

Vermont Blue Advantage Group PPOSM

Benefits-at-a-Glance Medical Services and Prescription Drugs

Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System PPO Medicare Advantage Plans

January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024

The information provided is a summary of your benefits, showing what we cover and what you pay. A complete list of services is found in the *Evidence of Coverage* and the *Medical Benefits Chart*.

If you have any questions about this plan's benefits, please call Vermont Blue Advantage Group PPO Customer Service (phone numbers are on the back cover of this booklet). A complete list of services is found in the *Evidence of Coverage*, which will be mailed to you prior to the date your coverage takes effect and will be available online at **www.VermontBlueAdvantage.com/VSTRS**.

Vermont Blue Advantage Group PPO has a network of doctors, hospitals, pharmacies, and other providers that participate with Medicare. You do not have to use our network providers, but all providers must participate with Medicare and must accept the member as a patient. Out-of-network/non-contracted providers are under no obligation to treat Vermont Blue Advantage Group PPO members, except in emergency situations.

For more detailed information about our providers, you can call Customer Service (phone numbers are printed on the back cover of this booklet) or visit our website at **www.VermontBlueAdvantage.com/VSTRS**.

To join Vermont Blue Advantage Group PPO, you must meet all of the following requirements:

- Have both Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B.
- Be a United States citizen or lawfully present in the United States.
- Live in our geographic service area of the United States and its territories. Incarcerated individuals are not considered living in the geographic service area even if they are physically located in it.

Vermont Blue Advantage is a PPO plan with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Vermont Blue Advantage depends on contract renewal.

Vermont Blue Advantage® is an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

Vermont Blue Advantage Group PPO

Vermont State Teachers' Retirement System PPO Medicare Advantage Plans

Cost-sharing Table	JY Medical & Prescription Drugs	Comprehensive Medical & Prescription Drugs	VSTRS 65 Medical only
Premium	In addition to the Medicare Part B premium, you may also be required to pay a premium contribution as defined by your employer, union group, or third-party advisor. For premium contribution questions please contact the Vermont State Teachers' Retirement office toll-free 1-800-642-3191, TTY: 711, Monday through Friday 7:45 a.m.to 4:30 p.m. Eastern time.		
Medical Deductible (Does not include prescription drugs)	In- and out-of-network combined: \$100 deductible applies to certain services as shown below	In- and out-of-network combined: \$300 deductible applies to most services as shown below	In- and out-of-network combined: \$0
Maximum Out-of-Pocket Responsibility (Does not include prescription drugs) All medical and hospital care services below apply to this annual amount, except for worldwide urgent care, emergency care, and emergency transportation.	In- and out-of-network combined: \$600 annually	In- and out-of-network combined: \$600 annually	Not applicable

Cost-sharing Table	JY Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	Comprehensive Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	VSTRS 65 Medical only In- and out-of-network
Note: Services with * may require prior authorizatio	n.		
Ambulance Services Medically necessary transport: coverage applies to each one-way trip • Emergency ambulance in U.S. and its territories	20% coinsurance, after deductible, for emergency transport	20% coinsurance, after deductible, for emergency transport	\$0 copay for emergency transport
 Non-emergency ambulance in U.S. and its territories *Authorization required for non-emergency air ambulance. 	20% coinsurance, after deductible, for non-emergency transport	20% coinsurance, after deductible, for non-emergency transport	\$0 copay for non-emergency transport
Caregiver Support	This benefit is built into the plan at no additional cost. MyCareAdvocate™ On-demand, personalized guidance from expert Care Advocates providing caregivers with information, coaching, assistance, and emotional support to reduce caregiver stress. Topics can include healthcare, living arrangements, financial concerns, legal resources, and more. To access MyCareAdvocate, call 1-877-960-3510, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday. TTY: 711. MyCareDesk® Online comprehensive caregiver support, with resources and guidance to empower caregivers navigating complex topics like senior living, in-home care, health, finances, legal topics, and healthy living. To access MyCareDesk visit VBA.MyCareDesk.com.		

Cost-sharing Table	JY	Comprehensive	VSTRS 65
	Medical & Prescription Drugs	Medical & Prescription Drugs	Medical only
	In- and out-of-network	In- and out-of-network	In- and out-of-network
Note: Services with * may require prior authorizatio	n.		
Chiropractic Care			
 Manual manipulation of the spine to correct subluxation 	\$20 copay for each Medicare- covered visit	20% coinsurance, after deductible, for each Medicare-covered visit	\$0 copay for each Medicare- covered visit
One routine office visit per year	\$20 copay for each routine care visit	20% coinsurance, after deductible, for each routine care visit	\$0 copay for each routine care visit
One set of X-rays (up to 3 views) when performed by chiropractor	\$0 copay for one annual set of X-rays	20% coinsurance, after deductible, for one annual set of X-rays	\$0 copay for one annual set of X-rays
Diabetic Supplies			
Diabetic supplies	\$0 copay	\$0 copay	\$0 copay
Diabetic shoes and inserts	\$0 copay	\$0 copay	\$0 copay
Doctor Visits			
Primary Care Physician (PCP)	\$20 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
• Specialists	\$20 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Durable Medical Equipment/ Supplies*			
 Durable medical equipment (e.g., wheelchairs, oxygen) 	20% coinsurance, after deductible	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Prosthetics (e.g., braces, artificial limbs)	20% coinsurance, after deductible	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Diabetic equipment or supplies	\$0 copay	\$0 copay	\$0 copay

Cost-sharing Table	JY Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	Comprehensive Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	VSTRS 65 Medical only In- and out-of-network		
Note: Services with * may require prior authorization.					
Emergency Care					
In U.S. and its territories	\$20 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay		
If you are admitted to the hospital within one day, you do not have to pay your share of the cost for emergency care. See the "Inpatient Hospital Care" section of this booklet for other costs.					
Foot Care (podiatry services) Foot exams and treatment if you have diabetes- related nerve damage and/or meet certain conditions	\$20 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay		
Hearing Services					
 Medicare-covered hearing exam to diagnose and treat hearing and balance issues 	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay		
 Enhanced Hearing Services Routine hearing exam Hearing aid fitting and evaluation Hearing aid You may pay less if you use an in-network	In-network enhanced hearing services (routine exam, hearing aid fitting and evaluation) through NationsHearing: \$0 copay once per year. Out-of-network enhanced hearing services (routine exam, hearing aid fitting and evaluation) through non-NationsHearing: \$0 copay once per year, based on approved amount.				
NationsHearing provider.	If you see an out-of-network, non-NationsHearing network provider for your hearing exam, you are responsible for any amounts your provider charges above the plan's approved amount. This means you may end up paying more than the \$0 copay for the exam.				
	_	earing for hearing aids: Our plan log or basic digital) hearing aid fo			

Cost-sharing Table	JY Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	Comprehensive Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	VSTRS 65 Medical only In- and out-of-network	
Note: Services with * may require prior authorization Hearing Services (continued) Locate a NationsHearing provider at www.NationsHearing.com/VBA or call 1-877-246-6955, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY: 711.	Out-of-network through non-NationsHearing for hearing aid(s): Our plan will reimburse you up to a \$1,250 allowance toward one new standard (analog or basic digital) hearing aid for each ear, once per year. You can submit receipts from an out-of-network provider for reimbursement by calling NationsHearing. Over-the-counter hearing aids purchased off-the-shelf are not a covered benefit. You are responsible for the difference between the plan's benefit allowance and the cost of the hearing aid(s).			
Home Health Agency Care Includes medically necessary intermittent skilled nursing care, home health aide services, rehabilitation services, etc. Custodial care is not a benefit.	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay	
 Home Infusion Therapy* Home infusion drugs Home infusion administration 	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay	
Inpatient Hospital Care* The copays are based on benefit periods.	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay	
A benefit period begins the day you're admitted as an inpatient and ends when you haven't received any inpatient care for 60 days in a row.	Our plan covers an unlimited number of days for an inpatient hospital stay	Our plan covers an unlimited number of days for an inpatient hospital stay	Our plan covers an unlimited number of days for an inpatient hospital stay	

Cost-sharing Table	JY	Comprehensive	VSTRS 65
	Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	Medical only In- and out-of-network
		III- and out-or-network	iii- and out-oi-network
Note: Services with * may require prior authorization	n.		
Medicare Part B Drugs*			
COVID-19, flu, Hepatitis B, and pneumonia immunizations	\$0 copay	\$0 copay	\$0 copay
Other Medicare-covered immunizations	\$0 copay	\$0 copay	\$0 copay
Part B insulins	\$0 copay	\$0 copay	\$0 copay
Part B drugs, such as chemotherapy	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Other Part B drugs	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Step therapy applies to certain Part B drugs.			
Mental Health Outpatient Services			
Outpatient therapy visit	\$20 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Outpatient non-therapy visit	\$20 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
You can also use Teladoc Health® to access online			
behavioral health support from licensed providers	\$0 copay for online	\$0 copay for online	\$0 copay for online
such as therapists, counselors, and U.S. board-	telemedicine visit via Teladoc Health	telemedicine visit via Teladoc Health	telemedicine visit via Teladoc Health
certified psychiatrists by appointment 7 days a week, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. local time. Access your	nealth	nealth	пеанн
telemedicine services by visiting			
www.TeladocHealth.com or by calling			
1-800-Teladoc (835-2362), available 24 hours a			
day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.			
TTY: 1-855-636-1578 .			

Cost-sharing Table	JY Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	Comprehensive Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	VSTRS 65 Medical only In- and out-of-network	
Note: Services with * may require prior authorization	on.			
Mental Health Inpatient Services Inpatient therapy visit	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay	
	If your hospital stay is longer than 90 days, our plan provides for up to 100 additional days of coverage, subject to the Medicare lifetime limit of 190 days. This limitation does not apply to inpatient psychiatric services furnished in a psychiatric unit of a general hospital. A benefit period starts the day you go into an inpatient psychiatric hospital. It ends when you go for 60 days in a row without inpatient psychiatric hospital care. No prior hospital stay is required. Copays, deducible and coinsurance restart as new benefit period begins.			
Nurse Advice Line Speak to a nurse anytime day or night by calling our 24-hour Nurse Line at 1-833-968-1766. TTY: 711.	\$0 copay	\$0 copay	\$0 copay	

Cost-sharing Table	JY Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	Comprehensive Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	VSTRS 65 Medical only In- and out-of-network
Note: Services with * may require prior authorization	n.		
Online/Telehealth Visits with Your Doctor Telehealth visits with your regular primary care physician specialist or mental health provider.	\$20 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Remote access technologies give you the opportunity to meet with your regular health care providers through electronic forms of communication, such as online.			
This does not replace an in-person visit but allows you to meet with your regular health care providers when it is not possible for you to meet with them in the office.			
Online/Telemedicine Visits with Teladoc® Health When you can't get in to see your regular provider or need an appointment fast, you can also use Teladoc Health's online telemedicine services.		al health and nutrition counseling vices from U.S. board-certified do	
Teleadoc Health provides online urgent care, behavioral health support and nutritional counseling.	 Sore throat, coughs, fevers Ear and sinus infections Headache 		
Online behavioral health support from licensed behavioral health providers such as therapists, counselors, and U.S. board-certified psychiatrists by appointment 7 days a week, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m.	 Allergies Pink eye Bronchitis		
To access telemedicine services through our planapproved vendor, visit www.TeladocHealth.com or call 1-800-Teladoc (835-2362), available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. TTY: 1-855-636-1578 .	Lica your amortabaga, computer, or tablet anywhere in the United Ctates to meet with dector		

Cost-sharing Table	JY Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	Comprehensive Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	VSTRS 65 Medical only In- and out-of-network
Note: Services with * may require prior authorization	on.		
Outpatient Diagnostic Tests and Therapeutic Services* X-rays Low-tech diagnostic radiological services High-tech diagnostic radiological services such as CT, MRI, MRA, and PET Therapeutic radiological services Lab services Blood Outpatient diagnostic procedures and tests	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Outpatient Hospital Services* Ambulatory surgical and non-surgical services Outpatient hospital	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Outpatient Substance Abuse Individual or group therapy visit	\$20 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Physical Therapy Available in various outpatient settings, such as hospital outpatient departments, independent therapist offices, and Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facilities. Limited to 30 visits per calendar year, including evaluations.	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay

Cost-sharing Table	JY Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	Comprehensive Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	VSTRS 65 Medical only In- and out-of-network
Note: Services with * may require prior authorization	on.		
Preventive Care Any additional preventive services approved by Medicare during the contract year will be covered.	occult blood test, fecal imm Depression screening Diabetes screening and diak Glaucoma screening Health and wellness educat HIV screening Immunizations, including CO Intensive behavioral therap Medical nutrition therapy so Medicare Diabetes Preventi Prostate cancer screenings Screening and intensive beh Screening for lung cancer w Screening for sexually trans	screening and counseling ammogram) reduction visiting screening screening s (colonoscopy, flexible sigmoidoscopunochemical test, or DNA based control programs DVID-19, flu, Hepatitis B, and pneurly for obesity ervices from Program navioral therapy for obesity with low dose computed tomograph mitted infections (STIs) and counse is seling (for people with no sign of total counse is seling to the counse is seling (for people with no sign of total counse is seling to the counse	plorectal screening) monia immunizations y ling to prevent STIs

Cost-sharing Table	JY Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	Comprehensive Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	VSTRS 65 Medical only In- and out-of-network
Note: Services with * may require prior authorization	n.		
 Rehabilitation Services Cardiac rehabilitation/intensive cardiac services Pulmonary rehabilitation Occupational therapy visit: limited to 30 visits per calendar year, including evaluations Speech and language therapy: limited to 30 visits per calendar year, including evaluations 	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Renal Dialysis Services for Kidney Disease Home health care visits, equipment, dialysis, and supplies	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) Days 1-99	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Day 100 and above*	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	You pay all costs.
Supervised Exercise Therapy (SET) SET is covered for members who have symptomatic peripheral artery disease (PAD). Up to 36 sessions over a 12-week period are covered if the SET program requirements are met.	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay

Cost-sharing Table	JY Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	Comprehensive Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	VSTRS 65 Medical only In- and out-of-network	
Note: Services with * may require prior authorization.				
Urgently Needed Services In U.S. and its territories	\$20 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay	
You can use Teladoc Health to access urgent telemedicine services by visiting www.TeladocHealth.com or calling 1-800-Teladoc (835-2362), available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. TTY: 1-855-636-1578.	\$0 copay for urgent care online telemedicine visit via Teladoc Health.	\$0 copay for urgent care online telemedicine visit via Teladoc Health.	\$0 copay for urgent care online telemedicine visit via Teladoc Health.	
Vision Services Original Medicare covers limited vision services, including: Exam to diagnose and treat diseases and conditions of the eye	\$0 copay	\$0 copay	\$0 copay	
Eyeglasses or contact lenses, after cataract surgery	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay	
Diabetic retinopathy screening	\$0 copay	\$0 copay	\$0 copay	
 Enhanced Vision Services We offer additional enhanced vision benefits not covered by Original Medicare, including: Enhanced (non-Medicare covered) supplemental routine eye exam Enhanced vision benefit has an allowance toward materials, including elective contact lenses, frames, or complete glasses (lenses and frames) 	In-network \$0 copay for one supplemental routine eye exam every 12 months through a VSP Choice Network provider. Out-of-Network \$0 copay for one supplemental routine eye exam every 12 months through an out-of-network non-VSP Choice Network provider. If you see a non-VSP provider, you are responsible for any amounts your provider charges above the plan's approved amount. This means you may end up paying more than the \$0 copay for the exam.			

Cost-sharing Table	JY Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	Comprehensive Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	VSTRS 65 Medical only In- and out-of-network	
Note: Services with * may require prior authorization	on.			
Enhanced Vision Services (continued) You may pay less if you use an in-network provider. To locate an in-network VSP Choice Network provider, call 1-855-492-9028 from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. 7 days a week. TTY: 1-800-428-4833. You can also visit www.vsp.com. You can submit receipts from a non-VSP provider for reimbursement. Learn more at www.vsp.com/claims/submit-oon-claim.	1 .	als every 12 months through a VS pice Network provider. You are re ince.	•	
Worldwide Emergency Coverage If you need care when you're outside of the United States, you have coverage for emergency medical care, emergency transportation, and urgent care only. Worldwide emergency medical care	There is a combined \$50,000 lifetime plan coverage limit for emergency and urgent care services outside the U.S. and its territories. You are responsible for the difference between the approved amount and the provider's charge.			
 Worldwide emergency transportation (ambulance) 	\$0 copay \$0 copay	\$0 copay \$0 copay	\$100 copay \$100 copay	
Worldwide urgent care	\$0 copay	\$0 copay	\$50 copay	

Additional Benefits Note: Services with * may require prior authorization.	JY Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network tion.	Comprehensive Medical & Prescription Drugs In- and out-of-network	VSTRS 65 Medical only In- and out-of-network
Contraceptive Devices	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Gradient Compression Stockings	20% coinsurance, after deductible	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Private Duty Nursing	20% coinsurance, after deductible, with an annual coverage limit of 14 hours	20% coinsurance, after deductible, with an annual coverage limit of 14 hours	Not a covered benefit
Weight Loss Surgery*	\$0 copay	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay
Wigs, Wig Stand, Adhesive* Wigs must be prescribed by a physician and medically necessary.	20% coinsurance, after deductible	20% coinsurance, after deductible	\$0 copay

Prescription Benefits						
Stage 1: Deductible	JY and Comprehensive: Because there is no deductible for the plan, this payment stage does not apply to you. VSTRS 65: Prescription drugs are not a covered benefit.					
Stage 2: Initial Coverage	JY and Comprehensive: You pay the following until your out-of-pocket costs reach \$600. See Chapter 6 of the Evidence of Coverage for information on how Medicare counts your out-of-pocket costs. VSTRS 65: Prescription drugs are not a covered benefit.					
Tiers (includes specialty drugs limited to a 30-day supply)	Retail network pharmacy 30-day supply	Mail-order network pharmacy 30-day supply	Retail network pharmacy 90-day supply	Mail-order network pharmacy 90-day supply		
Tier 1: Generic	JY: \$5 Comprehensive: \$5	JY: \$5 Comprehensive: \$5	JY: \$15 Comprehensive: \$15	JY: \$10 Comprehensive: \$10		
Tier 2: Preferred Brand	JY: \$20 Comprehensive: \$20	JY: \$20 Comprehensive: \$20	JY: \$60 Comprehensive: \$60	JY: \$40 Comprehensive: \$40		
Tier 3: Non-Preferred Drug	JY: \$45 Comprehensive: \$45	JY: \$45 Comprehensive: \$45	JY: \$135 Comprehensive: \$135	JY: \$90 Comprehensive: \$90		
Stage 3 and 4: Coverage Gap	& Catastrophic Stages: M	ost members do not reach	he Coverage Gap Stage or the Ca	tastrophic Coverage Stage.		
Stage 3: Coverage Gap	JY and Comprehensive: This stage doesn't apply. You continue to pay your Stage 2 copay amounts until you reach Catastrophic Coverage. VSTRS 65: Prescription drugs are not a covered benefit.					
Stage 4: Catastrophic Coverage	JY and Comprehensive: \$0 copay. VSTRS 65: Prescription drugs are not a covered benefit.					

JY and Comprehensive: Part D insulin is covered 100%. You will have no out-of-pocket costs for Part D insulin drugs.

For more information on the phases of the benefit, please call us or access our *Evidence of Coverage* online at www.VermontBlueAdvantage.com/VSTRS.

If your plan includes prescription benefits, your plan requires prior authorization and has step therapy and quantity limit restrictions for certain drugs. Please refer to your formulary to determine if your drugs are subject to any limitations. You can see the most complete and current information about which drugs are covered on our website (www.VermontBlueAdvantage.com/VSTRS).

If your plan includes prescription benefits, your plan also covers additional non-Medicare covered medications not listed in your drug formulary.

If your plan includes prescription benefits, you must generally use network pharmacies to fill your prescriptions for covered Part D drugs. You can see our plan's pharmacy directory at our website (www.VermontBlueAdvantage.com/VSTRS). Costs may differ based on pharmacy type.

See our plan's provider directory at our website (www.VermontBlueAdvantage.com/VSTRS) or call us and we will send you a copy of the provider directory.



Vermont Blue Advantage Group PPOSM

For more information

A complete list of services is found in the *Evidence of Coverage*, which will be mailed to you prior to the date your coverage takes effect and will be available online at **www.VermontBlueAdvantage.com/VSTRS**.

If you are not yet enrolled in the Vermont Blue Advantage plan, call the transitional call center toll-free **1-800-344-6690**, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Eastern time. TTY: **1-800-535-2227**.

Once you are enrolled, call toll-free **1-800-572-0280**, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern time, with weekend hours October 1 to March 31. TTY: **711**.

This document is available in other formats such as audio CD and large print. This document may be available in a non-English language. For additional information, call us at **1-800-572-0280**. TTY: **711**.

To learn more about Original Medicare, you can order a copy of the "Medicare & You" handbook at www.medicare.gov, or you can call Medicare at **1-800-MEDICARE** (1-800-633-4227), 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. TTY: **1-877-486-2048**.

Please call our customer service number or see your *Evidence of Coverage* for more information, including the cost sharing that applies to out-of-network services.