# COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT LICENSED EMPLOYEES HRA PLAN RESTATED SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

01/01/2021

# COLCHESTER SCHOOL DISTRICT LICENSED EMPLOYEES HRA PLAN RESTATED SUMMARY PLAN DESCRIPTION

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATIONWho is an Eligible Employee?	
BENEFITS  What expenses are eligible for reimbursement?  For whom can I receive reimbursement of eligible expenses?  How will the Plan be administered?  Will I be able to carryover any unused benefits?	1 2 2
REIMBURSEMENT  When must I submit claims for reimbursement?  Where do I submit claims?  How are claims paid?  What information should I include with the claim?  When does my coverage end?  Can my beneficiaries make claims after my death?	2 2 3
MISCELLANEOUS Administrative Information Administrator Discretion Amendment and Termination Loss of Benefit Coordination with Other Plans	3 4 4
CONTINUATION RIGHTS  Military Service  COBRA  FMLA	4 4
LEGAL PROVISIONS Privacy Qualified Medical Child Support Orders Special Enrollment Rights Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act Newborns' And Mothers' Health Protection Claim Procedures for Health Benefits.	5 5 5 5
YOUR RIGHTS UNDER ERISA	7

i

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Colchester School District (the "Employer") established the Colchester School District Licensed Employees HRA Plan Restated (the "Plan") effective 01/01/2019. The Plan is a health reimbursement arrangement that is integrated with the BCBS Platinum, Gold, Gold CDHP, Silver CDHP and that provides benefits that are excludable from gross income. The Plan has been amended effective 01/01/2021.

This document is intended to summarize and explain the Plan's principal provisions. The material contained in this summary is taken from the actual legal plan document that governs the principals and provisions under which the plan operates. Therefore, if any conflict exists between this Summary Plan Description and the actual plan provisions, the terms of the legal plan document will govern.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this Summary Plan Description, contact the Plan Administrator whose name and address are included on the last page of this summary.

## **ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION**

#### Who is an Eligible Employee?

You are an "Eligible Employee" if you are eligible to receive benefits from the BCBS Platinum, Gold, Gold CDHP, Silver CDHP. However, you are not an Eligible Employee if you are a self-employed individual (including a partner), or a person who owns (or is deemed to own) more than 2 percent of the outstanding stock of an S corporation.

#### **BENEFITS**

#### What expenses are eligible for reimbursement?

You will be entitled to receive reimbursement for the following Eligible Expenses:

- All medical expenses that are listed on an appendix to this Summary Plan Description.
- Health plan deductible amounts otherwise payable by you under the group health plan.
- Health plan coinsurance amounts otherwise payable by you under the group health plan.

#### For whom can I receive reimbursement of eligible expenses?

You will be entitled to receive reimbursement for Eligible Expenses incurred by the following Covered Persons:

- You.
- Your spouse.
- Your Dependent(s) which is someone who you may claim as a dependent on your federal tax return and also includes a child who is under the age of 27.

Reimbursement for adult children may be paid for claims incurred until the date the child attains age 26.

The persons listed above must be covered under the group health plan at the time the expense is incurred to be reimbursed by the Plan.

1

#### How will the Plan be administered?

The Employer will credit the following coverage-based amounts to your HRA account for the Period of Coverage.

Participant Only: \$2,100.Participant plus 1: \$4,200.

• Participant plus dependents: \$4.200.

• Family: \$4,200.

The Period of Coverage will end on 12/31.

Amounts shall be credited to your account at the beginning of the Plan Year.

#### Will I be able to carryover any unused benefits?

No, you cannot carryover any unused benefits at the end of the Period of Coverage.

#### REIMBURSEMENT

#### When must I submit claims for reimbursement?

You Participant must submit claims for reimbursement of expenses by 03/31 after the Period of Coverage ends.

If you terminate participation in the HRA during the Period of Coverage, you must submit claims for reimbursement of expenses no later than 90 days after the Period of Coverage ends.

You will be provided with a debit, credit or other stored-value card for purposes of making purchases that may be reimbursed from your account. The Plan Administrator may provide you with more information about stored value cards at the time you enroll in the Plan.

You must first submit claims to this Plan before you may receive reimbursement in the Employer sponsored cafeteria plan for expenses that are reimbursable under both this Plan and the cafeteria plan. Claims will not be entitled to payment/reimbursement under the cafeteria plan to the extent the expense is reimbursable under this Plan

#### Where do I submit claims?

All claims must be submitted to Healthy Dollars, Inc. at PO Box 8592 or Service@healthydollarsinc.com OR P.O. Box 8592, Essex VT 05451. The telephone number is 877-900-6979.

#### How are claims paid?

To the extent that the Plan Administrator approves a claim, the Company may either (i) reimburse you, or (ii) pay the service provider directly. The Plan Administrator will pay claims at least once per year. The Plan Administrator may provide that payments/reimbursements of less than a certain amount will be carried forward and aggregated with future claims until the reimbursable amount is greater than a minimum amount. In any event, the entire amount of payments/reimbursements outstanding at the end of the Plan Year will be

reimbursed without regard to the minimum payment amount.

The Employer intends that all benefits provided under the Plan will not be taxable to you under federal tax law. However, the Employer does not represent or guarantee that any particular federal, state or local income, payroll, personal property or other tax consequence will result from participation in this Plan. You should consult with your professional tax advisor to determine the tax consequences of your participation in this Plan.

You must immediately repay any excess payments/reimbursements. You must reimburse the Employer for any liability the Employer may incur for making such payments, including but not limited to, failure to withhold or pay payroll or withholding taxes from such payments or reimbursements. If you fail to timely repay an excess amount and/or make adequate indemnification, the Plan Administrator may: (i) to the extent permitted by applicable law, offset your salary or wages, and/or (ii) offset other benefits payable under this Plan.

#### What information should I include with the claim?

Any claim for benefits must include all information and evidence that the Plan Administrator deems necessary to properly evaluate the merits of the claim. The Plan Administrator may request any additional information necessary to evaluate the claim.

# When does my coverage end?

If an individual ceases to be a Covered Person under the Plan, the Plan shall reimburse Eligible Expenses incurred through the last day of the month.

#### Can my beneficiaries make claims after my death?

If you die, your beneficiaries may submit claims for Eligible Expenses for the portion of the Plan Year preceding the date of your death. You may designate a specific beneficiary for this purpose provided that such beneficiary is your spouse or one or more of your dependents. If no beneficiary is specified, the Plan Administrator may pay any amount due to your spouse or, if there is no spouse, to your dependents in equal shares.

# **MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **Administrative Information**

1. Colchester School District is the Plan Sponsor and Plan Administrator.

Address: 125 Laker Lane, P.O. Box 27, Colchester, VT 05446

Phone number: 802-264-5980

Email: jessica.phelan@colchestersd.org Employer Identification Number: 030269580

- 2. The Employer's fiscal year ends on 06/30 and the plan year ends on 12/31.
- 3. The Plan is a welfare benefit plan which has been designated by the sponsor as its plan number is 504.
- 4. The Plan's designated agent for service of legal process is the chief officer of the entity named in number 1. Any legal papers should be delivered to him or her at the address listed in number 1. However, service

may also be made upon the Plan Administrator.

#### Administrator Discretion

The Plan Administrator has the authority to make factual determinations, to construe and interpret the provisions of the Plan, to correct defects and resolve ambiguities in the Plan and to supply omissions to the Plan. Any construction, interpretation, or application of the Plan by the Plan Administrator is final, conclusive, and binding.

#### Amendment and Termination

The Employer may amend, terminate or merge the Plan at any time.

#### **Loss of Benefit**

You may lose all or part of your account if the unused balance is forfeited at the end of a Plan Year and if we cannot locate you when your benefit becomes payable to you. You may not alienate, anticipate, commute, pledge, encumber or assign any of the benefits or payments which you may expect to receive, contingently or otherwise, under the Plan, except that you may designate a Beneficiary.

#### **Coordination with Other Plans**

All claims for benefits that are covered by an insurance policy must be made to the insurance company issuing such insurance policy.

#### **CONTINUATION RIGHTS**

#### Military Service

If you serve in the United States Armed Forces and must miss work as a result of such service, you may be eligible to continue to receive benefits with respect to any qualified military service.

#### **COBRA**

Under Federal law, you, your spouse, and your dependents may be entitled to COBRA continuation coverage in certain circumstances. Please see the "COBRA NOTICE" provided by the Plan Administrator for important information about your right to COBRA continuation coverage, which is a temporary extension of coverage under the Plan. The COBRA NOTICE generally explains COBRA continuation coverage and when it may become available to you. The Plan Administrator will inform you of these rights, if any, when you terminate employment.

#### **FMLA**

If you go on unpaid leave that qualifies as family leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act you may be able to continue receiving benefits.

4

#### **LEGAL PROVISIONS**

#### **Privacy**

The Plan is required under federal law to take sufficient steps to protect any individually identifiable health information to the extent that such information must be kept confidential. The Plan Administrator will provide you with more information about the Plan's privacy practices.

#### Qualified Medical Child Support Orders

In certain circumstances you may be able to enroll a child in the Plan if the Plan receives a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO). You may obtain a copy of the QMCSO procedures from the Plan Administrator, free of charge.

### **Special Enrollment Rights**

If you are declining enrollment for yourself or your dependents (including your spouse) because of other health insurance coverage, you may in the future be able to enroll yourself or your dependents in this plan, provided that you request enrollment within 30 days after your other coverage ends. If you or your dependents become ineligible for Medicaid or a state child health program (CHIP) or become eligible for premium assistance under Medicaid or a state child health program (CHIP), you must request enrollment within 60 days. 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, provided that you request enrollment within 30 days after the marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.

#### Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act

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 lymphedemas.

These benefits will be provided subject to the same deductibles and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under this plan. If you would like more information on WHCRA benefits, call your Plan Administrator at the number provided at the end of this Summary Plan Description.

#### Newborns' And Mothers' Health Protection

Group health plans and health insurance issuers generally may not, under federal law, restrict benefits for any hospital length of stay in connection with childbirth for the mother or newborn child to less than 48 hours following a vaginal delivery, or less than 96 hours following a cesarean section. However, federal law generally does not prohibit the mother's or newborn's attending provider, after consulting with the mother, from discharging the mother or her newborn earlier than 48 hours (or 96 hours as applicable). In any case, plans and issuers may not, under federal law, require that a provider obtain authorization from the plan or the issuer for prescribing a length of stay not in excess of 48 hours (or 96 hours).

#### Claim Procedures for Health Benefits

Application for Benefits. You or any other person entitled to benefits from the Plan (a "Claimant") may apply for such benefits by completing and filing a claim with the Plan Administrator. Any such claim must be in writing and must include all information and evidence that the Plan Administrator deems necessary to properly evaluate the merit of and to make any necessary determinations on a claim for benefits. The Plan Administrator may request any additional information necessary to evaluate the claim.

Timing of Notice of Denied Claim. The Plan Administrator shall notify the Claimant of any adverse benefit determination within a reasonable period of time, but not later than 30 days after receipt of the claim. This period may be extended one time by the Plan for up to 15 days, provided that the Plan Administrator both determines that such an extension is necessary due to matters beyond the control of the Plan and notifies the Claimant, prior to the expiration of the initial 30-day period, of the circumstances requiring the extension of time and the date by which the Plan expects to render a decision. If such an extension is necessary due to a failure of the Claimant to submit the information necessary to decide the claim, the notice of extension shall specifically describe the required information, and the Claimant shall be afforded at least 45 days from receipt of the notice within which to provide the specified information.

Content of Notice of Denied Claim. If a claim is wholly or partially denied, the Plan Administrator shall provide the Claimant with a notice identifying (1) the reason or reasons for such denial, (2) the pertinent Plan provisions on which the denial is based, (3) any material or information needed to grant the claim and an explanation of why the additional information is necessary, (4) an explanation of the steps that the Claimant must take if he wishes to appeal the denial including a statement that the Claimant may bring a civil action under ERISA, and (5): (A) If an internal rule, guideline, protocol, or other similar criterion was relied upon in making the adverse determination, either the specific rule, guideline, protocol, or other similar criterion was relied upon in making the adverse determination and that a copy of such rule, guideline, protocol, or other criterion will be provided free of charge to the Claimant upon request; or (B) if the adverse benefit determination is based on a medical necessity or experimental treatment or similar exclusion or limit, either an explanation of the scientific or clinical judgment for the determination, applying the terms of the Plan to the Claimant's medical circumstances, or a statement that such explanation will be provided free of charge upon request.

Appeal of Denied Claim. If a Claimant wishes to appeal the denial of a claim, he shall file an appeal with the Plan Administrator on or before the 180th day after he receives the Plan Administrator's notice that the claim has been wholly or partially denied. The appeal shall identify both the grounds and specific Plan provisions upon which the appeal is based. The Claimant shall be provided, upon request and free of charge, documents and other information relevant to his claim. An appeal may also include any comments, statements or documents that the Claimant may desire to provide. The Plan Administrator shall consider the merits of the Claimant's presentations, the merits of any facts or evidence in support of the denial of benefits, and such other facts and circumstances as the Plan Administrator may deem relevant. In considering the appeal, the Plan Administrator shall:

- (1) Provide for a review that does not afford deference to the initial adverse benefit determination and that is conducted by an appropriate named fiduciary of the Plan who is neither the individual who made the adverse benefit determination that is the subject of the appeal, nor the subordinate of such individual;
- (2) Provide that, in deciding an appeal of any adverse benefit determination that is based in whole or in part on a medical judgment, including determinations with regard to whether a particular treatment, drug, or other item is experimental, investigational, or not medically necessary or appropriate, the appropriate named

fiduciary shall consult with a health care professional who has appropriate training and experience in the field of medicine involved in the medical judgment;

- (3) Provide for the identification of medical or vocational experts whose advice was obtained on behalf of the Plan in connection with a Claimant's adverse benefit determination, without regard to whether the advice was relied upon in making the benefit determination; and
- (4) Provide that the health care professional engaged for purposes of a consultation under Subsection (2) shall be an individual who is neither an individual who was consulted in connection with the adverse benefit determination that is the subject of the appeal, nor the subordinate of any such individual.

The Plan Administrator shall notify the Claimant of the Plan's benefit determination on review within 60 days after receipt by the Plan of the Claimant's request for review of an adverse benefit determination. The Claimant shall lose the right to appeal if the appeal is not timely made.

Denial of Appeal. If an appeal is wholly or partially denied, the Plan Administrator shall provide the Claimant with a notice identifying (1) the reason or reasons for such denial with a discussion of the decision, (2) the pertinent Plan provisions on which the denial is based, (3) a statement that the Claimant is entitled to receive, upon request and free of charge, reasonable access to, and copies of, all documents, records, and other information relevant to the Claimant's claim for benefits, and (4) a statement describing the Claimant's right to bring an action under section 502(a) of ERISA and to the external appeals process. The determination rendered by the Plan Administrator shall be binding upon all parties.

#### YOUR RIGHTS UNDER ERISA

As a participant, you are entitled to certain rights and protections under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA). This federal law provides that you have the right to:

Examine, without charge, at the Plan Administrator's office and at other specified locations, such as worksites and union halls, all documents governing the Plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and a copy of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) filed by the Plan with the U.S. Department of Labor and available at the Public Disclosure Room of the Employee Benefits Security Administration if a 5500 is required to be filed by the plan.

Obtain, upon written request to the Plan Administrator, copies of documents governing the operation of the Plan, including insurance contracts and collective bargaining agreements, and copies of the latest annual report (Form 5500 Series) and updated summary plan description. The Plan Administrator may make a reasonable charge for the copies.

Receive a summary of the Plan's annual financial report. The Plan Administrator is required by law to furnish each participant with a copy of this summary annual report.

Continue health care coverage for yourself, spouse or dependents if there is a loss of coverage under the plan as a result of a qualifying event. You or your dependents may have to pay for such coverage. Review this Summary Plan Description and the documents governing the plan on the rules governing your COBRA continuation coverage rights.

In addition, ERISA imposes duties upon the people who are responsible for the operation of the Plan. The people who operate the Plan, called "fiduciaries" of the Plan, have a duty to do so prudently and in the interest

of you and other Plan participants and beneficiaries. No one, including your employer, your union, or any other person, may fire you or otherwise discriminate against you in any way to prevent you from obtaining your benefits or exercising your rights under ERISA.

If your claim for a benefit is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you have a right to know why this was done, to obtain copies of documents relating to the decision without charge, and to appeal any denial, all within certain time schedules. Under ERISA, there are steps you can take to enforce the above rights. For instance, if you request a copy of Plan documents or the latest annual report from the Plan and do not receive them within 30 days, you may file suit in a Federal court. In such a case, the court may require the Plan Administrator to provide the materials and pay you up to \$110 a day until you receive the materials, unless the materials were not sent because of reasons beyond the control of the Plan Administrator.

If you have a claim for benefits which is denied or ignored, in whole or in part, you may file suit in a state or Federal court. In addition, if you disagree with the Plan's decision or lack thereof concerning the qualified status of a medical child support order, you may file suit in Federal court. If it should happen that Plan fiduciaries misuse the Plan's money, or if you are discriminated against for asserting your rights, you may seek assistance from the U.S. Department of Labor, or you may file suit in a Federal court. The court will decide who should pay court costs and legal fees. If you are successful the court may order the person you have sued to pay these costs and fees. If you lose, the court may order you to pay these costs and fees, for example, if it finds your claim is frivolous.

If you have any questions about the Plan, you should contact the Plan Administrator. If you have any questions about this statement or about your rights under ERISA, or if you need assistance in obtaining documents from the Plan Administrator, you should contact the nearest office of the Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, listed in your telephone directory or the Division of Technical Assistance and Inquiries, Employee Benefits Security Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. You may also obtain certain publications about your rights and responsibilities under ERISA by calling the publications hotline of the Employee Benefits Security Administration.

# **EXPENSES APPENDIX**

The following medical expenses are available for coverage under this Plan (but only if also excludable from gross income under Code section 213(d)):

Medical and Prescription Deductibles, Co-Insurance & Co-Pays associated with the BCBS Plans.

#### **COBRA NOTICE**

#### Introduction

You're getting this notice because you recently gained coverage under a group health plan (the Plan). This notice has important information about your right to COBRA continuation coverage, which is a temporary extension of coverage under the Plan. This notice explains COBRA continuation coverage, when it may become available to you and your family, and what you need to do to protect your right to get it. When you become eligible for COBRA, you may also become eligible for other coverage options that may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage.

The right to COBRA continuation coverage was created by a federal law, the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (COBRA). COBRA continuation coverage can become available to you and other members of your family when group health coverage would otherwise end. For more information about your rights and obligations under the Plan and under federal law, you should review the Plan's Summary Plan Description or contact the Plan Administrator.

You may have other options available to you when you lose group health coverage. For example, you may be eligible to buy an individual plan through the Health Insurance Marketplace. By enrolling in coverage through the Marketplace, you may qualify for lower costs on your monthly premiums and lower out-of-pocket costs. Additionally, you may qualify for a 30-day special enrollment period for another group health plan for which you are eligible (such as a spouse's plan), even if that plan generally doesn't accept late enrollees.

#### What is COBRA Continuation Coverage?

COBRA continuation coverage is a continuation of Plan coverage when it would otherwise end because of a life event. This is also called a "qualifying event." Specific qualifying events are listed later in this notice. After a qualifying event, COBRA continuation coverage must be offered to each person who is a "qualified beneficiary." You, your spouse, and your dependent children could become qualified beneficiaries if coverage under the Plan is lost because of the qualifying event. Under the Plan, qualified beneficiaries who elect COBRA continuation coverage must pay for COBRA continuation coverage.

If you're an employee, you'll become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

Your hours of employment are reduced, or

Your employment ends for any reason other than your gross misconduct.

If you're the spouse of an employee, you'll become a qualified beneficiary if you lose your coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

Your spouse dies;

Your spouse's hours of employment are reduced;

Your spouse's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;

Your spouse becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); or

You become divorced or legally separated from your spouse.

Your dependent children will become qualified beneficiaries if they lose coverage under the Plan because of the following qualifying events:

The parent-employee dies;

The parent-employee's hours of employment are reduced;

The parent-employee's employment ends for any reason other than his or her gross misconduct;

The parent-employee becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (Part A, Part B, or both);

The parents become divorced or legally separated; or

The child stops being eligible for coverage under the plan as a "dependent child."

#### When is COBRA Continuation Coverage Available?

The Plan will offer COBRA continuation coverage to qualified beneficiaries only after the Plan Administrator has been notified that a qualifying event has occurred. The employer must notify the Plan Administrator of the following qualifying events:

The end of employment or reduction of hours of employment;

Death of the employee;

The employee's becoming entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both).

For all other qualifying events (divorce or legal separation of the employee and spouse or a dependent child's losing eligibility for coverage as a dependent child), you must notify the Plan Administrator within 60 days after the qualifying event occurs. You must provide this notice to the Company at 125 Laker Lane, P.O. Box 27, Colchester, VT 05446. The Company's telephone number is 802-264-5980.

#### **How is COBRA Continuation Coverage Provided?**

Once the Plan Administrator receives notice that a qualifying event has occurred, COBRA continuation coverage will be offered to each of the qualified beneficiaries. Each qualified beneficiary will have an independent right to elect COBRA continuation coverage. Covered employees may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their spouses, and parents may elect COBRA continuation coverage on behalf of their children.

COBRA continuation coverage is a temporary continuation of coverage that generally lasts for 18 months due to employment termination or reduction of hours of work. Certain qualifying events, or a second qualifying event during the initial period of coverage, may permit a beneficiary to receive a maximum of 36 months of coverage.

There are also ways in which this 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage can be extended:

#### Disability extension of 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage

If you or anyone in your family covered under the Plan is determined by Social Security to be disabled and you notify the Plan Administrator in a timely fashion, you and your entire family may be entitled to get up to an additional 11 months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 29 months. The disability would have to have started at some time before the 60th day of COBRA continuation coverage and must last at least until the end of the 18-month period of COBRA continuation coverage.

#### Second qualifying event extension of 18-month period of continuation coverage

If your family experiences another qualifying event during the 18 months of COBRA continuation coverage, the spouse and dependent children in your family can get up to 18 additional months of COBRA continuation coverage, for a maximum of 36 months, if the Plan is properly notified about the second qualifying event. This extension may be available to the spouse and any dependent children getting COBRA continuation coverage if the employee or former employee dies; becomes entitled to Medicare benefits (under Part A, Part B, or both); gets divorced or legally separated; or if the dependent child stops being eligible under the Plan as a dependent child. This extension is only available if the second qualifying event would have caused the spouse or dependent child to lose coverage under the Plan had the first qualifying event not occurred.

#### Are there other coverage options besides COBRA Continuation Coverage?

Yes. Instead of enrolling in COBRA continuation coverage, there may be other coverage options for you and your family through the Health Insurance Marketplace, Medicare, Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) or other group health plan coverage options (such as a spouse's plan) through what is called a "special enrollment period." Some of these options may cost less than COBRA continuation coverage. You can learn more about many of these options at www.healthcare.gov.

# Can I enroll in Medicare instead of COBRA continuation coverage after my group health plan coverage ends?

In general, if you don't enroll in Medicare Part A or B when you are first eligible because you are still employed, after the Medicare initial enrollment period, you have an 8-month special enrollment period to sign up for Medicare Part A or B, beginning on the earlier of:

The month after your employment ends; or

The month after group health plan coverage based on current employment ends.

If you don't enroll in Medicare and elect COBRA continuation coverage instead, you may have to pay a Part B late enrollment penalty and you may have a gap in coverage if you decide you want Part B later. If you elect COBRA continuation coverage and later enroll in Medicare Part A or B before the COBRA continuation coverage ends, the Plan may terminate your continuation coverage. However, if Medicare Part A or B is effective on or before the date of the COBRA election, COBRA coverage may not be discontinued on account of Medicare entitlement, even if you enroll in the other part of Medicare after the date of the election of COBRA coverage.

If you are enrolled in both COBRA continuation coverage and Medicare, Medicare will generally pay first (primary payer) and COBRA continuation coverage will pay second. Certain plans may pay as if secondary to Medicare, even if you are not enrolled in Medicare.

For more information visit www.medicare.gov/medicare-and-you.

#### **If You Have Questions**

Questions concerning your Plan or your COBRA continuation coverage rights should be addressed to the contact or contacts identified below. For more information about your rights under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), including COBRA, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and other laws affecting group health plans, contact the nearest Regional or District Office of the U.S. Department of Labor's Employee Benefits Security Administration (EBSA) in your area or visit www.dol.gov/ebsa. (Addresses and phone numbers of Regional and District EBSA Offices are available through EBSA's website.) For more information about the Marketplace, visit www.HealthCare.gov.

Keep Your Plan Informed of Address Changes

To protect your family's rights, let the Plan Administrator know about any changes in the addresses of family members. You should also keep a copy, for your records, of any notices you send to the Plan Administrator.

Plan Contact Information

Jessica Phelan 125 Laker Lane, P.O. Box 27 Colchester, VT 05446 802-264-5980.