



Blue Cross Group Medicare Advantage
Open Access (PPO)SM

THE TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM



live
your
Blue
lifeSM

A circular logo with the text "VALUED MEMBER" around the perimeter and a map of Texas in the center with "TX" written on it.

Welcome Guide

Important information about your 65 Plus Medicare Advantage Plan (PPO)

Keep this information for reference.

Estos materiales están disponibles en español. Póngase en contacto con Servicio al Cliente para obtener ayuda.

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When you get information from your **65 Plus Medicare Advantage Plan (PPO)**, look for these helpful icons to get the most out of your plan.



When you see this icon,
TAKE ACTION
to complete a task.



When you see this icon,
SAVE THIS important
information somewhere
you can easily reference it.



When you see this
icon, you have
NEW INFORMATION
to review.

live your Blue life

Welcome to the 65 Plus Medicare Advantage Plan (PPO).

Our goal is to help you manage and improve your health, so we've developed this Welcome Guide. It includes useful information like:

- Using your member ID card
- Understanding your plan's coverage
- Exploring your wellness solutions
- Getting help when you need it.

Please review the information about your coverage and next steps, starting on page 4.

The 65 Plus Medicare Advantage Plan (PPO) is an open access Medicare Advantage PPO plan. On occasion, you may receive automated communications that reference the plan name 'Blue Cross Group Medicare Advantage Open Access (PPO)SM.' This plan name is the same as the 65 Plus Medicare Advantage Plan (PPO).



Let's Get Started

Make the most of your plan by taking the next steps.



Step 1

Check Your Member ID Card



You can use your benefits starting on your effective date.

Use your 65 Plus Medicare Advantage Plan (PPO) ID card from Blue Cross Group Medicare Advantage whenever you receive a medical service or benefit covered by your plan. When you receive your ID card, review the following:



Effective date

Your confirmation letter will show your effective date — the date your coverage begins. The letter can be used as proof of insurance if you have not received your member ID card by your effective date.

Personal information

Make sure the information on the member ID card is accurate.

- Be sure to show the new card to your providers and pharmacy for Part B drugs. You will need this card and your Express Scripts Part D ID card at the pharmacy.
- Keep your ID cards safe like you would a credit or debit card.
- Update the Customer Service number you have saved in your phone with the number listed on the back of your new card.
- If something is wrong on your ID card, call us.

Step 2

Sign up for or Log in to Blue Access for Members



Everything you need to know about your coverage — in one place.

Get the most out of your health care benefits with Blue Access for Members.

BAMSM is a secure website and, along with our mobile app, gives you the health information you need, anytime you need it.

On your computer or tablet, go to **www.bluemembertx.com**.

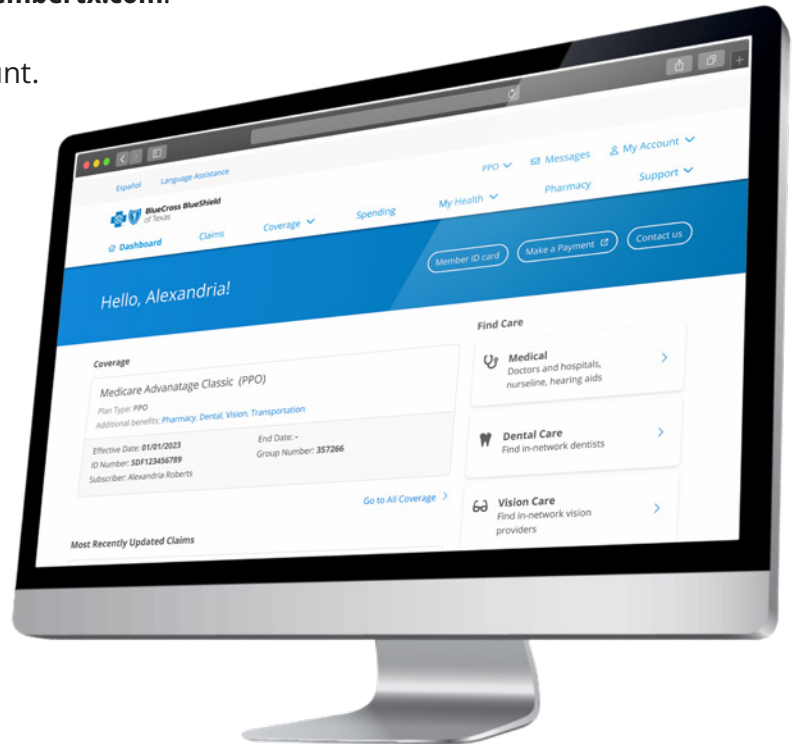
Click 'Member Login' to be directed to BAM.

Then, you'll be able to log in or create an account.

If you already have a BAM account, you do not need to set up a new one. Try the 'Guide Me Through' tool near the bottom right of the BAM site for a quick tour.

Here are a few things you can do with BAM:

- Access your Evidence of Coverage.
- View your claims status and up to 18 months of claims activity
- Search for a health care provider, hospital, urgent care facility or pharmacy
- Request or print your ID card
- And more!



Go mobile! It's Easy to Get Started!

Go to **www.bluemembertx.com** or grab your smartphone and ID card and text* **BCBSTXAPP** to **33633** and download the mobile app so you can use BAM while you're on the go.

* Message and data rates may apply.

Step 3

Understand Your Plan's Network



Selecting a provider.

Your 65 Plus Medicare Advantage Plan (PPO) gives you the freedom to seek care across the country. You can use network providers but have the flexibility to go outside the network for the same cost. No referral is needed. Your providers must 1) accept Medicare; 2) agree to see you as a patient; and 3) agree to submit claims to Blue Cross and Blue Shield. Review the Evidence of Coverage for details.



Call ahead and be prepared.

We recommend that you confirm with providers that they accept your 65 Plus Medicare Advantage Plan (PPO) and will submit claims directly to the plan. At your appointment, show the office staff the **'Your Providers, Your Personal Network'** flyer that is included with this Welcome Guide. Detailed plan information, including cost-sharing that applies to services, can be found in your Evidence of Coverage.

We work closely with your provider to deliver care.

Before you can be covered for certain high-cost medical services, your doctor may need to get authorization from the plan. You may first need to try other clinically appropriate or cost-effective treatments.

Our plans follow government guidelines in this area to ensure you receive the most appropriate, cost-effective care available.

Be sure to tell the provider's office that you are in a Group Retiree Medicare Advantage Open Access PPO plan.

Step 4

Review Your Evidence of Coverage



The EOC explains:

- Your rights and responsibilities.
- What's covered.
- Your costs.

We encourage you to review your EOC. It lists the coverage, costs and extra health and wellness benefits that are provided by your 65 Plus Medicare Advantage Plan (PPO). It's an important legal document, so keep it in a safe place. It can be found on BAM (see Step 2) or you can call Customer Service for a printed copy.

If you have questions about your covered benefits, call us.



Step 5

Schedule Your Annual Wellness Visit



Wellness begins with understanding.

Your 65 Plus Medicare Advantage Plan (PPO) includes a \$0 copay Annual Wellness Visit with your health care provider. Use this checklist to guide the conversation. Schedule your Annual Wellness Visit today and earn rewards through our Rewards Program*. Earn up to \$100 in gift cards from national and local retailers for completing your Annual Wellness Visit and additional preventive screenings (as indicated with 💰). Additional information on our Rewards Program can be found on page 14.

Talk With Your Doctor About	Completion Date/Notes
<input type="checkbox"/> All your current conditions and treatments	
<input type="checkbox"/> Prescription and over-the-counter medications	
<input type="checkbox"/> Any pain you have and what you do for it	
<input type="checkbox"/> Difficulties with daily activities	
<input type="checkbox"/> Your level of physical exercise	
<input type="checkbox"/> Balance issues or recent falls 💰	
<input type="checkbox"/> Difficulties with bladder control	
<input type="checkbox"/> Problems with sleeping or memory loss	
<input type="checkbox"/> Tobacco, alcohol or drug use	
<input type="checkbox"/> Hospital or ER visits in the last 90 days	
Complete These Basic Exams	Completion Date/Notes
<input type="checkbox"/> Blood Pressure	
<input type="checkbox"/> Height, Weight and Body Mass Index	
<input type="checkbox"/> Blood Sugar and Retinal Eye Exam (if applicable) 💰	
Review Your Screenings and Vaccines	Completion Date/Notes
<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Flu Vaccine 💰	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bone Density Exam 💰	
<input type="checkbox"/> Colorectal Screening 💰	
<input type="checkbox"/> Mammogram 💰	
<input type="checkbox"/> Pneumonia Vaccine	



* The Healthy Activity Portal is a website owned and operated by HealthMine, Inc., an independent company that has contracted with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas to provide digital health and personal clinical engagement tools and services for members with coverage through BCBSTX. Registration is required to participate. Visit **www.BlueRewardsTX.com** to register and see what Healthy Actions earn rewards. If you do not have internet access, call Customer Service using the phone number on the back of your insurance card. Maximum annual rewards of \$100 in gift cards. One reward per healthy action per year. Healthy action dates of service must be in the current Plan year. Healthy Actions that earn rewards are subject to change.

Step 6

Get the Most from Your Plan

Notify your providers.

Show your new member ID card to your providers so they have the most up-to-date information. This can prevent your claim from being denied due to incorrect information.

Your Medical Benefits

Your 65 Plus Medicare Advantage Plan (PPO) covers most commonly used services such as provider visits, inpatient and outpatient hospital services, and emergency care. And it bundles these with wellness solutions for comprehensive health coverage. As a Medicare Advantage member, you get all the benefits covered by Original Medicare, and more. Read your EBI for details on coverage and member costs.

- Provider office visits
- Preventive services
- Emergency care
- Hospitalization
- Health screenings
- Diagnostic services
- Immunizations
- Rehabilitation
- Physical therapy
- Skilled nursing care

Does the plan cover any drugs?

This plan includes everything covered by Medicare Part A and Part B, including some drugs and services. These can include:

- Drugs that you don't administer yourself. These drugs can be given in a doctor's office as part of their service. Coverage may be limited to drugs that are given by infusion or injection in a hospital or outpatient facility.
- Diabetic supplies as detailed in your EOC.
- Certain shots (vaccinations):
 - COVID-19 vaccine
 - Flu shots
 - Pneumococcal shots
 - Hepatitis B shots
 - Other vaccines that are directly related to the treatment of an injury or illness (like a tetanus shot)
- Drugs infused through durable medical equipment like an infusion pump or a nebulizer. Medicare may cover insulin and insulin pumps worn outside the body.
- Injectable and infused drugs; some antigens; erythropoiesis stimulating agents to treat anemia; blood clotting factors; some immunosuppressive, oral cancer and anti-nausea drugs used as part of chemotherapy treatment; intravenous and tube feeding, and Immune Globulin (IVIG) provided in the home; some oral and intravenous drugs for those with end stage renal disease.
- Refer to your plan documents for details.
- Questions about Part D coverage? Contact Express Scripts at **1-855-895-4647**.

If you need to know if a drug you are prescribed is covered under Part B or Part D, please call Customer Service at the number listed on the back of your member ID card.



Step 7

Access Extra Health and Wellness Benefits and Member Rewards

Your 65 Plus Medicare Advantage Plan (PPO) offer a number of benefits above and beyond standard insurance coverage. Plus, you can continue to use these services:

- Livongo® Hypertension and Diabetes Program
- Hinge Health Chronic Pain Program
- Learn to Live Mental Health Program
- Wondr Health™ Weight Loss Program



Blue365®

Blue365 is just one more advantage of being a member of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas. With this exclusive member program, you may save money on health and wellness products and services from top retailers that are not covered by insurance. There are no claims to file and no referrals or preauthorizations. Once you sign up for Blue365, weekly 'featured deals' will be emailed to you. These deals offer special savings for a short period of time.

If you already have one, you can continue to use your Blue365 account. You do not need to re-enroll.

To learn more about Blue365, visit www.blue365deals.com/bcbstx.



24/7 Nurseline

Our nurses are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. They can help with health concerns and give general health tips. Get trusted guidance on possible emergency care, urgent care and more. You can also access an audio library of more than 1,000 health topics ranging from allergies to women's health. More than 600 topics are available in Spanish.

When should you call 24/7 Nurseline?

Call when you have questions about health problems, such as:

- Asthma, back pain, or chronic health problems
- Cuts or burns
- Dizziness or severe headache
- High fever
- Sore throat

You can access the 24/7 Nurseline at: 1-800-631-7023 TTY 711. You will find this number on the back of your member ID card.

The relationship between these vendors and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas is that of independent contractors. Blue365 is a discount program only for BCBSTX members. This is NOT insurance. Some of the services offered through this program may be covered under your health plan. Employees should check their benefit booklet or call the Customer Service number on the back of their ID card for specific benefit facts. Use of Blue365 does not change monthly payments, nor do costs of the services or products count toward any maximums and/or plan deductibles. Discounts are only given through vendors that take part in this program. BCBSTX does not guarantee or make any claims or recommendations about the program's services or products. Members should consult their doctor before using these services and products. BCBSTX reserves the right to stop or change this program at any time without notice.



SilverSneakers® Fitness Program

SilverSneakers is a fitness program for seniors and includes unlimited access to thousands of fitness locations nationwide. Membership offers a welcoming community where you can have fitness fun with friends and meet new people.

SilverSneakers benefits include:

- Specialized fitness classes designed for people of all abilities and led by certified instructors.
- FLEX classes like yoga and dance at parks, recreation centers and clubs.
- Access to SilverSneakers LIVE virtual classes and hundreds of On-Demand classes at **SilverSneakers.com**.

Virtual SilverSneakers classes may also be available. For more information, call Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. ET, 1-866-584-7389 TTY 711 or visit www.silversneakers.com/StartHere or email support@silversneakers.com.



Telehealth Services (Virtual Visits)

Your retiree group Medicare Advantage plan covers Virtual Visits, provided by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas and powered by MDLIVE. With Virtual Visits, your appointment is with an independently contracted, board-certified MDLIVE doctor for minor, non-emergency medical or behavioral health conditions by phone, mobile app or online video anytime, anywhere, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Talk to a doctor immediately or schedule an appointment at a time that works best for you.

To activate your account, you can choose what is easiest for you:*

- Go to **www.mdlive.com/bcbstx-medicare**
- Text BCBSTXMEDICARE to 635-483
- Download the MDLIVE app

To learn more about Virtual Visits benefits provided by MDLIVE, call 1-866-954-3584 (TTY 1-800-770-5531) or go to www.mdlive.com.

* Your current provider also may offer telehealth services.

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Virtual Visits may be limited by plan. For providers licensed in New Mexico and the District of Columbia, Urgent Care service is limited to interactive online video; Behavioral Health service requires video for the initial visit but may use video or audio for follow-up visits, based on the provider's clinical judgment. Behavioral Health is not available on all plans.

MDLIVE is a separate company that operates and administers Virtual Visits for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas. MDLIVE is solely responsible for its operations and for those of its contracted providers. MDLIVE® and the MDLIVE logo are registered trademarks of MDLIVE, Inc., and may not be used without permission.



Prevention has its Rewards

The Rewards Program gives you a healthy and easy way to earn up to \$100 in gift cards from national retailers. You receive a gift card of your choice for completing Healthy Actions throughout the year.

Visiting your doctor at least once a year can help you catch small health problems before they become big ones. You can earn a gift card for getting qualified wellness visits. Because prevention is better than cure, you can earn \$50 in gift cards just for completing your Annual Wellness Visit!

Here is a list of Healthy Actions that earn you Rewards:

- Annual Wellness Visit (worth \$50)
- Annual flu vaccine
- Colorectal cancer screening
- Diabetic screenings
- Fall risk assessment
- In-home test kits
- Mammogram
- Retinal eye exam



TAKE ACTION: Sign up to get started with the program.

1. Go to **www.BlueRewardsTX.com**. You will need your member ID card, date of birth and email address. After you register, we will send you an email letting you know that your account has been set up.
2. Don't have a computer? Call the number on the back of your member ID card and we can help you register and pick your gift card. It's that easy!

Once registered, the system will automatically record your Healthy Actions. It may take up to 90 days for Healthy Actions to show as completed in the system.

Things to remember:

- Registration is required to participate.
- You can earn one reward per Healthy Action per year.
- Healthy Action dates of service must be in the current plan year.
- The maximum annual rewards is \$100 in gift cards.
- Healthy Actions that earn rewards are subject to change.



Hearing Care

Hearing loss can affect your quality of life, both physically and emotionally. Your plan includes these benefits through TruHearing or another hearing provider:

- 20% coinsurance payment for one routine hearing exam per year
- Hearing aid fitting and adjustments
- \$2,000 per ear hearing aid allowance, once every three years

To learn more about your benefits through TruHearing, call 1-888-990-5523 TTY 711.

Your gift card options

Gift card options include major national retailers. Retailers may offer physical and/or eCards.

Receiving and checking the balance on your gift card(s).

Digital Cards

You should receive an email with your non-refundable and non-exchangeable digital gift card within 24 hours of placing your order. Be sure to check your spam folder in the event your email provider has blocked the delivery. The process for checking balances will vary by retailer. Information about checking balances for the chosen retailer will be provided along with the gift card code sent via email.

Physical Cards

Allow seven business days for processing your card. If you do not receive your card via USPS within two weeks of placing the order, call the number on the back of your member ID card. Find the gift card balance by contacting the retailer by phone or online, using information on the back of the card.

If your gift card is denied during a transaction, first check the balance of the card. If there is still a balance on the gift card, or the retailer won't accept it, call Customer Service at the number on the back of your member ID card. They will work with the retailer to resolve the issue.



Forms You May Need

You may need these forms during the year. All forms can be found on BAM at www.bluemembertx.com.

- **Appointment of Representative**

This form lets you choose someone to make decisions on your behalf. It also lets them get your health information such as Explanation of Benefits and bills (if you have a premium). This form may also be used to let the Plan share your health information with a third party such as another health plan or provider. Having this completed form on file is vital for caregivers.

- **Authorization to Disclose Protected Health Information**

Use this form to allow the Plan to share your PHI with a person or entity you choose.

- **Coverage Determination**

If the Plan will not cover a medical service, you may ask for a coverage determination. Choose the form that matches your request.

Report Fraud

Medicare fraud costs billions of dollars each year.

Here are some ways you can help stop it:

- Keep your member ID card safe. Treat it like you would a debit or credit card.
- Make a copy of your member ID card and keep it in a safe place.
- If your member ID card is lost or stolen, call us right away.
- Be sure the pharmacy has your correct information.
- Look at your EOB carefully to be sure that you have been properly charged. If you think you may have been the victim of fraud, report it to our Fraud Hotline right away.



To report fraud,

call **1-800-543-0867 TTY 711** 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

We'll Keep in Touch

Because we care about your well-being and want you to get the most from your 65 Plus Medicare Advantage Plan (PPO), we'll be in touch with you throughout the year.

We'll contact you occasionally to check in and are also available to:

- Help you schedule an Annual Wellness Visit — a valuable part of your plan.
- Register you for the Rewards Program that can earn you up to \$100 in gift cards.
- Answer any questions you have.



In-Home Health Assessment

As part of our commitment to your health and wellbeing, your Medicare Advantage group retiree plan includes an optional, In-Home Health Evaluation by a licensed and credentialed clinician (certified nurse practitioner, physician assistant or medical doctor) from one of our trusted partners listed on page 18. All members can receive an In-Home Health Evaluation. There is no obligation or cost.

The 45-to-60-minute IHE or telehealth visit provides extra time outside of a Primary Care Provider for you to discuss your physical, emotional and mental health in the comfort of your home. This evaluation can help you discuss health concerns, learn more about disease management programs and have your home checked for possible safety issues.

You will first receive a letter from our partner, followed by phone calls on behalf of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas to further explain IHE and steps for scheduling a visit.

All clinicians will answer COVID-19 screening questions before entering your home. CDC guidelines are being followed to ensure the safety of both you and the clinician.



Annual Notice of Change

Near the end of the plan year, you'll receive an ANOC from Blue Cross Group Medicare Advantage. This notice outlines the premium and benefit changes (if any) for your plan. These changes will begin at the start of the new plan year. Review this document carefully.



Explanation of Benefits

You'll receive a statement called an EOB. How often you receive it depends on how often you fill your prescriptions or see your provider. This statement is not a bill. It simply details what you have paid and indicates the level of benefits you've used. Review these details to be sure they are correct. If you think there are errors, call Customer Service at the number on the back of your member ID card. If you think you are the victim of fraud, report it immediately.

Our Partners

We partner with the following vendors to help you take care of your health and wellness. Please know these are trusted partners of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas in providing you unparalleled care.



In-Home Assessment Vendors:

You may receive communication from Matrix or Signify to help you schedule an In-Home Assessment. This convenient health touchpoint is completed by a nurse practitioner in the comfort and safety of your home, at no cost.

Findings from this visit will be shared with you and your doctor.



In-Home Test Kits:

You may receive one or more kits from Everlywell. These kits test your blood sugar levels, check for hidden blood in your stool or evaluate your kidney function. These easy to complete screenings are part of your coverage, sent to you at no extra cost, and results are shared with you and your doctor.



Cologuard Kit:

You may receive a Cologuard test kit from our partner, Exact Sciences. This test checks for hidden blood in your stool as an important screening for colorectal cancer. This easy to complete screening is part of your coverage, sent to you at no extra cost, and results are shared with you and your doctor.

Signify Health is an independent company that provides care management activities and member care services for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas.

Community Care Health Network, dba Medical Matrix Network is an independent company that provides care management activities and member care services for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas.

Everlywell, formerly Home Access Health Corporation, is an independent company that has contracted with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas to provide laboratory testing services for members with coverage through BCBSTX.

Cologuard is an independent company that has contracted with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas to provide laboratory services for members with coverage through BCBSTX.



Common Terms

Allowed Amount

The maximum amount a plan will pay for a covered health care service. If you are charged more than the plan's allowed amount, you may have to pay the difference.

Amount Billed

The amount your provider billed for the service(s) rendered.

Coinsurance

An amount you pay after any deductibles. This is usually a percentage of the cost. For example, if the plan pays 80% of the allowed amount, then 20% would be your coinsurance.

Copayment (Copay)

Your share of the cost for each provider visit, service or prescription drug. This is usually a set dollar amount (for example: \$10).

Deductible

An amount, if any, you pay before a plan begins to share the cost of covered drugs and services.

IRMAA: Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount.

A Part B and Part D surcharge based on the modified adjusted gross income reported on your IRS tax return from two years ago. A notice from Medicare will be mailed to those who will pay the IRMAA surcharge(s).

Out-of-Pocket Limit

Once you pay this amount in deductibles, copays and coinsurance for covered services, the plan pays 100% of the allowed amount for covered services for the rest of the benefit period.

Participating Provider

An in-network or out-of-network provider who accepts Medicare and the agreed-upon rates for services.

Prior Authorization

Some services may need to be approved by the plan before they are covered.

Important Plan Information



Contact Information



Have questions or concerns? Call us first. We can help!

Contact us with all your questions before calling Medicare or your benefit administrator. The 65 Plus Medicare Advantage Plan (PPO) is your Medicare plan. We will let you know if your question can only be answered by Medicare or your benefit administrator.



Call

Call the Customer Service number listed on the back of your member ID card. We are open 8 a.m. – 8 p.m., local time, 7 days a week. If you are calling from April 1 through Sept. 30, alternate technologies (for example, voicemail) will be used on weekends and holidays.



Web

Blue Access for Members

Search for providers and get information about your plan, claim status and benefits.

www.bluemembertx.com

Rewards Program

www.bluerewardstx.com



Connect Community

Connect is a fun way to interact with other members through our online blog-style format. Learn about health and wellness, benefits and coverage, how health insurance works and much more.

Connect at **<http://connect.bcbstx.com/medicare>**.

This information is not a complete description of benefits.

BCBSTX makes no endorsement, representations or warranties regarding third-party vendors and the products and services offered by them.

PPO plans provided by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas, a Division of Health Care Service Corporation, a Mutual Legal Reserve Company (HCSC), an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. HCSC is a Medicare Advantage organization with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in HCSC's plans depends on contract renewal.