Inside this issue...



SUMMER 2021

- Insurance Cards Mandated Changes by the Consolidated Appropriations Act
- Help Your Employees Better Understand Their Plan Coverage
- New Enhancement Coming Soon to GroupAccess: Updated Delegate Authority
- New Healthcare Reform Preventive Mandates

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Blue News





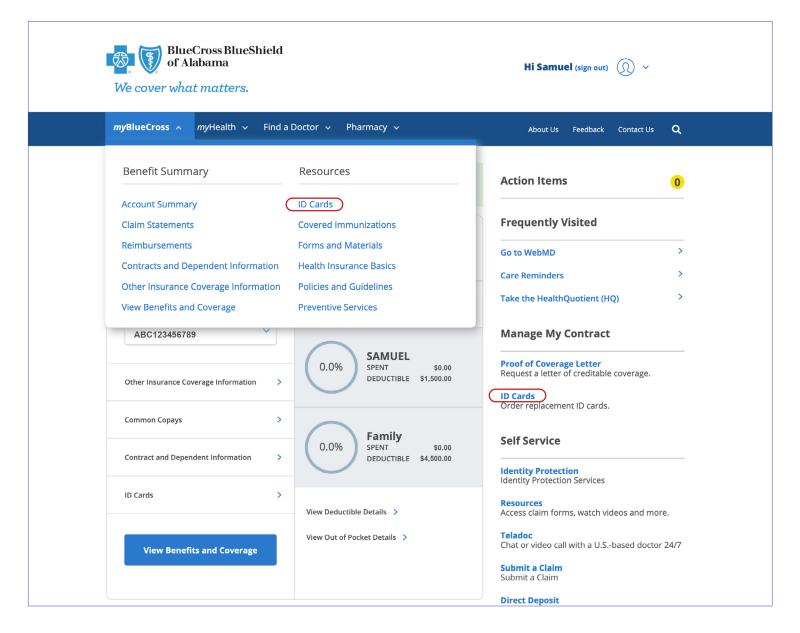
Insurance Cards - Mandated Changes by the Consolidated Appropriations Act

The Consolidated Appropriations Act (CAA) was enacted into law in December 2020 and contains numerous requirements for health plans, including changes to insurance ID cards. Beginning January 1, 2022, at a group's legal plan year, ID cards must identify the amount of any in-network or out-of-network deductible *and* any in-network or out-of-network out-of-pocket maximum. Additionally, ID cards must include a phone number and website where members can access additional benefit information.

To meet this requirement, new digital ID cards will be available by January 1, 2022, for groups with legal plan years beginning on January 1. Members can access their digital ID cards by logging in to *my*BlueCross at AlabamaBlue.com. Digital ID cards are identical to hard-copy ID cards. Most groups should receive new hard-copy ID cards by January 1, 2022, **or at their legal plan year**. However, there may be delays due to printing volume.

Your employees' existing hard-copy ID cards will be valid until new hard-copy ID cards are received.

Blue Cross is committed to meeting the requirements of the CAA mandate and ensuring a positive member experience. We encourage you to submit your group's benefit information on time in order to minimize delays in delivering hard-copy ID cards to your employees.



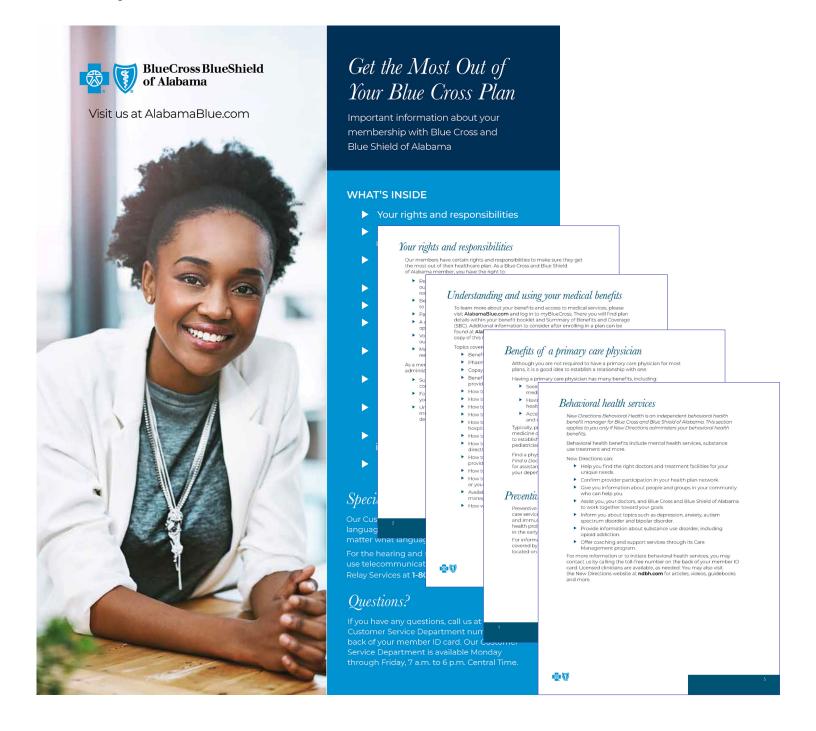
Help Your Employees Better Understand Their Plan Coverage

Blue Cross has created a brochure to help members get the most out of their benefit plan. Available in September, the brochure covers topics, such as:

- Rights and responsibilities
- Understanding and using medical benefits
- Benefits of a primary care physician
- Preventive care services
- Behavioral health services
- Understanding pharmacy benefits
- Access to Utilization Management staff
- Protecting healthcare needs

- How to appeal an adverse decision
- Programs targeted toward improving health
- How we are improving quality

We encourage you to alert your employees that, beginning in September 2021, they can get a copy of the brochure at **AlabamaBlue.com/GetTheMost** or by calling **1-855-880-6356** (**TTY 711**).



New Enhancement Coming Soon to GroupAccess: Updated Delegate Authority Process

GroupAccess, the secure online portal for Group Administrators, makes doing your job easier with important enrollment and account management tools all in one place. And soon, your GroupAccess experience will be even better. We are streamlining the Delegate Authority process, making it easier to navigate and more intuitive.

Primary Group Administrators will have the ability to:

- Search for administrators by last name, in addition to user name or group number
- Easily copy permissions from one administrator to another
- Use logical groupings to quickly view and assign permissions
- Enjoy an updated, more organized look and feel

If you have questions about GroupAccess and the upcoming changes, please contact your Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama Enrollment Services Representative.



New Healthcare Reform Preventive Mandates

Preve Requir		Multiple Services	Lung Cancer Screening with Low-Dose Computed Tomography	Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Infection, Screening	Colorectal Cancer Screening	Unhealthy Drug Use Screening (Adults)
Publi Da		Existing recommendation with updated CPT & HCPCS coding	Existing recommendation originally published December 2013	Existing recommendation originally published June 2013	Existing recommendation originally published June 2016	New recommendation published on June 9, 2020
Blue (Effectiv	Cross ve Date	January 1, 2021	March 22, 2021	April 1, 2021	May 18, 2021	July 1, 2021
Chan Curr Bene	rent	NO: Applicable procedural coding updates (new/revised/deleted codes) to existing benefit services comprehensively reviewed and operationalized	YES: Age range for service updated to include individuals ages 50-80 years old, per USPSTF recommendation	YES: Expanded covered diagnosis codes and updated age limits to include all adults, per USPSTF recommendation	YES: Age range for colorectal cancer screenings lowered to include individuals ages 45-75 years old, per USPSTF recommendation	YES: New preventive service added for the screening of unhealthy drug use in adults (18 years or older)

The new preventive care benefits will go into effect for all groups on the Blue Cross effective date listed in the chart above. These new benefits are only applicable to non-grandfathered groups and grandfathered groups that cover mandated healthcare reform preventive services. Self-funded groups may delay coverage until their plan year.

