

# Penn-Trafford School District Annual Notices

## 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 are eligible for health coverage from your employer, your State may have a premium assistance program that can help pay for coverage. These States use funds from their Medicaid or CHIP programs to help people who are eligible for these programs, but also have access to health insurance through their employer. If you or your children are not eligible for Medicaid or CHIP, you will not be eligible for these premium assistance programs.

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](http://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, as well as eligible under your employer plan, your employer must permit you to enroll in your employer plan if you are not 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, you can contact the Department of Labor electronically at [www.askebsa.dol.gov](http://www.askebsa.dol.gov) or by calling toll-free 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, 2012. You should contact your State for further information on eligibility -**

<b>PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/hipp">http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/hipp</a> Phone: 1-800-692-7462

To see if any more States have added a premium assistance program since July 31, 2012, or for more information on special enrollment rights, you can contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor  
Services  
Employee Benefits Security Administration  
[www.dol.gov/ebsa](http://www.dol.gov/ebsa)  
1-866-444-EBSA (3272)  
61565

U.S. Department of Health and Human  
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services  
[www.cms.hhs.gov](http://www.cms.hhs.gov)  
[Annual Notices.docx](#) 1-877-267-2323, Ext.  
61565

## **Notice of HIPAA Special Enrollment Rights**

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 31 days after your 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 31 days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption Effective April 1, 2009, if either of the following two events occur, you will have 60 days from the date of the event to request enrollment in your employer's plan:

- Your dependents lose Medicaid or CHIP coverage because they are no longer eligible.
- Your dependents become eligible for a state's premium assistance program.

To take advantage of special enrollment rights, you must experience a qualifying event *and* provide the employer plan with timely notice of the event and your enrollment request.

To request special enrollment or obtain more information, contact:

Human Resources  
Danielle Smith  
724-744-4496 x2  
[smithd@penntrafford.org](mailto:smithd@penntrafford.org)

## **Newborns' and Mothers' Health Protection Act**

Federal law protects the benefit rights of mothers and newborns related to any hospital stay in connection with childbirth. In general, insurers may not:

- Restrict benefits for the length of hospital stay for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less than 96 hours following a cesarean section. However, federal law generally does not prohibit the mother's or newborn's attending provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable).
- Require that a provider obtain authorization from the insurer for prescribing a length of stay of up to 48 hours (or 96 hours).

For details on any state maternity laws that may apply to your medical plan, please refer to the benefit material for the plan in which you are enrolled.

