



November 1, 2008

## Announcing a Premium Reduction For 2009

Dear High Option Member:

SAMBA is pleased to announce a reduction of your "High Option" health plan premium for 2009 (see below chart).

### SAMBA High Option for 2009

Type of Enrollment	Biweekly Employee High Option Premium			Monthly Annuitant High Option Premium		
	2008 Premium	2009 Premium	Premium Reduction	2008 Premium	2009 Premium	Premium Reduction
<b>Self Only</b>	\$108.51	<b>\$97.89</b>	(\$10.62)	\$235.11	<b>\$212.10</b>	(\$23.01)
<b>Family</b>	\$267.82	<b>\$244.56</b>	(\$23.26)	\$580.28	<b>\$529.88</b>	(\$50.40)

Some of your Plan benefits have changed for 2009:

- Coverage of routine mammograms for women age 65 and older has been increased from one every two consecutive calendar years to one every calendar year.
- The Plan will now cover all routine adult immunizations (endorsed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) at 100% with no deductible.
- The Plan will now provide coverage for adult hearing aids and related services. The Plan will now cover adult screenings, testing, diagnostic evaluations, and treatment by a licensed hearing professional. Additionally, purchase of hearing aids will become an allowable expense (up to \$500).
- PPO benefits will be paid for services rendered by a non-PPO assistant surgeon when treatment is received in a PPO facility.
- Non-PPO benefits for orthopedic and prosthetic devices will be covered at 50% (from 70%) of the Plan allowance.
- Your prescription drug copayment amounts have changed as follows:

(over, please)

**For non-Medicare covered members:**

**at Retail** – No change in generic drug copayments of \$10. Preferred drug copayments will increase from \$25 to \$30 per prescription, and non-preferred drug copayments will increase from \$40 to \$45.

**at Mail** – No change in generic drug copayments of \$10. Preferred drug copayments will increase from \$45 to \$50 per prescription, and non-preferred drug copayments will increase from \$60 to \$65.

**For Medicare (Part B) covered members:**

**at Retail** – No change in drug copayments.

**at Mail** – Generic drug copayments will increase from \$5 to \$10 per prescription. Preferred drug copayments will increase from \$20 to \$30 per prescription, and non-preferred drug copayments will increase from \$35 to \$50.

- Coverage will no longer be available for fertility drugs, skilled nursing care facilities nor home health aide services. Note: Skilled nursing (i.e., RN, LPN) services remain covered.

**Additional Announcements:**

- The SAMBA Board of Directors has obtained approval from the U. S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to extend eligibility for the SAMBA Health Benefit Plan to all federal employees and annuitants.
- Effective January 1, 2009, the Terrorism plan and the Accidental Death and Dismemberment (AD&D) plan, previously provided free of charge to all health plan members, will be discontinued.
- Our online web services continue to expand: Visit [www.SambaPlans.com](http://www.SambaPlans.com) for our Health Risk and Hospital Quality Assessment tools and a Treatment Cost Estimator. You can also review your medical and prescription claims history, order prescription refills, find a PPO provider, and so much more.

Enclosed is your 2009 SAMBA Health Benefit Plan brochure, along with other materials and special offerings. To ensure that you are enrolled in the SAMBA Option that is best for you, please take a moment to review the enclosures and compare our High Option and Standard Option benefits and rates. As always, we pledge to you our best effort to deliver the benefits and services you have come to expect. If you have any questions, please contact us at 1-800-638-6589 or email us at [healthplan@sambaplans.com](mailto:healthplan@sambaplans.com).

Sincerely,



Walter E. Wilson  
Executive Director

Enclosures