

Below is a summary overview of California Institute of Technology's ("Caltech") benefit legal notices with respect to the Consolidated Welfare Plan of the California Institute of Technology (the "Plan"). For additional information regarding Caltech's benefits, please visit hr.caltech.edu and MyBenefits.caltech.edu.

## **Patient Protection Notice**

Your medical option may require the designation of a primary care provider. You have the right to designate any primary care provider who participates in your medical program network and who is available to accept you or your family members. For children, you may designate a pediatrician as the primary care provider. Until you make this designation, your medical plan designates one for you and your family members. For information on how to select a primary care provider, and for a list of the participating primary care providers, contact the applicable carrier:

- Anthem BlueCross at (866) 820-0765.
- Kaiser (CA): (800) 464-4000.
- Kaiser (WA): (888) 901-4636.

You do not need prior authorization from your medical program or from any other person (including a primary care provider) in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a health care professional in your medical program's network who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology. The health care professional, however, may be required to comply with certain procedures, including obtaining prior authorization for certain services, following a pre-approved treatment plan, or procedures for making referrals. For a list of participating health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics or gynecology and details on this process, contact the applicable carrier:

- Anthem BlueCross at (866) 820-0765.
- Kaiser (CA): (800) 464-4000.
- Kaiser (WA): (888) 901-4636.

# Enrollment Rights Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)

If you are declining enrollment for yourself or for an eligible dependent (including your spouse) while other health insurance or group plan coverage is in effect, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in a medical option under the 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). You must request enrollment within 31 days of the date the other coverage ends (or the other employer changes its contributions). If the other coverage is Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), you must request enrollment within 60 days.

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 yourself and your dependents. However, you must request enrollment within 31 days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption. You will also need to provide reasonable proof of dependent status (for example, a marriage or birth certificate).

For more information, please contact Campus Human Resources or the JPL Benefits Office.



# Notice of Creditable Prescription Drug Coverage

If you or your family members aren't currently entitled to Medicare (i.e., eligible for and enrolled in Medicare Part A or B) and won't become entitled to Medicare in the next 12 months, this notice doesn't apply to you.

Please read this notice carefully. It has information about prescription drug coverage with Caltech and prescription drug coverage available for people with Medicare. It also tells you where to find more information to help you make decisions about your prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether or not you want to join a Medicare drug plan. If you are considering joining, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered at what cost, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice

You may have heard about Medicare's prescription drug coverage (called Part D), and wondered how it would affect you. Prescription drug coverage is available to everyone with Medicare through a Medicare Prescription Drug Plans or a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare prescription drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.

Caltech has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered under the Plan is, on average, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays for 2026 and is therefore considered Creditable Coverage. Because your existing coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare Drug plan. under a Caltech plan will help you avoid a late Part D enrollment penalty if you are or become eligible for Medicare and later decide to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan.

#### When Can You Join a Medicare Drug Plan?

Individuals can enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan when they first become eligible, and each year from October 15 through December 7. However, if you lose your current creditable prescription drug coverage, through no fault of your own, you will also be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan.

#### What Happens To Your Current Coverage If You Decide to Join a Medicare Drug Plan?

If you decide to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan and you are an active employee or family member of an active employee, you may also continue your coverage under the Plan. In this case, the Plan will continue to pay primary as it had before you enrolled in a Medicare prescription drug plan. If you waive or drop Plan coverage, Medicare will be your only payer. You can re-enroll in the Plan at annual enrollment or if you have a special enrollment event.

#### When Will You Pay a Higher Premium (Penalty) To Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

You should know that if you waive or lose your current coverage with Caltech and don't join a Medicare drug



plan within 63 continuous days after your current coverage ends, you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) to join a Medicare drug plan later.

If you go 63 continuous days or longer without creditable prescription drug coverage, your monthly Part D premium may go up at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have creditable coverage. For example, if you go 19 months without coverage, your Medicare prescription drug plan premium may consistently be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this higher premium (a penalty) as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following October to enroll in Part D.

You may receive this notice at other times in the future – such as before the next period you can enroll in Medicare prescription drug coverage, if coverage under the Plan changes, or upon your request.

#### For more information about your options under Medicare prescription drug coverage

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is in the *Medicare* & *You* handbook. Medicare participants will get a copy of the handbook in the mail every year from Medicare. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare prescription drug plans. For more information about Medicare prescription drug plans:

- Visit www.medicare.gov for personalized help.
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see a copy of the *Medicare & You* handbook for the telephone number).
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

For people with limited income and resources, extra help paying for a Medicare prescription drug plan is available. Information about this extra help is available from the Social Security Administration (SSA). For more information about this extra help, visit SSA online at www.socialsecurity.gov or call 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

Remember: Keep this notice. If you enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan after your applicable Medicare enrollment period ends, you may need to provide a copy of this notice when you join a Part D plan to show that you are not required to pay a higher Part D premium amount.

For more information about this notice or your prescription drug coverage, please contact Campus Human Resources or the JPL Benefits Office.

# Premium Assistance Under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

If you or your children are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP and you're eligible for health coverage from your employer, your state may have a premium assistance program that can help pay for coverage, 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 premium assistance programs but you may be able to buy individual insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace. For more information, visit <a href="https://www.healthcare.gov">www.healthcare.gov</a>.



If you or your dependents are already enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP and you live in a State listed below, 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 or dial **1-877-KIDS NOW** or <a href="www.insurekidsnow.gov">www.insurekidsnow.gov</a> to find out how to apply. If you qualify, ask your state if it has a program that might help you pay the premiums for 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, and **you must request coverage 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 <a href="www.askebsa.dol.gov">www.askebsa.dol.gov</a> or call **1-866-444-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, 2025. Contact your State for more information on eligibility –

ALABAMA – Medicaid	ALASKA – Medicaid
Website: http://myalhipp.com/ Phone: 1-855-692-5447	The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment Program Website: <a href="http://myakhipp.com/">http://myakhipp.com/</a> Phone: 1-866-251-4861 Email: <a href="mailto:CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com">CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com</a> Medicaid Eligibility: <a href="https://health.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/default.aspx">https://health.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/default.aspx</a>
ARKANSAS – Medicaid	CALIFORNIA – Medicaid
W-1-i4-14-1/	II14. I D / (IIID) D W.1 W.1

	CALIFORNIA – Medicaid	
ARKANSAS – Medicaid		
Website: <a href="http://myarhipp.com/">http://myarhipp.com/</a> Phone: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)	Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program Website <a href="http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp">http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp</a> Phone: 916-445-8322 Fax: 916-440-5676 Email: <a href="http://mipp@dhcs.ca.gov">hipp@dhcs.ca.gov</a>	
COLORADO – Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) & Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)	FLORIDA – Medicaid	
Health First Colorado Website: https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/ Health First Colorado Member Contact Center: 1-800-221-3943/State Relay 711 CHP+: https://hcpf.colorado.gov/child-health-plan-plus CHP+ Customer Service: 1-800-359-1991/State Relay 711 Health Insurance Buy-In Program (HIBI): https://www.mycohibi.com/ HIBI Customer Service: 1-855-692-6442	Website: https://www.flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/flmedicaidtplrecover y.com/hipp/index.html Phone: 1-877-357-3268	



REQUIRED LEGAL BENEFIT NOTICES			
GEORGIA – Medicaid	INDIANA – Medicaid		
GA HIPP Website: <a href="https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp">https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp</a> Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 1  GA CHIPRA Website: <a href="https://medicaid.georgia.gov/programs/third-party-liability/childrens-health-insurance-program-reauthorization-act-2009-chipra">https://medicaid.georgia.gov/programs/third-party-liability/childrens-health-insurance-program-reauthorization-act-2009-chipra</a> Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 2	Health Insurance Premium Payment Program All other Medicaid Website: <a href="https://www.in.gov/medicaid/">https://www.in.gov/medicaid/</a> <a href="https://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/">http://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/</a> Family and Social Services Administration Phone: 1-800-403-0864 Member Services Phone: 1-800-457-4584		
IOWA – Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki)	KANSAS – Medicaid		
Medicaid Website:  Iowa Medicaid   Health & Human Services  Medicaid Phone: 1-800-338-8366  Hawki Website:  Hawki - Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa   Health & Human  Services  Hawki Phone: 1-800-257-8563  HIPP Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP)    Health & Human Services (iowa.gov)  HIPP Phone: 1-888-346-9562	Website: https://www.kancare.ks.gov/Phone: 1-800-792-4884 HIPP Phone: 1-800-967-4660		
KENTUCKY – Medicaid	LOUISIANA – Medicaid		
Kentucky Integrated Health Insurance Premium Payment Program (KI-HIPP) Website: <a href="https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx">https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx</a> Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: <a href="https://kihipp.program/kihipp.program/kihipp.program/kihipp.program/kihipp.aspx">kihipp.aspx</a> Phone: 1-855-459-6328 Email: <a href="https://kihipp.program/kihipp.aspx">kihipp.aspx</a> Phone: 1-877-524-4798 Kentucky Medicaid Website: <a href="https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms">https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms</a>	Website: www.medicaid.la.gov or www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp Phone: 1-888-342-6207 (Medicaid hotline) or 1-855-618-5488 (LaHIPP)		
MAINE – Medicaid	MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP		



Enrollment Website:

https://www.mymaineconnection.gov/benefits/s/?language=en

US

Phone: 1-800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711

Private Health Insurance Premium Webpage: https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms

Phone: 1-800-977-6740 TTY: Maine relay 711 Website: <a href="https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pa">https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pa</a>

Phone: 1-800-862-4840

TTY: 711

Email: masspremassistance@accenture.com

MINNESOTA – Medicaid	MISSOURI – Medicaid		
Website: https://mn.gov/dhs/health-care-coverage/ Phone: 1-800-657-3672	Website: <a href="http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm">http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm</a> Phone: 573-751-2005		
MONTANA – Medicaid	NEBRASKA – Medicaid		
Website: http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP Phone: 1-800-694-3084 Email: HHSHIPPProgram@mt.gov	Website: <a href="http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov">http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov</a> Phone: 1-855-632-7633 Lincoln: 402-473-7000 Omaha: 402-595-1178		
NEVADA – Medicaid	NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid		
Medicaid Website: http://dhcfp.nv.gov Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900	Website: <a href="https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/medicaid/health-insurance-premium-program">https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/medicaid/health-insurance-premium-program</a> Phone: 603-271-5218  Toll free number for the HIPP program: 1-800-852-3345, ext. 15218  Email: <a href="mailto:DHHS.ThirdPartyLiabi@dhhs.nh.gov">DHHS.ThirdPartyLiabi@dhhs.nh.gov</a>		

NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP	NEW YORK – Medicaid
Medicaid Website: http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/ dmahs/clients/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-356-1561 CHIP Premium Assistance Phone: 609-631-2392 CHIP Website: http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710 (TTY: 711)	Website: <a href="https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/">https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/</a> Phone: 1-800-541-2831
NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid	NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid



Website: https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/	Website: https://www.hhs.nd.gov/healthcare		
Phone: 919-855-4100	Phone: 1-844-854-4825		
OKLAHOMA – Medicaid and CHIP	OREGON – Medicaid and CHIP		
Website: http://www.insureoklahoma.org Phone: 1-888-365-3742	Website: http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx Phone: 1-800-699-9075		
PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid and CHIP	RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid and CHIP		
Website: <a href="https://www.pa.gov/en/services/dhs/apply-for-medicaid-health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp.html">hipp.html</a> Phone: 1-800-692-7462  CHIP Website: <a href="https://children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)">CHIP Phone: 1-800-986-KIDS (5437)</a>	Website: http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/ Phone: 1-855-697-4347, or 401-462-0311 (Direct RIte Share Line)		
SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid	SOUTH DAKOTA - Medicaid		
Website: https://www.scdhhs.gov Phone: 1-888-549-0820	Website: <a href="http://dss.sd.gov">http://dss.sd.gov</a> Phone: 1-888-828-0059		
TEXAS – Medicaid	UTAH – Medicaid and CHIP		
Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program   Texas Health and Human Services Phone: 1-800-440-0493	Utah's Premium Partnership for Health Insurance (UPP) Website: <a href="https://medicaid.utah.gov/upp/">https://medicaid.utah.gov/upp/</a> Email: <a href="mailto:upp@utah.gov">upp@utah.gov</a> Phone: 1-888-222-2542 Adult Expansion Website: <a href="https://medicaid.utah.gov/expansion/">https://medicaid.utah.gov/expansion/</a> Utah Medicaid Buyout Program Website: <a href="https://medicaid.utah.gov/buyout-program/">https://medicaid.utah.gov/buyout-program/</a> CHIP Website: <a href="https://chip.utah.gov/">https://chip.utah.gov/</a>		
VERMONT- Medicaid	VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP		
Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program   Department of Vermont Health Access Phone: 1-800-250-8427	Website: <a href="https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/famis-select">https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/famis-select</a> <a href="https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs">https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs</a> <a href="https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs">https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs</a> <a href="https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs">https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs</a> <a href="https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs">https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs</a>		



Website: https://www.hca.wa.gov/ Phone: 1-800-562-3022	Website: https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/ http://mywvhipp.com/ Medicaid Phone: 304-558-1700 CHIP Toll-free phone: 1-855-MyWVHIPP (1-855-699-8447)	
WISCONSIN – Medicaid and CHIP	WYOMING – Medicaid	
Website: <a href="https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm">https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm</a> Phone: 1-800-362-3002	Website: https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility/ Phone: 1-800-251-1269	

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since July 31, 2025, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa 1-866-444-EBSA (3272)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Employee Benefits Security Administration Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services www.cms.hhs.gov 1-877-267-2323, Menu Option 4, Ext. 61565



# Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act

If you have had or are going to have a mastectomy, you may be entitled to certain benefits under the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 ("WHCRA"). For individuals receiving mastectomy-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; and
- Prostheses and treatment of physical complications at all stages of the mastectomy, including lymphedemas.

Coverage is provided in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient. The deductible and the copayment requirements that apply to other covered services also apply to these post-mastectomy reconstructive and treatment services. Therefore, deductible and coinsurance apply. If you would like more information on WHCRA benefits, contact Campus Human Resources or the JPL Benefits Office.

# Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act Notice

Group health plans and health insurance issuers 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). If you would like more information on maternity benefits, contact Campus Human Resources or the JPL Benefits Office.

# **HIPAA Privacy Notices**

The privacy rules under HIPAA require the Plan to provide a Privacy Notice and explain how you can obtain copies of the notice. The Privacy Notice explains participants' rights and the Plan's legal duties with respect to protected health information (PHI) and how the Plan may use and disclose PHI.

To obtain a copy of the Privacy Notice or for more information on the Plan's privacy policies or your rights under HIPAA, contact Campus Human Resources or the JPL Benefits Office.



# Your Rights and Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills

When you get emergency care or get treated by an out-of-network provider at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, you are protected from surprise billing or balance billing.

# What is "balance billing" (sometimes called "surprise billing")?

When you see a doctor or other health care provider, you may owe certain out-of-pocket costs, such as a copayment, coinsurance, and/or a deductible. You may have other costs or have to pay the entire bill if you see a provider or visit a health care facility that isn't in your health plan's network.

"Out-of-network" describes providers and facilities that haven't signed a contract with your health plan. Out-of-network providers may be permitted to bill you for the difference between what your plan agreed to pay and the full amount charged for a service. This is called "balance billing." This amount is likely more than in-network costs for the same service and might not count toward your annual out-of-pocket limit.

"Surprise billing" is an unexpected balance bill. This can happen when you can't control who is involved in your care—like when you have an emergency or when you schedule a visit at an in-network facility but are unexpectedly treated by an out-of-network provider.

# You are protected from balance billing for:

# **Emergency services**

If you have an emergency medical condition and get emergency services from an out-of-network provider or facility, the most the provider or facility may bill you is your plan's in-network cost-sharing amount (such as copayments and coinsurance). You **can't** be balance billed for these emergency services. This includes services you may get after you're in stable condition, unless you give written consent and give up your protections not to be balanced billed for these post-stabilization services.

Where applicable, you may also be protected under state law against balance billing for out-of-network emergency services. In California, such state balance billing protections apply for plans regulated by the California Department of Managed Health Care.

# Certain services at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center

When you get services from an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, certain providers there may be out-of-network. In these cases, the most those providers may bill you is your plan's in-network cost-sharing amount. This applies to emergency medicine, anesthesia, pathology, radiology, laboratory, neonatology, assistant surgeon, hospitalist, or intensivist services. These providers **can't** balance bill you and may **not** ask you to give up your protections not to be balance billed.

If you get other services at these in-network facilities, out-of-network providers **can't** balance bill you, unless you give written consent and give up your protections.

You're <u>never</u> required to give up your protections from balance billing. You also aren't required to get care out-of-network. You can choose a provider or facility in your plan's network.



Where applicable, you may also be protected under state law against balance billing for services provided by out-of-network providers at in-network facilities. In California, such balance billing protections apply for plans regulated by the California Department of Manage Health Care and the California Department of Insurance. These protections apply to the following types of facilities: hospitals, ambulatory surgery centers and other outpatient settings, laboratories, and radiology and imaging centers.

# When balance billing isn't allowed, you also have the following protections:

- You are only responsible for paying your share of the cost (like the copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles that you would pay if the provider or facility was in-network). Your health plan will pay outof-network providers and facilities directly.
- Your health plan generally must:
  - Cover emergency services without requiring you to get approval for services in advance (prior authorization).
  - o Cover emergency services by out-of-network providers.
  - Base what you owe the provider or facility (cost-sharing) on what it would pay an in-network provider or facility and show that amount in your explanation of benefits.
  - Count any amount you pay for emergency services or out-of-network services toward your deductible and out-of-pocket limit.

If you believe you have been wrongly billed, visit <a href="https://www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers or call\_1-800-985-3059">https://www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers or call\_1-800-985-3059</a>. Visit www.cms.gov/nosurprises for more information about your rights under federal law. You can also contact the California Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) online at dm hc.ca.gov or by calling toll-free 1-888-466-2219 or by calling their TDD line (1-877-688-9891) for assistance or for more information about your rights and protections against surprise medical bills.



# **Employee Notice of Coverage Options**

#### **PART A: General Information**

Even if you are offered health coverage through your employment, you may have other coverage options through the Health Insurance Marketplace ("Marketplace"). To assist you as you evaluate options for you and your family, this notice provides some basic information about the Marketplace and the medical coverage offered by Caltech.

#### What is the Health Insurance Marketplace?

The Marketplace is designed to help many Americans find health insurance that meets their needs and fits their budget. The Marketplace offers "one-stop shopping" to find and compare private health insurance options in your geographic area.

#### Can I Save Money on my Health Insurance Premiums in the Marketplace?

You may qualify to save money and lower your monthly premium and other out of pocket costs, but only if your employer does not offer coverage, or offers coverage that doesn't meet certain standards. The savings on your premium that you're eligible for depends on your household income. You may also be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your costs.

# Does Employment-Based Health Coverage Affect Eligibility for Premium Savings through the Marketplace?

Yes. If you have an offer of health coverage from your employer that is considered affordable for you and meets certain minimum value standards, you will not be eligible for a tax credit, or advance payment of the tax credit, for your Marketplace coverage and may wish to enroll in your employment-based health plan. However, you may be eligible for a tax credit, and advance payments of the credit that lowers your monthly premium, or a reduction in certain cost-sharing, if your employer does not offer coverage to you at all or does not offer coverage that is considered affordable for you or meet minimum value standards. If your share of the premium cost of all plans offered to you through your employment is more than  $9.96\%^1$  of your annual household income, or if the coverage through your employment does not meet the "minimum value" standard set by the Affordable Care Act, you may be eligible for a tax credit, and advance payment of the credit, if you do not enroll in the employment-based health coverage. For family members of the employee, coverage is considered affordable if the employee's cost of premiums for the lowest-cost plan that would cover all family members does not exceed 9.96% of the employee's household income.<sup>2</sup>

**Note:** If you purchase a health plan through the Marketplace instead of accepting health coverage offered through your employment, then you may lose access to whatever the employer contributes to the employment-based coverage. Also, this employer contribution—as well as your employee contribution to employment-based coverage—is generally excluded from income for federal and state income tax purposes. Your payments for coverage through the Marketplace are made on an after-tax basis. In addition, note that if the health coverage offered through your employment does not meet the affordability or minimum value standards, but you accept that coverage anyway, you will not be eligible for a tax credit. You should consider all of these factors in determining whether to purchase a health plan through the Marketplace.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Indexed annually; see https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-drop/rp-25-25.pdf for 2026.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> An employer-sponsored or other employment-based health plan meets the "minimum value standard" if the plan's share of the total allowed benefit costs covered by the plan is no less than 60 percent of such costs. For purposes of eligibility for the premium tax credit, to meet the "minimum value standard," the health plan must also provide substantial coverage of both inpatient hospital services and physician services.



#### When Can I Enroll in Health Insurance Coverage through the Marketplace?

You can enroll in a Marketplace health insurance plan during the annual Marketplace Open Enrollment Period. Open Enrollment varies by state but generally starts November 1 and continues through at least December 15.

Outside the annual Open Enrollment Period, you can sign up for health insurance if you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period. In general, you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period if you've had certain qualifying life events, such as getting married, having a baby, adopting a child, or losing eligibility for other health coverage. Depending on your Special Enrollment Period type, you may have 60 days before or 60 days following the qualifying life event to enroll in a Marketplace plan.

#### What About Alternatives to Marketplace Health Insurance Coverage?

If you or your family are eligible for coverage in an employment-based health plan (such as an employer-sponsored health plan), you or your family may also be eligible for a Special Enrollment Period to enroll in that health plan in certain circumstances, including if you or your dependents were enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP coverage and lost that coverage. Generally, you have 60 days after the loss of Medicaid or CHIP coverage to enroll in an employment-based health plan.

Alternatively, you can enroll in Medicaid or CHIP coverage at any time by filling out an application through the Marketplace or applying directly through your state Medicaid agency. Visit https://www.healthcare.gov/medicaid-chip/getting-medicaid-chip/ for more details.

#### How can I get more information?

For more information about your Caltech medical plans and costs, please contact the Caltech benefits team.

The Marketplace can help you evaluate your coverage options, including your eligibility for coverage through the Marketplace and its cost. Visit **HealthCare.gov** for more information, including an online application for Marketplace coverage and contact information for a Health Insurance Marketplace in your area.



### **PART B: Information about Your Caltech Medical Coverage**

This section contains information about coverage offered by Caltech. If you decide to complete an application for coverage in the Marketplace, you will be asked to provide this information. This information is numbered to correspond to the Marketplace application.

3. Employer Name 4.		4. Employer Identification Number (EIN)	
California Institute of Technology		95-1643307	
5. Employer Address		6. Employer Phone Number	
1200 East California Blvd. MC 161-84		626-395-6443	
7. City		8. State	9. ZIP code
Pasadena		California	91125
10. Who can we contact about employee health coverage at this job?			
JPL Employees: JPL Benefits Office Campus Employees: Campus Benefits Department			
11. Phone number (if different than above)	12. Email address		
JPL Employees: (818) 354-4447 Campus Employees: (626) 395-6443	JPL Employees: <a href="mailto:benefits.office@jpl.nasa.gov">benefits.office@jpl.nasa.gov</a> Campus Employees: <a href="mailto:hrbenefits@caltech.edu">hrbenefits@caltech.edu</a>		

#### Here is some basic information about health coverage offered by Caltech:

- Caltech offers medical coverage to benefits-eligible employees. Benefits-eligible employees include:
  - JPL employees and Campus staff members regularly scheduled to work 20 or more hours per week;
  - Faculty members; and
  - Postdoctoral scholars (eligibility may vary based on funding source).
- We also offer medical coverage to eligible dependents. Eligible dependents include:
  - Your spouse.
  - Your Registered Domestic Partner (RDP). An RDP is:
    - An opposite-sex partner. Registration with the California Secretary of State is required.
    - A same-sex domestic partner. Registration with the California Secretary of State is required (unless enrolled prior to January 1, 2011).
  - Your children up to age 26.\*
  - Your children aged 26 and over who are incapable of employment because of a physical or mental disability. (Eligibility is subject to review and approval by the insurance carrier.)\*



 Any child for whom you're required to provide coverage under a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO).

\*This includes natural children, stepchildren, adopted children, children of an RDP, and children for whom you're a court appointed guardian.

All of Caltech's medical plans meet the minimum value standard, and the cost of this coverage to you
is intended to be affordable, based on employee wages.

**NOTE:** Even if your employer intends your coverage to be affordable, you may still be eligible for a premium discount through the Marketplace. The Marketplace will use your household income, along with other factors, to determine whether you may be eligible. If, for example, your wages vary from week to week (perhaps you are an hourly employee), if you are newly employed mid-year, or if you have other income losses, you may still qualify for a premium discount. Visit **HealthCare.gov** for details.

- If you decide to shop for coverage in the Marketplace, HealthCare.gov will guide you through the process.
- To find out if you can get a tax credit to lower your monthly premiums, you'll enter the following information when you visit **HealthCare.gov**: The cost for employee-only coverage in Caltech's lowest cost plan for 2026 is \$74 per month, which is \$888 for the year.

If you have questions about these legal notices, please contact the Human Resources Benefits Office:

Campus Benefits Office: E-mail <a href="mailto:hrbenefits@caltech.edu">hrbenefits@caltech.edu</a> or call (626) 395-6443.

JPL Benefits Office: E-mail <a href="mailto:benefits.office@jpl.nasa.gov">benefits.office@jpl.nasa.gov</a> or call (818) 354-4447.