

2023 Blue Cross and Blue Shield Service Benefit Plan - Standard and Basic Option

Section 5. Benefits

**Section 5(c). Services Provided by a Hospital or Other Facility, and Ambulance Services
Blue Distinction® Specialty Care**

Note: For Standard Option, we state whether or not the calendar year deductible applies for each benefit listed in this Section. There is no calendar year deductible under Basic Option.

Benefit Description

Blue Distinction® Specialty Care

We provide enhanced benefits for covered inpatient facility services related to the surgical procedures listed below, when the surgery is performed at a facility designated as a Blue Distinction Center for Knee and Hip Replacement, Blue Distinction Center for Spine Surgery, or Blue Distinction Center for Comprehensive Bariatric Surgery.

- Bariatric surgeries covered are:
 - Roux-en-Y gastric bypass
 - Laparoscopic adjustable gastric banding
 - Sleeve gastrectomy
 - Biliopancreatic bypass with duodenal switch
- Total hip replacement or revision
- Total knee replacement or revision
- Spine surgery, limited to:
 - Cervical discectomy
 - Thoracic discectomy
 - Laminectomy
 - Laminoplasty
 - Spinal fusion

Note: You must precertify your hospital stay and verify your facility's designation as a Blue Distinction Center for the type of surgery being scheduled. Contact us prior to your admission at the customer

service phone number listed on the back of your ID card for assistance.

Note: Members are responsible for regular cost-sharing amounts for the surgery and related professional services as described in Section 5(b).

Note: These benefit levels do not apply to inpatient facility care related to other services or procedures, or to outpatient facility care, even if the services are performed at a Blue Distinction Center. See pages [78-80](#) for regular inpatient hospital benefits and pages [81-85](#) for outpatient facility benefit levels.

Note: See pages [18-19](#) for more information about Blue Distinction Centers.

Standard Option - You Pay

Blue Distinction Center: \$150 per admission copayment for unlimited days (no deductible)

Basic Option - You Pay

Blue Distinction Center: \$100 per day copayment up to \$500 per admission for unlimited days

Benefit Description

Outpatient facility services related to specific covered bariatric surgical procedures, when the surgery is performed at a designated Blue Distinction Center for Bariatric Surgery.

Outpatient facility services related to specific covered hip and knee replacement or revision surgeries and certain spine surgery procedures, when performed at a designated Blue Distinction Center for hip/knee/spine surgery.

Note: You must meet the pre-surgical requirements listed on pages [64-65](#) for bariatric surgeries.

Note: In addition, you must obtain prior approval and verify the facility's designation as a Blue Distinction Center for the type of surgery being scheduled. Contact us prior to the procedure at the customer service phone number listed on the back of your ID card for assistance.

Note: Members are responsible for regular cost-sharing amounts for the surgery and related professional services as described in Section 5(b).

Note: These benefits do not apply to other types of outpatient surgical services, even when performed at a Blue Distinction Center. See pages [81-82](#) for the benefits we provide.

Note: See pages [18-19](#) for more information about Blue Distinction Centers.

Standard Option - You Pay

Blue Distinction Center: \$100 per day per facility (no deductible)

Basic Option - You Pay

Blue Distinction Center: \$25 per day per facility