



# **Laborers' Metropolitan Detroit Health Care Fund**

**Local #1076 and #1191**

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## **IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS**

**TO: ALL PARTICIPANTS OF THE LABORERS' METROPOLITAN DETROIT  
HEALTH CARE FUND (LMDHCF or FUND)**

**RE: SUMMARY OF MATERIAL MODIFICATIONS – *EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2016*  
*PRESCRIPTION DRUG CHANGES*  
*NEW OUT-OF-POCKET MAXIMUM CHANGES***

Dear Participants:

This is a summary of changes to the Fund's prescription drug program, and your maximum out-of-pocket expenses. Both changes are *effective March 1, 2016*.

Below we explain these changes and the reasons for them.

### **I. Non-Medicare and Medicare Participants**

*Effective March 1, 2016*, non-Medicare and Medicare participants will have different prescription drug benefits under the Fund.

#### **A. Non-Medicare Participants - Active and Retired**

Non-Medicare participants' prescription drug benefits will change from the current Three-Tier Program to a Five-Tier Program, as described below and in the attached Benefit Summary:

#### **Current Program – Three Tier:**

Tier 1 – Generic Drugs	\$20 copayment
Tier 2 – Preferred Brand Drugs	\$50 copayment
Tier 3 – Non-Preferred and Specialty Drugs	\$70 copayment

**New Program – Five Tier:**

Tier 1 – Preferred Generic Drugs	\$20 copayment
Tier 2 – Preferred Brand Drugs	\$60 copayment
Tier 3 – Non-Preferred Brand Drugs	\$100 copayment
Tier 4 – Preferred Specialty Drugs	20% copayment with a maximum copayment of \$200
Tier 5 – Non-Preferred Specialty Drugs	25% copayment with a maximum copayment of \$300

**PLEASE NOTE: Both the ninety (90) day mail order and ninety (90) day retail pharmacy options are still available after this prescription drug benefit change.** As before, you'll be charged two (2) times the applicable copayment (based on the new copayment schedule) whether you purchase a ninety (90) day prescription through mail order or a retail pharmacy (e.g. Rite-Aid or Walgreens).

The copayment for a ninety (90) day prescription for a generic drug, for example, would be \$40 (i.e., two-times the cost of the normal \$20 copay for a generic drug).

**B. Medicare Participants – Retired And Disabled**

Medicare participants' prescription drug benefits will also change from the current Three Tier Program to a Five Tier Program, as described below and in the attached Benefit Summary. But, Medicare participants will be part of the "*Prescription Blue Group PDP*". The *Prescription Blue Group PDP* is often referred to as "Part D of a Medicare Advantage plan."

The new Five-Tier prescription drug program for Medicare participants will be as follows:

**Current Program – Three Tier:**

Tier 1 – Generic Drugs	\$20 copayment
Tier 2 – Preferred Brand Drugs	\$50 copayment
Tier 3 – Non-Preferred and Specialty Drugs	\$70 copayment

**New Program – Five Tier:**

Tier 1 – Preferred Generic Drugs	\$20 copayment
Tier 2 – Non-Preferred Generic Drugs	\$20 copayment
Tier 3 – Preferred Brand Drugs	\$50 copayment
Tier 4 – Non-Preferred Brand Drugs	\$70 copayment
Tier 5 – Specialty Drugs	\$70 copayment

**PLEASE NOTE: Both the ninety (90) day mail order and ninety (90) day retail pharmacy options still are available after this prescription drug change.** As before, Medicare individuals still will be charged two (2) times the applicable copayment (based on the new copayment schedule) whether they purchase a ninety (90) day prescription through mail order or

a retail pharmacy. The copayment for a ninety (90) day prescription for a generic drug, for example, would be \$40.

### **1. How the New Prescription Drug Plan Works for Medicare Participants**

If you're enrolled in Medicare and receiving Fund benefits, you'll receive a "Pre-Enrollment Kit" (Kit) from BCBSM in mid-January 2016. The Kit will contain detailed information about the new prescription drug plan. The Kit will include a BCBSM letter and summary of pharmacy benefits.

The Kit also will include an "Opt-Out Form." This "opt-out" is a legal requirement that allows you to "opt-out" of the prescription drug program, if you choose.

But, if you "opt-out," you'll be permanently terminated from the LMDHCF plan for *all* health care benefits – not just prescription drug benefits. If you do nothing – that is, if you don't opt-out – you'll automatically be enrolled in the Fund's new prescription drug program and your Fund health care benefit plan will continue.

### **C. BCBSM ID Cards**

#### **1. Non-Medicare Participants**

Non-Medicare participants *will not need or receive* a new BCBSM ID card (unless your family has a combination of Medicare and non-Medicare participants, as described below). Your current ID card will continue to work. The new copayment levels will automatically be applied when you use your current ID card.

#### **2. Medicare Participants and Spouses/Dependents**

Each Medicare participant and any spouse and/or dependent will receive two (2) new ID cards – one (1) for prescription drug benefits, and one (1) for all other Fund benefits.

So, if a husband and wife both collect Medicare benefits, each will get their **own, separate** prescription drug-only ID card, and a separate ID card for all other Fund benefits.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you're Medicare-covered, you should continue to use your Medicare card – just as you do now – in conjunction with your BCBSM ID card for medical services.

#### **3. Families Where Some Members are Medicare Covered and Some Are Not**

Families with both Medicare and non-Medicare members will receive *new* ID cards.

Individuals enrolled in Medicare and receiving Fund benefits will receive a *new* ID card for pharmacy benefits and a separate ID card for all other health care benefits (see the explanation for Medicare Participants above).

Fund-covered spouses and/or dependents not enrolled in Medicare will be issued one *new* BCBSM ID card with a different identification number in the name of the non-Medicare participant. This single, new card will cover both prescription drug and non-prescription drug health care benefits.

#### **D. ID Card Mailing and Using Your New Card**

ID cards should be mailed by mid-February 2016. So, starting March 1, 2016, please present any new ID card to your pharmacist and your other health care providers. (Remember though, if you're a non-Medicare participant and have no family members on Medicare, your current ID card will work even after March 1.)

Your old BCBSM ID card *won't* work after March 1, 2016 if you're enrolled in Medicare and receiving Fund benefits. So, you should call the Fund Office at (517) 321-7502, or Toll Free at (800) 228-0048, before the end of February if you haven't received your new BCBSM ID card(s).

## **II. MAXIMUM OUT-OF-POCKET COSTS UNDER THE AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE ACT (ACA)**

*Effective March 1, 2016*, there are changes in the amount you could pay for health care benefits. These new out-of-pocket maximum amount changes apply the same to *all* Fund participants—whether you are a non-Medicare or Medicare participant.

ACA limits on your out-of-pocket costs are adjusted annually. These limits apply separately to **in-network** costs and **out-of-network** costs. The current annual ACA out-of-pocket maximums – for both **in-network** and **out-of-network** – are \$6,200 for an individual and \$12,500 for a family.

*Effective March 1, 2016*, ACA maximum **in-network** and **out-of-network** out-of-pocket cost limits each are raised to \$6,600 for an individual and \$13,200 for a family. ACA out-of-pocket maximums apply to co-insurance and/or copayments for **medical** and **pharmacy benefits only**.

It's unlikely you'll ever reach these ACA limits. Why? Because the Fund limits most participants' out-of-pocket costs at a level lower than these ACA levels, *e.g.*, the Fund currently has a \$1,000 co-insurance maximum per family for medical services and fixed copayments for pharmacy benefits.

Still, these ACA annual out-of-pocket maximums limit the amount you *could* pay during a calendar year for your share of the cost of covered services. These ACA limits help you plan for health care expenses and provide you with extra financial protection.

### **III. WHY WE MADE THESE CHANGES**

Quite simply, we made these prescription drug changes because it was fiscally prudent and consistent with our duty to address the hard issue of ever-rising prescription drug costs.

We understand that any change is difficult. But, these prescription drug changes were economically necessary.

The ACA changes are required by law.

Sincerely,

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**LABORERS' METROPOLITAN DETROIT HEALTH CARE FUND**