

Kaiser Permanente of Washington Coverage for Idaho Residents

In Health Care Authority's [For Your Benefit](#) October 2019 newsletter, it announced Kaiser Permanente of Washington (Kaiser WA) would no longer be an insurance provider in Kootenai and Latah counties. The newsletter went on to state Kaiser WA allows employees who **live or work** in a county where Kaiser WA is available to be enrolled in their plans. These statements have caused some confusion; HRS Benefits sought the following confirmation from the Health Care Authority (HCA) and Kaiser WA:

- Residents of Idaho can be enrolled on Kaiser WA plans, provided they work in Whitman or Spokane County, Washington counties where Kaiser WA is offered.
- Kaiser WA affirmed they will have contracted health providers in Latah and Kootenai Counties. Insurance companies and providers often re-contract on an annual basis; you may wish to contact your health care provider to verify if they will continue to contract with Kaiser WA for 2020.
- If you log onto the HCA [My Account](#) portal, and are currently enrolled in Kaiser WA, you may receive a message that says your plan is not available in your county and you need to select a new plan or be defaulted into Uniform Medical. ***Please disregard this message*** – it is not correct, and HCA is working on updating their systems to remove this message. If you click “OK” on that screen, you should see your current enrollment.
- If you make changes to your insurance plan(s) via the HCA [My Account](#) portal, only Uniform Medical plans will show as eligible plans you may enroll in; you will not see the Kaiser WA plans

listed. (See “Do you need to submit a change?”, if you wish to make changes.)

- You can still address your spousal and tobacco attestations through the HCA [My Account](#) portal. If you experience any problems doing so, you can submit attestation changes by [hardcopy form](#).

Do you need to submit a change?

- If you do not wish to make any changes for 2020 to your medical or dental plans, and are not required to re-attest to the spousal surcharge, you do not need to do anything, and you will continue to be covered under your current elections.
- If you wish to enroll in or change to a Uniform plan for 2020, you may do so via the HCA [My Account](#) portal or by submitting a [hardcopy change form](#).
- If you wish to enroll in or change to a Kaiser WA plan for 2020, you will need to submit a [hardcopy change form](#).
- As a reminder, if you wish to have a Flexible Spending Account or Dependent Care Assistance Program account for 2020, you need to enroll/re-enroll at the [Navia Website](#) or by submitting a [2020 enrollment form](#) by November 30.

Questions may be directed to HRS Benefits at 509-335-4521 or hrs@wsu.edu

Sincerely,

HRS Benefits

Pullman · Spokane · Tri-Cities · Vancouver · Everett · Global Campus · Extension

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