

Durham County Government: Blue Options Premium Plan

Coverage Period: 07/01/2014 - 06/30/2015

Summary of Benefits and Coverage: What this Plan Covers & What it Costs

Coverage for: Individual/Family Plan Type: PPO



This is only a summary. If you want more detail about your coverage and costs, you can get the complete terms in the policy or plan document at <http://www.bcbsnc.com> or by calling 877-275-9787.

Important Questions	Answers	Why this Matters:
What is the overall deductible?	\$250 person/ \$500 family for in-network; \$500 person/ \$1,000 family for out-of-network; Doesn't apply to In-Network preventive care. Coinsurance and copayments do not apply to the deductible.	You must pay all the costs up to the deductible amount before this plan begins to pay for covered services you use. Check your policy or plan document to see when the deductible starts over (July 1st). See the chart starting on page 2 for how much you pay for covered services after you meet the deductible .
Are there other deductibles for specific services?	No.	You don't have to meet deductibles for specific services, but see the chart starting on page 2 for other costs for services this plan covers.
Is there an out-of-pocket limit on my expenses?	\$1,000 person/ \$2,000 family for in-network; \$2,000 person/ \$4,000 family for out-of-network	The out-of-pocket limit is the most you could pay during a coverage period (one year) for your share of the cost of covered services. This limit helps you plan for health care expenses.
What is not included in the out-of-pocket limit?	Penalties for failure to obtain pre-authorizations for services, Premiums, balance-billed charges, copayments, deductibles and health care this plan doesn't cover	Even though you pay these expenses, they don't count toward the out-of-pocket limit .
Is there an overall annual limit on what the plan pays?	Yes.	The chart starting on page 2 describes any limits on what the plan will pay for specific covered services, such as office visits.
Does this plan use a network of providers?	Yes.	If you use an in-network doctor or other health care provider , this plan will pay some or all of the costs of covered services. Be aware, your in-network doctor or hospital may use an out-of-network provider for some services. Plans use the term in-network, preferred , or participating for providers in their network . See the chart starting on page 2 for how this plan pays different kinds of providers .

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Do I need a referral to see a specialist?	No.	You can see the specialist you choose without permission from this plan.
Are there services this plan doesn't cover?	Yes.	Some of the services this plan doesn't cover are listed on a later page. See your policy or plan document for additional information about excluded services.



- **Co-payments** are fixed dollar amounts (for example, \$15) you pay for covered health care, usually when you receive the service.
- **Co-insurance** is *your* share of the costs of a covered service, calculated as a percent of the **allowed amount** for the service. For example, if the plan's **allowed amount** for an overnight hospital stay is \$1,000, your **co-insurance** payment of 20% would be \$200. This may change if you haven't met your **deductible**.
- The amount the plan pays for covered services is based on the **allowed amount**. If an out-of-network **provider** charges more than the **allowed amount**, you may have to pay the difference. For example, if an out-of-network hospital charges \$1,500 for an overnight stay and the **allowed amount** is \$1,000, you may have to pay the \$500 difference. (This is called **balance billing**.)
- This plan may encourage you to use participating providers by charging you lower **deductibles**, **co-payments** and **co-insurance** amounts.

Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	Your cost* if you use a		Limitations & Exceptions
		In-Network Provider	Out-of-Network Provider	
If you visit a health care provider's office or clinic	Primary care visit to treat an injury or illness	\$15/visit	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	---none---
	Specialist visit	\$30/visit	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	---none---
	Other practitioner office visit	\$30/Chiropractic Visit	30% Coinsurance After Deductible / Chiropractic Visit	-- Limits may apply
If you have a test	Preventive care/screening/immunization	No Charge	Not Covered	-- Limits may apply
	Diagnostic test (x-ray, blood work)	No Charge	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	-- No coverage for tests not ordered by a doctor.
	Imaging (CT/PET scans, MRIs)	10% Coinsurance After Deductible	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	-- Prior authorization may be required or services will not be covered.

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Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	Your cost* if you use a		Limitations & Exceptions
		In-Network Provider	Out-of-Network Provider	
If you have outpatient surgery	Facility fee (e.g., ambulatory surgery center)	10% Coinsurance After Deductible	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	---none---
	Physician/surgeon fees	10% Coinsurance After Deductible	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	---none---
	Emergency room services	\$150/visit	\$150/visit	---none---
If you need immediate medical attention	Emergency medical transportation	10% Coinsurance After Deductible	10% Coinsurance After Deductible	---none---
	Urgent care	\$15/visit	\$15/visit	---none---
If you have a hospital stay	Facility fee (e.g., hospital room)	10% coinsurance After Deductible	30% coinsurance After Deductible	-- No coverage for admissions prior to the effective date of coverage. -- Precertification Required.
	Physician/surgeon fee	10% Coinsurance After Deductible	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	---none---
If you have mental health, behavioral health, or substance abuse needs	Mental/Behavioral health and Substance use disorder office visit	\$30/copay	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	Precertification may be required
	Mental/Behavioral health and Substance use disorder outpatient and inpatient services	10% Coinsurance After Deductible	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	Precertification required
If you need drugs to treat your illness or condition More information about prescription drug coverage is available at www.express-scripts.com	Generic drugs	\$0 copay	NA	\$0 copay/90 day supply at Retail or Mail Order
	Preferred brand drugs	\$20 copay	NA	\$40 copay/90 day supply at Retail or Mail Order
	Non-preferred brand drugs	\$35 copay	NA	\$70 copay/90 day supply at Retail or Mail Order
	Specialty drugs	Must be ordered thru ESI/Medco 800-803-2523		Limited to 30 day supplies per prescription and require prior authorization

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Common Medical Event	Services You May Need	Your cost* if you use a		Limitations & Exceptions
		In-Network Provider	Out-of-Network Provider	
If you are pregnant	Prenatal and postnatal care	10% Coinsurance After Deductible	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	---none---
	Delivery and all inpatient services	10% Coinsurance After Deductible	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	Precertification may be required
	Home health care	10% Coinsurance After Deductible	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	-- Prior authorization required or services will not be covered
If you need help recovering or have other special health needs	Rehabilitation services	\$30/visit	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	-- Coverage is limited to 30 visits per benefit period for OT/PT/Chiropractic.-- Coverage is limited to 30 visits per benefit period for ST.
	Habilitation services	Not Covered	Not Covered	Excluded
	Skilled nursing care	10% Coinsurance After Deductible	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	-- Coverage is limited to 60 visits per benefit period.-- Precertification required
	Durable medical equipment	10% Coinsurance After Deductible	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	-- Prior authorization may be required for benefits to be provided-- Limits may apply
	Hospice services	10% Coinsurance After Deductible	30% Coinsurance After Deductible	-- Precertification may be required
If your child needs dental or eye care	Eye exam	No Charge	Not Covered	Annual limits apply
	Glasses	Not Covered with BCBSNC; \$130 Hardware allowance with UHC Vision Insurance	Not Covered with BCBSNC; See UHC Vision Insurance policy for benefit description	Excluded ---none---
	Dental check-up	Dental reimbursement plan with \$1500 annual benefit	Dental reimbursement plan with \$1500 annual benefit	---none---

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Excluded Services & Other Covered Services:

Services Your Plan Does NOT Cover (This isn't a complete list. Check your policy or plan document for other **excluded services**.)

- Acupuncture
- Cosmetic surgery
- Dental care (adult)
- Hearing aids
- Long-term care
- Non-emergency care outside the US (HMO)
- Routine non-medical foot care
- Weight loss programs
- Benefits paid as a result of injuries caused by another party may need to be repaid to the health plan or paid for by another party under certain circumstances

Other Covered Services (This isn't a complete list. Check your policy or plan document for other covered services and your costs for these services.)

- Bariatric surgery
- Chiropractic care
- Hearing aids (under age 22)
- Infertility
- Routine eye care (Adult)

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Your Rights to Continue Coverage:

If you lose coverage under the plan, then, depending upon the circumstances, Federal and State laws may provide protections that allow you to keep health coverage. Any such rights may be limited in duration and will require you to pay a **premium**, which may be significantly higher than the premium you pay while covered under the plan. Other limitations on your rights to continue coverage may also apply.

For more information on your rights to continue coverage, contact the plan at the number listed on your ID card. You may also contact your state insurance department, the U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration at 1-866-444-3272 or www.dol.gov/ebsa, or the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services at 1-877-267-2323 x61565 or www.cciio.cms.gov.”

Your Grievance and Appeals Rights:

If you have a complaint or are dissatisfied with a denial of coverage for claims under your plan, you may be able to appeal or file a grievance. For questions about your rights, this notice, or assistance, you can contact: BCBSNC at 1-877-258-3334 or mybcbsnc.com. You may also receive assistance from the Department of Labor’s Employee Benefits Security Administration at 1-866-444-EBSA (3272) or www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform, if applicable. You may also contact North Carolina Department of Insurance at 1201 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1201, or 800-546-5664 (in North Carolina), 919-807-6750 (outside North Carolina), if applicable.

Does This Coverage Provide Minimum Essential Coverage?

The Affordable Care Act requires most people to have health care coverage that qualifies as "minimum essential coverage". **This plan or policy does provide minimum essential coverage.**

Does This Coverage Meet the Minimum Value Standard?

The Affordable Care Act establishes a minimum value standard of benefits of health plan. **The minimum value standard is 60% (actuarial value). This health coverage does meet the minimum value standard for the benefits it provides.**

*Please note that although amounts contributed by an employer to an employee's HSA or intergrated HRA should be taken into account for this calculation, the amount of that contribution, if unknown, has not been considered.

Language Access Services:

Spanish (Español): Para obtener asistencia en español, llame al número que aparece al respaldo de su tarjeta del seguro.

Tagalog (Tagalog): Para matulungan sa Tagalog, tawagan ang numerong nasa likuran ng insurance card.

Chinese (中文): 如需國語或廣東話協助，請致電您保險卡背面的電話號碼。

Navajo (Dine): Diné bizaad bee shiká'adoowól ninzingo kwoji' hólne', naaltsoos áłts'ísí nantinígíí bine'déé' binámboo bikáá'.

-----*To see examples how this plan might cover costs for a sample medical situation, see the next page*-----
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About these Coverage Examples:

These examples show how this plan might cover medical care in given situations. Use these examples to see, in general, how much financial protection a sample patient might get if they are covered under different plans.

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This is not a cost estimator.

Don't use these examples to estimate your actual costs under this plan. The actual care you receive will be different from these examples, and the cost of that care also will be different.

See the next page for important information about these examples.

Having a baby (normal delivery)

- **Amount owed to providers:** \$9,300
- **Plan pays** \$8,145
- **You pay** \$1,155

Sample care costs:

Hospital charges (mother)	\$3,700
Routine obstetric care	\$3,100
Hospital charges (baby)	\$900
Anesthesia	\$900
Laboratory tests	\$500
Radiology	\$200
Total	\$9,300

Patient pays:

Deductibles	\$250
Co-insurance (10%)	\$905
Total	\$1,155

Managing type 2 diabetes (routine maintenance of a well-controlled condition)

- **Amount owed to providers:** \$5,400
- **Plan pays** \$4,635
- **You pay** \$765

Sample care costs:

Medical Equipment and Supplies	\$3,300
Education	\$1,000
Laboratory tests	\$1,100
Total	\$5,400

Patient pays:

Deductibles	\$250
Co-insurance	\$515
Total	\$765

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Questions and answers about Coverage Examples:

What are some of the assumptions behind the Coverage Examples?

- Costs don't include **premiums**.
- Sample care costs are based on national averages supplied by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and aren't specific to a particular geographic area or health plan.
- Patient's condition was not an excluded or preexisting condition
- All services and treatments started and ended in the same coverage period.
- There are no other medical expenses for any member covered under this plan.
- Out-of-pocket expenses are based only on treating the condition in the example.
- The patient received all care from in-network **providers**. If the patient had received care from out-of-network **providers**, costs would have been higher.

What does a Coverage Example show?

For each treatment situation, the Coverage Example helps you see how **deductibles**, **co-payments**, and **co-insurance** can add up. It also helps you see what expenses might be left up to you to pay because the service or treatment isn't covered or payment is limited.

Does the Coverage Example predict my own care needs?

- ✓ **No.** Treatments shown are just examples. The care you would receive for this condition could be different based on your doctor's advice, your age, how serious your condition is, and many other factors.

Does the Coverage Example predict my future expenses?

- ✓ **No.** Coverage Examples are **not** cost estimators. You can't use the examples to estimate costs for an actual condition. They are for comparative purposes only. Your own costs will be different depending on the care you receive, the prices your **providers** charge, and the reimbursement your health plan allows.

Can I use Coverage Examples to compare plans?

- ✓ **Yes.** When you look at the Summary of Benefits and Coverage for other plans, you'll find the same Coverage Examples. When you compare plans, check the "Patient Pays" box for each example. The smaller that number, the more coverage the plan provides.

Are there other costs I should consider when comparing plans?

- ✓ **Yes.** An important cost is the **premium** you pay. Generally, the lower your **premium**, the more you'll pay in out-of-pocket costs, such as **co-payments**, **deductibles**, and **co-insurance**. You should consider also contributions to accounts such as health savings accounts (HSAs), flexible spending arrangements (FSAs) or health reimbursement accounts (HRAs) that help you pay out-of-pocket expenses.

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