

County of Sonoma *Extra Help Employees* Medical Benefits Enrollment/Change Form

Instructions for Completing This Form--Employees must complete all sections of the form.

Section 1: Reason for Submitting Form

- Use this form to enroll for coverage as a newly eligible employee, during annual enrollment, or to change your current coverage due to a qualifying life status change (see Section 7).
- 1a: Indicate the reason you are submitting the form and the date of the change(s), as necessary. Check all boxes that apply.
- 1b: Complete this section for any changes to dependent coverage other than annual enrollment and initial eligibility. Newly eligible dependents may only be enrolled within 31 days of the eligibility event.
- 1c: Select a level of coverage for your family

Section 2: Personal Information

- Fill in all information requested. Leave the 4-digit department number blank if you do not know it. If your spouse/domestic partner/dependent(s) is employed by or retired from the County of Sonoma, please indicate in the space provided on the form.

Section 3: Medical Plan Choice

- Indicate whether you wish to enroll as a newly eligible employee, add coverage for eligible dependent(s), continue current enrollment in medical coverage for yourself and/or your dependent(s), drop/waive medical coverage for yourself and/or your dependent(s), or change your medical plan election during annual enrollment.

Section 4: Employee and Eligible Dependent Information

- Complete the information by first listing yourself and then your eligible dependents and their coverage status. Indicate **(A)** to add coverage for an eligible dependent(s); **(D)** to drop coverage for an ineligible dependent(s); **(C)** to continue enrollment in coverage for an eligible dependent(s); **(W)** to waive coverage for an eligible dependent(s) or **(N/E)** if you have listed dependents that are not eligible. Waive coverage if you or your dependent has other group medical coverage. Drop if there is no other coverage and you are canceling coverage. N/E if you are dropping coverage for someone who no longer meets the eligibility criteria. If coverage is waived and the other group coverage is lost, providing proof of that loss within 31 days gains you eligibility to re-enroll providing all other eligibility criteria are met.
- You **MUST** indicate whether your dependents are permanently disabled dependents and considered IRS-qualified dependents.

Sections 5: Kaiser Foundation Health Plan Arbitration Agreement

- Complete the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan Arbitration Agreement if enrolling in or already enrolled in this plan.

Section 6: Employee Authorization, Waiver of Medical Plan Acknowledgement, and Signature

- Review the Employee Authorization Agreement, Waiver Acknowledgement, and sign and date your form.

Section 7: When Changes are Allowed

Your benefits elections are irrevocable with a few limited exceptions. Read this section in its entirety to understand the circumstances under which you are eligible to make changes to your County-offered health plan elections.

Which Forms Do I Need to Complete?

If enrolling or making changes to your medical plan:

Complete the County of Sonoma Extra Help Employees Medical Benefits Enrollment/Change Form. Please retain a copy for your records.

If waiving the medical coverage and not previously enrolled:

Complete the County of Sonoma Extra Help Employees Medical Benefits Enrollment/Change Form. Please retain a copy for your records.

Where to Submit Your Form(s)

County of Sonoma
Human Resources Benefits Unit
575 Administration Dr., Suite 116C
Santa Rosa CA 95403

Questions

Benefits@sonoma-county.org or 707-565-2900

Section 5: Kaiser Permanente Benefit Plan Agreement (If electing Kaiser, complete the agreement below.)

Kaiser Permanente HMO Plan

Kaiser Foundation Health Plan Arbitration Agreement

I understand that (except for Small Claims Court cases, claims subject to a Medicare appeals procedure, and, if I am enrolled in coverage that is subject to the ERISA claims procedure regulation, or any claims that cannot be subject to binding arbitration under governing law) any dispute between myself, my heirs, relatives, or other associated parties on the one hand and Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc. (KFHP), any contracted health care providers, administrators, or other associated parties on the other hand, for alleged violation of any duty arising out of or related to membership in KFHP, including any claim for medical or hospital malpractice (a claim that medical services were unnecessary or unauthorized or were improperly, negligently, or incompetently rendered), for premises liability, or relating to the coverage for, or delivery of, services or items, irrespective of legal theory, must be decided by binding arbitration under California law and not by lawsuit or resort to court process, except as applicable law provides for judicial review of arbitration proceedings. I agree to give up our right to a jury trial and accept the use of binding arbitration. I understand that the full arbitration provision is contained in the *Evidence of Coverage*.

Signature Required for Kaiser Permanente Plan

Date

Section 6: Employee Authorization, Waiver of Medical Plan Acknowledgement, and Signature

For all enrolled individuals, if any, I agree to comply with the terms of the benefits group contract in which I am enrolled. I also declare under penalty of perjury that all eligible dependents listed above meet the plans' eligibility requirements and all eligible dependents listed as IRS Qualified dependents meet the IRC Section 152 definition of a qualified dependent. I will complete a new County of Sonoma Extra Help Employees Benefits Enrollment/Change Form within 31 days of a change in this qualification or a change of benefit eligibility. Further, I understand that I am responsible for the tax consequences (including interest and penalties) should there be any misstatement made on this declaration, or even in the absence of a misstatement, should the IRS or the State of California so determine that the benefits I am receiving for dependents listed as Qualified are found to be Non-Qualified. I authorize the County of Sonoma to withhold insurance premiums for the benefits requested in this document in accordance with the applicable Memorandum of Understanding or Board of Supervisor's resolution. I also certify that the information provided on this form is complete, true, and correct to the best of my knowledge. For all individuals whom I have indicated a "W" in the "Enroll in Medical Coverage?" column in Section 4 above, I acknowledge I have been given the opportunity to enroll myself and/or my eligible dependents in a County-offered medical plan. I understand I and/or my eligible dependents will not be eligible to enroll in a County-offered medical plan until the plan's next annual enrollment period or in accordance with the loss of eligibility for other group coverage, as outlined in Section 7 of this form. If I become eligible to make a change during the plan year, I must request enrollment within 31 days of the event.

Employee Signature

Date

Section 7: When Changes are Allowed

Change of Life or Employment Status Events Allowed Under a Health Plan (Medical)-Extra Help

Change of status or eligibility changes permitted in accordance with Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code¹. The chart summarizes most permitted health plan changes.

If you experience the following Event...	You may make the following change(s) within 31 days of the Event...	YOU MAY NOT make these types of changes...
<i>Life / Family Events</i>		
Marriage or Commencement of Domestic Partnership (DP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enroll yourself, if applicable • Enroll your new spouse/DP and other eligible dependents • Drop health coverage (to enroll in your spouse/DP's plan) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop health coverage and not enroll in spouse/DP's plan
Divorce/Legal Separation or Termination of Domestic Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop your spouse/DP from your health coverage • Enroll yourself and your dependent children if you or they were previously enrolled in your spouse/DP's plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop health coverage for yourself or any other covered individual
Gain a child due to birth or adoption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enroll yourself, if applicable • Enroll the eligible child and any other eligible dependents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Adoption placement papers are required as proof 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop health coverage for yourself or any other covered individuals
Child requires coverage due to a Qualified Medical Child Support Order (QMCSO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add child named on QMCSO to your health coverage (enroll yourself, if applicable and not already enrolled) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make any other changes, except as required by the QMCSO
Loss of a child's eligibility (e.g., child reaches the maximum age for coverage)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop the child who lost eligibility from your health coverage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop health coverage for yourself or any other covered individuals
Death of a dependent (spouse/DP or child)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop the dependent from your health coverage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop health coverage for yourself or any other covered individuals
Covered person has become entitled to (or lost entitlement to) Medicare, Medicaid, or SCHIP ²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop coverage for the person who became entitled to Medicare, Medicaid, or SCHIP. • Add the person who lost entitlement to Medicare, Medicaid, or SCHIP.² Documentation Required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop health coverage for yourself or any other covered individuals who are not newly Medicare, Medicaid, or SCHIP eligible
<i>Employment Status Events</i>		
You become newly eligible for benefits due to change in employment status or bargaining group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enroll yourself, if applicable • Enroll your spouse/DP and other eligible dependents • Drop health coverage • Drop your spouse/DP and other eligible dependents 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enroll or drop coverage if your employment change does not result in you being eligible for a new set of benefits
Spouse/DP obtains health benefits in another group health plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop your spouse/DP from your health coverage • Drop your dependent children from your health coverage • Drop coverage for yourself • Proof of coverage in the other health plan required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add any eligible dependents to your health coverage
Spouse/DP loses employment, experiences a termination of their employer's contribution, or otherwise loses coverage for health benefits in another group health plan. You or your dependents exhaust COBRA coverage under other group health plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enroll your spouse/DP and, if applicable, eligible dependent children in your health plan • Enroll yourself in a health plan if previously not enrolled because you were covered under your spouse/DP's plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Proof of loss of other coverage is required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop health coverage for yourself or any other covered dependents
You lose employment or otherwise become ineligible for health benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enroll in your spouse/DP's plan, if available 	
You experience a reduction in hours that results in a significant cost increase or an unpaid leave not covered by FMLA, CFRA etc. where the County will no longer be making a contribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop your spouse/DP from your health coverage • Drop your dependent children from your health coverage • Drop coverage for yourself 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change is allowed unless the reduction in hours causes a loss of eligibility or a loss or significant reduction of the employer subsidy for medical coverage. Financial hardship (including due to a pay cut or reduction in hours) does not trigger the change in cost rule.
You return from Military Leave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enroll yourself, if applicable • Enroll your spouse/DP and other eligible dependents 	

¹ Rules apply equally to IRS qualified and non-qualified dependents for consistency and ease of administration.

² Have 60 days from loss or eligibility determination of Medicare, Medicaid, Medi-Cal, or SCHIP to request special enrollment.