



September 24, 2010

***OGB health plans will cover dependents to age 26 effective July 1, 2011***

While September 23, 2010, is the implementation date for federal health care reform legislation passed earlier this year, many of the changes under this law, including coverage of dependents to age 26, are effective for plan years beginning on or after that date. This means OGB health plans will cover dependents to age 26 regardless of student status—but the change will not take effect until July 1, 2011.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) requires all health plans nationwide to cover dependents until age 26, effective at the beginning of the next plan year.

For OGB health plans, this provision will take effect at the beginning of the 2011-12 plan year, which is July 1, 2011. A Louisiana law passed earlier this year requires health plans operating in Louisiana to cover dependents to age 26, but exempts OGB health plans from this requirement until the effective date of the federal law.

If you have questions, call OGB Customer Service in Baton Rouge at 1-800-272-8451 (toll-free) or 225-925-6625 (in the Baton Rouge calling area).