

August 30, 2013

## PPO Network Changes Effective September 1 Please SAVE this Letter as a Reference

Effective September 1, 2013, the following provider types will be eligible to participate in the PPO network to provide services for individuals with Autism:

- Board Certified Behavioral Analysts (BCBAs), certified by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board
- Developmental Therapists who participate in the State of Illinois Early Intervention Program

## Please note:

- If your benefit plan is eligible for state-mandated Autism coverage and your current (or future) provider is not part of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois (BCBSIL) PPO Network as of September 1, 2013, your claim will be processed as <u>out-of-network</u> for services rendered on or after September 1, 2013.
- If you are unable to change providers at this time, you will be allowed a 60-day transition period. If you receive an Explanation of Benefits (EOB) statement that shows services prior to October 31, 2013, being covered at the non-PPO level, you may contact customer service at the number on the back of your ID card to review your claim.
- After October 31, 2013, if the provider is not contracted and participating in the PPO network, the claim will be paid at the out-of-network benefit level, and you will be financially responsible for the amount billed that exceeds the allowed amount.
- If your plan is <u>not</u> eligible for state-mandated coverage for Autism services, then claims will be processed based on your benefit plan. The addition of BCBAs and Developmental Therapists does not change the benefits available under your plan.

Over the last year, BCBSIL has made a concerted effort to establish contracts with many of the providers mentioned above. Please see the attached list of providers who will be participating in the PPO Network and have identified themselves as providing treatment for Autism, as of September 1, 2013. If the provider you are currently receiving services from is not on the list, you may want to confirm with the provider that they are contracted with BCBSIL for the PPO Network or check the BCBSIL Provider Finder<sup>®</sup> tool online at bcbsil.com.

After September 1, 2013, to find a participating Board Certified Behavior Analyst or Developmental Therapist in the PPO network, you can:

- Go to bcbsil.com and click on Provider Finder within the Find a Doctor section.
- Next, choose your network type from the drop-down menu.
- Then, under the Provider Type section, select *Behavioral Health Provider*. From this menu, you may select *Board Certified Behavior Analysts and Developmental Therapists.*
- Click Find.

As always, if you have a question regarding your BCBSIL coverage, **please call customer service at the number listed the back of your member ID card.** Thank you.

Sincerely,

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois