

2026 Iowa Choice and National Choice Side-by-Side Comparison

	Iowa Choice option	National Choice option
Wellmark network to use when searching for providers	Blue HMO network	PPO Alliance Select network
Benefits Available from Non-Participating Providers	None , unless prescribed and referred by a participating physician <u>and</u> approved by Wellmark, or in an emergency medical situation.	Normal plan benefits for network/non-network providers
Deductible <i>Family deductible is reached from amounts accumulated on behalf of a combination of family members. Member has benefits after single deductible is met.</i>	\$250 single \$500 family	\$250 single \$500 family
Medical Out-of-Pocket Maximum - Family out-of-pocket is reached from amounts accumulated on behalf of a combination of family members. Member has benefits after single out-of-pocket is met. - All deductibles, coinsurance, and copayments go toward out-of-pocket limit. (Separate out-of-pocket maximum for prescription drugs.)	\$1,000 Single \$2,000 Family	\$1,000 Single \$2,000 Family
Lifetime Benefits Maximum	Hospice Respite 15 Days Inpatient 15 Days Outpatient Infertility - \$25,000	Hospice Respite 15 Days Inpatient 15 Days Outpatient Infertility - \$25,000
New Employee Preexisting Condition Waiting Period	No preexisting conditions waiting period.	No preexisting conditions waiting period.
Preventive Services		
Affordable Care Act (ACA) preventive services	Covered at 100% per ACA guidelines.	Covered at 100% per ACA guidelines. Preventive care from non-participating providers with Wellmark are subject to the deductible or coinsurance.

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Professional Office Services		
Office Visit - Primary Care Practitioner (PCP) A PCP is one of the following: - advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) - family practitioner - general practitioner - internal medicine practitioner - obstetrician/gynecologist - pediatrician - physician assistant (PA)	\$15 copay Office visit copay applies to any office services	\$15 copay Office visit copay applies to any office services
Office Visit - Specialist All other practitioners except those listed above are considered specialist	\$30 copay Office visit copay applies to any office services	\$30 copay Office visit copay applies to any office services
Office Visit - Other Providers (not PCP or Specialist) - chiropractor - occupational therapist - physical therapist - speech pathologists	\$15 copay Office visit copay applies to any office services	\$15 copay Office visit copay applies to any office services
Routine Eye Exam <i>One routine vision exam per calendar year.</i>	\$30 copay	\$30 copay
Routine Hearing Exam <i>One routine hearing exam per calendar year.</i>	\$30 copay	\$30 copay
Maternity (globally billed at time of delivery)	10% after deductible	10% after deductible Non-network 20% coinsurance
Surgery, Radiology & Pathology (office)	\$15 copay (PCP) / \$30 copay (Specialist)	\$15 copay (PCP) / \$30 copay (Specialist)
Telehealth (Doctor on Demand)	\$10 copay	\$10 copay

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Hospital Services		Network	Non-network
Inpatient Hospital Services			
Preapproval of Inpatient Admissions	Required	Required	
Inpatient Hospital Services	10% after deductible	10% after deductible	20% after deductible
Room & Board			
Inpatient Physician Services			
Inpatient Supplies			
Inpatient Surgery			
Outpatient Hospital Services		Network	Non-network
Ambulatory Surgical Center	10% after deductible	10% after deductible	20% after deductible
Outpatient Diagnostic Lab, Radiology	10% deductible waived	10% deductible waived	20% after deductible
Outpatient Therapy Services		Network	Non-network
Chemotherapy	10% after deductible	10% after deductible	20% after deductible
Physical Therapy			
Occupational Therapy			
Respiratory Therapy			
Speech Therapy			
Emergency Care		Network	Non-network
Ambulance	10% after deductible	10% after deductible	20% after deductible
Urgent Care Center	\$15 copay	\$15 copay	
Hospital Emergency Room	\$100 copayment; waived if admitted	\$100 copayment; waived if admitted	

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Behavioral Health Services		Network	Non-network
Inpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment	10% after deductible	10% after deductible	20% after deductible
Behavioral Health Services		Network	Non-network
Office visit	\$15 copay	\$15 copay	
Outpatient mental health and substance abuse treatment	10% after deductible	10% after deductible	20% after deductible
Prescription Drug Coverage (Blue Rx Value Plus Formulary)			
	Retail 30-day supply (maintenance & non-maintenance drugs)	Retail 90-day supply (maintenance drugs)	Mail Order 90-day supply
Quantity			
Tier 1	\$10 copay	\$30 copay	\$20 copay
Tier 2	\$25 copay	\$50 copay	\$50 copay
Tier 3	\$50 copay	\$100 copay	\$100 copay
Specialty Drugs	\$100 (Preferred/Biosimilar)/ \$200 (Non-Preferred) \$100 copay (Office-Administered Specialty Drug)		
Pharmacy Durable Medical Equipment	10% coinsurance		
Pharmacy Out-of-Pocket Maximum	Single \$5,850 / Family \$11,700		

Prescription Drug Coverage - General Information

Purchase a brand name drug that has an FDA-approved "A"-rated generic equivalent, the State will only pay for the equivalent generic drug. The employee is responsible for the copayment and any remaining cost difference up to the maximum allowed fee for the brand name drug.

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