

Alaska United Food and Commercial Workers Health and Welfare Trust

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Administered by
Welfare & Pension Administration Service, Inc.

December 10, 2020

Important Notice from Alaska United Food and Commercial Workers Health and Welfare Trust about Extended Filing and Appeals Deadlines

For anyone whose COBRA election period ended on or after March 1, 2020.

Based on guidance dated May 4, 2020 from EBSA and the IRS, election deadlines for COBRA coverage have been extended. The period beginning March 1, 2020 through the lifting of the COVID-19 National Emergency, plus an additional 60 days will be disregarded for determining the expiration of your right to elect COBRA coverage. This means that if you receive a COBRA election notice and could have elected COBRA coverage on or after March 1, 2020 the time from March 1, 2020 until the end of the National Emergency plus 60 days is disregarded in determining when your right to elect COBRA coverage expires. If you could have elected COBRA coverage any time on or after March 1, 2020 you still may be able to make that election. If you want to make the election you should call (800) 478-8329, option 4 for further guidance.

Deadline extension for certain services

Based on guidance dated May 4, 2020 from EBSA and the IRS, deadlines for certain benefit-related services have been extended, including:

- COBRA election and payment
- HIPAA Special Enrollment, such as requests for election changes due to marriage, divorce, birth of a child, changes in other coverage, and eligibility for Medicaid and/or CHIP coverage; *The deadline extension does not include open enrollment or initial enrollment for new employees.*
- Claim filing
- Claim appeals

The period beginning March 1, 2020 through the lifting of the COVID-19 National Emergency, plus an additional 60 days will be disregarded for determining your deadline for taking action.

We appreciate your cooperation as we update our systems and processes to comply with the latest rules.

Date: December 10, 2020
Plan Sponsor: Alaska United Food and Commercial Workers Health and Welfare Trust
Administrator: Welfare & Pension Administration Service, Inc.
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