

2021 Blue Cross Small Group Open Enrollment Guidance

The overall rates are increasing about 0-2% across product lines. Your particular plan may differ, but the overall increase should be 0-2% plus you are one year older... so that adds another 3-4%. I've included the most popular plans & rates on this web page. Please contact me if you need more information or your plan isn't shown here. But these are the most representative and "best" options in my opinion.

- HMO Silver Proactive: The most "cost effective" plan IMO if you are relatively healthy. This plan splits the network into 3 "tiers" where tier 2 & 3 providers cost a lot more. The deductible only applies to tier 2 & 3 hospitals / outpatient facilities and it is substantial... so larger ticket items should be done at a tier 1 facility. A list of facilities is included on the site.
- HMO Silver Proactive VALUE: Just like the HMO Silver Proactive... except with the addition of a \$1500 deductible to tier one providers for hospitals / outpatient services. The price drops a little bit.
- HMO Gold Proactive: Like the HMO Silver Proactive but with lower copays and no deductible. Note that both St Christopher's & CHOP are tier 2... so if you have kids... this might be a necessary option. However, I think you should enroll your kids into CHIP. It's cheaper and better.
- PPO Gold Preferred: The "PPO" costs you a lot, however, you get a national network. Any "Blue Cross" provider from NYC to SF are considered in-network.
- DPOS Gold Preferred: The "DPOS" means that you get some out of network benefit in case you want to go get care at Sloane Kettering or John Hopkins... but the network is limited to the Philadelphia area & surrounding counties. Also, you do not need referrals to see specialists with this plan.
- PPO H.S.A. 3700: I recommend this plan IF you require A LOT of medical care. You get the national network since it is a "PPO", and 100% coverage after the \$3700 deductible has been met. It is a very good plan if you require A LOT of medical attention.
- PPO Silver Secure: I think it's the easiest to use & understand PPO plan. The other Silver PPO plans have a "coinsurance" which means you pay a percentage of the total cost... whatever that total cost happens to be. This PPO has a fixed set copay amount.
- HMO Silver Classic: If you want an HMO that isn't broken into network tiers.
- HMO Bronze Essential: Pretty much as cheap as you can get with Blue Cross. Basically, you get doctors & labs before the deductible... then after the deductible you're so close to the out of pocket max that you're covered after you hit the out of pocket max.
- HMO & PPO Platinum plans: Cadillac plans! They cost quite a bit but the coverage is great.