

Child Dependents Under Age 26

As you may have heard, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 (PPACA) that was signed into law on March 23 requires group health plans to continue to cover dependent children until age 26.

Although the required implementation date for this provision isn't until Sept. 23, 2010, our health plan, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Oklahoma (BCBSOK), has made the voluntary decision to implement this provision of the new law early, beginning May 1, 2010.

As a result of this decision, some SWOSU enrollees may have coverage automatically reinstated for child dependents under age 26 that have previously been dropped due to age. If so, you will receive a letter from BCBSOK in the coming weeks confirming your dependent's reinstatement. The letter will explain that, if eligible, the reinstatement will be automatic.

We wanted you to be aware of this upcoming valuable change in dependent coverage. If you have any questions, please contact your HR benefits administrator.

Thank you.