

## **PLAN PRIVACY INFORMATION**

Notwithstanding any other Plan provision in this or other sections of the Plan, the Plan will operate in accordance with the HIPAA privacy laws and regulations as set forth in 45 CFR Parts 160 and 164, and as they may be amended ("HIPAA"), with respect to protected health information ("PHI") as that term is defined therein. The Plan Administrator and/or his or her designee retains full discretion in interpreting these rules and applying them to specific situations. All such decisions shall be given full deference unless the decision is determined to be arbitrary and capricious.

The term "Plan Sponsor" means Urbana School District 116.

The term "Plan Administrator" means the entity designated as Plan Administrator by the Plan documents pursuant to which the plan is operated. If a Plan Administrator is not designated by the plan documents, the Plan Sponsor shall be deemed to be the Plan Administrator.

### **I. Permitted Uses and Disclosures of PHI by the Plan and the Plan Sponsor**

The Plan and the Plan Sponsor are permitted to use and disclose PHI for the following purposes, to the extent they are not inconsistent with HIPAA:

- For general plan administration, including policyholder service functions, enrollment and eligibility functions, reporting functions, auditing functions, financial and billing functions, to assist in the administration of a consumer dispute or inquiry, and any other authorized insurance or benefit function.
- As required for computer programming, consulting or other work done in respect to the computer programs or systems utilized by the Plan.
- Other uses relating to plan administration, which are approved in writing by the Plan Administrator or Plan Privacy Officer.
- At the request of an individual, to assist in resolving claims the individual may have with respect to benefits under the Plan.

### **II. Uses and Disclosures of PHI by the Plan and the Plan Sponsor for Required Purposes**

The Plan and Plan Sponsor may use or disclose PHI for the following required purposes:

- Judicial and administrative proceedings, in response to lawfully executed process, such as a court order or subpoena.
- For public health and health oversight activities, and other governmental activities accompanied by lawfully executed process.
- As otherwise may be required by law.

### **III. Sharing of PHI With the Plan Sponsor**

As a condition of the Plan Sponsor receiving PHI from the Plan, the Plan Documents have been amended to incorporate the following provisions, under which the Plan Sponsor agrees to:

- Not use or further disclose PHI other than as permitted or required by the plan documents in Sections I and II above;
- Ensure that any agents to whom it provides PHI received from the Plan agree to the same restrictions and conditions that apply to the Plan Sponsor;
- Not use or disclose PHI for employment-related actions or decisions or in connection with any other benefit or employee benefit plan of the Plan Sponsor;

- Report to the Plan any use or disclosure of the information that is inconsistent with the permitted uses or disclosures of which it becomes aware;
- Make PHI available to Plan participants for the purposes of the rights of access and inspection, amendment, and accounting of disclosures as required by HIPAA;
- Make its internal practices, books and records relating to the use and disclosure of PHI received from the Plan available to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for purposes of determining compliance by the Plan with HIPAA;
- If feasible, return or destroy all PHI received from the Plan that the sponsor still maintains in any form and retain no copies of such information when no longer needed for the purpose for which disclosure was made, except that, if such return or destruction is not feasible, limit further uses and disclosures to those purposes that make the return or destruction of the information infeasible;
- Ensure that adequate separation between the Plan and Plan Sponsor is established in accordance with the following requirements:

(A) Employees to be Given Access to PHI: The following employees (or class of employees) of the Plan Sponsor are the only individuals that may access PHI provided by the Plan:

(Assistant Supervisor of Human Resource, Director of Human Resource, Human Resource Benefits Specialist, and Human Resource Specialist

(B) Restriction to Plan Administration Functions: The access to and use of PHI by the employees of the Plan Sponsor designated above will be limited to plan administration functions that the Plan Sponsor performs for the Plan.

(C) Mechanism for Resolving issues of Noncompliance: If the Plan Administrator or Privacy Officer determines that an employee of the Plan Sponsor designated above has acted in noncompliance with the plan document provisions outlined above, then the Plan Administrator or Privacy Officer shall take or seek to have taken appropriate disciplinary action with respect to that employee, up to and including termination of employment as appropriate. The Plan Administrator or Privacy Officer shall also document the facts of the violation, actions that have been taken to discipline the offending party and the steps taken to prevent future violations.

Certify to the Plan, prior to the Plan permitting disclosure of PHI to the Plan Sponsor, that the Plan Documents have been amended to incorporate the provisions in this Section.

#### **IV. Participants Rights**

Participants and their covered dependents will have the rights set forth in the Plan's or its vision insurer's HIPAA Notice of Privacy Practices for Protected Health Information and any other rights and protections required under the HIPAA. The Notice may periodically be revised by the Plan or its vision insurer.

#### **V. Privacy Complaints/Issues**

All complaints or issues raised by Plan participants or their covered dependents in respect to the use of their PHI must be submitted in writing to the Plan Administrator. A response will be made within 30 days of the receipt of the written complaint. In the event more time is required to resolve any issues this period can be extended to 90 days. The affected participant must receive written notice of the extension and the resolution of their complaint. The Plan Administrator shall have full discretion in resolving the complaint and making any required interpretations and factual determinations. The decision of the Plan Administrator shall be final and be given full deference by all parties.

#### **VI. Security**

As a condition of the Plan Sponsor receiving electronic PHI ("ePHI") from the Plan, the Plan Documents have amended to incorporate the following provisions, under which the Plan Sponsor agrees to:

- Implement administrative, physical, and technical safeguards that reasonably and appropriately protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the ePHI that it creates, receives, maintains, or transmits on behalf of the Plan;
- Ensure that the adequate separation between the Plan and the Plan Sponsor, which is required by the applicable section(s) of the Plan relating to the sharing of PHI with the Plan Sponsor, is supported by reasonable and appropriate security measures;
- Ensure that any agent to whom it provides ePHI agrees to implement reasonable and appropriate security measures to protect the information; and
- Report to the Plan any security incident of which it becomes aware. In this context, the term "security incident" means the attempted or successful unauthorized access, use, disclosure, modification, or destruction of information or interference with system operations in information systems such as hardware, software, information, data, applications, communications, and people.