

2021 Benefits Update

At Skagit Regional Health we know how important it is to have comprehensive, affordable health benefits. That's why we strive to offer competitive plans that can provide protection, peace of mind and savings to our employees and their families. After reviewing our options and consulting with our broker partners at USI, we have decided to terminate medical coverage through PEBB and implement medical coverage through Premera Blue Cross, effective January 1, 2021.

We are confident that this change will result in a positive experience, both from a quality of care and a customer service standpoint. Please review the information below to learn more about Premera Blue Cross and the upcoming enrollment opportunity.

About Premera Blue Cross

Premera Blue Cross is the largest health plan in the Pacific Northwest, serving more than 2 million people in our area. Headquartered in Mountlake Terrace, the company has operated in Washington State since 1933. Premera offers a robust network of doctors and facilities – including every major hospital in Washington – as well as a national network of providers through their BlueCard program. You can rest assured that you will find in-network doctors wherever you are travelling within the United States.



Premera Plan Offerings

For the new plan year starting on January 1, 2021, you will have the option to choose between 3 Premera medical plans, including a High Deductible Health Plan with an HSA, a Value Plan and a Classic Plan. The plans were designed to closely match the most utilized plan offerings available through PEBB. More details about these plan offerings will be available in the coming months, as Open Enrollment draws closer.

Premera Find Care Tool

Whenever you have a change in medical insurance carriers, it is important to verify whether your providers will be considered in-network under your new plan, as you will experience the most coverage for in-network providers. To assist with this research, Premera offers a "Find Care" tool that allows you to search for in-network providers by name, location and/or specialty. The tool can be accessed at any time on www.premera.com by clicking on the "Find Care" link at the top of the screen and selecting "Find a Doctor." When performing your search, be sure to select the "Heritage & Heritage Plus 1" network from the drop-down menu.

Premera Member Resources

Premera members will have access to a multitude of resources, including but not limited to:

- 24-Hour Nurseline
- On Demand Virtual Care
- Mail Order Prescription Service
- Find Care Tool– locate and compare the cost and quality of in-network providers
- Premera Mobile App
- myStrength - interactive computerized cognitive behavioral therapy tool

Open Enrollment

Before and during Open Enrollment, you will have the opportunity to learn more about the Premera plan options through recorded presentations, detailed benefit guides and plan comparisons. More information regarding Open Enrollment will be distributed in Q3.

USI Mobile App – Coming Soon

Skagit Regional Health is pleased to provide a quick and simple way for you and your enrolled dependents to access benefit summaries and other important information about our group plans through the USI Mobile App. The app will offer the ability to take photos of ID cards to access from the app, as well as easily locate carrier and HR contact information – all in one place – 24/7 and on the go. The USIeb app is free and available for iPhone and Android platforms. We plan to launch the app prior to Open Enrollment. Please stay tuned for more information.

Questions

If you have questions in the meantime, contact Deborah Martin at (360) 814-5731 or via e-mail at dmartin@skagitregionalhealth.org.