

Centers of Excellence Incentive Plan – Effective May 1, 2015

The Fee-for-Service medical plan offers an incentive for using “Centers of Excellence” for certain approved procedures. A Center of Excellence is a facility that has a proven track-record for positive outcomes for a certain procedure when compared to facilities without such a designation of excellence. The Fee-for-Service plan only recognizes the Blue Cross/Blue Shield “Blue Distinction Centers” as Centers of Excellence. To find a Blue Distinction Center, please visit www.bcbs.com/innovations/bluedistinction/center-list/selector-map.html.

A Participant or eligible Dependent may be eligible for the incentive(s) described below with respect to certain procedures related to the following, when performed at a Blue Distinction Center:

1. Cardiac Care:
 - Cardiac Surgery (Coronary Artery Bypass Graft – CABG)
 - Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI)

2. Treatment for Complex and Rare Cancers:
 - Bladder cancer
 - Bone cancer – primary
 - Brain cancer – primary
 - Esophageal cancer
 - Gastric cancer
 - Head and neck cancers
 - Liver cancer – primary
 - Ocular melanoma
 - Pancreatic cancer
 - Rectal cancer
 - Soft tissue sarcomas
 - Thyroid cancer – medullary or anaplastic
 - Acute leukemia (inpatient/non-surgical)

3. Spine Surgery:
 - Laminectomy Inpatient
 - Spinal Fusion (Anterior) Inpatient
 - Spinal Fusion (Posterior) Inpatient

4. Transplants:
 - Heart, Liver, Bone Marrow/Stem Cell (Adult and Pediatric)
 - Lung and Pancreas (Adult Only)

For more information on specific procedures that are eligible for an incentive when performed at a Blue Distinction Center, please contact the Trust Office at (714) 917-6100.

Who Is Eligible to Receive the Incentive?

A Participant or eligible Dependent enrolled in the Fee-for-Service Medical Plan at the time of the procedure is eligible to receive an incentive under the Plan. All incentives must be pre-authorized by the Trust Office. You must contact the Trust Office prior to the procedure so that the Trust Office may determine if the applicable procedure is eligible for an incentive. As described in further detail below, the Participant or eligible Dependent must also submit Incentive Claim Form(s) to the Trust Office in order to receive his/her reimbursement.

What Is the Incentive?

You can choose from one of the two incentives available below:

Incentive 1 – Reimbursement of Out-of-Pocket Expenses

- The Plan will reimburse the Participant or eligible Dependent for all eligible out-of-pocket medical and pharmacy expenses incurred by the Patient or eligible Dependent within the 12 month period beginning on the date the Plan pre-authorizes the procedure at a Blue Distinction Center, up to a maximum of \$2,000 per calendar year. Co-payments for services performed prior to the authorized procedure but after pre-authorization was received for such procedure are eligible for reimbursement as long as the entire reimbursement period does not exceed 12 months. Reimbursements will not be paid until the authorized procedure is performed.
 - Eligible expenses include:
 - Co-payments to providers and hospitals or facilities
 - Co-payments for prescriptions

Note: Eligible expenses are not limited to co-payments related to the approved procedure. Eligible expenses may include co-payments for unrelated medical and pharmacy expenses.

 - The Participant or eligible Dependent must submit proof-of-payment with the Incentive Claim Form. An acceptable proof-of-payment must contain the provider, hospital, or pharmacy name, the date of service, patient name, and the payment amount.

Incentive 2 – Reimbursement of Travel Expenses

- The Plan will reimburse the Participant or eligible Dependent for travel expenses to and from a Blue Distinction Center that is more than 50 miles from the Participant's or eligible Dependent's home for an authorized procedure. The Plan will reimburse travel expenses for the patient and one additional individual, up to a maximum of \$2,000 per calendar year.
 - The following items will be reimbursed:
 - Transportation-related expenses to and from the Participant's or eligible Dependent's home to the Blue Distinction Center. Examples are:
 - Airfare or train fare
 - Taxi expenses to/from an airport and to/from the Blue Distinction Center
 - Rental car expenses
 - Airport parking expenses
 - Lodging expenses for a hotel near the Blue Distinction Center, limited to the room rate plus applicable taxes. (Lodging expenses do not include other hotel fees such as internet access, in-room movies, laundry services, etc.)

- A meal allowance of \$25 per person per day, including eligible travel days. (The Plan does not require meal receipts.)
- One travel day is allowed both before and after the procedure. For example, if the approved procedure is performed on Monday, the Plan will reimburse transportation, lodging and meal expenses for Sunday through Tuesday.
- The Participant or eligible Dependent must submit original receipts for all items (except for meals) with the Incentive Claim Form. Acceptable receipts should include the date, name of traveler and relation to the patient (when applicable) and amount of payment.

NOTE: If there is no Blue Distinction Center within 50 miles of the Participant's or eligible Dependent's home, he/she is eligible for both Incentive 1 and Incentive 2, for a maximum of \$4,000 per calendar year.

How to Receive the Incentive

In order to receive the reimbursement incentive(s) described above, the Participant or eligible Dependent must submit Incentive Claim Form(s) to the Trust Office. You may submit multiple claim forms until you have exhausted the entire approved incentive amount. Please contact the Trust Office to receive an Incentive Claim Form. The Trust Office will process reimbursements within 4 weeks of receiving all required items. The Trust Office will not consider any incentive requests which were not pre-authorized.