

as added by subsection (b), or who may be subject to the enrollment requirements described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 8903(c) of title 5, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

“(3) INFORMATION SHARING BY SSA.—The Social Security Administration shall provide to the Office and the Postal Service information regarding whether a Postal Service annuitant, or a family member of such an annuitant, is entitled to benefits under Medicare part A and enrolled under Medicare part B, to assist the Office and the Postal Service in determining—

“(A) which Postal Service annuitants, and family members of such annuitants, may be eligible to enroll under Medicare part B during the special enrollment period described in paragraph (2); and

“(B) whether Postal Service annuitants, and family members of such annuitants, satisfy the enrollment requirements described in paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 8903(c) of title 5, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).”

#### REIMBURSEMENT FOR PERIODIC SSA DATA SHARING

Pub. L. 117–108, title I, § 101(d)(5), Apr. 6, 2022, 136 Stat. 1138, provided that:

“(A) INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENT.—The Commissioner of Social Security shall enter into an agreement with the Director of the Office under which the Director pays the Commissioner from the Postal Service administrative reserve the full costs (including systems and administrative costs) of providing the information described in subsection (c)(3) [of Pub. L. 117–108, set out in a note above] for the purpose set forth in subsection (c)(3)(B).

“(B) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Director of the Office—

“(i) shall report the amount paid under subparagraph (A) annually to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Oversight and Reform [now Committee on Oversight and Accountability] of the House of Representatives; and

“(ii) may satisfy the requirement under clause (i) by including the amount paid under subparagraph (A) in any other annual report submitted to Congress.”

[For definition of “Postal Service” as used in section 101(d)(5) of Pub. L. 117–108, set out above, see section 102 of Title 39, Postal Service, as made applicable by section 2(b) of Pub. L. 117–108, which is set out as a note under section 501 of Title 39.]

### § 8904. Types of benefits

(a) The benefits to be provided under plans described by section 8903 of this title may be of the following types:

#### (1) SERVICE BENEFIT PLAN.—

- (A) Hospital benefits.
- (B) Surgical benefits.
- (C) In-hospital medical benefits.
- (D) Ambulatory patient benefits.
- (E) Supplemental benefits.
- (F) Obstetrical benefits.

#### (2) INDEMNITY BENEFIT PLAN.—

- (A) Hospital care.
- (B) Surgical care and treatment.
- (C) Medical care and treatment.
- (D) Obstetrical benefits.
- (E) Prescribed drugs, medicines, and prosthetic devices.
- (F) Other medical supplies and services.

(3) EMPLOYEE ORGANIZATION PLANS.—Benefits of the types named under paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection or both.

(4) COMPREHENSIVE MEDICAL PLANS.—Benefits of the types named under paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection or both.

All plans contracted for under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection shall include benefits both for costs associated with care in a general hospital and for other health services of a catastrophic nature.

(b)(1)(A) A plan, other than a prepayment plan described in section 8903(4) of this title, may not provide benefits, in the case of any retired enrolled individual who is age 65 or older and is not covered to receive Medicare hospital and insurance benefits under part A of title XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395c et seq.), to pay a charge imposed by any health care provider, for inpatient hospital services which are covered for purposes of benefit payments under this chapter and part A of title XVIII of the Social Security Act, to the extent that such charge exceeds applicable limitations on hospital charges established for Medicare purposes under section 1886 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww). Hospital providers who have in force participation agreements with the Secretary of Health and Human Services consistent with sections 1814(a) and 1866 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395f(a) and 1395cc), whereby the participating provider accepts Medicare benefits as full payment for covered items and services after applicable patient copayments under section 1813 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395e) have been satisfied, shall accept equivalent benefit payments and enrollee copayments under this chapter as full payment for services described in the preceding sentence. The Office of Personnel Management shall notify the Secretary of Health and Human Services if a hospital is found to knowingly and willfully violate this subsection on a repeated basis and the Secretary may invoke appropriate sanctions in accordance with section 1866(b)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395cc(b)(2)) and applicable regulations.

(B)(i) A plan, other than a prepayment plan described in section 8903(4), may not provide benefits, in the case of any retired enrolled individual who is age 65 or older and is not entitled to Medicare supplementary medical insurance benefits under part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395j et seq.), to pay a charge imposed for physicians’ services (as defined in section 1848(j) of such Act, 42 U.S.C. 1395w–4(j)) which are covered for purposes of benefit payments under this chapter and under such part, to the extent that such charge exceeds the fee schedule amount under section 1848(a) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–4(a)).

(ii) Physicians and suppliers who have in force participation agreements with the Secretary of Health and Human Services consistent with section 1842(h)(1) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395u(h)(1)), whereby the participating provider accepts Medicare benefits (including allowable deductible and coinsurance amounts) as full payment for covered items and services shall accept equivalent benefit and enrollee cost-sharing under this chapter as full payment for services described in clause (i). Physicians and suppliers who are nonparticipating physicians and suppliers for purposes of part B of title XVIII of such Act shall not impose charges that exceed the limiting charge under section 1848(g) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w–4(g)) with respect to serv-

ices described in clause (i) provided to enrollees described in such clause. The Office of Personnel Management shall notify a physician or supplier who is found to have violated this clause and inform them of the requirements of this clause and sanctions for such a violation. The Office of Personnel Management shall notify the Secretary of Health and Human Services if a physician or supplier is found to knowingly and willfully violate this clause on a repeated basis and the Secretary of Health and Human Services may invoke appropriate sanctions in accordance with sections 1128A(a) and 1848(g)(1) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a-7a(a), 1395w-4(g)(1)) and applicable regulations.

(C) If the Secretary of Health and Human Services determines that a violation of this subsection warrants excluding a provider from participation for a specified period under title XVIII of the Social Security Act, the Office shall enforce a corresponding exclusion of such provider for purposes of this chapter.

(2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Director of the Office of Personnel Management, and their agents, shall exchange any information necessary to implement this subsection.

(3)(A) Not later than December 1, 1991, and periodically thereafter, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (in consultation with the Director of the Office of Personnel Management) shall supply to carriers of plans described in paragraphs (1) through (3) of section 8903 the Medicare program information necessary for them to comply with paragraph (1).

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, the term “Medicare program information” includes (i) the limitations on hospital charges established for Medicare purposes under section 1886 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww) and the identity of hospitals which have in force agreements with the Secretary of Health and Human Services consistent with section 1814(a) and 1866 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395f(a) and 1395cc), and (ii) the fee schedule amounts and limiting charges for physicians’ services established under section 1848 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4) and the identity of participating physicians and suppliers who have in force agreements with such Secretary under section 1842(h) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395u(h)).

(4) The Director of the Office of Personnel Management shall enter into an arrangement with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, to be effective before the first day of the fifth month that begins before each contract year, under which—

(A) physicians and suppliers (whether or not participating) under the Medicare program will be notified of the requirements of paragraph (1)(B);

(B) enforcement procedures will be in place to carry out such paragraph (including enforcement of protections against overcharging of beneficiaries); and

(C) Medicare program information described in paragraph (3)(B)(ii) will be supplied to carriers under paragraph (3)(A).

(Pub. L. 89-554, Sept. 6, 1966, 80 Stat. 603; Pub. L. 101-508, title VII, §7002(f)(1), Nov. 5, 1990, 104

Stat. 1388-330; Pub. L. 102-378, §2(76), Oct. 2, 1992, 106 Stat. 1355; Pub. L. 103-66, title XI, §11003(a), Aug. 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 409.)

#### HISTORICAL AND REVISION NOTES

<i>Derivation</i>	<i>U.S. Code</i>	<i>Revised Statutes and Statutes at Large</i>
.....	5 U.S.C. 3004.	Sept. 28, 1959, Pub. L. 86-382, §5, 73 Stat. 712.

Standard changes are made to conform with the definitions applicable and the style of this title as outlined in the preface to the report.

#### Editorial Notes

##### REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Social Security Act, referred to in subsec. (b)(1), is act Aug. 14, 1935, ch. 531, 49 Stat. 620. Title XVIII of the Act is classified generally to subchapter XVIII (§1395 et seq.) of chapter 7 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. Parts A and B of title XVIII of the Act are classified generally to part A (§1395c et seq.) and part B (§1395j et seq.), respectively, of subchapter XVIII of chapter 7 of Title 42. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 1305 of Title 42 and Tables.

##### AMENDMENTS

1993—Subsec. (b)(1). Pub. L. 103-66, §11003(a)(1), designated existing provisions as subpar. (A) and added subpars. (B) and (C).

Subsec. (b)(3)(B). Pub. L. 103-66, §11003(a)(2), inserted cl. (i) designation and added cl. (ii).

Subsec. (b)(4). Pub. L. 103-66, §11003(a)(3), added par. (4).

1992—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 102-378 substituted “this subsection” for “this section” in pars. (3) and (4) and in last sentence.

1990—Pub. L. 101-508 designated existing provisions as subsec. (a) and added subsec. (b).

#### Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 103-66, title XI, §11003(b), Aug. 10, 1993, 107 Stat. 410, provided that: “The amendments made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall apply with respect to contract years beginning on or after January 1, 1995.”

##### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1990 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 101-508, title VII, §7002(f)(2), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1388-331, provided that: “The amendments made by this subsection [amending this section] shall apply with respect to contract years beginning on or after January 1, 1992.”

##### COVERAGE OF TESTING FOR COVID-19: APPLICATION WITH RESPECT TO FEDERAL CIVILIANS

Pub. L. 116-127, div. F, §6006(c), Mar. 18, 2020, 134 Stat. 207, provided that: “No copayment or other cost sharing may be required for any individual occupying a position in the civil service (as that term is defined in section 2101(1) of title 5, United States Code) enrolled in a health benefits plan, including any plan under chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, or for any other individual currently enrolled in any plan under chapter 89 of title 5 for in vitro diagnostic products described in paragraph (1) of section 6001(a) [of Pub. L. 116-127, 42 U.S.C. 1320b-5 note] (or the administration of such products) or visits described in paragraph (2) of such section furnished during any portion of the emergency period defined in paragraph (1)(B) of section 1135(g) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320b-5(g)) beginning

on or after the date of the enactment of this Act [Mar. 18, 2020].”

**MENTAL HEALTH, ALCOHOLISM, AND DRUG ADDICTION BENEFITS; CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS; SENSE OF CONGRESS**

Pub. L. 99-251, title I, §107, Feb. 27, 1986, 100 Stat. 16, provided that:

“(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

“(1) the treatment of mental illness, alcoholism, and drug addiction are basic health care services which are needed by approximately 40,000,000 Americans each year;

“(2) treatment of mental illness, alcoholism, and drug addiction is increasingly successful;

“(3) timely and appropriate treatment of mental illness, alcoholism, and drug addiction is cost effective in terms of restored productivity, reduced utilization of other health services, and reduced social dependence; and

“(4) mental illness is a problem of grave concern to the people of the United States and is widely but unnecessarily feared and misunderstood.

“(b) SENSE OF THE CONGRESS.—It is the sense of the Congress—

“(1) that participants in the Federal employees health benefits program should receive adequate benefits coverage for treatment of mental illness, alcoholism, and drug addiction; and

“(2) that the Office of Personnel Management should encourage participating health benefits plans to provide adequate benefits relating to treatment of mental illness, alcoholism, and drug addiction (including benefits relating to coverage for inpatient and outpatient treatment and catastrophic protection benefits).”

**§ 8905. Election of coverage**

(a) An employee may enroll in an approved health benefits plan described in section 8903 or 8903a—

- (1) as an individual;
- (2) for self plus one; or
- (3) for self and family.

(b) An annuitant who at the time he becomes an annuitant was enrolled in a health benefits plan under this chapter—

- (1) as an employee for a period of not less than—

(A) the 5 years of service immediately before retirement;

(B) the full period or periods of service between the last day of the first period, as prescribed by regulations of the Office of Personnel Management, in which he is eligible to enroll in the plan and the date on which he becomes an annuitant; or

(C) the full period or periods of service beginning with the enrollment which became effective before January 1, 1965, and ending with the date on which he becomes an annuitant;

whichever is shortest; or

- (2) as a member of the family of an employee or annuitant;

may continue his enrollment under the conditions of eligibility prescribed by regulations of the Office. The Office may, in its sole discretion, waive the requirements of this subsection in the case of an individual who fails to satisfy such requirements if the Office determines that, due to exceptional circumstances, it would be against equity and good conscience not to allow such in-

dividual to be enrolled as an annuitant in a health benefits plan under this chapter<sup>1</sup>

(c)(1) A former spouse may—

(A) within 60 days after the dissolution of the marriage, or

(B) in the case of a former spouse of a former employee whose marriage was dissolved after the employee's retirement, within 60 days after the dissolution of the marriage or, if later, within 60 days after an election is made under section 8339(j)(3) or 8417(b) of this title for such former spouse by the retired employee,

enroll in an approved health benefits plan described by section 8903 or 8903a of this title as an individual or for<sup>2</sup> for self plus one or self and family as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, subject to agreement to pay the full subscription charge of the enrollment, including the amounts determined by the Office to be necessary for administration and reserves pursuant to section 8909(b) of this title. The former spouse shall submit an enrollment application and make premium payments to the agency which, at the time of divorce or annulment, employed the employee to whom the former spouse was married or, in the case of a former spouse who is receiving annuity payments under section 8341(h), 8345(j), 8445, or 8467 of this title, to the Office of Personnel Management.

(2) Coverage for self plus one or for self and family under this subsection shall be limited to—

(A) the former spouse; and

(B) unmarried dependent natural or adopted children (or, in the case of self plus one coverage, not more than 1 such child) of the former spouse and the employee who are—

(i) under 22 years of age; or

(ii) incapable of self-support because of mental or physical disability which existed before age 22.

(d) An individual whom the Secretary of Defense determines is an eligible beneficiary under subsection (b) of section 1108 of title 10 may enroll, as part of the demonstration project under such section, in a health benefits plan under this chapter in accordance with the agreement under subsection (a) of such section between the Secretary and the Office and applicable regulations under this chapter.

(e) If an employee, annuitant, or other individual eligible to enroll in a health benefits plan under this chapter has a spouse who is also eligible to enroll, either spouse, but not both, may enroll for self and family, or for a self plus one enrollment that covers the spouse, or each spouse may enroll as an individual or for a self plus one enrollment that does not cover the other spouse or a child who is covered under the enrollment of the other spouse. However, an individual may not be enrolled both as an employee, annuitant, or other individual eligible to enroll and as a member of the family.

(f) An employee, annuitant, former spouse, or person having continued coverage under section

<sup>1</sup> So in original. Probably should be followed by a period.

<sup>2</sup> So in original. The word “for” probably should precede “self and family”.