

## **EMPLOYEE BENEFIT SYSTEMS, INC.**

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Recognizing the plight of so many Machinist families across the country with layoffs and job losses in the thousands, Employee Benefit Systems, the Machinist worksite, supplemental benefits provider nationwide, has finalized arrangements for temporary and permanent individual major medical policies for Machinists and their families.

Many people find that loss of their group medical insurance benefits leave them with a C.O.B.R.A. alternative which is not affordable. EBS has put together three options for high deductible medical plans underwritten by FORTIS and available in more than 40 states nationwide. Information and application material for all of these plans is available by calling Employee Benefit Systems at 888-521-2900. We have online access to FORTIS underwriting allowing our counselors to customize plan design, provide rates, and take applications over the phone for Machinists and their families in all covered states.

The temporary major medical policy is available for as little as 30 days or as long as 185 days. It includes a front end deductible for each covered person, followed by 80% co-insurance of the next \$5,000.00 dollars of covered expenses. Thereafter, the plan pays 100% of all covered expenses up to the plan maximum of \$2 million dollars per covered individual. This plan is available on an immediate basis if the applicant can answer yes to three straightforward questions.

Two permanent major medical plans are available for those under age 65 who may need coverage for more than 6 months. One plan has a front-end deductible of \$1,700.00 per person or \$3,400.00 per family, followed by 100% payment of all covered expenses (including prescription drugs) up to \$3 million dollars per covered individual.

The second permanent plan carries a deductible of between \$500.00 and \$2,500.00 dollars per individual followed by 80% co-insurance of the next \$10,000.00 of expenses, followed by 100% reimbursement thereafter. Under this plan individuals can include office visits, wellness benefits and prescription drugs payments, as additional premium riders.

The temporary program is underwritten on the spot, with a policy issued from Employee Benefit Systems the day the application is taken. The permanent plans require full underwriting with a policy issued typically between 2 and 4 weeks from the date the application is taken. Many people in need of immediate major medical coverage select the temporary plan for one month then replace it with a permanent plan to be issued in conjunction with the expiration of temporary coverage.

The temporary product is available in all states except Hawaii, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, and Vermont. The individual policies are available in all states except Hawaii, Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island, Vermont and Washington.