

Subject: WTIA is offering Premera's Medical Travel Benefit 7/1/22

Date: 7/14/2022

Hello -

The Supreme Court ruling to overturn Roe v Wade has encouraged some of our member companies to reaffirm and take action to ensure healthcare is accessible to all their employees and beneficiaries. WTIA has a firm belief in access to healthcare for all in alignment with the core values and mission we stand by; therefore, we will include Premera's Medical Travel Benefit for those with limited or no access to abortion and/or gender affirming care.

Medical Travel Benefits

Medical Travel Benefits will be included in all WTIA medical plans effective **July 1, 2022**. There is nothing that your existing WTIA clients need to do to begin utilizing this benefit and there are no changes to current rates.

Members will be eligible for reimbursement of travel and lodging expenses they incur while seeking elective abortion and/or gender affirming care services outside their state of residence where laws restrict or ban access to those services. Travel benefits apply to all covered members (e.g., subscriber, spouse, and dependents).

Eligible expenses include:

- Air transportation expenses between the member's home and the medical facility where services will be provided. Air travel expenses cover unrestricted coach class, flexible and fully refundable round-trip airfare from a licensed commercial carrier.
- Ferry transportation from the member's home community.
- Lodging expenses at commercial establishments, including hotels and motels, between home and the medical facility where the service will be provided.
- Mileage expenses for the member's personal automobile.
- Ground transportation, car rental, taxicab fares and parking fees, for the member and a companion (when covered) between the hotel and the medical facility where services will be provided.
- Companion travel and lodging expenses are covered only if they must, as a matter of medical necessity or safety (such as a minor), accompany the member

Travel and lodging costs are subject to the IRS guidelines and limitations in place on the date of the expense. Additionally, the medical travel benefit is limited to \$4,000 per calendar or plan year.

Should you or your clients have any issues or questions regarding this benefit please feel free to reach out to Premera Customer Service at 1-800-722-1471 for more information or contact WTIA Staff directly at hrbenefits@watech.org.

As we learn more and get additional information on this new benefit, we will be updating you accordingly.

Thank you for your continued support of our program.



WTIA Benefit Program Team

Address: 1595 NW Gilman Blvd, Suite 6B Issaquah, WA 98027

Website: <https://www.washingtontechnology.org/services/medical/for-producers/>