

October 1, 2018

Re: **Mount St. Mary's University Medical Plan  
Medicare Creditable Coverage Notification**

You may disregard this notice, if you are Medicare age eligible and wish to **continue** with the Mount St. Mary's Medical plan and/or if you and any of your dependents **are not** eligible for Medicare at this time.

Enclosed is an important notice about your prescription drug coverage. If you or any of your dependents are Medicare eligible, please read this notice before the Medicare Open Enrollment period begins on October 15<sup>th</sup> through December 7<sup>th</sup>.

The notice contains information about your current prescription drug program. This information is intended to help you decide whether or not you want to join Medicare's prescription drug program.

In addition, we have included your Notice of Credible Coverage. It is important that you retain a copy of this Notice. If you choose to decline Medicare prescription drug coverage at this time, you will need the Notice to avoid paying higher premiums (penalties) should you join a Medicare drug plan at a later date.

Coverage is defined as creditable when its actuarial value equals or exceeds the standard Part D prescription drug benefit. In general, the actuarial value of the benefit is determined by whether or not the prescription drug coverage is expected to pay out, on average for participants, at least as much as the standard Part D coverage would pay in the 2018 calendar year. If the coverage does not equal or exceed the value of the standard Part D benefit, the pharmacy plan is considered "creditable."

**Important Notice from  
Mount St. Mary's University Welfare Benefits Plan  
About**

**Your Prescription Drug Coverage and Medicare**

Please read this notice carefully and keep it where you can find it. This notice has information about your current prescription drug coverage with *CareFirst Administrators* and about your options under Medicare's prescription drug coverage. This information can help you decide whether or not you want to join a Medicare drug plan. If you are considering joining, you should compare your current coverage, including which drugs are covered at what cost, with the coverage and costs of the plans offering Medicare prescription drug coverage in your area. Information about where you can get help to make decisions about your prescription drug coverage is at the end of this notice.

There are two important things you need to know about your current coverage and Medicare's prescription drug coverage:

1. Medicare prescription drug coverage became available in 2006 to everyone with Medicare. You can get this coverage if you join a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or join a Medicare Advantage Plan (like an HMO or PPO) that offers prescription drug coverage. All Medicare drug plans provide at least a standard level of coverage set by Medicare. Some plans may also offer more coverage for a higher monthly premium.
2. *CareFirst Administrators* have determined that the prescription drug coverage offered by the *Mount St. Mary's University Welfare Benefits Plan* is, on average for all plan participants, expected to pay out as much as standard Medicare prescription drug coverage pays and is therefore considered Creditable Coverage. Because your existing coverage is Creditable Coverage, you can keep this coverage and not pay a higher premium (a penalty) if you later decide to join a Medicare drug plan.

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**When Can You Join A Medicare Drug Plan?**

You can join a Medicare drug plan when you first become eligible for Medicare and each year from October 15<sup>th</sup> to December 7<sup>th</sup>.

However, if you lose your current creditable prescription drug coverage, through no fault of your own, you will also be eligible for a two (2) month Special Enrollment Period (SEP) to join a Medicare drug plan.

CMS Form 10182-CC

Updated April 1, 2011

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 0938-0990. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 8 hours per response initially, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: CMS, 7500 Security Boulevard, Attn: PRA Reports Clearance Officer, Mail Stop C4-26-05, Baltimore, Maryland 21244-1850.

## What Happens To Your Current Coverage If You Decide to Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

If you decide to join a Medicare drug plan, your current plan coverage will not be affected. Medicare eligible individuals who become eligible for Medicare Part D can keep coverage if they elect a Part D plan. For information regarding the coordination of your **Mount St. Mary's University Welfare Benefits Plan** and a Medicare drug plan, contact **Maria Garcia (mgarcia@bxall.com)** at **Benefits Exchange Los Angeles, 100 Corporate Pointe, Suite 210, Culver City, CA 90230** or **by phone at (310) 307-4413**.

**NOTE:** If you do decide to join a Medicare drug plan and drop your current coverage under the **Mount St. Mary's University Welfare Benefits Plan** be aware that you and your dependents will not be able to get this coverage back except at the next annual open enrollment or if you have a "special enrollment" event.

## When Will You Pay A Higher Premium (Penalty) To Join A Medicare Drug Plan?

You should also know that if you drop or lose your current coverage with **CareFirst Administrators** and don't join a Medicare drug plan within 63 continuous days after your current coverage ends, you may pay a higher premium (a penalty) to join a Medicare drug plan later.

If you go 63 continuous days or longer without creditable prescription drug coverage, your monthly premium may go up by at least 1% of the Medicare base beneficiary premium per month for every month that you did not have that coverage. For example, if you go nineteen months without creditable coverage, your premium may consistently be at least 19% higher than the Medicare base beneficiary premium. You may have to pay this higher premium (a penalty) as long as you have Medicare prescription drug coverage. In addition, you may have to wait until the following October to join.

## For More Information About This Notice Or Your Current Prescription Drug Coverage...

Contact the person listed below for further information or call **Maria Garcia** at **(310) 307-4413**. **NOTE:** You'll get this notice each year. You will also get it before the next period you can join a Medicare drug plan, and if this coverage through **CareFirst Administrators** changes. You also may request a copy of this notice at any time.

## For More Information About Your Options Under Medicare Prescription Drug Coverage...

More detailed information about Medicare plans that offer prescription drug coverage is in the “Medicare & You” handbook. You’ll get a copy of the handbook in the mail every year from Medicare. You may also be contacted directly by Medicare drug plans.

For more information about Medicare prescription drug coverage:

Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov)

Call your State Health Insurance Assistance Program (see the inside back cover of your copy of the “Medicare & You” handbook for their telephone number) for personalized help

Call 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227). TTY users should call 1-877-486-2048.

If you have limited income and resources, extra help paying for Medicare prescription drug coverage is available. For information about this extra help, visit Social Security on the web at [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov), or call them at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778).

***Remember: Keep this Creditable Coverage notice. If you decide to join one of the Medicare drug plans, you may be required to provide a copy of this notice when you join to show whether or not you have maintained creditable coverage and, therefore, whether or not you are required to pay a higher premium (a penalty).***

Date:	<b>October 1, 2018</b>
Name of Entity/Sender:	<b>Benefits Exchange Los Angeles</b>
Contact--Position/Office:	<b>Maria Garcia (mgarcia@bxall.com), Acct. Manager</b>
Address:	<b>100 Corporate Pointe, Ste, 210, Culver City, CA 90230</b>
Phone Number:	<b>(310) 307-4413</b>