

# BlueConnect

GROUP PLANS



LOUISIANA  
**BLUE** 

SELECT NETWORK PRODUCT DESIGNED FOR THE NEW ORLEANS, SHREVEPORT AND LAFAYETTE MARKETS

**2025**

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Blue Connect plans are products of HMO Louisiana, Inc., a subsidiary of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana. Both companies are independent licensees of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. Ochsner Health Network is an independent company that offers health services to members of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana and its subsidiaries.

# BEFORE YOU CONTINUE...

## **Blue Connect is a Select Network product. Members have access to Ochsner Health Network (OHN) and other participating providers.**

Select Network products have become the go-to health insurance solution for many groups because they offer significant cost savings and high-quality, coordinated care in your members' communities. Please read this guide and talk with a broker before buying Blue Connect to make sure this is a good health plan option for your group and members.

The advantages of a select network product like Blue Connect include:



### **Top-Quality Doctors**

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana (Louisiana Blue) partners with major healthcare systems and providers to give Select Network members access to a full network of top-quality primary care providers, specialists, hospitals and clinics in your local community.



### **Lower Premiums**

Top-quality primary care providers coordinate care, allowing members with Select Network plans to have better health outcomes and lower costs.



### **Care Close to You**

Our defined networks of healthcare providers focus on offering care that's close to members' homes and work.



### **Excellent Benefits**

Select Networks offer members in-network and out-of-network benefits and all essential health benefits, including comprehensive major medical and prescription drug benefits. Telehealth, zero dollar drug program and cost transparency services are available to improve member health and experience.



### **Innovative Care Programs**

Select Network members can take part in wellness and care management programs with health coaching, education and hands-on support to help members with chronic conditions or serious illnesses get stronger.

## It is a perfect fit for some, and not for others.

### **If you want to offer Blue Connect as a product option, it's a great fit if your group is domiciled in the service area and:**

- Your members are willing to seek care from high-quality providers in a defined network in exchange for lower premiums.
- Your members are willing to choose a primary care provider and work with them to get the most value from their plan.
- Your members are willing to check our provider directory at **[www.lablue.com/blue-connect](http://www.lablue.com/blue-connect)** before a doctor visit or hospital stay to find providers in the Blue Connect network.

If there is any discrepancy between the information in this brochure and the benefit plan, the benefit plan prevails. Premium will vary with the level of benefits chosen. For complete information, please refer to the benefit plan.

Benefits are based on allowable charges. Allowable charge is defined as the lesser of the billed charge or the amount established or negotiated by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana and HMO Louisiana, Inc. as the maximum amount allowed for all provider services covered under the terms of the benefit plan.

NOTICE: HEALTHCARE SERVICES MAY BE PROVIDED TO YOU AT A NETWORK HEALTHCARE FACILITY BY FACILITY-BASED PHYSICIANS WHO ARE NOT IN YOUR HEALTH PLAN. YOU MAY BE RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYMENT OF ALL OR PART OF ANY FEES FOR THOSE OUT-OF-NETWORK SERVICES, IN ADDITION TO APPLICABLE AMOUNTS DUE FOR COPAYMENTS, COINSURANCE, DEDUCTIBLES AND NON-COVERED SERVICES.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION ABOUT IN-NETWORK AND OUT-OF-NETWORK FACILITY-BASED PHYSICIANS CAN BE FOUND AT **[WWW.LABLUE.COM/HBP](http://WWW.LABLUE.COM/HBP)** OR BY CALLING THE CUSTOMER SERVICE PHONE NUMBER ON YOUR ID CARD.

Utilization Management decision-making is based only on appropriateness of care and service and existence of coverage. Practitioners or other individuals are not specifically rewarded for issuing denials of coverage. Financial incentives for Utilization Management decision makers do not encourage decisions that result in underutilization.

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*Generally, group size is determined by Medical Loss Ratio (MLR) count. Under MLR counts, a group with 50 or fewer employees is considered a small group.*

*51 or more employees is considered a large group. Talk to a broker to find out which plan options are available to you based on your group size and service area.*

# Blue Connect: *Get More, Spend Less!*

Select Network plans are designed to save you and your members money. In exchange for these savings, members must be willing to seek care from primary care providers, specialists and local hospitals in the network. There's no correlation between cost and quality – *a limited number of providers doesn't mean limited services*. Select Network plans offer the same level of care and benefits as other broader network plans, including emergency room services.

## What's special about Blue Connect?

- **The network of doctors and hospitals is more defined** than in other insurance plans. But your members still have a full network of primary care providers, specialists and other healthcare providers all close to where they live or work.
- **Your members have a coordinated care team** of healthcare professionals who talk to each other and help them get the right care in the right place.
- **Staying in-network is very important!** As long as your members get care within the Blue Connect network, they will pay less than if they get care outside of the network.
- **Your members have access to Ochsner's Digital Medicine Program!\***  
Ochsner Digital Medicine is a program that helps clinically eligible members and their adult (18+) dependents with high blood pressure and/or type 2 diabetes manage their health from home without extra visits to the doctor's office. With this trusted and proven program, 4 out of 5 participants reach their blood pressure and A1C goals in six months.

To learn more about this program or to get started, visit [ochsner.org/BCBS-Join](https://ochsner.org/BCBS-Join).

Blue Connect members can also take advantage of Louisiana Blue's care management services to improve their health outcomes.



*\*The Digital Medicine program is managed by Ochsner Health. Program details including eligibility and clinical criteria are subject to change.*

## You have choices!

It's always great to give your members more options. There are several Blue Connect plan options to meet your members' needs, including:

- **Blue Connect Point of Service (POS) Plans**
- **Blue Connect All Copay Plan:** Members pay copayments with no deductible for all in-network covered services. This innovative plan features predictable, easy-to-understand costs that help members manage their budget.
- **Blue Connect Savings Plus Plans:** HSA-eligible, qualified high-deductible health plans

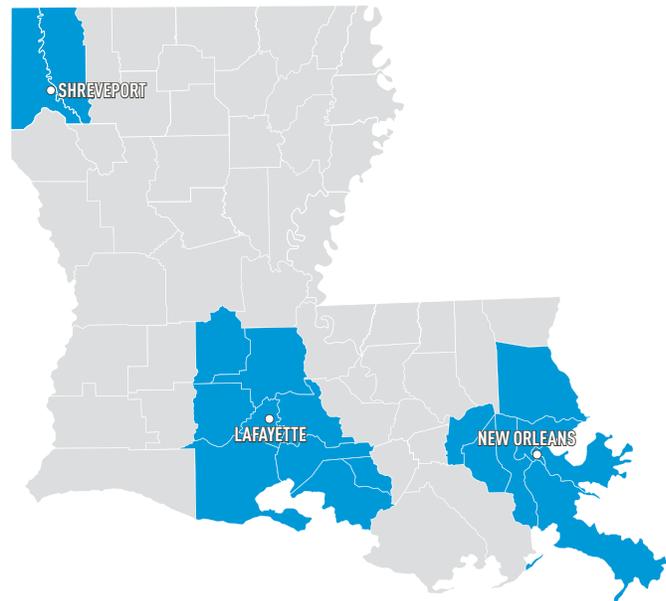
# Your Blue Connect Network

We can offer Blue Connect at a lower price than our traditional PPO plans because the network consists of select doctors and hospitals. To get the most value out of this health plan and keep costs as low as possible, it's important that members only visit providers who are in the Blue Connect network.

## Blue Connect Service Areas

Blue Connect is offered in three areas of the state. These plans are designed for businesses domiciled in any of these parishes:

- **Greater New Orleans/Northshore**  
Jefferson, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John the Baptist or St. Tammany Parish
- **Lafayette/Acadiana**  
Acadia, Evangeline, Iberia, Lafayette, St. Landry, St. Martin, St. Mary or Vermilion Parish
- **Shreveport/Bossier**  
Bossier or Caddo Parish



Blue Connect members have access to Ochsner Health Network (OHN) and other participating providers. While Blue Connect is offered only in the New Orleans, Lafayette and Shreveport areas, Blue Connect members may also access Blue Connect network providers located in other parishes. This access to a broader range of providers is an advantage for groups who have members who reside throughout the state.

# Your Blue Connect Doctors and Hospitals\*



The list below includes some of the key participating providers in Blue Connect, but there are more. The best way to make sure a provider is in-network is to search the online provider directory at [www.lablue.com/blue-connect](http://www.lablue.com/blue-connect).

## Greater New Orleans/Northshore Area

*Providers consist of Ochsner Health and its affiliates, including:*

- Leonard J. Chabert Medical Center
- Ochsner Medical Center
- Ochsner Baptist *(A Campus of Ochsner Medical Center)*
- Ochsner Baptist Women's Pavilion
- Ochsner Hospital for Orthopedics and Sports Medicine
- Ochsner Hospital for Children
- Ochsner Medical Center–Kenner
- Ochsner Medical Center–Northshore
- Ochsner Medical Center–West Bank Campus
- Ochsner St. Anne Hospital



- Slidell Memorial Hospital
- St. Bernard Parish Hospital
- St. Charles Parish Hospital
- St. Tammany Health System
- Terrebonne General Medical Center–Houma

*\*Always check the online provider directory for the most up-to-date providers in each network. Providers are subject to change.*

## Lafayette/Acadiana Area

*Providers consist of Ochsner Lafayette General and its affiliates, including:*

- Abbeville General Hospital
- Iberia Medical Center
- Ochsner Abrom Kaplan Memorial Hospital
- Ochsner Acadia General Hospital
- Ochsner Lafayette General Medical Center
- Ochsner St. Martin Hospital



- Ochsner St. Mary
- Ochsner University Hospital & Clinics
- Oil Center Surgical Plaza
- Opelousas General Health System
- Savoy Medical Center

## Shreveport/Bossier Area

Providers consist of CHRISTUS Shreveport-Bossier Health System and Ochsner LSU Shreveport and its affiliates, including:

- Acorn to Oaks Pediatrics
- Bossier Family Medical
- Choice Pediatrics
- CHRISTUS Bossier Emergency Hospital
- CHRISTUS Highland Medical Center
- CHRISTUS Physician Group
- Healthplex Family Clinic
- McFarland Healthcare Clinic
- Neil Halim Fairfield Family Clinic
- Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport
- Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport-Academic Medical Center
- Ochsner LSU Health Shreveport-St. Mary Medical Center
- Ochsner LSU Physician Group
- Progressive Children's Clinic
- Shreveport Family Medicine
- Walls Medicine Clinic



## Great Care Close to Where You Are

### High-quality providers in your network

Blue Connect members have access to Ochsner Health Network (OHN) and other participating providers. OHN is a nationally recognized group of providers that includes 3,700+ primary care and specialty providers across 100+ specialties and some of the highest-ranked hospitals in the United States.

While Blue Connect is offered only in the New Orleans, Lafayette and Shreveport areas, Blue Connect members may also access Blue Connect network providers located in other parishes. This access to a broader range of providers is an advantage for groups who have members who reside throughout the state.

The best way to make sure a provider is in-network is to search the online provider directory at [www.lablue.com/blue-connect](http://www.lablue.com/blue-connect).

### Out-of-network coverage included

Blue Connect includes out-of-network coverage, including out-of-state coverage. It will cost more to get care outside of your network.



### OchsnerHealth

For 13 consecutive years, U.S. News & World Report named Ochsner Medical Center - New Orleans (OMC), including its Baptist and West Bank campuses, the Best Hospital in Louisiana. As part of the annual review, Ochsner and its partners also received more than 50 additional accolades by U.S. News, the global authority in hospital rankings and consumer advice. OMC is also ranked in the nation's top 10% in six specialties: gastroenterology & GI surgery, geriatrics, orthopedics, urology, pulmonology & lung surgery, and neurology and neurosurgery. Ochsner Lafayette General Medical Center (OLGMC), inclusive of Ochsner Lafayette General Surgical Hospital, Ochsner Lafayette General Orthopedic Hospital and Ochsner Cancer Center of Acadiana, ranked as the best hospital in Southwestern Louisiana with 7 "High Performing" procedures and conditions.

# Selecting a Primary Care Provider

Blue Connect is designed with an innovative, coordinated care model at its core. For this reason, members must pick a primary care provider (PCP) in the Blue Connect network to handle most of their medical needs when sick or injured. This is a doctor practicing in general practice, family practice, internal medicine or geriatrics for adults, or pediatrics for children. Members may also select a nurse practitioner (NP) or physician assistant (PA) as their PCP if he or she is set up in our system as a network primary care provider.

## PCP SELECTION

A strong patient/PCP relationship helps members improve their health outcomes and save money.

### **Your members must choose a PCP.**

If they do not choose a PCP, one will be chosen for them. Members can change their PCP at any time by logging into their account at [www.lablue.com/login](http://www.lablue.com/login) or by calling the Customer Service number on the back of their ID card.

## Quality Blue Program

As a Louisiana Blue customer, your members' health is important to us. That's why we are working with healthcare providers around the state through our Quality Blue (QB) program— together, we can help your members have a better, easier healthcare experience. Our Quality Blue program is part of your members' health benefits. If your member is seeing a Quality Blue provider, they are already included in the program.

## How does the Quality Blue program work for your members?

Through our Quality Blue program, Louisiana Blue makes your members' health claims information available in a secure manner to their Quality Blue provider. This helps the provider learn more about a member's health history and anything that's happened since their last visit. This is to make sure your member gets what they need to stay on top of their health.

## What do your members get out of seeing a Quality Blue provider?

- **Keeping up with care**  
Getting regular care from a Quality Blue provider can help your members stay healthy and catch any problems early when they are easier to treat. If you have a member with a long-term condition, their provider may recommend more frequent visits.
- **Reminders**  
Since Quality Blue providers have more information about your member's health history, they can send notices about important screenings, tests or shots they might need.
- **Lower copays**  
If your members are on a Louisiana Blue health plan that has copayments for primary care office visits, they may get lower copayments for office visits with a Quality Blue provider.

## Which doctors are in the Quality Blue program?

Our Quality Blue program currently includes general practice, Family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, and geriatrics providers. Your members can ask their provider if they are in the Quality Blue program or look them up in our directory at [www.lablue.com/blue-connect](http://www.lablue.com/blue-connect). Quality Blue providers have an indicator as shown below:

**QUALITY BLUE PROVIDER**

Check out [www.lablue.com/QualityBlue](http://www.lablue.com/QualityBlue) to learn more about how this program helps your members. If you have questions about how Louisiana Blue may share your members' claims information with their provider's office, please call the Louisiana Blue Information Governance Office at (225) 298-1751.

## Blue Connect Plan Features

### Preventive and Wellness Benefits

Many preventive and wellness services are covered at 100% when your members go to a provider in their network. These covered services include annual exams, colonoscopies, mammograms and more. See [www.lablue.com/preventive](http://www.lablue.com/preventive) for a full list of services that are covered.

### Coordinated Care

One of the main benefits of a Select Network plan is the coordinated care members receive. This means that all of your members' healthcare professionals will be working as a team to give them the right care, at the right time and in the right places to keep them healthy. We require PCP selection to make sure members choose a primary care provider they want to lead their coordinated care.

When your members use in-network Blue Connect providers, doctors and hospitals work together on their behalf to organize their care. This can result in better health outcomes and lower costs.

## Out-of-Network Coverage

Blue Connect plans provide protection to members who do not receive care from in-network providers by including a lower level of coverage for out-of-network providers. However, your members will save money and get the highest level of benefits by staying in-network for their care.

## Care Management

Members become STRONGER THAN EVER with our Care Management programs working for them. We offer care management programs with health coaching, education and hands-on support to help members with chronic conditions or serious illnesses. With a team of clinical professionals, including doctors, nurses, dietitians, pharmacists and social health coaches, we share personalized information to encourage members on their journey to optimal health. If your members have diabetes, heart disease, other chronic conditions, traumatic injuries or serious illnesses, these programs help guide them through the healthcare system and get the services they need in a timely manner. Members do not pay anything to work with a health coach. Visit [www.lablue.com/managingcare](http://www.lablue.com/managingcare) to learn more.

## Digital Medicine

With Ochsner Digital Medicine,\* members can take control of their high blood pressure and/or type 2 diabetes from home without extra visits to the doctor's office.



### How does the program work?

- Take readings with a blood pressure cuff and/or glucometer using your smartphone or tablet
- Get treatment from a team that monitors your readings and makes sure you're on the right medications
- Create healthy habits with advice and lifestyle support from expert health coaching
- 4 out of 5 participants reach their blood pressure and A1C goals in six months

To learn more about this program or to get started, visit [ochsner.org/BCBS-Join](http://ochsner.org/BCBS-Join).

*\*The Digital Medicine program is managed by Ochsner Health. Program details including eligibility and clinical criteria are subject to change.*



## Prescription Drug Coverage

All Blue Connect plans include prescription drug coverage, which is an important part of a health insurance plan. A mail order program is also available. Drug benefits are managed by Express Scripts.\* Blue Connect plans have a covered drug list, or formulary, that includes thousands of generic and brand drugs, but not every drug is covered. View covered drug lists, search for drugs and find out how to save on drugs at [www.lablue.com/pharmacy](http://www.lablue.com/pharmacy).

*\*Express Scripts is an independent company that provides pharmacy benefit management services to Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana, Inc. and HMO Louisiana, Inc.*

## Zero Dollar Drug Copay Program

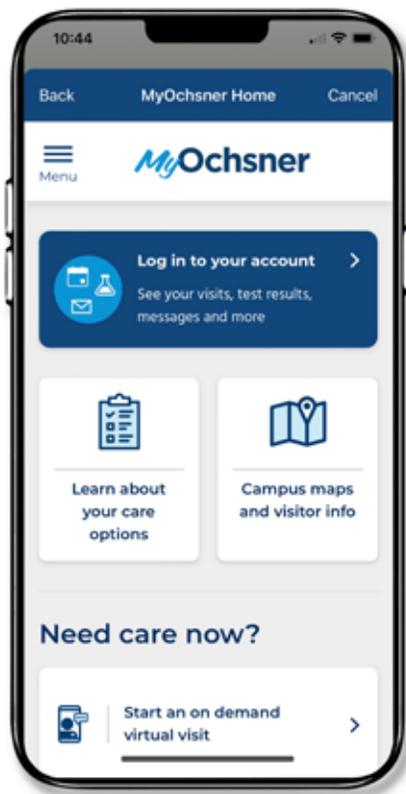
Our \$0 Drug Copay Program offers \$0 copay for certain drugs used to treat certain chronic conditions. Members do not have to meet a deductible before getting program drugs for \$0. Drugs in this program are regularly recommended to treat asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), coronary heart disease, diabetes, heart failure, depression and other common chronic conditions. The \$0 Drug Copay Program is available for copay-based pharmacy benefits. The program is not available for coinsurance-only pharmacy benefits. Go to [www.lablue.com/covereddrugs](http://www.lablue.com/covereddrugs) for a list of drugs in the program.

# Telehealth for Convenient, Affordable Care

## What is Telehealth?

Telehealth, also called virtual care, is an easy and convenient way to be treated for routine, nonemergency health conditions or to access behavioral health services and other forms of care through an online connection. For those with telehealth benefits, virtual care is a great way to access and stay connected with a network provider. Some providers volunteer to be recognized and searchable in the online Louisiana Blue provider directory as providers of telehealth services. We recommend members reach out directly to their network provider for details on how to connect using telehealth. Louisiana Blue members can call the Customer Service number on their ID card to learn about their telehealth benefits.

If a member's regular provider does not offer telehealth options or is not available, members can access Ochsner Connected Anywhere telehealth.



## Virtual Visits:

*Save Time and Money  
With Online Visits!*

Ochsner's Virtual OnDemand Urgent Care service lets your members have private, secure video visits with a healthcare provider from the convenience of their home. All they need is a smartphone, tablet or computer to get started.

For urgent care conditions like colds, fever and rashes, members can see a provider 24/7 with no appointment needed. Several providers, including Ochsner providers, are available for urgent care visits via the "MyOchsner" app.

To sign up, members can simply download the "MyOchsner" app on their Apple or Android device and select "Start an urgent care virtual visit" upon logging in.



Visit [ochsner.org/my-ochsner](https://ochsner.org/my-ochsner) for more information.

## **Blue365®: Healthy Discounts and Deals**

Blue365® offers your members discounts on health and wellness resources, 365 days a year. Louisiana Blue and HMO members enjoy special discounts on many services, such as:

- Fitness memberships (in-person and virtual) and workout gear
- Wearable devices
- Meal delivery and nutrition programs
- Mental well-being resources
- Pet health resources
- Eye care
- Athletic footwear
- Hearing aids

Register for a free online account at [www.blue365deals.com/BCBSLA](http://www.blue365deals.com/BCBSLA) to access these exclusive discounts!

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## **FREE Identity Protection Services**

The Cross and Shield is here to protect your members, in good times and in challenging times. That's why we offer free identity protection services, in partnership with Experian, to all of our eligible customers. And the identity protection applies to all parts of life, not just healthcare.

- **Complete Identity Repair and Restoration**

If you are a victim of identity theft, an investigator will act as your guide and advocate until the issue is resolved and your identity is restored. This includes contacting creditors and other institutions involved.

- **Fraud Alerts With Credit Monitoring—enrollment required**

This service offers additional layers of protection, including credit monitoring, \$1 million identity theft insurance, an annual credit score and credit report and ChildScan services for minors. You can also renew and remove fraud alerts on your credit file to help protect you from credit fraud.

Learn more at [www.lablue.com/idprotection](http://www.lablue.com/idprotection).

# Blue Connect Plan Designs

We understand the need to stay committed to your members and health program investment while trying to control costs and improve outcomes. Blue Connect has several plan options, including Point of Service, HSA-qualified Savings Plus plans and an All Copay Plan that can help you maintain that balance.

Talk to your broker to find out which plan options are available to you based on your group size and service area.

## Blue Connect Point of Service (POS) Plans

Blue Connect POS plans are designed to provide high-quality, cost-effective healthcare to your members. You can choose a traditional plan that has copayments, coinsurance and deductibles for covered services or the All Copay Plan. With either, you'll get quality coverage with affordable premiums and the freedom to go directly to a primary care provider or specialist without a referral.

### Blue Connect Traditional POS plans feature:

- Copayments for in-network primary care and specialist office visits
- Copayments or deductible then coinsurance for most inpatient and outpatient services
- Coverage for emergency services
- 2-tier pharmacy benefit with deductible then coinsurance and 4-tier pharmacy benefit with copayment and coinsurance options. Some plans may also have a separate drug deductible.

### Blue Connect All Copay Plan features:

- Clear and easy understanding of healthcare costs with predictable pricing
- In-network services are subject to copayments for ALL covered services, including primary care and specialist office visits and emergency services, with no deductible. This means members pay set dollar amounts for all covered services when they stay in-network!
- Out-of-network services are subject to deductible then coinsurance
- 4-tier pharmacy benefit with copayments for generic and brand drugs and coinsurance for specialty drugs

Choose the All Copay Plan to offer your members **clear price tags** on top of the **lower premiums** that come with Blue Connect.



## Blue Connect All Copay Plan

The Blue Connect All Copay Plan is available in all service areas. With this plan, healthcare services are organized into seven simple benefit levels with copayments for in-network services.

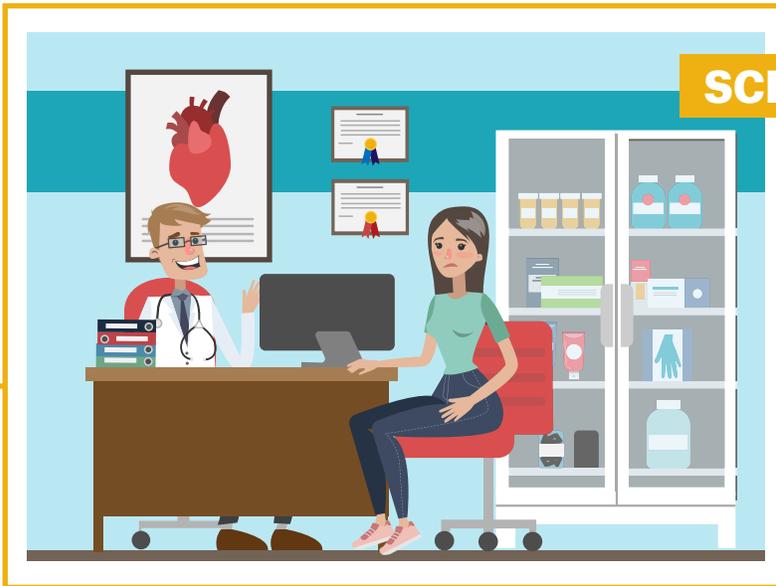
Description (Level)	Member Pays In-Network Copay
<b>LEVEL 1:</b> Preventive and Wellness, and Other Fully Covered Benefit Category	\$0
<b>LEVEL 2:</b> Office Services: Labs and Low Tech Imaging* Benefit Category	\$20
<b>LEVEL 3:</b> PCP Benefit Category	\$35
<b>LEVEL 4:</b> Specialist Benefit Category (Urgent Care, Outpatient Services, and DME)	\$75
<b>LEVEL 5:</b> Emergency Room and High Tech Imaging Benefit Category	\$600
<b>LEVEL 6:</b> Outpatient Hospital Benefit Category	\$1,500
<b>LEVEL 7:</b> Inpatient Hospital Benefit Category	\$3,000

*\*Low tech imaging includes machine tests, diagnostic imaging and radiation therapy.  
 In-Network/Out-of-Pocket = \$8,000, Out-of-Network/Out-of-Pocket = \$16,000. OON benefits subject to deductible/coinsurance.  
 Benefit category will take a separate copay per provider, per date of service. Exceptions may apply. See Benefit Grids for list of detailed services.*

# Compare the Blue Connect All Copay Plan to Other Plans

These scenarios show the All Copay Plan consistently has predictable pricing where the total healthcare cost to members is clear and easy to understand.

These scenarios assume that members receive in-network services and have not met their deductible or max out-of-pocket. Plans compared have similar premiums.



## SCENARIO 1

Member has high blood pressure and requires seeing her PCP twice per year.

Plan Features	Blue Connect All Copay Plan	Traditional Blue Connect POS Plan	High Deductible PPO Plan
Network	Local, market-defined network		Broad, national network
In-Network Deductible	None	\$1,100	\$3,700
Max Out-of-Pocket	\$8,000	\$9,100	\$9,200
<b>PCP Office Visit (2 sessions)</b>	<b>\$70 (\$35 copay each) (Level 3)</b>	<b>\$40 (\$20 copay each)</b>	<b>\$110 (\$55 copay each)</b>
<b>Total Cost to Member</b>	<b>\$70</b>	<b>\$40</b>	<b>\$110</b>



## SCENARIO 2

Member undergoes a total knee replacement surgery.

Plan Features	Blue Connect All Copay Plan	Traditional Blue Connect POS Plan	High Deductible PPO Plan
Network	Local, market-defined network		Broad, national network
In-Network Deductible	None	\$1,100	\$3,700
Max Out-of-Pocket	\$8,000	\$9,100	\$9,200
<b>PCP Office Visit</b>	<b>\$35 copay</b> <i>(Level 3)</i>	<b>\$20 copay</b>	<b>\$55 copay</b>
<b>Specialist Visit</b> <i>(pre-surgery)</i>	<b>\$75 copay</b> <i>(Level 4)</i>	<b>\$55 copay</b>	<b>\$75 copay</b>
<b>Lab Work</b> <i>(in office)</i>	<b>\$20 copay</b> <i>(Level 2)</i>	<b>Fully covered benefit</b>	<b>Fully covered benefit</b>
<b>High Tech Imaging</b> <i>(MRI in office)</i>	<b>\$600 copay</b> <i>(Level 5)</i>	<b>Deductible then coinsurance</b>	<b>Deductible then coinsurance</b>
<b>Hospital Stay and Surgery</b>	<b>\$3,000 copay</b> <i>(Level 7)</i>	<b>Deductible then coinsurance</b>	<b>Deductible then coinsurance</b>
<b>Specialist Visit</b> <i>(post surgery)</i>	<b>\$75 copay</b> <i>(Level 4)</i>	<b>\$55 copay</b>	<b>\$75 copay</b>
<b>Physical Therapy</b> <i>(12 sessions)</i>	<b>\$420</b> <b>(\$35 copay each)</b> <i>(Level 3)</i>	<b>\$480</b> <b>(\$40 copay each)</b>	<b>Deductible then coinsurance</b>
<b>DME</b>	<b>\$75 copay</b> <i>(Level 4)</i>	<b>Deductible then coinsurance</b>	<b>Deductible then coinsurance</b>
<b>Total Cost to Member</b>	<b>\$4,300</b>	<b>Varies by site of service; member will pay no more than the Max Out-of-Pocket</b>	

This is not a cost estimator. Treatments shown are just examples of how this plan might cover medical care. Actual costs will be different depending on the care received, the prices providers charge and many other factors. Focus on the cost sharing amounts (deductibles, copayments and coinsurance). Use this information to compare the portion of costs a member might pay under different health plans. Pharmacy benefits are not reflected.

## Blue Connect Savings Plus (HSA-Qualified) Plans

Blue Connect Savings Plus plans are our qualified high-deductible health plans that can be paired with a Health Savings Account (HSA). By implementing a high-deductible health plan with an HSA, many companies have been able to contain costs and still offer a competitive benefit to their members. HSAs empower members as healthcare consumers and encourage them to become more involved in their healthcare decisions.

An HSA-based strategy can help both you and your members stretch your healthcare budgets by pairing tax benefits on savings with lower premiums on insurance coverage. If some of these premium savings are transferred to your members in the form of contributions to members' HSAs, you are ultimately offering your workforce a richer benefits package.

### Blue Connect Savings Plus plans feature:

- No copayments for services; deductible then coinsurance applies.
- Except for preventive care benefits, members must meet their deductible before they begin receiving coverage.
- Once the deductible is met, benefits are based on coinsurance, which ranges from 70 percent to 100 percent for in-network covered services.
- Once the out-of-pocket maximum is met, the plan pays 100 percent for in-network covered services.
- 2-tier pharmacy benefit with deductible then coinsurance

*Blue Connect All Copay Plan and Savings Plus plans are only available for group business.*

### Pair your Blue Connect Savings Plus plan with a MySmart\$aver HSA to save for healthcare expenses now and into retirement.

- MySmart\$aver HSAs are provided by HealthEquity,\* our preferred HSA partner
- Employer contributions are tax-deductible; member contributions are tax-free
- Online enrollment and contribution process is simple
- Convenient debit card option to pay for qualified medical expenses
- Employer contributions to an HSA play a vital part in both HSA adoption and workforce satisfaction
- HSAs are excellent retirement tools! According to HealthEquity,\* recent estimates show the average couple will need between \$301,000 and \$390,000 to cover out-of-pocket medical expenses in retirement. These estimates include costs related to Medicare premiums and deductibles. An HSA can be used to help pay for any non-covered medical expenses as well as dental, hearing and vision expenses.
- Visit <https://sales.healthequity.com/mysmartsaver/> or call Health Equity Employer Services at 1-866-382-3510 to learn more.

*\*HealthEquity, Inc., is an IRS authorized non-bank custodian of HSAs, and the preferred HSA custodian for eligible Louisiana Blue members enrolled in our high-deductible health plans. Members who qualify may open an HSA with any HSA trustee or custodian and should seek guidance from a tax professional or financial advisor. See IRS Publication 969 for more about HSAs. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana and HealthEquity are not engaged in rendering tax, legal or investment advice.*

# Compare Select Network Plans to Traditional PPO Plans

Trying to decide if a Blue Connect Select Network plan is a smart choice to offer your members? The chart below can help you compare networks, coverage and benefits, and costs.

	Traditional PPO	Blue Connect	
<i>What's the same?</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High-quality providers across a wide range of specialties</li> <li>• No referrals required</li> <li>• Preventive visits covered at 100%</li> <li>• Out-of-network coverage</li> <li>• ER services for life-threatening conditions covered as in-network</li> <li>• Wellness and care management programs</li> <li>• Essential health benefits</li> <li>• Blue365 health discounts and deals</li> <li>• Identity protection services</li> </ul>		
<i>What's different?</i>	<b>Premium</b>	\$\$\$	\$\$
	<b>Network**</b>	Broad, national network	Local, market-defined network
	<b>Primary Care Provider (PCP) Selection</b>	Encouraged, but not required	Yes PCP coordinates care to improve health and lower healthcare costs
	<b>Out-of-state coverage</b>	Covered as in-network (through BlueCard worldwide network)	In-network for emergencies, Out-of-network for nonemergencies, Add-on: Away From Home Care***
	<b>Added programs, perks and benefits provided by Ochsner Health</b>		Same-day appointments, concierge services, innovative care programs such as Ochsner Digital Medicine for chronic disease management, plus other exclusive discounts

\*Each benefit's cost share varies by plan. Talk to your broker or see your contract booklet for full details.

\*\*Search for participating providers at [www.lablue.com/FindCare](http://www.lablue.com/FindCare)

\*\*\*Away From Home Care availability is subject to location. Contact your provider for more information.

## Trust Louisiana Blue With More Than Medical Benefits for Whole-body Health

In addition to medical benefits, we offer an array of ancillary products that can help enhance your benefits package, improve your members' overall health and lower medical costs:

**IMPROVING OVERALL HEALTH:** Regular visits to the dentist and eye doctor can help identify and prevent future dental, vision and overall health problems. Offering DENTAL and VISION group benefits with MEDICAL from Louisiana Blue can improve your members' overall health and lower their medical costs.



- **Blue Dental Plans**

Oral health is about more than a good smile. Having regular dental exams can help find dental problems and other health conditions in the body like diabetes, heart disease, osteoporosis and cancer. Our Blue Dental Traditional plan covered services include diagnostic and preventive, basic, endodontics and periodontics when visiting an Advantage Plus 2.0 network provider.\* The Advantage Plus 2.0 network is a large nationwide network of dental providers with over 4,200 provider locations in Louisiana. Contact your broker or visit **[employers.lablue.com/dental](https://employers.lablue.com/dental)** for more information.

*\*Advantage Plus 2.0 is a dental network of providers of United Concordia Companies, Inc., an independent company that administers dental benefits on behalf of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana and HMO Louisiana, Inc.*

- **Blue Vision Plans**

Regular eye exams are important for good vision health. They can also detect risk factors for heart disease such as high cholesterol, high blood pressure and diabetes. Our Blue Vision plans come with low monthly premiums, an expansive network\*\* of providers and retailers including Walmart®, Costco® and Visionworks®, and special features and discounts.

Each of our Blue Vision plans is packed with features such as eyeglass and contact lens benefits, a replacement contact lens program, expanded progressive lens options and blue light coating for digital screen protection, discounts on services not covered by their plan, laser vision correction discounts and more. Contact your broker or visit **[employers.lablue.com/vision](https://employers.lablue.com/vision)** for more information.

*\*\*Davis Vision is an independent company that provides an extensive network of vision care providers on behalf of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana and HMO Louisiana, Inc.*

- **Blue Cross Blue Shield Global® International Health Plans**

Blue Cross Blue Shield Global® international health solutions are brought to you by GeoBlue®, Blue Cross Blue Shield's international health insurance partner. Part of the Blue Cross Blue Shield family, GeoBlue provides unparalleled global access and reliability with coverage for every community in the United States and over 190 countries around the world, making it the broadest global network available. Blue Cross Blue Shield Global plans are available to groups of 2+ employees for business travelers, expatriates on long-term assignments, and third-country nationals. Find out more about what Blue Cross Blue Shield Global products can do for your business. Contact your Louisiana Blue representative or visit **[employers.lablue.com/travel-health-plans](https://employers.lablue.com/travel-health-plans)**.

*Blue Cross Blue Shield Global is a Brand owned by Blue Cross Blue Shield Association. GeoBlue is the trade name of Worldwide Insurance Services, LLC (Worldwide Services Insurance Agency, LLC in California and New York), an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association and is made available in cooperation with Blue Cross and Blue Shield companies in select service areas. Coverage is provided under insurance policies underwritten by 4 Ever Life Insurance Company, Oakbrook Terrace, IL, NAIC #80985. 4 Ever Life Insurance Company is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association.*

# Online Convenience for Members

As a member you should log in or register for an online member account at [www.lablue.com/login](http://www.lablue.com/login), where you can:\*



- **Manage Your Account**  
View an ID card, view statements and claims, access forms, look up your plan benefits and cost share and more—all from a secure, password-protected online account.
- **Find Providers in Your Network and Estimate Costs**  
Search your network to find a provider for the care you need. When you see a provider in your plan's network, you save money and get the most out of your benefits. You can search common medical procedures to see cost estimates based on your benefits. You can also get drug cost information based on your pharmacy benefits.
- **Take a Health Assessment**  
Learn risks, get access to a personalized action plan and be set for a lifetime of good health.
- **Get Wellness Discounts**  
Find Blue365® discounts on fitness memberships (in-person and virtual), workout gear, meal delivery and nutrition programs, mental well-being resources, pet health resources, eye care, athletic footwear, hearing aids and more.
- **Choose to Go Paperless**  
Access your plan-related information conveniently through your online account. Any time a document that is part of the Paperless program becomes available, we will send you an email notification.
- **Read About Our Language Access Services**  
You can request this brochure in a language other than English. Check the bottom of any page at [www.lablue.com](http://www.lablue.com) and click the language of your choice for this and other services. You can also call the Customer Service number on your ID card. If you are hearing impaired, call **1-800-711-5519** (TTY 711).

*\*This is not an inclusive list of online account features, and options may vary based on the plan(s) you have.*

## Mobile Is the Way to Go

Downloading our Louisiana Blue app on an Apple or Android device will provide healthcare information at your fingertips!



- **Find a Doctor**  
Find urgent care, locate a doctor or hospital, get directions and save locations to any doctor or hospital.
- **View Claims and Digital ID Card**  
See all of your important health information, like claims, costs, balances, benefits and medical ID card from your mobile device.
- **Contact Us**  
You can get maps and directions to any of our local offices or get phone numbers to talk to a Customer Service representative.

## We're Here to Help

With the Cross and Shield, you'll have the support and protection you deserve.



### Your Broker

Get personal assistance from your broker, who can answer your questions, help you choose the plan that's right for you and guide you through the enrollment process. Don't have a broker? Give us a call and we can connect you with someone to help.



### Online Solutions Through the Employers Portal

Our secure online portal lets you manage your group plan with the click of a mouse. Go to **employers.lablue.com** to get started with AccessBlue.



### Your Regional Office Representative

Help is just a phone call away.

- New Orleans **(504) 832-5800** or **(504) 518-7364**
- Lafayette **(337) 232-7527**
- Shreveport **(318) 795-0573**

If you have questions about how Louisiana Blue will protect and may use or disclose your confidential/protected health information and individually identifiable health information, please visit **[www.lablue.com/privacy](http://www.lablue.com/privacy)**.

# Employer Notices

## Change in Premium Amount

Premiums for this Benefit Plan may increase after the group's first twelve (12) months of coverage and every six (6) months thereafter, except when premiums may increase more frequently as described herein. We will give group forty-five (45) days written notice of any change in premium rates ((ninety (90) days written notice for employer groups with more than 100 enrolled employees)). We will send notice to the group's latest address shown in our records. Any increase in premium is effective on the date specified in the rate change notice.

Your premiums are subject to change if any of the following events occur, including but not limited to: (1) the addition of a newly covered person; (2) the addition of a newly covered entity; (3) a change in age or geographic location of any individual insured or policyholder; (4) or a change in the benefit level of the benefit plan from that which was in force at the time of the last rate determination. An increase in premium will become effective on the next billing date following the effective date of the requested change. Continued payment of premium will constitute acceptance of the change.

## Applicable to Large Groups (51+ MLR):

We reserve the right to increase the premiums more often than stated above due to a change in the extent or nature of the risk that was not previously considered in the rate determination process at any time during the life of the Benefit Plan.



## Group Rates

As of Jan. 1, 2014, the Affordable Care Act imposed new government taxes and fees, new benefits and new rating calculations.

Federal law only allows members in the small group market to be rated according to the following factors within a benefit plan design:

- Geographic location
- Family composition
- Age
- Tobacco use

## Renewability of Coverage

Louisiana Blue may terminate this Benefit Plan if any one of the following occurs:

- Group commits fraud or makes an intentional misrepresentation.
- Group fails to comply with a material plan provision, including, but not limited to provisions relating to eligibility, employer contributions or group participation rules. Termination for a reason addressed in this paragraph will be effective after group receives sixty (60) days written notice as described below.
- In the case of network plans, there is no longer any enrollee under the group benefit plan that lives, resides or works in the service area of Louisiana Blue or in the area for which Louisiana Blue is authorized to do business.
- Group's coverage is provided through a bona fide association and the employer's membership in the association ends.
- Louisiana Blue ceases to offer this product or coverage in the market.



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**NEW ORLEANS**

**(504) 832-5800**

3235 North Causeway Blvd.  
Metairie, LA 70002

OR

**(504) 518-7364**

Orleans Tower  
1340 Poydras St., Suite 100  
New Orleans, LA 70112

**LAFAYETTE**

**(337) 232-7527**

5501 Johnston St.  
Lafayette, LA 70503

**SHREVEPORT**

**(318) 795-0573**

411 Ashley Ridge Blvd.  
Shreveport, LA 71106

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**help@lablue.com**

**www.lablue.com**