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## 2023 Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan - FEP Blue Focus

### FEHB Facts

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When you change to Self Plus One or Self and Family because you marry, the change is effective on the first day of the pay period that begins after your employing office receives your enrollment form. Benefits will not be available until you are married. A carrier may request that an enrollee verify the eligibility of any or all family members listed as covered under the enrollee's FEHB enrollment.

Contact your carrier to add a family member when there is already family Coverage.

Contact your employing or retirement office if you are changing from Self to Self Plus One or Self and Family or to add a family member if you currently have a Self Only plan.

Your employing or retirement office will **not** notify you when a family member is no longer eligible to receive health benefits, nor will we. Please tell us immediately of changes in family member status, including your marriage, divorce, annulment, or when your child reaches age 26.

**If you or one of your family members is enrolled in one FEHB plan you or they cannot be enrolled in or covered as a family member by another enrollee in another FEHB plan.**

If you have a qualifying life event (QLE) – such as marriage, divorce, or the birth of a child – outside of the Federal Benefits Open Season, you may be eligible to enroll in the FEHB Program, change your enrollment, or cancel coverage. For a complete list of QLEs, visit the FEHB website at [www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/life-events](http://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/life-events). If you need assistance, please contact your employing agency, Tribal Benefits Officer, personnel/payroll office, or retirement office.

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#### • Family member coverage

Family members covered under your Self and Family enrollment are your spouse (including your spouse by valid common-law marriage if you reside in a state that recognizes common-law marriages) and children as described in the chart below. A Self Plus One enrollment covers you and your spouse, or one other eligible family member as described in the chart below.

#### **Natural children, adopted children, and stepchildren**

Coverage: Natural children, adopted children, and stepchildren are covered until their 26th birthday.

### **Foster children**

Coverage: Foster children are eligible for coverage until their 26th birthday if you provide documentation of your regular and substantial support of the child and sign a certification stating that your foster child meets all the requirements. Contact your human resources office or retirement system for additional information.

### **Children incapable of self-support**

Coverage: Children who are incapable of self-support because of a mental or physical disability that began before age 26 are eligible to continue coverage. Contact your human resources office or retirement system for additional information.

### **Married children**

Coverage: Married children (but NOT their spouse or their own children) are covered until their 26th birthday.

### **Children with or eligible for employer-provided health insurance**

Coverage: Children who are eligible for or have their own employer-provided health insurance are covered until their 26th birthday.

Newborns of covered children are insured only for routine nursery care during the covered portion of the mother's maternity stay.

You can find additional information at [www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance](http://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance).

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- **Children's Equity Act**

OPM implements the Federal Employees Health Benefits Children's Equity Act of 2000. This law mandates that you be enrolled for Self Plus One or Self and Family coverage in the FEHB Program, if you are an employee subject to a court or administrative order requiring you to provide health benefits for your child or children.

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