## WELCOME TO BLUE

Your guide to the information you need to maximize your benefits.



BlueCross BlueShield of Alabama

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Please note benefits and services described herein may vary by health plan.

### REGISTER FOR **MANUAL OF CONTROLS** Check out *my*BlueCross, where it is all about you!



### Log in or Register for *my*BlueCross at AlabamaBlue.com

At Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama, we want to make it easy for our members to take charge of their own health and wellness. Your *my*Blue Cross account is easy to use, so you can find what you need, fast.

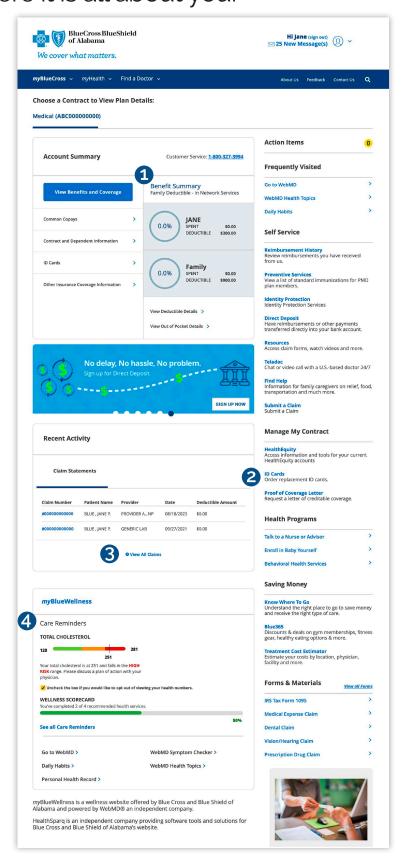
#### Features include:

- Benefit Summary View your spending toward your yearly deductible.
- **2** ID Cards View and download a copy of your virtual ID card.
- 3 View All Claims Easily locate and access Claim Statements from your dashboard.
- Care Reminders Stay up to date with reminders that highlight gaps in care.

Depending on coverage, each member's dashboard will look a little different.

Log in or register for *my***BlueCross** at **AlabamaBlue.com** 





## GET TO KNOW YOUR VIRTUAL BLUE CROSS **ID CARD**

ID Ca	ards	•
ently Viewing Contract:		
BC00000001		~
JOHN Q PUBLIC	In-Ntwk Ded: \$xxx Out-of-Ntwk Ded: \$xxx In-Ntwk OOP: \$xxxx Out-of-Ntwk OOP: \$xxxx	5
Subscriber Name JOHN Q PUBLIC Contract Number	Out-of-Ntwk Ded: \$xxx In-Ntwk OOP: \$xxxx	5
Group Number         12345           Effective Date         01-01-2025           RxBin Number         004915	In-Ntwk Drug Ded: \$xxx In-Ntwk Drug OOP: \$xxx Dental Ded: \$xxxx	6
		D

- The contract holder's name will appear on the c 1 any covered family members may use it. The contract number is unique to the contract holder's health plan (with or without any covered family members). 3 The group number is unique to the health plan. The effective date is the start of current plan benefits. The health plan's in- and out-of-network deductibles and 5 out-of-pocket maximums appear here.
- 6 The prescription drug plan's in-network deductible and out-pocket maximum along with the dental plan's deductible appear here (if applicable).
  - This has our contact information for use by the contract holder and any covered family members, plus contact information for use by providers.



Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama provides administrative services only and does not assume any financial risk for claims.

#### Member Customer Service: 1 800 292-8868 PPO Provider Locator: 1 800 810-2583 Preadmission Certification: 1 800 248-2342 Provider Benefits/Eligibility: 1 800 517-6425 Pharmacist: 1 800 216-9920 Alabama Preferred Dentist: 1 800 373-4879 Dentists Outside Alabama: 1 888 783-5113

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama 450 Riverchase Parkway East Birmingham, Alabama 35244

An Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association

Back of card

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#### **VIEW OR EMAIL YOUR VIRTUAL ID CARD**

#### Online

Log in to your *my*BlueCross account with your mobile device or computer. Click on the "ID Cards" link under the "Account Summary" section. You may view your card online, or choose to have it emailed to you.

#### Alabama Blue mobile app:

Authenticate and click "ID Cards" along the bottom. Add your virtual ID card to your device wallet.

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## TAKE BLUE WITH YOU

We understand you are busy and need access to health plan information quickly and easily- without having to call us first. Think of the Alabama Blue app as *my*BlueCross on the go, offering 24/7 access to health plan information. The Baby Yourself app helps expectant moms track their journey and connect with their Blue Cross nurse.

Both mobile apps are free and available for Apple and Android devices.





#### MOBILE APP FOR PHONE AND TABLET

Register for *my*BlueCross to get enhanced features using Alabama Blue

- Easy login with Touch/Face ID options
- Check your claims and benefits
- View or email your virtual ID card
- Add your virtual ID card to your device wallet
- Track your deductible and out-of-pocket spend
- Find a doctor in your network
- Communicate securely with Customer Service
- Compare quality and cost of providers



BABY YOURSELF



#### MOBILE APP FOR PHONE AND TABLET

Tracks your baby's growth and your personal journey to motherhood

- Enroll in the Baby Yourself Program right from the app
- One-button dialing to access your physician and/or Baby Yourself Nurse\*
- Photo gallery
- Use our trackers to track kicks, contractions, symptoms, etc.
- Daily pregnancy and parenting tips

\* For this service, you must be a Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama member and enrolled in the Baby Yourself Maternity Program.



NOTE: There is no charge from Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama to download, but rates from your wireless provider may apply. This information is for educational purposes only and is not a substitute for personal care from a licensed physician. Please consult your physician for diagnosis and treatment options.



## **KNOW WHERE TO GO**

#### It's important to understand your options when seeking medical care.

Non-emergency care for a condition that is not life threatening is generally provided by your physician. Even after-hours care is generally coordinated by your physician who can instruct you on how to receive medical care outside of normal business hours, on weekends and on holidays. If you are in severe pain or your condition is life threatening, you can receive emergency care by calling 911 or visiting an emergency room.

	<b>PRIMARY CARE</b> <b>PHYSICIAN</b> Go to your Primary Care Physician to help manage total care and to seek treatment for non-life threatening conditions.	Expected out-of-pocket cost: \$\$	<ul> <li>Conditions treated may include:</li> <li>Annual checkup</li> <li>Fever</li> <li>Diabetes management</li> <li>High blood pressure</li> </ul>
<b>E</b>	<b>TELEHEALTH</b> Contact your Telehealth provider for non-life threatening conditions that can be treated over the phone or via video consultation.	Expected out-of-pocket cost: \$\$	<ul><li>Conditions treated may include:</li><li>Allergies</li><li>Sinus infection</li><li>Bronchitis</li><li>Skin rashes</li></ul>
R	<b>URGENT CARE</b> Go to an Urgent Care clinic after hours or when your Primary Care Physician is otherwise unavailable.	Expected out-of-pocket cost: \$\$-\$\$\$	<ul><li>Conditions treated may include:</li><li>Bladder infection</li><li>Ear infection</li><li>Cold/Flu symptoms</li><li>Minor burns</li></ul>
	<b>EMERGENCY ROOM</b> Go to the ER immediately for severe and life-threatening conditions. ERs include hospital-based emergency rooms and freestanding ER facilities.*	Expected out-of-pocket cost: \$\$\$\$\$	<ul> <li>Conditions treated may include:</li> <li>Chest pains</li> <li>Head injury</li> <li>Severe breathing problems</li> <li>Stroke symptoms</li> </ul>

Examples provided are for illustrative purposes only. Some conditions that are severe enough may require you to go directly to the emergency room.

This information is for educational purposes only and is not a substitute for personal care from a licensed physician. Please consult your physician for diagnosis and treatment options. Benefits are subject to terms, limitations and conditions of your plan. Please refer to your benefit booklet for a complete listing of your plan benefits.

\* The out-of-pocket cost is dependent on how the facility or provider submits the claim to Blue Cross.

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## THE VALUE OF

#### Using in-network providers helps you save money.

In-network providers are contracted to accept your health plan, which means they agree to a fixed amount for their services, known as the allowed amount.

#### Consider the effect network status can have on a \$200 service:

	IN-NETWORK Plan Pays 80% of Allowed Amount (COINSURANCE)	OUT-OF-NETWORK Plan Pays 60% of Allowed Amount (COINSURANCE)	OUT-OF-NETWORK Plan Pays Nothing
Full Billed Amount	\$200	\$200	\$200
Allowed Amount	\$110	\$ <b>110</b>	-
Network Discount	\$90	-	-
Plan Pays Coinsurance	\$88	\$66 3	-
You Pay Coinsurance	\$22	\$44	-
Balance You Could be Billed by Provider	\$ <b>O</b>	\$90 <b>4</b>	\$200

For illustrative purposes only. Assumes deductible is met. Does not account for any applicable copays you may owe at the time of service.

The amount the provider has agreed to waive from the full billed amount to remain in-network. There is no discount with out-of-network providers, so you could be billed the full amount.

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The Plan pays 80% of the allowed amount, and you pay 20%.

#### Find in-network providers

We keep your costs low by making in-network, high quality healthcare easy to find.

- Log in to your *my*BlueCross account on AlabamaBlue.com or the Alabama Blue mobile app, and use the Find a Doctor tool. Only your Plan's in-network providers display when you are logged in.
- If you have questions about finding in-network providers, please call the member Customer Service number on the back of your Blue Cross ID card.

The Plan pays 60% of the allowed amount, and you pay 40%.

The amount the provider is not contractually bound to waive from the full billed amount due to being out-of-network.

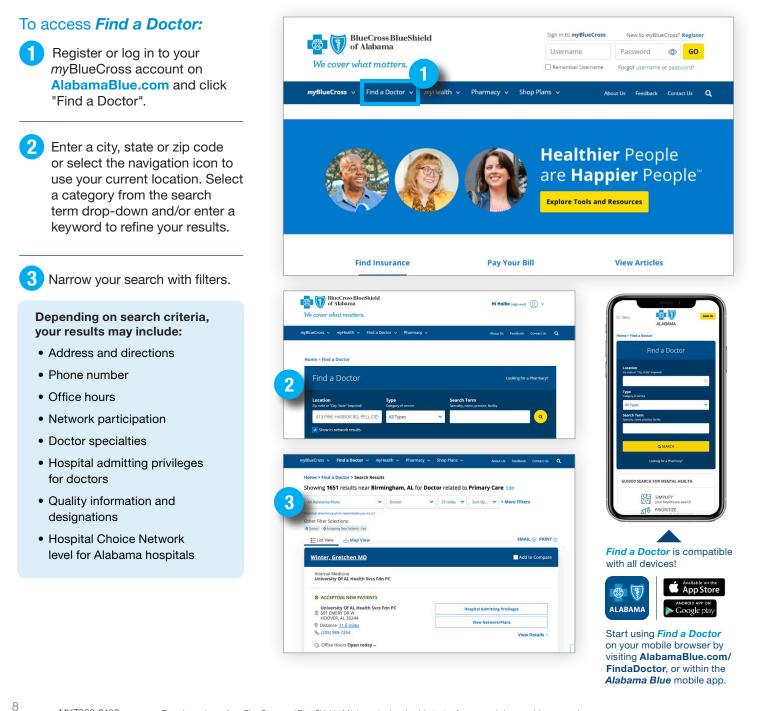
#### Before you seek non-emergency healthcare,

it's a good idea to call the provider to make sure your health plan is accepted. Always choose an in-network provider to pay the lowest out-of-pocket cost for your healthcare.

## FIND THE CARE YOU NEED EASY. QUICK. **CONVENIENT.**

Do your homework before ever leaving the house and use our *Find a Doctor* tool on **AlabamaBlue.com**. Find a Doctor makes it easy to find the right in-network healthcare providers in your area.

When you choose providers from your network, you pay significantly less out of pocket for the same level of care.



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## ESTIMATE YOUR TREATMENT COSTS

Save time and money with the online Treatment Cost Estimator. You can look up more than 1,600 inpatient and outpatient procedures to make more informed decisions about where to go.

#### The Treatment Cost Estimator makes it easy to:

- Estimate the costs of treatment prior to having the procedure
- Compare search results by cost, location, provider or facility name
- Understand your out-of-pocket cost and anticipate future expenses for a particular treatment
- Know the coinsurance or copay amount you will pay
- Search negotiated rates for services as required by the Transparency in Coverage Rule

#### To access the Treatment Cost Estimator:

- 1. Log in to your myBlueCross account online or via the Alabama Blue mobile app
- 2. Click "Treatment Cost Estimator" under the Saving Money section on the right of the screen

	BlueCross BlueShield of Alabama
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3. Search "Estimate Your Costs" for a treatment or condition

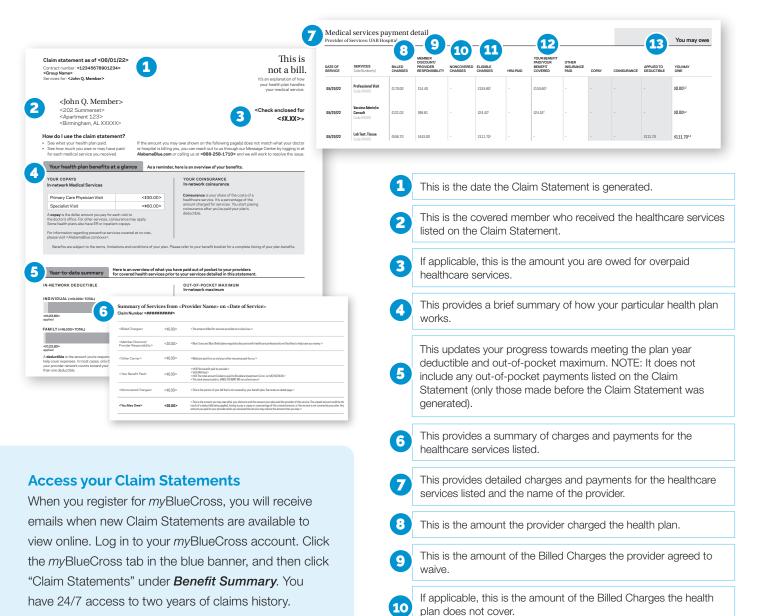
Dashboard / Estimate your cos	ts / Example Search		LOCATION MEMBER ADDRESS PLAN Preferred Provider O
AMPLE SEARCI	More details		average cos \$200
) miles V More filters			Best Match 💷 Ma
earch results			
ABC HOSPITAL			100 ABC HOSPITAL DR         Location           BIRMINGHAM, AL 35205 • 15.9 miles         (000) 000-0000
SPECIALTIES General Acute Care Hospital ofFice Hours Call (000) 000-0000	QUALITY Blue Distinction. Center+ Quality details	medical care group None quality score None	\$200 / you pay Tier 1 Lower Member Cost Share <b>J</b> <u>More details</u>
None View profile			Search who works here
XYZ MEDICAL CENT	ER		600 XYZ CIRCLE BIRMINGHAM, AL 35249 • <u>16.1 miles</u> (000) 000-0000
SPECIALTIES General Acute Care Hospital, Rehabilitation Hospital	areas of focus None Quality	MEDICAL CARE GROUP None QUALITY SCORE	\$200 / you pay Tier 1 Lower Member Cost Share .
office Hours Call (000) 000-0000	Blue Distinction. Center+ Quality details	None	More details
View profile			Search who works here

Sample search results are for an ACL repair. This example displays benefits based off an average price of the facility charges listed and a plan benefit subject to a \$200 deductible.

Please Note: The amount of the cost estimate that you are responsible for paying is based on your benefit plan, including any deductible and coinsurance requirements.

## HOW TO READ YOUR CLAIM STATEMENTS

A Claim Statement is generated every time you or a covered family member uses your health insurance plan. It provides an at-a-glance record of each occurrence, detailing how much was charged, how much your plan paid and how much you may owe.



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You can also choose to receive paper copies of Claim Statements. Log in to your *my*BlueCross account. Click the down arrow beside your avatar in the upper right of the screen. Click "View More Settings," and then click "Claim/Medical Preferences." Then click "Change Claim Statements Preference."

If applicable, these are the amounts you pay out-of-pocket to the provider. You may still owe the provider, if these amounts were not collected in full at the time of service.

These are the amounts the health plan(s) paid to the provider.

This is the amount owed to the provider after subtracting

discounts and adding any non-covered charges.

## MAKE HEALTHIER CHOICES

We engage, motivate and empower our members to live their best life possible. The following enhanced services

## go well beyond simply providing health coverage

-all available to you at no additional out-of-pocket cost.



#### **Online Wellness Support**

*my*BlueWellness is an enhanced online platform powered by WebMD<sup>®</sup> designed to promote your healthier lifestyle.

Online features include:

- Health Assessment
- Personalized action plans with medical record archive
- Healthy yet flavorful recipes
- Lifestyle and behavioral change programs
- Educational videos

#### Visit AlabamaBlue.com/myBlueWellness

to get started today. WebMD® is an independent company providing wellness tools and programs to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama members.



#### Blue365

As a Blue Cross member, you can get exclusive deals from top national and local retailers on:

- Fitness gear
- Gym membership packages (12,000+ facilities nationwide)
- Nutrition
- Hearing and vision care
- Travel and rental cars
- Baby products and more

Visit AlabamaBlue.com/Blue365 to learn

more and enroll for free.

The Blue365<sup>®</sup> program is brought to you by the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association, a group of independent, locally operated Blue Cross and/or Blue Shield Companies.





#### **BlueCare Advocacy**

BlueCare provides both customer service and clinical advice to help you make the most of your benefits and make decisions to improve your health.

A BlueCare Health Advisor can help you:

- Get answers to common customer service questions
- Understand benefits, claims and coverages
- Research and resolve hospital and doctor billing issues
- Locate a doctor or specialist and schedule appointments
- Know which preventive screenings are recommended
- Enroll in available health and well-being programs
- Connect with support groups and community services

Call 1-888-759-2764 to connect with a health advisor.



#### **Case Management**

This telephone-based program is designed to help you navigate the healthcare system if you have a complex, catastrophic or specialty condition. Case management programs are staffed by experienced registered nurses and include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Transition of care: educate and support following discharge to help reduce the risk of preventable ER visits and hospital readmissions
- Catastrophic care: coordinate care for members who have experienced a traumatic injury or condition requiring extended hospital stay or rehabilitation
- Specialty care: provides education, guidance and support for members and family by clinicians experienced in the fields of high risk OB, neonatal, transplant, oncology and pediatrics

There is no cost, and participation is voluntary and confidential. Call 1-800-821-7231 or email MemberManagement@bcbsal.org.



#### At-Risk Coaching

This curriculum-based program focuses on obesity, hypertension and prediabetes. Health coaches can help you prevent or reverse the risks for developing a chronic condition by making healthy lifestyle changes.

They work with you to develop a customized action plan to:

- Set personal health goals
- Overcome challenges
- Develop a nutrition and exercise regimen
- Understand medications

There is no cost, and participation is voluntary and confidential. Call 1-855-699-6168 or email HMHealthCoach@bcbsal.org.



#### **Chronic Case Management**

This telephone-based program incorporates a holistic, personalized approach to managing your healthcare. Our program includes these and other specialized conditions, as it continues to evolve:

- Asthma
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
- Congestive Heart Failure
- Coronary Artery Disease
- Diabetes (Types 1 and 2)
- Musculoskeletal pain
- Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD)

Clinicians will provide a health assessment for you and develop a patient profile. There is no cost, and participation is voluntary and confidential. Call 1-888-841-5741 or email MemberManagement@bcbsal.org



#### **Maternity Management**

The goal of the Baby Yourself<sup>®</sup> program is to ensure expectant mothers and their babies receive the best possible healthcare during pregnancy. You'll receive telephone or e-mail support from an experienced registered nurse throughout your pregnancy.

The Baby Yourself mobile app provides additional information, trackers and easy access to your nurse through one-button dialing. Once your baby arrives, the Lactation Program provides encouragement, support and information designed to improve the wellbeing of infants and their families.

There is no cost, and participation is voluntary and confidential. Call 1-800-222-4379, visit **AlabamaBlue.com/BabyYourself** or download the Baby Yourself mobile app.

### **MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES IN YOUR STUDENT HEALTH PLAN**

Your health and wellness are our top priorities. Did you know there are many resources available to you as part of your healthcare coverage that make it easy to get the care you need? These online support tools are available when you want them - anytime, 24/7.

If you or someone you know needs immediate assistance, call 911 or go to the nearest emergency room. To talk to someone now, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 988

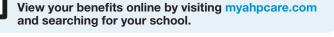
LUCET - Good mental health can improve your guality of life, which is why your Student Health Insurance Plan includes Lucet behavioral health benefits. You can get access to mental health services, substance use treatment and more. This coverage would be subject to the plan requirements and cost share listed in your benefit booklet. Help is just a phone call away. If you have any questions, please call the phone number listed on your virtual ID card or scan the QR code.

ACADEMIC LIVE CARE (ALC) - ALC is your 24/7 access to on-demand counseling, urgent medical care, therapy and psychiatry at no cost. Take advantage of these telehealth benefits at academiclivecare.com. Enrolled students can expect to receive an email in the Fall with the service key and coupon code for the upcoming academic year. The service key unlocks all the features and benefits available to you through the platform. The coupon code will remove the copay for visits, allowing you to see a provider free of charge.

ACADEMIC STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ASAP) - ASAP provides 24/7 access to online tools for your physical, mental, and financial well-being. Receive support from qualified professionals for legal, financial, physical, mental, and behavioral needs by calling 1 (866) 349-5575. Visit myahpcare.personaladvantage.com and enter AHP1 as the Company Code or scan the QR code for more information.

ACADEMIC EMERGENCY SERVICES (AES) - To ensure you have immediate access to assistance if you experience a travel related crisis, Academic HealthPlans has included Academic Emergency Services (AES) in your Student Health Insurance Plan coverage. AES offers a wide range of services and benefits to provide everything you need to prepare for your international experience. For more information, visit myahpcare.com or scan the QR code.

BLUE365 - You can take advantage of exclusive deals from top national and local retailers on fitness gear, gym memberships, family activities, healthy eating options and much more. Find out more at AlabamaBlue.com/Blue365 or scan the QR code.



Lucet is an independent company providing behavioral health services to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama members.





**BlueCross BlueShield** of Alabama

An independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.









## UNDERSTAND DEDUCTIBLES & COINSURANCE

It's important to understand how your health plan works before you receive care so you know how much you will pay for it. Below is an example of how a typical health plan works.



For illustrative purposes only. Does not account for any applicable copay/coinsurance you may owe at the time of service. Preventive services may be covered by the health plan at 100% with no deductible or copay. Review your particular benefits to determine coverage levels.

Keep in mind deductibles, coinsurance, copays and out-of-pocket maximums will vary based on the health plan and whether services are provided in-network.

# COORDINATE BENEFITS WITH MORE THAN ONE HEALTH PLAN

It's important to understand how your benefits are coordinated when you have multiple health plans. You should also be aware of your rights during special enrollment periods.

#### **Coordination of Benefits (COB)**

This affects your benefits when you or a covered family member also has another health plan. COB ensures the right plan processes your claims first and prevents overpayments. The goal is to keep costs down for everyone. Please be sure we have current information about any other health plans you may have. This will help us process your claims correctly and promptly.

You may update your COB status online. Just have your virtual Blue Cross member ID card ready.

- 1. Log in to your myBlueCross account
- 2. Click the *my*BlueCross tab in the blue banner, and then click "Account Summary"
- 3. Click "Other Insurance Coverage Information"



Familiarizing yourself with these common health plan terms can help you better understand your benefits.

#### **Allowed Amount**

The maximum amount on which payment is based for covered healthcare services. If an out-of-network provider charges more than the Allowed Amount, you may have to pay the difference (known as Balance Billing). You cannot be balance billed by in-network providers.

#### Coinsurance

A type of coverage where you and the health plan split the amount paid for a covered service, generally after you have paid a set deductible. For example, you pay 20% and the health plan pays 80%.

#### Copay

A fixed amount you pay for covered healthcare services, usually when you receive the service. The amount can vary by the type of service.

#### **Deductible**

The amount you owe for covered healthcare services before your health plan begins to pay.

#### Network

The facilities, providers and suppliers your health plan or its vendors have contracted with to provide healthcare services. In-network coinsurance and copay amounts are typically less than out-of-network.

#### **Out-of-Pocket Maximum**

The most you pay during a policy period (usually a year) before your health plan begins to pay 100% of the Allowed Amount. This limit never includes your Premium, Balance Billing charges or healthcare services not covered by your health plan. Some health plans don't count all of your coinsurance, copays, deductibles, out-of-network payments or other expenses toward this limit.

#### **Precertification or Preauthorization**

The process used by your health plan to determine that certain healthcare services, treatment plans, durable medical equipment or prescription drugs are medically necessary before you receive the services, except for emergency services. It is not a guarantee your health plan will cover the cost.

#### Premium

The amount that must be paid for your health plan. You usually pay it monthly.

#### **Primary Care Physician**

A physician who directly provides or coordinates a range of healthcare services for a patient.

#### **Provider**

A physician, healthcare professional or healthcare facility licensed, certified or accredited as required by state law.

#### **Specialist**

A physician who focuses on a specific area of medicine or patient group to diagnose, manage, prevent or treat certain types of symptoms and conditions. A non-physician specialist is a provider who has more training in a specific area of healthcare.

#### Since 1936, we've helped our

members live their best life possible by providing unmatched access to quality healthcare. We work hard to deliver the best value for your healthcare dollar with:

- the broadest choice of in-network doctors and hospitals
- the most comprehensive coverage at some of the lowest premiums in the country
- provider strategies to improve care quality and cost
- ▶ low, industry-leading operating costs

This guide will help you understand and make better use of your Blue Cross health plan. If you have any questions, please call the member Customer Service number on the back of your Blue Cross ID card. You can also visit us online at **AlabamaBlue.com**.

Need help? Call the number on the back of your member ID card.



#### We cover what matters.

#### Visit us online at: AlabamaBlue.com

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