



HOUSE STAFF BENEFITS PLAN

IMPORTANT NOTICE END OF COVID-19 EMERGENCIES

This notice contains important information regarding the House Staff Benefits Plan (“the Plan”) and the end of the COVID-19 Emergencies. Please take the time to read this notice carefully and share it with your covered family members. For further information or if you have any questions, please contact the Fund Office.

As you may have heard, on April 10, 2023, the President signed a Joint Resolution ending the National Emergency, and earlier this year, the White House announced that the Public Health Emergency would end on May 11, 2023. However, despite the end of the Emergencies, the Trustees of the Plan have decided to maintain certain COVID-related benefits until further notice.

DEADLINES WILL CONTINUE TO BE EXTENDED AFTER THE END OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY

As you may be aware, due to the COVID-19 National Emergency, certain deadlines for participants, dependents and beneficiaries were extended during the “Outbreak Period,” which began March 1, 2020 and ends on July 10, 2023. However, until further notice, after July 10, 2023, you will continue to have one year from your original deadline in which to take the action in question (provided you are eligible to take the action). This extension of time applies to the following deadlines:

- filing an initial claim for benefits
- filing an appeal of a claim denial
- requesting and perfecting an external review of an appeal denial, if applicable
- electing COBRA continuation coverage
- making payments for COBRA continuation coverage
- notifying the plan of qualifying events or disability
- filing for HIPAA special enrollment

OVER-THE-COUNTER COVID-19 TESTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE COVERED AFTER THE END OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY

Until further notice, following the end of the Public Health Emergency on May 11, 2023, the Plan **will continue to cover** eight (8) FDA-authorized over-the-counter COVID-19 tests per participant per 30-day period without any participant cost-sharing (i.e., deductibles, copayments, or coinsurance), prior authorization or other medical management requirements.

If you have any questions regarding the information contained in this notice, please contact the Fund Office.