



Sample Letter – January 2011

**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING
TERMINATION OF adultBASIC COVERAGE**

Dear Enrollee:

We are writing to let you know that funding for the adultBasic program will be exhausted as of February 28, 2011, and as a result your coverage under the program will end on February 28, 2011.

Several alternative options are available to you for continued health care coverage, but you must act quickly to have an alternative in place when your coverage ends.

What this means for your health care

Your adultBasic coverage will end on **February 28, 2011.**

- **The benefits you currently receive through your adultBasic plan will continue to be provided until February 28.**
- **If you are a hospital inpatient when your coverage ends on February 28, your adultBasic plan will continue to cover you through your hospitalization until you are discharged or for 90 days after coverage has ended, whichever comes first.**

An important document coming to you

After February 28, 2011, the company providing your adultBasic coverage will mail a very important document to you. This document is called a ***"HIPAA Certificate of Creditable Coverage"*** and you will need this if you apply for certain health insurance coverage.

Look for this document in the mail. If you do not receive this notice by the second week of March, call the company providing your adultBasic coverage to ask for the status of

Contact Information

If you would like more information on the termination of your adultBasic coverage and your health insurance alternatives, please visit www.insurance.pa.gov and click on "adultBasic," or call 1-800-GO-BASIC (1-800-462-2742) from Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. or Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

this important notice. Please see the “FAQs” on the adultBasic section of our website for more information.

What are your options for continued health care coverage?

You have several alternatives for continuing to receive health coverage:

1. Medical Assistance

You may apply at www.compass.state.pa.us to see if you qualify for Medical Assistance (MA). If your circumstances have changed since enrolling in adultBasic – for example, you’ve become disabled or your income has decreased – you may qualify for MA. To learn more, go to www.compass.state.pa.us and click on “Do I Qualify?” to find out if you may be eligible or call the PA DPW Helpline at 1-800-692-7462.

2. Medicare

If you have turned 65, are disabled or meet other eligibility, you may qualify for Medicare. You may apply online for Medicare by going to the following webpage: <http://www.ssa.gov/medicareonly/>. If you do not wish to apply online you can make an appointment by calling 1-800-772-1213. People who are hearing impaired may call the "TTY" number, 1-800-325-0778, between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. on business days.

3. SpecialCare SM

Pennsylvania’s Blue Cross and Blue Shield plans offer SpecialCare, a subsidized health insurance plan for individuals and families. Eligibility for SpecialCare is similar to that for adultBasic. SpecialCare differs from adultBasic both in the level of benefits and the cost. To simplify the transition from adultBasic to SpecialCare, the Blue plans have agreed to waive pre-existing condition exclusions for adultBasic members who enroll directly into SpecialCare by May 2, 2011. For more information or to enroll in SpecialCare, contact the plan that provides services in your county. Use the attached chart to determine the Blue plan or plans that serve your county of residence and following list of telephone numbers and web addresses for Pennsylvania’s Blue plans.

- **Independence Blue Cross.** 1-866-282-2702 (TDD/TTY: 215-241-2622)
www.ibx.com/health_plans/low_income/special_care.html
- **Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield.** 1-800-544-6679 , TTY 1-800-452-8086 or
www.highmarkbcbs.com/SpecialCare
- **Capital BlueCross.** 1-800-682-2393 or
www.capbluecross.com/Products/ForIndividuals/IncomeBased/SpecialCare/

Contact Information

If you would like more information on the termination of your adultBasic coverage and your health insurance alternatives, please visit www.insurance.pa.gov and click on “adultBasic,” or call 1-800-GO-BASIC (1-800-462-2742) from Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. or Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- **Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania.** 1-888-445-7930 or www.bcnepa.com/ohpSpecialCare.aspx
- **Highmark Blue Shield.** 1-877-986-4571, TTY 1-800-562-0591 or www.highmarkblueshield.com/SpecialCare

4. Employer-based Coverage

You may have the option to select coverage provided through your employer, or another family member's employer if applicable. In many cases, an employer subsidizes the cost of such coverage.

5. PA Fair Care

PA Fair Care is Pennsylvania's health insurance program for uninsured people with pre-existing medical conditions. To be eligible, the federal Affordable Care Act says you must be uninsured for six months and have a pre-existing condition. This means you would be eligible for PA Fair Care in September if you are not covered by health insurance for the six months between February 28 (when adultBasic ends) and September 1, 2011. The Pennsylvania Insurance Department has asked the federal government to find that the six-month uninsured waiting period does not apply to adultBasic enrollees. Until the federal government makes a decision on this request, PA Fair Care will require the six-month uninsured period. We will continue to provide updates on our request to the federal government on the adultBasic section of our website. For information on PA Fair Care visit www.PAFairCare.com or call 1-888-767-7015.

Contact Information

If you would like more information on the termination of your adultBasic coverage and your health insurance alternatives, please visit www.insurance.pa.gov and click on "adultBasic," or call 1-800-GO-BASIC (1-800-462-2742) from Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. or Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Other available resources

Here is a list of other health care resources that may offer you support or care:

Community Health Centers

There are approximately 200 community health centers across the state that provide free or low-cost comprehensive, high quality medical health care for all ages on an ability-to-pay basis. In some locations, a full range of services such as dental care and prescription drugs is available. Services may be free or low-cost, based on your household income. To find the health centers nearest you, call the PA Association of Community Health Centers from Monday and Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. at 1-866-944-CARE (2273), or go to http://www.pachc.com/health_find.html for a list of Pennsylvania health centers.

Financial assistance with hospital bills

Most hospitals offer financial assistance for uninsured patients who need treatment but cannot afford to pay their bills. Patients who qualify may have their bills reduced or eliminated.

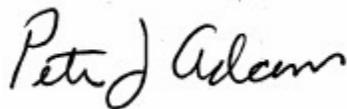
Financial assistance with prescription drugs

Pennsylvanians who do not participate in any other state or federally-funded prescription program may be able to receive free or low-cost prescriptions. Call 1-800-955-0989 for *The Pennsylvania Patient Assistance Program Clearinghouse* or go to www.aging.state.pa.us, "Prescription Assistance" and "Other Pharmaceutical Programs." The Clearinghouse will help you apply for free or low-cost prescription medicines available from drug manufacturing companies and other sources.

If you have questions about adultBasic claims or other options for care, including Special Care, you may also contact your insurance contractor.

We understand that the ending of your adultBasic coverage is difficult and we hope the information above is helpful.

Sincerely,



Peter J. Adams
Deputy Insurance Commissioner

Contact Information

If you would like more information on the termination of your adultBasic coverage and your health insurance alternatives, please visit www.insurance.pa.gov and click on "adultBasic," or call 1-800-GO-BASIC (1-800-462-2742) from Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. or Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Note: Special Care is not offered by the Pennsylvania Insurance Department, nor does identifying it here serve as an endorsement or sponsorship or other affiliation by or with the Pennsylvania Insurance Department. The Special Care products are offered by the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Plans, and these products and the website links are identified here as a resource to assist adultBasic enrollees in finding alternative coverage.

Si necesitas ayuda para traducir esta información, por favor comuníquese con Adulto Basico al: 1-800-462-2742 estamos disponibles de Lunes a Viernes desde las 7:00AM hasta las 7:00PM, y los Sábados desde las 9:00am hasta las 3:00pm, y para los usuarios del sistema TTY deberán llamar al: 1-877-232-7640

Contact Information

If you would like more information on the termination of your adultBasic coverage and your health insurance alternatives, please visit www.insurance.pa.gov and click on “adultBasic,” or call 1-800-GO-BASIC (1-800-462-2742) from Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. or Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.