

Key terms to know

Understanding these terms can help you navigate your benefits better.



Preferred Provider Organization (PPO)

A health plan that contracts with hospitals and doctors to create a network of participating providers. You pay less if you use providers in the plan's network.



Consumer Driven Health Plan (CDHP)

A health plan that gives you more control over your health care expenses. A CDHP can pair with a health savings account (HSA).



In Network

You will pay less for your care when you choose an in-network provider. In-network providers agree to charge a lower price for services.



Deductible

The amount you must pay each year for certain covered health services before your insurance plan will begin to pay.



Out of Network

A doctor or facility outside of your plan's network. You will typically pay more when you choose an out-of-network provider for your care.



Coinsurance

This is a percentage cost share of the associated with a covered service after meeting the deductible (rather than set amount like copay).



Copay

A fixed dollar amount you may pay for certain covered services. Typically, your copay is due at the time of service.



Out-of-Pocket Maximum

This includes copays, deductibles, and coinsurance. Once you meet this amount, the plan pays 100% of covered services the rest of the year.



Formulary

A carrier-specific list of all covered drugs on the plan.



Explanation of Benefits (EOB)

The statement from the insurance carrier that explains how much the provider billed, how much the plan paid, and how much you owe (if any).



Premium

The amount you pay for coverage under a plan. This amount is typically deducted from your paycheck.



Evidence of Insurability (EOI)

Typically required by a life or disability carrier to complete or increase your enrollment amount. Also called a statement of health.