

For members of the Manitoba Safeway/UFCW Local 832 benefit plan who work at Safeway locations, Red River Cooperative Ltd., CMS (formerly Safeway Gas Bar), Red River Coop Gas Bar, Grupo Bimbo and Agropur Coopérative Laitière in Manitoba.

Changes to your benefits plan

Effective October 1, 2023, plan members will transition from the current group benefits carrier to Manitoba Blue Cross.

The trustees of the Health and Welfare Plan and Manitoba Blue Cross are making every effort to ensure this transition is as seamless as possible.



How will this change impact me?

Coverage will be similar with a few minor changes. These changes, depending on your specific plan, will be:

Plan 1	Previous coverage	New coverage
Drug deductible	\$25 deductible for dependents only.	\$15 deductible per person (member and dependents) up to December 31, 2024. \$25 deductible per person (member and dependents) effective January 1, 2025.
Drug coverage	Different coverage based on generic or brand name.	100% for both generic and brand name when purchased at a preferred pharmacy.
Drug claim limit	90 days following the end of the Pharmacare year.	90 days following the end of the calendar year.
Dental appliance	Purchased or rented up to four weeks.	Purchase or rent with no maximum on rental.
Weekly indemnity (Effective October 1, 2023)	Health and welfare plan is the first payer on weekly indemnity (WI) claims and EI Sickness Benefit is the second payer for a combined total of 70% of your basic weekly earnings.	EI Sickness Benefit will be the first payer on weekly indemnity (WI) claims and the health plan will be the second payer. EI Sickness Benefit pays up to 55% of earnings for the first 26 weeks. The health and welfare plan pays 15% of earnings for the first 26 weeks (for a combined total of 70%).

Plan 2	Previous coverage	New coverage
Coordination of benefits	Plan is second pay.	Follows Canadian Life and Health Insurance Association guidelines.
Drug coverage	Different coverage based on generic or brand name.	100% for both generic and brand name when purchased at a preferred pharmacy.
Combined max	Employee only for health and drug coverage, and family for vision and dental.	All coverage is for family members on plan.
Dental appliance	Purchased or rented up to four weeks.	Purchase or rent with no maximum on rental.

IMPORTANT: Please ensure any claims for services prior to September 30, 2023 are submitted to your current carrier by November 30, 2023.

Any claims for services starting October 1, 2023 are to be submitted to Manitoba Blue Cross.



The new plan from Manitoba Blue Cross has other **valuable benefits, including direct billing with participating service providers, a pay-direct drug card and online claims submission.**

More details about the new plan and its benefits will be mailed to your home soon!