A group health plan makes coverage effective on the first of the month following your initial date of hire and on each open enrollment period following. Open enrollment generally occurs in February and August of each calendar for adjunct employees and in October of each year for all other employees.

The plan imposes a 6 month maximum pre-existing condition exclusion (18 months for late enrollees) and uses a 6 month look back period. As part of the enrollment application materials, the plan provides the following statement:

This plan imposes a pre-existing condition exclusion. This means that if you have a medical condition before coming to our plan, you might have to wait a certain period of time before the plan will provide coverage for that condition. This exclusion applies only to conditions for which medical advice, diagnosis, care, or treatment recommended or received within a 6 month period. Generally, this 6 month period ends on the day before the waiting period begins. The pre-existing condition exclusion does not apply to pregnancy or to a child who is enrolled in the plan within 30 days after birth, adoption, or placement for adoption.

This exclusion may last up to 6 months (18 months if you are a late enrollee) from your first day of coverage, or, if you were in a waiting period, from the first day of your waiting period. However, you can reduce the length of this exclusion period by the number of days of your prior creditable coverage. Most prior health coverage is creditable and can be used to reduce the pre-existing condition exclusion if you have not experienced a break in coverage of at least 63 days. To reduce the 6 months (18 months if you are late enrollee) exclusion period by your creditable coverage, you should give us a copy of any certificates of creditable coverage you have. If you do not have a certificate, but you do have prior health coverage, we will help you obtain one from your prior plan or issuer. There are also other ways that you can show you have creditable coverage. Please contact us if you need help demonstrating creditable coverage.

All questions about the pre-existing condition exclusion and creditable coverage should be directed to:

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