MIDDLESEX COUNTY JOINT HEALTH INSURANCE FUND



# YOUR 2024 GUIDE TO CHOOSING A Health Plan

Once each year, you have an opportunity to review your health plan choice during the Fund's Open Enrollment period. If you choose a new plan, it will become effective for use on January 1st. New employees may make initial elections for Benefit Plans in accordance with their Employer's eligibility policy and current Collective Bargaining Agreements.



#### **IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER**

Carefully review all the information in this booklet.

If you are changing plans or have chosen the HealthCare Choice Plan or one of the HMO's, you must select a Primary Care Physician for you and each of your eligible dependents.

Complete all required forms and return them to your Personnel Office no later than November 30, 2023. Remember, any changes you make will take effect on January 1, 2024.

If you are satisfied with your current health plan choice you do not need to complete any forms during this Open Enrollment.

Remember, your medical benefits are an important component of your overall compensation and benefits package. This is your annual opportunity to decide which plan is best for you and your family. Please review this information carefully.

# HEALTH FUND INFORMATION FOR 2024 Open Enrollment

### **OPEN ENROLLMENT**

### **CHOOSING YOUR HEALTH PLAN**

Each year, you have an opportunity to review your health plan choices during the Fund's Open Enrollment period. This year's Open Enrollment period is November 1 through November 30, 2023. Any changes you make will take effect January 1, 2024. Open Enrollment dates may vary slightly depending on your employer's schedule. Please check with your Personnel Office to confirm the dates, and which plans are available.

You have several plans from which to choose. Each will have advantages as well as disadvantages. The more you learn about the plans, the easier it will be for you to decide what plan best fits your personal needs and budget.

## What is most important to me in a plan?

In choosing a plan, you have to decide what is most important to you. Ask yourself these questions:

- How comprehensive do I want coverage of health care services to be?
- How do I feel about limits on my choice of doctors or hospitals?
- How do I feel about a primary care doctor referring me to specialists for additional care?
- How convenient does my care need to be?
- How important is the cost of services?
- How do I feel about keeping receipts and filing claims?

You might also want to think about whether the services a plan offers meet your needs. Call the plan for details about coverage if you have questions. When making your choice consider the following:

- Lifestyle changes you may be thinking about, such as starting a family or retiring.
- Chronic health conditions or disabilities that you or family members have.
- Care for family members who travel a lot, attend college, or spend time at two homes.

### SOURCES OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT HEALTH PLANS AND HEALTH ISSUES

NJ Department of Health and Social Services http://www.nj.gov/health

US Department of Health and Human Services - Gateway to general information on health issues http://www.healthfinder.gov/

# What are my health plan choices?

Choosing the right health plan for you and your dependents may not seem as easy as it once was. Plans may differ in how much you have to pay and the ease at which you obtain certain services. Although no plan will pay for all the costs associated with your medical care, some plans will pay for a greater percentage of the cost than others.

Our Fund offers a variety of plans including: Traditional, HealthCare Choice and HMOs. This Open Enrollment guide includes highlights of each. For all the details of a particular plan, see the Summary Plan Document for that plan.

Not all plans are available to all employees in the Fund. Please check with your Personnel Office to confirm which options are available to you.

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#### **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS F OR 2024**

#### Summary of CHAPTER 78

Chapter 78 was signed into law on June 28, 2011 by Governor Christie. Among other requirements, Chapter 78 established a new contribution arrangement that requires public employees and certain retirees to contribute more towards the cost of their employer sponsored health insurance.

The amount of any required contribution and when the contributions will begin is based upon many factors including salary and bargaining unit representation. Please refer to "**The Medical Contribution Estimator**" on the MCJHIF Web Site in order to determine your estimated required contribution for 2024.

Further detail on Chapter 78 is found on the back page.

#### New Jersey Chapter 375 over-age Dependent Children up to 30 law and DU31 Coverage until Age 31

This regulation only applies to fully insured programs throughout New Jersey. Currently the Fund only maintains one program that is fully-insured falling within the Chapter 375 parameters; the Oxford Freedom program. Under these provisions certain qualified over age children may elect coverage under the fully insured plan offered by the Fund (Oxford Freedom) from the time their dependent coverage eligibility would normally end until their 31st birthday. The covered person/dependent is responsible for the full cost of this extended coverage and will be billed directly on a monthly basis.

It is important to note that any/all dependent children currently covered under the provisions of Chapter 375, P.L. 2005, will need to complete a new application to enroll as a dependent child under age 26 under Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA).

#### Federal Health Coverage Law - Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act

Provisions of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) include the coverage of children until age 26.

#### Eligibility

- A "child" is defined as an enrollee's child until age 26, regardless of the child's marital, student, or financial dependency status even if the young adult no longer lives with his or her parents.
- Medical and prescription drug coverage will be extended to eligible children through December 31 of the year they turn age 26.

#### Women's Health

Effective with prescriptions filled on or after January 1, 2013, the generic hormonal birth control pills and certain barrier contraceptive devices will be covered at 100%.

#### Verification

A photocopy of the dependent child's birth certificate that includes the covered parent's name must be submitted along with the application.

A photocopy of the dependent child's birth certificate showing the spouse/partner's name as a parent and a photocopy of marriage/partnership certificate showing the names of the employee and spouse/partner.

For a legal guardianship, grandchild, or foster child provide a photocopy of Affidavits of Dependency and a Final Court Order with the presiding judge's signature and seal attesting to the legal guardianship of the covered employee.

Further information will be available on the Fund's web-site at www.mcjhif.com

MIDDLESEX COUNTY JOINT HEALTH INSURANCE FUND

http://www.mcjhif.com

|   | TRADITIONAL HORIZON   (Closed for new employees) POINT OF SERVICE (POS)   IN-NETWORK OUT-OF-NETWORK                     |  | HORIZON OMNIA<br>Tier 1 Tier 2<br>(no coverage out-of-network)   |  | AETNA<br>HMO<br>(no coverage out-of-network)   | CIGNA<br>HMO<br>(no coverage out-of-network)   | OXFORD FREEDOM ACCESS  |  |  |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| CUSTOMER SERVICE  | Horizon Blue Cross<br>Blue Shield of<br>New Jersey 800-355-2583   | Horizon Blue Cro<br>New Jersey 8   |  | Horizon Blue Cro   | oss Blue Shield of<br>800-355-2583   | 1-800-370-4526   | 1-800-CIGNA24  | 888-201-4133   |  |
| WEBSITE   | www.horizonblue.com   |  |  | www.horizonblue.com  |  | www.aetna.com  | www.cigna.com  | www.oxfordhealth.com   |  |
| HOSPITAL STAY BENEFITS<br>HOSPITAL INPATIENT                      | 100% for 365 days   | 100%   | 80% out of network allowance after deductible  | 100% after copay<br>per admission  | 80% after deductible<br>per admission  | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 60% after deductible   |
| SKILLED NURSING FACILITY  | 100%  | 100% up to 100 days<br>in-network facility<br>per calendar year  | 80% out of network allowance<br>after deductible max. up to<br>60 days per calendar year                   | 100% after copay<br>per admission  | 80% after deductible<br>per admission  | 100%   | 100% up to 100 days<br>per calendar year   | 100% up to 100 days<br>per calendar year   | Deductible and coinsurance u<br>to 60 days per calendar year   |
| HOSPITAL PREADMISSION<br>TESTING                                  | 100%  | 100%   | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100%   | 80% out of network<br>after deductible   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 60% after deductible   |
| MEDICAL SERVICES<br>PHYSICIAN (SURGERY)                           | Basic benefit at 100% balance<br>at 80% after deductible  | 100%   | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100% after copay   | 100% after copay   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 60% after deductible   |
| PHYSICIAN (OFFICE VISITS)   | 80% of network allowance<br>after ductible  | 100% after copay   | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100% after copay   | 60% after deductible   |
| CHIROPRACTIC  | 80% of network allowance<br>after deductible  | 100% after copay   | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100% after copay   | 100% after copay   | 100%   | 100% after copay<br>max. 20 visits per year  | Copay no limit   | 60% after deductible - no lim  |
| MATERNITY   | Basic benefit at 100% balance<br>at 80% of network allowance<br>after deductible  | 100% after initial copay   | 80% out of network allowance after deductible  | 100% after<br>initial copay  | 100% after<br>initial copay  | 100% after<br>initial copay  | 100% after copay   | 100% after copay   | 60% after deductible   |
| PREVENTIVE SERVICES <sup>1</sup>                                  |   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| PHYSICAL EXAMS  | 100%  | 100%   | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 60% after deductible   |
| IMMUNIZATIONS   | 100%  | 100%   | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 60% after deductible   |
| MAMMOGRAMS  | 100%  | 100%   | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 60% after deductible   |
| PAP SMEAR   | 100%  | 100%   | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 60% after deductible   |
| PROSTATE EXAM   | 100%  | 100%   | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 60% after deductible   |
| WELL BABY   | 100%  | 100%   | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 60% after deductible   |
| MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES<br>RADIATION/CHEMOTHERAPY<br>OUTPATIENT    | Basic benefit at 100%<br>balance at 80% after<br>deductible   | 100%   | 80% out of network allowance after deductible  | 100%   | 80% after deductible   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 60% after deductible   |
| HOSPICE   | 100%<br>(case management required)  | 100%   | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100% after copay   | 100% after copay   | 100%   | 100%   | 210 day combined in and out of network limit   |  |
| PHYSICAL AND/ OR<br>SPEECH THERAPY                                | Basic benefit at 100%<br>balance at 80% after<br>deductible   | 100% after copay   | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100% after copay   | 100% after copay   | 100% over a 60 consecutive<br>day period per illness or injury   | 100% after copay; max.<br>60 visits per calendar year  | Copay 60 visits<br>per calendar year   | Deductible and coinsurance u<br>to 60 visits per calendar year   |
| DENTAL COVERAGE<br>IN MEDICAL PLAN                                | Limited payment for bony<br>impacted molars, mouth<br>tumors, accidental injury,<br>if medically necessary              | Limited payment for bony<br>impacted molars, mouth<br>tumors, accidental injury,<br>if medically necessary | Limited payment for bony<br>impacted molars, mouth<br>tumors, accidental injury,<br>if medically necessary | Limited payment for bony<br>impacted molars, mouth<br>tumors, accidental injury,<br>if medically necessary | Limited payment for bony<br>impacted molars, mouth<br>tumors, accidental injury,<br>if medically necessary | Limited payment for bony<br>impacted molars, mouth<br>tumors, accidental injury,<br>if medically necessary | Limited payment for bony<br>impacted molars, mouth<br>tumors, accidental injury,<br>if medically necessary | Limited payment for bony<br>impacted molars, mouth<br>tumors, accidental injury,<br>if medically necessary | Limited payment for bony<br>impacted molars, mouth<br>tumors, accidental injury,<br>if medically necessary |
| X-RAYS/LAB TESTS  | Basic benefit at 100%<br>balance at 80% of network<br>allowance after deductible  | 100%   | 80% after deductible   | 100% after copay   | 80% after deductible   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 60% after deductible   |
| PRESCRIPTION DRUGS<br>IN MEDICAL PLAN                             | Separate Plan <sup>4</sup>  | Separate Plan <sup>4</sup>   | Separate Plan <sup>4</sup>   | Separate Plan  |
| VISION CARE IN<br>MEDICAL PLAN                                    | Not covered   | \$50 per calendar year<br>includes exams, lenses, frames   | \$50 per calendar year<br>includes exam, lenses, frames  | Not Covered  | Not Covered  | 100%, \$100<br>lens reimbursement<br>every 24 months   | 100% after copay for annual<br>exam, \$20 to \$75 per year for<br>hardware at participating provider       | Copay for exam/\$70 every<br>24 months for hardware  | 60% after deductible for exam<br>\$70 every 24 months<br>for hardware                                      |
| MENTAL HEALTH AND<br>SUBSTANCE ABUSE<br>Alcohol Abuse (Inpatient) | 100% for first 120 days,<br>balance covered at<br>80% after deductible,<br>maximum combined<br>hospital stay is 365 day | 100%   | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100% after copay   | 80% after deductible   | 100%   | 100%   | Same as any other illness  | Same as any other illness  |
| ALCOHOL ABUSE <sup>2</sup><br>(OUTPATIENT)                        | 80% after deductible  | 100% after copay   | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100% after copay   | 80% after deductible   | 100%   | 100% after copay   | Same as any other illness  | Same as any other illness  |
| DRUG ABUSE (INPATIENT) <sup>2</sup>                               | 100% for first 120 days,<br>balance covered at<br>80% after deductible,<br>maximum combined<br>hospital stay is 365 day | 100% after copay   | 80% out of network allowance after deductible  | 100% after copay   | 80% after deductible   | 100%   | 100%   | Same as any other illness  | Same as any other illness  |
| DRUG ABUSE (OUTPATIENT) <sup>2</sup>                              | 80% after deductible  | 100% after copay   | 80% out of network allowance after deductible  | 100% after copay   | 80% after deductible   | 100%   | 100% after copay   | Same as any other illness  | Same as any other illness  |
| MENTAL HEALTH <sup>2</sup><br>(INPATIENT)                         | 100% for first 120 days,<br>balance covered at<br>80% after deductible,<br>maximum combined<br>hospital stay is 365 day | 100%   | 80% out of network allowance after deductible  | 100% after copay   | 80% after deductible   | 100%   | 100%   | Same as any other illness  | Same as any other illness  |
| MENTAL HEALTH <sup>2</sup><br>(OUTPATIENT)                        | 80% after deductible  | 100% after copay   | 80% out of network allowance after deductible  | 100% after copay   | 80% after deductible   | 100%   | 100% after copay   | Same as any other illness  | Same as any other illness  |
| EMERGENCY CARE<br>EMERGENCY ROOM (ACCIDENTAL)                     | 100%  | 100% after copay,<br>copay waived if admitted  | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100% after copay   | Copay, then<br>80% after deductible  | 100% after copay,<br>waived if admitted  | 100% after copay,<br>waived if admitted  | 100% after copay<br>waived if admitted   | 100% after copay<br>waived if admitted   |
| URGENT CARE   | 100%  | 100% after copay,<br>copay waived if admitted  | 80% out of network<br>allowance after deductible   | 100% after copay   | Copay, then<br>80% after deductible  | 100% after copay   | 100% after copay   | 100% after copay   | 100% after copay   |
| OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES<br>DEDUCTIBLE (INDIVIDUAL)                 | 100%  | None   | \$100  | None   | \$1,500  | None   | None   | \$0  | \$2,000  |
| DEDUCTIBLE (FAMILY MAX.)  | \$200 (employee plus one)   | None   | \$200  | None   | \$3,000  | None   | None   | \$0  | \$6,000  |
| MAX. OUT-OF-POCKET<br>(INDIVIDUAL)                                | \$400 plus <sup>3</sup><br>\$100 individual deductible  | \$300 <sup>3</sup>   | \$400 plus <sup>3</sup><br>\$100 individual deductible   | \$2,500  | \$4.500  | \$1,500 <sup>3</sup>   | \$1,500 <sup>3</sup>   | \$2,500 <sup>3</sup>   | \$7,200 <sup>3</sup>   |
| MAX. OUT-OF-POCKET<br>(FAMILY)                                    | \$400 per covered person <sup>4</sup><br>plus \$200 family deductible   | \$600 <sup>3</sup>   | \$800 plus <sup>3</sup><br>\$200 family deductible   | \$5,000  | \$9,000  | \$3,000 <sup>3</sup>   | \$3,000 <sup>3</sup>   | \$5,000 <sup>3</sup>   | \$21,600 <sup>3</sup>  |

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#### New Jersey Pension and Health Benefits Reform under Chapter 78, P.L. 2011

#### Sections 39 to 44: Required Active and Retired Employee Contributions towards Health Benefit Coverage

This law requires all public employees and certain public retirees to contribute toward the cost of health care benefits coverage based upon a percentage of the cost of coverage. All active public employees will pay a percentage of the cost of health care benefits coverage for themselves and any dependents. Lower compensated employees will pay a smaller percentage and more highly compensated employees will pay a higher percentage. In addition, the applicable percentage will vary based upon whether the employee has family, individual, or member with child or spouse coverage. These rates will be phased in over several years for employees employed on the contribution's effective date who will pay 1/4, 1/2, and 3/4 of the amount of the contribution rate during the first, second and third years, respectively. The law establishes a "floor" for employee contributions so that no employee will pay an amount that is less than 1.5% of the employee's compensation. The contribution commenced on January 1, 2012 for certain public employees and upon the expiration of a collective negotiation agreement for others.

Similar provisions in this law apply to retirees of units of local government. Retirees may be required to contribute a percentage of the cost of health care benefits coverage in retirement benefit. These provisions will not apply to public employees who, on the effective date of the law, have 20 or more years of service in one or more State or locally-administered retirement systems. A 1.5% "floor", for those retirees to whom the 1.5% contribution in current law applies, will also be applicable to these retirees.

Further information will be available on the Fund's web-site at <u>www.mcjhif.com</u>

#### Horizon Choice Out of Network Expenses

Below is a clarification of the Horizon Choice out of network benefit. This information is being provided as a convenience to all employees to assist in the evaluation of medical benefit options and does not represent any change in coverage.

Eligible out of network claims incurred outside the Horizon Choice network will be reimbursed at 80% after satisfaction of the \$100 deductible. The maximum out of pocket cost per individual is \$500 (\$400 coinsurance plus \$100 deductible) and \$1,000 (\$800 coinsurance and \$200 deductible) per family.

Please be aware that out of network expenses eligible for reimbursement under Choice are limited to the overall allowable charge as determined by Horizon. It is possible that certain out of network expenses will not be allowed by Horizon. These expenses will not accumulate toward the maximum out of pocket cost as noted above. Providers may balance bill members for these expenses.

All members enrolled in Choice are encouraged to question their providers relative to balance billing prior to scheduling any procedure.

Assume for example that an Out of Network Surgeon's charge is \$10,000 and the Horizon Choice allowance is \$6,000. The deductible and coinsurance will be applied to the \$6,000 allowance, not the \$10,000 total charge. Of the \$6,000, the employee will be responsible for \$500 and Horizon will cover the \$5,500 balance. The surgeon may balance bill the employee for \$500 plus the difference between the \$10,000 total charge and \$6,000 allowance. Total out of pocket to the member will be \$4,500 in this example.



### THE CHOICE IS YOURS

- Review all the information in this Open Enrollment Guide.
- If you choose the HealthCare Choice Plan or one of the HMOs, you will have to pick a Personal/Primary Care Physician for you and each of your eligible dependents.
- Complete any required forms and return them to your Personnel Office by November 30, 2023 (please confirm this date with your Personnel Office, as it may vary with local needs). Any changes you make will take effect on January 1, 2024.
- County employees should login to the Employee Self Service website and go to the Open Enrollment Section.
- If you are satisfied with your current Health Plan, you do not need to complete any forms during this Open Enrollment.