IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES ABOUT OUR HEALTH PLAN

Rights under the Women’s Health and Cancer Rights Act

Under Federal law, group health plans and health insurance issuers that provide medical and surgical benefits with respect to a mastectomy must provide certain benefits to a participant or beneficiary who is receiving benefits in connection with mastectomy and who elects breast reconstruction.

Specifically, the group health plan and issuer must provide coverage in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, for (i) reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy has been performed; (ii) surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance; and (iii) prostheses and physical complications during all stages of mastectomy, including lymphedemas. This coverage may be subject to annual deductibles and coinsurance provisions, consistent with other benefits under the medical coverage option.

Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act

The Allegheny College plan is intended to comply with the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2009. What that means to you generally is that you will not be asked or required to provide any genetic information in connection with the medical benefits before enrolling in the Plan and your genetic information will not be used for underwriting purposes. It is important that you refer to the insurance booklet for the medical benefits to more fully understand how the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act applies to you.

Newborns’ & Mothers Health Protection Act

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

Summary of Privacy Practices

This Summary of Privacy Practices summarizes how medical information about you may be used and disclosed by Allegheny College or others in the administration of your claims, and certain rights that you have.

We are committed to protecting your personal health information. We are required by law to (1) make sure that any medical information that identifies you is kept private; (2) provide you with certain rights with respect to your medical information; (3) make certain you are notified of our legal duties and privacy practices; and (4) follow all privacy practices and procedures currently in effect.

In the course of providing health, dental, vision, and flexible spending account benefits we may use and disclose health information about you and your participating dependents without your permission for the administration of these plans and for any other health care operation as allowed or required by law. Allegheny College employees who are responsible for maintaining eligibility for these benefit programs may not share your information for employment-related purposes.
Otherwise, we must obtain your written authorization for any other use and disclosure of your medical information. We cannot retaliate against you if you refuse to sign an authorization or revoke an authorization you had previously given.

You have the right to inspect and copy your protected health information, to request corrections of your medical information, and to obtain an accounting of certain disclosures of your medical information. You also have the right to request that additional restrictions or limitations be placed on the use or disclosure of your protected health information, or that communications about your protected health information be made in different ways or at different locations.

If you believe your privacy rights have been violated, you have the right to file a complaint with us or with the Office for Civil Rights. We will not retaliate against you for making a complaint.

**Notice of Special Enrollment Rights**

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

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

Additionally, if you or your dependents lose eligibility for coverage under Medicaid or the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP) or become eligible for a premium assistance subsidy under Medicaid or CHIP, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents. You must request enrollment within 60 days of the loss of Medicaid or CHIP coverage or the determination of eligibility for a premium assistance subsidy.