

BOSTON COLLEGE

BENEFITS OFFICE

NOTICE TO MEDICAL PLAN PARTICIPANTS

Boston College, the sponsor of your Harvard Pilgrim group health plan, has certified that, as a religious-affiliated institution, it qualifies for an accommodation with respect to the federal requirement to cover certain FDA-approved contraceptive services for women, as prescribed by a health care provider, without member cost sharing.

This accommodation, which was effective January 1, 2014, means that Boston College will not contract, arrange, or pay for services involving voluntary sterilizations, such as tubal ligation and prescription drug coverage for emergency contraceptives, such as morning-after pills. Instead, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care will provide or arrange separate payments for these contraceptive services, without cost sharing and at no other cost to you, as long as you are enrolled in the Harvard Pilgrim plan offered by Boston College. These payments will not be funded by Boston College. [Note, however, that the Boston College plans will continue to provide coverage for standard oral contraceptives under the plans' regular prescription drug benefit. Also note that because the federal Affordable Care Act does not require coverage of vasectomies, they still are not covered by the Boston College plans, nor are they covered separately by Harvard Pilgrim Health Care.]

All coverage is provided in accordance with the terms and conditions of your Benefit Handbook, Schedule of Benefits, and Prescription Drug Brochure, except that certain contraceptive services not covered by Boston College (as noted above), that are required by federal law, will be provided by Harvard Pilgrim. To the extent that you receive the above-noted contraceptive services, you must use Plan Providers in order to incur no cost sharing.

Questions about this notice may be directed to Harvard Pilgrim Member Services at 1-888-333-4742, or to the Benefits Office at <u>benefits@bc.edu</u>.