

Glossary of Health Coverage and Medical Terms

- This glossary defines many commonly used terms, but isn't a full list. These glossary terms and definitions are intended to be educational and may be different from the terms and definitions in your [plan](#) or [health insurance](#) policy. Some of these terms also might not have exactly the same meaning when used in your policy or [plan](#), and in any case, the policy or [plan](#) governs. (See your Summary of Benefits and Coverage for information on how to get a copy of your policy or [plan](#) document.)
- Underlined text indicates a term defined in this Glossary.
- See page 6 for an example showing how [deductibles](#), [coinsurance](#) and [out-of-pocket limits](#) work together in a real life situation.

Allowed Amount

This is the maximum payment the [plan](#) will pay for a covered health care service. May also be called "eligible expense", "payment allowance", or "negotiated rate".

Appeal

A request that your health insurer or [plan](#) review a decision that denies a benefit or payment (either in whole or in part).

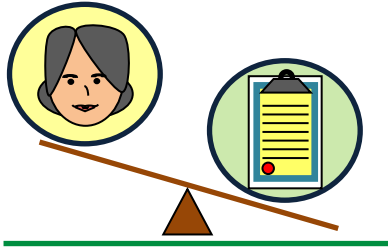
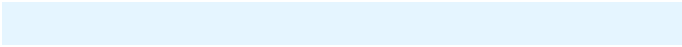
Balance Billing

Deductible

An amount you could owe during a coverage period (usually one year) for covered health care services before your [plan](#) begins to pay. An overall deductible applies to all or almost all covered items and services. A [plan](#) with an overall deductible may

Individual Responsibility Requirement

Sometimes called the “individual mandate”,



How You and Your Insurer Share Costs - Example

Jane's Plan Deductible: \$1,500

Coinsurance: 20%

Out-of-Pocket Limit: \$5,000

January 1st
Beginning of Coverage Period

December 31st
End of Coverage Period



Jane pays 100%
Her plan pays 0%

Jane hasn't reached her \$1,500 deductible yet

Her plan doesn't pay any of the costs.

Office visit costs: \$125

Jane pays: \$125

Her plan pays: \$0

Jane pays 20%
Her plan pays 80%

Jane reaches her \$1,500 deductible, coinsurance begins

Jane has seen a doctor several times and paid \$1,500 in total, reaching her deductible. So her plan pays some of the costs for her next visit.

Office visit costs: \$125

Jane pays: 20% of \$125 = \$25

Her plan pays: 80% of \$125 = \$100

