



**Blue Cross  
Blue Shield  
Blue Care Network**  
of Michigan



**MICHIGAN OFFICE OF  
RETIREMENT SERVICES**  
*Big Plans. Small Steps.*

**Medicare Plus Blue<sup>SM</sup> Group PPO  
administered by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan  
for the  
Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System**

**Annual Notice of Changes for 2024**

You are currently enrolled as a member of Medicare Plus Blue Group PPO. Next year, there will be changes to the plan's costs and benefits. Please see Page 4 for a Summary of Important Costs.

Medicare Plus Blue Group PPO allows for enrollment changes at any time during the year. Please contact the Michigan Office of Retirement Services (ORS) at **1-800-381-5111**, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern time, for more information.

If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. We are available to assist you from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

**Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Customer Service**

**Toll-Free: 1-800-422-9146**

**TTY: 711**

**Website: [www.bcbsm.com/mpsers](http://www.bcbsm.com/mpsers)**

Medicare Plus Blue is a PPO plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Medicare Plus Blue depends on contract renewal. When this booklet says "we," "us," or "our," it means Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan. When it says "plan" or "your plan," it means the Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System's Medicare Plus Blue Group PPO. If you need this information in another language or alternate format (e.g., large print, audio), please contact Blue Cross Customer Service at the number above.

## ***Annual Notice of Changes for 2024***

### **Table of Contents**

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| <b>Annual Notice of Changes for 2024</b> .....  | <b>1</b> |
| <b>Summary of important costs for 2024</b> .....  | <b>4</b> |
| <b>SECTION 1 Unless you choose another plan, you will be automatically enrolled in Medicare Plus Blue Group PPO in 2024</b> ..... | <b>5</b> |
| <b>SECTION 2 Changes to benefits and costs for next year</b> .....  | <b>6</b> |
| Section 2.1 – Changes to the monthly premium .....  | 6        |
| Section 2.2 – There are no changes to your maximum out-of-pocket amounts .....  | 6        |
| Section 2.3 – Changes to the provider network .....   | 6        |
| Section 2.4 – Changes to benefits and costs for medical services .....  | 6        |
| <b>SECTION 3 Administrative Changes</b> .....   | <b>7</b> |
| <b>SECTION 4 Programs that offer free counseling about Medicare</b> .....   | <b>8</b> |
| <b>SECTION 5 Questions?</b> .....   | <b>8</b> |
| Section 5.1 – Getting help from Medicare Plus Blue Group PPO .....  | 8        |
| Section 5.2 – Getting help from Medicare .....  | 9        |

---

## What to do now

### 1. REVIEW YOUR BENEFITS

- Check the changes to your benefits and costs to see if they affect you.**
  - Review the changes to medical care costs (doctor, hospital). Look in Sections 2.2 and 2.4 for information about benefit and cost changes for your plan.
  - Think about how much you will spend on premiums, deductibles, and cost sharing.
- Check to see if your primary care provider, specialists, hospitals, and other providers will be in our network next year.**
- Think about whether you are happy with your plan.**

### 2. COMPARE: Learn about other plan choices.

- To compare your current plan to other retirement system plan options, go to the ORS website, [www.michigan.gov/orsschools](http://www.michigan.gov/orsschools). Choose *Your Insurance Benefits* on the top navigation bar, then select *Insurance Carrier Options* to find a document called *Insurance Options Summary (R0379C)*.
- Check coverage and costs of other plans in your area. Use the Medicare Plan Finder at [www.medicare.gov/plan-compare](http://www.medicare.gov/plan-compare) or review the list in the back of your *Medicare & You 2024* handbook.
- Once you narrow your choice to a preferred plan, confirm your costs and coverage on the plan's website.

### 3. CHOOSE: Decide whether you want to change your plan.

- If you want to keep Medicare Plus Blue Group PPO, you don't need to do anything. You will stay in the plan.
- If you wish to enroll in another plan through ORS, log in to miAccount, [www.michigan.gov/orsmiaccount](http://www.michigan.gov/orsmiaccount), and click *Insurance Coverage*. Or, complete the *Insurance Enrollment/Change Request (R0452C)* form and return it to ORS with required proofs.
- Enrolling in another Medicare Advantage plan or individual prescription drug plan (any plan outside of the one offered by the retirement system) will automatically disenroll you and anyone else on your insurance from your retirement system medical and prescription drug coverage. It is important that you read your *Evidence of Coverage* thoroughly and understand any implications of leaving this plan.
- If you recently moved into, currently live in, or just moved out of an institution (like a skilled nursing facility or long-term care hospital), you can switch plans or switch to Original Medicare (either with or without a separate Medicare prescription drug plan) at any time.

**Coverage under this plan qualifies as Qualifying Health Coverage (QHC)** and satisfies the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act's (ACA) individual shared responsibility requirement. Please visit the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) website at [www.irs.gov/affordable-care-act/individuals-and-families](http://www.irs.gov/affordable-care-act/individuals-and-families) for more information.

## Summary of important costs for 2024

The table below compares the 2023 costs and 2024 costs for Medicare Plus Blue Group PPO in several important areas. **Please note this is only a summary of costs.** It is important to read the rest of the *Annual Notice of Changes* and review your *Evidence of Coverage* to see if other benefit or cost changes affect you. A copy of the *Evidence of Coverage* is located on our website at [www.bcbsm.com/mpsers](http://www.bcbsm.com/mpsers). You may also call Blue Cross Customer Service to ask us to mail you an *Evidence of Coverage*.

| Cost  | 2023 (this year)   | 2024 (next year)   |
|---|--|--|
| <b>Monthly plan premium</b>   | Contact ORS at 1-800-381-5111  | Contact ORS at 1-800-381-5111  |
| <b>Yearly deductible</b>  | \$800  | \$800  |
| <p><b>Maximum out-of-pocket amounts</b></p> <p>This is the <u>most</u> you will pay out-of-pocket for your covered services.</p> <p><b>Note:</b> Your out-of-pocket maximum includes all coinsurance and emergency room and urgent care copayments totaling the annual coinsurance/copay maximum of \$900, plus the \$800 annual deductible. Routine hearing care copayments are not included in the maximum.</p> | <p><b>Combined in-network and out-of-network:</b></p> <p>\$1,700</p> | <p><b>Combined in-network and out-of-network:</b></p> <p>\$1,700</p> |

**SECTION 1      Unless you choose another plan, you will be automatically enrolled in Medicare Plus Blue Group PPO in 2024**

If you want to change to a different plan for next year, please contact ORS at **1-800-381-5111**, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Time. TTY users call 711. For more information, see Chapter 8 of the *Evidence of Coverage*. ORS can explain your options, implications of leaving this plan, and the correct process to disenroll from this plan. Refer to section 5.2 of this document, Getting help from Medicare, for information about selecting a different plan.

The information in this document tells you about the differences between your current benefits in Medicare Plus Blue Group PPO and the benefits you will have on January 1, 2024, as a member of Medicare Plus Blue Group PPO.

**SECTION 2 Changes to benefits and costs for next year**

**Section 2.1 – Changes to the monthly premium**

| Cost  | 2023 (this year)               | 2024 (next year)               |
|---|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Monthly premium</b><br>(You must also continue to pay your Medicare Part B premium.) | Contact ORS at 1-800-381-5111. | Contact ORS at 1-800-381-5111. |

**Section 2.2 – There are no changes to your maximum out-of-pocket amounts**

Your maximum out-of-pocket amounts will be the same in 2024 as they are in 2023. Routine hearing care copayments are not included in the maximum out-of-pocket amount.

**Section 2.3 – Changes to the provider network**

It is important that you know that we may make changes to the hospitals, doctors, and specialists (our network of providers) that are part of this plan during the year. We included a copy of our current *Provider Locator* in the envelope with this booklet. You may also visit the *Find a Doctor* search tool on our website at [www.bcbsm.com/mpsers](http://www.bcbsm.com/mpsers) or call Blue Cross Customer Service for updated provider information.

To locate network providers for your routine hearing exams and hearing aids, you must call TruHearing at **1-855-205-6305** (TTY: 711). Your routine hearing exams and hearing aids are not covered unless you call TruHearing and follow the instructions you are given.

**Section 2.4 – Changes to benefits and costs for medical services**

We are making changes to costs and benefits for certain medical services next year. The information below describes these changes. For details about the coverage and costs for these services, see Chapter 4, *Medical Benefits Chart (what is covered and what you pay)*, in your 2024 *Evidence of Coverage*.

| Cost   | 2023 (this year)  | 2024 (next year)  |
|--|---|---|
| <b>Ambulance services not requiring transportation</b> | <p><b>In- and Out-of-network:</b><br/>Ambulance services not requiring transportation are <u>not</u> covered.</p> | <p><b>In- and Out-of-network:</b><br/>You pay 10% of the approved amount for ambulance services not requiring transportation.<br/><br/>The annual deductible applies.</p> |
| <b>Emergency care</b>                                  | <p><b>In- and Out-of-network:</b><br/>You pay a \$125 copayment for a hospital emergency department visit.</p>    | <p><b>In- and Out-of-network:</b><br/>You pay a \$135 copayment for a hospital emergency department visit.</p>  |
| <b>Annual wellness visit</b>                           | <p><b>In- and Out-of-network:</b><br/>Covered once every 12 months</p>  | <p><b>In- and Out-of-network:</b><br/>The annual wellness visit can occur anytime throughout the year, regardless of the date of your previous annual wellness visit.</p> |

### SECTION 3 Administrative Changes

Your way of accessing virtual care through the plan is changing.

| Description                                 | 2023 (this year)   | 2024 (next year)   |
|---|--|--|
| Your telehealth service vendor is changing. | Use Blue Cross Online Visits to access telehealth services. Visit <a href="http://www.bcbsmonlinevisits.com">www.bcbsmonlinevisits.com</a> for more information. | Virtual care is available through Teladoc Health®, an independent company and our plan-approved vendor. Visit <a href="http://www.bcbsm.com/virtualcare">www.bcbsm.com/virtualcare</a> for more information or call 1-800-835-2362, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. TTY users call 1-855-636-1578. |

**SECTION 4 Programs that offer free counseling about Medicare**

The State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) is an independent government program with trained counselors in every state. In Michigan, the SHIP is called Michigan Medicare and Medicaid Assistance Program or MMAP. For a list of SHIPs in other states, refer to *Exhibit 1* located at the back of your *Evidence of Coverage*.

MMAP is independent (not connected with any insurance company or health plan). It is a state program that gets money from the federal government to give **free** local health insurance counseling to people with Medicare. MMAP counselors can help you with your Medicare questions or problems. They can help you understand your Medicare plan choices and answer questions about switching plans. You can call MMAP at **1-800-803-7174**. You can learn more about MMAP by visiting its website ([www.mmapinc.org](http://www.mmapinc.org)).

**SECTION 5 Questions?**

**Section 5.1 – Getting help from Medicare Plus Blue Group PPO**

Questions? We’re here to help. Please call Blue Cross Customer Service toll-free at **1-800-422-9146**. (TTY only, call 711.) We are available for phone calls Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern time.

**Read your 2024 Evidence of Coverage (it has details about next year's benefits and costs).**

This *Annual Notice of Changes* gives you a summary of changes in your benefits and costs for 2024. For details, look in the *2024 Evidence of Coverage* for Medicare Plus Blue Group PPO. The *Evidence of Coverage* is the legal, detailed description of your plan benefits. It explains your rights and the rules you need to follow to get covered services. A copy of the

*Evidence of Coverage* is located on our website at [www.bcbsm.com/mpsers](http://www.bcbsm.com/mpsers). You may also call Blue Cross Customer Service to ask us to mail you an *Evidence of Coverage*.

**Visit our website at [www.bcbsm.com/mpsers](http://www.bcbsm.com/mpsers).**

As a reminder, our website has the most up-to-date information about our provider network through our *Find a Doctor* search tool at [www.bcbsm.com/mpsers](http://www.bcbsm.com/mpsers).

---

## **Section 5.2 – Getting help from Medicare**

---

To get information directly from Medicare:

### **Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227)**

You can call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

### **Visit the Medicare website**

Visit the Medicare website ([www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)). It has information about cost, coverage, and quality Star Ratings to help you compare Medicare health plans in your area. To view the information about plans, go to [www.medicare.gov/plan-compare/](http://www.medicare.gov/plan-compare/).

### **Read *Medicare & You 2024***

Read the *Medicare & You 2024* handbook. Every fall, this document is mailed to people with Medicare. It has a summary of Medicare benefits, rights and protections, and answers to the most frequently asked questions about Medicare. If you don't have a copy of this document, you can get it at the Medicare website (<https://www.medicare.gov/Pubs/pdf/10050-medicare-and-you.pdf>) or by calling 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.