

**Three Rivers Community Schools** 

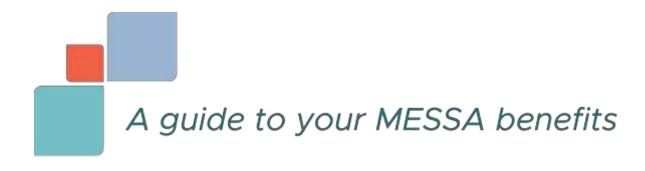
Teacher, Counselor





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2026 open enrollment is October 31, 2025 to November 18, 2025.

#### Dear Three Rivers Community Schools member:

The open enrollment period is your opportunity to review and update your health benefits selections for the coming year. It's important for you to understand the benefits available to you, so you can make the best decisions for you and your family.

This benefit guide provides an overview of your MESSA benefit options. Please review it carefully before making your benefit selections.

Once you're ready, you can log in to your MyMESSA account at **messa.or g** to access the online benefits website. After open enrollment closes on **November 18, 2025**, you cannot change your benefit selections until the next open enrollment period.<sup>1</sup>

Any changes you make will become effective **January 1, 2026**.

If you have any questions, call MESSA's Member Service Center at 800-336-0013. We're here to help!

### Access the online benefits website by logging in to your MyMESSA account at messa.org to:

- Review your current enrollment.
- Make any benefit selection changes.
- Submit benefit selection by **November 18, 2025**.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Allowances are made for "qualifying events," such as marriage, birth, your spouse's losing coverage from another insurer, or other limited instances.

## MESSA In-Network Plan Comparison - Effective 1/1/2026 Three Rivers Community Schools - 250C Teacher, Counselor

	MESSA Choices \$500/\$1,000 10% 3-Tier Rx	MESSA Choices \$500/\$1,000 10% 5-Tier Rx	MESSA ABC Plan 1 \$1,700/\$3,400 HSA 10% 5-Tier Rx	MESSA ABC Plan 2 \$2,000/\$4,000 HSA 10% 5-Tier Rx with Mandatory
In-Network Cost Share	After Deductible			
Deductible	\$500/\$1,000	\$500/\$1,000	\$1,700/\$3,400	\$2,000/\$4,000
Coinsurance	10%	10%	10%	10%
Teladoc 24/7 care for minor illnesses, injuries and mental	\$20	\$20	10%	10%
Teladoc Health virtual primary care	\$20	\$20	10%	10%
Office visit	\$20	\$20	10%	10%
Specialist visit	\$20	\$20	10%	10%
Urgent care	\$25	\$25	10%	10%
Emergency room	\$50	\$50	10%	10%
Total out-of- pocket	\$4,500/\$9,000	\$4,500/\$9,000	\$4,700/\$8,500	\$5,000/\$8,500
Certain Benefit Differer	nces (cost share is applied a	after deductible is met)		
Chiropracti c manipulatio ns	38 visits per calendar year, including therapeutic massage; 90% after ded.	38 visits per calendar year, including therapeutic massage; 90% after ded.	38 visits per calendar year, including therapeutic massage; 90% after ded.	38 visits per calendar year, including therapeutic massage; 90% after ded.
Osteopathi c manipulatio ns	38 visits per calendar year; 90% after ded.			
Outpatient physical, occupational	60 visits combined per calendar year; 90% after	60 visits combined per calendar year; 90% after	60 visits combined per calendar year; 90% after	60 visits combined per calendar year; 90% after
Bariatric surgery	90% after ded.	90% after ded.	90% after ded.	90% after ded.
Acupuncture	90% after ded.	90% after ded.	90% after ded.	90% after ded.
Hearing aids	90% up to a max. benefit after			

#### Three Rivers Community Schools - 250C Teacher, Counselor MESSA ABC Plan 2 MESSA ABC Plan 1 **MESSA Choices MESSA Choices** \$2,000/\$4,000 HSA \$1,700/\$3,400 HSA \$500/\$1,000 10% \$500/\$1,000 10% 10% 10% 5-Tier Rx with 3-Tier Rx 5-Tier Rx 5-Tier Rx Mandatory Mail 5-Tier Rx with 5-Tier Rx **Prescription Drugs** 3-Tier Rx 5-Tier Rx Mandatory Mail (after deductible) (after deductible) Up to a 34-day supply Generic \$10 Free or \$10 Free or \$10 \$10 20% coinsurance \$40 Preferred brand \$40 \$40 (\$40 min - \$80 max) 20% coinsurance Nonpreferred brand \$80 \$80 \$80 (\$60 min - \$100 max) Preferred specialty (generic 20% coinsurance 20% coinsurance 20% coinsurance specialty and brand (\$0 min - \$150 max) (\$0 min - \$150 max) (\$0 min - \$150 max) specialty) Pricing included in one of the above categories 20% coinsurance 20% coinsurance 20% coinsurance Nonpreferred specialty (\$0 min - \$300 max) (\$0 min - \$300 max) (\$0 min - \$300 max) 90-day supply Generic, 2.5x 1-month supply; 3x 1-month supply; 3x 1-month supply; 3x 1-month supply; Preferred brand, Retail or mail order Retail or mail order Retail or mail order Mail order only Nonpreferred brand Additional Information ACA Free Preventive list ACA Free Preventive list ACA Free Preventive list. ACA Free Preventive list. and MESSA Expanded and MESSA Expanded Free Free preventive drug list(s) These are FREE before These are FREE before Free Preventive list. Preventive list. These are deductible. deductible. These are FREE before FREE before deductible. deductible.

MESSA In-Network Plan Comparison - Effective: 1/1/2026

ACA = Affordable Care Act

Supplemental Plans

Not included

Not included

Not included

If you have any questions, please contact your MESSA Field Representative, Jim Gleason, at 800-292-4910.

Not included

This comparison is provided for informational purposes only and MESSA assumes no responsibility or liability for any errors or omissions in the content. Refer to MESSA.org and the plan booklets for additional information.

<sup>~</sup> Essentials by MESSA Rx, Balance+ Rx, and 5-Tier Rx plans have several drugs and drug categories that are excluded from coverage, including, but not limited to brand-name drugs that have generic equivalents, erectile dysfunction drugs, brand-name weight loss and prenatal vitamins, and drugs that treat coughs and colds, including most antihistamines.

<sup>~</sup> The MESSA ABC Plan 1 and Balance+ deductible is subject to change each Jan. 1 to remain HSA-compatible, per IRS rules; out-of-pocket maximums may change based on deductible amounts.

### **MESSA Choices with 3-Tier Rx Overview**



## Where you get your medication depends on which plan you have

Rx plan	Up to 34-day Rx	90-day Rx	Up to 30-day specialty Rx
Choices with 3-Tier Rx	Retail pharmacy	Retail pharmacy or Optum Rx (optional home delivery by mail)	Specialty medications are handled separately. Specialty drugs must be obtained by mail through Walgreens Specialty Pharmacy or select Walgreens retail pharmacies. If you obtain them from any other
Choices with 3-Tier Rx and Mandatory Mail*	Retail pharmacy	Optum Rx ( <b>required</b> home delivery by mail)	provider, you may be responsible for the total cost. The initial quantity of select specialty drugs may be limited, and your cost will be reduced accordingly. Additional fills for specialty drugs are limited to a 30-day supply.

<sup>\*</sup>Note: The Choices with 3-Tier Rx and Mandatory Mail plan requires you to obtain certain long-term maintenance medications and 90-day prescriptions through Optum Rx. If a drug is on the list of medications requiring home delivery, it will not be covered if you obtain it from a retail pharmacy. You can go to a local pharmacy for short-term prescriptions, such as antibiotics or medications that have a limited supply.

## What you pay for a prescription from an in-network pharmacy

	Up to 34-day supply	90-day supply
Specific preventive medications mandated by federal law are covered 100%.	No cost to you	No cost to you
Generics	\$10 copayment	\$25 copayment
Preferred brand-name drugs	20% coinsurance	20% coinsurance
Freierieu branu-name urugs	\$40 minimum – \$80 maximum	\$100 minimum – \$200 maximum
Name of the state	20% coinsurance	20% coinsurance
Nonpreferred brand-name drugs	\$60 minimum – \$100 maximum	\$150 minimum – \$250 maximum

**Note:** If the approved amount is less than the copayment, you pay only the approved amount for the drug. **Up to a 90-day supply of insulin may be obtained for the same amount as a 34-day supply from any in-network provider.** The amount you pay for brand-name medications varies because coinsurance is based on the price of the drug when filled. If you obtain a nonpreferred brand-name drug when a generic drug is available, you will pay the nonpreferred brand-name drug coinsurance plus the difference in cost between the generic drug and the nonpreferred brand-name drug. Prescription types (generic, brand-name and specialty) are subject to change without notice.

Your prescription plan includes a number of money-saving features, including prior authorization, step therapy and quantity limits.

To order medications through Optum Rx log in to your MyMESSA account at messa.org and select "Optum Rx home delivery." You may also call MESSA at 800-336-0013 or TTY 888-445-5614 for assistance or contact us via live chat from your MyMESSA account or through the MESSA app.

### **MESSA Choices with 5-Tier Rx Overview**



- You pay copays or coinsurance on prescription medications until your prescription out-of-pocket maximum is reached.
- If the approved amount of a prescription medication is less than the copayment, you pay only the approved amount for the drug.
- Specialty medications are handled separately. Specialty drugs must be obtained by mail through Walgreens Specialty
  Pharmacy or select Walgreens retail pharmacies. If you obtain them from any other provider, you may be responsible for
  the total cost.
- The initial quantity of select specialty drugs may be limited, and your cost will be reduced accordingly. Additional fills for specialty drugs are limited to a 30-day supply.
- Your prescription plan includes a number of money-saving features, including prior authorization, step therapy and quantity limits. Additionally, brand-name drugs are not covered when a generic equivalent is available.
- If you have 5-Tier Rx with Mandatory Mail, you must order all 90-day prescriptions and certain long-term maintenance medications through Optum Rx for home delivery.
- To order medications through Optum Rx, log in to your MyMESSA account at **messa.org** and select "Optum Rx home delivery" under the "Benefits" menu. You may also call MESSA at 800-336-0013 or TTY: 888-445-5614 for assistance or contact us via live chat from your MyMESSA account or through the MESSA app.

Type of medications	Up to 34-day supply	90-day supply
Specific preventive medications mandated by federal law are covered 100%.	No cost to you	No cost to you
Generic drugs  Members pay the lowest copay for generics, making them the most cost-effective option for treatment.	\$10 copayment	\$30 copayment
Preferred brand-name drugs Brand-name drugs are more expensive than generics.	\$40 copayment	\$120 copayment
Nonpreferred brand-name drugs Includes brand-name drugs for which there's either a generic alternative or a more cost-effective, preferred brand-name drug available.	\$80 copayment	\$240 copayment
Preferred specialty drugs Includes generic and brand-name specialty drugs that are used to treat difficult health conditions.	20% coinsurance with a maximum of \$150 (up to 30-day supply)	Not available
Nonpreferred specialty drugs Includes nonpreferred brand-name specialty drugs that are used to treat difficult health conditions. Members pay more for nonpreferred specialty drugs because there are more cost-effective generic or preferred drugs available.	20% coinsurance with a maximum of \$300 (up to 30-day supply)	Not available

Prescription types (generic, brand-name and specialty) are subject to change without notice. The initial quantity of select specialty drugs may be limited and your cost will be reduced accordingly for the reduced initial fill. To fill your specialty medication prescription, call Walgreens Specialty Pharmacy at 866-249-5367. Up to a 90-day supply of insulin may be obtained for the same amount as a 34-day supply from any in-network provider.

### **MESSA ABC with 5-Tier Rx Overview**



- You pay the full cost of your prescriptions until your deductible is fully paid. After deductible, you are responsible for prescription copayments or coinsurance until your out-of-pocket maximum is reached.
- If the approved amount of a prescription medication is less than the copayment, you pay only the approved amount for the drug.
- Specialty medications are handled separately. Specialty drugs must be obtained by mail through Walgreens Specialty Pharmacy or select Walgreens retail pharmacies. If you obtain them from any other provider, you may be responsible for the total cost.
- The initial quantity of select specialty drugs may be limited, and your cost will be reduced accordingly. Additional fills for specialty drugs are limited to a 30-day supply.
- Your prescription plan includes a number of money-saving features, including prior authorization, step therapy and quantity limits. Additionally, brand-name drugs are not covered when a generic equivalent is available.
- If you have 5-Tier Rx with Mandatory Mail, you must order all 90-day prescriptions and certain long-term maintenance medications through Optum Rx for home delivery.
- To order medications through Optum Rx, log in to your MyMESSA account at **messa.org** and select "Optum Rx home delivery" under the "Benefits" menu. You may also call MESSA at 800-336-0013 or TTY: 888-445-5614 for assistance or contact us via live chat from your MyMESSA account or through the MESSA app.

Type of medications	Up to 34-day supply	90-day supply
List of specific preventive medications in addition to those mandated by federal law are covered 100% with no deductible required.	No cost to you	No cost to you
After your deductible is met the following copayment	s or coinsurance apply:	
Generic drugs  Members pay the lowest copay for generics, making them the most cost-effective option for treatment.	\$10 copayment	\$30 copayment
Preferred brand-name drugs Brand-name drugs are more expensive than generics.	\$40 copayment	\$120 copayment
Nonpreferred brand-name drugs Includes brand-name drugs for which there's either a generic alternative or a more cost-effective, preferred brand-name drug available.	\$80 copayment	\$240 copayment
Preferred specialty drugs Includes generic and brand-name specialty drugs that are used to treat difficult health conditions.	20% coinsurance with a maximum of \$150 (up to 30-day supply)	Not available
Nonpreferred specialty drugs Includes nonpreferred brand-name specialty drugs that are used to treat difficult health conditions. Members pay more for nonpreferred specialty drugs because there are more cost-effective generic or preferred drugs available.	20% coinsurance with a maximum of \$300 (up to 30-day supply)	Not available

Prescription types (generic, brand-name and specialty) are subject to change without notice. The initial quantity of select specialty drugs may be limited and **your cost will be reduced accordingly for the reduced initial fill.** To fill your specialty medication prescription, call Walgreens Specialty Pharmacy at 866-249-5367. **Up to a 90-day supply of insulin may be obtained for the same amount as a 34-day supply from any in-network provider.** 

## MESSA Dental plan highlights

1475 Kendale lvd. PO ox 2560 ast Lansing, Michigan 48826-2560 517-332-2581 • 800-292-4910

Effective Date: 01/01/2026

MESSA Account: Three Rivers Community Schools

**Employee Group: Teacher Counselor** 

Group/Subgroup: 06091-0003

MESSA dental plans are underwritten and administered by Delta Dental of Michigan, a non-profit dental care corporation known for its high quality dental programs. Delta Dental contracts with dentists throughout the U.S. to provide high quality care and 90% of Michigan dentists are in the Delta Dental provider network. MESSA members can easily locate Delta Dental contracting providers by visiting messa.org and using the provider directory search provided by Delta Dental.

Plan Features			
Diagnostic & Preventive Services 80%	Basic Services 80%	Major Services 50%	Orthodontics 50%
Oral Examination Prophylaxes Topical Fluoride* Brush Biopsy Emergency Palliative Cleanings in 12 Months  * Fluoride treatments are payable twice in any period of 12 consecutive months for people up to age 19.  Rider (If neither box below is checked, you donethave this coverage.)  3 Cleanings in 12 Months 4 Cleanings in 12 Months	Restorative Crowns** Oral Surgery Endodontic Services — treatment for diseased or damaged nerves. Periodontic Services — treatment for diseases of the gum and teeth-supporting structures.  * Bitewing x-rays are payable once in any period of 12 consecutive months. Full mouth panograph is payable once in 5 years.  ** Payable once in any 5-year period on the same tooth.  Rider (If the box below is not checked, you do not have this coverage.)  Sealants: payable on occlusal surface of first permanent molars for patients up to age 9 and for second permanent molars for patients up to age 14 that are free from caries and restorations.	Procedures for the construction of fixed bridgework, endosteal implants, partial and complete dentures.  Payable once in any 5-year period for the same appliances.	Necessary treatment and procedures required for the correction of abnormal bite.  Orthodontic exam, radiographs and extractions are covered under Diagnostic & Preventive Services and Basic Services.  Rider (If the box below is not checked, you do orthodontics: removes the age 19 restriction on Orthodontics coverage.)
\$1,000 annual maximum per person Diagnostic & Preventive Services, Basic Services, and Major Services			\$1,000 lifetime maximum per person Orthodontics

For a complete listing of exclusions and limitations that apply to the plan, refer to the Delta Dental of Michigan certificate booklet.

## VSP 3 G Benefits

1475 Kendale lvd. PO ox 2560 ast Lansing, Michigan 48826-2560 517-332-2581 • 800-292-4910

Effective Date: 1/1/2026

MESSA Account: Three Rivers Community Schools

**Employee Group: Teacher Counselor** 

### In-network providers

Most eye doctors are in VSP's Signature network. Staying in-network makes sure you get the most value from your benefits and limits your out-of-pocket costs. In-network doctors bill VSP directly as a convenience to you. A directory of Signature network doctors is available at messa.org or vsp.com. Call VSP member services at 800-877-7195 for assistance.

## Out-of-network providers (Maximum reimbursement to patient)

If you choose to see a doctor who is not in the VSP Signature network, your out-of-pocket costs will likely be higher and you must submit the itemized receipts to VSP for reimbursement. For more information, visit vsp.com or call VSP member services at 800-877-7195.

Benefit	In-network provider	Out-of-network provider maximum allowance
Examination Optometrist Ophthalmologist	No copayment No copayment	\$35 \$45
Contact lenses (includes contact lens examination) *		
Elective lenses to improve vision	\$135 allowance	\$115
Medically necessary - to correct keratoconus, irregular astigmatism, irregular corneal curvature or vision to 20/70 in the better eye	MESSA pays 100% of the approved amount	\$200
Eyeglass frames	\$130 allowance	\$55
Eyeglass lenses		
Single vision Bifocal Trifocal Lenticular	MESSA pays 100% of the approved amount	\$38 \$60 \$72 \$108
Eyeglass lens enhancements		
Rose #1 or #2 tint Rimless Oversize Blended Photochromic	MESSA pays 100% of the approved amount	Member must pay the difference between the approved amount and the provider charge
Progressive	Not covered	
Tinted Single vision Bifocal Trifocal Lenticular	MESSA pays 100% of the approved amount	\$42 \$70 \$84 \$118
Polarized Single vision Bifocal Trifocal	MESSA pays 100% of the approved amount	\$56 \$90 \$110

Lenticular \$138

\* The cost of the eye exam is covered separately and does not count against the contact lens allowance.

## MESSA Group Term Life Insurance plan highlights

Underwritten by Life Insurance Company of North America

Effective Date: 01/01/2026

Account: Three Rivers Community Schools

Employee Group: Teacher Counselor



This is a brief summary of your coverage available under MESSA's Group Term Life and AD&D policy. Please refer to your Life & Accident Insurance Certificate Booklet for complete information.

Plan features	Definition	Your Coverage
Group Term Life Insurance	The amount of your Group Term Life Insurance coverage.	\$10,000
Group AD&D Insurance	The amount of your Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D) coverage.	\$10,000
Group Dependent Term Life Insurance: SPOUSE	This provides a life benefit equal to 50% of the member's benefit (not to exceed \$25,000) for the spouse and does not contain AD&D benefits.	N/A
Group Dependent Term Life Insurance: CHILD(REN)	This provides a life benefit equal to 25% of the member's benefit (not to exceed \$12,500) for all eligible children and does not contain AD&D benefits.	N/A

It is important to note that Group Term Life Insurance in excess of \$50,000 and Group Dependent Term Life Insurance (if the benefit exceeds \$2,000) are taxable benefits.



## Member Service Center | 800-336-0013

Our Member Service Center is available Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Our member service specialists are experts at answering questions about your plan and helping with claims.

### Your MESSA field representative 800-292-4910

A local field representative is available to help you and your group. Your field representative can explain benefits and answer questions, attend meetings or arrange visits from other MESSA experts, including nurse educators.

### Medical case management 800-441-4626

MESSA's medical case management nurses can help members and dependents with a catastrophic injury or serious illness get access to the right care at the right time and return to their highest quality of life.

### Health promotion consultant 800-292-4910

MESSA's health promotion consultant can help you and your coworkers develop or strengthen a worksite wellness program.



### Privacy Practices

MESSA understands the importance of your protected health information (hereafter referred to as "PHI") and follows strict policies in accordance with state and federal privacy laws to keep your PHI private. PHI is information about you that can reasonably be used to identify you and information that relates to your past, present, or future physical or mental health, the provision of health care or the payment of that care. Notices of the Privacy Practices for MESSA, BCBSM, NYL and VSP can be found at messa.org/privacy.

## Continuation Coverage Rights Under COBRA

### Introduction

You're getting this notice because you recently gained coverage under a group health plan (the Plan). This notice has important information about your right to COBRA continuation coverage, which is a temporary extension of coverage under the Plan. This notice explains COBRA continuation coverage, when it may become available to you and your family, and what you need to do to protect your right to get it. When you become eligible for COBRA, you may also become eligible for other coverage options that may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage.

The right to COBRA continu ation cove rage was created by a federal law, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA). COBRA continu ation coverage can become available to you and other members of your family when group health coverage would otherwise end. For more information about your rights and obligations under the Plan and under federal law, please contact your employer.

## You may have other options available to you when you lose group health coverage.

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

### What is COBRA continuation coverage?

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

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

- Your hours of employment are reduced, or;
- Your employment ends for any reason other than your gross misconduct.

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

- Your spouse dies;
- Your spouse's hours of employment are reduced;

- Your spouse's employment ends for any reason other than their gross misconduct;
- Your spouse becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B or both); or
- You become divorced or legally separated from your spouse.

Your dependent children will become qualified beneficiaries if they lose coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

- The parent-employee dies;
- The parent-employee's hours of employment are reduced;
- The parent-employee's employment ends for any reason other than their gross misconduct;
- The parent-employee becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (Part A, Part B or both);
- The parents become divorced or legally separated; or
- The child stops being eligible for cove rage un der the Plan as a "dependent child."

## When is COBRA continuation coverage available?

MESSA will offer COBRA continu ation cove rage to qualified beneficiaries only after MESSA has been notified that a qualifying event has occurred. The employer must notify MESSA of the following qualifying events:

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

For all other qualifying events (divorce or legal separation of the employee and spouse or a dependent child's losing eligibility for coverage as a dependent child), you must notify MESSA within 60 days after the qualifying event occurs.

## How is COBRA continuation coverage provided?

Once MESSA receives notice that a qualifying event has occurred, COBRA continuation coverage will be offered to each of the qualified beneficiaries. Each qualified beneficiary will have an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Covered employees may elect COBRA

continuation coverage on behalf of their spouses, and parents may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their children.

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

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

#### ■ Disability extension

If you or anyone in your family covered under the Plan is determined by Social Security to be disabled and you notify your employer in a timely fashion, you and your entire family may be entitled to get up to an additional 11 months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 29 months.

The disability would have to have started at some time before the 60th day of COBRA continuation coverage and must last at least until the end of the 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage.

#### ■ Second qualifying event extension

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

## Are there other coverage options besides COBRA continuation coverage?

Yes. Instead of enr olling in COBRA continu ation cove rage, there may be other cove rage options for you and your family through the Health Insur ance Marketplace, Medicaid, Children's Health Insur ance Program (CHIP), or other group health plan cove rage options (such as a spouse's plan) through what is called a "special enr ollment period." Some of these options may cost less than COBRA continu ation cove rage. You can lear n more about many of these options at healthcar e.gov.

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

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

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

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

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

For more information visit medicar e.gov/medicar e-and-you.

#### **Questions?**

Questions concerning your Plan or your COBRA continuation coverage rights should be addressed to your employer.

## Keep your Plan informed of address changes

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

### Notice of Special Enrollment Rights

If you are declining enrollment for your self or your dependents (including your spouse) because of other health insurance or group health plan coverage, you may be able to enroll your self and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage (or if the employer stops contributing toward your or your dependents' other coverage). However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after your or your dependents' other coverage ends (or after the employer stops contributing toward the other coverage).

In addition, if you have a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, you may be able to enroll your self and your dependents. However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.

You may also request group coverage for your self or your dependents within 60 days of either of the following events:

- Your Medicaid coverage or your dependents' Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) coverage is terminated due to loss of eligibility; or
- You or your dependent becomes eligible for pre miu m subsidies.

To request special enrollment or obtain more information, contact your MESSA field representative at 800-292-4910, ext. 7817.

### New borns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act Notice

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

## Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998

If you have had or are going to have a mastecto my, you may be entitled to certain benefits under the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 (WHCRA). For individuals receiving mastecto my-related benefits, coverage will be provided in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient for:

- All stages of reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed;
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance;
- Prost heses; and
- Treatment of physical complications of the mastecto my, including lymphede ma.

These benefits will be provided subject to the same deductibles and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under this plan. If you would like more information on WHCRA benefits, contact your MESSA field representative at 800-292-4910, ext. 7817.

### Michelle's Law

## Notice of extended coverage to participants covered under a group health plan

Federal legislation known as "Michelle's Law" generally extends eligibility for group health benefit plan coverage to a dependent child who is enrolled in an institution of higher education at the beginning of a medically necessary leave of absence if the leave normally would cause the

dependent child to lose eligibility for coverage under the plan due to loss of student status. The extension of eligibility protects eligibility of a sick or injured dependent child for up to one year.

Your Plan per mits an employee to continue a child's cove rage if that child is enrolled at an accredite d institution of lear ning on a full-time basis, with full-time defined by the accredite d institution's registration and/or attendance policies. Michelle's Law requires the Plan to allow extended eligibility in some cases for a dependent child who would lose eligibility for Plan coverage due to loss of full-time student status.

There are two definitions that are important for purposes of determining whether the Michelle's Law extension of eligibility applies to a particular child:

- Dependent child means a child of a plan participant who is eligible under the terms of a group health benefit plan based on his/her student status and who was enrolled at a post-secondary education al institution immediately before the first day of a medically necessary leave of absence.
- Medically necessary leave of absence means a leave of absence or any other change in enrollment of a dependent child from a postsecondary educational institution that:
  - Begins while the child is suffering from a serious illness or injury
  - Is medically necessary; and
  - Causes the dependent child to lose student status under the terms of the Plan

For the Michelle's Law extension of eligibility to apply, a dependent child's treating physician must provide written certification of medical necessity (i.e., certification that the dependent child suffers from a serious illness or injury that necessitates the leave of absence or other enrollment change that would otherwise cause loss of eligibility).

- If a dependent child qualifies for the Michelle's Law extension of eligibility, the Plan will treat the dependent child as eligible for coverage until the earlier of:
- One year after the first day of the leave of absence; or

■ The date that Plan coverage would otherwise terminate (for reasons other than failure to be a full-time student).

A dependent child on a medically necessary leave of absence is entitled to receive the same Plan benefits as other dependent children covered under the Plan. Further, any change to Plan coverage that occurs during the Michelle's Law extension of eligibility will apply to the dependent child to the same extent as it applies to other dependent children covered under the Plan.

### Men tal Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA) Disclosure

The Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 generally requires group health plans and health insurance issuers to ensure that financial requirements (such as co-pays and deductibles) and treatment limitations (such as annu al visit limits) applicable to mental health or substance use disorder benefits are no more restrictive than the predominant requirements or limitations applied to substantially all medical/surgical benefits. For more information regarding the criteria for medical necessity determinations with respect to mental health or substance use disorder benefits, please contact MESSA's Member Service Center at 800-336-0013.

## Pre miu m Assistanc e Unde r Medicaid and the Children's Health Insu ranc e Program (CHIP)

If you or your children are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP and you're eligible for health cove rage from your employer, your state may have a pre miu m assist ance program that can help pay for cove rage, using funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs. If you or your children aren't eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, you won't be eligible for these pre miu m assist ance programs. Ho weve r, you may be able to buy individual insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Market place; for more information, visit healthcar e.gov.

If you or your dependents are already enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP and you live in a state listed in this section, contact your state Medicaid or CHIP office to find out if premium assistance is available. If you or your dependents are not currently enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP, and you think you or any of your dependents might be eligible for either of these programs, contact your state Medicaid or CHIP office by calling 877-KIDS NOW (877-543-7669) or by going online to insu rekids no w.gov to find out how to apply. If you qualify, ask if your state has a program that might help you pay the premiums or an employer-sponsored plan.

If you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, as well as eligible under your employer plan, your employer must allow you to enroll in your employer plan if you aren't already enrolled. This is called a "special enrollment" opportunity. You must request cove rage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium assistance.

If you have questions about enrolling in your employer plan, contact the Department of Labor at ask ebsa.dol.gov or call 866-444-EBSA (3272).

If you live in one of the following states, you may be eligible for assistance paying your employer health plan premiums. The following list of states is current as of July 31, 2024. Contact your state for more information on eligibility.

#### ALABAMA — MEDICAID

Website: <u>myalhipp.com</u> Phone: 855-692-5447

#### ALASKA — Medicaid

The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment

Progra m

Website: myakh ipp.com Phone: 866-251-4861

Email: Custo merService@MyAKHIPP.com Medicaid eligi bility: <u>health.alaska.gov/dpa/</u>

Pages/defau lt.asp x

#### ARKANSAS — Medicaid

Website: myarh ipp.com

Phone: 855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)

#### CALIFORNIA — Medicaid

Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP)

Program website: dhcs.ca.gov/hipp

Fax: 916-440-5676 Phone: 916-445-8322 Email: hipp@dhcs.ca.gov

COLORADO — Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) & Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)

Health First Colorad o website:

healthfirstcolorado.com

Health First Colorad o Member Contact Center:

800-221-3943/State Relay 711

CHP+: hcpf.colorado.gov/child-health-plan-plus CHP+ Custo mer Service: 800-359-1991/State Relay

Health Insurance Buy-In Program (HIBI):

mycohibi.com/HIBI

HIBI Custo mer Service: 855-692-6442

FLORIDA — Medicaid

Website: flmedicaid tplrecovery.com/

flmedicaid tplrecovery.com/hipp/index.html

Phone: 877-357-3268

GEORGIA — Medicaid

GA HIPP website: medicaid.georgia.gov/

healthinsurance-premium-payment-program-

hipp

Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 1

GA CHIPRA website: medicaid.georgia.gov/ programs/third-party-liability/childrens-

health-insurance-program-reauthorizationact-2009-chipra

Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 2

INDIANA — Medicaid

Health Insurance Premium Payment Program

All other Medicaid

Website: in.gov/medicaid/

in.gov/fssa/dfr/

Family and Social Services Administration

Phone: 800-403-0864

Member Services Phone: 800-457-4584

IOWA — Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki)

Medicaid website: Iowa Medicaid | Health &

**Human Services** 

Medicaid phone: 800-338-8366

Hawki website: Hawki - Healthy and Well Kids

in Iowa | Health & Human Services

Hawki Phone: 800-257-8563

HIPP website: **Health Insurance Premium** Payment (HIPP) | Health & Human Services

(iowa.gov)

HIPP phone: 888-346-9562

KANSAS — Medicaid

Website: kancare.ks.gov

Phone: 800-792-4884

HIPP Phone: 800-967-4660

KENTUCKY — Medicaid

Kentucky Integrated Health Insurance Premium Payment Program (KI-HIPP) website: chfs.ky.gov/

agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx

Phone: 855-459-6328

Email: KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov KCHIP website: kynect.ky.gov

Phone: 877-524-4718

Kentucky Medicaid website: chfs.ky.gov/

agencies/dms

LOUISIANA — Medicaid

Website: **medicaid**.la.gov

Phone: 888-342-6207 (Medicaid hotline)

Website: ldh.la.gov/lahipp Phone: 855-618-5488 (LaHIPP)

MAINE — Medicaid

Enrollment website: mymaineconnection.gov/

bene fits/s/?language=en US

Phone: 800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711

Private Health Insurance Premium webpage:

maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms

Phone: 800-977-6740 TTY: Maine relay 711

MASSACHUSETTS — Medicaid and CHIP

Website: mass.gov/masshealth/pa

Phone: 800-862-4840

TTY: 711

Em ail: masspre massist ance@accentur e.com

MINNESOTA — Medicaid

Website: mn.gov/dhs/health-care-coverage/

Phone: 800-657-3672

MISSOURI — Medicaid

Website: dss.mo.gov/mhd/participa nts/pages/

hipp.htm

Phone: 573-751-2005

MONTANA — Medicaid

Website: **dphhs.mt.gov/** 

Montana Healthcar ePrograms/HIPP

Phone: 800-694-3084

Em ail: HHSHIPPP rogra m@mt.gov

NEBRASKA — Medicaid

Website: ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov

Phone: 855-632-7633 Lincoln: 402-473-7000 Om aha: 402-595-1178

**NEVADA** — Medicaid

Website: **dhcfp.nv.gov** Phone: 800-992-0900

NEW HAMPSHIRE — Medicaid

Website: <u>dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/</u> medicaid/health-insurance-premium-program

Phone: 603-271-5218

Toll-free: 800-852-3345 ext. 15218

Em ail: DHHS.Thir dPar tyLiabi@dhh s.nh.gov

NEW JERSEY — Medicaid and CHIP

Medicaid website: state.nj.us/humanservices/

dmahs/clients/medicaid

Phone: 800-356-1561

CHIP Pre miu m Assist ance Phone: 609-631-2392 CHIP Website: njfamilycare.org/index.html

CHIP Phone: 800-701-0710 (TTY: 711)

NEW YORK — Medicaid

Website: health.ny.gov/health\_care/medicaid

Phone: 800-541-2831

NORTH CAROLINA — Medicaid

Website: medicaid.ncdhhs.gov

Phone: 919-855-4100

NORTH DAKOTA — Medicaid

Website: hhs.nd.gov/healthcare

Phone: 844-854-4825

OKLAHOMA — Medicaid and CHIP

Website: insureoklahoma.org

Phone: 888-365-3742

OREGON — Medicaid

Websites: healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.

asp x

Phone: 800-699-9075

PENNSYLVANIA — Medicaid and CHIP

Website: pa.gov/en/services/dhs/apply-for-

medicaid -health-insurance-premium-payment-

program-hipp.html
Phone: 800-692-7462

CHIP website: Children's Health Insurance

Program (CHIP) (pa.gov)

CHIP Phone: 800-986-KIDS (5437)

RHODE ISLAND — Medicaid and CHIP

Website: eohh s.ri.gov

Phone: 855-697-4347, or 401-462-0311 (Direct RIte

Shar e Line)

**SOUTH CAROLINA** — Medicaid

Website: scdhhs .gov Phone: 888-549-0820

SOUTH DAKOTA — Medicaid

Website: <u>dss.sd.gov</u> Phone: 888-828-0059

TEXAS — Medicaid

Website: <a href="https://hea.th/hea.th/insurance-premium-payment-hipp-">hea.th/insurance-premium-payment-hipp-</a>

program

Phone: 800-440-0493

UTAH — Medicaid and CHIP

Utah's Premium Partnership for Health Insurance

(UPP)

Website: medicaid.utah.gov/upp/

Email: upp@utah.gov Phone: 888-222-2542

Adult Expansion Website: medicaid.utah.gov/

ex pansion/

Utah Medicaid Buyout Program Website: medicaid.utah.gov/buyout-program/

CHIP Website: chip.utah.gov/

VERMONT — Medicaid

Website: dvha.vermont.gov/members/medicaid/

hipp-program

Phone: 800-250-8427

VIRGINA — Medicaid and CHIP

Websites: coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/

premium assistance/famis-select

coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/

premium assistance/health-insurancepremium-payment-hipp-programs

Medicaid/CHIP Phone: 800-432-5924

WASHINGTON — Medicaid

Website: **hca.wa.gov** Phone: 800-562-3022

WEST VIRGINIA — Medicaid and CHIP

Website: dhhr.wv.gov/bms/ mywvhipp.com/

Medicaid Phone: 304-558-1700

CHIP Toll-free phone: 855-MyWVHIPP

(855-699-8447)

WISCONSIN — Medicaid and CHIP

Website: **dhs.wiscons in.gov/** bad gercar eplus/p-10095. htm

Phone: 800-362-3002

WYOMING — Medicaid

Website: health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/ medicaid /programs-and-eligibility

Phone: 800-251-1269

To see if any other states have added a premium assist ance program since July, 31, 2024, or for more information on special enrollments rights, contact either of the following:

U. S. Department of Labor

Employee Benefits Security Administration

Website: dol.gov/agen cies/ebsa Phone: 866-444-EBSA (3272)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services

Website: cm s.hhs.gov

Phone: 877-267-2323, menu option 4, ext. 61565

### Paperwork Reduction Act State ment

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) (PRA), no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid Office of Management

and Budget (OMB) control number. The Department notes that a Federal agency cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information un less it is appr oved by OMB under the PRA, and displays a curr ently valid OMB control number, and the public is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a curr ently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3507. Also, not withstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if the collection of information does not display a curr ently valid OMB control number.

See 44 U.S.C. 3512.

The public reporting bur den for this collection of information is estimated to average appr oximately seven minutes per respondent. Interested parties are encouraged to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Office of Policy and Research, Attention: PRA Clearance Officer, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room N-5718, Washington, DC 20210 or email ebsa.opr@dol.gov and reference the OMB

Control Number 1210-0137.

OMB Control Number 1210-0137 (expires 1/31/2026)

GS | 09/30/24

### Language services

If you, or someone you're helping, needs assistance, you have the right to get help and information in your language at no cost. To talk to aninterpreter, call MESSA's Member Service Center at 800.3360013 or TTY 888445.5614.

Si usted, o alguien a quien usted esta ayudando, necesita asistenda, tiene derecho a obtene rayuda e información en su idioma sin costo alguno. Para hablar con un interprete, llame al nUmero telefónico de s.ervicios para miembros de MESSA, que aparece en la parte trasera desutarjeta.

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Jesli Tylub osoba, kt6rej pomagasz, potrzebujecie pomocy, masz prawo do uzyskania bezplatnej informacji i pomocy we własnym ij zyku. Aby porozmawiacz tłumaczem, zadzwor\pod numer działu obsugici tonk6w MESSA wskazany na odwrocie Twojej karty.

Falls Sle oder jemand, dem Sle helfen, Unterst Otzung ben Otlgen, haben Sle das Recht kostenlose Hilfe und Informationen in Ihrer Sprache zu erhalten. Um mit einem Dolmetscher zu sprechen, rufen Sie bitte die Nummer der MESSA-Mitgliederbetreuung auf der ROckseitehrer Karte an.

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Kung ikaw,o ang iyong tinutulungan,ay nangangailangan ngtulong, may karapatan kang makakuha ng tulong at impormasyon sa iyong uka nang walanggastos. Upang makausap angisang interpreter, tumawag sa numero para sa mga seribyo sa rijiemb rong MESSA na nasa Ilkuran ng Iyong card.

#### Important disclosure

MESSA and Blue Cross Blue Sield of Michigan (BCBSM) comply with federal civil rights laws and do not discrimate on the bas of race,color, national origin,age, disability,or sex. MESSA and BCBSM provide free auxiliary aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, including qualified signanguage interpreters. If you need assistance,call MESSA's Member Service Center at 800.3360013 or TTY 888445.5614.

f you need help filing a grievance, MESSA's general counsel is available to help you. If you believe that MESSA or BCBSM failed to provide services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance in person, or by mail, phone, fax or email: General Counsel, MESSAP.O. Box 2560, East Lansing, MI48826 2560, 800292.4910, ID: 888445.5613, fax: 517203.2909 or Civil Rights General Counsel@memorg,

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the Office for CivilRights on the web at <a href="mailto:OCRComplaint@hhs.gov">OCRComplaint@hhs.gov</a>, or by mailphone or email: \$\square\$. Department of Health & Human Services, 200 Independence Ave, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, 800.368.1019, TIO: 800.537.7697, or OCRComplaint@hhs.gov.