



Participation. Collaboration. Cooperation.

EHA Dependent Verification Strengthens Plan, Saves Money

When the Educator's Health Alliance dependent eligibility verification project launched last December, some members asked why the project was important and whether it would be worth the inconvenience.

The answer is a resounding yes.

The verification of dependent eligibility helps ensure that only eligible individuals are covered under the plan, and this helps keep plan costs as low as possible.

The verification process that began in December 2012 has been completed. A total of 1055 individuals were determined to be ineligible in either medical or dental EHA insurance plan. It is estimated that the removal of ineligible individuals will result in a medical and dental expense reduction in excess of \$1.5 million annually.

As part of its commitment to manage benefit costs responsibly, the EHA and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska hired Xerox HR Solutions, an experienced outside firm, to ensure that the EHA was providing coverage for only those who are eligible in accordance with the EHA's eligibility guidelines.

"The EHA Board would like to thank all the plan members that provided information to complete the verification process" said Beth Kernes Krause, EHA Chairwoman. "The effort required to complete the verification process was considerable, but the results speak for themselves and include the cost savings and the equitable treatment of all eligible members in the EHA plan."

To ensure only eligible family members are enrolled from now on, EHA will have an ongoing program to verify the eligibility of new members. This process will also be conducted by Xerox HR Solutions.

If you have questions, contact EHA Field Representative Greg Long at 402-440-1358, or Kent Trelford-Thompson at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska at 402-982-6810.

The EHA plan's insurance coverage with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska includes more than 70,000 education employees, early retirees and their dependents in over 400 school groups.

###