

San Francisco Health Service System (SFHSS) 2019 COBRA, Covered California and Holdover

COBRA

Under the federal Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), employees without holdover rights, or whose holdover rights have ended, may be eligible to continue medical, dental and vision coverage for themselves and eligible dependents at the employee's expense. Current year FSAs (Flexible Spending Accounts) may also be COBRA-eligible.

For Cobra information, visit padmin.com or call (800) 688-2611

Employees may elect to continue healthcare coverage through COBRA if coverage is lost due to:

- Voluntary or involuntary termination of employment (except for gross misconduct).
- Hours of employment reduced, making the employee ineligible for employer health coverage.

Covered spouses or domestic partners may also elect to be covered under COBRA if coverage is lost due to:

- Voluntary or involuntary termination of the employee's employment (except for misconduct).
- Divorce, legal separation, or dissolution of domestic partnership from the covered employee.
- Death of the covered employee.

Covered dependent children may elect COBRA coverage if healthcare coverage is lost due to:

- Loss of dependent child status under the plan rules.
- Voluntary or involuntary termination of the employee employment (except for misconduct).
- Hours of employment reduced, making the employee ineligible for employer health coverage.
- Parent's divorce, legal separation, or dissolution of domestic partnership from the covered employee.
- Death of the covered employee.

COBRA Notification and Election Time Limits

If an employee and any enrolled dependents lose SFHSS coverage due to separation from employment, P&A Group will notify the employee of the opportunity to elect COBRA coverage. The employee or dependent has 60 days from the COBRA notification

date to complete enrollment and continue coverage. Coverage will be retroactive to the date of the COBRA-qualifying event, so there is no break in coverage. Employee coverage ends on the last day of the coverage period in which employment terminates. However, if the termination date falls on the first day of the coverage period, coverage ends that same day. If an enrolled dependent of an employee loses coverage due to divorce, dissolution of partnership, or aging out, the employee or the dependent must notify P&A Group within 30 days of the qualifying event and request COBRA enrollment information.

Paying for COBRA

It is the responsibility of covered individuals enrolled in COBRA to pay required healthcare premium payments directly to P&A Group. COBRA premiums are not subsidized by the employer.

Dependents dropped from coverage during Open Enrollment are not eligible for COBRA.

Duration of COBRA Continuation Coverage

COBRA coverage is generally available for a maximum of 18 months. Certain qualifying events, or a second qualifying event during the initial period of coverage, may permit a coverage extension for up to 36 months. Employees and dependents who are eligible for less than 36 months of federal COBRA may also be eligible for Cal-COBRA. Continuation coverage under both federal and California state COBRA will not exceed 36 months.

Employees who are disabled on the date of their qualifying event, or any time during the first 60 days of COBRA coverage, are eligible for 29 months of coverage. Beginning the 19th month of coverage, the cost will rise to 150% of group rate.

2019 Monthly COBRA Premium Rates

Blue Shield of California Trio HMO	
Employee Only	\$762.60
Employee +1	\$1,521.28
Employee +2 or More	\$2,151.02
Blue Shield of California Access+ HMO	
Employee Only	\$890.06
Employee +1	\$1,776.22
Employee +2 or More	\$2,511.75
Kaiser Permanente HMO	
Employee Only	\$623.68
Employee +1	\$1,243.15
Employee +2 or More	\$1,757.29
City Plan (United Healthcare) PPO	
Employee Only	\$1,098.86
Employee +1	\$2,126.60
Employee +2 or More	\$2,987.96
Delta Dental PPO	
Employee Only	\$61.69
Employee +1	\$129.54
Employee +2 or More	\$185.06
DeltaCare USA DHMO	
Employee Only	\$27.49
Employee +1	\$45.35
Employee +2 or More	\$67.08
UnitedHealthcare Dental DHMO	
Employee Only	\$28.36
Employee +1	\$46.82
Employee +2 or More	\$69.22
VSP Premier	
Employee Only	\$9.55
Employee +1	\$14.32
Employee +2 or More	\$29.91

Flexible Spending Accounts and COBRA

To continue FSA benefits under COBRA, year-to-date FSA contributions must exceed year-to-date claims as of your employment termination date. To keep your FSA open, apply under COBRA and continue making the biweekly contribution plus a 2% administrative charge. COBRA Flexible Spending Account contributions are made post-tax.

Termination of COBRA Continuation Coverage

COBRA coverage will end if:

- You obtain coverage under another group plan.
- You fail to pay the premium required under the plan within the grace period.
- The applicable COBRA period ends.

Covered California: Alternative to COBRA

Individuals who are not eligible for SFHSS coverage should consider obtaining health insurance through the state insurance exchange, Covered California. In some cases, you may qualify for tax credits and other assistance to make health insurance more affordable. For information about Covered California health plans, call (888) 975-1142 or visit coveredca.com.

Holdover Rights

Employees who are placed on a holdover roster may be eligible to continue SFHSS medical, dental and vision coverage for themselves and covered dependents. Eligibility requirements include:

Employees must certify annually that they are unable to obtain other health coverage.

Holdover premium contributions must be paid by the due date listed on the 2019 Health Coverage Calendar (see page 34). Rates may increase each plan year.