

PROVIDER QUICK POINTS

PROVIDER INFORMATION



October 27, 2014

Blue Essentials (HMO-POS) Non-Renewal Notification

As of January 1, 2015, the Blue Essentials plan will be terminating and will no longer be available to subscribers. Subscribers were notified of this by October 2, 2014. Subscribers who currently have coverage under the Blue Essentials plan must find new coverage. Subscribers may enroll in another plan during the Annual Enrollment Period (AEP), which began on October 15, 2014, and ends on December 7, 2014. If subscribers do not select a new plan within the allotted periods, they will revert to Original Medicare coverage for their medical expenses effective January 1, 2015. These subscribers also qualify for a Special Election Period (SEP) that begins December 7, 2014, and ends on February 28, 2015. The SEP applies if subscribers do not elect a new plan during the AEP and allows subscribers to have until February 28, 2015, to elect a new plan without a penalty.

Provider impact

Blue Essentials claims, adjustment requests, and provider appeals will be accepted and processed following the non-renewal of the plan in accordance with your contractual agreement and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines and requirements. Providers are encouraged to submit their claims as promptly as possible. Timely filing limits will be enforced. Check your contract for your timely filing limits.

Subscribers can continue to receive services at any Blue Essentials in network provider through December 31, 2014. After December 31, 2014, subscribers should check their new plans provider network for continuous coverage.

Why is the Blue Essentials plan closing?

A number of factors contributed to the decision not to renew Blue Essentials including a change in federal rules.

Questions?

For questions regarding provider contracts, please contact provider services at **(651) 662-5200** or **1-800-262-0820**.

For questions regarding claim payments, adjustments or appeals, please contact Blue Essentials customer service at **1-866-383-5146**. This number will remain available through the timely filing period.

If subscribers have questions about product options to replace their Blue Essentials plan, please refer them to the following:

- Subscriber's Agent
- Senior Linkage Line at **1-800-333-2433**, TYY **1-800-627-3529**
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota sales department at **(651) 662-9949** or **1-855-579-7658**
- Medicare website at **www.medicare.gov**