

The Federal Employee Program (FEP) now offers two separate health benefit programs: the Federal Employee Health Benefits (FEHB) program provides benefits to federal employees and their dependents, and the Postal Service Health Benefits (PSHB) program provides benefits to postal service employees and their dependents. In Louisiana, preferred providers are those in Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Louisiana's **Preferred Care PPO Network**. We are responsible for processing claims and providing customer service to members for services rendered in Louisiana. Both programs have three benefit plans to choose from: FEP Blue Standard™, FEP Blue Basic™ or FEP Blue Focus®. This guide outlines the provider requirements as they differ between these benefit plans.

FEHB Dedicated Customer Service: 1-800-272-3029

PSHB Dedicated Customer Service: 1-844-275-2583

	Benefit Style	Member ID Card Style	Preventive Care	Office Visits	Urgent Care	Pharmacy	Residential Treatment Center
FEP Blue Standard	In-network benefits Out-of-network benefits	<p>FEHB</p> <p>PSHB</p>	Preventive care benefits are limited to one per calendar year. Coverage is available at 100% for routine physicals performed by preferred providers. Additional preventive services may be covered at 100%. Please refer to the member's benefit plan for full details.	PCP - \$30 copayment Specialists - \$40 copayment	\$30 copayment	Retail Pharmacy 1-800-624-5060 Specialty Drug Pharmacy 1-888-346-3731 Mail Service Prescription Drug 1-800-262-7890	Facility must be licensed and accredited and pre-service approval must be obtained prior to admission. FEP does not allow review for medical necessity if the member is admitted to a residential treatment center prior to requesting authorization. <u>For FEP Blue Focus members</u> , RTC stays are limited to 30 calendar days per year.
FEP Blue Basic	In-network benefits No out-of-network benefits	<p>FEHB</p> <p>PSHB</p>		PCP - \$35 copayment Specialists - \$50 copayment	\$50 copayment	Retail Pharmacy 1-800-624-5060 Specialty Drug Pharmacy 1-888-346-3731 Mail Service Prescription Drug* 1-800-262-7890	
FEP Blue Focus	Limited in-network benefits No out-of-network benefits	<p>FEHB</p> <p>PSHB</p>		PCP/Specialists - \$10 copayment per visit for first 10 visits; then deductible and coinsurance	\$25 copayment	No non-preferred drug coverage Retail Pharmacy 1-800-624-5060 Specialty Drug Pharmacy 1-888-346-3731 No Mail Service Prescription Drug Coverage	

* For members who have Medicare Part B as primary

Services That Require Prior Authorization

Prior authorization is required for the following services for FEP members. Please always verify the member's eligibility, benefits and limitations prior to providing services. To do this, use iLinkBlue. Authorization requirements for the following services apply for FEP benefit plans effective January 1, 2025:

FEP Blue Standard/FEP Blue Basic

Prior authorization is required for these services when performed on an outpatient basis. Failure to obtain prior authorization for these services will result in a \$500 penalty if inpatient admission is required.

- Air Ambulance (non-emergent)
- Applied Behavior Analysis*
- Blood/Marrow Stem Cell Transplants
- Certain High-cost Drugs Obtained Outside of a Pharmacy Setting – a complete list of these drugs is available at www.fepblue.org/highcostdrugs
- Certain Prescription Drugs and Supplies (including medical foods)
- Clinical Trials for Certain Stem Cell Transplants
- Gender Affirming Surgery
- Gene Therapy/Cellular Immunotherapy
- Genetic Testing
- Hearing Aids
- Hospice Care
- Inpatient Hospital Services (except routine maternity stays)
- Organ/Tissue Transplants and Transplant Travel (including autologous pancreas islet cell, heart, artificial heart implant, heart-lung, intestinal, liver, lung, pancreas, simultaneous liver-kidney, simultaneous pancreas kidney; excluding cornea and kidney transplants)
- Outpatient Facility-based Sleep Studies
- Oral/Maxillofacial Procedures (except when related to an accidental injury and provided within 72 hours of the accident)
- Proton Beam Therapy
- Reproductive Services
- Residential Treatment Center*
- Sperm/Egg Storage
- Stereotactic Radiosurgery
- Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy
- Surgical Treatment for Morbid Obesity

FEP Blue Focus Option

Failure to obtain prior authorization for these services will result in a \$100 penalty for outpatient services and a \$500 penalty if inpatient admission is required.

- Air Ambulance (non-emergent)
- Applied Behavior Analysis*
- Blood/Marrow Stem Cell Transplants
- Breast Reduction or Augmentation (not related to the treatment of cancer)
- Cardiac Rehabilitation
- Certain High-cost Drugs Obtained Outside of a Pharmacy Setting – a complete list of these drugs is available at www.fepblue.org/highcostdrugs
- Clinical Trials for Certain Stem Cell Transplants
- Certain Prescription Drugs and Supplies (including medical foods)
- Cochlear Implants
- CT Scan
- Gender Affirming Surgery
- Gene Therapy/Cellular Immunotherapy
- Genetic Testing
- Hospice Care
- Inpatient Hospital Services (except routine maternity stays)
- MRI
- Oral/Maxillofacial Procedures (except when related to an accidental injury and provided within 72 hours of the accident)
- Organ/Tissue Transplants (including autologous pancreas islet cell, heart, artificial heart implant, heartlung, intestinal, liver, lung, pancreas, simultaneous liverkidney, simultaneous pancreas kidney; excluding cornea and kidney transplants)
- Orthognathic Surgery Procedures
- Orthopedic Procedures
- Outpatient Residential Treatment Center*
- PET Scan
- Prosthetic Devices
- Proton Beam Therapy
- Pulmonary Rehabilitation
- Reconstructive Surgery (not related to the treatment of breast cancer)
- Reproductive Services
- Residential Treatment Center Care
- Rhinoplasty
- Septoplasty
- Specialty Durable Medical Equipment
- Sperm/Egg Storage
- Stereotactic Radiosurgery
- Stereotactic Body Radiation Therapy
- Surgical Treatment for Morbid Obesity
- Specialty DME Services
- Travel Benefits
- Varicose Vein Treatment

To Request Prior Authorization

Louisiana Blue does not accept authorization requests via phone or fax with the exception of transplants, dental services covered under medical and most out-of-state services. Providers must submit prior authorization requests, including new and extension authorizations, through our online BCBSLA Authorizations application. This application is available on iLinkBlue (www.lablue.com/ilinkblue), located under the "Authorizations" menu option.

* Maternity admissions to in-network facilities (or out-of-network facilities if the member has out-of-network benefits) do not require authorization if the inpatient stay is 48 hours or less for vaginal delivery and 96 hours or less for caesarean section delivery. Inpatient services for newborn well-baby services are included in the mother's stay. However, authorization is required for inpatient sick-baby services.

** Behavioral health services are authorized through the Lucet WebPass Portal by clicking the "Behavioral Health Authorizations" link.

Penalties may apply for failure to obtain prior authorization. Full details are in our provider manuals, available at www.lablue.com/providers, then click on "Resources."