

Excellus BCBS: Excellus BluePPO

Coverage Period: 01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025

A nonprofit independent licensee of the BlueCross BlueShield Association

Coverage for: Family | Plan Type: PPO



The Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC) document will help you choose a health plan. The SBC shows you how you and the plan would share the cost for covered health care services. NOTE: Information about the cost of this plan (called the premium) will be provided separately.

This is only a summary. For more information about your coverage, or to get a copy of the complete terms of coverage, call 1-800-499-1275 or visit Our website at www.excellusbcs.com. For general definitions of common terms, such as allowed amount, balance billing, coinsurance, copayment, deductible, provider, or other underlined terms see the Glossary. You can view the Glossary at www.cciio.cms.gov or www.healthcare.gov/sbc-glossary or call 1-800-499-1275 to request a copy.

Important Questions	Answers	Why This Matters:
What is the overall deductible?	In-Network: \$300 Individual/\$600 Two Person/\$900 Family; Out-of-Network: \$1,100 Individual/\$2,200 Two Person/\$2,750 Family	Generally, you must pay all of the costs from providers up to the deductible amount before this plan begins to pay. If you have other family members on the plan, each family member must meet their own individual deductible until the total amount of deductible expenses paid by all family members meets the overall family deductible
Are there services covered before you meet your deductible?	Yes, Preventive Care	This plan covers some items and services even if you haven't yet met the deductible amount. But a copayment or coinsurance may apply. For example, this plan covers certain preventive services without cost sharing and before you meet your deductible. See a list of covered preventive services at https://www.healthcare.gov/coverage/preventive-care-benefits/.
Are there other deductibles for specific services?	No	You don't have to meet deductibles for specific services.
What is the out-of-pocket limit for this plan?	In-Network: \$1,900 Individual/\$3,800 Two Person/\$5,500 Family; Out-of-Network: \$3,550 Individual/\$7,100 Two Person/\$8,800 Family	The out-of-pocket limit is the most you could pay in a year for covered services. If you have other family members in this plan, they have to meet their own out-of-pocket limits until the overall family out-of-pocket limit has been met.
What is not included in the out-of-pocket limit?	Costs for penalties for failure to obtain preauthorization for services, premiums, balance billing charges, and health care this plan doesn't cover.	Even though you pay these expenses, they don't count toward the out-of-pocket limit.
Will you pay less if you use a network provider?	Yes. See www.excellusbcs.com or call 1-800-499-1275 for a list of network providers.	This plan uses a provider network. You will pay less if you use a provider in the plan's network. You will pay the most if you use an out-of-network provider, and you might receive a bill from a provider for the difference between the provider's charge and what your plan pays (balance billing). Be aware your network provider might use an out-of-network provider for some services (such as lab work). Check with your provider before you get services.
Do you need a referral to see a specialist?	No	You can see the specialist you choose without a referral.



All [copayment](#) and [coinsurance](#) costs shown in this chart are after your [deductible](#) has been met, if a [deductible](#) applies.

Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	What You Will Pay		Limitations, Exceptions, & Other Important Information
		In-Network Provider (You will pay the least)	Out-of-Network Provider (You will pay the most)	
If you visit a health care provider's office or clinic	Primary care visit to treat an injury or illness	\$25 Copay /visit Deductible does not apply	30% Coinsurance	None
	Specialist visit	\$40 Copay /visit Deductible does not apply	30% Coinsurance	
	Preventive care/screening/immunization	Adult Physical: No Charge Adult Immunizations: No Charge Well Child Visit: No Charge Deductible does not apply	Adult Physical: 30% Coinsurance Adult Immunizations: Not Covered Well Child Visit: No Charge	You may have to pay for services that aren't preventive. Ask your provider if the services needed are preventive. Then check what your plan will pay for. 1 Exam per year
If you have a test	Diagnostic test (x-ray, blood work)	X-Ray: \$40 Copay /visit X-Ray: Deductible does not apply Blood Work: No Charge Blood Work: Deductible does not apply	X-Ray: 30% Coinsurance Blood Work: 30% Coinsurance	None
	Imaging (CT/PET scans, MRIs)	\$40 Copay /visit Deductible does not apply	30% Coinsurance	Preauthorization Required. If you don't get a preauthorization , benefits will be reduced by 50% of Coinsurance up to \$500.
If you need drugs to treat your illness or condition More information about prescription drug coverage is available at www.excellusbcs.com/rxlist	Tier 1 (Generic drugs)	\$10 copay	Not Covered	Covered through OptumRx 30 day retail supply 90 day mail order supply Mail Order/CVS90 \$10/\$70/\$120 copays Specialty drugs must be filled by OptumRx Specialty Pharmacy Maximum Out of Pocket Maximum Single - \$2,000/Family - \$6,000
	Tier 2 (Preferred brand drugs)	\$35 copay	Not Covered	
	Tier 3 (Non-preferred brand drugs)	\$60 copay	Not Covered	
			Not Covered	
If you have outpatient surgery	Facility fee (e.g., ambulatory surgery center)	10% Coinsurance	30% Coinsurance	None
	Physician/surgeon fees	10% Coinsurance	30% Coinsurance	
If you need immediate medical attention	Emergency room care	\$200 Copay /visit Deductible does not apply	\$200 Copay /visit Deductible does not apply	None

* For more information about limitations and exceptions, see [plan](#) or policy document at www.excellusbcs.com

Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	What You Will Pay		Limitations, Exceptions, & Other Important Information
		In-Network Provider (You will pay the least)	Out-of-Network Provider (You will pay the most)	
	Emergency medical transportation	\$200 Copay /visit Deductible does not apply	\$200 Copay /visit Deductible does not apply	None
	Urgent care	\$25 Copay /visit Deductible does not apply	30% Coinsurance	None
If you have a hospital stay	Facility fee (e.g., hospital room)	10% Coinsurance	30% Coinsurance	Preauthorization Required for out-of-network services only. If you don't get a preauthorization , benefits will be reduced by 50% of Coinsurance up to \$500. However, Preauthorization is Not Required for Emergency Admissions
	Physician/surgeon fees	10% Coinsurance	30% Coinsurance	None
If you need mental health, behavioral health, or substance abuse services	Outpatient services	\$25 Copay /visit Deductible does not apply	30% Coinsurance	None
	Inpatient services	10% Coinsurance	30% Coinsurance	
If you are pregnant	Office visits	No Charge	30% Coinsurance	Cost sharing does not apply for preventive services .
	Childbirth/delivery professional services	10% Coinsurance	30% Coinsurance	Maternity care may include tests and services described elsewhere in the SBC (i.e. ultrasound.). Depending on the type of services, a copayment , coinsurance , or deductible may apply.
	Childbirth/delivery facility services	10% Coinsurance	30% Coinsurance	None
If you need help recovering or have other special health needs	Home health care	10% Coinsurance	25% Coinsurance	Deductible is limited to \$50 Preauthorization Required. If you don't get a preauthorization , benefits will be reduced by 50% of Coinsurance up to \$500
	Rehabilitation services	\$25 Copay /visit Deductible does not apply	30% Coinsurance	45 Visits per year limit
	Habilitation services	\$25 Copay /visit Deductible does not apply	30% Coinsurance	45 Visits per year limit
	Skilled nursing care	10% Coinsurance	30% Coinsurance	60 Days per year limit Preauthorization Required Out-of-Network services only. If you don't get a preauthorization , benefits will be reduced by 50% of Coinsurance up to \$500
	Durable medical equipment	20% Coinsurance Deductible does not apply	30% Coinsurance	None

* For more information about limitations and exceptions, see [plan](#) or policy document at www.excellusbcb.com

Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	What You Will Pay		Limitations, Exceptions, & Other Important Information
		In-Network Provider (You will pay the least)	Out-of-Network Provider (You will pay the most)	
	Hospice services	No Charge Deductible does not apply	30% Coinsurance	Family bereavement counseling limited to 5 Visits per year
If your child needs dental or eye care	Children's eye exam	Not Covered	Not Covered	None
	Children's glasses	Not Covered	Not Covered	
	Children's dental check-up	Not Covered	Not Covered	

Excluded Services & Other Covered Services:

Services Your [Plan](#) Generally Does NOT Cover (Check your policy or [plan](#) document for more information and a list of any other [excluded services](#).)

- Acupuncture
- Dental care (Child)
- Private-duty nursing
- Routine foot care
- Cosmetic surgery
- Hearing aids
- Routine eye care (Adult)
- Weight loss programs
- Dental care (Adult)
- Long-term care
- Routine eye care (Child)

Other Covered Services (Limitations may apply to these services. This isn't a complete list. Please see your [plan](#) document.)

- Bariatric surgery
- Non-emergency care when traveling outside the U.S.
- Chiropractic care
- Infertility treatment

Your Rights to Continue Coverage: There are agencies that can help if you want to continue your coverage after it ends. The contact information for those agencies is: Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration at 1-866-444-EBSA (3272) or <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa/about-ebsa/ask-a-question/ask-ebsa>. Other coverage options may be available to you too, including buying individual insurance coverage through the [Health Insurance Marketplace](#). For more information about the [Marketplace](#), visit www.HealthCare.gov or call 1-800-318-2596.

Your Grievance and Appeals Rights: There are agencies that can help if you have a complaint against your [plan](#) for a denial of a [claim](#). This complaint is called a [grievance](#) or [appeal](#). For more information about your rights, look at the explanation of benefits you will receive for that medical [claim](#). Your [plan](#) documents also provide complete information to submit a [claim](#), [appeal](#), or a [grievance](#) for any reason to your [plan](#). For more information about your rights, this notice, or assistance, contact: the phone number on Your ID card or www.excellusbcs.com; Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration at 1-866-444-EBSA (3272) or www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa/about-ebsa/ask-a-question/ask-ebsa; New York State Department of Financial Services Consumer Assistance Unit at 1-800-342-3736 or www.dfs.ny.gov. Additionally, a consumer assistance program can help you file your [appeal](#). Contact the Consumer Assistance Program at 1-888-614-5400, or e-mail cha@cssny.org or www.communityhealthadvocates.org. A list of states with Consumer Assistance Programs is available at: <https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/EBSA/laws-and-regulations/laws/affordable-care-act/for-employers-and-advisers/consumer-assistance-programs.doc> and www.cms.gov/CCIIO/Resources/Consumer-Assistance-Grants.

Does this plan provide Minimum Essential Coverage? Yes

[Minimum Essential Coverage](#) generally includes plans, health insurance available through the Marketplace or other individual market policies, Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, TRICARE, and certain other coverage. If you are eligible for certain types of [Minimum Essential Coverage](#), you may not be eligible for the premium tax credit.

Does this plan meet the Minimum Value Standards? Yes

If your [plan](#) doesn't meet the [Minimum Value Standards](#), you may be eligible for a [premium tax credit](#) to help you pay for a [plan](#) through the [Marketplace](#).

-----*To see examples of how this plan might cover costs for a sample medical situation, see the next section.*-----

About these Coverage Examples:



This is not a cost estimator. Treatments shown are just examples of how this [plan](#) might cover medical care. Your actual costs will be different depending on the actual care you receive, the prices your [providers](#) charge, and many other factors. Focus on the [cost sharing](#) amounts ([deductibles](#), [copayments](#) and [coinsurance](#)) and [excluded services](#) under the [plan](#). Use this information to compare the portion of costs you might pay under different health [plans](#). Please note these coverage examples are based on self-only coverage.

Peg is Having a Baby

(9 months of in-network pre-natal care and a hospital delivery)

■ The plan's overall deductible	\$300
■ Specialist copayment	\$40
■ Hospital (facility) coinsurance	10%
■ Other coinsurance	20%

This EXAMPLE event includes services like:

Specialist office visits (*prenatal care*)
 Childbirth/Delivery Professional Services
 Childbirth/Delivery Facility Services
 Diagnostic tests (*ultrasounds and blood work*)
 Specialist visit (*anesthesia*)

Total Example Cost	\$12,700
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In this example, Peg would pay:

<i>Cost Sharing</i>	
Deductibles	\$300
Copayments	\$80
Coinsurance	\$1,080
<i>What isn't covered</i>	
Limits or exclusions	\$70
The total Peg would pay is	\$1,530

Managing Joe's type 2 Diabetes

(a year of routine in-network care of a well-controlled condition)

■ The plan's overall deductible	\$300
■ Specialist copayment	\$40
■ Hospital (facility) coinsurance	10%
■ Other coinsurance	20%

This EXAMPLE event includes services like:

Primary care physician office visits (*including disease education*)
 Diagnostic tests (*blood work*)
 Prescription drugs
 Durable medical equipment (*glucose meter*)

Total Example Cost	\$5,600
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In this example, Joe would pay:

<i>Cost Sharing</i>	
Deductibles	\$0
Copayments	\$1,120
Coinsurance	\$0
<i>What isn't covered</i>	
Limits or exclusions	\$100
The total Joe would pay is	\$1,220

Mia's Simple Fracture

(in-network emergency room visit and follow up care)

■ The plan's overall deductible	\$300
■ Specialist copayment	\$40
■ Hospital (facility) coinsurance	10%
■ Other coinsurance	20%

This EXAMPLE event includes services like:

Emergency room care (*including medical supplies*)
 Diagnostic test (*x-ray*)
 Durable medical equipment (*crutches*)
 Rehabilitation services (*physical therapy*)

Total Example Cost	\$2,800
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In this example, Mia would pay:

<i>Cost Sharing</i>	
Deductibles	\$0
Copayments	\$560
Coinsurance	\$50
<i>What isn't covered</i>	
Limits or exclusions	\$10
The total Mia would pay is	\$620

Notice of Nondiscrimination

Our Health Plan complies with federal civil rights laws. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. The Health Plan does not exclude people or treat them differently because of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

The Health Plan:

- Provides free aids and services to people with disabilities to communicate effectively with us, such as:
 - Qualified sign language interpreters
 - Written information in other formats (large print, audio, accessible electronic formats, other formats)
- Provides free language services to people whose primary language is not English, such as:
 - Qualified interpreters
 - Information written in other languages

If you need these services, please refer to the enclosed document for ways to reach us.

If you believe that the Health Plan has failed to provide these services or discriminated in another way on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex, you can file a grievance with:

Advocacy Department
Attn: Civil Rights Coordinator
PO Box 4717
Syracuse, NY 13221
Telephone number: 1-800-614-6575
TTY number: 1-800-421-1220
Fax: 315-671-6656

You can file a grievance in person or by mail or fax. If you need help filing a grievance, the Health Plan's Civil Rights Coordinator is available to help you.

You can also file a civil rights complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights, electronically through the Office for Civil Rights Complaint Portal, available at <https://ocrportal.hhs.gov/ocr/portal/lobby.jsf>, or by mail or phone at:

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 509F, HHH Building
Washington, D.C. 20201
1-800-368-1019, 800-537-7697 (TDD)

Complaint forms are available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/office/file/index.html>.

Attention : If you speak English free language help is available to you. Please refer to the enclosed document for ways to reach us.

Atención: Si habla español, contámos con ayuda gratuita de idiomas disponible para usted. Consulte el documento adjunto para ver las formas en que puede comunicarse con nosotros.

注意：如果您说中文，我们可为您提供免费的语言协助。
请参见随附的文件以获取我们的联系方式。

Внимание! Если ваш родной язык русский, вам могут быть предоставлены бесплатные переводческие услуги. В приложенном документе содержится информация о том, как ими воспользоваться.

Atansyon: Si ou pale Kreyòl Ayisyen gen èd gratis nan lang ki disponib pou ou. Tanpri gade dokiman ki nan anviyòp la pou jwenn fason pou kontakte nou.

주목해 주세요: 한국어를 사용하시는 경우, 무료 언어 지원을 받으실 수 있습니다. 연락 방법은 동봉된 문서를 참조하시기 바랍니다.

Attenzione: Se la vostra lingua parlata è l'italiano, potete usufruire di assistenza linguistica gratuita. Per saperne come ottenerla, consultate il documento allegato.

אויפמערקזאם: אויב איר רעדט אדיש, איך אומזיסטע שפראך הילף אונערלעבל פאר אייך ביטע רעפערירט צום בייגלעייגטן דאקומענט צו זען אופנים זיך צו פארבריינדן מיט אונז.

নজর দিন: যদি আপনি বাংলা ভাষায় কথা বলেন তাহলে আপনার জন্য সহায়তা উপলভ্য রয়েছে। আমাদের সঙ্গে যোগাযোগ করার জন্য অনুগ্রহ করে সংস্কৃত নথি পড়ুন।

Uwaga: jeśli mówisz po polsku, możesz skorzystać z bezpłatnej pomocy językowej. Patrz załączony dokument w celu uzyskania informacji na temat sposobów kontaktu z nami.

تنبیه: إذا كنت تتحدث اللغة العربية، فإن المساعدة اللغوية المجانية متاحة لك. يرجى الرجوع إلى الوثيقة المرفقة لمعرفة كيفية الوصول إلينا.

Remarque : si vous parlez français, une assistance linguistique gratuite vous est proposée. Consultez le document ci-joint pour savoir comment nous joindre.

نوٹ: اگر آپ اردو بولتے ہیں تو آپ کے لیے مفت مدد دستیاب ہے۔ ہم سے رابطہ کرنے کے طریقوں کے لیے منسلک دستاویز ملاحظہ کریں۔

Paunawa: Kung nagsasalita ka ng Tagalog, may maari kang kuning libreng tulong sa wika. Mangyaring sumangguni sa nakalalip na dokumento para sa mga paraan ng pakikipag-ugnayan sa amin.

Προσοχή: Αν μιλάτε Ελληνικά μπορούμε να σας προσφέρουμε βοήθεια στη γλώσσα σας δωρεάν. Δείτε το έγγραφο που εσωκλείεται για πληροφορίες σχετικά με τους διαθέσιμους τρόπους επικοινωνίας μαζί μας.

Kujdes: Nëse flisni shqip, ju ofrohet ndihmë gjuhësore falas. Drejtojuini dokumentit bashkëlidhur për mënyra se si të na kontaktoni.

Glossary of Health Coverage and Medical Terms

- This glossary defines many commonly used terms, but isn't a full list. These glossary terms and definitions are intended to be educational and may be different from the terms and definitions in your [plan](#) or [health insurance policy](#). Some of these terms also might not have exactly the same meaning when used in your policy or [plan](#), and in any case, the policy or [plan](#) governs. (See your Summary of Benefits and Coverage for information on how to get a copy of your policy or [plan](#) document.)
- [Underlined](#) text indicates a term defined in this Glossary.
- See page 6 for an example showing how [deductibles](#), [coinsurance](#) and [out-of-pocket limits](#) work together in a real life situation.

Allowed Amount

This is the maximum payment the [plan](#) will pay for a covered health care service. May also be called "eligible expense", "payment allowance", or "negotiated rate".

Appeal

A request that your health insurer or [plan](#) review a decision that denies a benefit or payment (either in whole or in part).

Balance Billing

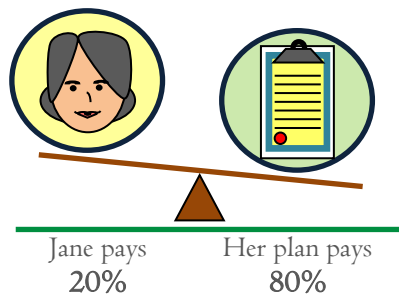
When a [provider](#) bills you for the balance remaining on the bill that your [plan](#) doesn't cover. This amount is the difference between the actual billed amount and the [allowed amount](#). For example, if the provider's charge is \$200 and the allowed amount is \$110, the provider may bill you for the remaining \$90. This happens most often when you see an [out-of-network provider](#) ([non-preferred provider](#)). A [network provider](#) ([preferred provider](#)) may not bill you for covered services.

Claim

A request for a benefit (including reimbursement of a health care expense) made by you or your health care [provider](#) to your health insurer or [plan](#) for items or services you think are covered.

Coinsurance

Your share of the costs of a covered health care service, calculated as a percentage (for example, 20%) of the [allowed amount](#) for the service. You generally pay coinsurance *plus* any [deductibles](#) you owe. (For example, if the [health insurance](#) or [plan's](#) allowed amount for an office visit is \$100 and you've met your [deductible](#), your coinsurance payment of 20% would be \$20. The health insurance or [plan](#) pays the rest of the allowed amount.)



Complications of Pregnancy

Conditions due to pregnancy, labor, and delivery that require medical care to prevent serious harm to the health of the mother or the fetus. Morning sickness and a non-emergency caesarean section generally aren't complications of pregnancy.

Copayment

A fixed amount (for example, \$15) you pay for a covered health care service, usually when you receive the service. The amount can vary by the type of covered health care service.

Cost Sharing

Your share of costs for services that a [plan](#) covers that you must pay out of your own pocket (sometimes called "out-of-pocket costs"). Some examples of cost sharing are [copayments](#), [deductibles](#), and [coinsurance](#). Family cost sharing is the share of cost for [deductibles](#) and [out-of-pocket](#) costs you and your spouse and/or child(ren) must pay out of your own pocket. Other costs, including your [premiums](#), penalties you may have to pay, or the cost of care a [plan](#) doesn't cover usually aren't considered cost sharing.

Cost-sharing Reductions

Discounts that reduce the amount you pay for certain services covered by an individual [plan](#) you buy through the [Marketplace](#). You may get a discount if your income is below a certain level, and you choose a Silver level health plan or if you're a member of a federally-recognized tribe, which includes being a shareholder in an Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act corporation.

Deductible

An amount you could owe during a coverage period (usually one year) for covered health care services before your [plan](#) begins to pay. An overall deductible applies to all or almost all covered items and services. A [plan](#) with an overall deductible may also have separate deductibles that apply to specific services or groups of services. A [plan](#) may also have only separate deductibles. (For example, if your deductible is \$1000, your plan won't pay anything until you've met your \$1000 deductible for covered health care services subject to the deductible.)



Jane pays 100% Her plan pays 0%
(See page 6 for a detailed example.)

Diagnostic Test

Tests to figure out what your health problem is. For example, an x-ray can be a diagnostic test to see if you have a broken bone.

Durable Medical Equipment (DME)

Equipment and supplies ordered by a health care [provider](#) for everyday or extended use. DME may include: oxygen equipment, wheelchairs, and crutches.

Emergency Medical Condition

An illness, injury, symptom (including severe pain), or condition severe enough to risk serious danger to your health if you didn't get medical attention right away. If you didn't get immediate medical attention you could reasonably expect one of the following: 1) Your health would be put in serious danger; or 2) You would have serious problems with your bodily functions; or 3) You would have serious damage to any part or organ of your body.

Emergency Medical Transportation

Ambulance services for an [emergency medical condition](#). Types of emergency medical transportation may include transportation by air, land, or sea. Your [plan](#) may not cover all types of emergency medical transportation, or may pay less for certain types.

Emergency Room Care / Emergency Services

Services to check for an [emergency medical condition](#) and treat you to keep an [emergency medical condition](#) from getting worse. These services may be provided in a licensed hospital's emergency room or other place that provides care for [emergency medical conditions](#).

Excluded Services

Health care services that your [plan](#) doesn't pay for or cover.

Formulary

A list of drugs your [plan](#) covers. A formulary may include how much your share of the cost is for each drug. Your [plan](#) may put drugs in different [cost sharing](#) levels or tiers. For example, a formulary may include generic drug and brand name drug tiers and different [cost sharing](#) amounts will apply to each tier.

Grievance

A complaint that you communicate to your health insurer or [plan](#).

Habilitation Services

Health care services that help a person keep, learn or improve skills and functioning for daily living. Examples include therapy for a child who isn't walking or talking at the expected age. These services may include physical and occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, and other services for people with disabilities in a variety of inpatient and/or outpatient settings.

Health Insurance

A contract that requires a health insurer to pay some or all of your health care costs in exchange for a [premium](#). A health insurance contract may also be called a "policy" or "[plan](#)".

Home Health Care

Health care services and supplies you get in your home under your doctor's orders. Services may be provided by nurses, therapists, social workers, or other licensed health care [providers](#). Home health care usually doesn't include help with non-medical tasks, such as cooking, cleaning, or driving.

Hospice Services

Services to provide comfort and support for persons in the last stages of a terminal illness and their families.

Hospitalization

Care in a hospital that requires admission as an inpatient and usually requires an overnight stay. Some [plans](#) may consider an overnight stay for observation as outpatient care instead of inpatient care.

Hospital Outpatient Care

Care in a hospital that usually doesn't require an overnight stay.

Individual Responsibility Requirement

Sometimes called the “individual mandate”, the duty you may have to be enrolled in health coverage that provides [minimum essential coverage](#). If you don’t have [minimum essential coverage](#), you may have to pay a penalty when you file your federal income tax return unless you qualify for a health coverage exemption.

In-network Coinsurance

Your share (for example, 20%) of the [allowed amount](#) for covered healthcare services. Your share is usually lower for in-[network](#) covered services.

In-network Copayment

A fixed amount (for example, \$15) you pay for covered health care services to [providers](#) who contract with your [health insurance](#) or [plan](#). In-network copayments usually are less than [out-of-network copayments](#).

Marketplace

A marketplace for [health insurance](#) where individuals, families and small businesses can learn about their [plan](#) options; compare plans based on costs, benefits and other important features; apply for and receive financial help with [premiums](#) and [cost sharing](#) based on income; and choose a [plan](#) and enroll in coverage. Also known as an “Exchange”. The Marketplace is run by the state in some states and by the federal government in others. In some states, the Marketplace also helps eligible consumers enroll in other programs, including Medicaid and the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Available online, by phone, and in-person.

Maximum Out-of-pocket Limit

Yearly amount the federal government sets as the most each individual or family can be required to pay in [cost sharing](#) during the [plan](#) year for covered, in-[network](#) services. Applies to most types of health [plans](#) and insurance. This amount may be higher than the [out-of-pocket limits](#) stated for your [plan](#).

Medically Necessary

Health care services or supplies needed to prevent, diagnose, or treat an illness, injury, condition, disease, or its symptoms, including habilitation, and that meet accepted standards of medicine.

Minimum Essential Coverage

Health coverage that will meet the [individual responsibility requirement](#). Minimum essential coverage generally includes [plans](#), [health insurance](#) available through the [Marketplace](#) or other individual market policies, Medicare, Medicaid, CHIP, TRICARE, and certain other coverage.

Minimum Value Standard

A basic standard to measure the percent of permitted costs the [plan](#) covers. If you’re offered an employer [plan](#) that pays for at least 60% of the total allowed costs of benefits, the [plan](#) offers minimum value and you may not qualify for [premium tax credits](#) and [cost sharing reductions](#) to buy a [plan](#) from the [Marketplace](#).

Network

The facilities, [providers](#) and suppliers your health insurer or [plan](#) has contracted with to provide health care services.

Network Provider (Preferred Provider)

A [provider](#) who has a contract with your [health insurer](#) or [plan](#) who has agreed to provide services to members of a [plan](#). You will pay less if you see a [provider](#) in the [network](#). Also called “preferred provider” or “participating provider.”

Orthotics and Prosthetics

Leg, arm, back and neck braces, artificial legs, arms, and eyes, and external breast prostheses after a mastectomy. These services include: adjustment, repairs, and replacements required because of breakage, wear, loss, or a change in the patient’s physical condition.

Out-of-network Coinsurance

Your share (for example, 40%) of the [allowed amount](#) for covered health care services to [providers](#) who don’t contract with your [health insurance](#) or [plan](#). Out-of-network coinsurance usually costs you more than [in-network coinsurance](#).

Out-of-network Copayment

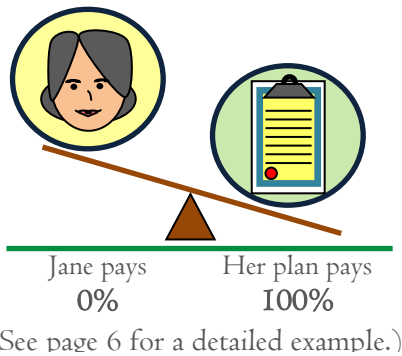
A fixed amount (for example, \$30) you pay for covered health care services from [providers](#) who do *not* contract with your [health insurance](#) or [plan](#). Out-of-network copayments usually are more than [in-network copayments](#).

Out-of-network Provider (Non-Preferred Provider)

A [provider](#) who doesn't have a contract with your [plan](#) to provide services. If your [plan](#) covers out-of-network services, you'll usually pay more to see an out-of-network provider than a [preferred provider](#). Your policy will explain what those costs may be. May also be called "non-preferred" or "non-participating" instead of "out-of-network provider".

Out-of-pocket Limit

The most you *could* pay during a coverage period (usually one year) for your share of the costs of covered services. After you meet this limit the [plan](#) will usually pay 100% of the [allowed amount](#). This limit helps you plan for health care costs. This limit never includes your [premium](#), [balance-billed](#) charges or health care your [plan](#) doesn't cover. Some [plans](#) don't count all of your [copayments](#), [deductibles](#), [coinsurance](#) payments, out-of-network payments, or other expenses toward this limit.



Physician Services

Health care services a licensed medical physician, including an M.D. (Medical Doctor) or D.O. (Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine), provides or coordinates.

Plan

Health coverage issued to you directly (individual plan) or through an employer, union or other group sponsor (employer group plan) that provides coverage for certain health care costs. Also called "health insurance plan", "policy", "health insurance policy" or "[health insurance](#)".

Preauthorization

A decision by your health insurer or [plan](#) that a health care service, treatment plan, [prescription drug](#) or [durable medical equipment \(DME\)](#) is [medically necessary](#). Sometimes called prior authorization, prior approval or precertification. Your [health insurance](#) or [plan](#) may require preauthorization for certain services before you receive them, except in an emergency. Preauthorization isn't a promise your [health insurance](#) or [plan](#) will cover the cost.

Premium

The amount that must be paid for your [health insurance](#) or [plan](#). You and/or your employer usually pay it monthly, quarterly, or yearly.

Premium Tax Credits

Financial help that lowers your taxes to help you and your family pay for private [health insurance](#). You can get this help if you get [health insurance](#) through the [Marketplace](#) and your income is below a certain level. Advance payments of the tax credit can be used right away to lower your monthly [premium](#) costs.

Prescription Drug Coverage

Coverage under a [plan](#) that helps pay for [prescription drugs](#). If the plan's [formulary](#) uses "tiers" (levels), prescription drugs are grouped together by type or cost. The amount you'll pay in [cost sharing](#) will be different for each "tier" of covered [prescription drugs](#).

Prescription Drugs

Drugs and medications that by law require a prescription.

Preventive Care (Preventive Service)

Routine health care, including [screenings](#), check-ups, and patient counseling, to prevent or discover illness, disease, or other health problems.

Primary Care Physician

A physician, including an M.D. (Medical Doctor) or D.O. (Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine), who provides or coordinates a range of health care services for you.

Primary Care Provider

A physician, including an M.D. (Medical Doctor) or D.O. (Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine), nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, or physician assistant, as allowed under state law and the terms of the [plan](#), who provides, coordinates, or helps you access a range of health care services.

Provider

An individual or facility that provides health care services. Some examples of a provider include a doctor, nurse, chiropractor, physician assistant, hospital, surgical center, skilled nursing facility, and rehabilitation center. The [plan](#) may require the provider to be licensed, certified, or accredited as required by state law.

Reconstructive Surgery

Surgery and follow-up treatment needed to correct or improve a part of the body because of birth defects, accidents, injuries, or medical conditions.

Referral

A written order from your [primary care provider](#) for you to see a [specialist](#) or get certain health care services. In many health maintenance organizations (HMOs), you need to get a referral before you can get health care services from anyone except your [primary care provider](#). If you don't get a referral first, the [plan](#) may not pay for the services.

Rehabilitation Services

Health care services that help a person keep, get back, or improve skills and functioning for daily living that have been lost or impaired because a person was sick, hurt, or disabled. These services may include physical and occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, and psychiatric rehabilitation services in a variety of inpatient and/or outpatient settings.

Screening

A type of [preventive care](#) that includes tests or exams to detect the presence of something, usually performed when you have no symptoms, signs, or prevailing medical history of a disease or condition.

Skilled Nursing Care

Services performed or supervised by licensed nurses in your home or in a nursing home. Skilled nursing care is *not* the same as “skilled care services”, which are services performed by therapists or technicians (rather than licensed nurses) in your home or in a nursing home.

Specialist

A [provider](#) focusing on a specific area of medicine or a group of patients to diagnose, manage, prevent, or treat certain types of symptoms and conditions.

Specialty Drug

A type of [prescription drug](#) that, in general, requires special handling or ongoing monitoring and assessment by a health care professional, or is relatively difficult to dispense. Generally, specialty drugs are the most expensive drugs on a [formulary](#).

UCR (Usual, Customary and Reasonable)

The amount paid for a medical service in a geographic area based on what [providers](#) in the area usually charge for the same or similar medical service. The UCR amount sometimes is used to determine the [allowed amount](#).

Urgent Care

Care for an illness, injury, or condition serious enough that a reasonable person would seek care right away, but not so severe as to require [emergency room care](#).

How You and Your Insurer Share Costs - Example

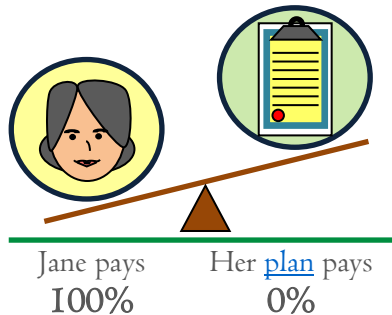
Jane's Plan Deductible: \$1,500

Coinsurance: 20%

Out-of-Pocket Limit: \$5,000

January 1st
Beginning of Coverage Period

December 31st
End of Coverage Period



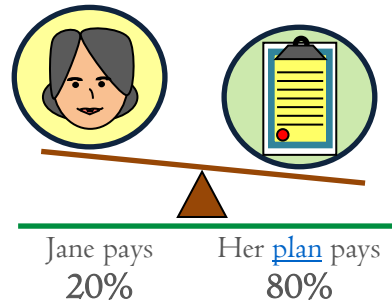
Jane hasn't reached her \$1,500 deductible yet

Her plan doesn't pay any of the costs.

Office visit costs: \$125

Jane pays: \$125

Her plan pays: \$0



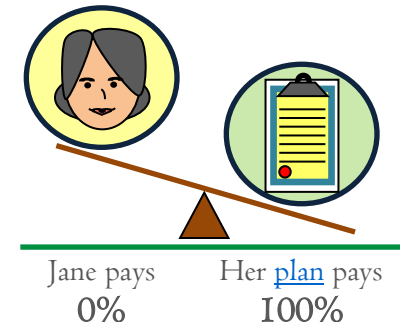
Jane reaches her \$1,500 deductible, coinsurance begins

Jane has seen a doctor several times and paid \$1,500 in total, reaching her deductible. So her plan pays some of the costs for her next visit.

Office visit costs: \$125

Jane pays: 20% of \$125 = \$25

Her plan pays: 80% of \$125 = \$100



Jane reaches her \$5,000 out-of-pocket limit

Jane has seen the doctor often and paid \$5,000 in total. Her plan pays the full cost of her covered health care services for the rest of the year.

Office visit costs: \$125

Jane pays: \$0

Her plan pays: \$125