



The EHA has announced a **one-time** special 'buy up' option for the 2017-2018 school year allowing a lowering of the plan deductible. This provides an exception to the current restriction on lowering deductibles. The EHA created 2 more deductibles for the 2017-18 plan year. The purpose of offering the new \$750PPO and \$1000PPO was to allow local schools and their employees more options to lower their rate increase by choosing to move up the deductible amount.

The EHA recognized the new PPO deductibles available replaced the eliminated 2016 options. Since the renewal, the EHA has received feedback in some interest for individual districts to have the option in lowering deductibles.

Recently, the EHA Executive Committee has approved this option, which applies to all groups regardless of the current plan deductible option and allows for the lowering of the deductible by one level for the 2017-18 year. After 2017-18 the plan will reinstate the restriction on lowering deductibles in order to avoid any adverse selection.

Any changes to your deductible will begin September 1st of 2017 and changes must be made to Blue Cross Blue Shield before the start of a new contract year. If you have any questions please contact Greg Long at greg@ehaplan.org or 402-440-9633.