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Health Insurance for New Yorkers

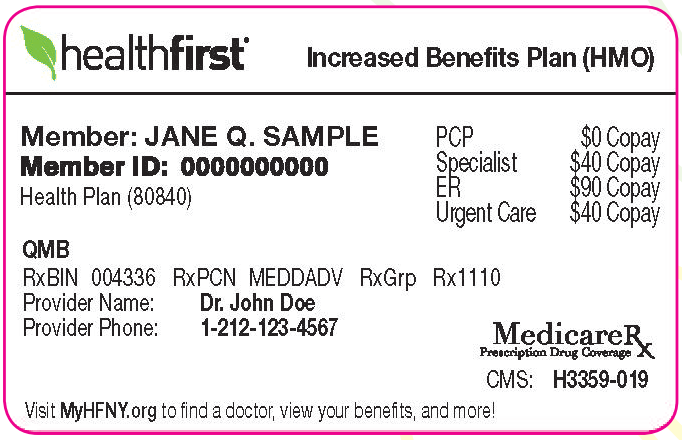
Provider Alert

Important Qualified Medicare Beneficiary Update

The information below is for internal Provider Office use only and is not intended to be displayed in public areas.

The Qualified Medicare Beneficiary (QMB) program is a State Medicaid benefit that covers Medicare premiums and deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments for certain low-income Medicare beneficiaries. **As of October 2018, Healthfirst Medicare Member ID cards include an identifier that indicates QMB status**.

QMB Status Identifier →



The identifier will remind providers that they cannot bill QMB individuals for Medicare cost sharing, regardless of whether the State reimburses them for the full Medicare cost-sharing amounts. Further, **all** original Medicare and MA providers—not just those who accept Medicaid—must refrain from charging QMB individuals for Medicare cost sharing. Providers who inappropriately bill QMB individuals are subject to sanctions. To learn more about the QMB program, visit **www.cms.gov/Outreach-and-Education/Medicare-Learning-Network-MLN/MLNMattersArticles/downloads/SE1128.pdf.**

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