

# Local 734 Welfare Fund / Pension Fund

6643 NORTH NORTHWEST HIGHWAY • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60631-1360 • Tel.: 773-594-2810



Fax: 773-631-3824

Fall 2022

## 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 were updated on January 31, 2022. 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="http://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/medicaid/default.aspx">http://dhss.alaska.gov/dpa/Pages/medicaid/default.aspx</a>
ARKANSAS - Medicaid	CALIFORNIA
Website: <a href="http://myarhipp.com/">http://myarhipp.com/</a> Phone: 1-855-MyARHIPP (855-692-7447)	Website: Health Insurance Premium Payment (HIPP) Program <a href="http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp">http://dhcs.ca.gov/hipp</a> Phone: 916-445-8322 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>  Health First Colorado Member Contact Center:  1-800-221-3943/ State Relay 711  CHP+: <a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/child-health-plan-plus">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/child-health-plan-plus</a>  CHP+ Customer Service: 1-800-359-1991/ State Relay 711  Health Insurance Buy-In Program (HIBI):  <a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/health-insurance-buy-program">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/hcpf/health-insurance-buy-program</a>  HIBI Customer Service: 1-855-692-6442</p>	<p>Website:  <a href="https://www.flmedicaidprecovery.com/flmedicaidprecovery.com/hipp/index.html">https://www.flmedicaidprecovery.com/flmedicaidprecovery.com/hipp/index.html</a>  Phone: 1-877-357-3268</p>
<b>GEORGIA - Medicaid</b>	<b>INDIANA - Medicaid</b>
<p>A 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>  Phone: 678-564-1162, Press 1 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>  Phone: (678) 564-1162, Press 2</p>	<p>Healthy Indiana Plan for low-income adults 19-64  Website: <a href="http://www.in.gov/fssa/hip/">http://www.in.gov/fssa/hip/</a>  Phone: 1-877-438-4479</p> <p>All other Medicaid  Website: <a href="https://www.in.gov/medicaid/">https://www.in.gov/medicaid/</a> Phone 1-800-457-4584</p>
<b>IOWA - Medicaid and CHIP (Hawki)</b>	<b>KANSAS - Medicaid</b>
<p>Medicaid Website: <a href="https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members">https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members</a> Medicaid  Phone: 1-800-338-8366  Hawki Website: <a href="http://dhs.iowa.gov/Hawki">http://dhs.iowa.gov/Hawki</a>  Hawki Phone: 1-800-257-8563  HIPP Website: <a href="https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid-a-to-z/hipp">https://dhs.iowa.gov/ime/members/medicaid-a-to-z/hipp</a>  HIPP Phone: 1-888-346-9562</p>	<p>Website: <a href="https://www.kancare.ks.gov/">https://www.kancare.ks.gov/</a>  Phone: 1-800-792-4884</p>
<b>KENTUCKY - Medicaid</b>	<b>LOUISIANA - Medicaid</b>
<p>Kentucky Integrated Health Insurance Premium Payment Program (KI-HIPP)  Website: <a href="https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx">https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dms/member/Pages/kihipp.aspx</a> Phone: 1-855-459-6328  Email: KIHIPP.PROGRAM@ky.gov</p> <p>KCHIP Website: <a href="https://kidshealth.ky.gov/Pages/index.aspx">https://kidshealth.ky.gov/Pages/index.aspx</a>  Phone: 1-877-524-4718</p> <p>Kentucky Medicaid Website: <a href="https://chfs.ky.gov">https://chfs.ky.gov</a></p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.medicaid.la.gov">www.medicaid.la.gov</a> or <a href="http://www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp">www.ldh.la.gov/lahipp</a>  Phone: 1-888-342-6207 (Medicaid hotline) or 1-855-618-5488 (LaHIPP)</p>
<b>MAINE - Medicaid</b>	<b>MASSACHUSETTS - Medicaid and CHIP</b>
<p>Enrollment Website: <a href="https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms">https://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ofi/applications-forms</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: -800-977-6740.  TTY: Maine relay 711</p>	<p>Website: <a href="https://www.mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-premium-assistance-pa">https://www.mass.gov/info-details/masshealth-premium-assistance-pa</a>  Phone: 1-800-862-4840</p>
<b>MINNESOTA - Medicaid</b>	<b>MISSOURI - Medicaid</b>
<p>Website:  <a href="https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/children-and-families/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/other-insurance.jsp">https://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/children-and-families/health-care/health-care-programs/programs-and-services/other-insurance.jsp</a>  Phone: 1-800-657-3739</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>
<b>MONTANA - Medicaid</b>	<b>NEBRASKA - Medicaid</b>
<p>Website: <a href="http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP">http://dphhs.mt.gov/MontanaHealthcarePrograms/HIPP</a>  Phone: 1-800-694-3084</p>	<p>Website: <a href="http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov">http://www.ACCESSNebraska.ne.gov</a>  Phone: 1-855-632-7633  Lincoln: 402-473-7000</p>

	Omaha: 402-595-1178
<b>NEVADA - Medicaid</b>	<b>NEW HAMPSHIRE - Medicaid</b>
Medicaid Website: <a href="http://dhcftp.nv.gov">http://dhcftp.nv.gov</a> Medicaid Phone: 1-800-992-0900	Website: <a href="https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oii/hipp.htm">https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/oii/hipp.htm</a> Phone: 603-271-5218 Toll free number for the HIPP program: 1-800-852-3345, ext 5218
<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> 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	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="http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/">http://www.nd.gov/dhs/services/medicalserv/medicaid/</a> Phone: 1-844-854-4825
<b>OKLAHOMA - Medicaid and CHIP</b>	<b>OREGON - Medicaid</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> <a href="http://www.oregonhealthcare.gov/index-es.html">http://www.oregonhealthcare.gov/index-es.html</a> Phone: 1-800-699-9075
<b>PENNSYLVANIA - Medicaid</b>	<b>RHODE ISLAND - Medicaid and CHIP</b>
Website: <a href="https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Medical/HIPP-Program.aspx">https://www.dhs.pa.gov/providers/Providers/Pages/Medical/HIPP-Program.aspx</a> Phone: 1-800-692-7462	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)
<b>UTAH - Medicaid and CHIP</b>	<b>VERMONT - Medicaid</b>
Medicaid Website: <a href="https://medicaid.utah.gov/">https://medicaid.utah.gov/</a> CHIP Website: <a href="http://health.utah.gov/chip">http://health.utah.gov/chip</a> Phone: 1-877-543-7669	Website: <a href="http://www.greenmountaincare.org/">http://www.greenmountaincare.org/</a> Phone: 1-800-250-8427
<b>VIRGINIA - Medicaid and CHIP</b>	<b>WASHINGTON - Medicaid</b>
Website: <a href="https://www.coverva.org/en/famis-select">https://www.coverva.org/en/famis-select</a> <a href="https://www.coverva.org/en/hipp">https://www.coverva.org/en/hipp</a> Medicaid Phone: 1-800-432-5924 CHIP Phone: 1-800-432-5924	Website: <a href="https://www.hca.wa.gov/">https://www.hca.wa.gov/</a> Phone: 1-800-562-3022
<b>WEST VIRGINIA - Medicaid and CHIP</b>	<b>WISCONSIN - Medicaid and CHIP</b>
Website: <a href="https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/">https://dhhr.wv.gov/bms/</a> <a href="http://mywvhipp.com/">http://mywvhipp.com/</a> Medicaid Phone: 304-558-1700 CHIP Toll-free phone: 1-855-MyWVHIPP (1-855-699- 8447)	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
<b>WYOMING - Medicaid</b>	
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	

To see if any other states have added a premium assistance program since January 31, 2022, or for more information on special enrollment rights, contact either:

U.S. Department of Labor  
Employee Benefits Security Administration  
[www.dol.gov/agencies/ebsa](http://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](http://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.

## **Important Notice from Local 734 Welfare Fund About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare**

*This notice is for all persons eligible for Medicare, even if Medicare is not the person's primary health plan. The information in this notice applies only to participants who are eligible for Medicare, or who become eligible for Medicare during the upcoming plan year.*

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with the Local 734 Welfare Fund health plan (the Plan) 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 (also called Medicare Part D) 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. The Local 734 Welfare Fund has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the Plan 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.

### **When Can You Join a Medicare Part D Drug Plan?**

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

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 Part D Drug Plan?**

You will still be eligible to receive all of your current health and prescription drug benefits from the Fund if you also choose to enroll in a Medicare prescription drug plan. However, having both drug coverages does not mean that you will have better benefits than you currently have, or that you will not have out-of-pocket prescription drug expenses.

Since this Plan is primary to Medicare, this Plan will pay its normal benefits and your Medicare plan's duplicate coverage rules will determine its benefit level. Various Medicare prescription drug plans may have different rules.

You should be aware that having two prescription drug plans could have an effect on whether you reach the Medicare plan's catastrophic coverage level. That is because standard Medicare prescription drug plans are only required to count your actual out-

of-pocket costs when determining when you reach the catastrophic coverage level. Drug costs that are paid by this Plan do not qualify as out-of-pocket expenses.

**What Happens if You Do Not Join a Medicare Part D Drug Plan**

*You do not have to enroll in a Medicare drug plan.* If you choose not to join a Medicare Part D drug plan, your benefits, including prescription drug benefits, under the Local 734 Welfare Fund will continue.

**When Will You Pay a Higher Premium (Penalty) to Join a Medicare Part D Drug Plan?**

You should also know that if you drop or lose your current coverage with the Local 734 Welfare Fund 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 October to join.

**For More Information About this Notice or Your Current Prescription Drug Coverage...**

Contact the Fund Office for further information at (773) 594-2810. 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 the Plan 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 2022  
Name of Entity/Sender: Local 734 Welfare Fund  
Contact: Fund Office  
Address: 6643 North Northwest Highway, Chicago, IL 60631-1360  
Phone Number: (773) 594-2810

## Annual Reminder About Coverage for Breast Reconstruction

You may be entitled to certain benefits under the Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act of 1998 (WHCRA). The Plan will consider charges for the following services and supplies to be covered medical expenses when the charges are incurred by a covered person who is receiving Plan benefits for a mastectomy, and when the person elects (in consultation with her physician) breast reconstruction in connection with the mastectomy:

- Reconstruction of the breast on which the mastectomy has been performed;
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance; and
- Prostheses and physical complications relating to all stages of the mastectomy, including lymphedemas.

Plan benefits payable for these services and supplies are subject to the deductibles, co-payment percentages and maximum benefit limitations applicable to covered services for other covered medical conditions.

## Special Enrollment Provisions

Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), you have the right to enroll in the Plan under its "special enrollment provision" if you acquire a new dependent, or if you decline coverage under this plan for yourself or an eligible dependent while other coverage is in effect and later lose that other coverage for certain qualifying reasons. Notwithstanding the following rules, you and your family will be automatically enrolled in the Plan once you and your dependents become eligible for Plan coverage.

**New Dependent by Marriage, Birth, Adoption, or Placement for Adoption.** If you have a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, you are entitled to enroll your new dependents. To enroll a new dependent, please contact the Fund Office promptly following the marriage, birth, or adoption.

**Loss of Other Coverage.** Under HIPAA, if you were to decline enrollment under the Plan for yourself or for an eligible dependent (including your spouse) while other health insurance or group health plan coverage is in effect, you might be entitled to enroll yourself and your dependents in the Plan at a later time 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, because all eligible individuals (employees and dependents) automatically are enrolled in the Plan (regardless of whether such individuals have other coverage through another plan), this special enrollment right has no application to the Plan.

**Loss of Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP).** If you decline enrollment for yourself or for an eligible dependent (including your spouse) while on Medicaid or CHIP you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that coverage.

**Eligibility for Premium Assistance under Medicaid or CHIP.** If the current employee or dependent becomes eligible for a new premium assistance subsidy plan under Medicaid or CHIP, you may be able to enroll yourself and your eligible dependents.

## Your Right to Receive a Copy of the Fund's Notice of Privacy Practices

The Fund is required by law to maintain the privacy of your health information as described in its Notice of Privacy Practices. You have a right to request and receive a copy of that notice at any time, even if you have received the notice previously. To obtain a copy, please contact the Welfare Fund's Privacy Official by writing or calling the Fund Office at (773) 594-2810.