



Changes in the New Year? Time to Update Your H&S Plan

HAPPY NEW YEAR! With a new year comes new changes, and your DC 37 Health & Security Plan is here to make sure you and your family are covered, healthy, and safe through 2021. To ensure you and your eligible dependents are getting the most from your benefits, **it's vital that your information is up-to-date.**

If you've recently experienced a major life change, such as a move, a change to your single/marital status, a new child, or retirement, be sure to submit the necessary forms and supporting documentation to the DC 37 Eligibility & Enrollment Unit.

- **Moved**—submit a **Change of Status Form** with your new address to the H&S Plan.
- **Changed single/marital status** due to marriage, domestic partnership, divorce, separation, or death of a spouse/domestic partner—submit a **Change of Status Form** and copy of your relevant marriage certificate, a copy of domestic partnership from the Office of the City Clerk, or “civil union” certificate. For widowed members, only the **Change of Status Form** is required.
- **Added a new dependent child**—submit a **Change of Status Form** and copy of the relevant birth, adoption papers, or required guardianship documents if you or your spouse/legal domestic partner/partner in a civil union gives birth, adopts, establishes a guardianship relationship with a child, or marries someone with dependent children.
- **Turned 65 and Medicare eligible**—you must apply for Medicare Part B and send a copy of your Medicare Part A and B card and a copy of your health insurance card to the Eligibility & Enrollment Unit when you receive your card.
- **Please update your beneficiary designations** and information for both the H&S Plan and the Annuity Plan, if applicable.

All H&S Plan forms, including the **Change of Status Form**, are available at www.dc37.net/benefits/health/hs_forms.

CONTACT INFO DC 37 Eligibility & Enrollment Unit (Monday–Friday, 9 am–5 pm)
Email: eeu@dc37.net | Tel: (212) 815-1234 | Fax: (212) 298-9880

Our Social Workers Are Here to Help

IT'S BEEN a difficult and uncertain year, but you are not alone. Our Personal Service Unit (PSU) is comprised of Licensed New York State Social Workers who provide confidential individual counseling and support to DC 37 Health & Security actives, retirees, and their adult dependents.

Our Social Workers provide confidential short-term counseling, information, referrals, and advocacy. PSU collaborates with members to tailor treatment plans to their individual needs and help members develop techniques to manage stress and face challenges more effectively.

TYPES OF COUNSELING

Some of the concerns PSU can help with include depression, anxiety, personal and family discord, occupational stress, alcohol and drug abuse, bereavement, financial struggles, physical illness, medical leaves of absence, and parenting problems.

Our Social Workers provide workshops and group counseling as needed to assist members with communication problems, stress management, and grief and loss. Member information is never shared outside of PSU without the member's expressed written permission.

PSU is conducting teletherapy sessions during the pandemic and is here for you and your family with a wealth of resources and support.

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PSU CONTACT INFO

DC 37 Personal Service Unit
(Monday–Friday, 9 am–5 pm)
Tel: (212) 815-1250

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SCREENING/ASSESSMENTS

(Monday–Friday, 9 am–1 pm)
Tel: (212) 815-1260



Out of Work Due to Disability? We've Got You Covered

IF YOU are unable to work due to illness or have become physically or mentally disabled, you are entitled to receive disability benefits. This supplemental income is for DC 37 H&S active participants who are in active pay status and meet the necessary requirements by working the required number of hours to become eligible.

The weekly disability income benefit for full-time, per annum employees is 66.67% of their weekly salary (but no more than \$200 per 7-day week), and is payable up to a maximum of 26 weeks, but not longer than the H&S active participant remains totally disabled.

The weekly disability benefit for part-time or hourly employees is 66.67% of their weekly salary (but no more than \$98 per 7-day week), and payable up to a maximum of 13 weeks, but not longer than the H&S active participant remains totally disabled.

Download a **Disability Claim Form** at www.dc37.net/benefits/health/hs_forms. Be sure to complete the form in its entirety, including all required signatures, dates of treatment, timekeeper's phone number, and email addresses.

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INFO & CLAIMS

DC 37 Disability Benefit Unit
Tel: (212) 815-1234
Fax: (212) 298-9886
Email: DisabilityUnit@dc37.net

Have You Heard About Our Audiology Benefit?

APPROXIMATELY 48 million people in the United States have some degree of hearing loss. Your DC 37 H&S Plan Audiology Benefit is our response to the many members who experience hearing loss problems.

The audiology benefit is a DC 37 H&S Plan member-only (active and retiree) benefit that includes a comprehensive audiological evaluation, hearing aid evaluation, and the dispensing of a basic hearing aid/hearing aids (right and left ear) if deemed necessary every three years at no cost.

DC 37 audiology services are available to eligible members by appointment

only at our DC 37 Audiology Center in Manhattan. Appointments are taken on the third Monday of every month for appointments the following month. Please call to inquire.

If you are experiencing hearing problems, please contact the DC 37 Audiology Center to make an appointment for a comprehensive audiological evaluation.

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FOR APPOINTMENTS

DC 37 Audiology Center
55 Water Street, 22nd Floor
New York, NY
Tel: (212) 791-2126



A Note on the DC 37 H&S Plan Death Benefit

WHEN a DC 37 Health & Security Plan participant passes, a death benefit is paid to the person's designated beneficiary(ies) selected by the member on their enrollment card or **Change of Beneficiary Form** available at www.dc37.net/benefits/health/hs_forms. While such a topic may be difficult, it is important to update your written designated beneficiary(ies) and inform them about this benefit.

The current death benefit amounts are \$10,000 for full-time employees, \$6,000 for part-time employees, and \$2,000

for retirees (except Cultural Institution retirees whom receive \$1,000).

A death certificate is required to start the process of payment. For further information, please contact the Death Benefit Unit or visit our website at www.dc37.net.

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CONTACT & CLAIMS

DC 37 Death Benefit Unit
Tel: (212) 815-1234
Fax: (212) 298-9885
Email: Deathbenefits@dc37.net

Your New DC 37 H&S Delta Dental Plan

AS OF September 1, 2020, Delta Dental is the new administrator of the DC 37 Health & Security Dental Plan Benefit. The new dental benefit gives eligible DC 37 H&S participants access to a significantly expanded network of dentists with \$0 copays, a dedicated DC 37 Delta Dental Customer Service Center, and a website at www.deltadentalins.com/dc37 to help members find providers, answer questions about coverage and benefits, and even signup for an online account where they can check benefits, print extra ID cards, and view online dental benefit statements.

In order to ensure you receive dental services with \$0 copays, **it is important that you choose a dental provider from within your designated and preferred Delta Dental Network.**

- New York State residents: Your preferred Delta Dental Plan is the New York Select Network.



- Out of New York State residents: Your preferred Delta Dental Plan is the PPO Network (also available to eligible New York “watershed” members).

For more information about the new DC 37 H&S Delta Dental Plan, visit www.dc37.net/dental to access

additional materials and resources regarding the new DC 37 H&S Dental Benefit. There, you will find:

- Who is eligible for coverage
- How to find a participating provider
- Complete lists of covered and excluded dental services
- Answers to the most frequently asked questions

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FOR MORE INFO

DC 37 Delta Dental Customer Service Center
(Monday–Friday, 8 am–8 pm)
Tel: (888) 523-DC37 (3237)
www.deltadentalins.com/dc37

In order to ensure you receive dental services with \$0 copays, it is important that you choose a dental provider from your designated and preferred Delta Dental provider network.

DC 37 and NYC Health + Hospitals Treating Hepatitis C

SINCE September 2019, DC 37 Health & Security Plan has been working with NYC Health + Hospitals (NYC H+H) to provide a Hepatitis C Treatment Program for DC 37 H&S participants suffering from the viral liver disease that affects an estimated 3.5 million Americans.

The typically 8- to 24-week program is available to DC 37 H&S participants and their dependents under the age of 65 who are currently covered by the OptumRx prescription drug benefit.

NYC H+H patient navigators assist DC 37 H&S participants throughout the duration of the treatment program.

Thus far, this pilot program has been a huge success and well received by those who have already participated. The DC 37 NYC H+H Hepatitis C Treatment Program is an invaluable benefit that offers participants exceptional care at first-rate facilities.

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INFO & AUTHORIZATION

DC 37 Hepatitis C Treatment Program
Email: HepCDC37Program@nychhc.org
Tel: (917) 828-7427
Prescription Drug Unit
Tel: (212) 815-1608
Fax: (212) 815-1218



An update on DC 37 Dental Centers

THE DC 37 Brooklyn Dental Center is open and accepting new dental appointments for established Dental Center patients. Since October 15, 2020, all Manhattan and Brooklyn Dental Center providers and staff are operating out of the DC 37 Brooklyn Dental Center location while our Manhattan Center is undergoing a complete renovation.

At this time, active patients in the middle of treatment or those whose existing appointments were previously canceled or postponed due to the pandemic will be given priority when scheduling

a visit—but appointments are open to all established Dental Center patients. H&S participants are also encouraged to select a dental provider within their preferred Delta Dental network for quicker appointments and easier access.

Stay tuned for the grand reopening of the DC 37 Manhattan Dental Center May 1, 2021.

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FOR APPOINTMENTS

DC 37 Brooklyn Dental Center
186 Joralemon Street
Tel: (718) 852-1400



DC 37 Health & Security Plan
55 Water Street, 23rd Floor
New York, NY 10041

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Legal Services for DC 37 H&S Participants

ACTIVE AND RETIRED H&S participants and eligible dependents have access to civil legal services at no cost through District Council 37 Municipal Employees Legal Services (MELS). This service, the largest of its kind nationwide, is funded through the DC 37 Health & Security Plan.

When the housing courts reopen, any members facing eviction are encouraged to call MELS. We can match you with an attorney to represent you in court and help you apply for financial assistance, including grants to assist with paying rent.

CASES WHERE WE CAN HELP

In addition to helping tenants, MELS provides representation for non-work-related legal matters such as divorces and separations; buying and selling homes, co-ops, and condos; drafting wills and life planning documents; resolving consumer complaints; student loan defaults; stopping wage garnishment; credit and debt disputes; bankruptcies; family court and adoption matters; applying for citizenship; name changes; eligibility for public benefits; rent subsidies; and public housing.

MELS also offers a host of useful webinars on topics ranging from real estate to student loans. View upcoming webinars and register at www.dc37mels.com or call (212) 815-1111 for more information.

CONTACT MELS

DC 37 Municipal Employees Legal Services
Email: MELSScreeningunit@dc37.net
Tel: (212) 815-1111
Webinars: www.dc37mels.com

General Questions About Your DC 37 H&S Plan Benefits?

Call the DC 37 INQUIRY UNIT
Tel: (212) 815-1234
Tel: (212) 815-1531 (to request forms)
Fax: (212) 815-1321

Save \$\$ by Using Rx Generics

Participants covered by the DC 37 H&S Plan's prescription drug plans (OptumRx and Aetna/SilverScript) should remind their healthcare providers to select **generic** prescription drugs to keep out-of-pocket expenses down. Home mail delivery by OptumRx and Aetna/SilverScript is another significant money-saving measure that you should explore.

Your Annuity, Health & Pension Unit

The DC 37 Annuity, Health, and Pension Unit assists with pension counseling, the DC 37 Annuity Fund*, and DC 37 Med Team Insurance. We currently offer telephone and/or virtual pre-retirement counseling services. To schedule an appointment or inquire about any of the services mentioned above, please contact us.

**Not all DC 37 members have an Annuity Account. For those who do, statements are sent annually in August/September. Annuity information and forms can be obtained by contacting the DC 37 Annuity Fund.*

CONTACT INFO

DC 37 Health & Pension Unit
Tel: (212) 815-1200
DC 37 Annuity Fund
Email: AHP@dc37.net
Tel: (212) 815-1888
Fax: (212) 815-1325



This newsletter is designed to briefly explain and update you on some of the current benefits provided by the DC 37 H&S Plan. In all cases, the DC 37 H&S Plan is administered in accordance with the Plan Document. Under no circumstances shall the Plan be liable for any inconsistencies or contradictions between this newsletter and the Plan Document.