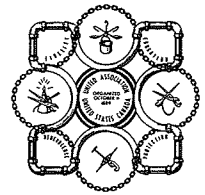


PLUMBERS AND PIPEFITTERS LOCAL 501 NORTHERN ILLINOIS BENEFIT FUNDS



1295 Butterfield Rd., Aurora, IL 60502-8879 • Ph (630) 978-4600 • Fax (630) 978-4616 • email: benefitfunds@ualocal501.org

To All Participants in the Northern Illinois Benefit Fund:

October 2011

The following notice applies to individuals who are required to pay premiums in order to be covered by an employer-sponsored health plan. The information in this notice will NOT be relevant to most participants in this Fund because Fund participants do not pay "premiums" to the Fund for coverage. Nevertheless, federal regulations require all employers in the states listed in the table starting below to issue the notice. The Fund is merely sending this notice on behalf of its participating employers.

Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) Offer Free or Low-Cost Health Coverage to Children and Families

If you are eligible for health coverage from your employer, but are unable to afford the premiums, some States have premium assistance programs that can help pay for coverage. These States use funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs to help people who are eligible for employer-sponsored health coverage, but need assistance in paying their health premiums.

If you or your dependents are already enrolled in Medicaid or CHIP and you live in a State listed below, you can 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, you can contact your State Medicaid or CHIP office or dial 1-877-KIDS NOW or www.insurekidsnow.gov to find out how to apply. If you qualify, you can ask the State if it has a program that might help you pay the premiums for an employer-sponsored plan.

Once it is determined that you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, your employer's health plan is required to permit you and your dependents to enroll in the plan – as long as you and your dependents are eligible, but not already enrolled in the employer's plan. This is called a "special enrollment" opportunity, and you must request coverage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium assistance.

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 January 31, 2011. You should contact your State for further information on eligibility –

ALABAMA – Medicaid Website: http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov Phone: 1-800-362-1504	CALIFORNIA – Medicaid Website: http://www.dhcs.ca.gov/services/Pages/TPLRD_CAU_cont.aspx Phone: 1-866-298-8443
ALASKA – Medicaid Website: http://health.hss.state.ak.us/dpa/programs/medicaid/ Phone (Outside of Anchorage): 1-888-318-8890 Phone (Anchorage): 907-269-6529	COLORADO – Medicaid and CHIP Medicaid Website: http://www.colorado.gov/ Medicaid Phone (In state): 1-800-866-3513 Medicaid Phone (Out of state): 1-800-221-3943 CHIP Website: http:// www.CHPplus.org CHIP Phone: 303-866-3243

Visit us at: www.ualocal501.org

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ARIZONA – CHIP	
Website: http://www.azahcccs.gov/applicants/default.aspx Phone (Outside of Maricopa County): 1-877-764-5437 Phone (Maricopa County): 602-417-5437	
ARKANSAS – CHIP	FLORIDA – Medicaid
Website: http://www.arkidsfirst.com/ Phone: 1-888-474-8275	Website: http://www.fdhc.state.fl.us/Medicaid/index.shtml Phone: 1-877-357-3268
GEORGIA – Medicaid	MISSOURI – Medicaid
Website: http://dch.georgia.gov/ Click on Programs, then Medicaid Phone: 1-800-869-1150	Website: http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm Phone: 573-751-2005
IDAHO – Medicaid and CHIP	MONTANA – Medicaid
Medicaid Website: www.accesstohealthinsurance.idaho.gov Medicaid Phone: 1-800-926-2588 CHIP Website: www.medicaid.idaho.gov CHIP Phone: 1-800-926-2588	Website: http://medicaidprovider.hhs.mt.gov/clientpages/clientindex.shtml Phone: 1-800-694-3084
INDIANA – Medicaid	NEBRASKA – Medicaid
Website: http://www.in.gov/fssa Phone: 1-800-889-9948	Website: http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/med/medindex.htm Phone: 1-877-255-3092
IOWA – Medicaid	NEVADA – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: www.dhs.state.ia.us/hipp/ Phone: 1-888-346-9562	Medicaid Website: http://dwss.nv.gov/ Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900 CHIP Website: http://www.nevadacheckup.nv.org/ CHIP Phone: 1-877-543-7669
KANSAS – Medicaid	
Website: https://www.khpa.ks.gov Phone: 1-800-792-4884	
KENTUCKY – Medicaid	NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid
Website: http://chfs.ky.gov/dms/default.htm Phone: 1-800-635-2570	Website: www.dhhs.nh.gov/ombp/index.htm Phone: 603-271-4238
LOUISIANA – Medicaid	NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: http://www.lahipp.dhh.louisiana.gov Phone: 1-888-342-6207	Medicaid Website: http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/ Medicaid Phone: 1-800-356-1561 CHIP Website: http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710
MAINE – Medicaid	
Website: http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/OIAS/public-assistance/index.html Phone: 1-800-321-5557	
MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP	NEW MEXICO – Medicaid and CHIP
Medicaid & CHIP Website: http://www.mass.gov/MassHealth Medicaid & CHIP Phone: 1-800-462-1120	Medicaid Website: http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/mad/index.html Medicaid Phone: 1-888-997-2583 CHIP Website: http://www.hsd.state.nm.us/mad/index.html Click on Insure New Mexico CHIP Phone: 1-888-997-2583
MINNESOTA – Medicaid	
Website: http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/ Click on Health Care, then Medical Assistance Phone (Outside of Twin City area): 800-657-3739 Phone (Twin City area): 651-431-2670	
NEW YORK – Medicaid	TEXAS – Medicaid
Website: http://www.nyhealth.gov/health_care/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-541-2831	Website: https://www.gethipptexas.com/ Phone: 1-800-440-0493

NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid	UTAH – Medicaid
Website: http://www.nc.gov Phone: 919-855-4100	Website: http://health.utah.gov/upp Phone: 1-866-435-7414
NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid	VERMONT – Medicaid
Website: http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/ Phone: 1-800-755-2604	Website: http://www.greenmountaincare.org/ Phone: 1-800-250-8427
OKLAHOMA – Medicaid	VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP
Website: http://www.insureoklahoma.org Phone: 1-888-365-3742	Medicaid Website: http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/rcp-HIPP.htm Medicaid Phone: 1-800-432-5924 CHIP Website: http://www.famis.org/ CHIP Phone: 1-866-873-2647
OREGON – Medicaid and CHIP	WASHINGTON – Medicaid
Medicaid & CHIP Website: http://www.oregonhealthykids.gov Medicaid & CHIP Phone: 1-877-314-5678	Website: http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/premiumpymt/Apply.shtm Phone: 1-800-562-3022 ext. 15473
PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid	WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid
Website: http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/partnersproviders/medicalassistance/doingbusiness/003670053.htm Phone: 1-800-644-7730	Website: http://www.wvrecovery.com/hipp.htm Phone: 304-342-1604
RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid	WISCONSIN – Medicaid
Website: www.dhs.ri.gov Phone: 401-462-5300	Website: http://www.badgercareplus.org/pubs/p-10095.htm Phone: 1-800-362-3002
SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid	WYOMING – Medicaid
Website: http://www.scdhhs.gov Phone: 1-888-549-0820	Website: http://www.health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/index.html Phone: 307-777-7531

To see if any more States have added a premium assistance program since January 31, 2011, or for more information on special enrollment rights, you can contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor

Employee Benefits Security Administration
www.dol.gov/ebsa
1-866-444-EBSA (3272)

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
www.cms.hhs.gov
1-877-267-2323, Ext. 61565