

November 10, 2010

RISK MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT-VISION PLAN ACCESS

The district provides vision benefits to active employees through the Medical Eye Services vision network. Although the vision plan allows for an exam and glasses every 12 months, the method of accessing the vision benefits is different depending upon whether you are enrolled in the Blue Shield or Kaiser HMO's or the Blue Cross/Anthem PPO medical plans.

The vision plan Access Guideline listed below provides clarification for accessing the vision plan benefits. It is recommended that this information be retained on file as a ready reference whenever vision services are needed.

SUSD VISION PLANS ACCESS GUIDELINE

Vision Plan Coverage-Blue Shield Access +, Blue Shield Net Value, Kaiser HMO Group No. 24036

Employees enrolled in either Blue Shield or Kaiser access their vision benefits as follows:

1. **Blue Shield subscribers** must call their primary care physician to obtain a referral.
2. The primary care physician will provide the referral and may require an office visit. Members in the Blue Shield HMO plans may not select providers within or outside of the Medical Eye Services Directory to obtain a vision exam without a referral.

Kaiser members should call the optometry department to schedule an appointment for the vision exam.

3. After a prescription is obtained through the exam, the employee may visit a contracted eyewear vendor as listed in the Medical Eye Services Directory to obtain their glasses. **Kaiser patients must also use the MES network to obtain the eyewear benefit as Kaiser is not a contracted MES provider.** MES Directories are available at the Risk Management Office.
4. A refractory eye exam and a pair of glasses are provided once each 12 months.
5. Employees may also locate a contracted provider on line at www.mesvision.com. The customer service line for MES is 1-800-877-6372. The group number for the vision plan which provides only eyewear benefits is 24036.

Vision Plan Coverage-Blue Cross/Anthem PPO's-Group No. 24347.

1. **Employees enrolled PERS Select, PERS Choice, or PERSCare have both the vision exam and the eyewear benefit through the Medical Eye Network service providers.** Employees who are members of the above PPO plans **do not need** a referral to visit a contracted MES optometrist or ophthalmologist. The vision exam and the eyewear benefit can both be obtained from using the providers listed in the MES Directory.
2. A refractory eye exam and a pair of glasses are provided once each 12 months.

- 3. After the prescription is obtained, the employee may visit any contracted eyewear vendor as listed in the Medical Eye Services Directory to obtain their glasses. Many of the MES contracted optometrists or ophthalmologists also sell glasses at their offices. The group number for this plan is No. 24347.**
- 4. Employees may locate a contracted provider on line at www.mesvision.com. The customer service line for MES is 1-800-877-6372.**