

March 2019 HBR Update

Register Now for On-Site HBR Training Sessions!

The State Health Plan is hosting HBR in-person training sessions statewide this month through June 2019. These valuable on-site sessions are great for all HBRs, but they are particularly beneficial for those who may be new to their HBR role! Registration is now available for all trainings.

See below for location, dates and times for these trainings and click the location link to register!

2019 Regional HBR Trainings

These trainings will include a variety of topics providing an overall review of HBR duties, including Eligibility and Enrollment, Benefits Overview, HDHP Overview, Policies and Processes, eBenefits Overview and Reporting. The trainings will provide you with the tools and resources you need to assist your employees.

Date	Counties	Click Below to Register	Time
April 8	Wake County	Blue Cross Blue Shield Raleigh Center	10 a.m.-4 p.m.
April 22	Wayne County	Location TBD	10 a.m.-4 p.m.
May 3	Mecklenburg County	Central Piedmont Community College	10 a.m.-4 p.m.
May 17	New Hanover County	Cape Fear Community College	10 a.m.-4 p.m.
June 24	Buncombe County	Location TBD	10 a.m.-4 p.m.

2019 HBR Specialized Trainings

These trainings will focus specifically on the following topics: Documentation Requirements, Qualifying Life Events, Policies, Procedures and Processes, and Non-Actives (Leave of Absence, Reduction in Force, Disability and Medicare).

Date	Counties	Click Below to Register	Time
March 29	Pitt County	Pitt Community College	10 a.m.-4 p.m.
April 12	Pasquotank County	College of the Albemarle	10 a.m.-4 p.m.
May 13	Halifax County	Halifax Community College	10 a.m.-4 p.m.
June 25	Caldwell/Watauga	Caldwell CC, J.E. Broyhill Civic Center	10 a.m.-4 p.m.

HBR Contact Validation Needed

On January 11, 2019, the State Health Plan sent out emails to all groups **except BEACON groups** asking that contact information be verified. A Verification Form for your group as well as a guide to help you read the form was attached for your review. The deadline for this request was January 18, 2019. This is a yearly process to ensure we are contacting the appropriate individuals for all issues (qualifying life events, benefits, billing, etc.) to avoid delays which may impact your employees.

Participation in this effort was low. Be aware that, if we didn't receive a reply, we maintained your group's contact information as is. If you didn't reply or your group did not receive the email, you may still send your contact updates to HBRInquiries@ncctreasurer.com.

HBR Scorecards Released

The January and February edition of the HBR Scorecards have been released. In conjunction with the release of the HBR Scorecards, the State Health Plan has also provided several new training opportunities, including the February 13, 2019, [webinar](#) and a job aid on HBR University to help you navigate through your customized scorecard. Groups with specific needs identified by the scorecards will be offered specialized training sessions. [Click here for details](#) regarding your scorecard.

For the initial scorecard sent in January, there was almost an even split of groups with green and yellow statuses. The chart below shows the January scorecard results and represents a total of 405 groups, with 108 in green, 200 in yellow, and 16 in red.

Notice for Employees on Extended Short-Term or Long-Term Disability

If you have an employee covered under the State Health Plan as a member on Extended Short-Term or Long-Term Disability, or they are a dependent of a retired member, and they are eligible for Medicare (due to age or disability), their benefits under the State Health Plan will be paid as if they are enrolled for coverage under Medicare Part B. This will occur regardless of whether they actually enroll for such coverage.

Therefore, once they become eligible for Medicare, they must enroll in both Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B in order to receive full benefit coverage when Medicare becomes primary. Employees in this category were recently sent a letter regarding this information. HBRs are encouraged to share this information with employees in this situation.

'Understanding Your Medical Plan Options When You Become Medicare-Eligible' Information Sessions Beginning Soon!

Beginning this month, the State Health Plan will offer in-person information sessions on "Understanding Your Medical Plan Options When You Become Medicare-Eligible." These popular, free sessions are designed for active employees who will soon be 65,

are already 65 or older, and retirees getting ready to turn 65. HBRs are also welcome to attend.

Each session lasts approximately 2 hours and will explain important information regarding Medicare, employee retirement health benefit options and offer the opportunity to ask questions.

The in-person sessions are held across the state and will run through July. Visit the State Health Plan [website](#) and click “Upcoming Events” or click here to register for one of the onsite events.

If employees are unable to attend an in-person meeting, the Plan is offering convenient online webinars on the same topic now through July. Visit the [website](#) and click “Upcoming Events” or click here to register for one of the webinars.

HBRs are welcome to attend these sessions as well to learn more about how to prepare your employees for retirement.

Did You Know? The New Personal Health Portal is Available

The new Personal Health Portal became available at the end of December 2018 and is open to all active members and non-Medicare retirees. It provides a comprehensive library of tools and resources to assist you in assessing your health risks and engaging in healthy activities.

This portal includes a number of handy health-related items. They include:

- **Health Challenges:** Each quarter of the year you will have the opportunity to complete a 4-week challenge, covering nutrition, physical activity, weight management and stress.
- **Online Health Assessment:** This 15-minute online assessment helps gauge your current health status and identify any concerns, so you can track your progress in the months ahead.
- **Healthy Living Conversations:** These are quick, interactive conversations covering a variety of health topics, such as stress, back pain and getting active.
- **Online Monthly Seminars:** Fun and interesting online seminars are available each month and focus on various health and wellness topics, such as nutrition, fitness and stress reduction.
- **Extensive Health and Video Library:** The portal provides a library of resources to assist you in assessing your health risks and engaging in healthy activities, including more than 500 videos.

The Personal Health Portal is available via eBenefits, your one-stop shop for all of your benefit information. To get started, go to the State Health Plan [website](#) and click on eBenefits at the top of the page. Once you're logged into eBenefits, you will see a link to Blue Connect in the left-hand menu. Once you're in Blue Connect, click the Wellness link at the top of the page to find the Personal Health Portal.