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Center of Excellence Travel Benefit program for substance abuse and addiction treatment FAQ

What is this program?

This enhanced benefit program provides travel coverage and assistance with travel arrangements for members to receive inpatient treatment for substance abuse/addiction at Ascension Illinois Foglia Family Foundation outside Chicago, IL.

What is the benefit enhancement?

- PPO plan The copay and deductible will be waived, and 100% of charges for medical expenses will be covered.
- HDHP plan HDHP members are subject to copays, co-insurance, and deductibles. Federal regulation requirements for HDHP plans do not allow these fees to be waived.

Who can participate in this program?

This program is being offered to any SmartHealth member age 18 and older that is struggling with substance abuse or addiction and is ready to begin the path to recovery.

Who qualifies for this program?

SmartHealth members age 18 and older that meet the clinical criteria for inpatient admission to the COE treatment facility.

Do I need to be vaccinated for COVID-19?

All members are encouraged to get vaccinated but it is not a requirement for admission. All members must have proof of a negative COVID PCR test within 3 days prior to travel.

How do I know if I or my eligible family members meet the admission criteria?

The SmartHealth member contacts the Ascension COE facility to request admission. The admission coordinator will take basic information and verify insurance. Once insurance is

verified, the admissions coordinator will conduct an intake assessment to determine if the member meets the clinical criteria for admission.

Who arranges the travel?



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SmartHealth will cover the cost of transportation and lodging arrangements made through CWT for the member and a companion to accompany the member to the facility prior to admission and upon discharge from the program.

Is there coverage for a travel companion?

SmartHealth will cover the cost of transportation and lodging arrangements made through CWT for the member and a companion to accompany the member to the facility prior to admission and upon discharge from the program. Coverage for the travel companion covers one night's stay on the way to the facility and on the return trip with the member.

Is my admission and treatment information private?

The decision to seek treatment is confidential and only those individuals you give permission to will be aware of your decision. Information related to this care is confidential and treated as Protected Health Information (PHI).

Where can I find more information about the COE for substance abuse/addiction program?

The travel benefit addiction COE program information can be found on the MySmartHealth website, here at: <u>mysmarthealth.org/coe</u>.

How do I start the admission process?

The SmartHealth member should call the admissions office at the COE facility to begin the screening process.

How long is the treatment program?

The length of treatment is individualized for each member depending upon their circumstances. The length of treatment will be determined once the member has been admitted to the facility and a treatment plan is initiated by the clinical team.

What is the contact information for the COE facilities?

Ascension Illinois Foglia Residential Program 801 Gloucester Drive Elk Grove Village, IL 60007 Phone: (847) 981-5900 To learn more, <u>click here.</u>



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Leave of absence, privacy and licensure information

We recognize that addiction is a treatable illness, and we support you in getting the care you need. If you are ready to enter treatment and are worried about how your privacy might be affected, it may be comforting to know that there are laws and programs in place to protect you.

How can I take time off from work?

You may be eligible for family medical leave (FML), personal leave, short-term disability or reasonable accommodation. For Ascension and AMITA Health associates, visit <u>myHR Leave of Absence Resources</u> to learn about applying for a Leave of Absence (LOA) or submitting a <u>reasonable accommodation request</u>. Additional policies are available on myHR.

For SmartHealth dependents who are not employed by Ascension or Ascension contracted partners, please contact your organization's HR department for more information on LOA and reasonable accommodation policies.

How do I talk to my leader about taking a leave of absence? Will my colleagues know?

Sedgwick will be your primary contact when determining eligibility and applying for leave. Sedgwick is Ascension's third party administrator for leave management. For associates taking FML, you can let your supervisor know you're taking FML without disclosing why. Your reason for taking FML is protected under federal law, and will not be shared with your colleagues.

For SmartHealth dependents who are not employed by Ascension or Ascension contracted partners, please contact your HR to learn about your organization's LOA processes.

Will I lose my license?

Participation in accredited recovery programs is not reported to licensure boards or employers unless: 1) there has been an incident where substance use has affected work performance, such as narcotic diversion at work; 2) the participant has been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony for illegal drug use or alcohol related offense; or 3) the participant consents for other reasons.

Most states have licensure protection programs to help physicians, nurses and other healthcare workers enter treatment, restore their health and protect their license. Visit the National <u>Council</u> <u>of State Boards of Nursing</u> and <u>Physician Health Programs</u> (applicable to other licensed professionals) for more information. Details will differ by state, and you can call the treatment center to discuss options.

This material is intended for SmartHealth members only. Please note laws and regulations may vary by state.

