

STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH P.O. Box 11729 Albany, NY 12211

#### **Notice of Decision**

Decision Date: December 12, 2017

NY State of Health Account ID:

Appeal Identification Number: AP00000023075



On December 5, 2017, you appeared by telephone at a hearing on your appeal of NY State of Health's September 22, 2017 enrollment confirmation notice.

The enclosed Decision, rendered after that hearing, is issued by the Appeals Unit of NY State of Health.

If you have questions about your Decision, you can contact us by:

- Calling the Customer Service Center at 1-855-355-5777
- Sending Mail to:

NY State of Health Appeals P.O. Box 11729 Albany, NY 12211

Sending a Fax to 1-855-900-5557

When contacting NY State of Health about your appeal and/or the Decision, please refer to the Appeal Identification number and the Account ID at the top of this notice.

# **Legal Authority**

We are sending you this notice in accordance with 45 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 155.545.



STATE OF NEW YORK DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH P.O. Box 11729 Albany, NY 12211

#### **Decision**

Decision Date: December 12, 2017

NY State of Health Account ID:

Appeal Identification Number: AP000000023075



#### Issue

The issue presented for review by the Appeals Unit of NY State of Health is:

Did NY State of Health (NYSOH) properly determine that your enrollment in an Essential Plan was effective November 1, 2017?

# **Procedural History**

On June 4, 2017, NYSOH issued a renewal notice stating that you needed to select a different health plan for the next coverage year. The notice stated that you were determined eligible to purchase a qualified health plan at full cost, effective August 1, 2017. Further, the notice stated that you had until July 15, 2017 to select a new plan to continue your coverage.

On June 16, 2017, NYSOH redetermined your eligibility.

On June 18, 2017, NYSOH issued a disenrollment notice stating that your coverage in your Essential Plan was ending effective July 31, 2017.

NYSOH records reflect that you did not select a new health plan by July 15, 2017.

On September 19, 2017, you updated your NYSOH account and selected a plan for enrollment.

On September 22, 2017, NYSOH issued a notice of enrollment, based on your plan selection on September 19, 2017, stating that you were enrolled in an Essential Plan, and that your plan would start November 1, 2017.

On September 30, 2017, NYSOH issued a notice of eligibility determination, based on your September 19, 2017 application, stating that you were eligible to enroll in the Essential Plan with a \$20.00 monthly premium, effective November 1, 2017.

On October 3, 2017, you spoke to NYSOH's Account Review Unit and appealed the start date of your enrollment in the Essential insofar as it did not begin October 1, 2017.

On December 5, 2017, you had a telephone hearing with a Hearing Officer from NYSOH's Appeals Unit. The record was developed during the hearing and closed at the end of the hearing.

## **Findings of Fact**

A review of the record supports the following findings of fact:

- 1) On June 4, 2017, NYSOH issued a renewal notice stating that you needed to select a different health for the next coverage year. The notice stated that you were determined eligible to purchase a qualified health plan at full cost, effective August 1, 2017. Further, the notice stated that you had until July 15, 2017 to select a new plan to continue your coverage.
- 2) NYSOH records reflect, and you testified, that you did not select a new health plan by July 15, 2017.
- 3) You testified that, prior to September 2017, you received your notifications from NYSOH by electronic mail.
- 4) You testified that you had received some alerts in 2017, but that you did not recall if you received any email alerts in June 2017.
- 5) You testified that you inadvertently deleted all the emails in your email account and you were unable to verify whether you received email alerts from NYSOH in June 2017.
- 6) You testified that you did not know that you were disenrolled from your Essential Plan, effective July 31, 2017.

- 7) You testified that after you realized that you were disenrolled from your Essential Plan, you applied to NYSOH for financial assistance on September 19, 2017.
- 8) You testified, and your account confirms, that you selected an Essential Plan on September 19, 2017.
- 9) On September 22, 2017, NYSOH issued a notice of enrollment, based on your plan selection on September 19, 2017, stating that you were enrolled in an Essential Plan, and that your plan would start November 1, 2017.
- 10) You testified that you wanted your enrollment in an Essential Plan to begin on October 1, 2017 because you incurred a medical bill during October 2017.

Conflicting evidence, if any, was considered and found to be less credible than the evidence noted above.

# **Applicable Law and Regulations**

#### Essential Plan Effective Date

For individuals seeking enrollment in an Essential Plan, New York State has elected to follow the same rules that NYSOH uses in determining effective dates for individuals seeking enrollment in qualified health plans (NY Social Services Law § 369-gg(4)(c); New York's Basic Health Plan Blueprint, p. 16, as approved January 2016; see <a href="https://www.medicaid.gov/basic-health-program/downloads/ny-blueprint.pdf">www.medicaid.gov/basic-health-program/downloads/ny-blueprint.pdf</a>).

The effective date of coverage by an Essential Plan is determined by the date on which an applicant selects a plan for enrollment. For individuals who are eligible for enrollment, NYSOH must generally ensure that coverage is effective the first day of the following month for selections received by NYSOH from the first to the fifteenth of any month (45 CFR §§ 155.410(f)(2), 155.420(b)(1)(i); see also 42 CFR § 600.320). For selections received by NYSOH from the sixteenth to the last day of any month, NYSOH must ensure coverage is effective the first day of the second following month (45 CFR §§ 155.410(f)(2), 155.420(b)(1)(ii)).

#### **Electronic Notices**

Applicants may choose to receive notices and information from NYSOH either by electronic alerts or by regular mail. If the applicant elects to receive electronic notices, NYSOH must send an email or other electronic communication alerting the individual that a notice has been posted to the applicant's account (42 CFR § 600.330(e); 42 CFR § 435.918(b)(4)).

Additionally, if an electronic alert regarding a notice in an individual's NYSOH account fails, NYSOH must send out the notice by regular mail within three days of the failed alert (42 CFR § 435.918(b)(5)).

## Legal Analysis

The issue is whether NYSOH properly determined that your enrollment in the Essential Plan was effective November 1, 2017.

On June 4, 2017, NYSOH issued a renewal notice stating that you needed to select a different health plan for the next coverage year. The notice stated that you were determined eligible to purchase a qualified health plan at full cost, effective August 1, 2017. Further, the notice stated that you had until July 15, 2017 to select a new plan to continue your coverage.

NYSOH records reflect, and you testified, that you did not select a new health plan by July 15, 2017.

You testified that, prior to September 2017, you received your notifications from NYSOH by electronic mail. You testified that you did receive some email alerts from NYSOH in 2017. You testified that you did not recall if you received any email alerts in June 2017. You testified that you inadvertently deleted all the emails in your email account and you were unable to verify whether you received email alerts from NYSOH in June 2017.

Based on your testimony that you received email alerts from NYSOH in 2017, it is determined that NYSOH provided you with proper notice (on June 4, 2017) that you had until July 15, 2017 to select a new plan to continue your coverage.

You testified, and the record indicates, that you updated your NYSOH application on September 19, 2017. As a result, you were found eligible for the Essential Plan as of September 19, 2017 and enrolled into a plan that day.

The date on which enrollment in an Essential Plan can take effect depends on the day a person selects the plan for enrollment.

A plan that is selected from the first day to and including the fifteenth day of a month goes into effect on the first day of the following month. A plan that is selected from the sixteenth day of the month to the end of the month goes into effect on the first day of the second following month.

On September 19, 2017, you selected an Essential Plan, so your enrollment properly took effect on the first day of the following month; that is, on November 1, 2017.

Therefore, the September 22, 2017 enrollment confirmation notice stating that your enrollment in the Essential Plan was effective November 1, 2017, is correct and must be AFFIRMED.

#### Decision

The September 22, 2017 enrollment confirmation notice is AFFIRMED.

Effective Date of this Decision: December 12, 2017

# **How this Decision Affects Your Eligibility**

This decision does not change your eligibility.

The effective date of your Essential Plan is November 1, 2017.

# If You Disagree with this Decision (Appeal Rights)

If applicable, if you think a portion of your appeal should not be dismissed, you can ask us to vacate, or cancel, this dismissal. You must ask us in writing within 30 days after the date on this notice, showing good cause as to why the dismissal should be vacated. NYSOH's Appeals Unit will review your request. If your request is approved, another hearing will be scheduled for you. If your request is denied, NYSOH will tell you in writing. If you do not respond to the dismissed portion of your appeal within 30 days, your appeal will remain dismissed, and NYSOH will take no further action on your appeal.

Insofar as your appeal was decided, the Decision is final unless you submit an appeal request to the Federal Marketplace or bring a lawsuit under New York Civil Practice Law and Rules, Article 78.

You may bring a lawsuit on any Appeals Unit decision in New York State court in accordance with Article 78 of the New York Civil Practice Law and Rules. This must be done within four months of the Decision Date, which appears on the first page of this Decision.

Additionally, Appeals Unit decisions on issues involving eligibility for qualified health plans, advance premium tax credits, and cost-sharing reductions may be appealed to the Federal Marketplace. This must be done within 30 days of the Decision Date, which appears on the first page of this Decision (45 CFR § 155.520(c)).

If you have questions about appealing to the Federal Marketplace, you can contact them in any of the following ways:

- By calling the Customer Service Center at 1-800-318-2596
- By mail at:

Health Insurance Marketplace Attn: Appeals 465 Industrial Blvd. London, KY 40750-0061

• By fax: 1-877-369-0129

If you wish to be represented by an attorney in bringing an outside appeal and do not know how to go about getting one, you may contact legal resources available to you. You may, for example, contact the local County Bar Association, Legal Aid, or Legal Services.

# If You Have Questions about this Decision (Customer Service Resources):

You can contact us in any of the following ways:

- By calling the Customer Service Center at 1-855-355-5777
- By mail at:

NY State of Health Appeals P.O. Box 11729 Albany, NY 12211

• By fax: 1-855-900-5557

# Summary

The September 22, 2017 enrollment confirmation notice is AFFIRMED.

This decision does not change your eligibility.

The effective date of your Essential Plan is November 1, 2017.

# **Legal Authority**

We are issuing this determination in accordance with 45 CFR § 155.545.

# A Copy of this Decision Has Been Provided To:



## Getting Help in a Language Other than English

This is an important document. If you need help to understand it, please call 1-855-355-5777. We can give you an interpreter for free in the language you speak.

#### Español (Spanish)

Este es un documento importante. Si necesita ayuda para entenderlo, llame al 1-855-355-5777. Le proporcionaremos un intérprete sin ningún costo.

#### 中文 (Traditional Chinese)

這是重要的文件。 如果您需要獲得關於瞭解文件內容方面的協助,請致電 1-855-355-5777。我們可以為您免費提供您所使用語言的翻譯人員。

#### Kreyòl Ayisyen (Haitian Creole)

Sa a se yon dokiman ki enpòtan. Si ou bezwen èd pou konprann li, tanpri rele nimewo 1-855-355-5777. Nou kapab ba ou yon entèprèt gratis nan lang ou pale a.

#### 中文 (Simplified Chinese)

这是一份重要的文件。如果您需要帮助理解此文件,请打电话至 **1-855-355-5777**。我们可以为您免费提供相应语种的口译服务。

#### Italiano (Italian)

Questo è un documento importante. Per qualsiasi chiarimento può chiamare il numero 1-855-355-5777. Possiamo metterle a disposizione un interprete nella sua lingua.

#### 한국어 (Korean)

중요한 서류입니다. 이해하는 데 도움이 필요하시면 1-855-355-5777 번으로 연락해 주십시오. 귀하의 언어에 대한 무료 통역 서비스가 제공됩니다.

#### Русский (Russian)

Это важный документ. Если Вам нужна помощь для понимания этого документа, позвоните по телефону 1-855-355-5777. Мы можем бесплатно предоставить Вам переводчика Вашего языка.

#### (Arabic)العربية

هذه وثيقة مهمة. إذا كنت بحاجة إلى مساعدة لفهم محتواها، يُرجى الاتصال بالرقم 5777-355-855-1. يُمكننا توفير مترجم فوري لك باللغة التي تتحدثها محانًا.

#### বাংলা (Bengali)

এটি এক গুরুত্বপূর্ণ নথি। এটি বুঝতে আপনার যদি সাহায্যের প্রয়োজন হয় তাহলে, অনুগ্রহ করে 1-855-355-5777 নম্বরে কল করুন। আপনি যে ভাষায় কথা বলেন বিনামূল্যে আমরা আপনাকে একজন দোভাষী দিতে পারি।

#### Français (French)

Ceci est un document important. Si vous avez besoin d'aide pour en comprendre le contenu, appelez le 1-855-355-5777. Nous pouvons mettre gratuitement à votre disposition un interprète dans votre langue.

#### हिंदी (Hindi)

यह एक महत्वपूर्ण दस्तावेज़ है। अगर आपको इसे समझने में सहायता चाहिए, तो कृपया 1-855-355-5777 पर कॉल करें। हम आपकी भाषा बोलने वाला एक दुभाषिया निःशुल्क उपलब्ध करवा सकते हैं।

#### 日本語 (Japanese)

これは重要な書類です。理解するために支援が必要な場合は、1-855-355-5777 にお電話ください。通訳を無料で提供いたします。

#### नेपाली (Nepali)

यो एउटा महत्त्वपूर्ण कागजात हो। यसलाई बुझ्न तपाईंलाई मद्दत चाहिन्छ भने, कृपया 1-855-355-5777 मा फोन गर्नुहोस्। हामीले तपाईंले बोल्ने भाषामा तपाईंलाई नि:शुल्क दोभाषे उपलब्ध गराउन सक्छौं।

#### Polski (Polish)

To jest ważny dokument. W przypadku konieczności skorzystania z pomocy w celu zrozumienia jego treści należy zadzwonić pod numer 1-855-355-5777. Istnieje możliwość uzyskania bezpłatnej usługi tłumacza języka, którym się posługujesz.

#### Twi (Twi)

Krataa yi ye tow krataa a ho hia. Se wo hia eho nkyerekyeremu a, ye sre wo, fre 1-855-355-5777. yebetumi ama wo obi a okyere kasa a woka no ase ama wo kwa a wontua hwee.

#### اردو(Urdu)

یہ ایک اہم دستاویز ہے۔ اگر آپ کو اسے سمجھنے کے لیے مدد کی ضرورت ہے تو براہ کرم5777-355-485-1 پر کال کریں۔ ہم آپ کو آپ کی مادری زبان میں ایک مفت مترجہ فراہم کر سکتے ہیں۔

## Tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)

Đây là tài liệu quan trọng. Nếu quý vị cần trợ giúp để hiểu tài liệu này, vui lòng gọi 1-855-355-5777. Chúng tôi có thể cung cấp thông dịch viên miễn phí nói ngôn ngữ của quý vị.

#### אידיש (Yiddish)

דאס איז א וויכטיגער דאקומענט. אויב איר דארפט הילף עס צו פארשטיין, ביטע רופט 1-855-355-5777. מיר קענען אייך געבן א דאלמעטשער פריי פון אפצאל אין די שפראך וואס איר רעדט.