Healthcare Coverage Designed for Your Community, Accessible Across the Country

For more than 90 years, Blue Cross and Blue Shield (BCBS) companies have provided secure and stable healthcare coverage to people in communities across the country. BCBS grew out of a grassroots approach to a prepaid hospital plan in 1929. Today, the 35 independent and locally operated BCBS companies take what we learn from covering more than 112 million people—one in three Americans—and use that knowledge to improve our healthcare system, and the health and wellness of our local communities.

PROVIDING TRUSTED LEADERSHIP THROUGH EXPERIENCE

Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies are the oldest, most experienced providers of health coverage in America. As community-based companies, the Blues® understand their local markets and offer customized products and services that are tailored to meet local needs. BCBS companies also partner with more than 1.7 million doctors and hospitals nationwide to provide high-quality care at the best possible price.

In the late 1950s, the government passed the Federal Employees Health Benefits Act and turned to BCBS companies as a valuable partner to provide coverage to federal employees across the country. The Blue Cross Blue Shield Federal Employee Program (FEP®) is the top choice of federal employees, retirees and their families.

Today, Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies cover:

- 79 of America’s Fortune 100 employers, including some of America’s top companies like Walmart, Microsoft, General Motors and UPS.
- 6.9 million people who work for small employers and are committed to helping small businesses manage their healthcare costs.
- 18 million unionized workers, retirees and their families—the #1 choice for organized labor.
- Millions of Americans through government-supported healthcare programs, including:
  - 5.8 million federal workers, retirees and their families through the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program—the top choice for federal workers
  - 4 million through Medigap supplemental insurance
  - 11.1 million through Medicaid programs
  - 4 million through Medicare Advantage
  - 1.4 million through Medicare Part D Rx drug plans

BCBS companies offer coverage through the Affordable Care Act marketplaces, and we also provide coverage through the Office of Personnel Management’s multi-state plan. BCBS companies have partnered with the federal government to process Medicare claims and payments since the program’s inception in 1966. Today, Blue Medicare Administrative Contractors collectively handle more of the day-to-day work of paying Medicare claims than any other company.
Delivering Better Care Through Innovation

Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies believe our healthcare system should deliver safe, high-quality care; eliminate inefficient spending; and encourage and reward actions that individuals take to improve their health. Through innovative programs, the Blue System is improving care delivery and collaborating with physicians and nurses to help them choose evidence-based medical treatments that will best meet the unique needs of each patient.

- By drawing on data from a network that includes more than 1.7 million doctors and hospitals nationwide, Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies are uniquely positioned to provide insights and intelligence on healthcare quality and cost at the local, regional and national levels.
- More than 67 million BCBS members across 44 states and Washington, D.C. have access to care from more than 580,000 providers who are engaged with patient-focused care programs.
- Learning from the data that encompasses more than $510 billion in annual claims nationally, BCBS companies provide free tools available on apps and online for consumers to compare costs for over 1,600 healthcare procedures – more than any other health insurer in the U.S. – to eliminate surprise out-of-pocket expenses and encourage price transparency.
- Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies offer a portfolio of performance-driven national network solutions that make it easier to design benefits for employers’ specific needs, leveraging designated providers that meet nationally consistent criteria for quality and efficiency.
  - The Blue High Performance Network (BlueHPN) uses the local expertise, deep data and strong relationships of BCBS companies to partner with the right providers in each market to drive meaningful change toward better outcomes and value. BlueHPN offers a total cost of care savings of 11 percent on average (and up to 20 percent in some markets) in addition to the savings delivered by BlueCard PPO.
  - Blue Distinction Specialty Care focuses on doctors, hospitals and other healthcare facilities that excel in delivering safe, effective treatment for specialty procedures, such as knee and hip replacements, cardiac care, bariatric surgery and transplants.
  - Total Care focuses largely on primary care by recognizing doctors and hospitals that focus on the whole patient—emphasizing prevention and wellness, delivering more coordinated care and helping patients better manage chronic conditions.

Improving America’s Health Through Data-Driven Solutions

The unmatched experience, scale and scope of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield System translates to unparalleled depth and breadth of national healthcare data. The Blues® span every ZIP code in the U.S., contract with more than 1.7 million doctors and hospitals and insure more than 112 million members. BCBS companies are harnessing the power of data capabilities such as Blue Cross Blue Shield Axis™, Blue Cross Blue Shield Health Index and Blue Health Intelligence® to power insights that are transforming healthcare, community by community, identify quality solutions to keep healthcare affordable and accessible, and improve health equity.

Leading Through a Public Health Crisis

From the earliest days of the COVID-19 pandemic, BCBS companies took immediate and wide-ranging action to support our communities during the pandemic, including:

- Investing more than $11.5 billion in the fight against COVID-19.
- Helping vaccinate more than 2 million seniors in under 100 days through the Vaccine Community Connectors program.
- Contributing more than $315 million to community-based nonprofits to address social issues exacerbated by the pandemic.
- Volunteering more than 250,000 BCBS employees, such as clinical staff and data scientists, to assist on the front line.