLE: No out of pocket costs.
<b>Emergency Room Visit</b>	PARTICIPANT pays \$60 COPAYMENT.  After COPAYMENT: DEDUCTIBLE applies.  COPAYMENT applies to MOOP.
Copayment waived if admitted as an inpatient or	

<sup>41</sup> Separate COINSURANCE applies for DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL SUPPLIES.

<sup>42</sup> See Section III. Benefits and Services for a list of example provider types considered to be Primary Care providers under this BENEFIT PLAN.

Local / Wisconsin Public Employers (WPE)	
Benefits	PARTICIPANTS enrolled in <u>PO4/14</u> including those enrolled in MEDICARE
for observation for 24 hours or longer.	
<b>MEDICAL SUPPLIES, DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT</b> and Durable Diabetic Equipment and Related Supplies. <sup>4344</sup>	After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE. COINSURANCE applies to OOPL and MOOP.
<b>Cochlear Implants</b> for PARTICIPANTS <u>under age 18</u>  Includes all charges related to implant and follow-up training sessions	After DEDUCTIBLE: No out of pocket costs. <sup>45</sup>
<b>Cochlear Implant Devices, Professional Surgery for Implantation, and Follow-Up Device Training</b> for PARTICIPANTS <u>age 18 and older</u>	After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE. COINSURANCE <b>does not</b> apply to OOPL or MOOP. <sup>46</sup>
<b>Cochlear Implant HOSPITAL CHARGES</b> for participants <u>age 18 and older</u>	After DEDUCTIBLE: No out of pocket costs.
<b>Hearing Aids</b> for PARTICIPANTS <u>under age 18</u>	After DEDUCTIBLE: No out of pocket costs. <sup>47</sup>
<b>Hearing Aids</b> for PARTICIPANTS <u>age 18 and older</u> .	After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE. COINSURANCE <b>does not</b> apply to OOPL or MOOP. <sup>48</sup>  Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,000 per hearing aid. <sup>49</sup>

<sup>43</sup> Excludes hearing aids and cochlear implants for adults and dental implants.

<sup>44</sup> Includes intraoral splints for treatment of temporomandibular joint disorder.

<sup>45</sup> As required by [Wis. Stat. § 632.895 \(16\)](#).

<sup>46</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) are not subject to the ACA MOOP under Uniform Benefits.

<sup>47</sup> As required by [Wis. Stat. § 632.895 \(16\)](#).

<sup>48</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) are not subject to the ACA MOOP under Uniform Benefits.

<sup>49</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

Local / Wisconsin Public Employers (WPE)	
Benefits	PARTICIPANTS enrolled in <u>PO4/14</u> including those enrolled in <b>MEDICARE</b>
LIMIT: One aid per ear no more than once every 3 years.	
<b>Diagnosis and Non-Surgical Treatment of Temporo- mandibular Joint Disorders<sup>50</sup></b>	After DEDUCTIBLE: Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,250 for diagnostic procedures and nonsurgical treatment per PARTICIPANT per calendar year. <sup>51</sup>  PARTICIPANT pays remaining out of pocket costs. Remaining costs <b>do not</b> apply to OOPL or MOOP.
<b>Dental Implants</b>  Only covered following accident or INJURY.	After DEDUCTIBLE: Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,000 per tooth. <sup>52</sup>  PARTICIPANT pays remaining out of pocket costs. Remaining costs <b>do not</b> apply to OOPL and MOOP.
<b>Prescription Drugs</b>	See below.

<sup>50</sup> Intraoral splints covered as DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT.

<sup>51</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

<sup>52</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.



3) PO 6/16 PARTICIPANTS without MEDICARE:

<b>Local / Wisconsin Public Employers (WPE)</b>	
<b>Benefits<sup>53</sup></b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS enrolled in <u>PO6/16</u> who are not enrolled in MEDICARE</b>
Annual Medical <b>DEDUCTIBLE</b>  DEDUCTIBLE applies to annual OUT-OF-POCKET LIMIT (OOPL) and MAXIMUM OUT OF POCKET (MOOP).	\$250 individual/\$500 family.  The family DEDUCTIBLE is EMBEDDED.  Medical DEDUCTIBLE does not apply to office visit COPAYMENTS, preventive services* or prescription drugs.
Annual Medical <b>COINSURANCE<sup>54</sup></b>  COINSURANCE applies to OOPL and MOOP.	After DEDUCTIBLE: BENEFIT PLAN pays 90% / PARTICIPANT pays 10%.  Applies to medical services except for office visit COPAYMENTS, preventive services* or prescription drugs.
Annual medical <b>OUT-OF-POCKET LIMIT (OOPL)</b>	\$1,250 individual / \$2,500 family limit except as described below <sup>55</sup> .  The OOPL is EMBEDDED.  Does not apply to prescription drugs. See separate prescription drug benefits for details. OOPL applies to MOOP.
Annual <b>MAXIMUM OUT-OF-POCKET (MOOP)</b>	\$6,850 individual / \$13,700 family limit.  The MOOP is EMBEDDED.
<b>Preventive Services</b> as required by federal law	No out of pocket costs.
<b>Primary Care Office Visit<sup>56</sup></b>  COPAYMENT applies toward meeting the annual OOPL and MOOP.	PARTICIPANT pays \$15 COPAYMENT per visit.  DEDUCTIBLE need not be met first. COPAYMENT does not apply to the DEDUCTIBLE.
<b>Telemedicine, telehealth, or e-visit service</b>	No out of pocket costs.

<sup>53</sup> Wisconsin Public Employer MEDICARE eligible annuitants and their MEDICARE eligible DEPENDENTS are limited to participation under the PO2/12 Uniform Benefits SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

<sup>54</sup> Separate COINSURANCE applies for DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT and MEDICAL SUPPLIES.

<sup>55</sup> Level 3 prescription drug COINSURANCE will continue to be paid by the PARTICIPANT past the OOPL, to the federal MOOP.

<sup>56</sup> See Section III. Benefits and Services for a list of example provider types considered to be Primary Care providers under this BENEFIT PLAN.

Local / Wisconsin Public Employers (WPE)	
<b>Benefits<sup>53</sup></b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS enrolled in <u>PO6/16</u> who are not enrolled in MEDICARE</b>
<b>Specialist Office Visit / URGENT CARE Visit</b>  COPAYMENT applies towards meeting the annual OOPL and MOOP.	PARTICIPANT pays \$25 COPAYMENT per visit.  DEDUCTIBLE need not be met first. COPAYMENT does not apply to the DEDUCTIBLE.
<b>Emergency Room Visit</b>  Copayment waived if admitted as an inpatient or for observation for 24 hours or longer.	PARTICIPANT pays \$75 COPAYMENT  DEDUCTIBLE need not be met first. COPAYMENT does not apply to the DEDUCTIBLE.  COPAYMENT applies to OOPL and MOOP.
<b>ILLNESS/INJURY</b> related services beyond the office visit or Emergency Room visit	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to OOPL and MOOP.
<b>MEDICAL SUPPLIES, DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT</b> and Durable Diabetic Equipment and Related Supplies. <sup>5758</sup>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to the OOPL and MOOP.
<b>Cochlear Implants</b> for PARTICIPANTS <b><u>under age 18</u></b>  Includes all charges related to implant and follow-up training sessions.	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE. <sup>59</sup>  COINSURANCE applies to the OOPL and MOOP.
<b>Cochlear Implant Devices, Professional Surgery for Implantation, and Follow-Up Device Training</b> for PARTICIPANTS <b><u>age 18 and older</u></b>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE <b><u>does not</u></b> apply to OOPL or MOOP. <sup>60</sup>
<b>Cochlear Implant HOSPITAL CHARGES</b> for participants <b><u>age 18 and older</u></b>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to OOPL and MOOP.

<sup>57</sup> Excludes hearing aids and cochlear implants for adults and dental implants.

<sup>58</sup> Includes intraoral splints for treatment of temporomandibular joint disorder.

<sup>59</sup> As required by [Wis. Stat. §632.895 \(16\)](#)

<sup>60</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) are not subject to ACA MOOP under Uniform Benefits.

<b>Local / Wisconsin Public Employers (WPE)</b>	
<b>Benefits<sup>53</sup></b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS enrolled in <u>PO6/16</u> who are not enrolled in MEDICARE</b>
<b>Hearing Aids for PARTICIPANTS under age 18</b>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met. After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE. <sup>61</sup> COINSURANCE applies to the OOP and MOOP.
<b>Hearing Aids for PARTICIPANTS age 18 and older.</b>  LIMIT: One aid per ear no more than once every 3 years.  Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,000 per hearing aid. <sup>62</sup>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met. After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE. COINSURANCE <b>does not</b> apply to OOP or MOOP. <sup>63</sup>
<b>Diagnosis and Non-Surgical Treatment of Temporomandibular Joint Disorders<sup>64</sup></b>  Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,250 per PARTICIPANT per calendar year. <sup>65</sup>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met. After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE. COINSURANCE <b>does not</b> apply to OOP and MOOP.
<b>Dental Implants</b>  Only covered following accident or INJURY.  Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,000 per tooth. <sup>66</sup>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met. After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE. COINSURANCE <b>does not</b> apply to OOP and MOOP.
<b>Prescription Drugs</b>	See Uniform Pharmacy Benefits.

<sup>61</sup> As required by [Wis. Stat. §632.895 \(16\)](#)

<sup>62</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

<sup>63</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) are not subject to ACA MOOP under Uniform Benefits.

<sup>64</sup> Intraoral splints covered as DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT.

<sup>65</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

<sup>66</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

4) PO 7/17 PARTICIPANTS without MEDICARE:

<b>Benefits<sup>67</sup></b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS enrolled in <u>PO7/17</u> - High DEDUCTIBLE Health Plan (HDHP) who are not enrolled in MEDICARE</b>
<b>Annual Medical DEDUCTIBLE</b>  DEDUCTIBLE applies to annual OUT-OF-POCKET LIMIT (OOP) and MAXIMUM OUT OF POCKET (MOOP).	\$1,500 per individual plan / \$3,000 per family plan  The family DEDUCTIBLE is NON-EMBEDDED and applies to prescription drugs.  Medical DEDUCTIBLE does not apply to preventive services*.
<b>Annual Medical COINSURANCE</b>  COINSURANCE applies to OOP and MOOP.	After DEDUCTIBLE: BENEFIT PLAN pays 90% / PARTICIPANT pays 10%.  Applies to medical services except for office visit COPAYMENTS, <b>Preventive Services</b> or prescription drugs.
<b>Annual medical OUT-OF-POCKET LIMIT (OOP)</b>	After DEDUCTIBLE: \$2,500 per individual plan / \$5,000 per family plan.  The OOP is NON-EMBEDDED.  Applies to prescription drugs.  HDHP OOP is the plan MOOP.
<b>Annual MAXIMUM OUT-OF-POCKET (MOOP)</b>	No additional MOOP beyond OOP.
<b>Preventive Services</b> as required by federal law	No out of pocket costs.
<b>Primary Care Office Visit<sup>68</sup></b>  COPAYMENT applies toward meeting the annual OOP and MOOP.	PARTICIPANT pays the full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays \$15 COPAYMENT per visit.
<b>Telemedicine, telehealth, or e-visit service</b>	PARTICIPANT pays the full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: No out of pocket costs.
<b>Specialist Office Visit / URGENT CARE Visit</b>	PARTICIPANT pays the full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays \$25 COPAYMENT per visit.

<sup>67</sup> Wisconsin Public Employer MEDICARE eligible annuitants and their MEDICARE eligible DEPENDENTS are limited to participation under the PO2/12 Uniform Benefits SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.

<sup>68</sup> See Section III. Benefits and Services for a list of example provider types considered to be Primary Care providers under this BENEFIT PLAN.

<b>Benefits<sup>67</sup></b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS enrolled in <u>PO7/17</u> - High DEDUCTIBLE Health Plan (HDHP) who are not enrolled in MEDICARE</b>
COPAYMENT applies towards meeting the annual OOPL and MOOP.	
<b>Emergency Room Visit</b>  Copayment waived if admitted as an inpatient or for observation for 24 hours or longer.	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays \$75 COPAYMENT  COPAYMENT applies to OOPL and MOOP.
<b>ILLNESS/INJURY</b> related services beyond the office visit or Emergency Room visit	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to OOPL and MOOP.
<b>MEDICAL SUPPLIES, DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT</b> and Durable Diabetic Equipment and Related Supplies. <sup>6970</sup>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to the OOPL and MOOP.
<b>Cochlear Implants</b> for PARTICIPANTS <b><u>under age 18</u></b>  Includes all charges related to implant and follow-up training sessions.	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to the OOPL and MOOP.
<b>Cochlear Implant Devices, Professional Surgery for Implantation, and Follow-Up Device Training</b> for PARTICIPANTS <b><u>age 18 and older</u></b>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to OOPL and MOOP.
<b>Cochlear Implant HOSPITAL CHARGES</b> for participants <b><u>age 18 and older</u></b>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to OOPL and MOOP.
<b>Hearing Aids</b> for PARTICIPANTS <b><u>under age 18</u></b>	PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.  After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.  COINSURANCE applies to the OOPL and MOOP.

<sup>69</sup> Excludes hearing aids and cochlear implants for adults and dental implants.

<sup>70</sup> Includes intraoral splints for treatment of temporomandibular joint disorder.

<b>Benefits<sup>67</sup></b>	<b>PARTICIPANTS enrolled in <u>PO7/17</u> - High DEDUCTIBLE Health Plan (HDHP) who are not enrolled in MEDICARE</b>
<p><b>Hearing Aids</b> for PARTICIPANTS <b>age 18 and older</b>.</p> <p>LIMIT: One aid per ear no more than once every 3 years.</p> <p>Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,000 per hearing aid.<sup>71</sup></p>	<p>PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.</p> <p>After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 20% COINSURANCE.</p> <p>COINSURANCE applies to OOPL.</p>
<p><b>Diagnosis and Non-Surgical Treatment of Temporo- mandibular Joint Disorders<sup>72</sup></b></p> <p>Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,250 per PARTICIPANT per calendar year.<sup>73</sup></p>	<p>PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.</p> <p>After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.</p>
<p><b>Dental Implants</b></p> <p>Only covered following accident or INJURY.</p> <p>Maximum BENEFIT PLAN payment of \$1,000 per tooth.<sup>74</sup></p>	<p>PARTICIPANT pays full allowed cost until the DEDUCTIBLE is met.</p> <p>After DEDUCTIBLE: PARTICIPANT pays 10% COINSURANCE.</p> <p>COINSURANCE applies to OOPL and MOOP.</p>
<p><b>Prescription Drugs</b></p>	<p>See Uniform Pharmacy Benefits.</p>

<sup>71</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

<sup>72</sup> Intraoral splints covered as DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT.

<sup>73</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

<sup>74</sup> Services not defined as Essential Health Benefits under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) may be subject to annual benefit maximums.

### **III. Benefits and Services**

The benefits and services provided under the Health Benefit Program are those set forth below. These services and benefits are available only if they are received after the PARTICIPANT'S EFFECTIVE DATE.

HOSPITAL services must be provided by an IN-NETWORK HOSPITAL. In the case of non-EMERGENCY care, the HEALTH PLAN reserves the right to determine in a reasonable manner the PROVIDER to be used. In cases of EMERGENCY or URGENT CARE services, IN-NETWORK PROVIDERS and HOSPITALS must be used whenever possible and reasonable (see [item A, 1](#) and [item A, 2](#) below). However, the HEALTH PLAN must hold the PARTICIPANT harmless from any effort(s) by third parties to collect from the PARTICIPANT the amount above the USUAL AND CUSTOMARY CHARGES for medical/HOSPITAL services.

**Except as specifically stated for EMERGENCY and URGENT CARE, PARTICIPANTS must receive the HEALTH PLAN'S written PRIOR AUTHORIZATION for covered services from an OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDER or PARTICIPANTS will be financially responsible for the services.** The HEALTH PLAN may also require PRIOR AUTHORIZATION for other services or they will not be covered.

Subject to the terms and conditions outlined herein and the attached SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS, a PARTICIPANT, in consideration of the employer's payment of the applicable HEALTH PLAN and PBM premium, shall be entitled to the benefits and services described below.

Benefits are subject to: (a) Any COPAYMENT, COINSURANCE and other limitations shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS; and (b) all other terms and conditions outlined in this Uniform Benefits description. All services must be MEDICALLY NECESSARY, as determined by the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM.

There is no lifetime maximum benefit on any Medical or Pharmacy service.

#### **A. Medical/Surgical Services**

- 1) Primary Care
  - a) Medical care provided per the definition of PCP in Section I.
  - b) A PCP may be any one of the following types of providers:
    - i) Family Practice
    - ii) General Practice
    - iii) Internal Medicine
    - iv) Gynecology/Obstetrics
    - v) Pediatrics
    - vi) Midwives (if HEALTH PLAN offers)
    - vii) Nurse Practitioners
    - viii) Physician Assistants
    - ix) Chiropractors
    - x) Mental Health
    - xi) Physical Therapy
    - xii) Occupational Therapy
    - xiii) Speech Therapy

- c) PARTICIPANTS must designate a PCP or PCC. PARTICIPANTS should select their PCP from the HEALTH PLAN's list of IN-NETWORK PROVIDERS. PARTICIPANTS may either name a PCP on their enrollment form or work with the HEALTH PLAN to designate a PCP or PCC.

2) EMERGENCY Care

- d) Medical care for an EMERGENCY, as defined in Section I. Refer to the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS for information on the EMERGENCY room COPAYMENT.
- e) PARTICIPANTS should use IN-NETWORK HOSPITAL EMERGENCY rooms whenever possible. If a PARTICIPANT is not able to reach an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER, they should go to the nearest appropriate medical facility.
- f) If a PARTICIPANT must go to an OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDER for care, it is recommended that the PARTICIPANT call the HEALTH PLAN as soon as possible and tell the HEALTH PLAN where the PARTICIPANT received EMERGENCY care. Non-urgent follow-up care must be received from an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER unless it is PRIOR AUTHORIZED by the HEALTH PLAN or it will not be covered. PRIOR AUTHORIZATIONS for the follow-up care are at the sole discretion of the HEALTH PLAN. In addition to the cost sharing described in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS, EMERGENCY care from OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDERS may be subject to USUAL AND CUSTOMARY CHARGES.
- g) It is recommended, to expedite claims processing, that PARTICIPANTS (or another individual on a PARTICIPANT'S behalf) notify the HEALTH PLAN of EMERGENCY or URGENT CARE OUT-OF-NETWORK HOSPITAL admissions or facility CONFINEMENTS by the next BUSINESS DAY after admission or as soon as reasonably possible. This will help to expedite claims payment. OUT-OF-AREA SERVICE means medical care received outside the defined SERVICE AREA.
- h) EMERGENCY services include reasonable accommodations for repair of DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT as MEDICALLY NECESSARY.
- i) Some examples of EMERGENCIES are:
  - i) Acute allergic reactions,
  - ii) Acute asthmatic attacks,
  - iii) Convulsions,
  - iv) Epileptic seizures,
  - v) Acute hemorrhage,
  - vi) Acute appendicitis,
  - vii) Coma,



- viii) Heart attack,
- ix) Attempted suicide,
- x) Suffocation,
- xi) Stroke,
- xii) Drug overdoses,
- xiii) Loss of consciousness, and
- xiv) Any condition for which a PARTICIPANT is admitted to the HOSPITAL as an inpatient from the EMERGENCY room.

### 3) URGENT CARE

- a) Medical care received in an URGENT CARE situation as defined in [Section II](#). URGENT CARE is not EMERGENCY care. It does not include care that can be safely postponed until the PARTICIPANT can receive care from an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER.
- b) PARTICIPANTS must receive URGENT CARE from an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER if the PARTICIPANT is in the SERVICE AREA, unless it is not reasonably possible. If a PARTICIPANT is out of the SERVICE AREA, the PARTICIPANT go to the nearest appropriate medical facility unless they can safely return to the SERVICE AREA to receive care from an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER. If the PARTICIPANT must go to an OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDER for care, it is recommended that they contact the HEALTH PLAN by the next BUSINESS DAY or as soon as possible and tell the HEALTH PLAN where the PARTICIPANT received URGENT CARE; this will expedite claims payment. URGENT CARE from OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDERS may be subject to USUAL AND CUSTOMARY CHARGES. Non-urgent follow-up care must be received from an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER unless it is PRIOR AUTHORIZED by the HEALTH PLAN or it will not be covered. PRIOR AUTHORIZATIONS for the follow-up care are at the sole discretion of the HEALTH PLAN.
- c) Some examples of URGENT CARE cases are:
  - i) Most broken bones,
  - ii) Minor cuts,
  - iii) Sprains,
  - iv) Most drug reactions,
  - v) Non-severe bleeding, and

vi) Minor burns.

4) Surgical Services

Surgical procedures, wherever performed, when needed to care for an ILLNESS or INJURY. These include:

a) PREOPERATIVE and POSTOPERATIVE CARE, and

b) Needed services of assistants and consultants.

This does not include oral surgery procedures, which are covered as described under [item 16](#) of this section.

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION is required for REFERRALS to orthopedists and neurosurgeons associated directly or indirectly with the HEALTH PLAN for any PARTICIPANT who has not completed an optimal regimen of conservative care for low back pain (LBP). PRIOR AUTHORIZATION is not required for a PARTICIPANT who presents clinical diagnoses that require immediate or expedited orthopedic, neurosurgical or other specialty REFERRAL. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE enrolled PARTICIPANTS.

PARTICIPANTS seeking surgical treatment of LBP must participate in a credible SHARED DECISION MAKING (SDM) program provided by the HEALTH PLAN or its contracted PROVIDERS consistent with the PRIOR AUTHORIZATION requirement. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE enrolled PARTICIPANTS.

5) Reproductive Services and Contraceptives

The following services do not require a REFERRAL to an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER who specializes in obstetrics and gynecology, however, the HEALTH PLAN may require that the PARTICIPANT obtain PRIOR AUTHORIZATION for some services or they may not be covered.

a) Maternity Services for prenatal and postnatal care, including services such as normal deliveries, ectopic pregnancies, cesarean sections, abortions allowable under Wis. Stats. §40.03(6)(m), and miscarriages. Maternity benefits are also available for a DEPENDENT daughter who is covered under this program as a PARTICIPANT. However, this does not extend coverage to the newborn if the DEPENDENT daughter is age 18 or older at the time of the birth. In accordance with the federal Newborns' and Mother' Health Protection Act, the inpatient stay will be covered for 48 hours following a normal delivery and 96 hours following a cesarean delivery, unless a longer inpatient stay is MEDICALLY NECESSARY. A shorter hospitalization related to maternity and newborn care may be provided if the shorter stay is deemed appropriate by the attending physician in consultation with the mother.

b) Elective sterilization.

c) Contraceptives as required by [Wis. Stat. § 632.895 \(17\)](#), including, but not limited to:

- i) Oral contraceptives, or cost-effective FORMULARY equivalents as determined by the PBM, and diaphragms, as described under the prescription drug benefit in [Section III, D](#).
- ii) IUDs and diaphragms, as described under the DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT provision in [item C, 3](#).
- iii) Medroxyprogesterone acetate injections for contraceptive purposes (for example, Depo Provera).

If the PARTICIPANT is in her second or third trimester of pregnancy when the PROVIDER'S participation in the BENEFIT PLAN offered by the HEALTH PLAN terminates, the PARTICIPANT will continue to have access to the PROVIDER until completion of postpartum care for the woman and infant. A PRIOR AUTHORIZATION is not required for the delivery, but the HEALTH PLAN may request notification of the inpatient stay prior to the delivery or shortly thereafter.

6) Medical Services

MEDICALLY NECESSARY professional services and office visits provided to inpatients, outpatients, and to those receiving home care services by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER (or a PROVIDER that was PRIOR AUTHORIZED by the HEALTH PLAN).

- a) Routine physical examinations consistent with accepted preventive care guidelines and immunizations as medically appropriate.
- b) Well-baby care, including lead screening as required by [Wis. Stat. § 632.895 \(10\)](#), and childhood immunizations.
- c) Routine patient care administered in a cancer clinical trial as required by [Wis. Stat. § 632.87 \(6\)](#).
- d) Colorectal cancer examinations and laboratory tests as required by [Wis. Stat. § 632.895 \(16m\)](#).
- e) MEDICALLY NECESSARY travel-related preventive treatment. Preventive travel-related care such as typhoid, diphtheria, tetanus, yellow fever and Hepatitis A vaccinations if determined to be medically appropriate for the PARTICIPANT by the HEALTH PLAN. It does not apply to travel required for work. (See [Exclusions, Section IV, A, 2, e.](#))
- f) Injectable and infusible medications, except for SELF-ADMINISTERED INJECTABLE medications.
- g) NUTRITIONAL COUNSELING provided by a participating registered dietician or an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER.
- h) A second opinion from an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER or when PRIOR AUTHORIZED by the HEALTH PLAN.

- i) Preventive services as required by the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.
- 7) Anesthesia Services  
Covered when provided in connection with other medical and surgical services covered under these Uniform Benefits. It will also include anesthesia services for dental care as provided under [item B, 1, c](#) of this section.
- 8) Radiation Therapy and Chemotherapy  
Covered when accepted therapeutic methods, such as x-rays, radium, radioactive isotopes and chemotherapy drugs, are administered and billed by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER.
- 9) Detoxification Services  
Covers MEDICALLY NECESSARY detoxification services provided by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER. Methadone Treatment shall be covered only when MEDICALLY NECESSARY and provided by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER.
- 10) Ambulance Service  
Covers licensed professional ambulance service (or comparable EMERGENCY transportation if authorized by the HEALTH PLAN) when MEDICALLY NECESSARY to transport to the nearest HOSPITAL where appropriate medical care is available when the conveyance is an EMERGENCY or URGENT in nature and medical attention is required en route. This includes licensed professional air ambulance when another mode of ambulance service would endanger the PARTICIPANT'S health. Ambulance services include MEDICALLY NECESSARY transportation and all associated supplies and services provided therein. If the PARTICIPANT is not in the HEALTH PLAN'S SERVICE AREA, the HEALTH PLAN or IN-NETWORK PROVIDER should be contacted, if possible, before EMERGENCY or urgent transportation is obtained.
- 11) Diagnostic Services  
MEDICALLY NECESSARY testing and evaluations, including, but not limited to, radiology and lab tests given with general physical examinations; vision and hearing tests to determine if correction is needed; annual routine mammography screening; home or laboratory sleep studies when ordered and performed by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER. PRIOR AUTHORIZATION is required for REFERRALS to orthopedists and neurosurgeons for PARTICIPANTS with a history of low back pain who have not completed an optimal regimen of conservative care. Such PRIOR AUTHORIZATIONS are not required for PARTICIPANTS who present clinical diagnoses that require immediate or expedited orthopedic, neurosurgical or other specialty REFERRAL or for MEDICARE ADVANTAGE enrolled PARTICIPANTS.

PRIOR AUTHORIZATIONS are required for high-tech radiology tests, including MRI, CT scan, and PET scans. This paragraph does not apply to the MEDICARE ADVANTAGE enrolled PARTICIPANTS.

PRIOR AUTHORIZATION may be required for other diagnostic services as determined by the HEALTH PLAN.

12) Outpatient Rehabilitation, Physical, Speech and Occupation Therapy

MEDICALLY NECESSARY HABILITATION or REHABILITATION SERVICES and treatment as a result of ILLNESS or INJURY, provided by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER. Therapists must be registered and must not live in the patient's home or be a family member.

Up to 50 visits per PARTICIPANT for all therapies combined are covered per calendar year. HEALTH PLANS may review utilization and clinical information during the initial 50 visits to verify MEDICAL NECESSITY. Additional MEDICALLY NECESSARY visits may be available when PRIOR AUTHORIZED by the HEALTH PLAN, up to a maximum of 50 additional visits per therapy per PARTICIPANT per calendar year.

13) Home Care Benefits

Care and treatment of a PARTICIPANT under a plan of care. The IN-NETWORK PROVIDER must establish this plan; approve it in writing; and review it at least every two months unless the physician determines that less frequent reviews are sufficient.

PARTICIPANTS are eligible for a maximum 50 visits per PARTICIPANT per calendar year. 50 additional MEDICALLY NECESSARY visits per PARTICIPANT per calendar year may be available when authorized by the HEALTH PLAN.

All home care must be MEDICALLY NECESSARY as part of the home care plan. Home care means one or more of the following:

- a) Home nursing care that is given part-time or from time to time. It must be given or supervised by a registered nurse.
- b) Home health aide services that are given part-time or from time to time and are skilled in nature. They must consist solely of caring for the patient. A registered nurse or medical social worker must supervise them.
- c) Physical, occupational and speech therapy. (These apply to the therapy maximum.)
- d) MEDICAL SUPPLIES, drugs and medicines prescribed by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER; and lab services by or for a HOSPITAL. They are covered to the same extent as if the PARTICIPANT was CONFINED IN A HOSPITAL.
- e) NUTRITIONAL COUNSELING. A registered dietician must give or supervise these services.
- f) The assessment of the need for a home care plan, and its development. A registered nurse, physician extender or medical social worker must do this. The attending physician must ask for or approve this service.

Home care will not be covered unless the attending physician certifies that:

- a) HOSPITAL CONFINEMENT or CONFINEMENT in a SKILLED NURSING FACILITY would be needed if home care were not provided.

- b) The PARTICIPANT'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY, or others living with the PARTICIPANT, cannot provide the needed care and treatment without undue hardship.
- c) A state licensed or MEDICARE certified home health agency or certified rehabilitation agency will provide or coordinate the home care.

A PARTICIPANT may have been CONFINED IN A HOSPITAL just before home care started. If so, the home care plan must be approved, at its start, by the PROVIDER who was the primary PROVIDER of care during the HOSPITAL CONFINEMENT.

Home care benefits are limited to the maximum number of visits specified above, although up to 50 additional home care visits per calendar year may be PRIOR AUTHORIZED by the HEALTH PLAN if the visits continue to be MEDICALLY NECESSARY and are not otherwise excluded. Each visit by a person providing services under a home care plan, evaluating the PARTICIPANT'S needs or developing a plan counts as one visit. Each period of four straight hours in a 24-hour period of home health aide services counts as one home care visit.

#### 14) Hospice Care

Covers HOSPICE CARE if the PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER certifies that the PARTICIPANT'S life expectancy is 6 months or less, the care is palliative in nature, and is authorized by the HEALTH PLAN. HOSPICE CARE, which may be inpatient or home-based care, is provided by an inter-disciplinary team, consisting of but not limited to, registered nurses, home health or hospice aides, LPNs, and counselors. HOSPICE CARE includes, but is not limited to, MEDICAL SUPPLIES and services, counseling, bereavement counseling for one year after the PARTICIPANT'S death, DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT rental, home visits, and EMERGENCY transportation. Coverage may be continued beyond a 6-month period if authorized by the HEALTH PLAN.

Covers ADVANCE CARE PLANNING after the PARTICIPANT receives a terminal diagnosis regardless of life expectancy.

Covers a one-time in-home palliative consult after the PARTICIPANT receives a terminal diagnosis regardless of whether his or her life expectancy is 6 months or less.

HOSPICE CARE is available to a PARTICIPANT who is CONFINED. Inpatient CHARGES are payable for up to a total lifetime maximum of 30 days of CONFINEMENT in a HEALTH PLAN-approved or MEDICARE-certified HOSPICE CARE facility.

When benefits are payable under both this HOSPICE CARE benefit and the Home Care Benefits, benefits payable under this subsection shall not reduce any benefits payable under the home care subsection.

HOSPICE CARE must be provided through a licensed HOSPICE CARE PROVIDER approved by the HEALTH PLAN.

15) Phase II Cardiac Rehabilitation

Services must be approved by the HEALTH PLAN and provided in an outpatient department of a HOSPITAL, in a medical center or clinic program. This benefit may be appropriate only for PARTICIPANTS with a recent history of:

- a) A heart attack (myocardial infarction),
- b) Coronary bypass surgery,
- c) Onset of angina pectoris,
- d) Heart valve surgery,
- e) Onset of decubital angina,
- f) Onset of unstable angina,
- g) Percutaneous transluminal angioplasty, or
- h) Heart transplant.

Benefits are not payable for behavioral or vocational counseling. No other benefits for outpatient cardiac REHABILITATION SERVICES are available under this AGREEMENT.

16) Extraction of NATURAL TEETH and/or Replacement with Artificial Teeth Because of Accidental Injury

Total extraction and/or total replacement (limited to bridge, denture or implant) of NATURAL TEETH by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER when necessitated by an INJURY. The treatment must commence within 18 months of the accident. As an alternative, crowns or caps for broken teeth, in lieu of extraction and replacement, may be considered if approved by the HEALTH PLAN before the service is performed. Coverage of one retainer or mouth guard shall be provided when MEDICALLY NECESSARY as part of prep work provided prior to accidental INJURY tooth repair. INJURIES caused by chewing or biting are not considered to be accidental INJURIES for the purpose of this provision. Dental implants and associated supplies and services are limited to \$1,000 per tooth.

17) Oral Surgery

PARTICIPANTS should contact the HEALTH PLAN prior to any oral surgery to determine if PRIOR AUTHORIZATION by the HEALTH PLAN is required. When performed by IN-NETWORK PROVIDERS, approved surgical procedures are as follows:

- a) Surgical removal of impacted teeth and surgical or non-surgical removal of third molars.
- b) Excision of tumors and cysts of the jaws, cheeks, lips, tongue, roof and floor of the mouth, when such conditions require a pathological examination.
- c) Frenotomy. (Incision of the membrane connecting tongue to floor of mouth.)

- d) Surgical procedures required to correct accidental INJURIES to the jaws, cheeks, lips, tongue, roof and floor of the mouth, when such INJURIES are incurred while the PARTICIPANT is continuously covered under this BENEFIT PLAN.
- e) Apicoectomy. (Excision of apex of tooth root.)
- f) Excision of exostoses of the jaws and hard palate.
- g) Intraoral and extraoral incision and drainage of cellulitis.
- h) Incision of accessory sinuses, salivary glands or ducts.
- i) Reduction of dislocations of, and excision of, the temporomandibular joints.
- j) Gingivectomy for the excision of loose gum tissue to eliminate infection; or osseous surgery and related MEDICALLY NECESSARY guided tissue regeneration and bone-graft replacement, when performed in place of a covered gingivectomy.
- k) Alveolectomy or alveoplasty (if performed for reasons other than preparation for dentures, dental implants, or other procedures not covered under Uniform Benefits) and associated osseous (removal of bony tissue) surgery.

Retrograde fillings are covered when MEDICALLY NECESSARY following covered oral surgery procedures.

Oral surgery benefits shall not include benefits for procedures not listed above; for example, root canal procedures, filling, capping or recapping.

#### 18) Treatment of Temporomandibular Disorders

As required by [Wis. Stat. § 632.895 \(11\)](#), coverage is provided for diagnostic procedures and PRIOR AUTHORIZED MEDICALLY NECESSARY surgical or non-surgical treatment for the correction of temporomandibular disorders, if all of the following apply:

- a) A CONGENITAL, developmental or acquired deformity, disease or INJURY caused the condition.
- b) The procedure or device is reasonable and appropriate for the diagnosis or treatment of the condition under the accepted standards of the profession of the health care PROVIDER rendering the service.
- c) The purpose of the procedure or device is to control or eliminate infection, pain, disease or dysfunction.

This includes coverage of non-surgical treatment, but does not include coverage for cosmetic or elective orthodontic, periodontic or general dental care. Intraoral splints are covered under this provision but are subject to the DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT COINSURANCE as



outlined in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS. Benefits for diagnostic procedures and non-surgical treatment, including intraoral splints, will be payable up to \$1,250 per calendar year.

19) Transplants

- a) Transplants and related services are covered when ordered by a physician. All transplants except corneal transplants require PRIOR AUTHORIZATION. The MEDICAL NECESSITY and appropriateness of a transplant will be determined by medical professionals reviewing each case on behalf of the HEALTH PLAN.
- b) Coverage for organ procurement costs is limited to costs directly related to the procurement of an organ from a cadaver or compatible living donor. Organ procurement costs include organ transplantation, compatibility testing, hospitalization, and surgery (when a live donor is involved).
- c) Donor expenses are covered only when the recipient of the transplant is a PARTICIPANT in this plan and when such charges are included as part of the PARTICIPANT'S (as the transplant recipient) bill.
- d) Transplants must be performed at a facility designated by the HEALTH PLAN.

20) Kidney Disease Treatment

Coverage for inpatient and outpatient kidney disease treatment will be provided. This benefit is limited to all services and supplies directly related to kidney disease, including but not limited to, dialysis, transplantation (applies to transplant maximum - see Transplants in [Section III, A, 18](#)), donor-related services, and related physician CHARGES.

21) Chiropractic Services

When performed by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER. Benefits are not available for MAINTENANCE CARE.

22) Women's Health and Cancer Act of 1998

Under the Women's Health and Cancer Act of 1998, coverage for medical and surgical benefits with respect to mastectomies includes:

- a) Reconstruction of the breast on which a mastectomy was performed,
- b) Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance,
- c) Prostheses (see DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT in [Section III, C, 3](#)) and physical complications of all stages of mastectomy, including lymphedemas,
- d) Breast implants.

23) Smoking Cessation

Coverage includes pharmacological products that by law require a written prescription and are described under the prescription drug benefits in [Section III, D, 1, e](#). Coverage also includes 1 office visit for counseling and to obtain the prescription and four telephonic counseling sessions

per calendar year. Additional counseling and/or limited extension of pharmacological products require PRIOR AUTHORIZATION by the HEALTH PLAN.

## **B. Institutional Services**

Covers inpatient and outpatient HOSPITAL services and SKILLED NURSING FACILITY services that are necessary for the admission, diagnosis and treatment of a patient when provided by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER. Each PARTICIPANT in a health care facility agrees to conform to the rules and regulations of the institution. The HEALTH PLAN may require that the hospitalization be PRIOR AUTHORIZED.

### 1) Inpatient Care

- a) HOSPITALS and specialty HOSPITALS: Covered for semi-private room, ward or intensive care unit and MEDICALLY NECESSARY MISCELLANEOUS HOSPITAL EXPENSES, including prescription drugs administered during the CONFINEMENT. A private room is payable only if MEDICALLY NECESSARY for isolation purposes as determined by the HEALTH PLAN.
- b) Licensed SKILLED NURSING FACILITY: Must be admitted within 24 hours of discharge from a general HOSPITAL for continued treatment of the same condition. Only SKILLED CARE is covered. CUSTODIAL CARE is excluded. Benefits are limited to the number of days specified in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS. Benefits include prescription drugs administered during the CONFINEMENT. CONFINEMENT in a swing bed in a HOSPITAL is considered the same as a SKILLED NURSING FACILITY CONFINEMENT. Maximum of 120 days per BENEFIT PERIOD payable for SKILLED CARE.
- c) HOSPITAL and ambulatory surgery center CHARGES and related anesthetics for dental care: Covered if services are provided to a PARTICIPANT who is under 5 years of age; has a medical condition that requires hospitalization or general anesthesia for dental care; or has a chronic disability that meets all of the conditions under [Wis. Stat. § 230.04 \(9r\) \(a\) 2.](#) a., b., and c.
- d) If the PARTICIPANT is transferred or discharged to another facility for continued treatment of the same or related condition, it is one CONFINEMENT. CHARGES for HOSPITAL or other institutional CONFINEMENTS are incurred on the date of admission. The benefit levels that apply on the HOSPITAL admission date apply to the CHARGES for the covered expenses incurred for the entire CONFINEMENT regardless of changes in benefit levels during the CONFINEMENT.

### 2) Outpatient Care

EMERGENCY care: First aid, accident or sudden ILLNESS requiring immediate HOSPITAL services. Subject to the cost sharing described in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS. Follow-up care received in an emergency room to treat the same INJURY is also subject to the cost sharing provisions.

Mental Health/Alcohol and Drug Abuse Services: See below for benefit details.

Diagnostic testing: Includes chemotherapy, laboratory, x-ray, and other diagnostic tests.

Surgical care: Covered.

### C. Other Medical Services

1) Mental Health Services/Alcohol and Drug Abuse

PARTICIPANTS should contact the HEALTH PLAN prior to any services, including testing or evaluation, to determine if PRIOR AUTHORIZATION or a REFERRAL is required from the HEALTH PLAN.

a) Outpatient Services

Covers MEDICALLY NECESSARY services provided by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER as described in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS. "Outpatient services" means non-residential services by PROVIDERS as defined and set forth under [Wis. Stat. § 632.89 \(1\) \(e\)](#) and as required by [Wis. Adm. Code § INS 3.37](#) and the federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA).

This benefit also includes services for a full-time student attending school in Wisconsin but out of the SERVICE AREA as required by [Wis. Stat. § 609.655](#).

b) Transitional Services

Covers MEDICALLY NECESSARY services provided by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER as described in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS. Transitional care is provided in a less restrictive manner than inpatient services but in a more intensive manner than outpatient services as required by [Wis. Stat. § 632.89](#) and [Wis. Adm. Code § INS 3.37](#) and as required by MHPAEA.

c) Inpatient Services

Covers MEDICALLY NECESSARY services provided by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER as described in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS and as required by [Wis. Stat. §632.89](#), [Wis. Adm. Code § INS 3.37](#) and MHPAEA. Covers court-ordered services for the mentally ill as required by [Wis. Stat. § 609.65](#). Such services are covered if performed by an OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDER, if provided as required by an EMERGENCY detention or on an EMERGENCY basis and the PROVIDER notifies the HEALTH PLAN within 72 hours after the initial provision of service.

d) Other

Prescription drugs used for the treatment of mental health, alcohol and drug abuse will be subject to the prescription drug benefit as described in [Section III, D. 1](#).

2) Vision Services

a) Limited to one routine eye exam per PARTICIPANT per calendar year. Non-routine eye exams are covered as MEDICALLY NECESSARY. Contact lens fittings are not part of the routine exam and are not covered.

3) Durable Diabetic Equipment and Related Supplies

When prescribed by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER for treatment of diabetes and purchased from an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER, durable diabetic equipment and durable and disposable supplies that are required for use with the durable diabetic equipment, will be covered **subject**

**to cost sharing as outlined in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.** The PARTICIPANT'S COINSURANCE will be applied to the annual OOPL. Durable diabetic equipment includes:

- a) Automated injection devices.
- b) Continuing glucose monitoring devices.
- c) Insulin infusion pumps, limited to one pump in a calendar year and the PARTICIPANT must use the pump for 30 days before purchase.

**All DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT purchases or monthly rentals must be PRIOR AUTHORIZED as determined by the HEALTH PLAN.**

(Glucometers are available through the PBM. Refer to [Section III, D, 2](#) for benefit information.)

4) **MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT**

When prescribed by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER for treatment of a diagnosed ILLNESS or INJURY and purchased from an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER, MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT will be covered **subject to cost sharing as outlined in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.**

**The following MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT will be covered only when PRIOR AUTHORIZED as determined by the HEALTH PLAN:**

- a) Initial acquisition of artificial limbs and eyes including replacements due to significant physiological changes, such as physical maturation, when MEDICALLY NECESSARY, and refitting of any existing prosthesis is not possible.
- b) Casts, splints, trusses, crutches, prostheses, orthopedic braces and appliances and custom-made orthotics. Custom orthotics are limited to one orthotic per foot per calendar year.
- c) Rental or, at the option of the HEALTH PLAN, purchase of equipment including, but not limited to, wheelchairs and HOSPITAL-type beds.
- d) An initial external lens per eye directly related to cataract surgery (contact lens or framed lens).
- e) An initial external hard contact lens per eye directly related to keratoconus.
- f) IUDs and diaphragms.
- g) Elastic support hose, for example, JOBST, which are prescribed by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER. Limited to two pairs per calendar year.
- h) One hearing aid, as described in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS. The maximum payment applies to all services directly related to the hearing aid, for example, an ear mold.

- i) Ostomy and catheter supplies.
- j) Oxygen and respiratory equipment for home use when authorized by the HEALTH PLAN.
- k) Other medical equipment and supplies as approved by the HEALTH PLAN. Rental or purchase of equipment/supplies is at the option of the HEALTH PLAN.
- l) When PRIOR AUTHORIZED as determined by the HEALTH PLAN, repairs, maintenance and replacement of covered MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, including replacement of batteries. When determining whether to repair or replace the MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, the HEALTH PLAN will consider whether:
  - i) The equipment/supply is still useful or has exceeded its lifetime under normal use, or
  - ii) The PARTICIPANT'S condition has significantly changed so as to make the original equipment inappropriate (for example, due to growth or development).

Services will be covered subject to cost sharing as outlined in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS. Except for services related to cochlear implants and hearing aids as noted above, the out-of-pocket costs will apply to the annual OOPL.

5) Out-of-Network Coverage for Full-Time Students

If a DEPENDENT is a full-time student attending school outside of the SERVICE AREA, the following services will be covered:

- a) EMERGENCY or URGENT CARE. Non-urgent follow-up care out of the SERVICE AREA must be PRIOR AUTHORIZED or it will not be covered, and
- b) Outpatient mental health services and treatment of alcohol or drug abuse if the DEPENDENT is a full-time student attending school in Wisconsin, but outside of the SERVICE AREA, as required by [Wis. Stat. § 609.655](#). In that case, the DEPENDENT may have a clinical assessment by an OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDER when PRIOR AUTHORIZED by the HEALTH PLAN. If outpatient services are recommended, coverage will be provided for 5 visits outside of the SERVICE AREA when PRIOR AUTHORIZED by the HEALTH PLAN. Additional visits may be approved by the HEALTH PLAN. If the student is unable to maintain full-time student status, he/she must obtain services from an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER for the treatment to be covered. This benefit is subject to the limitations shown in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS for mental health/alcohol/drug abuse services and will not serve to provide additional benefits to the PARTICIPANT.

6) Coverage of Newborn Infants with CONGENITAL Defects and Birth Abnormalities

As required by [Wis. Stat. §632.895 \(5\)](#) and [Wis. Adm. Code § INS 3.38 \(2\) \(d\)](#), if a DEPENDENT is continuously covered under any HEALTH PLAN under this health benefits program from birth, coverage includes treatment for the functional repair or restoration of any body part when necessary to achieve normal functioning. If required by Wis. Statute, this provision includes

orthodontia and dental procedures if necessary as a secondary aspect of restoration of normal functioning or in preparation for surgery to restore function for treatment of cleft palate.

7) Coverage of Treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorders

Treatment of autism spectrum disorders is covered as required by [Wis. Stat. §632.895 \(12m\) and the Federal Mental Health Parity and Equity Act \(MHPAEA\)](#). Autism spectrum disorder means any of the following: autism disorder, Asperger's syndrome or pervasive developmental disorder not otherwise specified. Treatment of autism spectrum disorders is covered when the treatment is prescribed by a physician and provided by any of the following IN-NETWORK PROVIDERS: psychiatrist, psychologist, social worker, behavior analyst, paraprofessional working under the supervision of any of those 4 types of PROVIDERS, professional working under the supervision of an outpatient mental health clinic, speech-language pathologist, or occupational therapist. Minimum coverage monetary amounts shall be adjusted annually beginning in 2011 as determined by the Office of Commissioner of Insurance. The therapy limit does not apply to this benefit.

**D. Prescription Drugs and Other Benefits Administered by the PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGER (PBM)**

PARTICIPANTS must obtain pharmacy benefits at a PBM PARTICIPATING PHARMACY except when not reasonably possible because of EMERGENCY or URGENT CARE. For full detail on services covered by the PBM, please see Uniform Pharmacy Benefits.

The HEALTH PLAN, not the PBM, will be responsible for covering prescription drugs administered during home care, office setting, CONFINEMENT, EMERGENCY room visit or URGENT CARE setting, if otherwise covered under Uniform Benefits. However, prescriptions for covered drugs written during home care, office setting, CONFINEMENT, EMERGENCY room visit or URGENT CARE setting will be the responsibility of the PBM and payable as provided under the terms and conditions of Uniform Benefits, unless otherwise specified in Uniform Benefits (for example, SELF-ADMINISTERED INJECTABLE).

## **IV. Exclusions and Limitations**

### **A. Exclusions**

The following is a list of services, treatments, equipment or supplies that are excluded (meaning no benefits are payable under Uniform Benefits); or have some limitations on the benefit provided. All exclusions listed below apply to benefits offered by HEALTH PLANS and the PBM. To make the comprehensive list of exclusions easier to reference, exclusions are listed by the category in which they would typically be applied. The exclusions do not apply solely to the category in which they are listed except that [Subsection 10](#) applies only to the pharmacy benefit administered by the PBM. Some of the listed exclusions may be MEDICALLY NECESSARY, but still are not covered under this program, while others may be examples of services which are not MEDICALLY NECESSARY or not medical in nature, as determined by the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM.

#### 1) Surgical Services

- a) Any surgical treatment or hospitalization for the treatment of obesity, including morbid obesity or as treatment for the Comorbidities of obesity, for example, gastroesophageal reflux disease. This includes, but is not limited to, stomach-limiting and bypass procedures.
- b) Keratorefractive eye surgery, including but not limited to, tangential or radial keratotomy, or laser surgeries for the correction of vision.

#### 2) Medical Services

- a) Examination and any other services (for example, blood tests) for informational purposes requested by third parties. Examples are physical exams for employment, licensing, insurance, marriage, adoption, participation in athletics, functional capacity examinations or evaluations, or examinations or treatment ordered by a court, unless otherwise covered as stated in the [Benefits and Services](#) Section.
- b) Expenses for medical reports, including preparation and presentation.
- c) Services rendered (a) in the examination, treatment or removal of all or part of corns, calluses, hypertrophy or hyperplasia of the skin or subcutaneous tissues of the feet; (b) in the cutting, trimming or other nonoperative partial removal of toenails; or (c) treatment of flexible flat feet. This exclusion does not apply when services are performed by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER to treat a metabolic or peripheral disease or a skin or tissue infection.
- d) Weight loss programs including dietary and nutritional treatment in connection with obesity. This does not include NUTRITIONAL COUNSELING as provided in the [Benefits and Services](#) Section.
- e) Work-related preventive treatment (for example, Hepatitis vaccinations, Rabies vaccinations, small pox vaccinations, etc.).
- f) Services of a blood donor. MEDICALLY NECESSARY autologous blood donations are not considered to be services of a blood donor.

- g) Genetic testing and/or genetic counseling services, unless MEDICALLY NECESSARY to diagnose or treat an existing ILLNESS.
  - h) Equipment required for telehealth visits.
- 3) Ambulance Services
- a) Ambulance service, except as outlined in the [Benefits and Services](#) Section, unless authorized by the HEALTH PLAN.
  - b) Charges for, or in connection with, travel, except for ambulance transportation as outlined in the [Benefits and Services](#) Section.
- 4) Therapies
- a) Vocational rehabilitation including work hardening programs.
  - b) Except for services covered under the HABILITATION SERVICES therapy benefit, and mandated benefits for autism spectrum disorders under [Wis. Stat. § 632.895 \(12m\)](#) therapies.
  - c) Physical fitness or exercise programs.
  - d) Biofeedback, except that provided by a physical therapist for treatment of headaches and spastic torticollis.
  - e) Massage therapy.
- 5) Oral Surgery/Dental Services/Extraction and Replacement Because of Accidental INJURY
- a) All services performed by dentists and other dental services, including all orthodontic services, except those specifically listed in the [Benefits and Services](#) Section or which would be covered if it was performed by a physician and is within the scope of the dentist's license. This includes, but is not limited to, dental implants; shortening or lengthening of the mandible or maxillae; correction of malocclusion; and hospitalization costs for services not specifically listed in the [Benefits and Services](#) Section. (Note: Mandated TMJ benefits under [Wis. Stat. § 632.895 \(11\)](#) may limit this exclusion.)
  - b) All periodontic procedures, except gingivectomy surgery as listed in the [Benefits and Services](#) Section.
  - c) All oral surgical procedures not specifically listed in the [Benefits and Services](#) Section.
- 6) Transplants



- a) Services in connection with covered transplants not PRIOR AUTHORIZED by the HEALTH PLAN.
- b) Costs related to a failed transplant that is otherwise covered under the global fee.
- c) Purchase price of bone marrow, organ or tissue that is sold rather than donated.
- d) All separately billed donor-related services, except for kidney transplants.
- e) Non-human organ transplants or artificial organs.
- f) Transplants not performed at a facility designated by the HEALTH PLAN.

7) Reproductive Services

- a) Infertility services which are not for treatment of ILLNESS or INJURY (i.e., that are for the purpose of achieving pregnancy). The diagnosis of infertility alone does not constitute an ILLNESS.
- b) Reversal of voluntary sterilization procedures and related procedures when performed for the purpose of restoring fertility.
- c) Services for storage or processing of semen (sperm); donor sperm.
- d) Harvesting of eggs and their cryopreservation.
- e) Artificial insemination or fertilization methods including, but not limited to, in vivo fertilization, in vitro fertilization, embryo transfer, gamete intra fallopian transfer (GIFT) and similar procedures, and related HOSPITAL, professional and diagnostic services and medications that are incidental to such insemination or fertilization methods.
- f) Maternity services received out of the SERVICE AREA one month prior to the estimated due date, unless PRIOR AUTHORIZED (PRIOR AUTHORIZATION will be granted only if the situation is out of the PARTICIPANT'S control, for example, family EMERGENCY).
- g) Amniocentesis or chorionic villi sampling (CVS) solely for sex determination.
- h) Services of home delivery for childbirth.
- i) Laboratory services provided in conjunction with infertility services after the diagnosis of infertility is confirmed.

8) HOSPITAL Inpatient Services

- a) Take home drugs and supplies dispensed at the time of discharge, which can reasonably be purchased on an outpatient basis.

- b) HOSPITAL stays, which are extended for reasons other than MEDICAL NECESSITY, limited to lack of transportation, lack of caregiver, inclement weather and other, like reasons.
- c) A continued HOSPITAL stay, if the attending physician has documented that care could effectively be provided in a less acute care setting, for example, SKILLED NURSING FACILITY.

9) Durable Medical or Diabetic Equipment and Supplies

- a) All DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT purchases or rentals unless PRIOR AUTHORIZED as required by the HEALTH PLAN.
- b) Repairs and replacement of DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT/supplies unless PRIOR AUTHORIZED by the HEALTH PLAN.
- c) MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT for comfort, personal hygiene and convenience items such as, but not limited to, wigs, hair prostheses, air conditioners, air cleaners, humidifiers; or physical fitness equipment, physician's equipment; disposable supplies; alternative communication devices (for example, electronic keyboard for a hearing impairment); and self-help devices intended to support the essentials of daily living, including, but not limited to, shower chairs and reaches, and other equipment designed to position or transfer patients for convenience and/or safety reasons.
- d) Home testing and monitoring supplies and related equipment except those used in connection with the treatment of diabetes or infant apnea or as PRIOR AUTHORIZED by the HEALTH PLAN.
- e) Equipment, models or devices that have features over and above that which are MEDICALLY NECESSARY for the PARTICIPANT will be limited to the standard model as determined by the HEALTH PLAN. This includes the upgrade of equipment, models or devices to better or newer technology when the existing equipment, models or devices are sufficient and there is no change in the PARTICIPANT'S condition nor is the existing equipment, models or devices in need of repair or replacement.
- f) Motor vehicles (for example, cars, vans) or customization of vehicles, lifts for wheel chairs and scooters, and stair lifts.
- g) Customization of buildings for accommodation (for example, wheelchair ramps).
- h) Replacement or repair of DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT/supplies damaged or destroyed by the PARTICIPANT, lost or stolen.

10) Outpatient Prescription Drugs – Administered by the PBM

- a) Charges for supplies and medicines with or without a doctor's prescription, unless otherwise specifically covered.

- b) Charges for prescription drugs which require PRIOR AUTHORIZATION unless approved by the PBM.
- c) Charges for cosmetic drug treatments such as Retin-A, Rogaine, or their medical equivalent.
- d) Any FDA medications approved for weight loss (for example, appetite suppressants, Xenical).
- e) Anorexic agents.
- f) Non-FDA approved prescriptions, including compounded estrogen, progesterone or testosterone products, except as authorized by the PBM.
- g) All over-the-counter drug items, except those designated as covered by the PBM.
- h) Unit dose medication, including bubble pack or pre-packaged medications, except for medications that are unavailable in any other dose or packaging.
- i) Charges for injectable medications, except for SELF-ADMINISTERED INJECTABLE medications.
- j) Charges for supplies and medicines purchased from a NON-PARTICIPATING PHARMACY, except when EMERGENCY or URGENT CARE is required.
- k) Drugs recently approved by the FDA may be excluded until reviewed and approved by the PBM'S Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee, which determines the therapeutic advantage of the drug and the medically appropriate application.
- l) Infertility and fertility medications.
- m) Charges for medications obtained through a discount program or over the Internet, unless PRIOR AUTHORIZED by the PBM.
- n) Charges to replace expired, spilled, stolen or lost prescription drugs.

#### 11) General

- a) Any additional exclusion as described in the SCHEDULE OF BENEFITS.
- b) Services to the extent the PARTICIPANT is eligible for all MEDICARE benefits, regardless of whether or not the PARTICIPANT is actually enrolled in MEDICARE. This exclusion only applies if the PARTICIPANT enrolled in MEDICARE coordinated coverage does not enroll in MEDICARE Part B when it is first available as the primary payor or who subsequently cancels MEDICARE coverage or is not enrolled in a MEDICARE Part D Plan.

- c) Treatment, services and supplies for which the PARTICIPANT: (a) has no obligation to pay or which would be furnished to a PARTICIPANT without charge; (b) would be entitled to have furnished or paid for, fully or partially, under any law, regulation or agency of any government; or (c) would be entitled, or would be entitled if enrolled, to have furnished or paid for under any voluntary medical benefit or insurance plan established by any government; if this contract was not in effect.
- d) INJURY or ILLNESS caused by: (a) Atomic or thermonuclear explosion or resulting radiation; or (b) any type of military action, friendly or hostile. Acts of domestic terrorism do not constitute military action.
- e) Treatment, services and supplies for any INJURY or ILLNESS as the result of war, declared or undeclared, enemy action or action of Armed Forces of the United States, or any state of the United States, or its Allies, or while serving in the Armed Forces of any country.
- f) Treatment, services and supplies furnished by the U.S. Veterans Administration (VA), except for such treatment, services and supplies for which under the policy the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM is the primary payor and the VA is the secondary payor under applicable federal law. Benefits are not coordinated with the VA unless specific federal law requires such coordination.
- g) Services for holistic medicine, including homeopathic medicine, or other programs with an objective to provide complete personal fulfillment.
- h) Treatment, services or supplies used in educational or vocational training.
- i) Treatment or service in connection with any ILLNESS or INJURY caused by a PARTICIPANT (a) engaging in an illegal occupation or (b) commission of, or attempt to commit, a felony.
- j) MAINTENANCE CARE.
- k) Care, including treatment, services, and supplies, provided to assist with activities of daily living (ADL).
- l) Personal comfort or convenience items or services such as in-HOSPITAL television, telephone, private room, housekeeping, shopping, homemaker services, and meal preparation services as part of home health care.
- m) Charges for injectable medications administered in a nursing home when the nursing home stay is not covered by the BENEFIT PLAN.
- n) Custodial, nursing facility (except skilled), or domiciliary care. This includes community reentry programs.
- o) Expenses incurred prior to the EFFECTIVE DATE of coverage by the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM, or services received after the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM coverage or eligibility

terminates. Except when a PARTICIPANT'S coverage terminates because of SUBSCRIBER cancellation or nonpayment of premium, benefits shall continue to the PARTICIPANT if he or she is CONFINED as an inpatient on the coverage termination date but only until the attending physician determines that CONFINEMENT is no longer MEDICALLY NECESSARY; the contract maximum is reached; the end of 12 months after the date of termination; or CONFINEMENT ceases, whichever occurs first. If the termination is a result of a SUBSCRIBER changing coverage under HEALTH PLANS during a prescribed enrollment period as determined by the Board, benefits after the EFFECTIVE DATE with the succeeding HEALTH PLAN will be the responsibility of the succeeding HEALTH PLAN unless the facility in which the PARTICIPANT is CONFINED is not part of the succeeding HEALTH PLAN'S network. In this instance, the liability will remain with the previous HEALTH PLAN.

- p) Eyeglasses or corrective contact lenses, fitting of contact lenses, except for the initial lens per surgical eye directly related to cataract surgery. The incremental cost of a non-standard intraocular lens (e.g., multifocal and toric lenses) compared to a standard monofocal intraocular lens is not covered.
- q) Any service, treatment, procedure, equipment, drug, device or supply which is not reasonably and MEDICALLY NECESSARY or not required in accordance with accepted standards of medical, surgical or psychiatric practice.
- r) Charges for any missed appointment.
- s) EXPERIMENTAL services, treatments, procedures, equipment, drugs, devices or supplies, including, but not limited to: Treatment or procedures not generally proven to be effective as determined by the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM following review of research protocol and individual treatment plans; orthomolecular medicine, acupuncture, cytotoxin testing in conjunction with allergy testing, hair analysis except in conjunction with lead and arsenic poisoning. Phase I, II and III protocols for cancer treatments and certain organ transplants. In general, any service considered to be EXPERIMENTAL, except drugs for treatment of an HIV infection, as required by [Wis. Stat. § 632.895 \(9\)](#) and routine care administered in a cancer clinical trial as required by [Wis. Stat. § 632.87 \(6\)](#).
- t) Services provided by members of the SUBSCRIBER'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY or any person residing with the SUBSCRIBER.

- u) Services, including non-physician services, provided by OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDERS. Exceptions to this exclusion:
  - i. On written REFERRAL by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER with the prior written authorization of the HEALTH PLAN.
  - ii. EMERGENCIES in the SERVICE AREA when the PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER or another IN-NETWORK PROVIDER cannot be reached.
  - iii. EMERGENCY or URGENT CARE services outside the SERVICE AREA. Non-urgent follow-up care requires PRIOR AUTHORIZATION from the HEALTH PLAN.
- v) Services of a specialist without an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER'S written REFERRAL, except in an EMERGENCY or by written PRIOR AUTHORIZATION of the HEALTH PLAN. Any HOSPITAL or medical care or service not provided for in this document unless authorized by the HEALTH PLAN.
- w) Coma stimulation programs.
- x) Orthoptics (Eye exercise training) except for two sessions as MEDICALLY NECESSARY per lifetime. The first session for training, the second for follow-up.
- y) Any diet control program, treatment, or supply for weight reduction.
- z) Food or food supplements except when provided during a covered outpatient or inpatient CONFINEMENT.
- aa) Services to the extent a PARTICIPANT receives or is entitled to receive, any benefits, settlement, award or damages for any reason of, or following any claim under, any Worker's Compensation Act, employer's liability insurance plan or similar law or act. Entitled means the PARTICIPANT is actually insured under Worker's Compensation.
- ab) Services related to an INJURY that was self-inflicted for the purpose of receiving HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM Benefits.
- ac) Charges directly related to a non-covered service, such as hospitalization charges, except when a complication results from the non-covered service that could not be reasonably expected and the complication requires MEDICALLY NECESSARY treatment that is performed by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER or PRIOR AUTHORIZED by the HEALTH PLAN. The treatment of the complication must be a covered benefit of the HEALTH PLAN and PBM. Non-covered services do not include any treatment or service that was covered and paid for under any HEALTH PLAN as part of this program.
- ad) Treatment, services and supplies for cosmetic or beautifying purposes, including removal of keloids resulting from piercing and hair restoration, except when associated with a covered service to correct a functional impairment related to CONGENITAL bodily disorders or conditions or when associated with covered reconstructive surgery due to an ILLNESS

or accidental INJURY (including subsequent removal of a prosthetic device that was related to such reconstructive surgery). Psychological reasons do not represent a medical/surgical necessity.

- ae) Any smoking cessation program, treatment, or supply that is not specifically covered in the [Benefits and Services](#) Section.
- af) Any charges for, or in connection with, travel. This includes but is not limited to meals, lodging and transportation. An exception is EMERGENCY ambulance transportation.
- ag) Sexual counseling services related to infertility.
- ah) Services that a child's school is legally obligated to provide, whether or not the school actually provides the services and whether or not the PARTICIPANT chooses to use those services.
- ai) Hypnotherapy.
- aj) Marriage/couples/family counseling.
- ak) Residential care except residential care for Alcohol and Drug Abuse and transitional care as required by [Wis. Stat. § 632.89](#) and [Wis. Admin Code § INS 3.37](#) and as required by the federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act.
- al) Biofeedback.
- am) Removal of skin tags.

## **B. Limitations**

- 1) COPAYMENTS or COINSURANCE are required for:
  - a) State of Wisconsin program PARTICIPANTS, except for retirees for whom MEDICARE is the primary payor, for all services unless otherwise required under federal and state law.
  - b) State of Wisconsin PARTICIPANTS for whom MEDICARE is the primary payor, and for all PARTICIPANTS of the Wisconsin Public Employers program, and/or limitations apply to, the following services: DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, Prescription Drugs, Smoking Cessation, Cochlear Implants, treatment of Temporomandibular Disorders and care received in an emergency room.
- 2) Benefits are limited for the following services: Replacement of NATURAL TEETH because of accidental INJURY, Oral Surgery, HOSPITAL Inpatient, licensed SKILLED NURSING FACILITY, Physical, Speech and Occupational Therapy, Home Care Benefits, Hearing Aids, and Orthoptics.
- 3) Use of OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDERS and HOSPITALS requires prior written approval by the PARTICIPANT'S PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER and the HEALTH PLAN to determine

medical appropriateness and whether services can be provided by IN-NETWORK PROVIDERS.

- 4) Major Disaster or Epidemic: If a major disaster or epidemic occurs, IN-NETWORK PROVIDERS and HOSPITALS must render medical services (and arrange extended care services and home health service) insofar as practical according to their best medical judgment, within the limitation of available facilities and personnel. This extends to the PBM and its PARTICIPATING PHARMACIES. In this case, PARTICIPANTS may receive covered services from OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDERS and/or NON-PARTICIPATING PHARMACIES.
- 5) Circumstances Beyond the HEALTH PLAN'S and/or PBM'S Control: If, due to circumstances not reasonably within the control of the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM, such as a complete or partial insurrection, labor disputes not within the control of the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM, disability of a significant part of HOSPITAL or medical group personnel or similar causes, the rendition or provision of services and other benefits covered hereunder is delayed or rendered impractical, the HEALTH PLAN, IN-NETWORK PROVIDERS and/or PBM will use their best efforts to provide services and other benefits covered hereunder. In this case, PARTICIPANTS may receive covered services from OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDERS and/or NON-PARTICIPATING PHARMACIES.
- 6) Speech and Hearing Screening Examinations: Limited to the routine screening tests performed by an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER for determining the need for correction.
- 7) Outpatient Rehabilitation, Physical, Occupational and Speech Therapy: These therapies are benefits only for treatment of those conditions which are expected to yield significant patient improvement within two months after the beginning of treatment.



## **V. Coordination of Benefits and Services**

### **A. Applicability**

- 1) This Coordination of Benefits (COB) provision applies to THIS PLAN when a PARTICIPANT has health care coverage under more than one PLAN at the same time. "PLAN" and "THIS PLAN" are defined below.
- 2) If this COB provision applies, the order of benefit determination rules shall be looked at first. The rules determine whether the benefits of THIS PLAN are determined before or after those of another PLAN. The benefits of THIS PLAN:
  - a) Shall not be reduced when, under the order of benefit determination rules, THIS PLAN determines its benefits before another PLAN, but
  - b) May be reduced when, under the order of benefit determination rules, another PLAN determines its benefits first. This reduction is described in [Section D](#) below, Effect on the Benefits of THIS PLAN.

### **B. Definitions**

In this [Section V](#), the following words are defined as follows:

**ALLOWABLE EXPENSE:** means a necessary, reasonable, and customary item of expense for health care, when the item of expense is covered at least in part by one or more PLANS covering the person for whom the claim is made. The difference between the cost of a private HOSPITAL room and the cost of a semi-private HOSPITAL room is not considered an ALLOWABLE EXPENSE unless the patient's stay in a private HOSPITAL room is MEDICALLY NECESSARY either in terms of generally accepted medical practice or as specifically defined by the PLAN. When a PLAN provides benefits in the form of services, the reasonable cash value of each service rendered shall be considered both an ALLOWABLE EXPENSE and a benefit paid.

However, notwithstanding the above, when there is a maximum benefit limitation for a specific service or treatment, the SECONDARY PLAN will also be responsible for paying up to the maximum benefit allowed for its PLAN. This will not duplicate benefits paid by the PRIMARY PLAN.

**CLAIM DETERMINATION PERIOD:** means a calendar year. However, it does not include any part of a year during which a person has no coverage under THIS PLAN or any part of a year before the date this COB provision or a similar provision takes effect.

**PLAN:** means any of the following which provides benefits or services for, or because of, medical, pharmacological or dental care or treatment:

- 1) Group insurance or group-type coverage, whether insured or uninsured, that includes continuous 24-hour coverage. This includes prepayment, group practice or individual practice coverage. It also includes coverage other than school accident-type coverage.
- 2) Coverage under a governmental plan or coverage that is required or provided by law. This does not include MEDICARE ADVANTAGE as this provision is preempted by federal law. This does not include a state plan under MEDICAID (Title XIX, Grants to States for Medical Assistance

Programs, of the United States Social Security Act as amended from time to time). It also does not include any PLAN whose benefits, by law, are excess to those of any private insurance program or other non-governmental program. Each contract or other arrangement for coverage under a. or b. is a separate PLAN. Also, if an arrangement has two parts and COB rules apply only to one of the two, each of the parts is a separate PLAN.

**PRIMARY PLAN / SECONDARY PLAN:** The order of benefit determination rules state whether THIS PLAN is a PRIMARY PLAN or SECONDARY PLAN as to another PLAN covering the person.

When THIS PLAN is a SECONDARY PLAN, its benefits are determined after those of the other PLAN and may be reduced because of the other PLAN'S benefits.

When THIS PLAN is a PRIMARY PLAN, its benefits are determined before those of the other PLAN and without considering the other PLAN'S benefits.

When there are more than two PLANS covering the person, THIS PLAN may be a PRIMARY PLAN as to one or more other PLANS and may be a SECONDARY PLAN as to a different PLAN or PLANS.

**THIS PLAN:** means the part of the Summary Plan Description (group contract) that provides benefits for health care and pharmaceutical expenses.

### **C. Order of Benefit Determination Rules**

#### 1) General

When there is a basis for a claim under THIS PLAN and another PLAN, THIS PLAN is a SECONDARY PLAN that has its benefits determined after those of the other PLAN, unless:

- a) The other PLAN has rules coordinating its benefits with those of THIS PLAN, and
- b) Both those rules and THIS PLAN'S rules described in subparagraph 2 require that THIS PLAN'S benefits be determined before those of the other PLAN.

#### 2) Rules

THIS PLAN determines its order of benefits using the first of the following rules which applies:

- a) Non-Dependent/DEPENDENT  
The benefits of the PLAN which covers the person as an employee or PARTICIPANT are determined before those of the PLAN which covers the person as a DEPENDENT of an employee or PARTICIPANT.
- b) DEPENDENT Child/Parents Not Separated or Divorced  
Except as stated in subparagraph 2, c below, when THIS PLAN and another PLAN cover the same child as a DEPENDENT of different persons, called "parents":
  - i) The benefits of the PLAN of the parent whose birthday falls earlier in the calendar year are determined before those of the PLAN of the parent whose birthday falls later in that calendar year, but

- ii) If both parents have the same birthday, the benefits of the PLAN which covered the parent longer are determined before those of the PLAN which covered the other parent for a shorter period of time.

However, if the other PLAN does not have the rule described in i) above but instead has a rule based upon the gender of the parent, and if, as a result, the PLANS do not agree on the order of benefits, the rule in the other PLAN shall determine the order of benefits.

c) **DEPENDENT Child/Separated or Divorced Parents**

If two or more PLANS cover a person as a DEPENDENT child of divorced or separated parents, benefits for the child are determined in this order:

- i) First, the PLAN of the parent with custody of the child,
- ii) Then, the PLAN of the spouse of the parent with the custody of the child, and
- iii) Finally, the PLAN of the parent not having custody of the child.

Also, if the specific terms of a court decree state that the parents have joint custody of the child and do not specify that one parent has responsibility for the child's health care expenses or if the court decree states that both parents shall be responsible for the health care needs of the child but gives physical custody of the child to one parent, and the entities obligated to pay or provide the benefits of the respective parents' PLANS have actual knowledge of those terms, benefits for the DEPENDENT child shall be determined according to C, 2, b.

However, if the specific terms of a court decree state that one of the parents is responsible for the health care expenses of the child, and the entity obligated to pay or provide the benefits of the PLAN of that parent has actual knowledge of those terms, the benefits of that PLAN are determined first. This paragraph does not apply with respect to any CLAIM DETERMINATION PERIOD or PLAN year during which any benefits are actually paid or provided before the entity has that actual knowledge.

d) **Active/Inactive Employee**

The benefits of a PLAN which covers a person as an employee who is neither laid off nor retired or as that employee's DEPENDENT are determined before those of a PLAN which covers that person as a laid off or retired employee or as that employee's DEPENDENT. If the other PLAN does not have this rule and if, as a result, the PLANS do not agree on the order of benefits, this paragraph d is ignored.

e) **Continuation Coverage**

- i) If a person has continuation coverage under federal or state law and is also covered under another PLAN, the following shall determine the order of benefits:

- (1) First, the benefits of a PLAN covering the person as an employee, member, or SUBSCRIBER or as a DEPENDENT of an employee, member, or SUBSCRIBER.
  - (2) Second, the benefits under the continuation coverage.
- ii) If the other PLAN does not have the rule described in subparagraph 1, and if, as a result, the PLANS do not agree on the order of benefits, this paragraph e is ignored.
- f) Longer/Shorter Length of Coverage  
If none of the above rules determines the order of benefits, the benefits of the PLAN which covered an employee, member or SUBSCRIBER longer are determined before those of the PLAN which covered that person for the shorter time.

#### **D. Effect on the Benefits of THIS PLAN**

1) When This Section Applies

This section applies when, in accordance with [Section C](#), Order of Benefit Determination Rules, THIS PLAN is a SECONDARY PLAN as to one or more other PLANS. In that event, the benefits of THIS PLAN may be reduced under this section. Such other PLAN or PLANS are referred to as "the other PLANS" in subparagraph 2 below.

2) Reduction in THIS PLAN'S Benefits

The benefits of THIS PLAN will be reduced when the sum of the following exceeds the ALLOWABLE EXPENSES in a CLAIM DETERMINATION PERIOD:

- a) The benefits that would be payable for the ALLOWABLE EXPENSES under THIS PLAN in the absence of this COB provision, and
- b) The benefits that would be payable for the ALLOWABLE EXPENSES under the other PLANS, in the absence of provisions with a purpose like that of this COB provision, whether or not claim is made. Under this provision, the benefits of THIS PLAN will be reduced so that they and the benefits payable under the other PLANS do not total more than those ALLOWABLE EXPENSES.

When the benefits of THIS PLAN are reduced as described above, each benefit is reduced in proportion. It is then charged against any applicable benefit limit of THIS PLAN.

#### **E. Right to Receive and Release Needed Information**

The HEALTH PLAN has the right to decide the facts it needs to apply these COB rules. It may get needed facts from or give them to any other organization or person without the consent of the insured but only as needed to apply these COB rules. Medical records remain confidential as provided by state and federal law. Each person claiming benefits under THIS PLAN must give the HEALTH PLAN any facts it needs to pay the claim.

#### **F. Facility of Payment**

A payment made under another PLAN may include an amount which should have been paid under THIS PLAN. If it does, the HEALTH PLAN may pay that amount to the organization which made that payment. That amount will then be treated as though it was a benefit paid under THIS PLAN.

The HEALTH PLAN will not have to pay that amount again. The term "payment made" means reasonable cash value of the benefits provided in the form of services.

**G. Right of Recovery**

If the amount of the payments made by the HEALTH PLAN is more than it should have paid under this COB provision, it may recover the excess from one or more of:

- 1) The persons it has paid or for whom it has paid,
- 2) Insurance companies, or
- 3) Other organizations.

The "amount of payments made" includes the reasonable cash value of any benefits provided in the form of services.

## **VI. Miscellaneous Provisions**

### **A. Right to Obtain and Provide Information**

Each PARTICIPANT agrees that the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM may obtain from the PARTICIPANT'S health care PROVIDERS the information (including medical records) that is reasonably necessary, relevant and appropriate for the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM to evaluate in connection with its treatment, payment, or health care operations. Each person claiming benefits must, upon request by the HEALTH PLAN, provide any relevant and reasonably available information which the HEALTH PLAN believes is necessary to determine benefits payable. Failure to provide such information may result in denial of the claim at issue.

Each PARTICIPANT agrees that information (including medical records) will, as reasonably necessary, relevant and appropriate, be disclosed as part of treatment, payment, or health care operations, including not only disclosures for such matters within the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM but also disclosures to:

- 1) Health care PROVIDERS as necessary and appropriate for treatment,
- 2) Appropriate DEPARTMENT employees as part of conducting quality assessment and improvement activities, or reviewing the HEALTH PLAN'S/PBM'S claims determinations for compliance with contract requirements, or other necessary health care operations,
- 3) The tribunal, including an external review organization, and parties to any appeal concerning a claim denial.

### **B. Physical Examination**

The HEALTH PLAN, at its own expense, shall have the right and opportunity to examine the person of any PARTICIPANT when and so often as may be reasonably necessary to determine his/her eligibility for claimed services or benefits under the Health Benefit Program (including, without limitation, issues relating to subrogation and coordination of benefits). By execution of an application for coverage under the HEALTH PLAN, each PARTICIPANT shall be deemed to have waived any legal rights he/she may have to refuse to consent to such examination when performed or conducted for the purposes set forth above.

### **C. Case Management/Alternate Treatment**

The HEALTH PLAN may employ a professional staff to provide case management services. As part of this case management, the HEALTH PLAN or the PARTICIPANT'S attending physician may recommend that a PARTICIPANT consider receiving treatment for an ILLNESS or INJURY which differs from the current treatment if it appears that:

- 1) The recommended treatment offers at least equal medical therapeutic value, and
- 2) The current treatment program may be changed without jeopardizing the PARTICIPANT'S health, and
- 3) The CHARGES (including pharmacy) incurred for services provided under the recommended treatment will probably be less.

If the HEALTH PLAN agrees to the attending physician's recommendation or if the PARTICIPANT or his/her authorized representative and the attending physician agree to the HEALTH PLAN'S recommendation, the recommended treatment will be provided as soon as it is available. If the recommended treatment includes services for which benefits are not otherwise payable (for example, biofeedback, acupuncture), payment of benefits will be as determined by the HEALTH PLAN. The PBM may establish similar case management services.

#### **D. Disenrollment**

No person other than a PARTICIPANT is eligible for health benefits. The SUBSCRIBER'S rights to group health benefits coverage is forfeited if a PARTICIPANT assigns or transfers such rights, or aids any other person in obtaining benefits to which they are not entitled, or otherwise fraudulently attempts to obtain benefits. Coverage terminates the beginning of the month following action of the Board. Re-enrollment is possible only if the person is employed by an employer where the coverage is available and is limited to occur during the annual It's Your Choice open enrollment period. Re-enrollment options may be limited under the Board's authority.

The DEPARTMENT may at any time request such documentation as it deems necessary to substantiate SUBSCRIBER or DEPENDENT eligibility. Failure to provide such documentation upon request shall result in the suspension of benefits.

In situations where a PARTICIPANT has committed acts of physical or verbal abuse, or is unable to establish/maintain a satisfactory physician-patient relationship with the current or alternate PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER, disenrollment efforts may be initiated by the HEALTH PLAN or the Board. The SUBSCRIBER'S disenrollment is effective the first of the month following completion of the GRIEVANCE process and approval of the Board. Coverage and enrollment options may be limited by the Board.

#### **E. Recovery of Excess Payments**

The HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM might pay more than the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM owes under the policy. If so, the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM can recover the excess from the PARTICIPANT. The HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM can also recover from another insurance company or service plan, or from any other person or entity that has received any excess payment from the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM.

Each PARTICIPANT agrees to reimburse the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM for all payments made for benefits to which the PARTICIPANT was not entitled. Reimbursement must be made immediately upon notification to the SUBSCRIBER by the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM. At the option of the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM, benefits for future CHARGES may be reduced by the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM as a set-off toward reimbursement.

#### **F. Limit on Assignability of Benefits**

This policy is the personal policy of the PARTICIPANT. The PARTICIPANT cannot assign any benefits to any other person not named as a PARTICIPANT on this BENEFIT PLAN.

### **G. Severability**

If any part of the policy is ever prohibited by law, it will not apply any more. The rest of the policy will continue in full force.

### **H. Subrogation**

Each PARTICIPANT agrees that the payer under these Uniform Benefits, whether that is a HEALTH PLAN or the DEPARTMENT, shall be subrogated to a PARTICIPANT'S rights to damages, to the extent of the benefits the HEALTH PLAN provides under the policy, for ILLNESS or INJURY a third party caused or is liable for. It is only necessary that the ILLNESS or INJURY occur through the act of a third party. The HEALTH PLAN'S or DEPARTMENT'S rights of full recovery may be from any source, including but not limited to:

- 1) The third party or any liability or other insurance covering the third party.
- 2) The PARTICIPANT'S own uninsured motorist insurance coverage.
- 3) Under-insured motorist insurance coverage.
- 4) Any medical payments, no-fault or school insurance coverages which are paid or payable.

PARTICIPANT'S rights to damages shall be, and they are hereby, assigned to the HEALTH PLAN or DEPARTMENT to such extent.

The HEALTH PLAN'S or DEPARTMENT'S subrogation rights shall not be prejudiced by any PARTICIPANT. Entering into a settlement or compromise arrangement with a third party without the HEALTH PLAN'S or DEPARTMENT'S prior written consent shall be deemed to prejudice the HEALTH PLAN'S or DEPARTMENT'S rights. Each PARTICIPANT shall promptly advise the HEALTH PLAN or DEPARTMENT in writing whenever a claim against another party is made on behalf of a PARTICIPANT and shall further provide to the HEALTH PLAN or DEPARTMENT such additional information as is reasonably requested by the HEALTH PLAN or DEPARTMENT. The PARTICIPANT agrees to fully cooperate in protecting the HEALTH PLAN'S or DEPARTMENT'S rights against a third party. The HEALTH PLAN or DEPARTMENT has no right to recover from a PARTICIPANT or insured who has not been "made whole" (as this term has been used in reported Wisconsin court decisions), after taking into consideration the PARTICIPANT'S or insured's comparative negligence. If a dispute arises between the HEALTH PLAN or DEPARTMENT and the PARTICIPANT over the question of whether or not the PARTICIPANT has been "made whole", the HEALTH PLAN or DEPARTMENT reserves the right to a judicial determination whether the insured has been "made whole."

In the event the PARTICIPANT can recover any amounts, for an INJURY or ILLNESS for which the HEALTH PLAN or DEPARTMENT provides benefits, by initiating and processing a claim as required by a workmen's or worker's compensation act, disability benefit act, or other employee benefit act, the PARTICIPANT shall either assert and process such claim and immediately turn over to the HEALTH PLAN or DEPARTMENT the net recovery after actual and reasonable attorney fees and expenses, if any, incurred in effecting the recovery, or, authorize the HEALTH PLAN or DEPARTMENT in writing to prosecute such claim on behalf of and in the name of the



PARTICIPANT, in which case the HEALTH PLAN or DEPARTMENT shall be responsible for all actual attorney's fees and expenses incurred in making or attempting to make recovery. If a PARTICIPANT fails to comply with the subrogation provisions of this contract, particularly, but without limitation, by releasing the PARTICIPANT'S right to secure reimbursement for or coverage of any amounts under any workmen's or worker's compensation act, disability benefit act, or other employee benefit act, as part of settlement or otherwise, the PARTICIPANT shall reimburse the HEALTH PLAN or DEPARTMENT for all amounts theretofore or thereafter paid by the HEALTH PLAN or DEPARTMENT which would have otherwise been recoverable under such acts and the HEALTH PLAN or DEPARTMENT shall not be required to provide any future benefits for which recovery could have been made under such acts but for the PARTICIPANT'S failure to meet the obligations of the subrogation provisions of this contract. The PARTICIPANT shall advise the HEALTH PLAN or DEPARTMENT immediately, in writing, if and when the PARTICIPANT files or otherwise asserts a claim for benefits under any workmen's or worker's compensation act, disability benefit act, or other employee benefit act.

### **I. Proof of Claim**

It is the PARTICIPANT'S responsibility to notify their PROVIDERS of participation in the HEALTH PLAN and PBM.

The PARTICIPANT'S failure to notify an IN-NETWORK PROVIDER of membership in the BENEFIT PLAN may result in claims not being filed on a timely basis. This could result in a delay in the claim being paid.

If a PARTICIPANT received allowable covered services (in most cases only EMERGENCIES or URGENT CARE) from an OUT-OF-NETWORK PROVIDER outside the SERVICE AREA, obtain and submit an itemized bill and submit to the HEALTH PLAN, clearly indicating the PROVIDER'S name and address. If the services were received outside the United States, indicate the appropriate exchange rate at the time the services were received and provide an English language itemized billing to facilitate processing of the claim.

Claims for services must be submitted as soon as reasonably possible after the services are received. If the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM does not receive the claim within 12 months, or if later, as soon as reasonably possible, after the date the service was received, the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM may deny coverage of the claim.

### **J. Grievance Process**

All participating HEALTH PLANS and the PBM are required to make a reasonable effort to resolve PARTICIPANTS' problems and complaints. If the PARTICIPANT has a complaint regarding the HEALTH PLAN'S and/or PBM'S administration of these benefits (for example, denial of claim or REFERRAL), the PARTICIPANT should contact the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM and try to resolve the problem informally. If the problem cannot be resolved in this manner, the PARTICIPANT may file a written GRIEVANCE with the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM. Contact the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM for specific information on its GRIEVANCE procedures.

If the PARTICIPANT exhausts the HEALTH PLAN'S and/or PBM'S GRIEVANCE process and remain dissatisfied with the outcome, the PARTICIPANT may appeal to the DEPARTMENT by

completing a DEPARTMENT complaint form. The PARTICIPANT should also submit copies of all pertinent documentation including the written determinations issued by the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM. The HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM will advise the PARTICIPANT of their right to appeal to the DEPARTMENT within 60 days of the date of the final GRIEVANCE decision letter from the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM.

However, the PARTICIPANT may not appeal to the DEPARTMENT issues which do not arise under the terms and conditions of Uniform Benefits, for example, determination of MEDICAL NECESSITY, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care, effectiveness of a covered benefit, EXPERIMENTAL treatment, or the rescission of a policy or certificate that can be resolved through an external review process under applicable federal or state law. The PARTICIPANT may request an external review. In this event, the PARTICIPANT must notify the TPA and/or PBM of their request. Any decision rendered through an external review is final and binding in accordance with applicable federal or state law. The PARTICIPANT has no further right to administrative review once the external review decision is rendered.

#### **K. Appeals to the Group Insurance Board**

After exhausting the HEALTH PLAN'S or PBM'S GRIEVANCE process and review by the DEPARTMENT, the PARTICIPANT may appeal the DEPARTMENT'S determination to the Group Insurance Board, unless an external review decision that is final and binding has been rendered in accordance with applicable federal or state law. The Group Insurance Board does not have the authority to hear appeals relating to issues which do not arise under the terms and conditions of Uniform Benefits, for example, determination of MEDICAL NECESSITY, appropriateness, health care setting, level of care, effectiveness of a covered benefit, EXPERIMENTAL treatment or the rescission of a policy or certificate that can be resolved through the external review process available under applicable federal or state law. These appeals are reviewed only to determine whether the HEALTH PLAN and/or PBM breached its contract with the Group Insurance Board.