

For brokers and producers only

Date: July 21, 2022

Markets: **ASO groups**

Travel Reimbursement Benefit Update

Due to the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* and state legislative actions, access to certain covered healthcare services will now be restricted or even banned in certain states while remaining available in others. As a health insurer serving a national workforce, CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield is committed to ensuring equal access to healthcare for all our members within the boundaries of federal and state law.

In response, CareFirst is in the process of restructuring and expanding the travel reimbursement benefit solutions currently available to our **self-funded (ASO) employer groups**.

These enhancements to our travel reimbursement benefit offerings will allow groups to cover travel costs for *all covered* healthcare services when these services are not available for a member in their state or within a reasonable distance.

Moving forward, we are committed to working with groups to modify or add travel reimbursement benefits for their plan(s) if they wish to do so. The enhanced benefits will be optional for groups and can be customized for flexibility to meet the needs of our groups and members.

Self-funded groups will be able to elect expanded travel reimbursement benefits in mid-August. Any group that elects these benefits may choose a retroactive effective date that is on or after **July 1, 2022**.

Note: At this time, CareFirst is also exploring the same expanded travel reimbursement benefit option for our fully-insured (risk) groups, pending required regulatory approvals.

Thank you for your partnership with CareFirst.

For more information

We encourage you to reach out to your CareFirst Representative if you have questions, or to discuss conversations your clients may be having about incorporating changes to travel reimbursement benefits.