UPDATE: THE NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY HAS BEEN EXTENDED THROUGH 07/19/2021

COVID-19 Benefits Information
Updated May 28, 2021
Note: Waiver of telehealth visit and in-network COVID-19 medical treatment costs for members will end June 30, 2021. Regular member cost-sharing for these benefits will apply beginning July 1, 2021.

ParTNers for Health Members
Here is some helpful information for our ParTNers for Health plan members. We will immediately update it with any benefits information as decisions are made.

State resources:

Federal resources:

COVID-19 Benefits for State Health Plan Members and Retirees
The State Group Insurance Program has approved:
- Waiving all member costs for COVID-19 vaccinations and vaccine administration. Office visits associated with receiving the COVID-19 vaccination may have applicable cost share if the visit is not billed as preventive.
  - As of April 5, 2021 all Tennessee adults are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine.
  - For a vaccination appointment at a local health department, go to Vaccinate.tn.gov.
  - You can also go to Vaccines.gov for vaccination locations in your community through the health department and private providers.
- Waiving all member costs for all FDA-approved COVID-19 diagnostic (molecular and rapid) and antibody testing and in-network outpatient visits associated with these tests through July 19, 2021. This may be extended until the national public health emergency ends. You can talk to your doctor or other health care provider about your need for a test.
  - State Health Department test sites: If you need a test a list of sites is found here: https://covid19.tn.gov/testing-sites/
- Waiving all member costs for telehealth visits through carrier-sponsored telehealth programs through June 30, 2021.

What does this mean for our members?
- These benefit changes apply to health plan members in all plans: Premier PPO, Standard PPO, Limited PPO, CDHP/HSA and Local CDHP/HSA, with both carriers, BlueCross BlueShield and Cigna.

05/28/21
• Members won’t pay for any telehealth visits from March 17, 2020 through June 30, 2021, through carrier-sponsored telehealth programs (Cigna: MDLive and BlueCross BlueShield: PhysicianNow), even if the visit is for something other than COVID-19. (See Telehealth heading below).

• Members won’t have to pay a copay, coinsurance or any money toward their deductible for FDA-approved COVID-19 diagnostic (molecular and rapid) and antibody tests regardless of where the test is performed, as long as it is not related to employment or return to work requirements.

• Members won’t have to pay a copay, coinsurance or any money toward their deductible for in-network outpatient visits when the visit leads to a COVID-19 test, as well as any services performed at the visit during which the COVID-19 test is performed, as long as it is not related to employment or return to work requirements. The COVID-19 test must be performed during the in-network visit or on the same or next date of service in order for the member to not have a cost-share for the visit. The test result (positive or negative) does not impact cost-share. Carriers (BlueCross and Cigna) may need to reprocess a claim and this may take some time. Members can call their carrier to check on the status of the claim. Some providers may request members pay up-front for the in-network visit. If this occurs, members will have to request a refund from the provider once the claim is reprocessed.

• Members won’t have to pay a copay, coinsurance or any money toward their deductible for in-network COVID-19 medical treatment received regardless of the place of service, as long as it is not related to employment or return to work requirements, through June 30, 2021.

• Members won’t have to pay a copay, coinsurance or any money toward their deductible for in-network COVID-19 vaccinations and vaccine administration. Office visits associated with receiving the COVID-19 vaccination may have applicable cost share if the visit is not billed as preventive.

See Frequently Asked Questions below for more member COVID-19 benefit information.

To stay informed about COVID-19 and vaccinations, the following resources are available to you:
• For a list of statewide resources, please visit: https://covid19.tn.gov/
• CDC has information and guidance available online at https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html

Telehealth (BCBST PhysicianNow or Cigna MDLive)
• Cigna members can use your MDLive telehealth (virtual medical services) benefits to keep you out of a provider’s office. Go ahead and create your user profile with your current health information.
  • Log into MyCigna.com
  • Look for MDLive and select the vendor of your choice
  • Or, call 888.726.3171 for MDLive

• BlueCross BlueShield members can use your PhysicianNow telehealth (virtual medical services) benefits to keep you out of a provider’s office. Go ahead and create your user profile with your current health information.
  • Log into BlueAccess at bcbst.com/members/tn_state/
  • Look for and select Talk With a Doctor Now
Pharmacy Benefits

Make the most of your CVS Caremark Pharmacy Benefit. Members can prepare ahead and avoid crowds by setting up mail order prescription fills. Members can also refill a 90-day supply on most prescriptions (excluding controlled substances, like opioids, and specialty medications) at any participating Retail-90 pharmacy.

Shipping or Delivery

If you have concerns about picking up your prescription in person, you may want to call your pharmacy and ask about shipping and delivery options. Some pharmacies are offering to mail or deliver prescriptions at no additional cost.

Additional information about your CVS Caremark pharmacy benefit.

You may take advantage of:

**Relaxed refill restrictions available through June 30, 2021.** We are temporarily waiving early refill limits on 30-day and 90-day prescriptions for maintenance medications such as high blood pressure, high cholesterol, coronary artery disease, congestive heart failure, depression and asthma/COPD at any in-network pharmacy. You can now fill maintenance medication prescriptions ahead of schedule.

If you have any trouble, your pharmacy staff should check for messaging in their system from CVS Caremark that your plan sponsor is temporarily allowing early refill overrides. If your pharmacy has trouble with the override, they should contact the CVS Caremark pharmacy help desk (your pharmacy has the phone number). **The relaxed refill restriction benefit will end June 30, 2021.**

For more help with your CVS Caremark pharmacy benefits, visit info.caremark.com/stateoftn or call 877.522.TNRX (8679) 24/7.

Information about the CARES Act: Potential impact for HSA and FSA participants

On March 27, 2020, Congress passed the CARES (COVID-19 Aid, Relief, and Economic Security) Act, which may benefit members with health savings accounts and our state and higher education members with flexible spending accounts.

NOTE: These changes are effective for expenses incurred after December 31, 2019. These changes don’t have an expiration date.

**Over-the-Counter Drugs and Medicines without a Prescription**

- The CARES Act allows patients to use HSA and FSA funds to purchase over-the-counter drugs and medicines, including those needed in quarantine and social distancing, without a prescription from a physician.
- This law also adds feminine hygiene products to the list of eligible OTC items.

**Using your HSA or FSA Debit Card for Newly Eligible OTC Items:**

- HSA members will not be asked to provide substantiation or documentation for their over-the-counter drugs and medicines purchased with the HSA debit card (though please keep all receipts in case for future reference).
• FSA members who use their FSA debit card for OTC drugs and medicines will likely have to provide a receipt for their purchase. However, work is being done to try to auto-substantiate these OTC products at the point of sale.
• If your HSA or FSA debit card doesn’t work at time of purchase, members can pay out of pocket and request reimbursement from their account funds.

Dental Benefits

**Cigna Prepaid Members**

**Cigna Dental Virtual Care**
Cigna Dental Virtual Care is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at no additional cost to Cigna Dental customers.

*Click the link to learn more:*

**Cigna Dental Emergency**
In the event of a dental emergency, Cigna suggests patients contact their dentists to service and guide their care options. If the dental office is closed, Cigna can assist you in finding care by calling 1-800-244-6224 or customers can locate care on mycigna.com at [https://my.cigna.com/web/public/guest](https://my.cigna.com/web/public/guest).

**MetLife Dental Plan Members**

**MetLife Teledentistry Benefit**
MetLife’s teledentistry benefit enables you to talk with your dentist and get necessary treatment such as emergency care when you need it. You and your dentist choose the method that works best for you and claims are submitted as usual. Questions? Call 1-855-700-8001; representatives are available 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. CT, Monday through Friday.

*Click the link to learn more:*

**MetLife Dental Personal Protective Equipment Costs**
Members who have services performed by an in-network provider should not incur any additional costs for personal protective equipment (PPE) per our network contracts with our providers. If members are surcharged by in-network providers for PPE up-front, they should follow our standard grievance process to report the concern. If members receive services from out-of-network providers, they may be responsible for any PPE charges billed by the provider.

Disability Benefits

**MetLife Short-term Disability and Long-term Disability**
A message from MetLife:
MetLife continues to monitor the impact of COVID-19. MetLife still recognizes that employees may be especially vulnerable at time of disability and we want to do everything we can to enable the payment of benefits where appropriate.

As previously communicated, if a claimant reports any level of COVID-19 symptoms, is not able to work from home and is unable to secure medical documentation to substantiate a disability claim due to the current crisis, MetLife will provide a one (1) time conditional approval for 14 calendar days. Supporting medical
evidence will be required to approve the claim beyond the initial 14-day conditional approval. We will apply any contractual eligibility provisions and are not waiving the Elimination Period.

We implemented this process for all new and pending COVID-19 claims on December 1, 2020. This process was previously extended until April 30, 2021. We are now extending this process until September 30, 2021.

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**Partners Health & Wellness Center**
The Partners Health & Wellness Center on the 3rd floor of the Tennessee Tower continues to provide services including COVID-19 vaccines and telehealth for state and higher education employees enrolled in the State Group Health Insurance Program. The staff has created a webpage to keep you updated on how coronavirus is changing the way they do business. Regular updates can be found at [https://www.partnershealthcenter.com/covid19](https://www.partnershealthcenter.com/covid19).

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**Behavioral Health Benefits and Employee Assistance Program Resources**

**Online and Virtual Resources**

- **Virtual Visits**: available for EAP and behavioral health
  - Schedule a visit with a psychiatrist or therapist using secure video conferencing
  - Go to [Here4TN.com](http://Here4TN.com) to learn more

- **Talkspace online therapy**: available for all members with behavioral health benefits
  - Download the Talkspace app on your mobile device or computer through [Here4TN.com](http://Here4TN.com)
  - Communicate safely and securely with a therapist from your phone or desktop
  - Message a licensed therapist 24/7 – includes text, audio or video messages within the secure app

- **Sanvello**: on-demand app to help with stress, anxiety and depression – available anytime
  - Download the Sanvello app on your mobile device or computer through [Here4TN.com](http://Here4TN.com)
  - The premium version of the app is available free to all with behavioral health benefits. Register using your behavioral health ID card.
  - Members with EAP-only benefits have access to the free, standard version of the app
  - Clinical tools and techniques to help manage the symptoms of stress, anxiety and depression

- **EAP services**: Master’s level specialists are available around the clock to assist with stress, legal, financial, mediation and work/life services.
  - Preauthorization is required to utilize your Employee Assistance Program. Simply call 855.437.3486 or go to [Here4TN.com](http://Here4TN.com) to obtain your preauthorization. If you prefer to access services over the phone, telephonic counseling is available as well as face-to-face appointments. **Call 855-Here4TN (855-437-3486) for more information.**

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**EAP Eligibility**

**State and Higher Education Employees**: EAP services are available to all benefits-eligible employees and their eligible family members (dependents), even if they are not enrolled in medical insurance.

- **Note** – The five EAP visits per year, per issue are per individual. Members are ineligible for EAP visits while they are currently receiving behavioral health services.
Local Education, Local Government, COBRA and Retirees: EAP services are available to those who are enrolled in medical insurance. Benefits-eligible dependents of enrolled employees are eligible even if they are not enrolled in medical insurance.

- **Note** – The five EAP visits per year, per issue are per individual. Members are ineligible for EAP visits while they are currently receiving behavioral health services.

Optum Emotional Support Help Line Available to Anyone
The Optum Emotional Support Help Line is available 24/7 to anyone in need, even if they are not enrolled in the benefit plan. The help line 866-342-6892 is staffed by professionally trained mental health experts and free of charge.

Physical Well-Being Resources
**MyActiveHealth**: available to all state employees, even if you are not enrolled in the health plan, and enrolled health plan members.

- Access to health education topics, activity trackers for sleep and exercise as well as other tools to keep your physical health on track
- Log on to [www.myactivehealth.com/wellnesstn](http://www.myactivehealth.com/wellnesstn) to get started

Working for a Healthier Tennessee pulled together links to home workouts (yoga, cardio, body weight training, etc.)

- Indoor Cardio [https://darebee.com/workouts/indoor-cardio-workout](https://darebee.com/workouts/indoor-cardio-workout)
- Popsugar Fitness [https://www.youtube.com/user/popsugartvfit](https://www.youtube.com/user/popsugartvfit)
- Yoga with Adrienne [https://www.youtube.com/user/yogawithadriene](https://www.youtube.com/user/yogawithadriene)
- Quiet Apartment Cardio [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gke_wunq7Ng](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gke_wunq7Ng)

COVID-19 Benefits Frequently Asked Questions for State Health Plan Members

1. **What should I do if I think I might have the COVID-19 virus? Should I go to the emergency room?**
   - You can talk to your doctor or other healthcare provider about your need for a COVID-19 test or if you think you have the virus.
   - Additional resources:
   - Generally speaking, people should seek care if they experience a high fever, significant cough, shortness of breath or fatigue.
   - **State Health Department test sites**: If you need a test, a list of sites is found here: [https://covid19.tn.gov/testing-sites/](https://covid19.tn.gov/testing-sites/)

2. **Is COVID-19 testing covered (diagnostic and antibody)?**
   - Yes. Members won’t have to pay a copay, coinsurance or any money toward their deductible for FDA-approved COVID-19 diagnostic (molecular and rapid) and antibody tests regardless of where the test is performed, as long as it is not related to employment or return to work requirements.
   - **State Health Department test sites**: If you need a test, a list of sites is found here:
3. **What if I have to pay for or receive a bill for my in-network visit when I have a COVID-19 test?**
   - The COVID-19 test must be performed during the in-network visit or on the same date or next date of service, in order for you to not have a cost-share for the visit. The test result (positive or negative) does not affect cost share. Your carrier may need to reprocess a claim, and this may take some time. You can call your carrier, BlueCross BlueShield or Cigna, at the number on the back of your ID card to check on the status of the claim. Some providers may request that members pay up-front for the in-network visit. If this occurs, you will have to request a refund from the provider once the claim is reprocessed.

4. **Is COVID-19 treatment covered?**
   - Through June 30, 2021, members won’t have to pay a copay, coinsurance or any money toward their deductible for in-network COVID-19 medical treatment received in a provider’s office, urgent care, convenience clinic, emergency room or inpatient/outpatient hospital facility as long as the visit is directly related to a COVID-19 diagnosis.
   - If a member is admitted to a hospital for COVID-19 treatment on or before June 30, 2021, the inpatient care received will be covered with no member cost share through discharge.
   - All medical treatment not directly related to a COVID-19 diagnosis or received out-of-network will be covered under the member’s enrolled health plan benefits with applicable member cost share.

5. **Are the COVID-19 vaccines covered?**
   - Members won’t have to pay a copay, coinsurance or any money toward their deductible for in-network COVID-19 vaccinations and vaccine administration. Office visits associated with receiving a COVID-19 vaccination may have applicable cost share if the visit is not billed as preventive.
     - **As of April 5, 2021 all Tennessee adults are eligible for the COVID-19 vaccines.**
     - For a vaccination appointment at a local health department, go to [Vaccinate.tn.gov](https://Vaccinate.tn.gov)
     - You can also go to [Vaccines.gov](https://Vaccines.gov) for vaccination locations in your community through the health department and private providers.

6. **What about BlueCross/Cigna-sponsored telehealth?**
   - Members will not be required to pay for any telehealth visits through carrier-sponsored telehealth programs (Cigna: MDLive and BlueCross BlueShield: PhysicianNow) from March 17, 2020 through June 30, 2021, even if the visit is for something other than COVID-19. If you have questions, call BlueCross BlueShield or Cigna at the number on the back of your ID card and ask for help.

7. **What will my Explanation of Benefits show?**
   - Your EOB should show that you do not owe member cost share for COVID-19 tests, in-network outpatient visits that lead to a test or in-network medical treatment though June 30, 2021. After June 30, 2021 regular member cost sharing will apply for in-network medical treatment. For eligible member cost share to be waived, the claim must be coded with a COVID-19 diagnosis code. If your EOB shows you owe a cost share, please contact either BlueCross
BlueShield or Cigna by calling the number on the back of your ID card for help. They will be able to explain the status of your claim and provide you with more information. Your provider may need to resubmit your claim with updated coding.

8. If I pre-paid at the doctor’s office or hospital, will I get that money back?
   • If it is an eligible in-network COVID-19 charge, you can get your money back. Your carrier, BlueCross or Cigna, may need to reprocess a claim and this may take some time. Once you have your EOB, you can contact the provider or hospital and request a refund, or you can call BlueCross or Cigna at the number on the back of your ID card and ask for help.

9. What if I go to the emergency room for a test and then I am hospitalized? What will I have to pay for?
   • The State Group Insurance Program is waiving cost sharing for FDA-approved COVID-19 testing, in-network outpatient visits associated with these tests and in-network medical treatment (through June 30, 2021) for a COVID-19 diagnosis. The benefit does not include waiving member cost-sharing for treatment that is not related to a COVID-19 diagnosis, COVID-19 treatment received after June 30, 2021 or received out-of-network, which would fall under the current benefit cost-sharing based on the health plan in which you are enrolled.

10. I’m in the CDHP. Will I have to pay for a test? Do I have to pay my deductible first?
   • If the eligible COVID-19 testing is FDA-approved, then no, you would not have to pay anything toward your deductible for testing and in-network outpatient visits associated with the test.

11. Does this apply for all health plan members, in all networks, BlueCross BlueShield Network S, Cigna LocalPlus and Cigna OAP?
   • Yes, eligible waived cost-sharing applies to all members and retirees in all plans and in all networks.

12. What if I get a bill saying I owe money for a COVID-19 test? What do I do?
   • If you get a bill for an FDA-approved test, wait until you have your Explanation of Benefits. If the EOB shows you owe money, then call BlueCross BlueShield or Cigna at the number on the back of your card and ask for help. If the EOB shows you do not owe money for the test, then contact your provider to request a bill correction.

13. What if I get a test and it’s negative, and then I need to go and get another test? Is the second test covered?
   • Yes, member cost share for all FDA-approved COVID-19 testing and in-network outpatient visits associated with these tests is waived even if you need to get an additional test.
   • State Health Department test sites: If you need a test a list of sites is found here: https://covid19.tn.gov/testing-sites/

14. Are prescriptions for COVID-19 treatment covered?
   • Currently, the FDA has not approved any prescription medications for the treatment of COVID-19. Medications prescribed by your provider and obtained at a pharmacy will still have applicable member cost share.

15. When will these COVID-19 benefits take effect?
• This benefit takes effect immediately and could also include prior claims which meet these requirements.

16. How long will these COVID-19 benefits last?
• The cost waiver for carrier-sponsored telehealth program benefits and in-network COVID-19 treatment ends June 30, 2021. The other COVID-19 benefits will be in effect until July 19, 2021, and may be extended until the national public health emergency ends. Benefit updates will be provided as decisions are made.