



# New Health Insurance Marketplace Coverage Options and Your Health Coverage

Form Approved  
OMB No. 1210-0149  
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## PART A: General Information

When key parts of the health care law take effect in 2014, there will be a new way to buy health insurance: the Health Insurance Marketplace. To assist you as you evaluate options for you and your family, this notice provides some basic information about the new Marketplace and employment-based health coverage offered by your employer.

### What is the Health Insurance Marketplace?

The Marketplace is designed to help you find health insurance that meets your needs and fits your budget. The Marketplace offers "one-stop shopping" to find and compare private health insurance options. You may also be eligible for a new kind of tax credit that lowers your monthly premium right away. Open enrollment for health insurance coverage through the Marketplace begins in October 2013 for coverage starting as early as January 1, 2014.

### Can I Save Money on my Health Insurance Premiums in the Marketplace?

You may qualify to save money and lower your monthly premium, but only if your employer does not offer coverage, or offers coverage that doesn't meet certain standards. The savings on your premium that you're eligible for depends on your household income.

### Does Employer Health Coverage Affect Eligibility for Premium Savings through the Marketplace?

Yes. If you have an offer of health coverage from your employer that meets certain standards, you will not be eligible for a tax credit through the Marketplace and may wish to enroll in your employer's health plan. However, you may be eligible for a tax credit that lowers your monthly premium, or a reduction in certain cost-sharing if your employer does not offer coverage to you at all or does not offer coverage that meets certain standards. If the cost of a plan from your employer that would cover you (and not any other members of your family) is more than 9.5% of your household income for the year, or if the coverage your employer provides does not meet the "minimum value" standard set by the Affordable Care Act, you may be eligible for a tax credit.<sup>1</sup>

**Note:** If you purchase a health plan through the Marketplace instead of accepting health coverage offered by your employer, then you may lose the employer contribution (if any) to the employer-offered coverage. Also, this employer contribution—as well as your employee contribution to employer-offered coverage—is often excluded from income for Federal and State income tax purposes. Your payments for coverage through the Marketplace are made on an after-tax basis.

### How Can I Get More Information?

For more information about your coverage offered by your employer, please check your summary plan description or contact \_\_\_\_\_.

The Marketplace can help you evaluate your coverage options, including your eligibility for coverage through the Marketplace and its cost. Please visit [HealthCare.gov](http://HealthCare.gov) for more information, including an online application for health insurance coverage and contact information for a Health Insurance Marketplace in your area.

<sup>1</sup> An employer-sponsored health plan meets the "minimum value standard" if the plan's share of the total allowed benefit costs covered by the plan is no less than 60 percent of such costs.

## PART B: Information About Health Coverage Offered by Your Employer

This section contains information about any health coverage offered by your employer. If you decide to complete an application for coverage in the Marketplace, you will be asked to provide this information. This information is numbered to correspond to the Marketplace application.

3. Employer name		4. Employer Identification Number (EIN)	
5. Employer address		6. Employer phone number	
7. City	8. State	9. ZIP code	
10. Who can we contact about employee health coverage at this job?			
11. Phone number (if different from above)		12. Email address	

Here is some basic information about health coverage offered by this employer:

- As your employer, we offer a health plan to:  
All employees.

Some employees. Eligible employees are:

- With respect to dependents:  
We do offer coverage. Eligible dependents are:

We do not offer coverage.

If checked, this coverage meets the minimum value standard, and the cost of this coverage to you is intended to be affordable, based on employee wages.

\*\* Even if your employer intends your coverage to be affordable, you may still be eligible for a premium discount through the Marketplace. The Marketplace will use your household income, along with other factors, to determine whether you may be eligible for a premium discount. If, for example, your wages vary from week to week (perhaps you are an hourly employee or you work on a commission basis), if you are newly employed mid-year, or if you have other income losses, you may still qualify for a premium discount.

If you decide to shop for coverage in the Marketplace, [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) will guide you through the process. Here's the employer information you'll enter when you visit [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) to find out if you can get a tax credit to lower your monthly premiums.

The information below corresponds to the Marketplace Employer Coverage Tool. Completing this section is optional for employers, but will help ensure employees understand their coverage choices.

**13. Is the employee currently eligible for coverage offered by this employer, or will the employee be eligible in the next 3 months?**

**Yes** (Continue)

13a. If the employee is not eligible today, including as a result of a waiting or probationary period, when is the employee eligible for coverage? \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yyyy) (Continue)

**No** (STOP and return this form to employee)

**14. Does the employer offer a health plan that meets the minimum value standard\*?**

Yes (Go to question 15)      No (STOP and return form to employee)

**15. For the lowest-cost plan that meets the minimum value standard\* offered **only to the employee** (don't include family plans): If the employer has wellness programs, provide the premium that the employee would pay if he/ she received the maximum discount for any tobacco cessation programs, and didn't receive any other discounts based on wellness programs.**

a. How much would the employee have to pay in premiums for this plan? \$

b. How often?      Weekly      Every 2 weeks      Twice a month      Monthly      Quarterly      Yearly

If the plan year will end soon and you know that the health plans offered will change, go to question 16. If you don't know, STOP and return form to employee.

**16. What change will the employer make for the new plan year?**

Employer won't offer health coverage

Employer will start offering health coverage to employees or change the premium for the lowest-cost plan available only to the employee that meets the minimum value standard.\* (Premium should reflect the discount for wellness programs. See question 15.)

a. How much will the employee have to pay in premiums for that plan? \$

b. How often?      Weekly      Every 2 weeks      Twice a month      Monthly      Quarterly      Yearly

Date of change (mm/dd/yyyy):

\* An employer-sponsored health plan meets the "minimum value standard" if the plan's share of the total allowed benefit costs covered by the plan is no less than 60 percent of such costs (Section 36B(c)(2)(C)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986)

## 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** 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 January 31, 2013. You should contact your State for further information on eligibility –**

<b>ALABAMA – Medicaid</b>	<b>COLORADO – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov">http://www.medicaid.alabama.gov</a> Phone: 1-855-692-5447	Medicaid Website: <a href="http://www.colorado.gov/">http://www.colorado.gov/</a> Medicaid Phone (In state): 1-800-866-3513 Medicaid Phone (Out of state): 1-800-221-3943
<b>ALASKA – Medicaid</b>	
Website: <a href="http://health.hss.state.ak.us/dpa/programs/medicaid/">http://health.hss.state.ak.us/dpa/programs/medicaid/</a> Phone (Outside of Anchorage): 1-888-318-8890 Phone (Anchorage): 907-269-6529	
<b>ARIZONA – CHIP</b>	<b>FLORIDA – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://www.azahcccs.gov/applicants">http://www.azahcccs.gov/applicants</a>  Phone (Outside of Maricopa County): 1-877-764-5437 Phone (Maricopa County): 602-417-5437	Website: <a href="https://www.flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/">https://www.flmedicaidtplrecovery.com/</a> Phone: 1-877-357-3268
	<b>GEORGIA – Medicaid</b>
	Website: <a href="http://dch.georgia.gov/">http://dch.georgia.gov/</a> Click on Programs, then Medicaid, then Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Phone: 1-800-869-1150

<p align="center"><b>IDAHO – Medicaid and CHIP</b></p> <p>Medicaid Website: <a href="http://www.accesstohealthinsurance.idaho.gov">www.accesstohealthinsurance.idaho.gov</a>  Medicaid Phone: 1-800-926-2588  CHIP Website: <a href="http://www.medicaid.idaho.gov">www.medicaid.idaho.gov</a>  CHIP Phone: 1-800-926-2588</p>	<p align="center"><b>MONTANA – Medicaid</b></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://medicaidprovider.hhs.mt.gov/clientpages/clientindex.shtml">http://medicaidprovider.hhs.mt.gov/clientpages/clientindex.shtml</a>  Phone: 1-800-694-3084</p>
<p align="center"><b>INDIANA – Medicaid</b></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.in.gov/fssa">http://www.in.gov/fssa</a>  Phone: 1-800-889-9949</p>	<p align="center"><b>NEBRASKA – Medicaid</b></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov">www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov</a>  Phone: 1-800-383-4278</p>
<p align="center"><b>IOWA – Medicaid</b></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.dhs.state.ia.us/hipp/">www.dhs.state.ia.us/hipp/</a>  Phone: 1-888-346-9562</p>	<p align="center"><b>NEVADA – Medicaid</b></p> <p>Medicaid Website: <a href="http://dwss.nv.gov/">http://dwss.nv.gov/</a>  Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900</p>
<p align="center"><b>KANSAS – Medicaid</b></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/">http://www.kdheks.gov/hcf/</a>  Phone: 1-800-792-4884</p>	
<p align="center"><b>KENTUCKY – Medicaid</b></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://chfs.ky.gov/dms/default.htm">http://chfs.ky.gov/dms/default.htm</a>  Phone: 1-800-635-2570</p>	<p align="center"><b>NEW HAMPSHIRE – Medicaid</b></p> <p>Website:  <a href="http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oii/documents/hippapp.pdf">http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oii/documents/hippapp.pdf</a>  Phone: 603-271-5218</p>
<p align="center"><b>LOUISIANA – Medicaid</b></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.lahipp.dhh.louisiana.gov">http://www.lahipp.dhh.louisiana.gov</a>  Phone: 1-888-695-2447</p>	<p align="center"><b>NEW JERSEY – Medicaid and CHIP</b></p> <p>Medicaid Website: <a href="http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/">http://www.state.nj.us/humanservices/dmahs/clients/medicaid/</a>  Medicaid 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</p>
<p align="center"><b>MAINE – Medicaid</b></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/of/public-assistance/index.html">http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/of/public-assistance/index.html</a>  Phone: 1-800-977-6740  TTY 1-800-977-6741</p>	
<p align="center"><b>MASSACHUSETTS – Medicaid and CHIP</b></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.mass.gov/MassHealth">http://www.mass.gov/MassHealth</a>  Phone: 1-800-462-1120</p>	<p align="center"><b>NEW YORK – Medicaid</b></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.nyhealth.gov/health_care/medicaid/">http://www.nyhealth.gov/health_care/medicaid/</a>  Phone: 1-800-541-2831</p>
<p align="center"><b>MINNESOTA – Medicaid</b></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/">http://www.dhs.state.mn.us/</a>  Click on Health Care, then Medical Assistance  Phone: 1-800-657-3629</p>	<p align="center"><b>NORTH CAROLINA – Medicaid</b></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma">http://www.ncdhhs.gov/dma</a>  Phone: 919-855-4100</p>
<p align="center"><b>MISSOURI – Medicaid</b></p> <p>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</p>	<p align="center"><b>NORTH DAKOTA – Medicaid</b></p> <p>Website:  <a href="http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/">http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/</a>  Phone: 1-800-755-2604</p>

<b>OKLAHOMA – Medicaid and CHIP</b>	<b>UTAH – 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://health.utah.gov/upp">http://health.utah.gov/upp</a> Phone: 1-866-435-7414
<b>OREGON – Medicaid and CHIP</b>	<b>VERMONT– Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://www.oregonhealthykids.gov">http://www.oregonhealthykids.gov</a> <a href="http://www.hijosaludablesoregon.gov">http://www.hijosaludablesoregon.gov</a> Phone: 1-877-314-5678	Website: <a href="http://www.greenmountaincare.org/">http://www.greenmountaincare.org/</a> Phone: 1-800-250-8427
<b>PENNSYLVANIA – Medicaid</b>	<b>VIRGINIA – Medicaid and CHIP</b>
Website: <a href="http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/hipp">http://www.dpw.state.pa.us/hipp</a> Phone: 1-800-692-7462	Medicaid Website: <a href="http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/rcp-HIPP.htm">http://www.dmas.virginia.gov/rcp-HIPP.htm</a> Medicaid Phone: 1-800-432-5924 CHIP Website: <a href="http://www.famis.org/">http://www.famis.org/</a> CHIP Phone: 1-866-873-2647
<b>RHODE ISLAND – Medicaid</b>	<b>WASHINGTON – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://www.ohhs.ri.gov">www.ohhs.ri.gov</a> Phone: 401-462-5300	Website: <a href="http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/premiumpymt/Apply.shtm">http://hrsa.dshs.wa.gov/premiumpymt/Apply.shtm</a> Phone: 1-800-562-3022 ext. 15473
<b>SOUTH CAROLINA – Medicaid</b>	<b>WEST VIRGINIA – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://www.scdhhs.gov">http://www.scdhhs.gov</a> Phone: 1-888-549-0820	Website: <a href="http://www.dhhr.wv.gov/bms/">www.dhhr.wv.gov/bms/</a> Phone: 1-877-598-5820, HMS Third Party Liability
<b>SOUTH DAKOTA - Medicaid</b>	<b>WISCONSIN – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="http://dss.sd.gov">http://dss.sd.gov</a> Phone: 1-888-828-0059	Website: <a href="http://www.badgercareplus.org/pubs/p-10095.htm">http://www.badgercareplus.org/pubs/p-10095.htm</a> Phone: 1-800-362-3002
<b>TEXAS – Medicaid</b>	<b>WYOMING – Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="https://www.gethipptexas.com/">https://www.gethipptexas.com/</a> Phone: 1-800-440-0493	Website: <a href="http://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/equalitycare">http://health.wyo.gov/healthcarefin/equalitycare</a> Phone: 307-777-7531

To see if any more States have added a premium assistance program since January 31, 2013, 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](http://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](http://www.cms.hhs.gov)  
1-877-267-2323, Menu Option 4, Ext. 61565

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# LEGISLATIVE BRIEF

Brought to you by The Partners Group

## Electronic Distribution of ERISA Disclosures

Department of Labor (DOL) regulations contain a safe harbor under which ERISA plans may use electronic means to distribute certain documents and other required ERISA information. Summary plan descriptions (SPDs), summaries of material modifications (SMMs), summary annual reports (SARs), COBRA notices, qualified domestic relations orders (QDROs) and qualified medical child support orders (QMCSOs), for example, can all be distributed electronically if certain conditions are met.

This The Partners Group Legislative Brief summarizes the regulations permitting electronic distribution of disclosures required by ERISA.

### WHAT TYPE OF DISCLOSURES CAN A PLAN ADMINISTRATOR SEND ELECTRONICALLY?

The regulations allow plan administrators to electronically send disclosures required under Title I of ERISA. Such disclosures include:

- SPDs, SMMs and SARs;
- COBRA notifications;
- QMCSO notices; and
- HIPAA certificates of creditable coverage.

The requirements for sending documents electronically do not change any standards regarding who is entitled to a disclosure, the content of the disclosure or the timing of the disclosure.

### MAY PLAN ADMINISTRATORS ELECTRONICALLY DISTRIBUTE ERISA DISCLOSURES TO ALL RECIPIENTS?

The regulations contain guidelines for providing disclosures to:

- Employees with work-related computer access; and
- Other plan participants and beneficiaries who consent to receive disclosures electronically.

#### *Employees with Work-Related Computer Access*

ERISA disclosures may be delivered electronically to employees that:

- Have the ability to effectively access documents furnished in electronic form at any location where the employees are reasonably expected to perform their duties; and
- Are expected to have access to the employer's electronic information system as an integral part of those duties.

Merely providing employees with access to a computer in a common area (for example, a computer kiosk) is not a permissible means to electronically furnish ERISA-required documents.



# Electronic Distribution of ERISA Disclosures

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## ***Beneficiaries and Other Plan Participants Who Consent to Receive Disclosures Electronically***

A plan administrator must obtain **written consent** prior to electronically delivering ERISA disclosures to beneficiaries and other plan participants who do not have work-related access to a computer. The consent may be received in either electronic or paper form. Prior to consenting, an individual must be given a clear and conspicuous statement that explains:

- The types of documents to which the consent will apply;
- That consent can be withdrawn at any time without charge;
- The procedures for withdrawing consent and for updating the address used for receipt of electronically furnished documents;
- The right to request and obtain a paper version of an electronically furnished document, including whether the paper version will be provided free of charge; and
- Hardware or software needed to access and retain the documents delivered electronically.

Where the electronic distribution is made through the Internet, the individual must affirmatively consent in a manner that reasonably demonstrates his or her ability to access information in the electronic form that would be used.

If the plan administrator changes its hardware or software requirements, it must provide a new notice and obtain a new consent.

## **WHAT GENERAL DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS APPLY TO ALL ELECTRONIC DISCLOSURES?**

Plan administrators are required to use measures reasonably calculated to ensure **actual receipt** of the material by plan participants and beneficiaries. The regulations provide some guidance on what measures are reasonably calculated to ensure actual receipt when electronic delivery is used.

### ***Notices***

A notice must be sent either electronically or in paper form to each plan participant or beneficiary at the time the document is provided electronically. The notice must:

- Indicate the significance of the document when it is not otherwise reasonably evident as transmitted; and
- Explain the participant's right to request a paper copy.

### ***Confirmation of Receipt***

The plan administrator must make use of electronic mail features such as return-receipt or notice that the e-mail was not delivered. The plan must also conduct periodic reviews to confirm receipt of the transmitted information.

### ***Confidentiality***

When personal information pertaining to an individual's benefits or accounts is transmitted electronically, steps must be taken to protect the confidentiality of the information.

### ***Style, Format and Content Requirements***

Documents delivered electronically must continue to be furnished in a manner consistent with the applicable style, format and content requirements contained within ERISA. For example, summary plan descriptions provided electronically must contain all the disclosures otherwise required by ERISA's disclosure requirements. The DOL has indicated that the appearance of paper and electronic versions need not be identical.

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# Electronic Distribution of ERISA Disclosures

## *Paper Copy*

Plan participants and beneficiaries are entitled to receive a paper copy of any ERISA disclosure provided electronically. Where a plan participant or beneficiary requests a paper copy of a document originally provided electronically, the general rules governing whether a plan administrator may or may not charge for paper copies apply.

## **CAN BENEFIT AND CLAIM DETERMINATIONS BE PROVIDED ELECTRONICALLY?**

Yes. The regulations provide that benefit and claims determinations related to a specific individual may be communicated electronically to that individual. However, where the information contained within the communication is confidential in nature or protected health information subject to the HIPAA Privacy Rules, the plan administrator must take appropriate and necessary steps to ensure that the information remains confidential.

## **WHAT FORMS OF ELECTRONIC DISCLOSURE ARE PERMISSIBLE?**

The regulations do not require the use of any specific form of electronic media. Examples of permissible forms of electronic disclosure include delivery of documents by e-mail, attachment to an e-mail, posting documents on a company website, or on CD-ROM or DVD.

## **MAY A PLAN ADMINISTRATOR ELECTRONICALLY DELIVER ERISA NOTICES BY PLACING THE INFORMATION ON A COMPANY WEBSITE?**

Under the guidelines contained within the regulations, merely placing an SPD on a company website available to employees will not by itself satisfy ERISA's disclosure requirements. The plan administrator must also send a notice, either electronically or in paper form, that notifies the employee that the SPD is available on the website.

A plan administrator that intends to distribute SPDs, SMMs and SARs electronically might do the following:

- Post SPDs, SMMs and SARs on a company website available to all employees;
- Obtain consent to electronically deliver SPDs, SMMs and SARs from employees and COBRA participants that do not have regular work-related computer access. For example, employees working for a manufacturer in the plant may agree to access the website from his or her home computer;
- Send an e-mail notice to all employees that have work-related computer access or that have provided consent each time an SPD, SMM or SAR is posted on the website. Use e-mail features such as return receipt and notice of non-delivery;
- Continue to provide in paper form copies of SPDs, SMMs and SARs to employees that do not have regular work-related computer access and that have not provided consent; and
- Continue to provide in paper form copies of SPDs, SMMs and SARs upon request free of charge.

Note: The plan administrator is generally not required to distribute SPDs, SMMs or SARs to each beneficiary under the plan. Therefore, the plan administrator is not required to obtain consent from each beneficiary under the plan (for example, spouses and dependent children).

## **MAY A PLAN ADMINISTRATOR ELECTRONICALLY DELIVER COBRA NOTICES BY PLACING THE INFORMATION ON A COMPANY WEBSITE OR SENDING THEM VIA E-MAIL?**

Yes, the rules allow plan administrators to provide COBRA notices electronically. However, because COBRA notices must be provided via first-class mail to the home address where a spouse or dependent is also covered under the plan, the plan administrator must obtain consent from the spouse or dependent before delivering COBRA notices electronically. Therefore, providing COBRA notices electronically may not be as practical as electronically delivering SPDs, SMMs or SARs.

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# Electronic Distribution of ERISA Disclosures

## UPDATED GUIDANCE

The DOL's regulations on electronic distribution of ERISA disclosures are approximately a decade old. In April 2011, the DOL issued a request for information on the use of electronic media for disclosures to participants and beneficiaries. Given the advances in technology that have taken place since 2002, the DOL has indicated that it is considering making updates to the electronic distribution rules.

## MORE INFORMATION

A copy of the DOL's regulations on electronic distribution of ERISA disclosures is available at: <http://webapps.dol.gov/FederalRegister/PdfDisplay.aspx?DocId=19158>.

*Sample E-mail Notice for Use with Each Electronic Disclosure*

### Important Information Regarding Your Benefits

Dear Plan Participant:

As a plan participant, you are entitled to a comprehensive description of your rights and obligations under the [group health plan]. We've recently posted a copy of the summary plan description (SPD) to our website at [www.myresourcesite.com]. In order to ensure that you fully understand the benefits available to you and your obligations as a plan participant, it is imperative that you familiarize yourself with the information contained within the SPD.

If you would like to receive a paper copy of the SPD, you may e-mail [hr@company.com] or call [444-444-4444] and one will be provided to you free of charge.

[Company Group Health Plan]

[Date]

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*Sample Consent for Electronic Delivery to Beneficiaries and Other Plan Participants without Work-Related Computer Access*

### Consent to Receive Electronic Notices

Name		Identification #
<input type="checkbox"/> Health <input type="checkbox"/> Dental <input type="checkbox"/> Vision <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		E-mail Address
Employee Address		
City	State	Zip

I understand that:

1. The following documents and/or notices may be provided to me electronically:

- Summary Plan Descriptions;
- Summaries of Material Modifications;
- Summary Annual Reports;

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# Electronic Distribution of ERISA Disclosures

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- COBRA Notices; and
  - HIPAA Certificates.
2. I may provide notice of a revised e-mail address or revoke my consent at any time without charge by sending an e-mail to [hr@company.com] or calling [444-444-4444].
  3. I am entitled to request and obtain a paper copy of any electronically furnished document free of charge by contacting [hr@company.com] or calling [444-444-4444].
  4. In order to access information provided electronically, I must have
    - A computer with Internet access;
    - An e-mail account that allows me to send and receive e-mails; and
    - Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat Reader.

I agree to electronic delivery of notices provided to me.

<i>Signature</i>	<i>Date</i>
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Please return to:  
Attn: HR, ABC Company  
City, State ZIP

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# **NOTICE OF PRIVACY PRACTICES**

## **Woodland Public Schools**

800 Third Street  
Woodland WA 98674  
360.841.2700

***THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW MEDICAL INFORMATION ABOUT YOU MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.***

This Notice of Privacy Practices describes how protected health information may be used or disclosed by your Group Health Plan to carry out payment, health care operations, and for other purposes that are permitted or required by law. This Notice also sets out our legal obligations concerning your protected health information, and describes your rights to access and control your protected health information.

Protected health information (or "PHI") is individually identifiable health information, including demographic information, collected from you or created or received by a health care provider, a health plan, your employer (when functioning on behalf of the group health plan), or a health care clearinghouse and that relates to: (i) your past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition; (ii) the provision of health care to you; or (iii) the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care to you.

This Notice of Privacy Practices had been drafted to be consistent with what is known as the "HIPAA Privacy Rule," and any of the terms not defined in this Notice should have the same meaning as they have in the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

*If you have any questions or want additional information about the Notice or the policies and procedures described in the Notice, please contact:*

## **Woodland Public Schools**

800 Third Street  
Woodland WA 98674  
360.841.2700

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

This Notice of Privacy Practices becomes effective on April 14, 2004.

### **OUR RESPONSIBILITIES**

We are required by law to maintain the privacy of your protected health information. We are obligated to provide you with a copy of this Notice of our legal duties and of our privacy practices with respect to protected health information and we must abide by the terms of this Notice. We reserve the right to change the provisions of our Notice and make the new provisions effective for all protected health information that we maintain. If we make a material change to our Notice, we will mail a revised Notice to the address that we have on record for the contract holder for your member contract.

#### **Primary Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information**

The following is a description of how we are most likely to use and/or disclose your protected health information.

- ***Payment and Health Care Operations***

We have the right to use and disclose your protected health information for all activities that are included within the definitions of "payment" and "health care operations" as set out in 45 C.F.R. § 164.501 (this provision is a part of the HIPAA Privacy Rule). We have not listed in this Notice all of the activities included within these definitions, so please refer to 45 C.F.R. § 164.501 for a complete list.

- ***Payment***

We will use or disclose your PHI to pay claims for services provided to you and to obtain stop-loss reimbursements or to otherwise fulfill our responsibilities for coverage and providing benefits. For example, we may disclose your protected health information when a provider requests information regarding your eligibility for coverage under our health plan, or we may use your information to determine if a treatment that you received was medically necessary.

- ***Health Care Operations***

We will use or disclose your protected health information to support our business functions. These functions include, but are not limited to: quality assessment and improvement, reviewing provider performance, licensing, stop-loss underwriting, business planning, and business development. For example, we may use or disclose your protected health information: (i) to provide you with information about one of our disease management programs; (ii) to respond to a customer service inquiry from you; or (iii) in connection with fraud and abuse detection and compliance programs.

- ***Business Associates***

We contract with individuals and entities (Business Associates) to perform various functions on our behalf or to provide certain types of services. To perform these functions or to provide the services, our Business Associates will receive, create, maintain, use, or disclose protected health information, but only after we require the Business Associates to agree in writing to contract terms designed to appropriately safeguard your information. For example, we may disclose your protected health information to a Business Associate to administer claims or to provide member service support, utilization management, subrogation, or pharmacy benefit management. Examples of our business associates would be our Third Party Administrator, HealthComp Administrators, which will be handling many of the functions in connection with the operation of our Group Health Plan; the retail pharmacy; and the mail order pharmacy.

- ***Other Covered Entities***

We may use or disclose your protected health information to assist health care providers in connection with their treatment or payment activities, or to assist other covered entities in connection with payment activities and certain health care operations. For example, we may disclose your protected health information to a health care provider when needed by the provider to render treatment to you, and we may disclose protected health information to another covered entity to conduct health care operations in the areas of quality assurance and improvement activities, or accreditation, certification, licensing or credentialing. This also means that we may disclose or share your protected health information with other insurance carriers in order to coordinate benefits, if you or your family members have coverage through another carrier.

- ***Plan Sponsor***

We may disclose your protected health information to the plan sponsor of the Group Health Plan for purposes of plan administration or pursuant to an authorization request signed by you.

### **Potential Impact of State Law**

The HIPAA Privacy Regulations generally do not "preempt" (or take precedence over) state privacy or other applicable laws that provide individuals greater privacy protections. As a result, to the extent state law applies, the privacy laws of a particular state, or other federal laws, rather than the HIPAA Privacy Regulations, might impose a privacy standard under which we will be required to operate. For example, where such laws have been enacted, we will follow more stringent state privacy laws that relate to uses and disclosures of protected health information concerning HIV or AIDS, mental health, substance abuse/chemical dependency, genetic testing, reproductive rights, etc.

### **Other Possible Uses and Disclosures of Protected Health Information**

The following is a description of other possible ways in which we may (and are permitted to) use and/or disclose your protected health information.

- ***Required by Law***

We may use or disclose your protected health information to the extent that federal law requires the use or disclosure. When used in this Notice, "required by law" is defined as it is in the HIPAA Privacy Rule. For example, we may disclose your protected health information when required by national security laws or public health disclosure laws.

- ***Public Health Activities***

We may use or disclose your protected health information for public health activities that are permitted or required by law. For example, we may use or disclose information for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease, injury, or disability, or we may disclose such information to a public health authority authorized to receive reports of child abuse or neglect. We also may disclose protected health information, if directed by a public health authority, to a foreign government agency that is collaborating with the public health authority.

- ***Health Oversight Activities***

We may disclose your protected health information to a health oversight agency for activities authorized by law, such as: audits; investigations; inspections; licensure or disciplinary actions; or civil, administrative, or criminal proceedings or actions. Oversight agencies seeking this information include government agencies that oversee: (i) the health care system; (ii) government benefit programs; (iii) other government regulatory programs; and (iv) compliance with civil rights laws.

- ***Abuse or Neglect***

We may disclose your protected health information to a government authority that is authorized by law to receive reports of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence. Additionally, as required by law, we may disclose to a governmental entity authorized to receive such information your information if we believe that you have been a victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence.

- ***Legal Proceedings***

We may disclose your protected health information: (1) in the course of any judicial or administrative proceeding; (2) in response to an order of a court or administrative tribunal (to the extent such disclosure is expressly authorized); and (3) in response to a subpoena, a discovery request, or other lawful process, once we have met all administrative requirements of the HIPAA Privacy Rule. For example, we may disclose your protected health information in response to a subpoena for such information, but only after we first meet certain conditions required by the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

- ***Law Enforcement***

Under certain conditions, we also may disclose your protected health information to law enforcement officials. For example, some of the reasons for such a disclosure may include, but not be limited to: (1) it is required by law or some other legal process; (2) it is necessary to locate or identify a suspect, fugitive, material witness, or missing person; and (3) it is necessary to provide evidence of a crime that occurred on our premises.

- ***Coroners, Medical Examiners, Funeral Directors, and Organ Donation***

We may disclose protected health information to a coroner or medical examiner for purposes of identifying a deceased person, determining a cause of death, or for the coroner or medical examiner to perform other duties authorized by law. We also may disclose, as authorized by law, information to funeral directors so that they may carry out their duties. Further, we may disclose protected health information to organizations that handle organ, eye, or tissue donation and transplantation.

- ***Research***

We may disclose your protected health information to researchers when an institutional review board or privacy board has: (1) reviewed the research proposal and established protocols to ensure the privacy of the information; and (2) approved the research.

- ***To Prevent a Serious Threat to Health or Safety***

Consistent with applicable federal and state laws, we may disclose your protected health information if we believe that the disclosure is necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to the health or safety of a person or the public. We also may disclose protected health information if it is necessary for law enforcement authorities to identify or apprehend an individual.

- ***Military Activity and National Security, Protective Services***

Under certain conditions, we may disclose your protected health information if you are, or were, Armed Forces personnel for activities deemed necessary by appropriate military command authorities. If you are a member of foreign military service, we may disclose, in certain circumstances, your information to the foreign military authority. We also may disclose your protected health information to authorized federal officials for conducting national security and intelligence activities, and for the protection of the President, other authorized persons, or heads of state.

- ***Inmates***

If you are an inmate of a correctional institution, we may disclose your protected health information to the correctional institution or to a law enforcement official for: (1) the institution to provide health care to you; (2) your health and safety and the health and safety of others; or (3) the safety and security of the correctional institution.

- ***Workers' Compensation***

We may disclose your protected health information to comply with workers' compensation laws and other similar programs that provide benefits for work-related injuries or illnesses.

- ***Others Involved in Your Health Care***

Using our best judgment, we may make your protected health information known to a family member, other relative, close personal friend or other personal representative that you identify. Such a use will be based on how involved the person is in your care, or payment that relates to your care. We may release information to parents or guardians, if allowed by law.

We also may disclose your information to an entity assisting in a disaster relief effort so that your family can be notified about your condition, status, and location.

If you are not present or able to agree to these disclosures of your protected health information, then, using our professional judgment, we may determine whether the disclosure is in your best interest.

### **Required Disclosures of Your Protected Health Information**

The following is a description of disclosures that we are required by law to make.

- ***Disclosures to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services***

We are required to disclose your protected health information to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services when the Secretary is investigating or determining our compliance with the HIPAA Privacy Rule.

- ***Disclosures to You***

We are required to disclose to you most of your protected health information in a "designated record set" when you request access to this information. Generally, a "designated record set" contains medical and billing records, as well as other records that are used to make decisions about your health care benefits. We also are required to provide, upon your request, an accounting of most disclosures of your protected health information that are for reasons other than payment and health care operations and are not disclosed through a signed authorization.

We will disclose your protected health information to an individual who has been designated by you as your personal representative and who has qualified for such designation in accordance with relevant state law. However, before we will disclose protected health information to such a person, you must submit a written notice of his/her designation, along with the documentation that supports his/her qualification (such as a power of attorney).

*Even if you designate a personal representative*, the HIPAA Privacy Rule permits us to elect not to treat the person as your personal representative if we have a reasonable belief that: (i) you have been, or may be, subjected to domestic violence, abuse, or neglect by such person; (ii) treating such person as your personal representative could endanger you; or (iii) we determine, in the exercise of our professional judgment, that it is not in your best interest to treat the person as your personal representative.

### **Other Uses and Disclosures of Your Protected Health Information**

Other uses and disclosures of your protected health information that are not described above will be made only with your written authorization. If you provide us with such an authorization, you may revoke the authorization in writing, and this revocation will be effective for future uses and disclosures of protected health information. However, the revocation will not be effective for information that we already have used or disclosed, relying on the authorization.

### **YOUR RIGHTS**

The following is a description of your rights with respect to your protected health information.

- ***Right to Request a Restriction***

You have the right to request a restriction on the protected health information we use or disclose about you for payment or health care operations.

*We are not required to agree to any restriction that you may request.* If we do agree to the restriction, we will comply with the restriction unless the information is needed to provide emergency treatment to you.

You may request a restriction by calling us at the number/writing to the address provided below. It is important that you direct your request for restriction to this number/address so that we can begin to process your request. Requests sent to persons or offices other than the number/address indicated might delay processing the request.

We will want to receive this information in writing and will instruct you where to send your request when you call. In your request, please tell us: (1) the information whose disclosure you want to limit; and (2) how you want to limit our use and/or disclosure of the information.

- **Right to Request Confidential Communications**

If you believe that a disclosure of all or part of your protected health information may endanger you, you may request that we communicate with you regarding your information in an alternative manner or at an alternative location. For example, you may ask that we only contact you at your work address or via your work e-mail.

You may request a restriction by calling/writing us at the number provided below. It is important that you direct your request for confidential communications to this number/address so that we can begin to process your request. Requests sent to persons or offices other than the one indicated might delay processing the request.

We will want to receive this information in writing and will instruct you where to send your written request when you call. In your request, please tell us: (1) that you want us to communicate your protected health information with you in an alternative manner or at an alternative location; and (2) that the disclosure of all or part of the protected health information in a manner inconsistent with your instructions would put you in danger.

We will accommodate a request for confidential communications that is reasonable and that states that the disclosure of all or part of your protected health information could endanger you. As permitted by the HIPAA Privacy Rule, "reasonableness" will (and is permitted to) include, when appropriate, making alternate arrangements regarding payment.

Accordingly, as a condition of granting your request, you will be required to provide us information concerning how payment will be handled. For example, if you submit a claim for payment, state or federal law (or our own contractual obligations) may require that we disclose certain financial claim information to the plan participant (e.g., an EOB). *Unless* you have made other payment arrangements, the EOB (in which your protected health information might be included) will be released to the plan participant.

Once we receive all of the information for such a request (along with the instructions for handling future communications), the request will be processed usually within two business days.

Prior to receiving the information necessary for this request, or during the time it takes to process it, protected health information may be disclosed (such as through an Explanation of Benefits, "EOB"). Therefore, it is extremely important that you contact us at the number provided below in this Notice as soon as you determine that you need to restrict disclosures of your protected health information.

If you terminate your request for confidential communications, the restriction will be removed for *all* your protected health information that we hold, including protected health information that was previously protected. Therefore, you should not terminate a request for confidential communications if you remain concerned that disclosure of your protected health information will endanger you.

- **Right to Inspect and Copy**

You have the right to inspect and copy your protected health information that is contained in a "designated record set." Generally, a "designated record set" contains medical and billing records, as well as other records that are used to make decisions about your health care benefits. However, you may not inspect or copy psychotherapy notes or certain other information that may be contained in a designated record set.

To inspect and copy your protected health information that is contained in a designated record set, you must submit your request by calling us at the number provides below in this Notice. It is important that you call this number to request an inspection and copying so that we can begin to process your request. Requests sent to persons, offices, other than the one indicated might delay processing the request. If you request a copy of the information, we may charge a fee for the costs of copying, mailing, or other supplies associated with your request.

We may deny your request to inspect and copy your protected health information in certain limited circumstances. If you are denied access to your information, you may request that the denial be reviewed. To request a review, you must contact us at the number provided in this Notice. A licensed health care professional chosen by us will review your request and the denial. The person performing this review will not be the same one who denied your initial request. Under certain conditions, our denial will not be reviewable. If this event occurs, we will inform you in our denial that the decision is not reviewable.

- **Right to Amend**

If you believe that your protected health information is incorrect or incomplete, you may request that we amend your information. You may request that we amend your information by calling/writing to the number provided below. Additionally, your request should include the reason the amendment is necessary. It is important that you direct your request for amendment to this number/address so that we can begin to process your request. Requests sent to persons or offices, other than the one indicated might delay processing the request.

In certain cases, we may deny your request for an amendment. For example, we may deny your request if the information you want to amend is not maintained by us, but by another entity. If we deny your request, you have the right to file a statement of disagreement with us. Your statement of disagreement will be linked with the disputed information and all future disclosures of the disputed information will include your statement.

- ***Right of an Accounting***

You have a right to an accounting of certain disclosures of your protected health information that are for reasons other than treatment, payment, or health care operations. No accounting of disclosures is required for disclosures made pursuant to a signed authorization by you or your personal representative. You should know that most disclosures of protected health information will be for purposes of payment or health care operations, and, therefore, will not be subject to your right to an accounting. There also are other exceptions to this right.

An accounting will include the date(s) of the disclosure, to whom we made the disclosure, a brief description of the information disclosed, and the purpose for the disclosure.

You may request an accounting by submitting your request in writing to the number provided below. It is important that you direct your request for an accounting to this address so that we can begin to process your request. Requests sent to persons or offices other than the one indicated might delay processing the request.

Your request may be for disclosures made up to 6 years before the date of your request, but not for disclosures made before April 14, 2004. The first list you request within a 12-month period will be free. For additional lists, we may charge you for the costs of providing the list. We will notify you of the cost involved and you may choose to withdraw or modify your request at the time before any costs are incurred.

- ***Right to a Paper Copy of This Notice***

You have the right to a paper copy of this Notice, even if you have agreed to accept this Notice electronically.

## **COMPLAINTS**

You may complain to us if you believe that we have violated your privacy rights. You may file a complaint with us by calling us at the number listed in this Notice. A copy of a complaint form is available from this contact office. You also may file a complaint with the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Complaints filed directly with the Secretary must: (1) be in writing; (2) contain the name of the entity against which the complaint is lodged; (3) describe the relevant problems; and (4) be filed within 180 days of the time you became or should have become aware of the problem.

We will not penalize or in any other way retaliate against you for filing a complaint with the Secretary or with us.

## **WHOM TO CONTACT**

Contact the person listed below:

- For more information about this notice, or
- For more information about our privacy policies, or
- If you want to exercise any of your rights, as listed on this notice, or
- If you want to request a copy of our current notice of privacy practices.

### **Woodland Public Schools**

800 Third Street  
Woodland WA 98674  
360.841.2700

Copies of this notice are also available on the ABC Company benefit website. This notice is also available by e-mail.

## **Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 – Annual Notice**

In October 1998, Congress enacted the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998. This notice explains some important provisions of the Act. Please review this information carefully.

As specified in the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act, a plan participant or beneficiary who elects breast reconstruction in connection with a covered mastectomy is also entitled to the following benefits:

- 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; and
- Prostheses and treatment of physical complications of the mastectomy, including lymphedemas.

Health plans must provide coverage of mastectomy-related benefits in a manner determined in consultation with the attending physician and the patient. Coverage for breast reconstruction and related services may be subject to deductibles and coinsurance amounts that are consistent with those that apply to other benefits under this plan.

For more information regarding your rights after a mastectomy:  
<http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/publications/whcra.html>

## Important Notice from ABC Company about Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with ABC Company and about your options under Medicare's prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether or not you want to join a Medicare drug plan. If you are considering joining, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered at what cost, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice.

There are two important things you need to know about your current coverage and Medicare's prescription drug coverage:

1. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.
2. ABC Company has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by **Medical Carrier Name** is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is therefore considered Creditable Coverage. Because your existing coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare drug plan.

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### When Can You Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

You can join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from October 15 to December 7.

However, if you lose your current creditable prescription drug coverage, through no fault of your own, you will also be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan.

## What Happens To Your Current Coverage If You Decide to Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your current ABC Company coverage will (or will not) be affected. (The entity providing the Disclosure Notice should insert an explanation of the prescription drug coverage plan provisions/options under the particular entity's plan that Medicare eligible individuals have available to them when they become eligible for Medicare Part D e.g., they can keep this coverage if they elect part D and this plan will coordinate with Part D coverage; for those individuals who elect Part D coverage, coverage under the entity's plan will end for the individual and all covered dependents, etc.). See pages 7- 9 of the CMS Disclosure of Creditable Coverage To Medicare Part D Eligible Individuals Guidance (available at <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/CreditableCoverage/>), which outlines the prescription drug plan provisions/options that Medicare eligible individuals may have available to them when they become eligible for Medicare Part D.)

If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current ABC Company coverage, be aware that you and your dependents will (or will not) (Medigap issuers must insert "will not") be able to get this coverage back.

## When Will You Pay A Higher Premium (Penalty) To Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

You should also know that if you drop or lose your current coverage with ABC Company and don't join a Medicare drug plan within 63 continuous days after your current coverage ends, you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) to join a Medicare drug plan later.

If you go 63 continuous days or longer without creditable prescription drug coverage, your monthly premium may go up by at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have that coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without creditable coverage, your premium may consistently be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this higher premium (a penalty) as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following November to join.

## For More Information About This Notice Or Your Current Prescription Drug Coverage...

Contact the person listed below for further information. **NOTE:** You'll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, and if this coverage through ABC Company changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time.

## For More Information About Your Options Under Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage...

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is in the "Medicare & You" handbook. You'll get a copy of the handbook in the mail every year from Medicare. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare drug plans.

For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage:

- Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)
- Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see the inside back cover of your copy of the "Medicare & You" handbook for their telephone number) for personalized help
- Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

If you have limited income and resources, extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. For information about this extra help, visit Social Security on the web at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), or call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

**Remember: Keep this Creditable Coverage notice. If you decide to join one of the Medicare drug plans, you may be required to provide a copy of this notice when you join to show whether or not you have maintained creditable coverage and, therefore, whether or not you are required to pay a higher premium (a penalty).**

Date: October 3, 2013  
 Name of Entity: Woodland Public Schools  
 Contact--Position/Office: Human Resources  
 Address: 800 Third Street  
 Woodland WA 98674  
 Phone Number: 360.841.2700

CMS Form 10182-CC

Updated April 1, 2011

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0938-0990. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 8 hours per response initially, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: PRA Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.