Mass Reissuance of Empire Plan Benefit Cards

EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2022, a new federal law requires the inclusion of annual out-of pocket costs on employee health insurance benefit cards.

Beginning on Monday, November 15, 2021, new Empire Plan benefit cards will be issued for all enrollees and covered dependents. New cards will be issued based on enrollee last name and the entire reissuance will take approximately 35 calendar days.

Enrollees can begin using the new benefit cards immediately and securely shred or destroy all other cards. Enrollees do not need to activate this card prior to use.

WHAT IS DIFFERENT

The new benefit cards will include the annual deductible and out-ofpocket maximum information based on the enrollee's Benefit Program. To accommodate differences in these amounts, there will be two versions of the cards (Individual and Family). The cards have also been redesigned to incorporate Plan and administrator logos, the group number and bin number as well as the Department of Civil Service website.

WHAT IS NOT CHANGING

Information included with the new card advises enrollees that the nine-digit identification number ("AltID") is not changing and that health benefits are not changing. The card will continue to list The Empire Plan toll-free number and other important information to aid with claims submissions.







