



WISCONSIN ELECTRICAL EMPLOYEES BENEFIT FUNDS



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NATIONAL ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION-WISCONSIN CHAPTER

May 2023

To: All Participants:

On January 30, 2023, the Biden Administration announced that the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency will end on May 11, 2023. The Administration then signed a bill on April 10, 2023, ending the COVID-19 National Emergency as of that day. This letter discusses the changes to the Plan as a result of these emergencies ending.

Public Health Emergency

Effective May 12, 2023, all COVID-19 tests, the related office visits, over the counter COVID-19 test kits and out-of-network COVID-19 vaccines will no longer be covered at 100%. The Plan's usual rules and cost sharing provisions, including deductible, will be applied to these services. The Plan will continue to cover qualifying COVID-19 vaccines received from an in-network provider at 100% without application of the deductible. Over the counter COVID-19 tests will be reimbursable through your Flex.

Also, effective May 12, 2023, the temporary change to the supplemental unemployment benefit will also end. As such, beginning May 12, 2023, any Active Hourly Employee receiving supplemental unemployment benefits after six months must provide evidence that he or she is available for work.

National Emergency

Following the end of the National Emergency, all Plan deadlines will once again run, consistent with the rules described in the summary plan description ("SPD"), on July 11, 2023. This means that for the following actions, the deadlines described in your SPD will apply on July 11, 2023:

- Filing a claim for benefits
- Filing an appeal for denied a claim
- Requesting an external review or perfecting an incomplete request
- Providing notice of a COBRA qualifying event
- Making COBRA elections
- Paying COBRA premiums
- Requesting special enrollment

As a reminder, beginning in March 2020, all Plan deadlines were suspended for the shorter of one year or the end of the National Emergency plus 60 days or such other date announced by the Department in a future notice (referred to as the "Outbreak Period"). With the end of the National Emergency announced, the Outbreak Period will end June 9, 2023. However, the Trustees have agreed to extend the Plan's deadline through July 11, 2023. Accordingly, any deadline that is currently suspended, and that has not yet hit its one-year extension, will begin running on July 11, 2023.

If you have any questions regarding the deadline extensions or the changes described in this notice, contact the Fund Office.