

City of Goodyear
Group Health Plan

**Annual Required Legal Notices and
Disclosures for Plan Participants**

List of Notices and Disclosures

HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices

HIPAA Special Enrollment Notice

Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act Notice

Medicare Part D Notice of Creditable Rx Coverage

Medicare Part D Notice of Non-Creditable RX Coverage

Model Wellness Program Notice/Disclosure (if applicable)

Patient Protection Provider Choice Disclosure (if applicable)

Attach Medical Carrier Summary of Benefits and Coverage (SBC)

If you want additional information on any of these notices or the benefits they address, contact Chanda Washington, 623-882-7754

HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices – Effective **07/01/2021**

Your Information.

Your Rights.

Our Responsibilities.

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.**

Effective date of this Privacy Notice is: [07/01/2021](#)

If you have questions or want to file a complaint, contact:

Chanda Washington

623-882-7754

Your Rights

You have the right to:

- Get a copy of and/or correct your health and claims record
- Request confidential communication
- Ask us to limit the information we share
- Get a list of those with whom we've shared your information
- Get a copy of this privacy notice
- Choose someone to act for you
- File a complaint if you believe your privacy rights have been violated

Your Choices

You have choices in the way that we use and share information as we:

- Answer coverage questions from your family and friends
- Provide disaster relief
- Fundraising efforts
- Marketing purposes
- Sale of your information

Our Uses and Disclosures

We may use and share your information as we:

- Run our organization
- Administer your health plan
- Help with public health and safety issues
- Do research
- Comply with the law
- Respond to organ and tissue donation requests
- Work with a medical examiner or funeral director
- Address workers' compensation, law enforcement, and other government requests
- Respond to lawsuits and legal actions

Your Rights

When it comes to your health information, you have certain rights. This section explains your rights and some of our responsibilities to help you.

Get a copy of health and claims records

- You can ask to see or get a copy of your health and claims records and other health information we have about you. Ask us how to do this.
- We will provide a copy or a summary of your health and claims records, usually within 30 days of your request. We may charge a reasonable, cost-based fee.

Ask us to correct your health and claims records

- You can ask us to correct your health and claims records if you think they are incorrect or incomplete. Ask us how to do this.
- We may say “no” to your request, but we’ll tell you why in writing within 60 days.

Request confidential communications

- You can ask us to contact you in a specific way (for example, home or office phone) or to send mail to a different address.
- We will say “yes” to all reasonable requests.

Ask us to limit what we use or share

- You can ask us not to use or share certain health information for treatment, payment, or our operations.
- We are not required to agree to your request, and we may say “no” if it would affect your care.

Get a list of those with whom we’ve shared information

- You can ask for a list (accounting) of the times we’ve shared your health information for six years prior to the date you ask, who we shared it with, and why.
- We will include all the disclosures except for those about treatment, payment, and health care operations, and certain other disclosures (such as any you asked us to make). We’ll provide one accounting a year for free but will charge a reasonable, cost-based fee if you ask for another one within 12 months.

Get a copy of this privacy notice

- You can ask for a paper copy of this notice at any time, even if you have agreed to receive the notice electronically. We will provide you with a paper copy promptly.

Choose someone to act for you

- If you have given someone medical power of attorney or if someone is your legal guardian, that person can exercise your rights and make choices about your health information.
- We will make sure the person has this authority and can act for you before we take any action.

File a complaint if you feel your rights are violated

- You can complain if you feel we have violated your rights by contacting us using the information on page 3.
- You can file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights by sending a letter to 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, calling 1-877-696-6775, or visiting www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints/.
- We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.

Your Choices

For certain health information, you can tell us your choices about what we share. If you have a clear preference for how we share your information in the situations described below, talk to us. Tell us what you want us to do, and we will follow your instructions.

In these cases, you have both the right and choice to tell us to:

- Share information with your family, close friends, or others involved in your care
- Share information in a disaster relief situation
- Contact you for fundraising efforts

If you are not able to tell us your preference, for example if you are unconscious, we may go ahead and share your information if we believe it is in your best interest. We may also share your information when needed to lessen a serious and imminent threat to health or safety.

In these cases we never share your information unless you give us written permission.

- Marketing Purposes
- Sale of your information

Our Uses and Disclosures

How do we typically use or share your health information?

We typically use or share your health information in the following ways.

Run our organization

- We can use and share your health information to run our organization and contact you when necessary.
- *We are not allowed to use genetic information to decide whether we will give you coverage and the price of that coverage.*

Pay for your health services

- We can use and disclose your health information as we pay for your health services.
Example: We give information about you with your medical plan to coordinate payment for medical services.

Administer your plan

We may disclose your health information to your health plan sponsor for plan administration.

How else can we use or share your health information?

We are allowed or required to share your information in other ways – usually in ways that contribute to the public good, such as public health and research. We have to meet many conditions in the law before we can share your information for these purposes. For more information see:

www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/index.html

Do research

- We can use or share your information for health research.

Comply with the law

- We will share information about you if state or federal laws require it, including with the Department of Health and Human Services if it wants to see that we're complying with federal privacy law.

Respond to organ and tissue donation requests and work with a medical examiner or funeral director

- We can share health information about you with organ procurement organizations.
- We can share health information with a coroner, medical examiner, or funeral director when an individual dies.

Address workers' compensation, law enforcement, and other government requests

We can use or share health information about you:

- For workers' compensation claims
- For law enforcement purposes or with a law enforcement official
- With health oversight agencies for activities authorized by law
- For special government functions such as military, national security, and presidential protective services

Respond to lawsuits and legal actions

- We can share health information about you in response to a court or administrative order, or in response to a subpoena.

HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices

Our Responsibilities.

- We are required by law to maintain the privacy and security of your protected health information.
- We will let you know promptly if a breach occurs that may have compromised the privacy or security of your information.
- We must follow the duties and privacy practices described in this notice and give you a copy of it.
- We will not use or share your information other than as described here unless you tell us we can in writing. If you tell us we can, you may change your mind at any time. Let us know in writing if you change your mind.

For more information see: www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/consumers/noticepp.html.

Changes to the Terms of this Notice

We can change the terms of this notice, and the changes will apply to all information we have about you. The new notice will be available upon request.

HIPAA Special Enrollment Notice

This notice explains your right to enroll in or make changes to your group health insurance coverage during the plan year.

Loss of Other Coverage

If you are declining enrollment for yourself or your dependents (including your spouse) because of other health insurance or group health plan coverage, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents in this plan if you or your dependents lose eligibility for that other coverage (or if the employer stops contributing toward your or your dependents' other coverage). However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after your or your dependents' other coverage ends (or after the employer stops contributing toward the other coverage), except as specified below for Medicaid or CHIP coverage.

Marriage, Birth or Adoption

In addition, if you have a new dependent as a result of marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption, you may be able to enroll yourself and your dependents. However, you must request enrollment within 30 days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.

Medicaid or CHIP Coverage

If you or your dependents become eligible to participate in a Medicaid or Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP) premium assistance program, you may enroll for coverage under our health plan if you notify the plan administrator within 60 days after you become eligible to participate in Medicaid or CHIP.

If you or your dependents lose coverage under a Medicaid or CHIP premium assistance program due to loss of eligibility, you may enroll in our health plan if you apply to enroll within sixty (60) days of the loss of coverage under Medicaid or CHIP. If you enroll within sixty (60) days, the effective date of coverage is the first day after your Medicaid or CHIP coverage ended.

To request special enrollment or obtain more information, contact the Plan Administrator at [623-882-7754](tel:623-882-7754)

Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act Notice

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

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

These benefits will be provided subject to the same deductibles, co-payments and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under this plan. See the [\[Summary Plan Description \(SPD\)\]](#) or [\[Benefits Summary\]](#).

Following the initial reconstruction, any additional modification or revision is covered only to the extent that it is not otherwise limited or excluded from coverage by your plan.

For additional information on WHCRA benefits, contact [623-882-7754](tel:623-882-7754)

Medicare Part D Notice of Creditable Coverage

Important Notice from City of Goodyear About Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare

If you or your dependents are not eligible for Medicare, you may disregard this notice.

This notice applies to those covered under the **Cigna** Plans. Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with our Benefit 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 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. Commercial Properties has determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the Aetna Medical 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 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 Drug Plan?

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your current **Cigna** Medical Plan coverage will not be affected. Medicare eligible individuals who become eligible for Medicare Part D can keep this coverage if they elect Part D and this plan will pay primary to Medicare Part D coverage. If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current coverage under our plan, be aware that you and your dependents will not be able to get back this coverage back except at the next annual open enrollment or if you have a "special enrollment" event.

Medicare Part D Notice of Creditable Coverage

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 **Cigna Medical Plan** 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 person at the number listed below for further information. **NOTE:** You'll receive this notice each year or if the coverage through **Cigna Medical 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.
- 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, 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:	Effective 07/01/2021
Name of Entity/Sender:	City of Goodyear
Contact--Position/Office:	Chanda Washington
Email Address:	Chanda.Washington@goodyearaz.gov
Phone Number:	623-882-7754