

ADVANTAGE Health Solutions, Inc.

<http://www.advantageplan.com>



2004

A Health Maintenance Organization

Serving: Most of Indiana

Enrollment in this Plan is limited. You must live or work in our Geographic service area to enroll. See page 11 for requirements.



This Plan has New Health Plan Accreditation by NCQA from February 1, 2001 through February 1, 2004. See the 2003 guide for more information on accreditation.

Enrollment codes for this Plan:

6Y1 Self Only
6Y2 Self and Family

Authorized for distribution by the:



**United States
Office of Personnel Management**
Center for
Retirement and Insurance Services
<http://www.opm.gov/insure>



RI 73-803



**UNITED STATES
OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20415-0001**

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Dear Federal Employees Health Benefits Program Participant:

I am pleased to present this 2004 Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program plan brochure. The brochure describes the benefits this plan offers you for 2004. Because benefits vary from year to year, you should review your plan's brochure every Open Season – especially Section 2, which explains how the plan changed.

It takes a lot of information to help a consumer make wise healthcare decisions. The information in this brochure, our FEHB Guide, and our web-based resources, make it easier than ever to get information about plans, to compare benefits and to read customer service satisfaction ratings for the national and local plans that may be of interest. Just click on www.opm.gov/insure!

The FEHB Program continues to be an enviable national model that offers exceptional choice, and uses private-sector competition to keep costs reasonable, ensure high-quality care, and spur innovation. The Program, which began in 1960, is sound and has stood the test of time. It enjoys one of the highest levels of customer satisfaction of any healthcare program in the country.

I continue to take aggressive steps to keep the FEHB Program on the cutting edge of employer-sponsored health benefits. We demand cost-effective quality care from our FEHB carriers and we have encouraged Federal agencies and departments to pay the full FEHB health benefit premium for their employees called to active duty in the Reserve and National Guard so they can continue FEHB coverage for themselves and their families. Our carriers have also responded to my request to help our members to be prepared by making additional supplies of medications available for emergencies as well as call-up situations and you can help by getting an Emergency Preparedness Guide at www.opm.gov. OPM's *HealthierFeds* campaign is another way the carriers are working with us to ensure Federal employees and retirees are informed on healthy living and best-treatment strategies. You can help to contain healthcare costs and keep premiums down by living a healthy life style.

Open Season is your opportunity to review your choices and to become an educated consumer to meet your healthcare needs. Use this brochure, the FEHB Guide, and the web resources to make your choice an informed one. Finally, if you know someone interested in Federal employment, refer them to www.usajobs.opm.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kay Coles James".

Kay Coles James
Director



Notice of the Office of Personnel Management's Privacy Practices

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

By law, the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), which administers the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program, is required to protect the privacy of your personal medical information. OPM is also required to give you this notice to tell you how OPM may use and give out ("disclose") your personal medical information held by OPM.

OPM **will** use and give out your personal medical information:

- To you or someone who has the legal right to act for you (your personal representative),
- To the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, if necessary, to make sure your privacy is protected,
- To law enforcement officials when investigating and/or prosecuting alleged or civil or criminal actions, and
- Where required by law.

OPM **has the right** to use and give out your personal medical information to administer the FEHB Program. For example:

- To communicate with your FEHB health plan when you or someone you have authorized to act on your behalf asks for our assistance regarding a benefit or customer service issue.
- To review, make a decision, or litigate your disputed claim.
- For OPM and the General Accounting Office when conducting audits.

OPM **may** use or give out your personal medical information for the following purposes under limited circumstances:

- For Government healthcare oversight activities (such as fraud and abuse investigations),
- For research studies that meet all privacy law requirements (such as for medical research or education), and
- To avoid a serious and imminent threat to health or safety.

By law, OPM must have your written permission (an "authorization") to use or give out your personal medical information for any purpose that is not set out in this notice. You may take back ("revoke") your written permission at any time, except if OPM has already acted based on your permission.

By law, you **have the right** to:

- See and get a copy of your personal medical information held by OPM.
- Amend any of your personal medical information created by OPM if you believe that it is wrong or if information is missing, and OPM agrees. If OPM disagrees, you may have a statement of your disagreement added to your personal medical information.
- Get a listing of those getting your personal medical information from OPM in the past 6 years. The listing will not cover your personal medical information that was given to you or your personal representative, any information that you authorized OPM to release, or that was given out for law enforcement purposes or to pay for your health care or a disputed claim.
- Ask OPM to communicate with you in a different manner or at a different place (for example, by sending materials to a P.O. Box instead of your home address).

- Ask OPM to limit how your personal medical information is used or given out. However, OPM may not be able to agree to your request if the information is used to conduct operations in the manner described above.
- Get a separate paper copy of this notice.

For more information on exercising your rights set out in this notice, look at www.opm.gov/insure on the web. You may also call 202-606-0191 and ask for OPM's FEHB Program privacy official for this purpose.

If you believe OPM has violated your privacy rights set out in this notice, you may file a complaint with OPM at the following address:

Privacy Complaints
United States Office of Personnel Management
P.O. Box 707
Washington, DC 20004-0707

Filing a complaint will not affect your benefits under the FEHB Program. You also may file a complaint with the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.

By law, OPM is required to follow the terms in this privacy notice. OPM has the right to change the way your personal medical information is used and given out. If OPM makes any changes, you will get a new notice by mail within 60 days of the change. The privacy practices listed in this notice are effective April 14, 2003.

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Introduction

This brochure describes the benefits of ADVANTAGE Health Solutions, Inc. under our contract (CS 2862) with the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), as authorized by the Federal Employees Health Benefits law. The address for ADVANTAGE Health Solutions, Inc.SM administrative offices is:

ADVANTAGE Health Solutions, Inc.SM
9490 Priority Way, West Drive
Indianapolis, Indiana 46240

This brochure is the official statement of benefits. No oral statement can modify or otherwise affect the benefits, limitations, and exclusions of this brochure. It is your responsibility to be informed about your health benefits.

If you are enrolled in this Plan, you are entitled to the benefits described in this brochure. If you are enrolled for Self and Family coverage, each eligible family member is also entitled to these benefits. You do not have a right to benefits that were available before January 1, 2004, unless those benefits are also shown in this brochure.

OPM negotiates benefits and rates with each plan annually. Benefit changes are effective January 1, 2004, and changes are summarized on page 12. Rates are shown at the end of this brochure.

Plain Language

All FEHB brochures are written in plain language to make them responsive, accessible, and understandable to the public. For instance,

- Except for necessary technical terms, we use common words. For instance, "you" means the enrollee or family member; "we" means *ADVANTAGE Health Solutions, Inc.*SM
- We limit acronyms to ones you know. FEHB is the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program. OPM is the Office of Personnel Management. If we use others, we tell you what they mean first.
- Our brochure and other FEHB plans' brochures have the same format and similar descriptions to help you compare plans.

If you have comments or suggestions about how to improve the structure of this brochure, let OPM know. Visit OPM's "Rate Us" feedback area at www.opm.gov/insure or e-mail OPM at fehwebcomments@opm.gov. You may also write to OPM at the Office of Personnel Management, Office of Insurance Planning and Evaluation Division, 1900 E Street, NW Washington, DC 20415-3650.

Stop Health Care Fraud!

Fraud increases the cost of health care for everyone and increases your Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program premium.

OPM's Office of the Inspector General investigates all allegations of fraud, waste, and abuse in the FEHB Program regardless of the agency that employs you or from which you retired.

Protect Yourself From Fraud - Here are some things you can do to prevent fraud:

- Be wary of giving your plan identification (ID) number over the telephone or to people you do not know, except to your doctor, other provider, or authorized plan or OPM representative.
- Let only the appropriate medical professionals review your medical record or recommend services.

- Avoid using health care providers who say that an item or service is not usually covered, but they know how to bill us to get it paid.
- Carefully review explanations of benefits (EOBs) that you receive from us.
- Do not ask your doctor to make false entries on certificates, bills or records in order to get us to pay for an item or service.
- If you suspect that a provider has charged you for services you did not receive, billed you twice for the same service, or misrepresented any information, do the following:
 - Call the provider and ask for an explanation. There may be an error.
 - If the provider does not resolve the matter, call us at (317) 553-8933 and explain the situation.
 - If we do not resolve the issue:

**CALL -- THE HEALTH CARE FRAUD HOTLINE
202-418-3300**

OR WRITE TO:

The United States Office of Personnel Management
Office of the Inspector General Fraud Hotline
1900 E Street, NW, Room 6400
Washington, DC 20415

- Do not maintain as a family member on your policy:
 - your former spouse after a divorce decree or annulment is final (even if a court order stipulates otherwise); or
 - your child over age 22 (unless he/she is disabled and incapable of self support).
- If you have any questions about the eligibility of a dependent, check with your personnel office if you are employed or with OPM if you are retired.
- You can be prosecuted for fraud and your agency may take action against you if you falsify a claim to obtain FEHB or try to obtain services for someone who is not an eligible family member or who is no longer enrolled in the Plan.

Preventing Medical Mistakes

An influential report from the Institute of Medicines estimates that up to 98,000 Americans die every year from medical mistakes in hospitals alone. That's about 3,230 preventable deaths in the FEHB Program a year. While death is the most tragic outcome, medical mistakes cause other problems such as permanent disabilities, extended hospital stays, longer recoveries, and even additional treatments. By asking questions, learning more and understanding your risks, you can improve the safety of your own health care, and that of your family members. Take these simple steps.

1. Ask questions if you have doubts or concerns.

- Ask questions and make sure you understand the answers.
- Choose a doctor with whom you feel comfortable talking.
- Take a relative or friend with you to help you ask questions and understand answers.

2. Keep and bring a list of all the medicines you take.

- Give your doctor and pharmacist a list of all the medicines that you take, including non-prescription medicines.
- Tell them about any drug allergies you have.
- Ask about side effects and what to avoid while taking the medicine.
- Read the label when you get your medicine, including all warnings.
- Make sure your medicine is what the doctor ordered and know how to use it.
- Ask the pharmacist about your medicine if it looks different than you expected.

3. Get the results of any test or procedure

- Ask when and how you will get the results of test or procedures.
- Don't assume the results are fine if you do not get them when expected, be it in person, by phone, or by mail.
- Call your doctor and ask for your results.

- Ask what the results mean for your care.
- 4. Talk to your doctor about which hospital is best for your health needs.**
 - Ask your doctor about which hospital has the best care and results for your condition if you have more than one hospital to choose from to get the health care you need.
 - Be sure you understand the instructions you get about follow-up care when you leave the hospital.
- 5. Make sure you understand what will happen if you need surgery.**
 - Make sure you, your doctor, and your surgeon all agree on exactly what will be done during the operation.
 - Ask your doctor, “Who will manage my care when I am in the hospital?”
 - Ask your surgeon:
 - Exactly what will you be doing?
 - About how long will it take?
 - What will happen after surgery?
 - How can I expect to feel during recovery?
 - Tell the surgeon, anesthesiologist, and nurses about any allergies, bad reaction to anesthesia, and any medications you are taking.

Want more information on patient safety?

- www.ahrq.gov/consumer/pathqpack.htm. The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality makes available a wide-ranging list of topics not only to inform consumers about patient safety but to help choose quality healthcare providers and improve the quality of care you receive.
- www.npsf.org. The National Patient Safety Foundation has information on how to ensure safer healthcare for you and your family.
- www.talkaboutrx.org/consumer.html. The National Council on Patient Information and Education is dedicated to improving communication about the safe, appropriate use of medicines.
- www.leapfroggroup.org. The Leapfrog Group is active in promoting safe practices in hospital care.
- www.ahqa.org. The American Health Quality Association represents organizations and healthcare professionals working to improve patient safety.
- www.quic.gov/report. Find out what federal agencies are doing to identify threats to patient safety and help prevent mistakes in the nation’s healthcare delivery system

Section 1. Facts about this HMO plan

This Plan is a health maintenance organization (HMO). We require you to see specific physicians, hospitals, and other providers that contract with us. These Plan providers coordinate your health care services. The Plan is solely responsible for the selection of these providers in your area. Contact the Plan for a copy of their most recent provider directory.

HMOs emphasize preventive care such as routine office visits, physical exams, well-baby care, and immunizations, in addition to treatment for illness and injury. Our providers follow generally accepted medical practice when prescribing any course of treatment.

When you receive services from Plan providers, you will not have to submit claim forms or pay bills. You only pay the copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles described in this brochure. When you receive emergency services from non-Plan providers, you may have to submit claim forms.

You should join an HMO because you prefer the plan's benefits, not because a particular provider is available. You cannot change plans because a provider leaves our Plan. We cannot guarantee that any one physician, hospital, or other provider will be available and/or remain under contract with us.

How we pay providers

We contract with individual physicians, medical groups, and hospitals to provide the benefits in this brochure. These Plan providers accept a negotiated payment from us, and you will only be responsible for your copayments or coinsurance. ADVANTAGE Health Solutions pays almost all of its contracting medical groups and other physician networks on a capitation basis. Capitation is a method of payment in which an HMO pays a provider or provider network an agreed upon monthly fee for each member assigned to that provider or provider network.

Under capitation payment arrangements, the provider network is responsible for paying the physicians, hospitals and ancillary providers who provide the covered services to members. In some cases, the provider network pays the primary care physicians and specialty physicians on either a capitation basis or on a fee-for-services basis. "Fee-for-service" payment means that the physician bills the provider network for each service he/she provides, and the provider network pays an agreed upon rate for each service. Some hospital and ancillary providers are paid on a capitation payment basis, and others are paid on a fee-for-service basis. The provider networks may pay bonuses to, or withhold funds from, their contracted physicians based on how appropriately the physician has managed the utilization and costs of care for all his/her members.

If a member believes that his/her physician is refusing to authorize care when needed, or if it is taking too long to get approvals for specialty care or hospitalization, the member should contact Member Services at 1-800-553-8933 to discuss the concern. A Member Service Representative will assist in the evaluation of the concern and action.

ADVANTAGE Health Solutions members may also contact a Member Service Representative to obtain additional information about provider payment arrangements and incentives.

Your Rights

OPM requires that all FEHB Plans provide certain information to their FEHB members. You may get information about us, our networks, providers, and facilities. OPM's FEHB website (www.opm.gov/insure) lists the specific types of information that we must make available to you. Some of the required information is listed below.

- ADVANTAGE HMO, Inc. received its Certificate of Authority to operate a prepaid health care delivery system in Indiana on April 27, 2000 and meets the State's financial solvency requirements as of that date.
- The Plan was incorporated in November 1999 and began operations as a new health plan on May 1, 2000.
- The Plan is incorporated in Indiana as a For-profit company
- The Plan has no ownership or interest in any health care facilities
- The Plan and its contracted providers use nationally recognized clinical protocols, practice guidelines and utilization review standards published by Milliman and Robertson, Inc. and InterQual, to direct a patient's care.

ADVANTAGE HMO, Inc. is a privately held Indiana corporation owned by four Catholic health care systems: Ascension Health, Sisters of St. Francis Health Services, Inc., Saint Joseph's Regional Medical Center, Inc. and Ancilla Systems, Inc. ADVANTAGE HMO, Inc. is a managed care company licensed to operate a prepaid health plan under a Certificate of Authority issued by the State of Indiana on April 27, 2000. The managed care benefit plans are marketed as "ADVANTAGE Health Solutions".

As a Catholic owned organization, ADVANTAGE HMO, Inc. supports the Ethical and Religious Directives for Catholic Health Care Services (Directives). Our organization encourages individuals to apply their values in reaching a decision of conscience in matters of health.

ADVANTAGE Health Solutions includes primary care physicians, specialists, hospitals and other health care providers. Each provider is affiliated with a Provider Network (PN) or Physician Hospital Organization (PHO). All care is coordinated by your selected primary care physician (PCP), and to the extent possible, services are arranged and provided within your PCP's affiliated network.

The first and most important decision each member must make is the selection of a PCP. The PCP you choose will be your primary health care provider. Your PCP is the key to the HMO Network because he/she is responsible for coordinating all of your health care needs. The PCP is committed to providing you with the most appropriate care to meet your medical needs. Your PCP should always be contacted first for your health care needs. Your PCP will arrange for you to be referred to a specialist when medically necessary. When your PCP authorizes your referral to a specialist, he/she will obtain a referral authorization number for you. The PCP will also arrange for any hospital stays which may be required.

Specialty providers are generally limited to those participating within your PCP's network. The Provider Directory lists specialists by type of practice and by affiliated network.

If you want more information about us, call 1-800-553-8933, or write to ADVANTAGE Health Solutions Member Services, P.O. Box 80069, Indianapolis, IN 46280. You may also contact us by fax at 317-573-2839 or visit our web site at www.advantageplan.com.

Service Area

To enroll with us, you must live in or work in our service area. Members must select a Primary Care Provider within a 30 mile radius of their residence or where they work. This is where providers practice. Our service area includes the following counties: Bartholomew (partial zip codes, 47201, 47202, 47226, 47246, 47280), Blackford, Boone, Brown, Carroll, Cass, Clay (partial zip codes 47833, 47834, 47837, 47840, 47853, 47857, 47868, 47881), Clinton, Decatur, Delaware, Elkhart, Fayette, Fountain, Fulton, Grant, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Henry, Howard, Jasper, Jay, Johnson, Kosciusko, LaPorte, LaGrange, Madison, Marion, Marshall, Miami, Monroe, Montgomery, Morgan, Noble, Owen (47431, 47455, 47456, 47460), Parke, Porter, Pulaski, Putnam, Randolph, Rush, Shelby, St. Joseph, Starke, Tippecanoe, Tipton, Union, Vigo, Wabash, Wayne, and White. Please refer to enclosed ADVANTAGE Health Solutions, Inc. Service Area document for full state, county, city, and zip code listing.

Ordinarily, you must get your care from providers who contract with us. If you receive care outside our service area, we will pay only for emergency care benefits. We will not pay for any other health care services out of our service area unless the services have prior plan approval.

If you or a covered family member move outside of our service area, you can enroll in another plan. If your dependents live out of the area (for example, if your child goes to college in another state), you should consider enrolling in a fee-for-service plan or an HMO that has agreements with affiliates in other areas. If you or a family member move, you do not have to wait until Open Season to change plans. Contact your employing or retirement office.

Section 2. How we change for 2004

Do not rely on these change descriptions; this page is not an official statement of benefits. For that, go to Section 5 Benefits. Also, we edited and clarified language throughout the brochure; any language change not shown here is a clarification that does not change benefits.

Program-wide changes

- We added information regarding two new Federal Programs that complement FEHB benefits, the Federal Flexible Spending Account Program – FSAFEDS and the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program. See page 58
- We added information regarding Preventing medical mistakes. See. Page 8
- We added information regarding enrolling in Medicare. See page 48
- We revised the Medicare Primary Payer Chart. See page 50

Changes to this Plan

- Your share of the non-Postal premium will increase by 29.7% for Self Only or 28.5% for Self and Family.
- The dental benefit will add coverage that pays 80% of the MAC of class 1 (preventive and diagnostic) services up to \$300 per member per calendar year.
- The prescription drug mail order benefit will allow a 3 month supply of maintenance medication for the 30 day retail supply copay of \$10 / \$30 / \$50 (Generic/Brand name/Non-formulary respectively) if the member enrolls in one of the following applicable disease management programs: asthma, diabetes, congestive heart failure, hypertension/cardiovascular disease, or depression.

Section 3. How you get care

Identification cards

We will send you an identification (ID) card when you enroll. You should carry your ID card with you at all times. You must show it whenever you receive services from a Plan provider, or fill a prescription at a Plan pharmacy. Until you receive your ID card, use your copy of the Health Benefits Election Form, SF-2809, your health benefits enrollment confirmation (for annuitants), or your Employee Express confirmation letter.

If you do not receive your ID card within 30 days after the effective date of your enrollment, or if you need replacement cards, call us at 1-800-553-8933 or write to us at ADVANTAGE Health Solutions, Inc. 9490 Priority Way, West Drive, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240. You may also request replacement cards through our website, www.advantageplan.com

Where you get covered care

You get care from “Plan providers” and “Plan facilities.” You will only pay copayments, and coinsurance, and you will not have to file claims.

• Plan providers

Plan providers are physicians and other health care professionals in our service area that we contract with to provide covered services to our members. We credential Plan providers according to national standards. The Plan’s Primary Care Physicians (PCPs) specialize in Family Practice, General Practice, Internal Medicine, and Pediatrics. The Plan’s Specialists are practitioners who have furthered their training in specific areas of health care such as cardiology, surgery, dermatology, and oncology. The Plan arranges access to a broad range of participating providers through contracting with provider networks who directly contract with PCPs, specialists, hospitals and other facilities making up that provider network’s delivery system.

We list all Plan providers in the provider directory, which we update periodically. This list is also available on our website. You may contact a Member Service Representative to obtain additional information about participating providers such as: method of compensation, ownership or interest in health care facilities, professional education, medical school and residency training, current board certification status, number of years in practice, and member satisfaction rates.

• Plan facilities

Plan facilities are hospitals and other facilities in our service area that we contract with to provide covered services to our members. We list these in the provider directory, which we update periodically. The list is also on our website. When you select a PCP, you agree to utilize the physician’s affiliated hospital or hospital services. When your physician authorizes inpatient or outpatient hospital services, you may contact us to obtain more information about the hospital, such as: hospital accreditation status, experience/volume in performing certain procedures, and comparable measures of quality and consumer satisfaction.

What you must do to get covered care

It depends on the type of care you need. First, you and each family member must choose a primary care physician. This decision is important since your primary care physician provides or arranges for most of your health care. At the time of enrollment, you are given a Provider Directory to select your PCP.

The ADVANTAGE Health Solutions’ Provider Directory lists primary care doctors with their locations and phone numbers, and notes whether or not the doctor is accepting new patients. Directories are updated on a regular basis and are available at the time of enrollment or upon request by calling the ADVANTAGE Health Solutions Member Services Department at 1-800-553-8933. You can also find out if your doctor participates with the ADVANTAGE Health Solutions by calling this number. If you are

interested in receiving care from a specific provider who is listed in the directory, call the provider to verify that he or she still participates and is accepting new patients under this Plan. NOTE: When you enroll in the ADVANTAGE Health Solutions, services (except for emergencies) are provided through the Plan's delivery system; the continued availability and/or participation of any one doctor, hospital, or other provider, cannot be guaranteed.

- **Primary care**

Your primary care physician can be a Family Practice, General Practice, Internal Medicine or Pediatrician. Your primary care physician will provide most of your health care, or give you a referral to see a specialist.

If you want to change primary care physicians or if your primary care physician leaves the Plan, call us. We will help you select a new one.

- **Specialty care**

Your primary care physician will refer you to a specialist for needed care. When you receive a referral from your primary care physician, you must return to the primary care physician after the consultation, unless your primary care physician authorized a certain number of visits without additional referrals. The primary care physician must provide or authorize all follow-up care. Do not go to the specialist for return visits unless your primary care physician gives you a referral. However, you may see an Obstetrician/Gynecologist, midwife or nurse practitioner affiliated with your PCP provider network for the woman's annual routine examination without a referral. All other specialty care must be referred and arranged by your PCP in advance. Your PCP will coordinate your total care and work directly with your specialist. When your PCP authorizes your referral to a specialist, he/she will obtain a referral authorization number for you. Please do not schedule an appointment with a specialist until you have been properly authorized to do so.

If your PCP determines that you require treatment for a covered health service that is not available in your PCP's network, he/she will refer you to an appropriate provider outside of the network. An out-of-network provider will only be allowed to collect from you the copayment amount listed in your benefit plan that you would be responsible to pay if the services had been provided by an in-network provider.

Here are other things you should know about specialty care:

- If you need to see a specialist frequently because of a chronic, complex, or serious medical condition, your primary care physician will develop a treatment plan that allows you to see your specialist for a certain number of visits without additional referrals. Your primary care physician will use our criteria when creating your treatment plan (the physician may have to get an authorization or approval beforehand).
- If you are seeing a specialist when you enroll in our Plan, talk to your primary care physician. Your primary care physician will decide what treatment you need. If he or she decides to refer you to a specialist, ask if you can see your current specialist. If your current specialist does not participate with us, you must receive treatment from a specialist who does. Generally, we will not pay for you to see a specialist who does not participate with our Plan.
- If you are seeing a specialist and your specialist leaves the Plan, call your primary care physician, who will arrange for you to see another specialist. You may receive services from your current specialist until we can make arrangements for you to see someone else.

- If you have a chronic or disabling condition and lose access to your specialist because we:
 - terminate our contract with your specialist for other than cause; or
 - drop out of the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program and you enroll in another FEHB Plan; or
 - reduce our service area and you enroll in another FEHB Plan, you may be able to continue seeing your specialist for up to 90 days after you receive notice of the change. Contact us or, if we drop out of the Program, contact your new plan.

If you are in the second or third trimester of pregnancy and you lose access to your specialist based on the above circumstances, you can continue to see your specialist until the end of your postpartum care, even if it is beyond the 90 days.

• **Hospital care**

Your Plan primary care physician or specialist will make necessary hospital arrangements and supervise your care. This includes admission to a skilled nursing or other type of facility.

If you are in the hospital when your enrollment in our Plan begins, call our customer service department immediately at 1-800-553-8933. If you are new to the FEHB Program, we will arrange for you to receive care.

If you changed from another FEHB plan to us, your former plan will pay for the hospital stay until:

- You are discharged, not merely moved to an alternative care center; or
- The day your benefits from your former plan run out; or
- The 92nd day after you become a member of this Plan, whichever happens first.

These provisions apply only to the benefits of the hospitalized person. If your plan terminates participation in the FEHB Program in whole or in part, or if OPM orders an enrollment change, this continuation of coverage provision does not apply. In such case, the hospitalized family member's benefits under the new plan begin on the effective date of enrollment.

Circumstances beyond our control

Under certain extraordinary circumstances, such as natural disasters, we may have to delay your services or we may be unable to provide them. In that case, we will make all reasonable efforts to provide you with the necessary care.

Services requiring our prior approval

Your primary care physician has authority to refer you for most services. For certain services, however, your physician must obtain approval from us. Before giving approval, we consider if the service is covered, medically necessary, and follows generally accepted medical practice.

We call this review and approval process Precertification Review. Your physician must obtain Precertification for the following services. These services include but are not limited to:

- Diagnostic procedures such as CAT Scans and MRIs
- Elective hospital admissions
- Transplants
- Outpatient surgical procedures

The Precertification Review process is initiated by a physician referral to the appropriate medical management department (most of the Plan's provider networks are delegated medical management and Precertification Review). A Registered Nurse applying nationally accepted clinical guidelines and criteria performs the review. Any referral not meeting medical necessity guidelines is referred to a physician consultant. Only a

licensed physician will render a denial of the referral and only after consultation with the requesting physician. All denial letters include the principal reason for denial, specific details regarding your appeal rights, and how to obtain a copy of the actual clinical guidelines used during the review process. Precertification Review determinations are made within 2 business days of receiving all necessary information unless the request is urgent. Urgent precertification requests are completed within one business day of receipt. If procedures requiring Precertification are not appropriately reviewed, the services may be denied for coverage and may result in nonpayment by the Plan.

Section 4. Your costs for covered services

You must share the cost of some services. You are responsible for:

- **Copayments**

A copayment is a fixed amount of money you pay to the provider, facility, pharmacy, etc., when you receive services.

Example: When you see your primary care physician you pay a copayment of \$15 per office visit and when you go in the hospital, you pay \$400 per admission.

- **Deductible**

We do not have a deductible.

- **Coinsurance**

Coinsurance is the percentage of our negotiated fee that you must pay for your care.

Example: In our Plan, you pay 50% of our allowance for infertility services and durable medical equipment.

Your catastrophic protection out-of-pocket maximum for coinsurance and copayments

We do not have a catastrophic protection out-of-pocket maximum.

Section 5. Benefits -- OVERVIEW

(See page 12 for how our benefits changed this year and page 64 for a benefits summary.)

NOTE: This benefits section is divided into subsections. Please read the important things you should keep in mind at the beginning of each subsection. Also read the General Exclusions in Section 6; they apply to the benefits in the following subsections. To obtain claims forms, claims filing advice, or more information about our benefits, contact us at 1-800-553-8933 or visit our website at www.Advantageplan.com.

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Section 5 (a). Medical services and supplies provided by physicians and other health care professionals

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Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:

- Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.
- Plan physicians must provide or arrange your care.
- We have no calendar year deductible.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, or valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.

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Benefit Description	You pay
Diagnostic and treatment services	
Professional services of physicians <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In physician’s office 	\$15 per office visit to your primary care physician \$30 per visit to a specialist
Professional services of physicians <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In an urgent care center • During a hospital stay • In a skilled nursing facility • Office medical consultations • Second surgical opinion 	Nothing
At home (within the service area)	\$25 per visit
Lab, X-ray and other diagnostic tests	
Such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood tests • Urinalysis • Non-routine pap tests • Pathology • X-rays • Non-routine Mammograms • CAT Scans/MRI • Ultrasound • Electrocardiogram and EEG 	Nothing if you receive these services during your office visit; otherwise, \$15 per office visit to your Primary Care Physician or \$30 per office visit to a specialist

Preventive care, adult	You pay
Routine screenings, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Routine physical exam • Total Blood Cholesterol – once every three years • Colorectal Cancer Screening, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Fecal occult blood test – Sigmoidoscopy, screening – every five years starting at age 50 	\$15 per office visit
Routine Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) test – one annually for men age 40 and older	\$15 per office visit
Routine pap test Note: The office visit is covered if pap test is received on the same day; see <i>Diagnosis and Treatment</i> , above.	\$15 per office visit
Routine mammogram –covered for women age 35 and older, as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From age 35 through 39, one during this five year period • From age 40 through 64, one every calendar year • At age 65 and older, one every two consecutive calendar years 	\$15 per office visit
<i>Not covered: Physical exams required for obtaining or continuing employment or insurance, attending schools or camp, or travel.</i>	<i>All charges.</i>
Routine immunizations, limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tetanus-diphtheria (Td) booster – once every 10 years, ages 19 and over (except as provided for under Childhood immunizations) • Influenza vaccines, annually • Pneumococcal vaccine, age 65 and over 	\$15 per office visit
Preventive care, children	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Childhood immunizations recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics 	\$15 per office visit

Preventive care, children – continued on next page

Preventive care, children <i>(continued)</i>	You Pay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Well-child care charges for routine examinations, immunizations and care (through age 22) • Examinations, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Eye exams through age 17 to determine the need for vision correction. — Ear exams through age 17 to determine the need for hearing correction — Examinations done on the day of immunizations (through age 22) 	\$15 per office visit
Maternity care	
<p>Complete maternity (obstetrical) care, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prenatal care • Delivery • Postnatal care <p>Note: Here are some things to keep in mind:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You do not need to precertify your normal delivery. • You may remain in the hospital up to 48 hours after a regular delivery and 96 hours after a cesarean delivery. We will extend your inpatient stay if medically necessary. • We cover routine nursery care of the newborn child during the covered portion of the mother's maternity stay. We will cover other care of an infant who requires non-routine treatment only if we cover the infant under a Self and Family enrollment. • We pay hospitalization and surgeon services (delivery) the same as for illness and injury. See Hospital benefits (Section 5c) and Surgery benefits (Section 5b). 	\$15 for first visit only
<i>Not covered: Routine sonograms to determine fetal age, size or sex</i>	<i>All charges.</i>
Family planning	
<p>A range of voluntary family planning services, limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary sterilization • Surgically implanted contraceptives (such as Norplant) • Injectable contraceptive drugs (such as Depo provera) • Intrauterine devices (IUDs) • Diaphragms <p>NOTE: We cover oral contraceptives under the prescription drug benefit.</p>	50% of actual charges
<i>Not covered: reversal of voluntary surgical sterilization, genetic counseling,</i>	<i>All charges.</i>

Infertility services	You pay
<p>Diagnosis and treatment of infertility, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artificial insemination: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — <i>intra</i>vaginal insemination (IVI) — <i>intra</i>cervical insemination (ICI) — <i>intra</i>uterine insemination (IUI) — <i>Fertility Drugs</i> <p><i>Note: We cover injectable fertility drugs under medical benefits and oral fertility drugs under the prescription drug benefit.</i></p>	<p>50% of actual charges for each procedure</p>
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Assisted reproductive technology (ART) procedures, such as:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — <i>in vitro</i> fertilization — <i>embryo transfer, gamete GIFT and zygote ZIFT</i> — <i>Zygote transfer</i> • <i>Services and supplies related to excluded ART procedures</i> • <i>Injectable or oral fertility drugs</i> • <i>Cost of donor sperm</i> • <i>Cost of donor egg</i> 	<p><i>All charges.</i></p>
Allergy care	
<p>Testing and treatment Allergy injection</p>	<p>\$15 per office visit</p>
<p>Allergy serum</p>	<p>Nothing</p>
<p><i>Not covered: provocative food testing and sublingual allergy desensitization</i></p>	<p><i>All charges.</i></p>

Treatment therapies	You pay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chemotherapy and radiation therapy <p>Note: High dose chemotherapy in association with autologous bone marrow transplants are limited to those transplants listed under Organ/Tissue Transplants on page 31.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respiratory and inhalation therapy • Dialysis – hemodialysis and peritoneal dialysis • Intravenous (IV)/Infusion Therapy – Home IV and antibiotic therapy • Growth hormone therapy (GHT) <p>Note: Growth hormone is covered under the prescription drug benefit.</p> <p>Note: – We will only cover GHT when we preauthorize the treatment. Call your Plan physician for preauthorization. GHT must be medically necessary, and authorized by your Plan physician before you begin treatment. If you do not obtain authorization or if we determine GHT is not medically necessary, we will not cover the GHT or related services and supplies. See <i>Services requiring our prior approval</i> in Section 3.</p>	<p>\$15 per office visit</p>
Physical and occupational therapies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to two (2) consecutive months per condition for the services of each of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – qualified physical therapists and – occupational therapists. <p>Note: We only cover therapy to restore bodily function when there has been a total or partial loss of bodily function due to illness or injury.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cardiac rehabilitation following a heart transplant, bypass surgery or a myocardial infarction, is provided for up to a three (3) month period. 	<p>\$15 per office visit</p> <p>Nothing per visit during covered inpatient admission.</p>
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>long-term rehabilitative therapy</i> • <i>exercise programs</i> 	<p><i>All charges.</i></p>

Speech therapy	You pay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to three (3) months per condition for the services of the following: Speech therapists 	50% of actual charges
Hearing services (testing, treatment, and supplies)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First hearing aid and testing only when necessitated by accidental injury Hearing testing for children through age 17 (see <i>Preventive care, children</i>) 	\$15 per office visit
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>all other hearing testing</i> <i>hearing aids, testing and examinations for them</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>
Vision services (testing, treatment, and supplies)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> One pair of eyeglasses or contact lenses to correct an impairment directly caused by accidental ocular injury or intraocular surgery (such as for cataracts) 	\$15 per office visit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eye exam to determine the need for vision correction for children through age 17 (see <i>Preventive care, children</i>) Annual eye refractions <p>Note: See <i>Preventive care, children</i> for eye exams for children</p>	\$15 per office visit
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Eyeglasses or contact lenses and, after age 17, examinations for them</i> <i>Eye exercises and orthoptics</i> <i>Radial keratotomy and other refractive surgery</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>

Foot care	You pay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine foot care when you are under active treatment for a metabolic or peripheral vascular disease, such as diabetes. <p>See orthopedic and prosthetic devices for information on podiatric shoe inserts.</p>	\$15 per office visit
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Cutting, trimming or removal of corns, calluses, or the free edge of toenails, and similar routine treatment of conditions of the foot, except as stated above</i> <i>Treatment of weak, strained or flat feet or bunions or spurs; and of any instability, imbalance or subluxation of the foot (unless the treatment is by open cutting surgery)</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>
Orthopedic and prosthetic devices	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Artificial limbs and eyes; stump hose Externally worn breast prostheses and surgical bras, including necessary replacements, following a mastectomy <p>Internal prosthetic devices, such as artificial joints, pacemakers, cochlear implants, and surgically implanted breast implant following mastectomy. Note: See 5(b) for coverage of the surgery to insert the device.</p>	Nothing
<p>Corrective orthopedic appliances for non-dental treatment of temporomandibular joint (TMJ) pain dysfunction syndrome.</p>	50% of charges
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>orthopedic and corrective shoes</i> <i>arch supports</i> <i>foot orthotics</i> <i>heel pads and heel cups</i> <i>lumbosacral supports</i> <i>corsets, trusses, elastic stockings, support hose, and other supportive devices</i> <i>prosthetic replacements provided less than 2 years after the last one we covered</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>

Durable medical equipment (DME)	You pay
<p>Rental or purchase, at our option, including repair and adjustment, of durable medical equipment prescribed by your Plan physician, such as oxygen and dialysis equipment. Under this benefit, we also cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • hospital beds; • wheelchairs; • crutches; • walkers; • blood glucose monitors; and • insulin pumps. <p>Note: Call your Plan physician who will prescribe this equipment and direct you to a contracted supplier.</p>	50% of all charges
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Motorized wheel chairs</i> • <i>Swimming pools and spas</i> • <i>Exercise equipment</i> • <i>Repair of DME when malfunction is directly a result of misuse or neglect</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>
Home health services	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home health care ordered by a Plan physician and provided by a registered nurse (R.N.), licensed practical nurse (L.P.N.), licensed vocational nurse (L.V.N.), or home health aide. • Services include oxygen therapy, intravenous therapy and medications. • Transparenteral Therapy (TPN) • Sleep Apnea Studies • Ventilator Management • Wound Care 	\$30 per office visit
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>nursing care requested by, or for the convenience of, the patient or the patient's family;</i> • <i>home care primarily for personal assistance that does not include a medical component and is not diagnostic, therapeutic, or rehabilitative.</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>
Chiropractic	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manipulation of the spine and extremities • Adjunctive procedures such as ultrasound, electrical muscle stimulation, vibratory therapy, and cold pack application. <p>Up to two (2) consecutive months per condition for the services of Chiropractors.</p>	\$30 per office visit
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Labs, x-rays, diagnostic testing</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>

Alternative treatments	You pay
No benefits	<i>All Charges</i>
Educational classes and programs	
<p>Coverage is limited to: Smoking Cessation – if enrolled in an approved smoking cessation program. Approved prescription drugs are subject to the prescription copay.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diabetes self-management • Asthma disease management <p>Note: You may call our health education department at 317-573-2922 for a list of approved classes.</p>	Nothing
<p><i>Not Covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Over-the-counter smoking cessations aids</i> • <i>More than one (1) smoking cessation class per calendar year and no more than three (3) classes per lifetime.</i> 	<i>All Charges</i>
Pervasive Developmental Disorder (PDD)	
<p>Pervasive Developmental Disorder is defined as a neurological condition, including Asperger’s syndrome and autism, as defined in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical manual of Mental Disorders of the American Psychiatric Association.</p> <p>Benefits for Pervasive Developmental Disorder include but are not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluation and Testing to confirm diagnosis • Physical, speech, occupational therapy • Dietary evaluation <p>Benefits are limited to treatment that is prescribed by a physician in accordance with the patient’s treatment plan. No other exclusions or limitations in this brochure that conflict with this benefit apply.</p>	<p>\$15 per office visit to your primary care physician</p> <p>\$30 per visit to a specialist</p> <p>\$400 per (inpatient) admission; limited to two (2) copayments per member per calendar year</p> <p>\$100 per (outpatient) admission</p>

Section 5 (b). Surgical and anesthesia services provided by physicians and other health care professionals

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Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:

- Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.
- Plan physicians must provide or arrange your care.
- We have no calendar year deductible.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.
- The amounts listed below are for the charges billed by a physician or other health care professional for your surgical care. Look in Section 5(c) for charges associated with the facility (i.e. hospital, surgical center, etc.).
- **YOUR PHYSICIAN MUST GET PRECERTIFICATION OF SOME SURGICAL PROCEDURES.** Please refer to the cation information shown in Section 3 to be sure which services require precertification and identify which surgeries require precertification.

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Benefit Description	You pay
Surgical procedures	
<p>A comprehensive range of services, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operative procedures • Treatment of fractures, including casting • Normal pre- and post-operative care by the surgeon • Correction of amblyopia and strabismus • Endoscopy procedures • Biopsy procedures • Removal of tumors and cysts • Correction of congenital anomalies (see reconstructive surgery) • Surgical treatment of morbid obesity -- a condition in which an individual weighs 100 pounds or 100% over his or her normal weight according to current underwriting standards; has a body mass index (BMI) over 40 kilograms/meter²; or has a BMI over 35 kilograms/meter² and a high risk co-morbid condition. In addition the eligible members must be age 18 or over, has failed to lose a significant amount of weight or has regained weight despite compliance with a medically supervised, mutlidisciplinary, n on-surgical program including low calorie or very low calorie diet, supervised exercise, behavioral modification and support and treatment of co-morbid condition; does not have a correctable cause for obesity; and is being treated in a surgical program with experience in obesity surgery including but not only surgeons, but also a multidisciplinary team including all of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Preoperative medical consultation and approval – Preoperative psychiatric consultation and approval – Nutritional counseling – Exercise counseling – Psychological counseling – Support group meetings 	\$30 per office visit

Surgical procedures <i>(continued)</i>	You pay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insertion of internal prosthetic devices. See 5(a) – Orthopedic and prosthetic devices for device coverage information. • Voluntary sterilization (e.g., Tubal ligation, Vasectomy) • Treatment of burns <p>Note: Generally, we pay for internal prostheses (devices) according to where the procedure is done. For example, we pay Hospital benefits for a pacemaker and Surgery benefits for insertion of the pacemaker.</p>	\$30 per office visit
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reversal of voluntary sterilization • Routine treatment of conditions of the foot; see Foot care. 	<i>All charges</i>
Reconstructive surgery	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surgery to correct a functional defect • Surgery to correct a condition caused by injury or illness if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – the condition produced a major effect on the member’s appearance and – the condition can reasonably be expected to be corrected by such surgery • Surgery to correct a condition that existed at or from birth and is a significant deviation from the common form or norm. Examples of congenital anomalies are: protruding ear deformities; cleft lip; cleft palate; birth marks; webbed fingers; and webbed toes. • All stages of breast reconstruction surgery following a mastectomy, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – surgery to produce a symmetrical appearance on the other breast; – treatment of any physical complications, such as lymphedemas; – breast prostheses and surgical bras and replacements (see Prosthetic devices) <p>Note: If you need a mastectomy, you may choose to have the procedure performed on an inpatient basis and remain in the hospital up to 48 hours after the procedure.</p>	\$30 per office visit
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cosmetic surgery – any surgical procedure (or any portion of a procedure) performed primarily to improve physical appearance through change in bodily form, except repair of accidental injury</i> • <i>Surgeries related to sex transformation</i> • <i>Surgical procedures for body fat reduction, such as liposuction</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>

Oral and maxillofacial surgery	You pay
<p>Oral surgical procedures, limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction of fractures of the jaws or facial bones; • Surgical correction of cleft lip, cleft palate or severe functional malocclusion; • Removal of stones from salivary ducts; • Excision of leukoplakia or malignancies; • Excision of cysts and incision of abscesses when done as independent procedures; and • Other surgical procedures that do not involve the teeth or their supporting structures • Treatment of TMJ, including surgical and non-surgical intervention, corrective orthopedic appliance and physical therapy 	<p>\$30 per office visit</p>
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Oral implants and transplants</i> • <i>Procedures that involve the teeth or their supporting structures (such as the periodontal membrane, gingiva, and alveolar bone)</i> 	<p><i>All charges.</i></p>

Organ/tissue transplants	You pay
<p>Limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cornea • Heart • Heart/lung • Kidney • Kidney/Pancreas • Liver • Lung: Single –Double • Pancreas • Allogenic (donor) bone marrow transplants • Autologous bone marrow transplants (autologous stem cell and peripheral stem cell support) for the following conditions: acute lymphocytic or non-lymphocytic leukemia; advanced Hodgkin's lymphoma; advanced non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; advanced neuroblastoma; breast cancer; multiple myeloma; epithelial ovarian cancer; and testicular, mediastinal, retroperitoneal and ovarian germ cell tumors • Intestinal transplants (small intestine) and the small intestine with the liver or small intestine with multiple organs such as the liver, stomach, and pancreas • National Transplant Program (NTP) - <p>Limited Benefits - Treatment for breast cancer, multiple myeloma, and epithelial ovarian cancer may be provided in an NCI- or NIH-approved clinical trial at a Plan-designated center of excellence and if approved by the Plan's medical director in accordance with the Plan's protocols.</p> <p>Note: We cover related medical and hospital expenses of the donor when we cover the recipient.</p>	<p>Nothing</p>
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Donor screening tests and donor search expenses, except those performed for the actual donor</i> • <i>Implants of artificial organs</i> • <i>Transplants not listed as covered</i> 	<p><i>All charges</i></p>
Anesthesia	
<p>Professional services provided in –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital (inpatient) 	<p>Nothing</p>
<p>Professional services provided in –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital outpatient department • Skilled nursing facility • Ambulatory surgical center • Office 	<p>\$30 per office visit</p>

Section 5 (c). Services provided by a hospital or other facility, and ambulance services

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Here are some important things to remember about these benefits:

- Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.
- Plan physicians must provide or arrange your care and you must be hospitalized in a Plan facility.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.
- The amounts listed below are for the charges billed by the facility (i.e., hospital or surgical center) or ambulance service for your surgery or care. Any costs associated with the professional charge (i.e., physicians, etc.) are covered in Sections 5(a) or (b).
- **YOUR PHYSICIAN MUST GET PRECERTIFICATION OF HOSPITAL STAYS.** Please refer to Section 3 to be sure which services require precertification.

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Benefit Description	You pay
Inpatient hospital	
<p>Room and board, such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ward, semiprivate, or intensive care accommodations; • general nursing care; and • meals and special diets. <p>NOTE: If you want a private room when it is not medically necessary, you pay the additional charge above the semiprivate room rate.</p> <p>When your Plan physician determines it is medically necessary, the physician may prescribe private accommodations or private duty nursing care.</p>	<p>\$400 per admission; limited to two (2) copayments per member per calendar year.</p>
<p>Other hospital services and supplies, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating, recovery, maternity, and other treatment rooms • Prescribed drugs and medicines • Diagnostic laboratory tests and X-rays • Administration of blood and blood products • Blood or blood plasma, if not donated or replaced • Dressings, splints, casts, and sterile tray services • Medical supplies and equipment, including oxygen • Anesthetics, including nurse anesthetist services • Take-home items • Medical supplies, appliances, medical equipment, and any covered items billed by a hospital for use at home 	<p>Nothing</p>

Inpatient hospital -- continued on next page

Inpatient hospital (continued)	You Pay
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Custodial care • Non-covered facilities, such as nursing homes, and schools • Personal comfort items, such as telephone, television, barber services, guest meals and beds • Private nursing care • Take-home prescriptions drugs • Hospitalization for dental procedures 	<p><i>All charges.</i></p>
<p>Outpatient hospital or ambulatory surgical center</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating, recovery, and other treatment rooms • Prescribed drugs and medicines • Diagnostic laboratory tests, X-rays, and pathology services • Administration of blood, blood plasma, and other biologicals • Blood and blood plasma, if not donated or replaced • Pre-surgical testing • Dressings, casts, and sterile tray services • Medical supplies, including oxygen • Anesthetics and anesthesia service <p>NOTE: – We cover hospital services and supplies related to dental procedures when necessitated by a non-dental physical impairment. We do not cover the dental procedures.</p>	<p>\$100 per visit</p>
<p><i>Not covered: blood and blood derivatives not replaced by the member</i></p>	<p><i>All charges.</i></p>
<p>Extended care benefits/skilled nursing care facility benefits</p> <p>Extended care benefit: Up to 100 days per calendar year when full-time skilled nursing care is necessary and confinement in a skilled nursing facility is medically appropriate and determined by your Plan physician and approved by the Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bed, board and general nursing care • Drugs, biologicals, supplies, equipment ordinarily provided or arranged by the skilled nursing facility when prescribed by the Plan physician. 	<p>\$400 per admission limited to two (2) copayments per member per calendar year.</p>
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Custodial care, rest cures, domiciliary or convalescent care or homemaker services • Personal comfort items, such as telephone or television 	<p><i>All charges</i></p>

Inpatient hospital – continued next page

Hospice care	You Pay
<p>Provided for a terminally ill member in accordance with a treatment plan developed before admission to the Hospice Care Program. The treatment plan must be approved by ADVANTAGE Health Solutions or its designated agent.</p> <p>Note: Limited to services provided under the direction of a Plan physician who certifies the patient is in the terminal stage of illness, with a life expectancy of approximately six months or less.</p>	Nothing
<i>Not covered: Independent nursing, homemaker services</i>	<i>All charges.</i>
Ambulance	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local professional ambulance service when medically appropriate 	20% of actual charges

Section 5 (d). Emergency services/accidents

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Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:

- Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.
- We have no calendar year deductible.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.

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What is a medical emergency?

A medical emergency is the sudden and unexpected onset of a condition or an injury that you believe endangers your life or could result in serious injury or disability, and requires immediate medical or surgical care. Some problems are emergencies because, if not treated promptly, they might become more serious; examples include deep cuts and broken bones. Others are emergencies because they are potentially life-threatening, such as heart attacks, strokes, poisonings, gunshot wounds, or sudden inability to breathe. There are many other acute conditions that we may determine are medical emergencies – what they all have in common is the need for quick action.

What to do in case of emergency:

Emergencies within our service area: If you are in an emergency situation, please call your primary care physician. In extreme emergencies, if you are unable to contact your doctor, contact the local emergency system (e.g., the 911 telephone system) or go to the nearest hospital emergency room. Be sure to tell the emergency room personnel that you are a Plan member so they can notify the Plan. You or a family member should notify the Plan within 48 hours, unless it is not reasonably possible to do so. It is your responsibility to ensure that the Plan has been timely notified.

If you need to be hospitalized in a non-Plan facility, the Plan must be notified within 48 hours or on the first working day following your admission, unless it was not reasonably possible to notify the Plan within that time. If you are hospitalized in a non-Plan facility and a Plan doctor believes care can be better provided in a Plan facility, you will be transferred when medically feasible with any ambulance charges covered in full.

To be covered by this Plan, any follow-up care recommended by non-Plan physician must be approved by your Plan physician with a prior referral.

Emergencies outside our service area: Benefits are available for any medically necessary health service that is immediately required because of injury or unforeseen illness.

If you need to be hospitalized, the Plan must be notified within 48 hours or on the first working day following your admission, unless it was not reasonably possible to notify the Plan within that time. If a Plan physician believes care can be better provided in a Plan facility, you will be transferred when medically feasible with any ambulance charges covered in full.

To be covered by this Plan, any follow-up care recommended by an emergency room physician must be approved by the Plan or provided by a Plan physician.

If you are required to pay for services, submit itemized bills and your receipts to the Plan along with an explanation of the services and the identification information from your ID card. Payment will be sent to you (or the provider if you did not pay the bill), unless the claim is denied. If it is denied, you will receive notice of the decision, including the reasons for the denial and the provisions of the contract on which denial was based. If you disagree with the Plan's decision, you may request reconsideration in accordance with the disputed claims procedure described on pages 46-47.

Benefit Description	You pay
Emergency within our service area	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency care at a doctor's office • Emergency care at an urgent care center • Emergency care as an outpatient or inpatient at a hospital, including doctors' services 	<p>\$15 per office visit</p> <p>\$50 per visit</p> <p>\$125 per visit</p>
<i>Not covered: Elective care or non-emergency care</i>	<i>All charges.</i>
Emergency outside our service area	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency care at a doctor's office • Emergency care at an urgent care center • Emergency care as an outpatient or inpatient at a hospital, including doctors' services 	<p>\$15 per office visit</p> <p>\$50 per visit</p> <p>\$125 per visit; waived if admitted</p>
<p><i>Not covered:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Elective care or non-emergency care</i> • <i>Emergency care provided outside the service area if the need for care could have been foreseen before leaving the service area</i> 	<i>All charges.</i>
Ambulance	
<p>Professional ambulance service when medically appropriate. Includes air ambulance services when medically appropriate.</p> <p>See 5(c) for non-emergency service.</p>	20% of actual charges

Section 5 (e). Mental health and substance abuse benefits

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When you get our approval for services and follow a treatment plan we approve, cost-sharing and limitations for Plan mental health and substance abuse benefits will be no greater than for similar benefits for other illnesses and conditions.

Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:

- Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.
- **YOU MUST GET PREAUTHORIZATION OF THESE SERVICES.** See the instructions after the benefits description below.

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Benefit Description	You pay
Mental health and substance abuse benefits	
<p>All diagnostic and treatment services recommended by a Plan provider and contained in a treatment plan that we approve. The treatment plan may include services, drugs, and supplies described elsewhere in this brochure.</p> <p>Note: Plan benefits are payable only when we determine the care is clinically appropriate to treat your condition and only when you receive the care as part of a treatment plan that we approve.</p>	<p>Your cost sharing responsibilities are no greater than for other illness or conditions.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional services, including individual or group therapy by providers such as psychiatrists, psychologists, or clinical social workers • Medication management • Diagnostic tests 	<p>Nothing if you receive these services during your office visit; otherwise, \$30 per visit</p>

Mental health and substance abuse benefits - continued on next page

Mental health and substance abuse benefits <i>(continued)</i>	You pay
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Services provided by a hospital or other facility • Services in approved alternative care settings such as partial hospitalization, half-way house, residential treatment, full-day hospitalization, facility based intensive outpatient treatment 	\$400 per admission; limited to two (2) copayments per member per calendar year
<p><i>Not covered: Services we have not approved.</i></p> <p><i>Note: OPM will base its review of disputes about treatment plans on the treatment plan's clinical appropriateness. OPM will generally not order us to pay or provide one clinically appropriate treatment plan in favor of another.</i></p>	<i>All charges.</i>

Preauthorization

To be eligible to receive these benefits you must obtain a treatment plan and follow all of the following authorization processes:

- Mental Health and Substance Abuse services do not require an authorization from your primary care physician and may be obtained on self-referral basis. However, the contracting ADVANTAGE providers available to you will depend on the primary care physician you have selected. The Mental Health and Substance Abuse Service access phone number is listed on the bottom of your ADVANTAGE Health Solutions Member ID Card. Inpatient and Outpatient treatment plans require authorization from a Mental Health and Substance Abuse Plan physician.
- If you would like more information about your Mental Health and Substance Abuse benefits, please contact an ADVANTAGE Health Solutions Member Service Representative for assistance.

Limitation

We may limit your benefits if you do not obtain a treatment plan.

Section 5 (f). Prescription drug benefits

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Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:

- We cover prescribed drugs and medications, as described in the chart beginning on the next page.
- All benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, for valuable information about how cost sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.

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There are important features you should be aware of. These include:

- **Who can write your prescription?** A licensed prescriber must write the prescription.
- **Where you can obtain them?** You must fill the prescription at a plan pharmacy, or by mail for a maintenance medication
- **We use a formulary.** A formulary is a list of generic and brand-name prescription medications that have been approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). ADVANTAGE Health Solutions has a team of physicians and pharmacists that meets regularly throughout the year to review and update that list. It includes medications for most conditions treated outside the hospital. Your physician can use the list to select medications that are appropriate to meet your healthcare needs, while helping you maximize your prescription drug benefit.

We have an open formulary. If your physician believes a name brand product is necessary or there is no generic available, your physician may prescribe a name brand drug from a formulary list. This list of name brand drugs is a preferred list of drugs that we selected to meet patient needs at a lower cost. To order a prescription drug brochure, call 1-800-553-8933.

Your health plan/employer has chosen a prescription drug program that has three different co-pay levels. This program allows you to pay a lower copay for covered drugs that are on the formulary. We cover non-formulary drugs prescribed by a Plan doctor, but at a higher copay.

If a prescription for a non-formulary medication is written, the pharmacist will receive an on-line message at the pharmacy. The pharmacist should contact the physician to request a change to a formulary product. If the physician is unwilling to change, or is unavailable, the pharmacist will dispense the prescription as written. Patients will be required to pay a higher copay when a non-formulary product is dispensed. This policy will reflect the patient's prescription drug benefit.

- **These are the dispensing limitations.** Prescription drugs prescribed by a plan or referral doctor and obtained at a plan pharmacy will be dispensed up to a 30-day supply; or one commercially prepared unit (i.e. one inhaler, one vial ophthalmic medication or insulin). You pay a \$10 copay per prescription unit or refill for generic drugs or a \$30 copay per prescription unit or refill for name brand drugs when generic substitution is not available. You pay a \$50 copay for non-formulary drugs. When generic substitution is available, but you request the name brand drug or non-formulary drug, you pay the price difference and the required copay per prescription unit or refill as written. You will always pay the appropriate copayment or the actual cost of the drug, whichever is less.

If your physician orders more than a 30 day supply of covered drugs, up to a 90 day supply, mail service is available. Initially you request your prescription information by completing a Pharmacare Mailer and enclosing your original written prescription. You may also reach Pharmacare (www.pharmacare.com) by calling 1-800-346-9113. If you are currently taking a medication, you must call your physician's office and request a new prescription for the maximum day supply. You pay a \$20 copay per generic, a \$60 copay per name brand (when generic is not available), and \$100 for non-formulary for up to a 90 day supply. When generic substitution is available, but you request the name brand or non-formulary drug, you pay the price difference and the required copay. Plan members called to active military duty or in time of national emergency who need to obtain prescribed medication should call our Member Services department at 1-800-553-8933.

Pharmacare's system incorporates on-line drug reviews at the point of dispensing medications. Elements reviewed include, Drug-Drug Interaction, Refill Too Soon, Therapeutic Duplication, Duplication of Therapy, Over Dosage and Under Dosage.

A generic equivalent will be dispensed if it is available, unless your physician specifically requires a name brand. If you receive a name brand drug when a Federally-approved generic drug is available, and your physician has not specified Dispense as Written for the name brand drug, you have to pay the difference in cost between the name brand drug and the generic.

- **Why use generic drugs?** Generic drugs are lower-priced drugs that are the therapeutic equivalent to more expensive brand-name drugs. They must contain the same active ingredients and must be equivalent in strength and dosage to the original brand-name product. Generics cost less than the equivalent brand-name product. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration sets quality standards for generic drugs to ensure that these drugs meet the same standards of quality and strength as brand-name drugs.

You can save money by using generic drugs. However, you and your physician have the option to request a name-brand if a generic option is available. Using the most cost-effective medication saves money.

The prescription drug mail order benefit will allow a 3 month supply of maintenance medication for the 30 day retail supply copay of \$10 / \$30 / \$50 (Generic/Brand name/Non-formulary respectively) if the member enrolls in one of the following applicable disease management programs: asthma, diabetes, congestive heart failure, hypertension/cardiovascular disease, or depression.

- **When you have to file a claim.** You will not be required to file claims with this plan.

Benefit Description	You pay
<p>Covered medications and supplies</p>	
<p>We cover the following medications and supplies prescribed by a Plan physician and obtained from a Plan pharmacy or through our mail order program:</p> <p><i>Covered medications and supplies</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drugs and medicines that by Federal law of the United States require a physician’s prescription for their purchase, except those listed as <i>Not covered</i>. • Insulin • Disposable needles and syringes for the administration of covered medications • Drugs for sexual dysfunction are limited. Contact the Plan for dose limitations, such as, Viagra quantity limited to 6 tabs/month • Oral and injectable contraceptive drugs and devices 	<p>\$10 per generic \$30 per name brand \$50 per non-formulary 50% coinsurance for lifestyle drugs</p> <p>Note: If there is no generic equivalent available, you will still have to pay the brand name copay.</p> <p>If enrolled in the disease management program, the copay for a 3-month supply of mail order maintenance medications is: \$10 per generic \$30 per name brand \$50 per non-formulary</p> <p>If not enrolled in the disease management program, the copay for a 3-month supply of prescription mail order maintenance medications is: \$20 per generic \$60 per name brand \$100 per non-formulary</p>
<p><u><i>Not covered medications and supplies:</i></u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Drugs and supplies for cosmetic purposes</i> • <i>Drugs to enhance athletic performance</i> • <i>Fertility drugs</i> • <i>Drugs obtained at a non-Plan pharmacy; except for out-of-area emergencies</i> • <i>Vitamins, nutrients and food supplements even if a physician prescribes or administers them</i> • <i>Nonprescription medicines</i> 	<p><i>All charges.</i></p>

Section 5 (g). Special features

Feature	Description
Flexible benefits option	<p>Under the flexible benefits option, we determine the most effective way to provide services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We may identify medically appropriate alternatives to traditional care and coordinate other benefits as a less costly alternative benefit. • Alternative benefits are subject to our ongoing review. • By approving an alternative benefit, we cannot guarantee you will get it in the future. • The decision to offer an alternative benefit is solely ours, and we may withdraw it at any time and resume regular contract benefits. • Our decision to offer or withdraw alternative benefits is not subject to OPM review under the disputed claims process.
Services for deaf and hearing impaired	Toll Free 1-800-743-3333
24 hour Nurse Line for College Students	Toll Free 1-866-255-8052
Health Allies	Toll Free 1-877-426-2559
Disease Management	We offer the following disease management programs: asthma, diabetes, congestive heart failure, hypertension/cardiovascular disease, or depression.

Section 5 (h). Dental benefits

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Here are some important things to keep in mind about these benefits:

- Please remember that all benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure and are payable only when we determine they are medically necessary.
- Plan dentists must provide or arrange your care.
- We have no calendar year deductible.
- We cover hospitalization for dental procedures only when a nondental physical impairment exists which makes hospitalization necessary to safeguard the health of the patient. See Section 5(c) for inpatient hospital benefits. We do not cover the dental procedure unless it is described below.
- Be sure to read Section 4, *Your costs for covered services*, for valuable information about how cost-sharing works. Also read Section 9 about coordinating benefits with other coverage, including with Medicare.

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Accidental injury benefit	You pay
<p>We cover restorative services and supplies necessary to promptly repair (but not replace) sound natural teeth. The need for these services must result from an accidental injury.</p>	<p>\$ 30</p>
<p>Preventive and diagnostic services limited to the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Oral Examinations are covered as a separate benefit only if no other service was provided during the visit other than X-rays. Limited to 2 times per calendar year, limited to one time every 6 months. ➤ Complete Series or Panorex Radiographs are limited to one time per 36 months. ➤ Bitewing Radiographs are limited to 1 series of films per calendar year. ➤ Extraoral Radiographs are limited to 2 films per calendar year. ➤ Diagnostic Casts are limited to one time per 24 months ➤ Fluoride Treatments are limited to Covered Persons under the age of 16 years, and limited to 2 times per calendar year. Treatment should be done in conjunction with dental prophylaxis. ➤ Sealants are limited to Covered Persons under the age of 16 years and once per first or second permanent molar every 5 years. <p>The plan provides the same comprehensive level of benefits whether a member seeks care through a participating dental provider or seeks care through a non-participating provider. However, if a member seeks care through a non-participating provider, the provider may require the member to submit the claim and the member could receive a bill from the non-participating provider if the provider's charges exceed the Maximum Allowable Charge (MAC).</p>	<p>20% of the maximum allowable charge (MAC) up to \$300 per member per calendar year.</p>

Section 6. General exclusions – things we don't cover

The exclusions in this section apply to all benefits. **Although we may list a specific service as a benefit, we will not cover it unless your Plan doctor determines it is medically necessary to prevent, diagnose, or treat your illness, disease, injury, or condition.**

We do not cover the following:

- Care by non-Plan providers except for authorized referrals or emergencies (see Emergency Benefits);
- Services, drugs, or supplies you receive while you are not enrolled in this Plan;
- Services, drugs, or supplies that are not medically necessary;
- Services, drugs, or supplies not required according to accepted standards of medical, dental, or psychiatric practice;
- Experimental or investigational procedures, treatments, drugs or devices;
- Services, drugs, or supplies related to abortions, except when the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term or when the pregnancy is the result of an act of rape or incest;
- Services, drugs, or supplies related to sex transformations;
- Services, drugs, or supplies you receive from a provider or facility barred from the FEHB Program; or
- Services, drugs, or supplies you receive without charge while in active military service.

Section 7. Filing a claim for covered services

When you see Plan physicians, receive services at Plan hospitals and facilities, or obtain your prescription drugs at Plan pharmacies, you will not have to file claims. Just present your identification card and pay your copayment or coinsurance.

You will only need to file a claim when you receive emergency services from non-plan providers. Sometimes these providers bill us directly. Check with the provider. If you need to file the claim, here is the process:

Medical, hospital and drug benefits

In most cases, providers and facilities file claims for you. Physicians must file on the form HCFA-1500, Health Insurance Claim Form. Facilities will file on the UB-92 form. For claims questions and assistance, call us at 1-800-553-8933.

When you must file a claim -- such as for services you receive outside of the Plan's service area -- submit it on the HCFA-1500 or a claim form that includes the information shown below. Bills and receipts should be itemized and show:

- Covered member's name and ID number;
- Name and address of the physician or facility that provided the service or supply;
- Dates you received the services or supplies;
- Diagnosis;
- Type of each service or supply;
- The charge for each service or supply;
- A copy of the explanation of benefits, payments, or denial from any primary payer -- such as the Medicare Summary Notice (MSN); and
- Receipts, if you paid for your services.

**Submit your claims to: ADVANTAGE Health Solutions, Inc.
ATTN: HMO Claims
P. O. Box 80069
Indianapolis, IN 46280**

Deadline for filing your claim

Send us all of the documents for your claim as soon as possible. You must submit the claim by December 31 of the year after the year you received the service, unless timely filing was prevented by administrative operations of Government or legal incapacity, provided the claim was submitted as soon as reasonably possible.

When we need more information

Please reply promptly when we ask for additional information. We may delay processing or deny your claim if you do not respond.

Section 8. The disputed claims process

Follow this Federal Employees Health Benefits Program disputed claims process if you disagree with our decision on your claim or request for services, drugs, or supplies – including a request for preauthorization:

Step	Description
1	<p>Ask us in writing to reconsider our initial decision. You must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Write to us within 6 months from the date of our decision; and(b) Send your request to us at: ADVANTAGE Health Solutions, Inc., Appeals and Grievance Coordinator or Appeals Committee, 9490 Priority Way, West Drive, Indianapolis, Indiana 46240; and(c) Include a statement about why you believe our initial decision was wrong, based on specific benefit provisions in this brochure; and(d) Include copies of documents that support your claim, such as physicians' letters, operative reports, bills, medical records, and explanation of benefits (EOB) forms.
2	<p>We have 30 days from the date we receive your request to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Pay the claim (or, if applicable, arrange for the health care provider to give you the care); or(b) Write to you and maintain our denial -- go to step 4; or(c) Ask you or your provider for more information. If we ask your provider, we will send you a copy of our request—go to step 3.
3	<p>You or your provider must send the information so that we receive it within 60 days of our request. We will then decide within 30 more days.</p> <p>If we do not receive the information within 60 days, we will decide within 30 days of the date the information was due. We will base our decision on the information we already have.</p> <p>We will write to you with our decision.</p>
4	<p>If you do not agree with our decision, you may ask OPM to review it.</p> <p>You must write to OPM within:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 90 days after the date of our letter upholding our initial decision; or• 120 days after you first wrote to us -- if we did not answer that request in some way within 30 days; or• 120 days after we asked for additional information. <p>Write to OPM at: United States Office of Personnel Management, Office of Insurance Programs, Health Insurance Group 3, 1900 E Street, NW, Washington, DC 20415-3630.</p>

The Disputed Claims process (*Continued*)

Send OPM the following information:

- A statement about why you believe our decision was wrong, based on specific benefit provisions in this brochure;
- Copies of documents that support your claim, such as physicians' letters, operative reports, bills, medical records, and explanation of benefits (EOB) forms;
- Copies of all letters you sent to us about the claim;
- Copies of all letters we sent to you about the claim; and
- Your daytime phone number and the best time to call.

Note: If you want OPM to review more than one claim, you must clearly identify which documents apply to which claim.

Note: You are the only person who has a right to file a disputed claim with OPM. Parties acting as your representative, such as medical providers, must include a copy of your specific written consent with the review request.

Note: The above deadlines may be extended if you show that you were unable to meet the deadline because of reasons beyond your control.

5 OPM will review your disputed claim request and will use the information it collects from you and us to decide whether our decision is correct. OPM will send you a final decision within 60 days. There are no other administrative appeals.

If you do not agree with OPM's decision, your only recourse is to sue. If you decide to sue, you must file the suit against OPM in Federal court by December 31 of the third year after the year in which you received the disputed services, drugs, or supplies or from the year in which you were denied precertification or prior approval. This is the only deadline that may not be extended.

OPM may disclose the information it collects during the review process to support their disputed claim decision. This information will become part of the court record.

You may not sue until you have completed the disputed claims process. Further, Federal law governs your lawsuit, benefits, and payment of benefits. The Federal court will base its review on the record that was before OPM when OPM decided to uphold or overturn our decision. You may recover only the amount of benefits in dispute.

NOTE: If you have a serious or life threatening condition (one that may cause permanent loss of bodily functions or death if not treated as soon as possible), and

- (a) We haven't responded yet to your initial request for care or preauthorization/prior approval, then call us at 1-800-553-8933 and we will expedite our review; or
- (b) We denied your initial request for care or preauthorization/prior approval, then:
 - If we expedite our review and maintain our denial, we will inform OPM so that they can give your claim expedited treatment too, or
 - You may call OPM's Health Insurance Group 3 at 202/606-0737 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. eastern time.

Section 9. Coordinating benefits with other coverage

When you have other health coverage You must tell us if you or a covered family member have coverage under another group health plan or have automobile insurance that pays health care expenses without regard to fault. This is called “double coverage.”

When you have double coverage, one plan normally pays its benefits in full as the primary payer and the other plan pays a reduced benefit as the secondary payer. We, like other insurers, determine which coverage is primary according to the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' guidelines.

When we are the primary payer, we will pay the benefits described in this brochure.

When we are the secondary payer, we will determine our allowance. After the primary plan pays, we will pay what is left of our allowance, up to our regular benefit. We will not pay more than our allowance.

What is Medicare?

Medicare is a Health Insurance Program for:

- People 65 years of age and older.
- Some people with disabilities, under 65 years of age.
- People with End-Stage Renal Disease (permanent kidney failure requiring dialysis or a transplant).

Medicare has two parts:

- Part A (Hospital Insurance). Most people do not have to pay for Part A. If you or your spouse worked for at least 10 years in Medicare-covered employment, you should be able to qualify for premium-free Part A insurance. (Someone who was a Federal employee on January 1, 1983 or since automatically qualifies.) Otherwise, if you are age 65 or older, you may be able to buy it. Contact 1-800-MEDICARE for more information.
- Part B (Medical Insurance). Most people pay monthly for Part B. Generally, Part B premiums are withheld from your monthly Social Security check or your retirement check.

- **Should I enroll in Medicare?**

The decision to enroll in Medicare is yours. We encourage you to apply for Medicare benefits 3 months before you turn age 65. It's easy. Just call the Social Security Administration toll-free number 1-800-772-1213 to set up an appointment to apply. If you do not apply for one or both Parts of Medicare, you can still be covered under the FEHB Program.

If you can get premium-free Part A coverage, we advise you to enroll in it. Most Federal employees and annuitants are entitled to Medicare Part A at age 65 **without cost**. When you don't have to pay premiums for Medicare Part A, it makes good sense to obtain the coverage. It can reduce your out-of-pocket expenses as well as costs to the FEHB, which can help keep FEHB premiums down.

Everyone is charged a premium for Medicare Part B coverage. The Social Security Administration can provide you with premium and benefit information. Review the information and decide if it makes sense for you to buy the Medicare Part B coverage.

If you are eligible for Medicare, you may have choices in how you get your health care. Medicare + Choice is the term used to describe the various health plan choices available to Medicare beneficiaries. The information in the next few pages shows how we coordinate benefits with Medicare, depending on the type of Medicare managed care plan you have.

**•The Original Medicare Plan
(Part A or Part B)**

The Original Medicare Plan (Original Medicare) is available everywhere in the United States. It is the way everyone used to get Medicare benefits and is the way most people get their Medicare Part A and Part B benefits now. You may go to any doctor, specialist, or hospital that accepts Medicare. The Original Medicare Plan pays its share and you pay your share. Some things are not covered under Original Medicare, like prescription drugs.

When you are enrolled in Original Medicare along with this Plan, you still need to follow the rules in this brochure for us to cover your care.

Claims process when you have the Original Medicare Plan -- You probably will never have to file a claim form when you have both our Plan and the Original Medicare Plan.

- When we are the primary payer, we process the claim first.

When Original Medicare is the primary payer, Medicare processes your claim first. In most cases, your claims will be coordinated automatically and we will then provide secondary benefits for covered charges. You will not need to do anything. To find out if you need to do something to file your claims, call us at 1-800-553-8933 or www.advantageplan.com.

We do not waive any costs if the Original Medicare Plan is your primary payer.

(Primary payer chart begins on next page.)

Medicare always makes the final determination as to whether they are the primary payer. The following chart illustrates whether the Original Medicare Plan or this Plan should be the primary payer for you according to your employment status and other factors determined by Medicare. It is critical that you tell us if you or a covered family member has Medicare coverage so we can administer these requirements correctly.

Primary Payer Chart		
A. When you-or your covered spouse – are age 65 or over and have Medicare and you ...	The primary payer for the individual with Medicare is...	
	Original Medicare	This Plan
1) Are an active employee with the Federal government... • You have FEHB coverage on your own or through your spouse who is also an active employee		✓
• You have FEHB coverage through your spouse who is an annuitant	✓	
2) Are an annuitant and... • You have FEHB coverage on your own or through your spouse who is also an annuitant	✓	
• You have FEHB coverage through your spouse who is an active employee		✓
3) Are a reemployed annuitant with the Federal government and your position is excluded from FEHB (your employing office will know if this is the case)	✓*	
4) Are a reemployed annuitant with the Federal government and your position is not excluded from FEHB (your employing office will know if this is the case) • You have FEHB coverage on your own or through your spouse who is also an active employee		✓
• You have FEHB coverage through your spouse who is an annuitant	✓	
5) Are a Federal judge who retired under title 28, U.S.C., or a Tax Court judge who retired under Section 7447 of title 26, U.S.C. (or if your covered spouse is this type of judge),	✓*	
6) Are enrolled in Part B only, regardless of your employment status,	✓ (for Part B services)	✓ (for other services)
7) Are a former Federal employee receiving Workers' Compensation and the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs has determined that you are unable to return to duty	✓**	
B. When you -- or a covered family member...		
1) Have Medicare solely based on end stage renal disease (ESRD) and... • It is within the first 30 months of eligibility for or entitlement to Medicare due to ESRD (30-month coordination period)		✓
• It is beyond the 30-month coordination period and you or a family member are still entitled to Medicare due to ESRD	✓	
2) Become eligible for Medicare due to ESRD while already a Medicare beneficiary and... • This Plan was the primary payer before eligibility due to ESRD		✓ for 30-month coordination period
• Medicare was the primary payer before eligibility due to ESRD	✓	
C. When you or your spouse are eligible for Medicare solely due to disability and you		
1) Are an active employee with the Federal government and... • You have FEHB coverage on your own or through your spouse who is also an active employee		✓
• You have FEHB coverage through your spouse who is an annuitant	✓	
2) Are an annuitant and... • You have FEHB coverage on your own or through your spouse who is also an annuitant	✓	
• You have FEHB coverage through your spouse who is an active employee		✓
D. Are covered under the FEHB Spouse Equity provision as a former spouse	✓	

*Unless you have FEHB coverage through your spouse who is an active employee

** Workers' Compensation is primary for claims related to your condition under Workers' Compensation

● Medicare + Choice

If you are eligible for Medicare, you may choose to enroll in and get your Medicare benefits from a Medicare + Choice plan. These are health care choices (like HMOs) in some areas of the country. In most Medicare + Choice plans, you can only go to doctors, specialists, or hospitals that are part of the plan. Medicare + Choice plans provide all the benefits that Original Medicare covers. Some cover extras, like prescription drugs. To learn more about enrolling in a Medicare + Choice plan, contact Medicare at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227) or at www.medicare.gov.

If you enroll in a Medicare + Choice plan, the following options are available to you:

This Plan and our Medicare+Choice plan: You may enroll in our Medicare managed care plan and also remain enrolled in our FEHB plan. In this case we do not waive cost-sharing for your FEHB coverage.

This Plan and another plan's Medicare+Choice: You may enroll in another plan's Medicare + Choice plan and also remain enrolled in our FEHB plan. We will still provide benefits when your Medicare + Choice plan is primary, even out of the Medicare + Choice plan's network and/or service area (if you use our Plan providers), but we will not waive any of our copayments, coinsurance, or deductibles. If you enroll in a Medicare + Choice plan, tell us. We will need to know whether you are in the Original Medicare Plan or in a Medicare + Choice plan so we can correctly coordinate benefits with Medicare.

Suspended FEHB coverage to enroll in a Medicare+Choice plan: If you are an annuitant or former spouse, you can suspend your FEHB coverage to enroll in a Medicare + Choice plan, eliminating your FEHB premium. (OPM does not contribute to your Medicare + Choice plan premium.) For information on suspending your FEHB enrollment, contact your retirement office. If you later want to re-enroll in the FEHB Program, generally you may do so only at the next open season unless you involuntarily lose coverage or move out of the Medicare + Choice plan's service area.

TRICARE and CHAMPVA

TRICARE is the health care program for eligible dependents of military persons, and retirees of the military. TRICARE includes the CHAMPUS program. CHAMPVA provides health coverage to disabled Veterans and their eligible dependents. If TRICARE or CHAMPVA and this Plan cover you, we pay first. See your TRICARE or CHAMPVA Health Benefits Advisor if you have questions about these programs.

Suspended FEHB coverage to enroll in TRICARE or CHAMPVA: If you are an annuitant or former spouse, you can suspend your FEHB coverage to enroll in a one of these programs, eliminating your FEHB premium. (OPM does not contribute to any applicable plan premiums.) For information on suspending your FEHB enrollment, contact your retirement office. If you later want to re-enroll in the FEHB Program, generally you may do so only at the next Open Season unless you involuntarily lose coverage under the program.

Workers' Compensation

We do not cover services that:

- you need because of a workplace-related illness or injury that the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs (OWCP) or a similar Federal or State agency determines they must provide; or
- OWCP or a similar agency pays for through a third-party injury settlement or other similar proceeding that is based on a claim you filed under OWCP or similar laws.

Once OWCP or similar agency pays its maximum benefits for your treatment, we will cover your care. You must use our providers.

Medicaid

When you have this Plan and Medicaid, we pay first.

Suspended FEHB coverage to enroll in Medicaid or a similar State-sponsored program of medical assistance: If you are an annuitant or former spouse, you can suspend your FEHB coverage to enroll in a one of these State programs, eliminating your FEHB premium. For information on suspending your FEHB enrollment, contact your retirement office. If you later want to re-enroll in the FEHB Program, generally you may do so only at the next Open Season unless you involuntarily lose coverage under the State program.

When other Government agencies are responsible for your care

We do not cover services and supplies when a local, State, or Federal Government agency directly or indirectly pays for them.

When others are responsible for injuries

When you receive money to compensate you for medical or hospital care for injuries or illness caused by another person, you must reimburse us for any expenses we paid. However, we will cover the cost of treatment that exceeds the amount you received in the settlement.

If you do not seek damages you must agree to let us try. This is called subrogation. If you need more information, contact us for our subrogation procedures.

Section 10. Definitions of terms we use in this brochure

Calendar year	January 1 through December 31 of the same year. For new enrollees, the calendar year begins on the effective date of their enrollment and ends on December 31 of the same year.
Coinsurance	Coinsurance is the percentage of our allowance that you must pay for your care. See page 17.
Copayment	A copayment is a fixed amount of money you pay when you receive covered services. See page 17.
Covered services	Care we provide benefits for, as described in this brochure.
Custodial Care	Services that constitute personal care, such as (1) help in walking and getting in or out of bed, (2) assistance in bathing, dressing, feeding, and using the toilet, (3) preparation of special diets, and (4) supervision over medication that usually can be self-administered – and does not entail or require the continuing attention of trained medical or paramedical personnel.
Deductible	A deductible is a fixed amount of covered expenses you must incur for certain covered services and supplies before we start paying benefits for those services. See page 17.
Experimental or investigational services	ADVANTAGE Health Solutions has available participating specialists, sub-specialists, and a referral center to assist with the review and determination of experimental treatment, procedures, drugs or devices. Your PCP must request an approval, before the service date, regarding the recommended treatment or services that is to be reviewed. A review with Technology Evaluation Center (TEC) is done to determine the feasibility of the recommended treatment. If a review of new technology is made on your behalf by your PCP, ADVANTAGE Health Solutions will notify you of the determination for coverage within one business day following the determination. Review for urgent and emergent determinations will be communicated within 72 hours. For further information about the Medical Technology Assessment, please contact a Member Service Representative at 1-800-553-8933.
Medical necessity	<p>Medical necessity means health services or supplies that are skilled care; are required for the treatment of illness or injury; are consistent with your symptoms or diagnosis; are appropriate treatments with regard to standards of accepted medical practice; are not primarily for your convenience, your family's convenience or the convenience of any health care provider; are not experimental, investigational or unproven; and do not exceed the level of care which is needed to provide a safe, adequate, and appropriate diagnosis of treatment.</p> <p>A health service does not meet medical necessity if your symptoms or condition indicates that it would be safe to provide the service or supply in a less comprehensive setting. The fact that a physician or other health care provider has furnished, ordered, or approved a service or supply does not, alone, make that service or supply a medical necessity.</p>
Plan allowance	Plan allowance is the amount we use to determine our payment and your coinsurance for covered services. Plans determine their allowances in different ways. We determine our allowance as follows: We determine our allowance based on the lesser of the fee arrangement between ADVANTAGE Health Solutions and the provider, or the billed charge. When covered services are provided by a Plan provider you are not responsible for charges above the allowance.
Us/We	Us and we refer to ADVANTAGE Health Solutions, Inc.
You	You refers to the enrollee and each covered family member.

Section 11. FEHB facts

Coverage information

No pre-existing condition limitation

We will not refuse to cover the treatment of a condition that you had before you enrolled in this Plan solely because you had the condition before you enrolled.

Where you can get information about enrolling in the FEHB Program

See www.opm.gov/insure. Also, your employing or retirement office can answer your questions, and give you a *Guide to Federal Employees Health Benefits Plans*, brochures for other plans, and other materials you need to make an informed decision about your FEHB coverage. These materials tell you:

- When you may change your enrollment;
- How you can cover your family members;
- What happens when you transfer to another Federal agency, go on leave without pay, enter military service, or retire;
- When your enrollment ends; and
- When the next open season for enrollment begins.

We don't determine who is eligible for coverage and, in most cases, cannot change your enrollment status without information from your employing or retirement office.

Types of coverage available for you and your family

Self Only coverage is for you alone. Self and Family coverage is for you, your spouse, and your unmarried dependent children under age 22, including any foster children or stepchildren your employing or retirement office authorizes coverage for. Under certain circumstances, you may also continue coverage for a disabled child 22 years of age or older who is incapable of self-support.

If you have a Self Only enrollment, you may change to a Self and Family enrollment if you marry, give birth, or add a child to your family. You may change your enrollment 31 days before to 60 days after that event. The Self and Family enrollment begins on the first day of the pay period in which the child is born or becomes an eligible family member. When you change to Self and Family because you marry, the change is effective on the first day of the pay period that begins after your employing office receives your enrollment form; benefits will not be available to your spouse until you marry.

Your employing or retirement office will **not** notify you when a family member is no longer eligible to receive health benefits, nor will we. Please tell us immediately when you add or remove family members from your coverage for any reason, including divorce, or when your child under age 22 marries or turns 22.

If you or one of your family members is enrolled in one FEHB plan, that person may not be enrolled in or covered as a family member by another FEHB plan.

Children's Equity Act

OPM has implemented the Federal Employees Health Benefits Children's Equity Act of 2000. This law mandates that you be enrolled for self and family coverage in the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) Program, if you are an employee subject to a court or administrative order requiring you to provide health benefits for your child(ren).

If this law applies to you, you must enroll for self and family coverage in a health plan that provides full benefits in the area where your children live or provide documentation to your employing office that you have obtained other health benefits coverage for your children. If you do not do so, your employing office will enroll you involuntarily as follows:

- If you have no FEHB coverage, your employing office will enroll you for self and family coverage in the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan's Basic Option.
- If you have a Self Only enrollment in a fee-for-service plan or in an HMO that serves the area where your children live, your employing office will change your enrollment to self and family in the same option of the same plan; or
- If you are enrolled in an HMO that does not serve the area where your children live, your employing office will change your enrollment to self and family in the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan's Basic Option.

As long as the court/administrative order is in effect, and you have at least one child identified in the order who is still eligible under the FEHB Program, you cannot cancel your enrollment, change to Self Only, or change to a plan that doesn't serve the area in which your children live, unless you provide documentation that you have other coverage for the children. If the court/administrative order is still in effect when you retire, and you have at least one child still eligible for FEHB coverage, you must continue your FEHB coverage into retirement (if eligible) and cannot make cancel your coverage, change to Self Only, or change to a plan that doesn't serve the area in which your children live as long as the court/Administrative order is in effect. Contact your employing office for further information.

When benefits and premiums start

The benefits in this brochure are effective on January 1. If you joined this Plan during Open Season, your coverage begins on the first day of your first pay period that starts on or after January 1. If you changed plans or plan options during Open Season and you receive care between January 1 and the effective date of coverage under your new plan or option, your claims will be paid according to the 2004 benefits of your old plan or option. However, if your old plan left the FEHB Program at the end of the year, you are covered under that plan's 2003 benefits until the effective date of your coverage with your new plan. Annuitants' coverage and premiums begin on January 1. If you joined at any other time during the year, your employing office will tell you the effective date of coverage.

When you retire

When you retire, you can usually stay in the FEHB Program. Generally, you must have been enrolled in the FEHB Program for the last five years of your Federal service. If you do not meet this requirement, you may be eligible for other forms of coverage, such as temporary continuation of coverage (TCC).

When you lose benefits

•When FEHB coverage ends

You will receive an additional 31 days of coverage, for no additional premium, when:

- Your enrollment ends, unless you cancel your enrollment, or
- You are a family member no longer eligible for coverage.

You may be eligible for spouse equity coverage or Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC), or a conversion policy (a non-FEHB individual policy)

•Spouse equity

If you are divorced from a Federal employee or annuitant, you may not

coverage

continue to get benefits under your former spouse's enrollment. This is the case even when the court has ordered your former spouse to supply health coverage to you. But, you may be eligible for your own FEHB coverage under the spouse equity law or Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC). If you are recently divorced or are anticipating a divorce, contact your ex-spouse's employing or retirement office to get RI 70-5, the *Guide to Federal Employees Health Benefits Plans for Temporary Continuation of Coverage and Former Spouse Enrollees*, or other information about your coverage choices. You can also download the guide from OPM's website, www.opm.gov/insure.

- **Temporary continuation of coverage (TCC)**

If you leave Federal service, or if you lose coverage because you no longer qualify as a family member, you may be eligible for Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC). For example, you can receive TCC if you are not able to continue your FEHB enrollment after you retire, if you lose your job, if you are a covered dependent child and you turn 22 or marry, etc.

You may not elect TCC if you are fired from your Federal job due to gross misconduct.

Enrolling in TCC. Get the RI 79-27, which describes TCC, and the RI 70-5, the *Guide to Federal Employees Health Benefits Plans for Temporary Continuation of Coverage and Former Spouse Enrollees*, from your employing or retirement office or from www.opm.gov/insure. It explains what you have to do to enroll.

- **Converting to individual coverage**

You may convert to a non-FEHB individual policy if:

- Your coverage under TCC or the spouse equity law ends (If you canceled your coverage or did not pay your premium, you cannot convert);
- You decided not to receive coverage under TCC or the spouse equity law; or
- You are not eligible for coverage under TCC or the spouse equity law.

If you leave Federal service, your employing office will notify you of your right to convert. You must apply in writing to us within 31 days after you receive this notice. However, if you are a family member who is losing coverage, the employing or retirement office will **not** notify you. You must apply in writing to us within 31 days after you are no longer eligible for coverage.

Your benefits and rates will differ from those under the FEHB Program; however, you will not have to answer questions about your health, and we will not impose a waiting period or limit your coverage due to pre-existing conditions.

- **Getting a Certificate of Group Health Plan Coverage**

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) is a Federal law that offers limited Federal protections for health coverage availability and continuity to people who lose employer group coverage. If you leave the FEHB Program, we will give you a Certificate of Group Health Plan Coverage that indicates how long you have been enrolled with us. You can use this certificate when getting health insurance or other health care coverage. Your new plan must reduce or eliminate waiting periods, limitations, or exclusions for health related conditions based on the information in the certificate, as long as you enroll within 63 days of losing coverage under this Plan. If you have been enrolled with us for less than 12 months, but were previously enrolled in other FEHB plans, you may also request a certificate from those plans.

For more information, get OPM pamphlet RI 79-27, Temporary Continuation of Coverage (TCC) under the FEHB Program. See also the FEHB web site (www.opm.gov/insure/health); refer to the "TCC and HIPAA" frequently asked questions. These highlight HIPAA rules, such as the requirement that Federal employees must exhaust any TCC eligibility as one condition for guaranteed access to individual

health coverage under HIPAA, and have information about Federal and State agencies you can contact for more information.

Two new Federal Programs complement FEHB benefits

Important information

OPM wants to be sure you know about two new Federal programs that complement the FEHB Program. First, the **Flexible Spending Account (FSA) Program**, also known as **FSAFEDS**, lets you set aside tax-free money to pay for health and dependent care expenses. The result can be a discount of 20 to more than 40 percent on services you routinely pay for out-of-pocket. Second, the **Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program (FLTCIP)** covers long term care costs not covered under the FEHB.

The Federal Flexible Spending Account Program - *FSAFEDS*

- **What is an FSA?**

It is a tax-favored benefit that allows you to set aside pre-tax money from your paychecks to pay for a variety of eligible expenses. *By using an FSA, you can reduce your taxes while paying for services you would have to pay for anyway, producing a discount that can be over 40%!!*

There are two types of FSAs offered by the FSAFEDS Program:

Health Care Flexible Spending Account (HCFSA)

- Covers eligible health care expenses not reimbursed by this Plan, or any other medical, dental, or vision care plan you or your dependents may have
- Eligible dependents for this account include anyone you claim on your Federal income tax return as a qualified dependent under the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS) definition and/or with whom you jointly file your Federal income tax return, even if you don't have self and family health benefits coverage. **Note:** The IRS has a broader definition than that of a "family member" than is used under the FEHB Program to provide benefits by your FEHB Plan.
- The maximum amount that can be allotted for the HCFSA is \$3,000 annually. The minimum amount is \$250 annually.

Dependent Care Flexible Spending Account (DCFSA)

- Covers eligible dependent care expenses incurred so you can work, or if you are married, so you and your spouse can work, or your spouse can look for work or attend school full-time.
- Eligible dependents for this account include anyone you claim on your Federal income tax return as a qualified IRS dependent and/or with whom you jointly file your Federal income tax return.
- The maximum that can be allotted for the DCFSA is \$5,000 annually. The minimum amount is \$250 annually. **Note:** The IRS limits contributions to a Dependent Care FSA. For single taxpayers and taxpayers filing a joint return, the maximum is \$5,000 per year. For taxpayers who file their taxes separately with a spouse, the maximum is \$2,500 per year. The limit includes any child care subsidy you may receive

- **Enroll during Open Season**

You **must make an election** to enroll in an FSA during the FEHB Open Season. Even if you enrolled during the initial Open Season for 2003, you must make a new election to continue participating in 2004. Enrollment is easy!

- Enroll online anytime during Open Season (November 10 through December 8, 2003) at www.fsafeds.com.
- Call the toll-free number 1-877-FSAFEDS (372-3337) Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. until 9 p.m. eastern time and a FSAFEDS Benefit Counselor will help you enroll.

What is SHPS?

SHPS is a third-party administrator hired by OPM to manage the FSAFEDS Program. SHPS is the largest FSA administrator in the nation and will be responsible for enrollment, claims processing, customer service, and day-to-day operations of FSAFEDS.

Who is eligible to enroll?

If you are a Federal employee eligible for FEHB – even if you’re not enrolled in FEHB– you can choose to participate in either, or both, of the flexible spending accounts. If you are not eligible for FEHB, you are not eligible to enroll for a Health Care FSA. However, almost all Federal employees are eligible to enroll for the Dependent Care FSA. The only exception is intermittent (also called when actually employed [WAE]) employees expected to work less than 180 days during the year.

Note: FSAFEDS is the FSA Program established for all Executive Branch employees and Legislative Branch employees whose employers signed on. Under IRS law, FSAs are not available to annuitants. In addition, the U.S. Postal Service and the Judicial Branch, among others, are Federal agencies that have their own plans with slightly different rules, but the advantages of having an FSA are the same no matter what agency you work for.

- **How much should I contribute to my FSA?**

Plan carefully when deciding how much to contribute to an FSA. Because of the tax benefits of an FSA, the IRS places strict guidelines on them. You need to estimate how much you want to allocate to an FSA because current IRS regulations require you forfeit any funds remaining in your account(s) at the end of the FSA plan year. This is referred to as the “use-it-or-lose-it” rule. You will have until April 29, 2004 to submit claims for your eligible expenses incurred during 2003 if you enrolled in FSAFEDS when it was initially offered. You will have until April 30, 2005 to submit claims for your eligible expenses incurred from January 1 through December 31, 2004 if you elect FSAFEDS during this Open Season.

The **FSAFEDS Calculator** at www.fsafeds.com will help you plan your FSA allocations and provide an estimate of your tax savings based on your individual situation.

- **What can my HCFSAs pay for?**

Every FEHB health plan includes cost sharing features, such as deductibles you must meet before the Plan provides benefits, coinsurance or copayments that you pay when you and the Plan share costs, and medical services and supplies that are not covered by the Plan and for which you must pay. These out-of-pocket costs are summarized on page 62 and detailed throughout this brochure. Your HCFSAs will reimburse you for such costs when they are for tax deductible medical care for you and your dependents that is NOT covered by this FEHB Plan or any other coverage that you have.

Under this Plan, typical out-of-pocket expenses include: Copayments for Infertility services, durable medical equipment, Diagnostic services, and prosthetic devices, or Care by non-Plan physicians or health care practitioners except for authorized referrals or emergencies, and experimental or investigational procedures, treatments, drugs or devices, are expenses not covered by the Plan.

The IRS governs expenses reimbursable by a HCFSAs. See Publication 502 for a comprehensive list of tax-deductible medical expenses. **Note: While you will see insurance premiums listed in Publication 502, they are NOT a reimbursable expense for FSA purposes.** Publication 502 can be found on the IRS Web site at <http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p502.pdf>. If you do not see your service or expense listed in Publication 502, please call a FSAFEDS Benefit Counselor at 1-877-FSAFEDS (372-3337), who will be able to answer your specific questions.

- **Tax savings with an FSA**

An FSA lets you allot money for eligible expenses *before* your agency deducts taxes from your paycheck. This means the amount of income that your taxes are based on will be lower, so your tax liability will also be lower. Without an FSA, you would still pay for these expenses, but you would do so using money remaining in your paycheck after

Federal (and often state and local) taxes are deducted. The following chart illustrates a typical tax savings example:

Annual Tax Savings Example	With FSA	Without FSA
If your taxable income is:	\$50,000	\$50,000
And you deposit this amount into a FSA:	\$ 2,000	-\$0-
Your taxable income is now:	\$48,000	\$50,000
Subtract Federal & Social Security taxes:	\$13,807	\$14,383
If you spend after-tax dollars for expenses:	-\$0-	\$ 2,000
Your real spendable income is:	\$34,193	\$33,617
Your tax savings:	\$576	-\$0-

Note: This example is intended to demonstrate a typical tax savings based on 27% Federal and 7.65% FICA taxes. Actual savings will vary based upon in which retirement system you are enrolled (CSRS or FERS), as well as your individual tax situation. In this example, the individual received \$2,000 in services for \$1,424, a discount of almost 36%! You may also wish to consult a tax professional for more information on the tax implications of an FSA.

- **Tax credits and deductions**

You *cannot* claim expenses on your Federal income tax return if you receive reimbursement for them from your HCFSA or DCFSA. Below are some guidelines that may help you decide whether to participate in FSAFEDS.

Health care expenses

The HCFSA is tax-free from the first dollar. In addition, you may be reimbursed from the HCFSA at any time during the year for expenses up to the annual amount you've elected to contribute.

Only health care expenses exceeding 7.5% of your adjusted gross income are eligible to be deducted on your Federal income tax return. Using the example listed in the above chart, only health care expenses exceeding \$3,750 (7.5% of \$50,000) would be eligible to be deducted on your Federal income tax return. In addition, money set aside through a HCFSA is also exempt from FICA taxes. This exemption is not available on your Federal income tax return.

Dependent care expenses

The DCFSA generally allows many families to save more than they would with the Federal tax credit for dependent care expenses. Note that you may only be reimbursed from the DCFSA up to your current account balance. If you file a claim for more than your current balance, it will be held until additional payroll allotments have been added to your account.

Visit www.fsafeds.com and download the Dependent Care Tax Credit Worksheet from the Quick Links box to help you determine what is best for your situation. You may also wish to consult a tax professional for more details.

- **Does it cost me anything to participate in FSAFEDS?**

Probably not. While there is an administrative fee of \$4.00 per month for an HCFSA and 1.5% of the annual election for a DCFSA, most agencies have elected to pay these fees out of their share of employment tax savings. To be sure, check the FSAFEDS.com

web site or call 1-877-FSAFEDS (372-3337). Also, remember that participating in FSAFEDS can cost you money if you don't spend your entire account balance by the end of the plan year and wind up forfeiting your end of year account balance, per the IRS "use-it-or-lose-it" rule.

- **Contact us**

To find out more or to enroll, please visit the **FSAFEDS Web site** at www.fsafeds.com, or contact SHPS by email or by phone. SHPS Benefit Counselors are available from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. eastern time, Monday through Friday.

- E-mail: fsafeds@shps.net
- Telephone: 1-877-FSAFEDS (372-3337)
- TTY: 1-800-952-0450 (for hearing impaired individuals that would like to utilize a text messaging service)

The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program

It's important protection

Here's why you should consider enrolling in the Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program:

- **FEHB plans do not cover the cost of long term care.** Also called "custodial care," long term care is help you receive when you need assistance performing activities of daily living – such as bathing or dressing yourself. This need can strike anyone at any age and the cost of care can be substantial.
- **The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program can help protect you from the potentially high cost of long term care.** This coverage gives you control over the type of care you receive and where you receive it. It can also help you remain independent, so you won't have to worry about being a burden to your loved ones.
- **It's to your advantage to apply sooner rather than later.** Long term care insurance is something you must apply for, and pass a medical screening (called underwriting) in order to be enrolled. Certain medical conditions will prevent some people from being approved for coverage. By applying while you're in good health, you could avoid the risk of having a change in health disqualify you from obtaining coverage. Also, the younger you are when you apply, the lower your premiums.
- **You don't have to wait for an open season to apply.** The Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program accepts applications from eligible persons at any time. You will have to complete a full underwriting application, which asks a number of questions about your health. However, if you are a new or newly eligible employee, you (and your spouse, if applicable) have a limited opportunity to apply using the abbreviated underwriting application, which asks fewer questions. If you marry, your new spouse will also have a limited opportunity to apply using abbreviated underwriting. Qualified relatives are also eligible to apply with full underwriting.

To find out more and to request an application

Call 1-800-LTC-FEDS (1-800-582-3337) (TTY 1-800-843-3557) or visit www.ltcfeds.com.

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Do not rely on this page; it is for your convenience and may not show all pages where the terms appear.

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Summary of benefits for the *ADVANTAGE Health Solutions, Inc. 2004*

- **Do not rely on this chart alone.** All benefits are provided in full unless indicated and are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions in this brochure. On this page we summarize specific expenses we cover; for more detail, look inside.
- If you want to enroll or change your enrollment in this Plan, be sure to put the correct enrollment code from the cover on your enrollment form.
- We only cover services provided or arranged by Plan physicians, except in emergencies.

Benefits	You Pay	Page
Medical services provided by physicians: • Diagnostic and treatment services provided in the office	Office visit copay: \$15 primary care; \$30 specialist	19
Services provided by a hospital: • Inpatient	\$400 per admission copay	32
• Outpatient	\$100 Per visit copay	33
Emergency benefits: • In-area	\$125 per visit	35
• Out-of-area	\$125 per visit	35
Mental health and substance abuse treatment	Regular cost sharing	37
Prescription drugs	\$10 Generic; \$30 Name Brand; \$50 Non-formulary	39
Dental Care	20% of MAC for cleanings, oral examinations, X-rays, fluoride treatments and sealants subject to a \$300 calendar year maximum per person enrolled.	43
Vision Care	\$15 Copay per visit for annual eye refraction	24
Special features: Flexible benefits option; Services for deaf and hearing impaired		42

**2004 Rate Information for
ADVANTAGE Health Solutions, Inc.**

Non-Postal rates apply to most non-Postal enrollees. If you are in a special enrollment category, refer to the FEHB Guide for that category or contact the agency that maintains your health benefits enrollment.

Postal rates apply to career Postal Service employees. Most employees should refer to the FEHB Guide for United States Postal Service Employees, RI 70-2. Different postal rates apply and special FEHB guides are published for Postal Service Inspectors and Office of Inspector General (OIG) employees (see RI 70-2IN).

Postal rates do not apply to non-career postal employees, postal retirees, or associate members of any postal employee organization who are not career postal employees. Refer to the applicable FEHB Guide.

		Non-Postal Premium				Postal Premium	
		Biweekly		Monthly		Biweekly	
Type of Enrollment	Code	Gov't Share	Your Share	Gov't Share	Your Share	USPS Share	Your Share
High Option Self Only	6Y1	\$121.40	\$47.62	\$263.03	\$103.18	\$143.32	\$25.70
High Option Self & Family	6Y2	\$277.09	\$119.76	\$600.36	\$259.48	\$327.12	\$69.73