# UNDERSTANDING YOUR HEALTH PLAN

Having health insurance means you and a health plan share in paying your medical costs. The plan tracks what you pay in medical costs and applies eligible costs toward certain milestones. When your costs hit these milestones, you move into the next stage of your plan. Your share of costs becomes less as you reach each stage. Here's how it works:



## Stage 1: Deductible -

Each year, you pay for all covered medical services until you meet your deductible.

## **Stage 2: Coinsurance**

Then, the health plan starts sharing a percentage of your costs until you reach your out-of-pocket maximum. Example: 80/20 coinsurance means the plan pays 80 percent and you pay 20 percent.

Your deductible and coinsurance **count toward** your out-of-pocket maximum.

## Stage 3: Out-of-pocket maximum

At this point, the health plan pays all your covered medical costs for the rest of the plan year.\*

Learn more health plan basics at bluecrossmn.com/
EmployerPlans

Knowing some common health plan terms regarding costs can help you make more informed decisions and get more from your plan. See glossary for additional terms.



#### Premium -

The regular payment you make throughout the year to keep your plan active

Your employer may pay part of your premium.

Your premium **does not count toward** your deductible or out-of-pocket maximum.



#### Covered medical costs -

### The medical services your plan covers

"Covered" means your plan pays for some or all of the costs. These are different in each plan.

Your covered costs **usually count toward** your deductible and out-of-pocket maximum.



### Over-the-allowed-amount costs .

The health plan and in-network providers have agreed to an "allowed amount" (the most a provider can charge you). If you receive a covered service from a nonparticipating provider who charges over the allowed amount, this additional cost is your responsibility.

Costs over the allowed amount **do not count toward** your deductible and out-of-pocket maximum.



# Non-covered services

"Non-covered" refers to medical services not covered by your plan

If you receive these services, you pay in full.

Services not covered by your plan **do not count toward** your deductible and out-of-pocket maximum.



### Copays .

A set cost you pay every time you get medical care or a prescription

Copays can vary based on where you get care (virtual, clinic, urgent care, etc.).

Your copays do not count toward your deductible but **do count toward** your out-of-pocket maximum.

<sup>\*</sup>Covered medical costs up to the lifetime maximum.