
BENEFITS BITS



FOR CYPRESS-FAIRBANKS INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES

WORKERS' COMPENSATION – THE ALLIANCE PROVIDER GROUP

JANUARY, 2009

The Alliance

The New Mandatory Medical Care Provider Group for Workers' Compensation Injuries Effective: February 1, 2009

As a result of changes in Texas laws governing Workers' Compensation, new goals and programs have been established by the Texas Division of Workers' Compensation to reduce the medical costs of workers' compensation injuries and to return injured workers to work faster without compromising their recovery, health, and workplace safety.

The 79th Texas Legislative Session and House Bill 7 abolished the former Workers' Compensation Approved Doctor List (ADL) and now allows employers to establish medical provider networks and contract directly with provider groups. The district's workers' compensation program is self-funded and administered by the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB). Through TASB the district has contracted to utilize the Alliance medical provider group. The Alliance is formally known as the Political Subdivision Workers' Compensation Alliance (PSWCA), a direct contracting arrangement, established through a partnership of 5 political subdivisions formed to provide quality medical benefits for their injured workers and to encourage better return to work outcomes.

Effective February 1, 2009 – All district employees that seek medical services for a work related illness or injury occurring February 1st or later **are required to seek treatment from a physician on the Alliance provider list.** The physician must be a "primary care" physician who will be responsible for all treatment and will direct, or refer, the injured employee to any specialists as needed. For emergency services the injured employee is encouraged to go to the nearest emergency room; follow-up care, if required, must be received from an Alliance provider. Illness or injuries that occurred prior to February 1, 2009 are not subject to the Alliance requirements.

All employees, including substitutes and temporary workers, are required to acknowledge receipt of the Employee Notice of Alliance Requirements, a 3 page document that contains additional information, instructions, and employees' rights and obligations. The notice is accessible through the district's Insurance Department web page at: www.cfisd.net. You must go on-line and acknowledge receipt by Friday, February 20.

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To access the notice go to:

<http://www.cfisd.net/dept2/insur/egmi.htm>

Double click on Employee Notice of Alliance

Use your Employee Access Center (EAC) Login and Password

Login: Your Employee Number

Your Password: Your personal password; or if this is the first time you have logged in use your social security number with no dashes

Choose the language of the document you need.: English, Spanish, or Vietnamese

Once the notice appears (it electronically acknowledges receipt) you can print it for your personal files and for future reference.

There is no need for you to sign the document or turn it in to anyone.

All employees, including substitutes and temporary workers, are required to access the document by Friday, February 20. Newly hired employees should access the notice as soon as they can after receiving their employee number. Employees should be able to access the document through the internet, at work, at home, or through any of the kiosk computers available in all district buildings.

An annual notice will be included in future editions of the “*Employee Handbook*”.

The Insurance Department has scheduled 4 open computer sessions for any employee needing computer assistance in accessing the document. All Open Computer Sessions will be conducted at ISC-North, Room 243.

Monday, January 26	2:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Friday, January 30	8:00 am – 11:00 am
Monday, February 2	2:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Friday, February 6	8:00 am – 11:00 am

For quick reference a couple of the local ALLIANCE primary care providers are listed below. Many others and the specialists are available on the Political Subdivision Workers’ Compensation Alliance provider website at:

The Alliance Provider Directory is available at:
http://www.pswca.org/providerdirectory/provider_directory.asp

Excel Immediate Medical Care	US Healthworks
NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY	NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY
25801 Highway 290 @ Spring-Cypress Rd	17420 Highway 290 @ Jones Rd
Cypress, TX 77429	Houston, TX 77040
Phone: (281) 304-1100	Phone: (713) 466-0044
Monday – Sunday: 9:00 am – 9:00 pm	Monday – Friday: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
On Site X-ray and Lab	On Site X-ray, Lab and Physical Therapy