

Regulatory Update

Compliance Reminders for Professionals and Business Leaders

Health Insurance Providers Covering Treatment in Response to Coronavirus and NY Small Group premium payments while under COVID-19 financial stress

As the number of coronavirus cases in the United States continues to increase many health insurance providers are taking action.

Coronavirus **testing and related office visits** are mandated to be covered-in-full by all health insurance plans. This was a result of the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, and it pertains to fully-insured and self-insured health insurance plans. Most health insurance carriers are taking that a step further and are now covering coronavirus related **treatment** in full as well.

Carriers are implementing these enhancements for their **fully-insured** business on a temporary basis. A **self-insured group** interested in adding coverage for coronavirus treatment as a covered-in-full benefit should reach out to their carrier or consultant.



For carrier specific coverage information please visit <u>America's Health Insurance Plans</u> for a running listing of carrier and plan enhancements.

New York Small Group premium payments while under COVID-19 financial stress

Health Insurance

If you are a small business (100 or less employees, based in New York State, and independently owned and operated) having financial hardship as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and are unable to pay premiums that are due, your insurance company can assist you by suspending cancellation for nonpayment, and allowing you to pay the premium over a 12-month period.

The New York State Department of Financial Services (DFS) has issued a <u>new emergency regulation</u> requiring health plans to defer the payment of insurance premiums due under individual and small group commercial health insurance plans through June 1st, 2020 for consumers and businesses experiencing financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

DFS requires individual and small group commercial health insurance plans to provide the following relief to consumers and businesses who can demonstrate financial hardship due to COVID-19:

- Defer payments of commercial health insurance premiums through June 1st, 2020 and continue paying claims during this period;
- Waive late payment fees otherwise due, and not report late payments to credit rating agencies.

Life Insurance

This follows DFS' recent adoption of an <u>emergency regulation</u> mandating deferrals of premium payments for life insurance for 90 days, and for property and casualty insurance for 60 days.

This regulation was just recently released by DFS' and we wanted to share with our clients who may be eligible for assistance. We are currently seeking additional information on the program, the logistics of it, and how you may be able to take advantage.

If you have any questions regarding the above information, please reach out to your OneGroup consultant.



Please continue to check our website for the latest updates regarding Covid-19 and its impacts on you and your business: https://www.onegroup.com/covid19-updates/