



New York State Correctional Officers & Police Benevolent Association

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TO: NYSCOPBA Members

FROM: Sharon Smith, Health Benefits Specialist

DATE: March 24, 2021

RE: NYSHIP Enrollment Verification Letter Being Mailed 4/5/21

This letter is to notify you of a NYSHIP eligibility letter being mailed to members 4/5/21 regarding dependent eligibility (Opt-out members may receive this letter at a later time). This letter has nothing to do with the Dependent Eligibility Verification Audits previously done and also proposed in the Governor's budget.

Please watch for this letter and read it carefully. If you have a dependent still covered under your health insurance and that dependent is **NO LONGER ELIGIBLE FOR COVERAGE**, reach out to your Personnel Office at your facility immediately and fill out the paperwork to take that dependent off. As noted in the letter, "...it is your responsibility to keep your NYSHIP enrollment record up to date..." and "...you must notify your HBA when your covered dependent(s) no longer meet NYSHIP eligibility requirements". Remember, "If you fail to inform your HBA of dependent eligibility changes, you may be responsible for paying all health insurance claims for ineligible dependents as early as the date they became ineligible".

One common example is coverage for an ex-wife due to a divorce. An ex-wife is not eligible for coverage effective the date that the divorce is final and signed by the judge. If they remain on your policy and you do not terminate their coverage, any claims paid after that divorce date may become **your** responsibility, meaning you will be mandated to reimburse all monies paid back to the plan. Review your General Information book for information in regard to eligibility, qualifying events and time limitations on all dependents you cover.

NO action is required if your dependents are currently eligible.

Should you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

SS

cc: NYSCOPBA Executive Board
NYSCOPBA Jt. Committee on Health Benefits