DIVISION 10

DEFINITIONS

111-010-0015

Definitions

Unless the context indicates otherwise, as used in OEBB administrative rules, the following definitions will apply:

(1) "Actuarial value" means the expected financial value for the average member of a particular benefit plan.

(2) "Adverse Benefit Determination" means a denial, reduction, or termination of, or a failure to provide or make payment (in whole or in part), for a benefit, including any such denial, reduction, termination, or failure to provide or make payment that is based on but not limited to:

(a) A determination of a member's eligibility to participate in the plan;

(b) A determination that the benefit is not a covered benefit; or

(c) A rescission of coverage, whether or not, in connection with rescission, there is an adverse effect on any particular benefit.

(3) "Affidavit of Domestic Partnership" means a document that attests the eligible employee and one other eligible individual meet the criteria in section (15)(b).

(4) "Benefit plan" includes, but is not limited to, insurance or other benefits including:

(a) Medical;

(b) Dental;

(c) Vision;

(d) Life, disability and accidental death;

(e) Long term care;

(f) Employee Assistance Program Plans;

(g) Supplemental medical, dental and vision;

(h) Any other remedial care recognized by state law, and related services and supplies;

(i) Comparable benefits for employees who rely on spiritual means of healing; and

(j) Self insurance programs managed by the Board.

(5) "Benefits" means goods and services provided under benefit plans.

(6) "Board" means the ten-member board established in the Department of Administrative Services as the Oregon Educators Benefit Board under chapter 00007, Oregon Laws 2007.

(7) "Child" means and includes the following:

(a) An eligible employee's, spouse's, or domestic partner's biological son, daughter, stepson, or stepdaughter; adopted child, child placed for adoption, or legally placed child, who is 25 or younger on the first day of the month. An eligible employee must provide the required custody or legal documents to their Educational Entity showing proof of adoption, legal guardianship or other court order if enrolling a child for whom the employee, spouse, or domestic partner is not the biological parent.

(A) Grandchildren are only eligible when the eligible employee is the legal guardian or adoptive parent of the grandchild.

(b) A person who is incapable of self-sustaining employment because of a developmental disability, mental illness, or physical disability. There is no age limit for a dependent child who is incapable of self-sustaining employment because of a developmental disability, mental illness, or physical disability. When the dependent child is 26 years of age or older all the following requirements must be met:

(A) The disability must have existed before attaining age 26.

(B) The employee must provide evidence to the Educational Entity or OEBB that (1) the person had health plan coverage, group or individual, prior to attaining age 26, and (2) health plan coverage continued without a gap until the OEBB health plan effective date.

(C) The person's attending physician must submit documentation of the disability to the eligible employee's OEBB health insurance plan for review and approval. If the person receives health plan approval, the health plan may review the person's health status at any time to determine continued OEBB coverage eligibility.

(D) The person must not have terminated from OEBB health plan coverage after attaining the age of 26.

(c) Eligibility for coverage under this rule includes people who may not be dependents under federal or state tax law and may require an Educational Entity to adjust an Eligible Employee's income based on the imputed value of the benefit.

(8) "Comparable cost (Medical, Dental and Vision)" means that the total cost to a district for enrollment in OEBB plans comparable in design to the district's plan(s) do not exceed the total cost to a district for enrollment in the district's plan(s) using the rate(s) in effect or proposed for the benefit plan year.

(9) "Comparable cost (Basic and Optional Life Insurance, Accidental Death & Dismemberment, and Short and Long Term Disability)" means that the premium rates of an OEBB plan design option do not exceed the average, aggregate premium rates of a district's pre-OEBB plan design in effect the year prior to implementation.

(10) "Comparable plan design (Medical, Dental and Vision)" means that the actuarial values of two plan designs are within 2.5 percent higher or lower of each other.

(11) "Comparable plan design (Basic and Optional Life Insurance and Accidental Death & Dismemberment)" means that 90 percent of district employees can obtain a maximum benefit through an OEBB plan design that is within $2,500 of the maximum benefit obtained through a pre-OEBB plan design in effect the year prior to implementation.

(12) "Comparable plan design (Short and Long Term Disability)" means 90 percent of the district employees can obtain the same elimination period, percentage of covered compensation, definition of covered compensation, coverage period duration, and maximum payment per benefit period through an OEBB plan design as through a pre-OEBB plan design in effect the year prior to implementation.

(13) "Dependent" means and includes the Employee's Spouse or Domestic Partner, or child as defined by OAR 111-010-0010(7) or other person having a relation to the subscriber as defined by the Contractor.

(14) "Documented district policies" means Educational Entities' policies and practices that apply to an employee group and are submitted to the Oregon Educators Benefit Board during the plan selection process. Educational Entities' policies and practices must be identified and submitted with the applicable employee group plan selections.

(15) "Domestic partner," unless otherwise defined by a collective bargaining agreement or documented district policy in effect on January 31, 2008, means and includes the following:

(a) An unmarried individual of the same sex who has entered into a "Declaration of Domestic Partnership" with the eligible employee that is recognized under Oregon law; or

(b) An unmarried individual of the same or opposite sex who has entered into a partnership that meets the following criteria:

(A) Both are at least 18 years of age;

(B) Are responsible for each other's welfare and are each other's sole domestic partners;

(C) Are not married to anyone and have not had a spouse or another domestic partner within the prior six months. If previously married, the six-month period starts on the final date of divorce;

(D) Share a close personal relationship and are not related by blood closer than would bar marriage in the State of Oregon;

(E) Have jointly shared the same regular and permanent residence for at least six months immediately preceding the date the Affidavit of Domestic Partnership is signed and submitted to the Educational Entity; and

(F) Are jointly financially responsible for basic living expenses defined as the cost of food, shelter and any other expenses of maintaining a household. Financial information must be provided if requested.

(G) The eligible employee and domestic partner must jointly complete and submit to the Educational Entity an Affidavit of Domestic Partnership form, within five business days of the electronic enrollment date or the date the Educational Entity received the enrollment/change form. If the affidavit is not received, coverage will terminate for the domestic partner retroactive to the effective date.

(c) The domestic partner must notify the Educational Entity within 31 days of meeting all criteria as defined in 111-010-0015 (15)(b) or obtaining the "Declaration of Domestic Partnership" which is recognized under Oregon law.

(d) Educational Entities' must calculate and apply applicable imputed value tax for domestic partners covered under OEBB benefit plans.

(16) "Educational Entity" means public school districts (K-12), education service districts (ESDs), community colleges and public charter schools participating in OEBB.

(17) "Eligible employee" means and includes:

(a) "Active eligible employee" means an employee of an OEBB participating organization who is:

(A) Employed or is in a job-sharing position on a half time or greater basis; or

(B) Meets the definition of an eligible employee under a separate OEBB rule or under a collective bargaining agreement or documented district policy in effect on January 31, 2008; or

(C) An employee of a community college who is covered under a collectively bargained contract and has worked a class load of between 25 percent and 49 percent for a minimum period of two years and is expected to continue to work a class load of at least 25 percent. Coverage is limited to medical to include Kaiser Medical Plan 1A (where available), ODS Medical Plan 8 (with Plan C pharmacy) and ODS Medical Plan 9. The tiered rate structure will apply to all medical plans.

(b) "Retired eligible employee" means a previously active eligible employee, who is:

(A) Receiving a service or disability retirement allowance or pension under the Public Employees Retirement System (PERS) or under any other retirement or disability benefit plan or system offered by an OEBB participating organization for its employees;

(B) Eligible to receive a service retirement allowance under PERS and has reached earliest retirement age under ORS Chapter 238;

(C) Eligible to receive a pension under ORS 238A.100 to 238A.245 and has reached earliest retirement age as described in ORS 238A.165; or

(D) Eligible to receive a service retirement allowance or pension under another retirement benefit plan or system offered by an OEBB participating organization and has reached earliest retirement age under the plan or system.

(18) "Employee Group" means employees of a similar employment type, for example administrative, represented classified, non-represented classified, confidential, represented licensed, or non-represented licensed, within an Educational Entity. If one or more collective bargaining unit exists within an employee group, each unit will be considered a separate employee group.

(19) “Flexible benefit plan” includes plans that allow contributions on a tax-favored basis including health savings accounts.

(20) “Members” means and includes the following:

(a) “Eligible employee” as defined by OAR 111-010-0015(17).

(b) “Child” as defined by OAR 111-010-0015(7).

(c) “Domestic Partner” as defined by OAR 111-010-0015(15).

(d) “Spouse” as defined by OAR 111-010-0015(26).

(21) "Non-subject District" means a community college, district or a charter school if the employees are not considered employees of a school district.

(22) "Oregon Educators Benefit Board or OEBB" means the program created under chapter 00007, Oregon Laws 2007.

(23) "OEBB participating organization" means a Subject District, Non-subject District, or Provisional Non-subject District that participates in benefit plans provided by the Oregon Educators Benefit Board (OEBB).

(24) "Provisional Non-subject District" means a common school district, a union high school district, or an education service district that:

(a) Was self-insured on December 31, 2006;

(b) Had an independent health insurance trust established and functioning on December 31, 2006; or

(c) Can provide comparable plan designs at a comparable cost as defined by sections (8) and (10) of this Rule.

(25) “Qualified Status Change (QSC)” means a change in family or work status that allows limited mid-year changes to benefit plans consistent with the individual event.

(26) "Spouse” means a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or wife. Except as provided in Oregon Constitution Article XV, Section 5a, a relationship recognized as a marriage in another state will be recognized in Oregon even though such a relationship would not be a marriage if the same facts had been relied upon to create a marriage in Oregon. The definition of spouse does not include a former spouse and a former spouse does not qualify as a dependent.

(27) "Subject District" means a common school district, a union high school district, or an education service district that:

(a) Did not self-insure on January 1, 2007;

(b) Did not have a health trust in effect on January 1, 2007; or

(c) Does not provide comparable plan designs at a comparable cost as defined by sections (8) and (10) of this Rule.