

## **IMPORTANT PATIENT PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE CARE ACT NOTICES, ERISA NOTICES AND CONTACTS FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Essential Software Inc. is providing these important notices to you at no fee. The notices in this package describe important rights that you have under the terms of the Essential Software Inc. Group Health Plan. If you have any questions or need additional information regarding these notices you can contact:

### **Your Employer Representative**

Rebecca Ferleman  
301-675-2596  
[rebecca.ferleman@essential-soft.com](mailto:rebecca.ferleman@essential-soft.com)

or by mail at  
9711 Washingtonian Blvd, Suite 550  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

The following notices are included in this communication in this order:

- WHCRA Notice (Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act)
- CHIPRA Notice (Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act)
- Paperwork Reduction Act Statement
- HIPAA Special Enrollment Rights Notice
- Patient Protection Choice of Providers
- Patient Protections Against Surprise Medical Bills

## **NOTICE OF RIGHTS UNDER THE WOMEN'S HEALTH AND CANCER RIGHTS ACT (WHCRA)**

Do you know that your plan, as required by the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998, provides benefits for mastectomy-related services including all stages of reconstruction and surgery to achieve symmetry between the breasts, prostheses, and complications resulting from a mastectomy, including lymphedema? Contact your Employer Representative for more information.

If you have had or are going to have a mastectomy, you may be entitled to certain benefits, under the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 (WHCRA). For individuals receiving mastectomy-related benefits, coverage will be provided in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient, for:

- All stages of reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy was performed;
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance;
- Prostheses; and
- Treatment of physical complications of the mastectomy, including lymphedemas.

These benefits will be provided subject to the same deductible and co-insurance particulars that are applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under this Plan. Essential Software Inc. has provided the detailed information regarding deductible and co-insurance for the Essential Software Inc. Group Health Plan. For more information or to get a copy of the Summary Plan Description containing these details contact your Employer Representative.

## Premium Assistance under Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

If you or your children are eligible for Medicaid or CHIP and you're eligible for health coverage from your employer, your state may have a premium assistance program that can help pay for coverage, using funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs. If you or your children aren't eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, you won't be eligible for these premium assistance programs but you may be able to buy individual insurance coverage through the Health Insurance Marketplace. For more information, visit [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov).

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

If you or your dependents are eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or CHIP, as well as eligible under your employer plan, your employer must allow you to enroll in your employer plan if you aren't already enrolled. This is called a "special enrollment" opportunity, and **you must request coverage within 60 days of being determined eligible for premium assistance**. If you have questions about enrolling in your employer plan, contact the Department of Labor at [www.askebsa.dol.gov](http://www.askebsa.dol.gov) or call **1-866-444-EBSA (3272)**.

---

**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 July 31, 2025. Contact your State for more information on eligibility –**

ALABAMA – Medicaid	ALASKA – Medicaid
Website: <a href="http://myalhipp.com">http://myalhipp.com</a> Phone: 1-855-692-5447	The AK Health Insurance Premium Payment Program Website: <a href="http://myakhipp.com/">http://myakhipp.com/</a> Phone: 1-866-251-4861 Email: <a href="mailto:CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com">CustomerService@MyAKHIPP.com</a>  Medicaid Eligibility: <a href="https://health.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/default.aspx">https://health.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/default.aspx</a>
ARKANSAS – Medicaid	CALIFORNIA – Medicaid
Website: <a href="http://myarhipp.com/">http://myarhipp.com/</a> Phone: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)	Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program Website: <a href="http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp">http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp</a> Phone: 916-445-8322 Fax: 916-440-5676 Email: <a href="mailto:hipp@dhcs.ca.gov">hipp@dhcs.ca.gov</a>

<b>COLORADO – Health First Colorado (Colorado's Medicaid Program) &amp; Child Health Plan Plus (CHP+)</b>	<b>FLORIDA – Medicaid</b>
<p>Health First Colorado Website: <a href="https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/">https://www.healthfirstcolorado.com/</a></p> <p>Health First Colorado Member Contact Center: 1-800-221-3943/ State Relay 711</p> <p>CHP+: <a href="https://hcpf.colorado.gov/child-health-plan-plus">https://hcpf.colorado.gov/child-health-plan-plus</a></p> <p>CHP+ Customer Service: 1-800-359-1991/ State Relay 711</p> <p>Health Insurance Buy-In Program (HIBI): <a href="https://www.mycohibi.com/">https://www.mycohibi.com/</a></p> <p>HIBI Customer Service: 1-855-692-6442</p>	<p>Website: <a href="https://www.flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/hipp/index.html">https://www.flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/hipp/index.html</a></p> <p>Phone: 1-877-357-3268</p>
<b>GEORGIA – Medicaid</b>	<b>INDIANA – Medicaid</b>
<p>GA HIPP Website: <a href="https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp">https://medicaid.georgia.gov/health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp</a></p> <p>Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 1</p> <p>GA CHIPRA Website <a href="https://medicaid.georgia.gov/programs/third-party-liability/childrens-health-insurance-program-reauthorization-act-2009-chipra">https://medicaid.georgia.gov/programs/third-party-liability/childrens-health-insurance-program-reauthorization-act-2009-chipra</a></p> <p>Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 2</p>	<p>Health Insurance Premium Payment Program</p> <p>All other Medicaid</p> <p>Website: <a href="https://www.in.gov/medicaid/">https://www.in.gov/medicaid/</a> <a href="http://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/">http://www.in.gov/fssa/dfr/</a></p> <p>Family and Social Services Administration</p> <p>Phone: 1-800-403-0864</p> <p>Member Services Phone: 1-800-457-4584</p>
<b>IOWA – Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki)</b>	<b>KANSAS – Medicaid</b>
<p>Medicaid Website: <a href="#">Iowa Medicaid   Health &amp; Human Services</a></p> <p>Medicaid Phone: 1-800-338-8366</p> <p>Hawki Website: <a href="#">Hawki – Healthy and Well Kids in Iowa   Health &amp; Human Services</a></p> <p>Hawki Phone: 1-800-257-8563</p> <p>HIPP Website: <a href="#">Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP)   Health &amp; Human Services (iowa.gov)</a></p> <p>HIPP Phone: 1-888-346-9562</p>	<p>Website: <a href="https://www.kancare.ks.gov/">https://www.kancare.ks.gov/</a></p> <p>Phone: 1-800-792-4884</p> <p>HIPP Phone: 1-800-967-4660</p>
<b>KENTUCKY – Medicaid</b>	<b>LOUISIANA – Medicaid</b>
<p>Kentucky Integrated Health Insurance Premium Payment Program (KI-HIPP)</p> <p>Website: <a href="https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx">https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx</a></p> <p>Phone: 1-855-459-6328</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov">KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov</a></p> <p>KCHIP Website: <a href="https://kynect.ky.gov">https://kynect.ky.gov</a></p> <p>Phone: 1-877-524-4718</p> <p>Kentucky Medicaid Website: <a href="https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms">https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms</a></p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.medicaid.la.gov">www.medicaid.la.gov</a> or <a href="http://www.ldh.la.gov/lahpp">www.ldh.la.gov/lahpp</a></p> <p>Phone: 1-888-342-6207 (Medicaid hotline) or 1-855-618-5488 (LaHIPP)</p>

<b>MAINE – Medicaid</b>	<b>MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP</b>
Enrollment Website: <a href="https://www.mymaineconnection.gov/benefits/s/?language=en_US">https://www.mymaineconnection.gov/benefits/s/?language=en_US</a> Phone: 1-800-442-6003 TTY: Maine relay 711  Private Health Insurance Premium Webpage: <a href="https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms">https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms</a> Phone: 1-800-977-6740. TTY: Maine relay 711	Website: <a href="https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pa">https://www.mass.gov/masshealth/pa</a> Phone: 1-800-862-4840 TTY: 711 Email: <a href="mailto:masspremistance@accenture.com">masspremistance@accenture.com</a>
<b>MINNESOTA – Medicaid</b>	<b>MISSOURI – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="https://mn.gov/dhs/health-care-coverage/">https://mn.gov/dhs/health-care-coverage/</a> Phone: 1-800-657-3672	Website: <a href="http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm">http://www.dss.mo.gov/mhd/participants/pages/hipp.htm</a> Phone: 573-751-2005
<b>MONTANA – Medicaid</b>	<b>NEBRASKA – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP">http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP</a> Phone: 1-800-694-3084 Email: <a href="mailto:HHSHIPPPProgram@mt.gov">HHSHIPPPProgram@mt.gov</a>	Website: <a href="http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov">http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov</a> Phone: 1-855-632-7633 Lincoln: 402-473-7000 Omaha: 402-595-1178
<b>NEVADA – Medicaid</b>	<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid</b>
Medicaid Website: <a href="http://dhcfp.nv.gov">http://dhcfp.nv.gov</a> Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900	Website: <a href="https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/medicaid/health-insurance-premium-program">https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/programs-services/medicaid/health-insurance-premium-program</a> Phone: 603-271-5218 Toll free number for the HIPP program: 1-800-852-3345, ext. 15218 Email: <a href="mailto:DHHS.ThirdPartyLiabi@dhhs.nh.gov">DHHS.ThirdPartyLiabi@dhhs.nh.gov</a>
<b>NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP</b>	<b>NEW YORK – Medicaid</b>
Medicaid Website: <a href="http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/">http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/</a> Phone: 1-800-356-1561 CHIP Premium Assistance Phone: 609-631-2392 CHIP Website: <a href="http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html">http://www.njfamilycare.org/index.html</a> CHIP Phone: 1-800-701-0710 (TTY: 711)	Website: <a href="https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/">https://www.health.ny.gov/health_care/medicaid/</a> Phone: 1-800-541-2831
<b>NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid</b>	<b>NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/">https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/</a> Phone: 919-855-4100	Website: <a href="https://www.hhs.nd.gov/healthcare">https://www.hhs.nd.gov/healthcare</a> Phone: 1-844-854-4825
<b>OKLAHOMA – Medicaid and CHIP</b>	<b>OREGON – Medicaid and CHIP</b>
Website: <a href="http://www.insureoklahoma.org">http://www.insureoklahoma.org</a> Phone: 1-888-365-3742	Website: <a href="http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx">http://healthcare.oregon.gov/Pages/index.aspx</a> Phone: 1-800-699-9075

<b>PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid and CHIP</b>	<b>RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid and CHIP</b>
<p>Website: <a href="https://www.pa.gov/en/services/dhs/apply-for-medicaid-health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp.html">https://www.pa.gov/en/services/dhs/apply-for-medicaid-health-insurance-premium-payment-program-hipp.html</a>  Phone: 1-800-692-7462</p> <p>CHIP Website: <a href="#">Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)-(pa.gov)</a>  CHIP Phone: 1-800-986-KIDS (5437)</p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/">http://www.eohhs.ri.gov/</a>  Phone: 1-855-697-4347, or 401-462-0311 (Direct Rite Share Line)</p>
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid</b>	<b>SOUTH DAKOTA - Medicaid</b>
<p>Website: <a href="https://www.scdhhs.gov">https://www.scdhhs.gov</a>  Phone: 1-888-549-0820</p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://dss.sd.gov">http://dss.sd.gov</a>  Phone: 1-888-828-0059</p>
<b>TEXAS – Medicaid</b>	<b>UTAH – Medicaid and CHIP</b>
<p>Website: <a href="#">Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program   Texas Health and Human Services</a>  Phone: 1-800-440-0493</p>	<p>Utah's Premium Partnership for Health Insurance (UPP)  Website: <a href="https://medicaid.utah.gov/upp/">https://medicaid.utah.gov/upp/</a>  Email: <a href="mailto:upp@utah.gov">upp@utah.gov</a>  Phone: 1-888-222-2542</p> <p>Adult Expansion Website:  <a href="https://medicaid.utah.gov/expansion/">https://medicaid.utah.gov/expansion/</a></p> <p>Utah Medicaid Buyout Program Website:  <a href="https://medicaid.utah.gov/buyout-program/">https://medicaid.utah.gov/buyout-program/</a>  CHIP Website: <a href="https://chip.utah.gov/">https://chip.utah.gov/</a></p>
<b>VERMONT– Medicaid</b>	<b>VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP</b>
<p>Website: <a href="#">Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program   Department of Vermont Health Access</a>  Phone: 1-800-250-8427</p>	<p>Website: <a href="https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/famis-select">https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/famis-select</a></p> <p><a href="https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs">https://coverva.dmas.virginia.gov/learn/premium-assistance/health-insurance-premium-payment-hipp-programs</a></p> <p>Medicaid/CHIP Phone: 1-800-432-5924</p>
<b>WASHINGTON – Medicaid</b>	<b>WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP</b>
<p>Website: <a href="https://www.hca.wa.gov/">https://www.hca.wa.gov/</a>  Phone: 1-800-562-3022</p>	<p>Website: <a href="https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/">https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/</a>  <a href="http://mywvhipp.com/">http://mywvhipp.com/</a></p> <p>Medicaid Phone: 304-558-1700  CHIP Toll-free phone: 1-855-MyWVHIPP (1-855-699-8447)</p>
<b>WISCONSIN – Medicaid and CHIP</b>	<b>WYOMING – Medicaid</b>
<p>Website:  <a href="https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm">https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/badgercareplus/p-10095.htm</a>  Phone: 1-800-362-3002</p>	<p>Website:  <a href="https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility/">https://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/medicaid/programs-and-eligibility/</a>  Phone: 1-800-251-1269</p>

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since July 31, 2025, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security Administration  
**www.dol.gov/agencies/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, Menu Option 4, Ext. 61565

### **Paperwork Reduction Act Statement**

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13) (PRA), no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. The Department notes that a Federal agency cannot conduct or sponsor a collection of information unless it is approved by OMB under the PRA, and displays a currently valid OMB control number, and the public is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3507. Also, notwithstanding any other provisions of law, no person shall be subject to penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if the collection of information does not display a currently valid OMB control number. See 44 U.S.C. 3512.

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average approximately seven minutes per respondent. Interested parties are encouraged to send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Labor, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Office of Policy and Research, Attention: PRA Clearance Officer, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Room N-5718, Washington, DC 20210 or email [ebsa.opr@dol.gov](mailto:ebsa.opr@dol.gov) and reference the OMB Control Number 1210-0137.

OMB Control Number 1210-0137 (expires 1/31/2026)

### **HIPAA SPECIAL ENROLLMENT RIGHTS NOTICE**

If you are declining enrollment for yourself or your dependents (including your spouse) because of other health insurance or group health plan coverage, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage (or if the employer stops contributing toward your or your dependents' other coverage). However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after you or your dependents' other coverage ends (or after the employer stops contributing toward the other coverage). In addition, if you have a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents. However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.

To request special enrollment or obtain more information, contact your Employer Representative.

## **PATIENT PROTECTION CHOICE OF PROVIDERS**

In cases where the Essential Software Inc. Group Health Plan allows or requires a participant to designate a primary care provider, the participant has the right to designate any primary care provider who participates in the network and who is available to accept the participant or participant's family members.

Until you make this designation, Essential Software Inc. Group Health may designate a primary care provider automatically. For information on how to select a primary care provider, and for a list of the participating primary care providers, you can contact your Employer Representative.

For children, you may designate a pediatrician as the primary care provider.

You do not need prior authorization from the Essential Software Inc. Group Health Plan or from any other person (including a primary care provider) in order to obtain access to obstetrical or gynecological care from a health care professional in our network who specializes in obstetrics or gynecology. The health care professional, however, may be required to comply with certain procedures, including obtaining prior authorization for certain services, following a pre-approved treatment plan, or procedures for making referrals. For a list of participating health care professionals who specialize in obstetrics or gynecology, contact your Employer Representative.

## PATIENT PROTECTIONS AGAINST SURPRISE MEDICAL BILLS

When you get emergency care or get treated by an out-of-network provider at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, you are protected from surprise billing or balance billing.

### **What is “balance billing” (sometimes called “surprise billing”)?**

When you see a doctor or other health care provider, you may owe certain out-of-pocket costs, such as a copayment, coinsurance, and/or a deductible. You may have other costs or have to pay the entire bill if you see a provider or visit a health care facility that isn’t in your health plan’s network.

“Out-of-network” describes providers and facilities that haven’t signed a contract with your health plan. Out-of-network providers may be permitted to bill you for the difference between what your plan agreed to pay and the full amount charged for a service. This is called “**balance billing**”. This amount is likely more than in-network costs for the same service and might not count toward your annual out-of-pocket limit.

“Surprise billing” is an unexpected balance bill. This can happen when you can’t control who is involved in your care – like when you have an emergency or when you schedule a visit at an in-network facility but are unexpectedly treated by an out-of-network provider.

### **You are protected from balance billing for:**

#### **Emergency services**

If you have an emergency medical condition and get emergency services from an out-of-network provider or facility, the most the provider or facility may bill you is your plan’s in-network cost-sharing amount (such as copayments and coinsurance). You **can’t** be balanced billed for these emergency services. This includes services you may get after you’re in stable condition, unless you give written consent and give up your protections not to be balanced billed for these post-stabilization services.

There are some states that have surprise bill or balance billing laws. These laws apply to fully insured plans and may impact self-funded plans, including state or municipal government plans and church group plans. Please check with your plan administrator and/or insurance certificate/booklet to see if state law applies to your coverage.

#### **Certain services at an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center**

When you get services from an in-network hospital or ambulatory surgical center, certain providers there may be out-of-network. In these cases, the most those providers may bill you is your plan’s in-network cost-sharing amount. This applies to emergency medicine, anesthesia, pathology, radiology, laboratory, neonatology, assistant surgeon, hospitalist, or intensivist services. These providers **can’t** balance bill you and may **not** ask you to give up your protections not to be balance billed.

If you get other services at these in-network facilities, out-of-network providers **can’t** balance bill you, unless you give written consent and give up your protections.

**You're never required to give up your protections from balance billing. You also aren't required to get care out-of-network. You can choose a provider or facility in your plan's network.**

There are some states that have surprise bill or balance billing laws. These laws apply to fully insured plans and may impact self-funded plans, including state or municipal government plans and church group plans. Please check with your plan administrator and/or insurance certificate/booklet to see if state law applies to your coverage.

**When balance billing isn't allowed, you also have the following protections:**

- You are only responsible for paying your share of the cost (like the copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles that you would pay if the provider or facility was in-network). Your health plan will pay out-of-network providers and facilities directly.
- Your health plan generally must:
  - Cover emergency services without requiring you to get approval for services in advance (prior authorization).
  - Cover emergency services by out-of-network providers.
  - Base what you owe the provider or facility (cost-sharing) on what it would pay an in-network provider or facility and show that amount in your explanation of benefits.
  - Count any amount you pay for emergency services or out-of-network services toward your deductible and out-of-pocket limit.

**If you believe you've been wrongly billed,** you may contact:

- The US Department of Health and Human Services at:

Phone: 800-985-3059  
Website: <https://www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers>
- Your state agency, which can be found at:  
<https://www.cms.gov/CCIIO/Resources/Consumer-Assistance-Grants>